



Dear WAEA Members;

I hope everyone is having a great fall. It is an honor and privilege to serve as your WAEA President. This is my first newsletter column and there are a number of things to be shared with you. First, a big thank you to everyone who attended the meetings in Hawaii. We had 124 people in attendance plus a large number of spouses and guests which was great to see. Thank you to everyone who served on the review and award committees.

The biggest responsibility for the President is organizing the annual meeting which will be held jointly with the AAEA in Denver in 2010. As I discussed last year and again this year, our WAEA program will be a one day event on Tuesday, July 27th. There will be no WAEA specific selected paper sessions as AAEA will have ample selected paper and poster sessions. The past two times we had a joint meeting with AAEA, attendance was poor at the WAEA selected papers. Consequently, we are trying something new this year.

We are going to ask for nominations from WAEA

departments for distinguished alumni who work in industry (outside academia). The alumni must have earned a graduate degree in agricultural or resource economics and be involved in a senior level position in their respective organization. Criteria will be sent to each council representative who can work with their unit leader to identify a suitable candidate. This is strictly voluntary as there is no requirement that each program have a nominee.

The alumni will be invited to attend the WAEA meeting and participate in a series of symposia that will be held in lieu of our selected papers. The topics for each alumnus will be arranged with the WAEA council member, department head, the alumnus, and myself. Each department will probably have their own way to determine their nominee but if you think of suitable candidates, please visit with your WAEA council member whose name can be found on the WAEA website (www.waeaonline.org).

We will have these individuals identified by November 1 so that we can coordinate with AAEA sections (AEM, TLC,

GSS, and FAMPS have asked to sponsor a session with us). In addition, we want to make sure and get the date on each alumnus' calendar.

Over the next year we will be working with the executive committee to bring a budget and discussion of our financial situation (which is in good shape), updating some non-profit status tax issues, coordinating our meeting with AAEA, and looking at our bylaws. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 785.532.4449 or mboland@ksu.edu.



Thanks!

Mike Boland,
WAEA
President

Important Dates to Remember

February 12, 2010

WAEA award nominations due
(more information coming in
January 2010 newsletter)

July 25-27, 2010

AAEA/WAEA meetings in
Denver

WAEA Website Update

The WAEA website, www.waeaonline.org, has been recently updated to include the events of the annual meeting in Kauai. Michael Boland's presidential address entitled "Leadership Development and Challenges in Agricultural and Applied Economics in Academic Units: A Conversation with Unit Leaders" along with Doug Young's keynote address, "Biofuels: Political/Economic Boondoggle or Energy Salvation for Western States" are available. The awards brochure for the 2009 meetings is also posted. Over 30 photos of the awards ceremony, luncheon, and addresses are on the website under Meetings and Events, 2009 WAEA Annual Meeting Documents. The individual membership application form and JARE institutional subscription form can be downloaded for calendar year 2010. Remember that membership includes a subscription to the Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics Volume 35. The 2009 subscription ends in December 2009. Dues and rates for 2010 are unchanged from 2009. Finally, the new JARE editorials and editorial council are introduced on the website under JARE.



If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at klonsky@primal.ucdavis.edu

Karen Klonsky
WAEA Vice President

WAEA Officer Elections

The following members have been nominated, and have agreed to stand, for election.

President: Donald McLeod, Russell Tronstad

Vice-President: Chris Bastian, Hayley H. Chouinard

Director 2-yr Term: Catherine Keske, Kathleen Painter, Hikaru Peterson, Bashir Qasmi

OFFICER ELECTIONS AND VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Please vote by **Friday, October 23, 2009**.

Web ballots are submitted at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=x2s37xKs31QzIUlhVZezAg_3d_3d

or through the link at the WAEA website (www.waeaonline.org).

WAEA Presidential Candidates (choose one)

Donald M. McLeod – Associate Professor, University of Wyoming



Background: Graduated from Oregon State University in Natural Resource and Environmental Economics 1994. Course preps include micro principles; environment and society; farm and ranch management; water resource economics; advanced natural resource economics; graduate research methodology; and natural resource planning economics. 14 year instructor for Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources graduate/undergraduate Capstone Course; and 10 year instructor for Agricultural and Applied Economics undergraduate Capstone course. President W-2133 Regional Research Committee (2004); and Current WAEA Western Economics Forum Editor (2008-10).

