Greetings from the Department Head

Dear Friends:

I hope you are enjoying your summer and have perhaps had a chance to enjoy a well-deserved vacation. We, in the Athens area, are experiencing abundant rainfall and moderate temperatures so far, not bad for those of us who like to take walks at lunch time!

As you may know, we closed the spring semester with our now traditional Conner Connect Awards Banquet, which was again a very enjoyable event. Outstanding graduate and undergraduate students, faculty, and staff were recognized for their achievements. Faculty and staff members, students, parents, and friends joined together to share a delicious dinner and celebrate the presentation of last year’s awards and recognitions. I want to personally thank all of you who were able to attend this event and help us congratulate each of the winners for their outstanding accomplishments. You may learn more about the awards and their recipients in the newsletter.

Also congratulations to all of those who received degrees in spring 2013. We had 36 undergraduate students and five graduate students finishing last semester and wish each and every one of them the very best in their future endeavors! While the economy is still not in full gear, many of them already have secured great jobs in their chosen career paths.

I would be remiss if I don’t remind you well in advance of the date for the 29th annual J. W. Fanning Lecture, which is already set for December 3, 2013. This year’s speaker will be Dr. Jeffrey R. Vincent, who is a professor at the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences at Duke University. A full agenda for the day’s activities is on page 22 of the newsletter. Please make sure to contact Audrey Cox (ah1@uga.edu) if you plan to attend the lecture and luncheon.

In addition, the annual J. W. Fanning Distinguished Professional and Young Professional Awards will be presented at the luncheon/awards ceremony on December 3. Please consider nominating qualified individuals for these prestigious awards. The criteria and instructions are included on page 24 of the newsletter.

As usual, an alumni information form is attached to the newsletter. We would appreciate it if you could fill it out and return it to us. We like to stay in touch with our graduates and learn about your activities and accomplishments after leaving the department. Also listed in the newsletter, you will find the names of those who have made financial contributions to our scholarship funds during the last fiscal year, and a special thanks to Mr. Jere Thorne for his generous donation to endow our Thomas Frazier Scholarship Fund. Such contributions enable us to provide scholarships to our deserving students and ensure that they can focus on their studies while attending The University of Georgia. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely

Octavio Ramirez
Department Head and Professor
Conner Connects Awards Banquet - 2013

The annual Conner Connects Banquet & Awards Ceremony was held at the Garden Terrace Room at the State Botanical Gardens in Athens on April 9, 2013. Faculty, staff, students, parents, and friends gathered to enjoy the festivities and a delicious meal. The annual departmental awards were presented to undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, and staff. Below is a listing of the award recipients:

Undergraduate Student Awards:

The 2013 Agricultural and Applied Economics Outstanding Senior is Sarah Kathryn Brown from Statesboro, Georgia. Sarah is minoring in environmental law. She is a member of the Kappa Delta Sorority, was a Set Leader in 2011, a Gamma Chi Liaison in 2012, and is the Alumnae Relations Chair. She is a member of the UGA Relay for Life, a Special Olympics volunteer, a mentor at Gaines School Elementary, and a member and tutor for the AAEC Honor Society. Sarah participated in the Viticulture and Enology Maymester Study Abroad in Cortona, Italy in 2012. She is a Golden Key Scholar, UGA Charter Scholar, and on the Dean’s List.

The 2013 Agribusiness Outstanding Senior is Kathryn Leigh Buford from Cordele, GA. Kathryn is minoring in animal science. She is a member of the AAEC Honor Society, AGHON Agricultural Honor Society, Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Fraternity, Delta Epsilon Iota Academic Honor Society, Golden Key Honor Society, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, and Sigma Alpha Lambda National Leadership and Honor Organization. She served as treasurer of AGHON, vice president of UGA Block and Bridle and treasurer, tickets co-chair, and advertising co-chair of the Great Southland Stampede Rodeo Committee. She is the creator and leader of PJs and Ponies for foster children, raising over $8,000 and helping to renovate the foster care room at the Department of Family & Children Services building and giving them overnight bags with pajamas and stuffed ponies for comfort. She also founded Tsunami Match My Dollar and raised $1,465 for tsunami disaster victims.

The 2013 Food Industry Marketing and Administration Outstanding Senior is Sarah Katherine Hatcher from Marietta, GA. Sarah is a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society. She has been involved in canned food drives for local food banks, making sandwiches for local homeless shelters, sock drives for local homeless shelters, and writing letters to our troops. She was also involved in Must Ministries where she organized the donation center in Marietta and worked at cleaning and sorting donated clothing and other items.
The 2013 Environmental Economics and Management Outstanding Senior is **Helena Hugulay** from New Orleans, LA. Helena is minoring in Anthropology-African Studies. She has served as the Academic Committee Leader for Kappa Kappa Gamma. As an Aquatic Assistant, she participated in the care and rehabilitation of debilitated sea turtles after the BP oil spill and supervised wildlife nutrition and food preparation. She is an experienced traveler, having visited Austria, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Kenya, Tanzania, England, Scotland, Portugal, France, Italy, Germany, Netherlands, Czech Republic, Hungary, and Greece. Helena is a UGA Presidential Scholar, having achieved a 4.0 GPA, 6 out of the last 7 semesters.

