

The Applied Economics Profession in a New Era of Competitive Grants

How to Succeed as a Multi-Disciplinary Scientist

Webinar Speaker Bios

March 31, 2010

NAAEA



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Scott M. Swinton is a professor of agricultural, food and resource economics at Michigan State University. His current research explores economic approaches to enhance the provision of ecosystem services from agriculture, including projects with the National Science Foundation's Long-term Ecological Research agroecological site in Michigan and the U.S. Department of Energy Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center. Scott has authored over 60 journal articles and served as associate editor of five journals, most recently the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* and *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. Scott teaches graduate agricultural production economics and undergraduate ecological economics. He holds degrees from University of Minnesota (PhD), Cornell University (MS), and Swarthmore College (BA).

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Deborah provides leadership to the USDA NIFA Competitive Programs Unit and its programs and activities that advance knowledge for agriculture, the environment, human health and well being and communities. Prior to becoming the Deputy Administrator, she was the Director of Integrated Programs at CSREES.

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Dr. House holds a teaching and research appointment. She teaches classes in food and agribusiness marketing and management, survey research for economists, and comparative world agriculture. Her research interests focus on consumer preferences and demand for food products. Dr. House earned her B.S. in Food and Resource Economics from the University of Florida, followed by M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Agricultural Economics from Kansas State University. Her first position was as an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Mississippi State University. After returning to the University of Florida in 2001, Lisa House served as Undergraduate Coordinator from 2004 – 2008 and was named the Advisor of the Year both for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the University of Florida in 2007-08. She has earned teaching awards from the Southern Agricultural Economics Association, American Agricultural Economics Association, and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Florida. In research, Dr. House has received grants totaling over \$2.5 million to research subjects such as consumer acceptance of genetically modified foods, demand for seafood products, perception of fruits and vegetables, and the role of social networks in new food product adoption

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Elena Irwin is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics at Ohio State University. Her research interests include land use economics and policy, urban spatial systems, and human-environment interactions. Her research applies theory and methods from the fields of spatial and regional economics, including spatial econometrics, geographic information systems and systems dynamics. She has published her work in a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary outlets, including *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, *Journal of Economic Geography*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Land Economics*, *Annual Review of Resource Economics*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Landscape Ecology and Agriculture*, *Ecosystems and Environment*. She is currently a Co-Investigator with the Baltimore Ecosystem Study, a Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) project and a past Co-Investigator of the Lake Erie Biocomplexity project, both funded by the National Science Foundation. In addition, her research has been funded by the US Department of Agriculture, Ohio Sea Grant Program and the James S. McDonnell Foundation. She is the 2008 recipient of the North American Regional Science Council's Hewings Award for distinguished young scholars in regional science and co-recipient of the 2009 Sustainability Science Award from the Ecological Society of America for her coauthored paper in PNAS's special feature on land change science in 2007. She received a B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis in German and History (1988) and a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Maryland (1998).