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A Message from the Department Head

I am pleased to send you this first edition of the Agricultural & Resource Economics newsletter. This is not only a new venture for ARE but our newsletter will be published online.

ARE has undergone numerous changes over the last few years, but the one thing that has not changed is the faculty and staff’s commitment to excellence and their dedication to making this department a productive place to work. Our community of faculty scholars represents a wealth of knowledge and expertise which we will be sharing with you in this and future newsletters.

We are starting this new academic year with 140 undergraduates in the Agricultural Institute, 237 undergraduates in the 4 year programs, 88 undergraduates who are pursuing a minor from our department and 39 graduate students. It is interesting to note that we have seen a very big increase in the number of students who see value in our minors program; in the Fall semester 2009, ARE had 15 declared minors compared to 142 students last semester.

I hope that you enjoy learning about the events happening in ARE. I would also like to give a big thanks to Jenny St. Jean and Kendall Del Rio for their hard work in developing this newsletter.

Thank you for your support. Please stop by to see us when you are in Raleigh.

Charles
On June 3rd, 2015 our department toured two local farms to bring our faculty and staff up close to the life of our alumni and associates who we represent on a daily basis in our academic, extension, and research activities. ARE’s first stop on the unusually cold and raining Wednesday was the Vick Family Farm in Wilson, NC. The Vick family uses its 1,400 acres of sweet potatoes to reach international and national distributors.

The family farm encompasses 6,000 acres of agricultural operations. On any day of the year you can witness the employees and a member of the Vick family planting, cultivating, harvesting, packing, and storing the fruits (or more accurately, the vegetables) of their labor and livelihood.

Everyday the Vick’s discuss their business operations over their family lunch. Because of son Lynwood (see top left photo), daughter Charlotte, father Jerome, and mother Diane, the Vick family processes at peak season a maximum of 17,000 sweet potatoes on any given day!! Thank you to the Vick family for welcoming the ARE department into your fascinating farm operations and fields!
Following a hearty lunch and time to dry off, we set off to the next stop—Hinnant Family Vineyards in Pine Level, NC. We were brought out to the vineyards surrounding the winery and learned how the muscadine grape has been the focus of the family vineyard and winery since 1971. Today, the vineyard continues to grow its acreage to over 100 acres, varieties of wine (and other uses of the grapes), and product distribution nationwide.

After learning the history and trends of the muscadine business, we were provided a private tour of the winery facilities and learned the process of winemaking. The department farm tour ended with an optional wine tasting and a chance to meander through the gift shop lined with bottles of wine, muscadine jellies, and perfect gift ideas for anyone.

Thanks to Dawn (who provided us the private and tour and bundles of knowledge), our faculty, staff, and grad students could get a taste (literally) of another contributor to the agricultural industry in North Carolina.

A huge thanks goes out Bob Hinnant and his team for welcoming ARE to their family farm!
Congratulations John Russ (above, right) on receiving the **CALS Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award**! Presenting the award is Associate Dean Sam Pardue (above, left).

Congratulations Fred Parker (above, right) on receiving the **University’s Teaching Award**! Presenting the award is Associate Dean Sam Pardue (above, left).

Congratulations Melissa Hendrickson (below, right) on receiving the **CALS Teaching Award of Merit**! Presenting the award is Associate Dean Sam Pardue (below, left).

Congratulations Kendall Del Rio (below, left) on receiving the **Pride of the Wolfpack** award! Presenting the award is Dr. Arnie Oltmans (below, right).
The Ag and Resource Economics Department conferred 67 Bachelor of Science degrees this spring 2015 semester. In total we conferred 127 undergraduate degrees in the 2014-2015 academic year! Cullen Bennet Williford was awarded the Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Award for 2014-2015. We congratulate him on his hard work!