The 2013 Outstanding Leadership Award winner is **Heather Hatzenbuhler** from Lawrenceville, GA. Heather is an environmental economics and management major from Lawrenceville, GA. She is an SEC Symposium ambassador, a Udall Scholar, a member of the Blue Key Honor Society, a recipient of the Rising Star Award, a Presidential Scholar, on the Dean’s List, a Roosevelt Scholar and a Crane Leadership Scholar. Heather served as the co-chair of the Sierra Student Coalition International Committee and is the founder of the UGA Sierra Student Coalition. She served as a Senator in the Student Government Association and an environmental policy intern at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government. She was also co-chair of the Go-Green Alliance in Athens. Heather is a member of the Academic Quiz Bowl team, president of the Palladia Women’s Society, and one of 12 female students selected as a distinguished member of the Dean William Tate Honor Society.
2013 Scholarships:

The Firor Memorial Scholarship winners are as follows:
Courtney Creswell
Jarrett Cohen
Morgan Strickland

The Proctor Memorial Scholarship winner is:
Kayla Brock

The Georgia Farm Credit Association Scholarship winners are as follows:
Sarah Brown
William Broder
John Foster
Marissa Peterson
Joshua Norton
Alan Gluck

The Tate Brookins Memorial Scholarship winners are as follows:
Brock Boleman ($500 - fall 2013)
Mary Cromley
Sarah Carnes
Chelsea Chambers
Lucy Weyand
Haley Cook
Charice Stroud

Valerie Noles was awarded the 2013 Austin Scott Ag Fellowship in Washington, D.C. (12 week fellowship May 13-Aug. 2).

William Moses was awarded the 2013 Saxby Chambliss Ag Fellowship in Washington, D.C. (12 week fellowship May 13-Aug. 2).

Heather Hatzenbuhler was awarded the 2013 Sanford Bishop Ag Fellowship in Washington, D.C. (12 week fellowship May 13-Aug. 2).

Graduate Student Awards

The 2013 Claudia De Palma Davis Outstanding M.S. Student Award winner is Kayla Calhoun. She received a BSES in environmental economics and management in 2011. Kayla’s major professor is Dr. Jeff Mullen. She is the co-founder and served as president of the International Association of Students in Agricultural or Related Sciences and served as national director of IAAS-USA.
The 2013 Outstanding Ph.D. Student is **Dawit Mekonnen**. He received an M.S. in economics in 2005 and a B.A. in economics in 2001 both from Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He was the recipient of the Rod Ziemer Outstanding Ph.D. Paper Award in 2012. Dawit’s major professors are Drs. Jeff Dorfman and Greg Fonsah.

**Ajita Atreya** is the recipient of the 2013 Rod Ziemer Paper Award for her paper entitled, "Seeing is Believing? Evidence from Property Prices in Inundated Areas." Dr. Susana Ferreira is her major professor. (Graduate Awards presented by **Jennie Allison**.)

**Tae-Young Pak** is the recipient of the 2013 Outstanding M.S. Paper Award for his paper entitled, “Soft Drink Taxation Strategies to Curb Adult Obesity in the United States: A Comparison Between Total and Effective Soft Drink Tax Rate.” His major professors are Drs. Susana Ferreira and Greg Colson.

**Tina Meng** is the winner of the 2013 Departmental Graduate Student Citizenship Award presented by the Graduate Student Association.

**Graduate Student Association Officers**

- **Zeke Bryant**  
  President
- **Abby Moore**  
  Vice President
- **Ashley Barfield**  
  Treasurer

**Faculty Awards**

**Dr. Michael Wetzstein** was presented the 2013 Outstanding Faculty Award by the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club.
Dr. Susana Ferreira was presented the 2013 Outstanding Faculty Award by the Graduate Student Association.

Dr. Greg Colson is the recipient of the 2013 Departmental Faculty Citizenship Award presented by the Graduate Student Association.

Staff Awards

Jo Anne Norris is the winner of the 2013 Outstanding Staff Award presented by the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club.

Kim Boucher is the winner of the 2013 Outstanding Staff Award presented by the Graduate Student Association.

Graduates of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics - Spring 2013

Undergraduate Degrees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Graduation Honors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Charles Alligood</td>
<td>AGB</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>April Elma Arriola</td>
<td>AGB</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lindsay Nicole Baxter</td>
<td>EEM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barrett Wesley Brannen</td>
<td>EEM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn Leigh Buford</td>
<td>AGB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Patrick Crowley</td>
<td>AGB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marjie Martin Dickey</td>
<td>FIMA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cuong Huy Do</td>
<td>AAE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Erin Duffy</td>
<td>EEM</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summa Cum Laude
Student | Major | Graduation Honors
--- | --- | ---
Matthew Grey East | EEM | Cum Laude
Justin Lane Fordham | AGB |  
Jon Weston Gittens | EEM |  
Austin Dave Griffin | AGB |  
Charles William Griffin, Jr. | AGB |  
Heather Lynn Hatzenbuhler | EEM | Magna Cum Laude with High Honors
William Gregory Harper | EEM |  
Helena Ann Huguley | EEM | Summa Cum Laude with Highest Honors
Andrew Wilson Key | AGB |  
Arthur Lavern King IV | FIMA |  
Matthew Ryan King | AGB |  
Matthew Taylor Mendell | EEM |  
Andrew Edward Murdock | EEM |  
Daniel James Nesmith | AGB |  
Valerie Tess Noles | AGB |  
Laura Kathryn O’Connell | EEM |  
William Blake Ogden | EEM | Magna Cum Laude
Matthew Michael O’Meara | EEM |  
Elizabeth Suzanne Teagle | EEM |  
Benjamin Howell Titshaw | AGB |  
Matthew James Travis | AAE |  
Brantley Wade Walden | AGB |  
Benjamin Luther Watson, Jr. | EEM |  
Jacob Lee Wolfe | EEM |  
Alexandra Vitalis Wright | EEM |  
Adam Ray Youngblood | EEM |  
Weiyi Zhang | AAE |  

