Spring 2007 Newsletter

President’s Column
Harry M. Kaiser

The 2007 meeting in Rehoboth Beach is quickly approaching, and the program (at the end of this newsletter) looks excellent thanks to the efforts of President-Elect Steve Smith, Jeff Stokes, and Jill Caviglia-Harris! If you have not yet made your reservation and registration, please do so as soon as possible. The link to the meeting is:

http://facultyfp.salisbury.edu/jlcaviglia-harris/NAREA2007/NAREA.htm

Josh Duke and colleagues have been hard at work on the facilities for the 2007 meetings. Josh was able to secure some very low hotel rates at the Atlantic Sands Hotel, which is right on the boardwalk of Rehoboth Beach. The location is really nice, and you may want to bring your families to this meeting. Travelers can fly into Philadelphia, Baltimore, Salisbury MD or Atlantic City. All airports are within a 2 hour drive from Rehoboth Beach. The Atlantic Sands Hotel (http://www.atlanticsandshotel.com) is located directly on the ocean-front, wooden boardwalk in Rehoboth Beach—one of the country’s great beach towns. Within easy walking distance are many fantastic restaurants, shops, and beach amusements. After the paper sessions, relax on the wide sandy beach or visit the hotel’s outdoor pool and Tiki bar.

Each individual is responsible for making his/her own reservations with the Atlantic Sands Hotel and Conference Center no later than Friday, May 11, 2007 using the following number: 1-800-422-0600. Registrants should identify themselves as attending the “NAREA Conference”. The rooms are listed under University of Delaware-NAREA. Reservations made after that date will be subject to room and rate availability. All reservations must be guaranteed, by providing one night’s room and tax deposits with cash, check or a major credit card. There will be no refunds for early checkouts. Cancellations must be made 72
hours prior to the arrival date to receive a refund of the deposit. However, a $25 administrative fee will be charged for all cancellations. The room rates are:

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday (June 10-12) $100 single/double, $115 triple occupancy, $130 quad occupancy
Saturday (June 9) $130 single/double occupancy $145 triple occupancy, $160 quad occupancy.

The opening reception will be held on Sunday evening (June 10th), and is free for those registering for the conference. The conference registration fee will be $135 for regular members (for early registration), which includes a ticket to Monday’s Awards Luncheon. Anyone with questions regarding local arrangements or facilities for the 2007 NAREA meetings, please contact Josh Duke (duke@udel.edu).

The full agenda for the meeting and workshop is attached at the end of the newsletter and available on the website. The meetings include two invited sessions, an awards luncheon presentation by Nelson Bills, and 16 selected paper sessions and symposia on a wide range of topics. Definitely something for everyone!

The 2007 NAREA Workshop, Crop Insurance and Risk Management, begins after the general meetings at 1:00 PM, June 12 and continues until noon on June 13. Cal Turvey and the rest of the workshop committee have put together an exciting workshop. The agenda is at the end of this newsletter and available on the website. There are two keynote presentations, twelve selected papers on crop insurance and risk management.

On behalf of the Association, I want to thank Lori Lynch and Wes Musser for the wonderful job they did as editors of the Journal. Wes and Lori finished their final issue of the Journal in October. I speak for the entire Association in offering our gratitude for their excellent service as editors. We are in good hands with Titus Awokuse and Joshua Duke taking over as editors. I am excited to report that they have implemented Editorial Express as a means of submitting and reviewing manuscripts.

Among other important pieces of business at this summer’s meeting, we will vote at the business meeting on the amendment to our bylaws to add the President’s Fund (see below). We have sent out a separate e-mail with the amendment, as well as included it in the newsletter, so please take a look at it and I hope you vote “yes” at the business meeting.

Things are shaping up for our 2008 meeting. Our next annual meetings will be in Quebec City from Sunday June 29 – July 1, 2008. The meetings will be held jointly with the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society and will coincide with the celebration of the 350th anniversary of the City of Quebec. Given the great success of past joint NAREA/CAES meetings I think we can definitely look forward to something great. We have Dan Lass to thank for putting these meetings together.