WAEA Vision Statement

The president of the WAEA should strive to enhance the relevance of WAEA in a variety of traditional and newly emerging areas of research and policy (i.e., Economics of Wildlife; Multi-functionality of Rural Lands; Niche Markets and Specialty Products; Risk Mitigation Strategies; Public Lands Issues; Pan Pacific and Western Hemisphere Trade Issues; Rural Well Being; Tourism and Extractive Industries).

The annual set of conference presentations as well as the JARE and WEF journals could be organized around special topic specific volumes-sessions that extend beyond, but do not omit, traditional areas. This purpose is also better served through designation of Outreach and Extension Educator Sessions in addition to student instruction sessions-volumes.

The president has and should continue to develop partnerships beyond current liaisons to include joint work with, or some sort of participation by, AERE, Regional Research Committees, Western Governors, and the WRDC. MS student presentations/memberships should continue to be encouraged as part of the annual meetings. I would like to see novel amenity-rich Meeting Sites.

Russell Tronstad – Professor, University of Arizona



Background: Russell Tronstad is a University Distinguished Outreach Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Arizona. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Montana State University and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. Dr. Tronstad has served as WAEA Director (1999-2001), Co-Editor of *JARE* (2000-2003), WAEA Vice-President (2007-2008), reviewer and contributor to both the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* and *Western Economics Forum*, and regular presenter of selected papers at annual meetings. He has received recognition from the WAEA for the Outstanding Extension Project Award (1997, 2005 and 2006).

WAEA Vision Statement

I have enjoyed many benefits as a member of the WAEA for almost 20 years and am honored and excited about the opportunity to help continue and enhance the ongoing activities of the WAEA. The opportunity to learn and interact with other agricultural economists interested in western problems through WAEA's annual meetings and publication outlets of *JARE* and *WEF* has increased our understanding of many issues in the western United States and Canada. If elected, I will work to preserve and enhance these activities for our Association.

I believe the WAEA should focus on our two most successful activities, *JARE* and our annual summer meeting. *JARE* is recognized as one of the top agricultural and resource economics journals and our Association should continue to direct resources and follow policies that help bolster *JARE*'s reputation. Financial resources devoted to preserving and enhancing *JARE* should be at the top of our Association's budget. A key responsibility of the president is organizing the program for our annual summer meeting. These meetings should be held at attractive locations in the West, focus on economic issues facing the West, and attract solid participation from both Canada and the United States. Increasing the presence of senior members at our annual meetings and their interactions with students is an objective I will work to

achieve. I believe we should continue to provide a limited number of graduate student travel scholarships to the meetings to encourage student participation.

Writing our newsletters in a timely manner and conducting business activities of the Association are other important duties of the President. With regards to the current financial situation of the Association, the WAEA should explore avenues for increasing revenues, including the promotion of endowment funds, membership for all submitting authors of selected papers and *JARE* articles, and even increasing our membership fee. If elected President, I will work towards growing our long-term membership and improving the financial soundness of our Association. I will prioritize my time to ensure that our annual meetings encourage diverse member and student participation, grow long-term loyalty, and return goodwill to our Association.

WAEA Vice-Presidential Candidates (choose one)

Christopher T. Bastian – Assistant Professor, University of Wyoming



Background: Chris Bastian received Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from Colorado State University. He has received the Outstanding Extension Award from the American Agricultural Economics Association twice (1997 & 2007) and three regional awards in extension from the Western Agricultural Economics Association (1997, 2005, 2006). Bastian's service to the WAEA includes: Director (2007-2009); Outstanding Published Research Award Committee (2007); Selected Paper Referee (2008); Extension Award Review Committee (2008); Graduate Student Travel Scholarship Award Committee (2009 Co-chair with Jayson Lusk); *JARE* reviewer; *JARE* contributor; and, substitute council representative from UW.

WAEA Vision Statement

The WAEA is my favorite professional organization for agricultural economists. I have found the professional development opportunities at WAEA meetings to be rewarding and intellectually stimulating. I especially enjoy the opportunity to learn from and interact with other agricultural economists interested in Western issues. High quality meetings and high quality publications such as the *JARE* and *WEF* are at the core of what the Association does and should continue to offer in terms of professional development for its members and opportunities to communicate scholarly efforts to other applied economists and clientele being served by its members. Moreover, as the Association's niche is Western issues, the Association also must work to maintain that niche even as we collaborate with other associations and organizations. For example, in the recent past, there have been pre-conference workshops related to risk management education. I believe the WAEA should continue to develop such offerings as is feasible. The major responsibility of the Vice President is to coordinate and organize the selected paper portion of the annual meeting program. The meeting in 2011 will be held jointly with the Canadian Association. Part of the Vice President's responsibility at that time will be to coordinate efforts with the Canadian Association to solicit paper submissions, organize reviews, and from the chosen papers develop a meeting program that will offer professional development opportunities to members of both associations. If elected, I will take these responsibilities seriously and conduct myself in accordance with these responsibilities and my vision for the Association.