**Graduate Degrees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jalal Gaytaranov</td>
<td>AAE</td>
<td>MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramesh Ghimire</td>
<td>AAE</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawit Kelemework Mekonnen</td>
<td>AAE</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tae-Young Pak</td>
<td>AAE</td>
<td>MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Michael O’Meara</td>
<td>EEcn</td>
<td>MS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to all of our graduates!
Global Food and Trade in China

By: Dr. Yao-wen Huang, Professor, Department of Food Science and Technology and Dr. Glenn C. W. Ames, Professor, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

Dr. Yao-wen Huang and Dr. Glenn C. W. Ames, Professors of Food Science and Technology and Agriculture Economics, respectively, initiated the first College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences study abroad program in China, taking eight students (four graduate students and four undergraduates) to Shanghai and Tianjin, May 13 through June 6, 2013. Shanghai Ocean University (SHOU) and Tianjin University of Science and Technology (TUST) were their host universities in China for The University of Georgia study abroad program.

Students arrived in Shanghai and immediately began their learning adventures. The program was designed around a series of lectures and field trips that gave the students exposure to Chinese food, history, and culture in a variety of venues, starting with a welcoming dinner hosted by Dr. Xichang Wang, Professor and Dean of the College of Food Science and Technology at SHOU. Students were immediately exposed to a wide variety of Chinese foods with different tastes, flavors, and aromas that they found very interesting and delicious. Little did they know that their exposure to new Chinese foods was just beginning. They ate their breakfast, lunch, and dinner in the university’s dining halls with Chinese students which exposed them to more new foods. Then, in the first week they had a crash course in Chinese language and traveled to Suzhou City to visit the museum and the Humble Administrator’s Garden and Park for a historical and cultural experience.

During the week UGA students also visited Shanghai Smiling Shrimp Company, SIP Eden Chocolates Co. Ltd., and the Suzhou No. 1 Silk Factory. Each field trip was designed to expose them to Chinese or international food companies with different levels of technology, products, and customers.

In week two, Ms. Carolina Robinson, Study Abroad Recruitment Coordinator, Office of Academic Affairs, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, joined the group in Shanghai to record the students’ learning experiences in China. The week was packed with field trips starting at the U.S. Foreign Agricultural Services’ Agricultural Trade Office in downtown Shanghai, followed by a visit to the Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences’ new campus. During the week, they also visited the Pudong Food and Drug Administration, the Want Want Group, makers of rice crackers, dairy products, and beverages (Hot-Kid’s Milk and Laoweng Herbal Tea), confectionery products, plum wine, and other alcoholic beverages. Then they traveled to Hangzhou City to learn about tea and visit cultural sites such as the Lei Feng Tower and the Ling Ying Buddhist Temple complex.

In the third week, the students took the high-speed train from Shanghai to Tianjin in five hours. Dr. Zhenjun Wu, Director of International Programs at Tianjin University of Science and Technology, hosted the group. At TUST, the program included field trips to Master Kong Instant Noodle Company (53% market share in China), Tasly Pharmaceutical International Co., which specializes in modern Chinese herbal medicine and functional foods, a special presentation on “Doing Business in China” by Director Wu, and a walking tour of The Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, and the Summer Palace. At the end of the program, several students elected to take the optional tour of Xi’an and the Terracotta Warrior’s Museum. As C. Cole Crawford wrote at the end of his field trip report to a Chinese fresh market near TUST, “Every single field trip has been an eye opening experience, but this [the fresh market] was the most enlightening …. I was extremely excited about this trip and I am happy to say it has exceeded all of my expectations and has made me a more valuable student because of it.”
C. Cole Crawford and Charne Ross check parasols at the LeFeng Tower gift shop.

Students visiting the Terracotta Warrior’s Museum on the optional trip to Xi’an.

Lauren Hudson and Charne Ross learn how to stretch silk fibers at Suzhou No. 1 Silk Factory.

Alan Hallman, Deputy Director, Agricultural Trade Office, Shanghai talks about U.S. trade opportunities in China.

Students visiting labs at Shanghai Ocean University.

Students on the Shanghai Subway, on their way to People’s Square.
Lunch at the Shanghai Ocean University cafeteria.

Lunch at a rustic restaurant at the tea museum in Hangzhou City.

Cross-cultural understanding on the Great Wall of China.

Study Abroad Group at Shanghai Ocean University.

Carolina Robinson and Students at Hagen-Dazs, People's Square, Shanghai.

Dr. Yao-wen Huang explains the right way to harvest tea leaves to Grace Melo.
Congratulations!

Congratulations, Xuedong Wu and Ting (Tina) Meng, who were married on June 29, 2013 in Taiyuan, Shanxi, China. The couple are now back in Athens and will resume their Ph.D. pursuits.

Graduate Student Spotlight

Kayla Ariel Calhoun

Kayla Calhoun completed her M.S. in environmental economics in July 2013 and received a BSES in environmental economics and management in 2011. She recently began a position with Carter Consulting, Inc. working as a research statistician at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta. Her duties involve managing large datasets of health records and running statistical programs for public health prevention effectiveness studies.

While she was an undergraduate student in the department, Kayla served as the Volunteer UGA Director of Outreach, Habitat for Humanity Vice President of Campus Affairs, and Sigma Alpha social chair, simultaneously. She feels that these activities helped her in learning to multitask.