To conclude, I would like to thank Steve Smith and Jeff Stokes for doing such a wonderful job of planning and organizing the Delaware meetings. I would also like to give a huge thank you to Jill Caviglia-Harris. Jill did an outstanding job on innovating the submission and review process for review of papers for the meetings by automating it to the web. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee for their help, innovative ideas and leadership. It has been a pleasure serving this great Association as President this year, and I look forward to seeing you all at this summer’s meeting and workshop.

2008 NAREA Annual Meeting
Dan Lass

The 2008 NAREA meetings will be held jointly with the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society. Planning has already begun as Quebec will celebrate its 400th anniversary in 2008. The meetings will be held Sunday, June 29, through Tuesday, July 1, at the Quebec Hilton (www.hiltonquebec.com). A block of rooms is being reserved at $194 per night (Canadian). These later dates will also position our meetings just prior to the peak of Quebec’s celebrations, July 3, the anniversary date of the founding of Quebec City by Samuel de Champlain (for more on the celebrations visit: www.quebec400.qc.ca/en/fest_programme.asp). This will be a great time of year to visit Quebec and bring the family for an extended stay (for more on what's available in and around Quebec, visit www.bonjourquebec.com/us-en/villesquebec0.html). We look forward to seeing you there in 2008.

Secretary/Treasurers Report
Doug Morris

Dues renewals for 2007 are past due. Thanks to all that have already paid. Past members may just send me a check for $25 and note any changes in postal or e-mail addresses.

Doug Morris
Secretary - Treasurer
Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association
56 College Road, 316 James Hall
Durham, NH  03824-3589

Current paid up members total 234; regular continuing members total 194 with 17 new members joining this year. Student continuing members total 9 with 14 new students joining. 68 members from last year have not remitted 2007 dues yet and the slippage from the students is 24. International individual membership remains strong at 30. We have 82 current members from outside the northeast region. Library subscriptions paid to date total 61.

Presidents Fund information:  Current balance is $3,475.37.
Contributors total:  12.
The April 2007 issue is now at the publishers. The issue includes the article written by the recipient of the 2006 NAREA Award for Outstanding Public Service through Economics, and one invited paper that was presented at the Workshop on the Rural Creative Economy. It also includes nine submitted papers, four of which were presented at the above workshop.

During 2004, 37 new articles were submitted. Of these, 19 manuscripts (51 percent) have been accepted (two for the October 2004 issue, seven for the April 2005 issue, seven for the October 2005 issue, and three for the October 2006 issue), twelve manuscripts were rejected (32 percent) including four that were returned to authors without review, and two are in the revise-resubmit category (5 percent). Four were withdrawn from consideration after the first round of reviews (about 11 percent).

During 2005, 60 new articles were submitted. Of these, 28 manuscripts (47 percent) have been accepted (one in the October 2005 issue, 13 in the April 2006 issue, eight for the October 2006 issue, one for the April 2007 issue, and five for the October 2007 issue), 18 have been rejected or returned to the authors without review (38 percent), one was withdrawn after first round review (two percent), and eight are in the revise and resubmit phase (13 percent).

During 2006, submissions returned to 38 articles similar to 2004 but a decrease from 2005. Thirteen of these manuscripts (34 percent) have been accepted (one for the April 2006 issue, eight for the April 2007 issue, and four for the October 2007 issue), nine have been rejected or returned to the authors without review (37 percent), two were withdrawn from consideration (5 percent), nine are in the revise and resubmit category (24 percent), and one is in the second round of review (3 percent).

The October 2007 issue is our last one as editors. We have enjoyed our term as editors and wish to thank the association for this opportunity. We also thank both members and non-members for their manuscript submissions. We are especially grateful to all the reviewers and editorial board members for their assistance. Their commitment and thoughtful evaluation of the submitted manuscripts has contributed to improving the articles and the journal quality. In closing, we wish the new editors, Josh Duke and Titus Awokuse at the University of Delaware, the best.