Hayley H. Chouinard – Associate Professor, Washington State University



Background: Hayley H. Chouinard received her Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of California, Berkeley. Hayley's service to WAEA include Council Director (2006-2008) and Council Member (2008-present); Outstanding Master's Thesis Award Committee (2007 and 2008); Distinguished Scholar Award Committee (2007 and 2008); Graduate Travel Award Committee (Co-Chair 2008); Outstanding Published Research Award Committee (2009); Reviewer for the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*; and moderator, reviewer, author and presenter for selected papers at the annual meetings since 2003.

WAEA Vision Statement

I have found my membership in the WAEA a very valuable resource for scholarly engagement and opportunity. My main focus as a member of the WAEA leadership would be to maintain and enhance the characteristics of the Association that provide such great value; the journals

and annual meetings. The publications, *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, and the *Western Economic Forum*, together reach a broad audience with high quality and policy relevant research. The WAEA should continue to promote these research outlets and the scholarly interaction brought about by them by providing editorial and submission support and increasing readership. The annual meetings have been a highlight of my experience with WAEA. The level of professional interaction has been unmatched. The main duty of the Vice-President is to organize the selected papers for the annual meeting sessions. It is vital for WAEA to attract high quality submissions and for the sessions to address current issues with coherent groupings of papers. Additionally, similar sessions need to be scheduled at different times to maximize participation.

WAEA Director Candidates (choose two)

Catherine Keske – Assistant Professor, Colorado State University



Background: Catherine Keske is an Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Associate Director of the Institute for Livestock and the Environment in the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences at Colorado State University. She earned a M.S. degree in Mineral Economics from the Colorado School of Mines and a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from Colorado State University. She also earned a M.S. in Hearing and Speech Sciences from Vanderbilt University. She is also an Adjunct Professor at the Denver University Sturm College of Law. She is a former board member of the Mountain Area Land Trust, a current board member of Teens on Farms, and a Center Director for the Colorado Council for Economic Education.

WAEA Vision Statement

With JARE and WEF, the WAEA has successfully provided its members with a balance of high quality academic journals that also serve as an outlet for regional topics germane to the western United States. The high attendance and paper submission rate for the annual WAEA meetings also indicate a thriving organization that is fulfilling the interests of its members. However, as eloquently articulated by Dr. Boland at the 2009 meetings in Kauai, the discipline of agricultural and resource economics is at crossroads. As a WAEA Director, I intend to work with the organization to bridge past leadership and with young professional leaders to ensure continuity for the organization's future. As part of this vision, I would like to help cultivate relationships with graduate student education programs and young professionals. Providing enhanced opportunities for job placement, post-doc fellowships, and networking present several examples of how we can integrate young professionals into the organization. I will also be committed to searching for new opportunities and venues to distinguish the WAEA, including collaborations with other organizations, increasing the visibility of the WEF journal, and maintaining meeting schedules that are distinctly different from other agricultural economics associations. I will also continue the tradition of hosting meetings at interesting, family-oriented venues that will encourage a high level of attendance and participation at meetings.

Kathleen Painter – analyst, University of Idaho



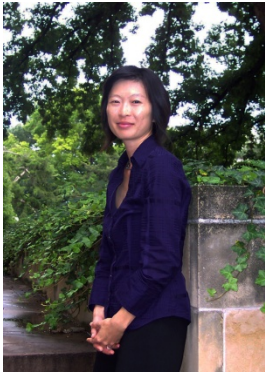
Background: Kathleen Painter earned her Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics at Washington State University in 1992. She worked as a 1) Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines, 2) bank lender, 3) Extension agent, and 4) farmer on a large commercial potato, onion, and asparagus farm in the Columbia Basin, 5) manager of an internet-based business selling supplies to handspinners, including fleece from her flock, 6) analyst for Center for Sustaining Agriculture, and 7) a permanent position at the University of Idaho in January 2009.