Kayla was an excellent student both as a graduate student and as an undergraduate student. She was selected as the Claudia DePalma Davis Outstanding M.S. Student in 2013 and was a member of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Graduate Student Marketing Case Study Team which placed second in their competition in 2012. In 2011 she was selected as the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics Outstanding Senior, and in 2010 she received the department's Outstanding Leadership Award.

Kayla stated, "The contacts you make throughout school will help you more than anything on your resume, especially if they see you go above and beyond for a job or organization that you're involved with. Also, spending the extra time on a graduate degree is worth it. I had a good background in applied economics from undergrad, but I wanted more technical skills and research experience before starting my career. The department's masters program, through the help of patient professors and time spent tinkering on my own, allowed me to become fairly proficient in a couple of statistical software packages, which is key for many jobs. My employers were particularly excited that I am able to use SAS. I also took a few GIS classes, which is valuable for a career in public health."

Kayla offered the following advice to current students in the department: "Take advantage of every opportunity! My internships, part-time jobs, and classes helped me figure out what I do NOT want to do with my life, but I gained valuable skills from each experience that can be applied to any job. I'm a strong believer in 'you get what you put in.' International experience is a huge plus for many jobs out there, so sign up for that study abroad trip or international internship (I've done both, and they are great!). My only regret is that I didn't know what I wanted to do career-wise until very recently, so all of my undergraduate and graduate experiences were very random. If I had known I'd be working with the CDC, I might have
chosen a thesis topic more directly related to public health. I would suggest that if you do know what field you want to work in, make sure your jobs, classes, and organizations are somehow connected and can help you build experience for that field."

In her leisure time in Athens, Kayla enjoyed going to Terrapin with friends, coffee at Walker's, and concerts (especially the local bands). She recently moved to Atlanta and hopes to volunteer at a homeless shelter, eat lots of good food, and enjoy the new beltline and parks.

**Faculty Spotlight**

**Chief Dr. Greg Fonsah**

**Dr. Esendugue Greg Fonsah** is a tenured associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. His appointment is 85% extension and 15% teaching. His research and outreach interests are in agricultural production, farm management, agribusiness, agricultural marketing, international trade and policy of fruits, vegetables, and pecans. He also has a passion for international development.

Dr. Fonsah's educational background varies from business management to agricultural economics. He earned a BS and MBA from Berea College, Berea, Kentucky and Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky in 1983 and 1985, respectively. He also obtained an MS and Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky and the University of Nigeria, Nsukka in 1987 and 1993, respectively.

Dr. Fonsah joined the department in 2001. Although he has a passion for academia, the greater part of his professional career has been in the corporate world, especially in international agriculture and the international food industry where he has served and developed extensively in the past 25 years through various multinational corporate management, agricultural production, marketing, quality control, human resources, shipping, teaching, and research positions held around the world.

As an extension economist specializing in fruits, vegetables, and pecans, Dr. Fonsah has statewide responsibilities and has accomplished the following duties in the past 12 years: (1) Developed and implemented a locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally recognized and reputable extension and applied research program for fruits and vegetables in Georgia,
(2) Cooperatively and successfully worked with extension and research colleagues and students in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and other disciplines to provide badly needed economic, farm management, marketing, trade, and policy information for the Georgia fruits and vegetable industry and clientele, (3) Disseminated the products and results of his extension program and applied research to the fruits and vegetable growers/industry via relevant highly respected outlets such as extension publications, peer reviewed bulletins, journal articles, trade publications, posters, periodicals, proceedings, newsletters, radio/TV, videos, websites, educational conferences, and seminars, (4) Successfully educated and assisted in transferring new and innovative technologies to large, medium and limited resource farmers of fruits, vegetables, pecans and other specialty crops produced in the state of Georgia, (5) Assisted county extension agents, growers, students and agribusiness firms in various aspects of their business endeavors, such as marketing, value-added products, quality assurance, integrated pest management (IPM), Eurepgap, ISO, SPSS, HACCP, GMP and labor issues, (6) Worked on a one-on-one basis with several dozen county agents and growers, and responded to local and in-state needs including solving problems of hundreds of individual growers, fruit and vegetable enthusiasts, journalists, radio/TV, magazine editors, and policy makers via phone calls and emails, (7) Taken up additional responsibilities after “Title X: Horticulture and Organic Agriculture Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008” – especially in areas of specialty crops and organic agriculture.

In June 2011, The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) Publications by Department Report listed Dr. Fonsah’s work, "Economic Analysis of Producing Southern Highbush Blueberries in Soil in Georgia," as one of the top ten publications of the month with 74 visits and average time on page of 6:31 minutes. In the same light, one of his joint publications, “Evaluation of Commercial Banana Cultivars in Southern Georgia for Ornamental and Nursery Production," was listed in the top 10 articles read in June 2008 by the American Society of Horticultural Science (ASHS). In 2009 Dr. Fonsah was awarded the Sigma Xi Award for Creative Research. Furthermore, in 2007 and 2008, his joint publications, “Commercial Tomato Production Handbook” and “Commercial Pepper Production Handbook,” won the Blue Ribbon Extension Communication Award (1st Place) from the American Society for Horticultural Science, Southern Region. He also served on the committee of one of the students who won the 2006 Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award from the Southern Agricultural Economics Association. In 2006, he won the United States President’s Volunteer Service Award for successfully developing and implementing the market linkage study program for small holder’s farmers in Indonesia and serving over 4000 hours of services around the world. In 2005, he won the State Staff South Young Professional Regional Award. In 2005 and 2004, he won the Senior Director Award and the Junior Director Award from the Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents, respectively. In 2005, he won a cash award from GFVGA for leading the economic section of the “Application for Critical Use Exemption (CUE) of Methyl Bromide for the state of Georgia”.