Dr. Arnold Oltmans has retired as the Undergraduate Coordinator after 19 years of dedicated service in this role! We thank him for all he has done to support our undergraduate program. We are thankful to have him staying on awhile longer to teach and advise. Dr. John Russ is the new Undergraduate Coordinator and has done a wonderful job working this summer with new student orientation and planning for the fall semester. Dr. Oltman’s retirement celebration will be in the near future but in the meantime, stop by the NEW location of the Undergraduate Coordinator offices in 3346 Nelson Hall (previously in 3304 Nelson Hall) and welcome Dr. Russ to his new role!

Looking forward to the fall semester, we welcome 23 new freshmen and 24 new transfer students to the Ag and Resource Economics department. It will be an exciting semester with many new student policies and procedures. We look forward to getting to know our new students while continuing to support our 183 continuing students!

With Dr. Russ transferring his coordinating duties to the four year undergraduate program, we welcome Dr. Melissa Hendrickson to her new role as the Agricultural Institute Coordinator effective Fall 2015. Dr. Hendrickson’s office remains in its current location, 3316 Nelson Hall.

Thank A Teacher!

ARE is on the map for having a notable influence on a student’s college experience and a special “shout out” to the following faculty for their honor of receiving student gratitude through the “Thank A Teacher” Program:

 Nicholas Piggott
 Walter Thurman
 Guido van der Hoeven
 Roger von Haefen
ABM

Club Corner

Hello, my name is Austin and I am the President of ABM club. I along with the other ABM club officers would like to wish everyone an enjoyable and successful upcoming school year.

For those of you who may not be familiar with us, we are a club made up not only of ABM majors but also students of various other disciplines who have an interest in agribusiness. Our goal is to create a fun and helpful environment for our members by having social and professional events throughout the school year. During some of our meetings we have employees of agribusiness companies come in to present on and answer questions about their companies. In the past we have had representatives from Syngenta, Bayer, BASF, Ag Careers, and Hog Slat just to name a few. We also have social events through the year to give our members a chance to get to know each other and make connections with other future agribusiness leaders.

We invite you to come out to our meetings to experience what the agribusiness club has to offer. Our first meeting will be a cookout on Scott Courtyard on Monday August the 24th. Come out to enjoy a great free meal and a fun time. We will have plenty of burgers and hot dogs for everyone as well as corn hole and other outdoor games to play.

Below is our official meeting schedule for the upcoming year. Additional events will be announced at meetings as well as on our Facebook page (NCSU ABM club.) We meet at 6:30 for Supper on the 2nd floor of Nelson Hall in the Port City Java. We look forward to seeing you all at the cookout!

Fall Semester:
August 24th – Cookout
September 14th
September 28th
October 12th
October 26th
November 9th
November 23rd

Spring Semester:
January 11
25
Feb 8
22
March 14th
March 28th
April 11th

Club Officers:
Austin Wrenn
2015-16 ABM President

Club Officers:
Austin Wrenn - President
Callie Copeland - Vice President
Tiffany Ellis - Treasurer
Jennifer Badger - Social Chair
Dallas Goodnight - Agri-life Rep
Katelyn Thomas - Agri-life Rep
Internships

This summer three of our Agricultural Business Management students did an internship with AgCarolina Farm Credit—Cara Pace, Callie Copeland and Clay (Tyler) Whitley. They worked on two research projects and produced a music video to promote agriculture that they named, All About that Ag, which is set to the song, All about that Bass by Meghan Trainor. The students will, as part of ARE 492 course credit requirements, write a paper about their internship or will guest lecture to a class in Agricultural & Resource Economics about some of the important skills that they learned.

Alumni Recognition

Congratulations to Cara Pace on receiving recognition as a New Century Farmer for 2015 by the Future Farmers of America! Pace is a rising senior in the ABM program. Cara’s background in agricultural is a reflection of her upbringing on a multi-generational family farm in Clayton, NC. Cara is one of 50 nationally recognized.

