

July – August, 2009

The Council Caller

The Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics (C-FARE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the application of economics to food, agricultural, and resource issues at the national level. "The Council Caller" is a monthly e-newsletter provided by C-FARE with informational updates for agricultural and applied economists.

Research and Grant Information

Graduate Research Fellowship Program

The National Science Foundation is accepting applications for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program. The program provides three years of support for graduate study leading to research-based master's or doctoral degrees and is intended for students who are in the early stages of their graduate studies. Application deadline for Interdisciplinary fields of study is November 2, 2009 and for Social Sciences is November 5, 2009. For more details visit:

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09603/nsf09603.htm?govDel=USNSF_25.

Young Researchers Seminar in Montpellier, France

The French Initiative for International Agricultural Research (FI4IAR) is organizing its first biennial seminar for young researchers working in developed and developing countries. Entitled Exploring Agricultural Research for the Future: a dialogue between young researchers from the South and the North, the event will provide an opportunity for doctoral and postdoctoral students to dialogue and to establish links between young researchers from the North and the South. The event will take place during the Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD) scheduled for March 28 - April 1, 2010. For more information, visit

http://www.inra.fr/gip_ifrai_eng/manifestations/seminaire_jeunes_chercheurs_du_nord_et_du_sud_mars_avril_2010_montpellier_france

Social and Economic Costs of Harmful Algal Blooms

PCM HAB is a new program and one goal is to assess the social and economic costs of Harmful Algal Bloom events and the costs and benefits of prevention, control, and mitigation to guide future research and aid in the selection of the most appropriate management strategies and methods. Letters of intent are due August 17, 2009. Applications must be received and validated by October 14, 2009. For details visit:

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=vjNFKgBBdprNYcvYsG7Lh1kThW4vYxJ9HTM9bXxtsXwhw1QYZH7y!1656926990?oppld=48538&mode=VIEW>.

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Predoctoral Fellows

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) is interested in supporting individual pre-doctoral fellowships for combined MD/PhD training. For more details please visit: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-232.html>.

Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship

The US Department of State announces an open competition for one assistance award to conduct all programmatic, financial and administrative activities for the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship Program. The Pickering program is designed to recruit and develop new talent for the Department of State's Foreign Service. Application deadline is August 14, 2009. For details visit:

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/synopsis.do;jsessionid=JGpLKQzGI1PDwzy70qMjhwDNjF4JkpZpKpPj0Tjh5z99grvxxzb!-1795135533>.

Applications Being Accepted for Abe Fellowship

The Abe Fellowship is designed to encourage international multidisciplinary research on topics of pressing global concern. The program seeks to foster the development of a new generation of researchers who are interested in policy-relevant topics of long-range importance and who are willing to become key members of a bilateral and global research network built around such topics. Applicants are invited to submit proposals for research in the social sciences and related disciplines relevant to any one or any combination of the program's three themes: traditional and non-traditional approaches to security and diplomacy; global and regional economic issues; and the role of civil society. Research proposals bearing on these themes may address issues related to human security, multilateralism, bilateralism, U.S.-Japan relations, transnational economic relations, the empowerment of peoples and communities, and sustainable development, among others. Application deadline is September 1, 2009. For details visit: <http://www.ssrc.org/programs/abe-fellowship-program/>

Grants to Establish RIDGE Centers for Food and Nutrition Research

The Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program announces the recompetition of the grants that fund partner institutions in the Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics (RIDGE) Program. ERS expects to fund two RIDGE Centers for Food and Nutrition Assistance Research beginning in fiscal 2010—one center focusing on food and nutrition assistance research at the national level and the second center targeting specific populations. Application deadline is September 15, 2009. For more details please visit:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP038/>.

Publications and Papers

School Meal Program Participation, Dietary Patterns and Childhood Obesity

A study conducted by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. under contract from USDA ERS examined the dietary patterns of school meal program participants and nonparticipants and the relationship between school meal participation and children's Body Mass Index. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/CCR55/>.

The School Breakfast Program: Participation and Impacts

This report examines the determinants of participation in the School Breakfast Program among third grade public school students, as well as the impacts of the program on food insecurity and children's risk of skipping breakfast. Children with access to the School Breakfast Program are more likely to eat breakfast in the morning and that program access may enhance food security among families at the margin of food insecurity. The study was conducted by the University of Wisconsin – Madison under a cooperative research agreement with ERS. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/CCR54/>.

World Bank Website on Climate Change

The World Bank recently launched a new climate change beta website. The new website consolidates the Bank's climate change content in a fresher, more data-rich and interactive format that pilots a new online look and approach to sharing results and knowledge, better aligned with audience needs. Visit: http://go.worldbank.org/G8KQY4R3G0?cid=ISG_E_WBWeeklyUpdate_NL.

DatelinERS Newsletter

The DatelinERS newsletter is provided by USDA's ERS. It offers concise summaries of ERS reports and events. To view the most recent edition visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/News/DatelinERSNewsletter.htm>.

Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food

On June 25 USDA's ERS released the report for Congress, "Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food – Measuring and Understanding Food Deserts and Their Consequences." This report fills a request for a study of food deserts—areas with limited access to affordable and nutritious food—from the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. The report summarizes findings of a national-level assessment of the extent and characteristics of food deserts, analysis of the consequences of food deserts, lessons learned from related Federal programs, and a discussion of policy options for alleviating the effects of food deserts. Overall, findings show that a small percentage of consumers are constrained in their ability to access affordable nutritious food because they live far from a supermarket or large grocery store and do not have easy access to transportation. For more details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP036/>.

Manure Use for Fertilizer and for Energy

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 directed the USDA to evaluate the role of animal manure as a source of fertilizer, and its other uses. ERS released this report on June 25. To view this report visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP037/>.

Workshops and Meetings

Energy Conference Hosted by Regional Research Committee

On November 15-17, 2009, the S-1043 Regional Research Committee on Economic Impacts of International Trade and Domestic Policies on Southern Agriculture and the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) are hosting an "Energy Conference" in Orlando, Florida. For more details visit: http://www.fred.ifas.ufl.edu/files/energy_conference.pdf.

Other News

CSREES Economic and Community Systems National Program Leader Position

USDA's CSREES ECS Division has a posting for a National Program Leader. The closing date for applications is September 28, 2009. Use the following link to view and/or apply for this position: <http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/a9csrees.asp>. In the keyword search, type in the vacancy announcement number: CSREES-2009-0096.

New Head of Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Division at NSF

The National Science Foundation (NSF) selected University of Michigan historian Myron Gutmann, to head its directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE). Gutmann begins his position on Nov. 2, 2009. For details visit: http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=115316&org=OLPA&from=news.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

If you have any feedback for C-FARE or would like to inform us of a research area you have been working on, please contact Tamara Wagester, Executive Director at 202-408-8522 or by e-mail tamarawagester@cfare.org. If you are not currently getting our monthly e-newsletter directly from C-FARE, and would like to subscribe to "The Council Caller", please send an E-mail directly to CFAREinfo@aol.com.

C-FARE is a non-profit, non-partisan association actively working to represent agricultural and applied economists in matters of science policy, priority setting, and budget determination at the federal level, and to collaborate with other scientific organizations and government agencies in these activities.