In 1988, Dr. Fonsah served as assistant manager of quality control and shipping for a multinational company, Del Monte Fresh Produce International, Cameroon Division. In 1992, he was promoted to the position of agricultural superintendent (senior corporate executive manager). In 1999 Dr. Fonsah was offered the position of executive general manager of Lapanday Foods Corporation, Makati City, Philippines, another multinational fresh fruits, produce grower, packer, shipper and marketer of premium branded fresh bananas, pineapples and mangoes, with an annual sales turnover of $220 million (U.S.). He was assigned as executive general manager to trouble shot one of their affiliated companies, ALOHA FARMS, INC. in Hawaii where he managed the largest banana plantation in Oahu. He reported directly to the president and CEO of Lapanday Foods Corporation. Dr. Fonsah taught international trade in agricultural products at the Central China Agricultural University and international economics at the Wuhan Institute of Technology in 1988. He also served as adjunct professor for five years at the University of Buea, Cameroon from 1994-1999. In June, 2013, he served as EU-US Atlantis faculty exchange professor at Institute Polytechnic de LaSalle Beauvais, North France and also served as international faculty exchange professor at ENSAT, Toulouse, South France. Moreover, he was appointed and has been serving as external examiner for the University of Ghana, Legon West Africa since 2010. He is currently hosting an international student intern from the Ecole Nationale Superieure d’Agronomie de Toulouse (ENSAT), South France in the department on the Tifton campus.
In his leisure time, Dr. Fonsah enjoys playing, coaching and refereeing soccer, golfing, riding his motorcycle, listening to music, dancing, swimming, and teaching and practicing Kung fu martial arts.

Dr. Fonsah served as president and CEO of Mbo-Munyang Inc., USA, a (501 (c) (3) not-for-profit (NGO) whose objective is to assist in education, health and poverty alleviation of the children, women and people of Nkongho-Mbo heritage of Cameroon, Central Africa. He is also a member of the Cameroon Cultural Organization of Georgia (CAMCOGA), and the African Association of Georgia (AAGA). In addition, he served as head soccer coach of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC), Mexican Stallions Girls Soccer Team (2011), TASA U-10 Rapids Soccer Team (2008), TASA U-8 Soccer Polar Bear Team (2007), TASA U-8 Barracuda Soccer Team (2006), Tifton Lightening U-13 Classic IV Select Soccer Team (2005-2006), and manager of International Vino Rosso Soccer Veteran FC, 2002-Present. Dr. Fonsah is also a knighted member of the Our Divine Savior Catholic Church (ODS) in Tifton Georgia.

Dr. Fonsah met and married Kelly Liu Fonsah at Berea College, Berea, Kentucky in 1984. Kelly obtained a Masters in Mathematics at Eastern Kentucky University and a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Kentucky, Lexington. She is a mathematics teacher at Northeast High School, Tifton, GA. They have two children, Derrick and Leilani. Derrick was born in Pattie Clay Hospital, Richmond, Kentucky in 1985 and obtained a B.Sc. and MBA from Mercer University, Macon, Georgia. He is now working with UPS in Singapore while Leilani, their 13 year old daughter, was born in Kapiolani Maternity and Gynecological Hospital, Honolulu, Hawaii in 2000. She is now an 8th grader at the Tifton 8th Street Middle School.

For the past decade, Dr. Fonsah has been the leader of the almost one dozen scientists involved in the UGA Banana Project that successfully identified three short-cycle banana cultivars and over a dozen cold hardy cultivars with the potential of becoming a new commercial specialty crop for food production, landscape, nursery, and ornamental use in Georgia and the southeast region. This banana project attracts over 150,000 local, state, regional, and national visitors yearly. It has also attracted media coverage from popular TV stations like Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB), WCTV Tallahassee, Florida, Walter Reeves Georgia Gardener, and Video and Newspapers such as Tifton Gazette, The Parker Magazine, The Southeast Farm Press, Growing Georgia, and regional collaboration with Auburn University and FAMU, Tallahassee, Florida, thus generating positive visibility to CAES in particular and UGA at large. In addition, his Tifton and Savannah banana research projects have also hosted a Fulbright professor from Cocody University, Cote d’Ivoire, West Africa, agriculture leaders from 20 African nations and three graduate international exchange students from ENSAT Toulouse, France (2009, 2010 and 2013). The Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, Mr. Gary Black, and a host of local leaders, policy makers and USDA directors have visited this project.

The success of his extension, research, and teaching expertise can also be measured by the number of international consulting opportunities in which Dr. Fonsah is being retained in places like Haiti (2000), Bangladesh (2001), Senegal (2003 and 2004), Indonesia (2005 and 2006), Mozambique (2009 and 2012), Ghana (2010 and 2011), Gabon (2012 and 2013), and the number of international conferences attended, including the countries of Brazil (2012), Italy (2012), Australia (2009), and China (2008) in the past decade.
Faculty News

Dr. Jeff Dorfman was presented the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Merit Award in March 2013.

Dr. James Epperson was presented the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Merit Award in March 2013.

Presentations

Research Presentations at Major Professional (National or International) Conferences

Centner, T. J., “Do Distance Education Courses Short-Change Student Learning Experiences?” Third Global Conference – Living Responsibly: Reflecting on the Ethical Issues of Everyday Life, Prague, Czech Republic, May 2013.


