Rosson’s Roundup

Congratulations to Rebekka Dudensing who will be receiving the Bonnie Teater Award from the Southern Rural Development Center (more follows) and to our NAMA team that made it to the semi-finals in Dallas last week (see picture above). Many thanks to Rebekka for her great efforts and to the NAMA team on their accomplishment.

Last Saturday, I was in Hangzhou, China attending the 90th Anniversary Celebration of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Management at Zhejiang University. In the morning, I had the honor to introduce my colleagues who also were attending the conference. Titus Awokuse, Department Chair at Michigan State and Allan Gray, Director, Center for Food and Agricultural Business and Holly Wang, Director, the International MBA, both from Purdue, also participated in the event. Saturday afternoon, my colleagues and I provided an overview of our respective departments, along with some of the challenges we face and the strategies that might be pursued to address them. Sunday we visited several cooperatives in the local area, including fruit/vegetables, grapes/wine and tea. These were all private entities that lease land from small-holders and merge into larger, more economically viable parcels. Things appeared to be going very well for the cooperatives and their members, with much optimism for the future. Monday was May Day, or Labor/Workers Day and a nation holiday. I traveled to Shanghai in order to depart Tuesday. The crowds encountered on the train, metro, taxis, and all other public places were like Aggieland on Alabama football weekend, but on steroids-almost indescribable. It was a great experience and one I will not forget!

The Entrepreneurial Dreams Symposium was held Tuesday and Wednesday, with a record crowd of 200. We also inducted Stan Bevers, Chris Narayanan and Dan Haile into the Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry. Thanks to Ed Rister and his team for shepherding all of this and making it a success! See Special Edition attached to Ag Eco Friday email.

Thursday, Marco Palma, Bachir Kassas and Michelle Segovia demonstrated the eye-tracking technology for six wives of the Texas A&M Foundation Board. Dr. Hussey, Cady Auckerman and Angel Futrell also attended the event. Thanks to Marco, Bachir and Michelle for doing a great job!

One final note. Check out the Department’s ranking at the link below. I’m very happy to see this and each of you is congratulated on our success. Thanks very much for making us the top ranked department! https://www.collegefactual.com/majors/agriculture-ag-operations/agricultural-economics-business/rankings/most-popular/

Texas A&M AgriLife Research is ranked number 4: see the link http://www.bestcollegereviews.org/top-research-universities/

Aggie baseball hosted Mississippi State last night, winning 9-2. The Ags play again Friday night and conclude Saturday afternoon. The Aggie softball hosts Tennessee beginning Friday night.
Each year, the Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC) honors someone currently employed by one of the 29 land-grant universities located in the SRDC region, who has excelled in community development work within Extension Service in the South. Our own Rebekka Dudensing has been selected as a co-recipient of the Bonnie Teater Early Career Award for 2017. Dr. Dudensing will be recognized during the National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals annual conference in Big Sky Montana, June 11-14, 2017.

**Upcoming Birthdays**
- Gary Williams 5/6
- Donna Adcock 5/13
- Donna Chester 5/20
- David Anderson 5/23
- Shahriar Kibriya 5/27

**Thank You!!**
Under Grad &
Grad Office

for hosting Friday coffee

---

**Position Announcements**

**Economist.** Join an innovative company that serves the sustainable agriculture sector. Mercaris provides rigorous data and analytics, and a cash market trading platform for agricultural commodities that are organic, non-GMO, or are otherwise identity-preserved. We create new information and procurement tools for the agricultural supply chain, from farm to retail, and we’re looking for talented, mission-oriented folks to join us. The Economist will be responsible for a wide range of data product development, writing and research as Mercaris continues to grow its coverage of new organic and non-GMO commodities and ingredients. Candidate must have a Masters in Economics, Agricultural Economics or Natural Resource Economics. Mercaris offers a comprehensive compensation package, including salary, benefits and the potential for an equity stake in the company. Location: Washington, DC or Chicago, IL. Contact: Send resume and cover letter to, info@mercaris.com

**Instructor.** Agri Economics and Agribusiness, University of Arkansas. The Instructor will teach four to six classes per academic year depending on the needs of the department. Master’s degree in Economics, Agricultural Economics, Applied Economics or a related field (Master’s degree must be conferred by the start of employment). Closing date 05/24/2017. For more information and to apply, go to: http://jobs.uark.edu/postings/19723

---

**Click here for more position announcements**

Faculty, staff, and graduate students are encouraged to submit articles and photos on current events

Deadline for all submissions is noon, Thursday.

Please send your information to valnoyes@tamu.edu