WAEA Vision Statement

If elected, I would work to increase communication among members, encouraging input and feedback on the association's activities, using quick new online techniques such as the SurveyMonkey. It amazes me to see the level of continued participation in this association by professionals who have moved out of the western region—which attests to the quality and vigor of this organization. Since only a small number of presenters actually write papers for the meetings, I think we should produce a webpage for each annual meeting with electronic versions of the presentations (pdf versions of all

powerpoints and possibly some videos of presentations by keynote speakers). This type of documentation would be an excellent resource for participants while vastly increasing the audience for these presentations. Our current journals provide an excellent outlet for publishing written papers, but a website with electronic media would update our image, provide current research findings on recent topics, and encourage idea-sharing among our members. The meetings provide a unique opportunity for students, encouraging them in their research endeavors while possibly enticing them to further their education or join regional faculties. Recent meetings have had an excellent mix of free time and scheduled events, allowing for time to catch up with friends as well as providing structured events for meeting new people. I like the family-friendly orientation in lovely areas of this large region and, with the help of fellow members, would try to find outstanding new venues for our annual meeting places.

Hikaru Hanawa Peterson - Associate Professor, Kansas State University

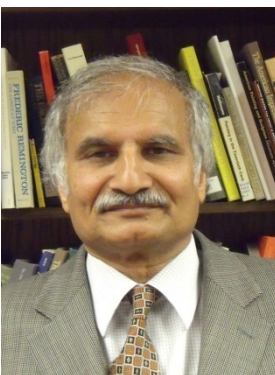


She received her PhD in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University and BA in Economics from the University of Tokyo. Her primary research interests are price analysis, marketing, and consumer preferences. Her recent research projects have pertained to sustainable food and agricultural sectors. Peterson has published in the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (JARE)*, has served as a reviewer for *JARE* and the WAEA selected papers, and has been attending the WAEA meetings regularly since 2006. She has served on the Distinguished Scholar Award committee in 2005 and has been serving as a WAEA council member since 2008.

WAEA Vision Statement

I've come to know the WAEA during the last several years and am impressed by its value to my own professional career. The members are welcoming and supportive, its flagship journal *JARE* remains a premier outlet for rigorous and relevant applied research, and meeting sessions are informative and interactive. I am keen to have this opportunity to serve the WAEA and to work with all members to build on the achievements to date and further our progress. I would do my best to ensure that the WAEA remains a worthy professional organization for all new and existing members. In particular, the recent downturn in the economy and drastic changes in the publishing industry imply that the WAEA faces critical decisions regarding the economic feasibility of its journals. Such decisions must be consistent with maintaining the quality and professional impacts of the journals. As with many of the members, I've appreciated the attractiveness, family-friendliness, and practicality of our meeting locations. I favor this practice to be continued. Lastly, I feel it is important for a young generation of members to take ownership of the association. To this end, I fully support the continuation of the WAEA travel awards for graduate students.

Bashir A. Qasmi – Associate Professor, South Dakota State University



Background: He earned his Ph.D. in Economics from Iowa State University in 1986. At present he teaches Agricultural Marketing and Futures Commodity Trading classes and advises undergraduate as well as graduate students. His research interests include Grain and Livestock Marketing, Agricultural Policy, and International Trade. Dr. Qasmi has served the WAEA as contributors, reviewer and frequent participant in the annual meeting as well as Council Members for a number of terms. He is an active member of AAEA.

WAEA Vision Statement

I look forward to the opportunity to serve as Director of WAEA. The WAEA has been a strong regional association in our discipline, and has served its members well with the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, and the *Western Economics Forum*. I support the current format of association's annual meetings. I prefer to have WAEA annual meetings separate from other sister organizations to maintain our identity. However, it is also important to maintain connections with other sister organizations. I support to have our annual meetings jointly with other sister organizations, every now and then, as long as we maintain our identity by organizing sessions which highlight the unique issues important to WAEA membership. I believe WAEA has maintained this balance well, and I will strive to maintain this tradition. The future success of the WAEA depends upon catering to the professional desires and needs of the membership and expanding the membership. WAEA council is the key to bringing the membership desires and needs to the association's management. I believe, the role of WAEA council can be enhanced. WAEA should continue providing travel grants to students and activities to encourage graduate and undergraduate student participation in the annual meetings.