Other Presentations


Centner, T. J., “Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) and Water Pollution Issues.” Emory University Law School, Decatur, GA, April 2013.


Dorfman, Jeffrey and Berna Karali, "A Nonparametric Search for Information Effects in USDA Reports." Invited seminar, University of Idaho, April 25.


Dorfman, Jeff, "Short Course in Bayesian Econometrics." Department of Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics, University of Guelph, Guelph, Canada, June 3-7, 2013.

Dorfman, Jeff, "Economics." UGA, CAES and Warnell School of Forestry, May 2013.


Ferreira, Susan and Ajita Atreya, "Seeing is Believing? Evidence from Property Prices in Inundated Areas." Invited seminar presented by Dr. Susana Ferreira, Department of Economics, Universidad Publica de Navarra, Pamplona, Spain, May 30, 2013.


Stegelin, Forrest, “Do Wine Bottle Sizes and Shapes and Wine Label Colors and Shapes Matter in Agritourism Wine Prices and Sales?” Southeast Decision Sciences Institute, Charleston, SC, February 20, 2013. (Presentation and online proceedings)

Stegelin, Forrest, “Do Cotton Fiber Characteristics Still Offer Competitive Advantages During Times of High Cotton Fiber Prices?” Southeast Decision Sciences Institute, Charleston, SC, February 20, 2013. (Presentation and online proceedings)


Publications

Journal Articles (refereed)


Other Publications


Alumni Spotlight

Matt O’Meara

By Matt O’Meara

This past month, after five years as a student at the University of Georgia, I graduated with a number of my peers. As with most students who attend UGA, graduation for me brought about a close to what had been an amazing chapter in my life. For years, Athens had been my home, and it felt odd to leave town knowing that I wouldn’t be returning as a student in the fall. I wasn’t, however, worried about the next chapter or what the future would hold, but rather I was excited to begin something new. Of course, it’s normal to feel apprehensive when you leave something as comfortable and familiar as college, but I was confident in the education that UGA had afforded me. I left UGA with two degrees, a bachelor’s degree in environmental economics and management and a master’s degree in environmental economics, and, more importantly, I left college with a job.

This past Monday I began work as an implementation consultant for a software company in Atlanta. I am confident I was offered a position in part because of the education and work experience I gained while a student in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. The classes I took as an undergraduate set me aside from students pursuing a traditional degree in economics and my performance in those classes put me in a position to get an internship; I spent the summer after my third year at UGA in D.C. working for the USDA. After that summer, I entered the Accelerated Master’s Program and began my graduate studies, pursuing a degree in environmental economics. Having a year of graduate school under my belt, the following summer I was able to return to D.C., this time working as an intern for the USDA’s Economic Research Service where I played an integral role in researching organic product price premiums.

As I mentioned above, my work in the classroom and in the workplace came to fruition this May when I found a job and graduated. If I could say something to students just starting their college careers in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, I would say first, congratulations; you are in an amazing place filled with dedicated faculty and staff who want nothing more than for you to succeed. Second, I would say to do all you can to make yourself marketable to employers upon graduation. I believe a great way to do this is to spend a summer working as an intern. I used my internships to build upon one another, each one leading to another opportunity. Apply to as many of them as you can and don’t be turned off or afraid of rejection. Lastly, I would suggest students consider continuing their education beyond their undergraduate studies. A traditional master’s degree, or, for undergraduates who already have a large number of credit hours, an accelerated master’s degree in applied economics or environmental economics is a tremendous opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of economic theory and its applications. In addition, a master’s degree will make you far more competitive in the job market; I received multiple job offers before graduation and my current salary is substantially greater than the salary I received while working at the Economic Research Service with only an undergraduate degree.

Learn a lot, meet some wonderful people, and enjoy your time at UGA; it goes fast. Go Dawgs!

Alumni News

Ronnie Barentine (BSA in agricultural economics in 1985) is an extension agent in Dooly County. He was presented the Walter B. Hill Fellow Award in April at the Public Service and Outreach Awards Luncheon. Congratulations, Ronnie!

Dr. Wesley Burnett (Ph.D. in 2011) is an assistant professor at West Virginia University (WVU). Wesley recently received a $10,000 grant as a Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award winner. The grant was presented by the Oak Ridge Associated Universities, the WVU Office of Research, and National Research Center for Coal and Energy. Congratulations, Wesley!
Jonathan Coody (BSA in agribusiness in 2007) is the breeder flock supervisor for Sanderson Farms in Tifton, Georgia.

Adam Garcia (BSA in agribusiness in 2008) works for Coca-Cola in Atlanta as a procurement specialist providing commodity expertise and analytical support for corrugated, paperboard, and glass packaging. He works in a strategic sourcing consortium that negotiates contracts with suppliers on behalf of all the bottlers in the U.S. and Canada. Adam stated, "The classes that have had a major impact on my career are not limited to but are as follows: Agribusiness Finance, AAEC 3690 – Financial Derivatives/Analytical Excel skills Agricultural Processing and Marketing, AAEC 4760 – Operations/Operational Excellence/Supply Chain Futures and Options Markets, AAEC 4870/6870 – Hedging/Commodity Market/Purchasing Strategies Selling in Agribusiness, AAEC 3200 – Sales Techniques/Procurement Negotiation Strategies"

Ramesh Ghimire (Ph.D. in 2013) is a postdoctoral research associate for the UGA Warnell School of Forestry working with Drs. Ken Cordell and Gray Green. He will be working on a project assessing Forest Service employees' attitudes, perceptions and behavior in relation to safe working practices and safety culture.