Please submit any new manuscripts to the new editors, Josh Duke and Titus Awokuse at the University of Delaware.

ARER New Editors
Titus Awokuse and Joshua Duke

As we transition this year into editing the journal—taking over from Lori Lynch and Wes Musser after their outstanding three years—we are writing to let the membership know that we are eager to receive new manuscripts and that we have adopted a new web-based review system. Editorial Express is a management system now used by most of the other agricultural economics journals. After some initial technical challenges, we now have the system running well. Please submit your manuscripts by linking to the new system off the NAREA webpage or directly at:
https://gemini.econ.umd.edu/cgi-bin/e-editor/e-submit_v6.cgi?dbase=arer

Call for Nominations: NAREA Award for Outstanding Public Service Through Economics
Stephen Smith, Chair

NAREA calls for nominations for the 2007 Award for Outstanding Public Service through Economics. This award honors and recognizes economists who have applied agricultural, environmental, consumer, resource or community development economics in a unique way that has contributed toward solving an important problem and improving the welfare of society.

Nominees should be economists who have used economics to help solve important problems faced by society. The nomination letter should focus on why the nominee meets the criteria for the award. Nominees will be evaluated on the quality of their work and their demonstrated contribution to improving societal welfare as indicated by the nomination letter. Detailed guidelines for nominations can be found on NAREA’s website (www.narea.org).

The recipient(s) will be invited to present a keynote address at the 2008 annual meeting in Quebec City that will be published in the Agricultural and Resource Economics Review. The recipient will receive an honorarium of $1,000 to cover travel costs.

The period for nominations has been extended to August 1, 2007. Letters of nomination and biographical sketches should be sent to:
Stephen Smith
Penn State University
E-mail: smsmith@psu.edu

NAREA Thesis Awards
Chris Anderson, Chair

Congratulations to this year’s winners of the M.S. thesis awards. They are:

NAREA 2007 Outstanding M.S. Thesis:
Justin Byma, Efficiency of New York Dairy Farms: Exploring the Role of Managerial Ability
Cornell University

Awards of Merit:
Jennifer Lawton Stated Response Uncertainty and Mitigation of Hypothetical Bias in Choice Experiments
Penn State

And congratulations are due as well to all entrants who were selected to represent their departments!
Join NAREA

To join NAREA send $25 with your name and address, including e-mail address, to the Secretary-Treasurer. You can also renew when you renew your AAEA membership.

Doug Morris, Secretary-Treasurer
University of New Hampshire
56 College Road
316 James Hall
Durham, NH 03824-3589
USA

Presidents' Fund

Harry M. Kaiser

The Executive Board has approved the creation of the Presidents' Fund, and members will be asked to vote on an addition to the bylaws this summer. Specifically, you will be asked to vote on the following addition to the bylaws:

A fund entitled "The Presidents' Fund" is established whereby the interest on this fund shall be used to support graduate student and early-career professional members' involvement in the Association. While anyone can contribute to this fund, past presidents' of the Association are especially encouraged to support it. The Secretary-Treasurer is responsible for managing the proceeds of the Past-Presidents' Fund, as well as soliciting contributions to the Fund. A committee composed of the President, Past-President, and President-Elect will be responsible for awarding grants from this fund to graduate students and early-career professionals.

Future Meetings

2007 Delaware
2008 Quebec City
2009 Vermont
2010 New Jersey
2011 Massachusetts
2012 New York
2013 West Virginia
2014 Rhode Island
2015 Maine
2016 Pennsylvania
2017 Nova Scotia

2006-2007 Committee Membership

The NAREA Bylaws provide for several standing committees and the formation of ad hoc committees according to need to conduct the business of the Association each year. Membership for each committee for 2006-2007 is presented below, with term expiration dates in parentheses. The tasks of each committee are described in the bylaws.