News From The *JARE* Editorial Team



Joe Atwood, Vince Smith, Myles Watts, and I (Gary Brester) are pleased to announce the members of the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (JARE)* Editorial Council for 2010-2012:

David Lambert, Catherine Kling, Nicholas Piggott, Oral Capps, Jr., Jeffrey LaFrance, Rulon Pope, Colin Carter, Jayson Lusk, Ted Schroeder, Dillon Feuz, Dale Menkhaus, J. Scott Shonkwiler, Joseph Glauber, Mary Muth, James Vercammen, Steve Hamilton, Philip Pardey, Brian Wright, Matthew Holt, Paul Patterson, and Amalia Yiannaka.

Each of these outstanding scholars has enthusiastically accepted our invitation to serve the *Western Agricultural Economics Association*. The Editorial Council is committed to helping review empirical, theoretical, and methodological research-based manuscripts (regardless of area of focus) that address interesting agricultural and resource economics issues using appropriate research methodologies (both quantitative and qualitative). Furthermore, each has agreed to encourage their colleagues to consider *JARE* as a primary publication outlet.

As editors, we are proud to be associated with this outstanding and diverse group of scholars. The editorial team and the Editorial Council look forward to managing innovative research manuscripts. This effort is a primary contributor to the development of knowledge. We thank each of the Editorial Council members for agreeing to serve the *Western Agricultural Economics Association*, the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, and our profession. The extraordinary diversity of the Editorial Council reflects the editorials team's commitment to publish outstanding research contributions in all areas of agricultural, food and resource economics, including theoretical, methodological and empirical studies.

Finally, we greatly appreciate the continued service of David Lambert as our Associate Editor for the next several years. The new editorial team represents 40% of the agricultural economics faculty in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics (DAEE) at Montana State University. Furthermore, the DAEE has recently been joined by several new assistant professors. We want to avoid potential in-house conflicts of interest, and do not want our new colleagues to lose their access to *JARE* as a publishing outlet during our tenure as editors. Therefore, David will manage manuscripts submitted to *JARE* in which a Montana State University faculty member is listed as an author or co-author. For these manuscripts only, he will identify appropriate reviewers, correspond with authors/reviewers, and will make all decisions regarding manuscript acceptability. He will then transfer the final version of any accepted manuscript to the Managing Editor who will be responsible for final publication issues.

The new editorial team has been managing new submissions since April of this year. We look forward to receiving high-quality submissions from our members.

Sincerely,

Gary Brester, Managing Editor (2010-2012)
Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics

Congratulations to all of our 2009 WAEA Award Winners!

Outstanding Masters Thesis Award

Jeff Luckstead, M.S., University of Idaho

The Effects of Immigration, Farm, and Trade Policies and the Macroeconomic Conditions on Illegal Immigration and Agricultural Trade. Major Prof. Stephen Devadoss

Published Research Award

Junjie Wu and Munisamy Gopinath, 2008. "What Causes Spatial Variations in Economic Development in the United States?" *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

Outstanding Extension Program Award

Damona Doye and David Lalman (Program Coordinators), Kellie Raper, Glenn Selk, Darrell Peel, Chris Richards, and Clement Ward. Master Cattleman Program at Oklahoma State University

Undergraduate Teaching Award (<10 years)

James Pritchett, Colorado State University

Undergraduate Teaching Award (>10 years)

Stephen Devadoss, University of Idaho

Graduate Travel Grant Recipients

Dileep K. Birur, PhD, Purdue University

Milton E. Geiger, MS, University of Wyoming

Jeff A. Luckstead, MS, University of Idaho

Lee L. Schulz, PhD, Kansas State University

Huifang Zhang, PhD, Washington State University

Outstanding Seniors

Colorado State University, McEndaffer, Brandon

Kansas State University, Widmar, David

Montana State University, Brown, James

Oklahoma State University, Brookman, Katy Shayne

Oregon State University, Peters, Danielle

OSU Agriculture Program at EOU, Coxen, Renee

Texas A&M University, Yow, Shauna

University of California, Davis, Tompkins, Patricia

University of Idaho, Harold, Ashley

University of Nevada, Reno, Copeland, Leandra

University of Wyoming, Phillips, Amber

Washington State University, Ringwood, Jennifer

JARE Outstanding Journal Article for 2008

Jay R. Corrigan and Matthew C. Rousu. 2008. "Testing Whether Field Experiments are Demand Revealing in Practice." *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* 33(2): 290-301

Distinguished Scholars

Julian M. Alston (University of California, Davis), DeVon Bailey (Utah State University), Dana Hoag (Colorado State University), Bruce McCarl (Texas A&M University), J. Scott Shonkwiler (University of Nevada-Reno), Ted Schroeder (Kansas State University)