Brian Goggin (M.S. in agricultural economics in 1988) is the director of the U.S. Department of Agricultural's Trade Office at the Embassy of the United States in Mexico City. He began his three-year assignment there in 2012 and manages two offices, one in Monterrey, Mexico and the other in Mexico City. He and his staff manage a portfolio of business services, including reports, trade referrals, and advisory, export finance, trade shows, and border services for exporters of U.S. agricultural products.

Thomas Meeks (BSA in agribusiness in 2012) is a grain elevator superintendent/buyer at Agrowstar at Sylvania, Georgia.

Phil Southerland (BSA in agribusiness in 2005) is the Director of Health Care Planning, Policy, and Patient Advocacy, World Health Organization and CEO and founder of Team Type I, a grassroots initiative to motivate people to take control of their diabetes using cycle as a platform. Today, it is a global organization changing the lives of people with diabetes around the world through sports, groundbreaking research, international outreach and philanthropic initiatives in developing countries.

Mary Ann Turrentine (BSA in agribusiness in 2011) is working in hospitality and sales at Girard Winery near Athens.

Nathan Tyson (BSA in agribusiness in 2008) is a regional account manager at ChemNut, Inc. in Tifton, Georgia. Nathan was previously employed by Monsanto.

Request for News

We want to hear from you! If any of our alumni, faculty, students, staff, or friends have any news or announcements you would like to share in the newsletter, please notify us. We want to know if you have a new job, if you have moved to a new address, if you have married, if you have welcomed a baby, or any other important events in your lives that you would like to share with the readers of the newsletter. Please email the information to Audrey Cox at aaeccnews@uga.edu with the word “news” in the subject line, or mail the information to Audrey Cox, 303 Conner Hall, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, UGA, Athens, GA 30602-7509.

On the following page is an Alumni Information Form which will be very helpful to us in our attempts to stay informed about our alumni if you will fill it out and return it to us. The form has been attached to the emailed newsletter in a Word document to make it easier to fill out and return. Thank you for your help.
Alumni Survey - Agricultural and Applied Economics Department

Name (include Miss, Ms., Mrs., or Mr.)

Degree(s) (Major, University and Year)

Would you please comment on the quality of the department’s undergraduate/graduate programs (courses, faculty, staff, networking, etc.).

Contact Information

Address:

City:  County:  State:  ZIP Code:

Home Phone:  Business Phone:

E-mail Address:

Employment

Employer:

Current Job Title:

Current Job Responsibilities:

News: Do you have a news update to be published in the Agricultural and Applied Economics (AAE) Department’s Alumni Newsletter and/or posted on the AAE Alumni web page?

______________________________
I am willing to have this information published in a newsletter or posted on the Agricultural and Applied Economics alumni site on the Internet.

Signed: ___________________________ Date: ______________

Please return your address and career information on the completed form to Agricultural and Applied Economics Department, 303 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509 or e-mail the information to aaecnews@uga.edu with the word survey in the subject line.
Contributions Thanks

We are so grateful to our alumni and friends for their financial support of the department. Listed below are the names of those who have made financial contributions to the department beginning July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

Contributors--Beginning July 1, 2012

Name
Mr. Kenneth Beasley
Mr. Keith & Mrs. Elise Boyett
Dr. & Mrs. Josef Meinrad Broder
Dr. Nathaniel Baker Brown, Jr.
Mr. Angelos Chaniotis
Mr. Grover & Mrs. Brenda Cobb
Cross Appraisal, Inc. (Charles & Nancy Cross)
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Lynn Dumbleton, Jr.
Dr. James E. Epperson
Dr. William Archie Flanders
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Alan Foster
Dr. & Mrs. William D. Given
Dr. Vickie Jordan Kocher
Dr. Yvonne J. Kumi
Mr. Leon Horace Langley, Jr.

Name
Mr. C. McGinnis Leathers, Jr.
Ms. Mitsy Peterson Lister
Dr. Larry & Mrs. Holly Lyu
Mr. Ben McCorkle
Ms. Betsy MacMillian McCorkle
Dr. David and Mrs. Virginia Narrie
Dr. & Mrs. Octavio A. Ramirez
Mr. Cecil and Mrs. Rhonda Sponner, Jr.
Mr. Thomas Stripling
Mr. Jere Thorne
Dr. Albert & Mrs. Juana Williams
Dr. & Mrs. F. Wen Williams
Mr. James and Mrs. Lisa Walker

Opportunity to Support Department

Please consider making an investment in future agricultural economics and agribusiness leaders of our state and nation by supporting our educational programs. To support the Agricultural Economics Fund (which supports general departmental activities), the Stephen J. Brannen Student Leadership Fund, Tom Frazier Scholarship Fund, Wen Williams Scholarship Fund, Evan Brown International Education Fund, William Firor Scholarship Fund, Roy Proctor Scholarship Fund, or Tate Brookins Scholarship Fund, please make checks payable to the UGA Foundation and make a notation on the check (or include a note) to indicate which fund you want to support. Mail all checks to Audrey Cox, 303 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509.
29th Annual J.W. Fanning Lecture

The 29th annual J. W. Fanning Lecture will be December 3, 2013 at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. We are honored to have Dr. Jeffrey R. Vincent, Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences, Duke University as this year's speaker. Dr. Vincent is the Clarence F. Korstian Professor of Forest Economics and Management, and Director of Graduate Studies, University Program, Environmental Sciences and Policy. His experience lies in economics of natural resource management and policy in developing countries, with an emphasis on forests, agriculture, and water in Asia. His primary area of expertise is environmental economics. Dr. Vincent received his Ph.D. at the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies at Yale University.