Executive Committee

President
Harry M. Kaiser
Cornell University

President Elect
Stephen Smith
Pennsylvania State University

Past President
Tim Phipps
West Virginia University

Secretary-Treasurer
Douglas E. Morris
University of New Hampshire

Editors
Titus Awokuse (2007-2009)
University of Delaware

Directors
Cynthia Nickerson (2007)
USDA/ERS
University of Delaware
Jacqueline Geoghagen (2008)
Clark University
Kathleen Bell (2008)
University of Maine
David Just (2009)
Cornell University
Robert Johnston (2009)
University of Connecticut at Avery Point

Government Representative
Susan Leetmaa
USDA/ERS

Industry Representative
Robert Yonkers (2008)
International Dairy Foods Association

2007 Program Committee

Steve Smith, President-Elect, Chair
Penn State University

Harry M. Kaiser, President
Cornell University

Tim Phipps, Past President
West Virginia University

Douglas E. Morris, Secretary-Treasurer
University of New Hampshire

Joshua Duke, Host-Institution Representative
University of Delaware
Distinguished and Honorary Life Member Awards

Julie Caswell (2007), Chair
University of Massachusetts

George K. Criner (2008)
University of Maine

Masters Thesis Awards

Chris Anderson (2007)
University of Rhode Island

David Just (2007)
Cornell University

Rigoberto A. Lopez (2008)
University of Connecticut

Ramu Govindasamy (2008)

Finance Committee

Tim Phipps, Past President, Chair
West Virginia State University

Todd Schmit
Cornell University (2006)

Audit Committee

John Halstead, Chair
New Hampshire

Michael Scibarrasi
New Hampshire

Alberto Manalo
New Hampshire

Nominating Committee

Tim Phipps, Past-President, Chair
West Virginia State

Harry M. Kaiser, President
Cornell University

Steve Smith, President-Elect
Penn State University

Membership Committee

James Hanson (2007), Chair
University of Maryland

University of Delaware

Ken Bailey (2009)
Penn State University

Special Award Committee

Harry M. Kaiser (2007), President, Chair
Cornell University

Steve Smith (2008), President-Elect
Penn State University

Qingbin Wang
University of Vermont

Select Papers and Symposia Committee

Term Expires 2008

Jeffrey Stokes
Pennsylvania State University, Chair

Term Expires 2007

David Just
Cornell University

Kathleen Bell
University of Maine

Dee-Singh Knight
West Virginia State University

Don Blayney
Economic Research Service

John Bernard
University of Delaware

Nathalie Lavoi
University of Massachusetts

Webmaster

Bob Conn
Penn State University

Historian

John Mackenzie
University of Delaware

2007 Workshop Committee

Calum Turvey, Chair
Cornell University

Wes Musser
University of Maryland

Mike Roberts
Economic Research Service

Don Tilman
University of Delaware
Bob Parsons  
University of Vermont  

Ex Officio  
Harry M. Kaiser, President  
Cornell University  

Tim Phipps, Past-President  
West Virginia University  

2008 Workshop Committee  
Barrett Kirwin, Chair  
University of Maryland  

Bruce Gardner  
University of Maryland  

Steve Smith  
Pennsylvania State University
Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Meetings

June 10 – 13, 2007
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware
Atlantic Sands Hotel

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2007

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm  NAREA Executive Board Meeting  Sandpiper room
3:00 pm – 7:30 pm  Registration  Prefunction area (lobby) 3rd floor
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  Evening Reception  Tiki Bar

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2007

7:30 am - 11:30 am;  Registration  Prefunction area (lobby) 3rd floor
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

8:00 am – 9:30 am  Invited Presentation: “Risk, Resource Economics, and the Real World”
Robert E. O’Connor, National Science Foundation

Room: Swan B & C
Moderator: Steve Smith

9:30 am – 9:45 am  Morning Break  Prefunction area (lobby) 3rd floor
9:45 am – 11:00 am  Informal Session with Robert O’Connor on
Social Science Funding by the National Science Foundation
(Room: Sandpiper)

9:45 am – 11:15 am  SELECTED PAPER SESSIONS 1.a – 1.d.
1.a. Assessing Consumer Food Product Demand  (Room: Dolphin)

Moderator: John Bernard


“Demand for Live Aquatic Products in the Mid-Atlantic States.” Venkata S. Puduri - Rutgers University and Ramu Govindasamy.