STUDY ABROAD 2015
ITALY & CROATIA

Students gained exposure in international agribusiness, agrimarketing, education, and research while exploring Venice, Rome, and Zagreb. Participants fulfilled three credit in ARE 494 are AGI 194. The Study Abroad class went during Spring Semester 2015 under the direction of Dr. Melissa Hendrickson and Dr. John Russ.

Twenty students travelled abroad for 17 days starting in Italy and ending in Croatia visiting historical sites, agricultural businesses, and esteemed institutions of education specializing in agriculture. Enjoy the following two pages as the students and faculty share with you their personal experiences with Italian and Croatian agriculture.
Day 3

We finally arrived at the train station at Cinque Terre and hopped on a bus to Vernazza, which is the third of the five towns. Once we arrived at Vernazza we explored the quaint town. We split into groups and some ate while some shopped and others explored old castles, caves leading to the sea, and the terrace fields. We all enjoyed the time we had on the Mediterranean but we were excited to get back on the bus and head to our next destination, the leaning tower of Pisa.

Day 6

Today we saw 32,000 wheels of cheese! Our first site visit was to a cheese processing facility. They make only Grana Padona cheese. It is often used for grated cheese on pasta. The milk is often brought in by farmers using tractors and milk tanks because it is only from cows within a certain distance of the facility. We saw the process of making cheese wheels and the steps required to properly make the cheese. The cheese is sold at 12 months of age to wholesale places, however, retailers wait until later to sell the cheese. Typically retailers sell it at 16 or more months. They sell each wheel for 350 euros and they make 72 wheels a day!

Day 5

We left Tuscany and traveled through beautiful countryside and mountains to get to the Catholic University. There we learned that many Italians feel strongly about product labeling based on the regions where they were first created. There are laws being introduced and passed in the European Union in support of origin labeling. Next we headed to the Pizzavacca Company. This multi generation family farm produces veggies and fruits then processes and sells them as jams and juices.

The next visit was to a winery to learn about the growing of grapes and the different varieties. We learned about the land and the history of that winery. Later we had lunch and a wine tasting. Our last site visit was to castle Arquaro, which was another castle. This had a working village and homes within the town. Dinner was at a fancy pizzeria in downtown of Piacenza!
Day 10

Yesterday we took a scenic route from Rovinj to Zadar. Before we got to Zadar we stopped at Mas Vin for lunch and a tour. We toured the three different sections of the farm, which was 80 hectares. After eating lunch we looked at the olive trees, then the grapevines, and lastly the fig trees. The ground was extremely rocky and we found out originally on the farm site were huge rocks which a special machine crushed up to make the rocks that we saw when touring.

Day 12

We went to the Cromaris processing plant. We saw where the fish came into the facility, how they were washed, weighed, gutted, filleted and cleaned up. We also viewed the freezer that specially freezes the fish. After our tour we sat down and enjoyed a fish lunch.

Day 13

We woke up early and took the bus to Karka National Park. We had a tour guide show us around the old mill buildings and saw how the people lived years ago. Next, we took a hike through the forest to view the 17 step waterfall. After the hike we got back on the bus and began our long drive to Osijek.

Last Day in Osijek

On our last day in Osijek we started with a tour and presentation at the Agricultural Institute of Osijek which specializes in plant breeding research. This was followed by meeting the mayor of Vukovar. We visited Kras cherry farm next. They produced cherries to sell to the Kras chocolate factory. The day ended with a banquet celebrating a wonderful program, experience, and time together in Italy and Croatia.

Zagreb

We started the day with visits to commercial strawberry operations. The first was plastic tunnel ground planted varieties, The second operation was a greenhouse with elevated rows and a plastic tunnel. In the afternoon we went to the Kras chocolate store.

This has been a really incredible opportunity for me to get better aquatinted with my students, learn new things, test my cultural boundaries, laugh, really laugh and hysterically laugh. Thank you guys. You're the best!