Agenda for J. W. Fanning Events- December 3, 2013

(Please note the changes in rooms from last year for the AEAG Board meeting, registration, and lecture. See the agenda and registration form below.)

All events will take place at the Georgia Center.

8:30 a.m. - **Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia Board Meeting** - Room D (2nd Floor)

10:00 a.m. - **Registration & Refreshments** - Kellogg Concourse (2nd Floor)

10:30 a.m. - **J.W. Fanning Lecture** - Room R (2nd Floor)

  - **Welcome** - Dean Scott Angle, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

  - **Introduction of Speaker** - Octavio Ramirez, Head and Professor, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, UGA

  - **Lecture** - Dr. Jeffrey Vincent

12:00 noon - Luncheon - Magnolia Ballroom

  - Presentation of J.W. Fanning Professional Awards:
    (Bryan Tolar, President of Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia)

1:30 p.m. - Adjourn

The cost of this year's luncheon is $30. There is no cost for attending the lecture only. (Please register for the luncheon no later than November 15, 2013. See the registration form below.)
29th ANNUAL J. W. FANNING LECTURE & LUNCHEON REGISTRATION
December 3, 2013

REGISTRATION: Lecture attendance is free. A registration fee of $30 is required for the luncheon. Please register no later than November 15, 2013 for the luncheon. Make check payable to the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia and return with the form below.

I plan to attend the lecture ( ) I plan to attend the lecture and luncheon ( )

Name ________________________________
Telephone __________________________

Address
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

City __________________ State __________ Zip ____________

Please return all forms to the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 303 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509. You may call Audrey Cox at 706-542-0763 (email ah1@uga.edu) or Jo Anne Norris 706-542-2481 and confirm your reservation.
AEAG Agricultural Economist Awards Guidelines

The Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia offers two different awards to recognize outstanding professional performance and achievements. 1) The J. W. Fanning Distinguished Young Professional Award is open to individuals with up to and including ten years of professional work experience. 2) The J. W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award is open to those individuals with more than ten years of professional working experience.

Candidates can be self-nominated, or nominated by someone familiar with their accomplishments. To ensure all nominations are given consistent representation, please submit the following information:

- Nominee’s contact information (name, address, best phone number and email address)
  - If submitting someone else for nomination, please include your contact information as well
- Category of the awards in which the nominee is eligible (i.e. Distinguished Young Professional or Distinguished Professional award)
- Nominee’s education (please include where and when degrees were attained)
- Nominee’s professional experience
- Nominee’s professional accomplishments
- Nominee’s past professional or civic recognitions or awards received
- Responses should be kept to a maximum of two pages in length

All awards are presented by the AEAG at the Awards Luncheon that follows the annual J.W. Fanning Lecture hosted by The University of Georgia’s Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. The annual lecture series and awards luncheon are usually held during the late fall or winter and we request all recipients to be present to accept the awards.

Nominations are accepted year round, but must be received by the AEAG no later than October 15th to be considered for that year’s awards.

All complete nominations are to be submitted to:

Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia
303 Conner Hall - The University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-7509

For more information about the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia or learn how to join, please visit www.aeag.uga.edu/ or contact the AEAG at (706) 542-2481.
As fellow graduates from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department of The University of Georgia, we invite you to join the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia. The investment is nominal, but the rewards and mission are great. It is our hope that most of you will want to support the organization that promotes our industry and field of education.

The Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia (AEAG) was established in 1976.

The goals of the Association are:

- To provide opportunities for the professional improvement of people interested in the field of agricultural economics.
- To provide a forum for the discussion of economic problems and issues of mutual interest to people working in agriculture, agribusiness, and related fields.
- To recommend solutions to economic problems facing Georgia's agriculture.

Agricultural economics is involved in all sectors of our economy. The opportunities are greater now than ever before. *We must recruit more students and better support agricultural economists if we are to meet the challenges for further application of agricultural economics to farm, resource, environmental, and agribusiness problems.*

The AEAG board has new goals to support students in agricultural and applied economics as well as high school students who have yet to make decisions about college. We need your support to be able to carry out these goals to assist the future leaders in our field.

AEAG membership offers benefits through the following:

- Journal of Agribusiness
- J.W. Fanning Lecture
- AEAG newsletter
- Recognition for career accomplishments
- Enhanced educational opportunities for students in agricultural economics
In addition, AEAG enjoys an active relationship with the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at The University of Georgia. The activities of the association provide occasions for interaction among AEAG members, faculty, and students. This interaction provides students and professionals important opportunities to network for the purpose of future career connections and the sharing of information and knowledge.

Below you will find an application for membership. Lifetime memberships are also available. If you would like to know more about AEAG, visit the AEAG website at www.aeag.uga.edu. (Please see the registration form below.)

Yes, I would like to join the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia!

Name____________________________________________________________
Employer______________________________Title_______________________
Address________________________________Phone_____________________
City, State, Zip_____________________________________________________
Email Address_____________________________________________________

Please Check one:

_____ Student Member - $10
_____ Individual Member - $25
_____ Library/Institutional Member - $35
_____ Corporate Member - $150
_____ Individual Lifetime Member - $250
_____ Corporate Lifetime Member - $1000

Please send your membership application and dues to the following address:
Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia
303 Conner Hall
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602-7509

(For more information, call 706-542-0763 or visit www.aeag.uga.edu)