1.b. Regional Growth and Agriculture

**Moderator:** Doug Morris


“Does the Agricultural Sector Stimulate Economic Growth in Developing Economies?” Divyam Mayawala and Titus O. Awokuse - University of Delaware.

1.c. Agricultural Production I

**Moderator:** Jeffrey Stokes

“Mortgage Termination at AgChoice Farm Credit.” Jonathan B Dressler and Jeffrey R Stokes- Penn State University.

“Assessing the Profitability of Anaerobic Digesters on Dairy Farms in Pennsylvania.” Elizabeth R Leuer, Jeffrey Hyde, and Thomas L Richard - Penn State University.


1.d. Carbon Sequestration and Public Policy

**Moderator:** Antonio Bento


“A CO2 Sequestration Supply Curve for a Coal-to-Liquid Project in China.” Hui Su, Haixiao Huang, and Jerald J Fletcher - West Virginia University


11:30 pm – 1:00 pm **Awards Luncheon and Welcome**
1:15 pm - 2:45pm

SELECTED PAPER SESSIONS 2.a – 2.d.

2.a. Organic Food Demand (Room: Dolphin)

Moderator: Ted Jaenicke


2.b. Topics in Rural Economic Change (Room: Crane)

Moderator: Titus Awokuse


“Migration of University of Maine Graduates.” Ewa J Kleczyk - TargetRx/Virginia Tech.


2.c. Agricultural Production II (Room: Sanibel A)

Moderator: Loren Tauer

“Is Consistent Estimation of Risk Preferences Possible using Revealed Preference Data?” David R Just - Cornell University and John E Jones.


2.d. Environmental Pollution  (Room: Sanibel B)

**Moderator:** Richard Ready

“Poultry Litter Management in Two Mid-Atlantic States.” Alan R Collins - West Virginia University and Doug Parker.

“Designing Water Quality Markets to Efficiently Manage Nonpoint Source Risk.” Gaurav S Ghosh and James S. Shortle - Penn State University.


“Balancing Competing Water Uses in Participatory Watershed Planning and Management.” Shannon H. Rogers, John M. Halstead, and Thomas Seager - University of New Hampshire

2:45pm – 3:00pm  **Afternoon Break**  Prefunction area (lobby) 3rd floor

3:00pm – 4:30pm  **SELECTED PAPER SESSIONS 3.a – 3.d.**

3.a. Agricultural Land Preservation  (Room: Dolphin)

**Moderator:** Jerald Fletcher


3.b. Research Methods I  (Room: Crane)

**Moderator:** Cynthia Nickerson


“Study Frequency Of Recreational Activities Using Quantile Regression Methods With Censored Data.” Ekaterina D. Gnedenko and Bruce A Larson - University of Connecticut.

“Diving Demand for Large Ship Artificial Reefs.” Ash Morgan & William Huth- University of West Florida and Matt Massey.

“Non-Monetary Values and Restoration Equivalents in a Random Utility Model of Beach Recreation.” George R Parsons and Ami Kang - University of Delaware.
3.c. Trade Issues I (Room: Sanibel A)

Moderator: Robert Johnston


“Impact of Avian Influenza on Japan’s Poultry Meat Imports.” Fawzi A Taha - USDA- ERS.


3.d. Environmental Issues in Developing Countries (Room: Sanibel B)

Moderator: Gebremeskel Gebremariam


“Poverty and Natural Resource Use: Asset Poverty, Shocks and Firewood Collection in Rural Ethiopia.” Bayou Demeke & Narishwar Ghimire- Penn State University and Jonse Bonka - Addis Ababa University.