- Melissa Hendrickson
Publications


Congratulations Dr. Ashley Hungerford (center) as the recipient of the 2015 Gerald A. Carlson Award. Every spring we honor an Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation with the support of Dr. Gerald (left) and Mrs. Barbara E. Carlson (right).

ARE/CEnREP Seminar Schedule

AG-ECON SEMINARS
http://ag-econ.ncsu.edu/research/are-seminar-series
Coordinators: Tom Vukina and Xiaoyong Zheng
Location: 4210 Nelson Hall
Time: Tuesdays, 3:00—4:15 pm
(see calendar via above link for exact dates of seminars)

ECONEOMETRICS WORKSHOPS
http://www4.ncsu.edu/~dpelet/teachworkshop/index.html
Coordinators: Dept. of Economics
Location: NCSU, Duke, and UNC
Time: Various—see workshop link

MACRO/INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
http://www4.ncsu.edu/~njtraum/seminar/seminar.htm
Coordinators: Giuseppe Fiori, Ivan Kandilov, and Nora Traum
Location: 4210 Nelson Hall
Time: 3:00 pm
(see calendar via above link for exact dates of seminars)

MICROECONOMICS WORKSHOPS
http://www4.ncsu.edu/~rghammon/workshop.html
Coordinators: Bob Hammond (Econ. Dept.)
Location: 4210 Nelson Hall
Time: Wednesdays, 3:00—4:15 pm
(see calendar via above link for exact dates of seminars)

CEnREP: LUNCH COLLOQUIUM
http://www.ncsu.edu/centrep/workshops/colloquia.php
Coordinators: Laura Taylor and Roger von Haefen
Location: NCSU Campus
Time: Fridays, 12:15–1:15 pm
(see calendar via above link for exact dates of seminars)

CEnREP: TREE SEMINAR SERIES
http://www.ncsu.edu/centrep/workshops/TREE/index.php
Coordinators: Laura Taylor and Roger von Haefen
Location: RTI International
Time: Thursdays, 3:15–4:45 pm
(see calendar via above link for exact dates of seminars)

CALS Calendar of Events: http://harvest.cals.ncsu.edu/dean/index.cfm?pageID=10589
Seminars/Presentations


Barry Goodwin. “Farm Bill and Risk Management.” Seminar, Taiwan Ministry, Taiwan (May 2015)


Barry Goodwin. “Typhoons and Floods.” Conference keynote address, National Taiwan University, Taiwan (May 2015)


Recent Activity

Two of our department’s faculty—Guido van der Hoeven (left) and Arnie Oltmans (right)—attended the 20th International Farm Management Association (IFMA) Congress in Quebec, Canada and post congress tour of the Maritime Provinces in mid-July.

North Carolina Environmental Law Desk Manual

Managing Editor
Grady L. Shields

Outreach

Mike Walden is an economist within the department who provides economic insight to the North Carolina public. Aside from hearing or reading Dr. Walden’s Economic Perspective, Mike also provides other economic information. Published quarterly, The North Carolina Economic Outlook Series can be found on Dr. Walden’s website http://ag-econ.ncsu.edu/person/michael-l-walden-ph-d#nc_outlook. The third quarter publication is now available. You can find other publications and news releases authored by Mike at: http://ag-econ.ncsu.edu/person/michael-l-walden-ph-d.

Education is shared in many forms and through the extension side of ARE, we are tapping into outreach education. In early 2015, NC Farm School began providing business skills to small farmer owners in collaboration with the NC Cooperative Extension. Extension agents and associates are partnering together to reach out to the small scale farmer and provide the business skills necessary to own and operate an agricultural business. There are currently five NC Farm School programs available to attend throughout the state of North Carolina and you can find out more information at: http://ncfarmschool.ces.ncsu.edu/.
Thank you to the faculty, staff, and students who contributed to this Summer/Fall 2015 issue of the ARE Newsletter.

Be on the look out for the Winter/Spring 2015 ARE Newsletter in April 2016!

If you would like additional information concerning any of the newsletter material, please contact us at the information below:

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