4:30pm – 5:30pm NAREA Business Meeting (Room: Crane)

EVENING & DINNER ON YOUR OWN

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2007

8:00am – 12:00pm Registration for Annual Meeting and “Crop Insurance & Risk Management” Workshop Prefunction area (lobby) 3rd floor

8:30am –10:00am Invited Presentation: “Environmental and Land Use Implications of Biofuel Feedstock Production in the U.S.”
Liz Marshall, World Resources Institute

(Room: Swan B & C)

Moderator: Steve Smith

10:00am – 10:30am Morning Break Prefunction area (lobby) 3rd floor
10:30pm – 12:00pm  SELECTED PAPER SESSIONS 4.a – 4.d.

4.a. Land Conservation  (Room: Dolphin)

**Moderator:** Kathleen Bell


4.b. Research Methods II  (Room: Crane)

**Moderator:** Bayou Demeke


“New Zealand's Catch Balancing Regime - A Model of Enforcement Strategies.” Gabriela Dobrot and Jongoh - Nam - University of Rhode Island.


4.c. Technology Adoption Decisions  (Room: Sanibel A)

**Moderator:** David Just


4.d. Trade Issues II  (Room: Sanibel B)

**Moderator:** George Parsons


“The Examination of Demand Elasticity for Thai Rice Exports.” Pimbucha Rusmeechintong - Cornell University.
NAREA Workshop on Crop Insurance and Risk Management

Tuesday June 12 2007, 1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M

Keynote Jerry Skees. Innovations in Index Insurance for the Poor in Lower Income Countries

Session I: Innovations in Risk Management and Agricultural Insurance

Sridar Komar and Holly Wang A Comparison of Alternative Option Pricing Approaches for Weather Derivatives

Seanicca Edwards, Terry Hanson, Keith Coble, Saleem Shaik, Stephen Sempier, and Corey Miller Identifying Risk Factors Affecting Weather and Disease Losses for Farm-Raised Catfish Insurance Policy

Nick D. Paulson, Bruce A. Babcock, Chad E. Hart, and Dermot J. Hayes An Insurance Approach to Risk Management in the Ethanol Industry

Calum G. Turvey, Michael Norton, Bala Rompicharlabhattar, Kathy Luyang Qin, Margaret Guat Hee Ang An Internet-Based Tool for Weather Risk Management

Session II: Measuring Crop Yield Variability

Saleem Shaik and Sanjoy Bhattacharjee Hierarchical Linear Models in the Estimation of Crop Yield Trends and Normality Testing

Alisher Umarov and Bruce Sherrick Spatial Consideration in Estimating Expected Crop Yields for Crop Insurance

Yue Lu, Octavio A. Ramirez, Roderick M. Rejesus, Thomas O. Knight, and Bruce J. Sherrick Empirically Evaluating the Flexibility of the Johnson Family of Distributions for Crop Yield Modeling: A Crop Insurance Application

Wednesday June 13 2007, 9:00 A.M – 12:00 A.M.

Keynote Address

Wes Musser The Role of Extension in Risk Management

Session III: The Demand for Crop Insurance

Paul D Mitchell and Thomas O. Knight Economic Analysis of Supplemental Deductible Coverage as Recommended in the USDA’s 2007 Farm Bill Proposal

Mauricio Jaramillo, Thomas O. Knight, Roderick M. Rejesus, Keith H. Coble, George F. Patrick, and Alan Baquet Preference for Crop Insurance and Risk Management Information Sources: Implications for Extension and Outreach Programming

Juan H. Cabas, Akssell J. Leiva, and Alfons Weersink Modeling Exit and Entry of Farmers in a Crop Insurance Program

Ashok K. Mishra, Michael Livingston, and Kenneth Erickson Crop Insurance and Risk Attitudes of Grain Farmers: A Bayesian Analysis

Saleem Shaik, Terry Hanson, Darren Hudson, Stephen Sempier, Corey Miller, and Keith Coble Willingness to Pay for a Potential Insurance Policy: Case of Trout Aquaculture