

March-April 2010

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.

Legislative Action and Updates

USDA Releases to Congress Report on Agricultural Transportation

On April 27, 2010 the USDA released to Congress a comprehensive report on agricultural transportation in the United States, the first ever of this magnitude. The report, Study of Rural Transportation Issues, was mandated by the 2008 Farm Bill and covers the four major modes of transportation commonly used by agriculture in the United States-truck, rail, barge, and ocean vessel. For details visit:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/RuralTransportationStudy>.

Research and Grant Information

USDA NIFA AFRI Program

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is charged with funding research, education, and extension grants and integrated research, extension, and education grants that address key problems of National, regional, and multi-state importance. Deadlines for AFRI programs vary but the first deadline will be May 4, 2010. For details please visit:

<http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/afri/afri.html>. You are also encouraged to visit the

C-FARE webinar which provides information and tips for applied economists at:

http://www.cfare.org/media_events/webinar.php.

AFRI Webinars

Webinars focused on each AFRI RFA are now posted to the NIFA website to provide an introduction and overview of the RFA Program Areas. A webinar has also been developed to describe opportunities available for 1890 universities, minority serving institutions, and universities in USDA EPSCoR states. Please visit

http://nifa.usda.gov/funding/afri/afri_webinars.html.

NIFA National Needs Graduate Fellowship Grants

The fellowships supported through the Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship Grants Program are intended to

encourage outstanding and committed students to pursue and complete graduate degrees in critical areas of national need, through graduate programs at eligible institutions. For details visit: <http://nifa.usda.gov/funding/afri/afri.html>. Application deadline is May 10, 2010.

NIH Fellows Awards

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for Individual Senior Fellows - <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-111.html>

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Individual Predoctoral MD/PhD and Other Dual Doctoral Degree Fellows - <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-107.html>

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Individual Predoctoral Fellowships to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research - <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-109.html>mode=VIEW&oppld=51860

Scientific Meetings for Creating Interdisciplinary Research Teams

This funding opportunity encourages Research Conference Grant applications from institutions and organizations that propose to develop interdisciplinary research teams. Teams must include investigators from the social and/or behavioral sciences, and may include the life and/or physical sciences. Application deadlines vary. Please visit: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-106.html>.

NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings

The purpose of the NIH Research Conference Grant Program is to support high quality conferences/scientific meetings that are relevant to the scientific mission of the NIH and to the public health. A conference/scientific meeting is defined as a gathering, symposium, seminar, scientific meeting, workshop or any other organized, formal meeting where persons assemble to coordinate, exchange, and disseminate information or to explore or clarify a defined subject, problem, or area of knowledge. For details visit: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/r13/>. Application Deadlines vary.

Risk, Economics and Operations Research of Terrorism and All Hazards

DHS requests applications from U.S. colleges and universities to serve as a lead institution for a university-based Center of Excellence focusing on research and education in risk studies, economics, and operations research as they relate to terrorism and all hazards. Application deadline is April 30, 2010. For more details visit: <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=52174>.

Establish a Center for Behavioral Economics and Child Nutrition Research

The FANRP of USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), in collaboration with the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), invites proposals for a competitive grant to establish and fund a center for behavioral economics and child nutrition research. The deadline for submission of applications is May 19, 2010. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP046/>.

Planning Grants to Support Behavioral Economics in Child Nutrition Programs

The FANRP of the ERS and the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service announce the availability of funds and a request for applications for planning grants to promote new research in methods to improve children's eating habits through USDA's child nutrition programs. The planning grants will focus on developing research capacity in behavioral economic strategies and interventions that can be applied to child nutrition programs to improve children's food choices and reduce the prevalence of obesity. The deadline for proposal submission is May 17, 2010. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP045/>.

Research on Understanding and Reducing Health Disparities

This grant encourages behavioral and social science research on the causes and solutions to health and disabilities disparities in the U. S. population. Emphasis is placed on research in and among three broad areas of action: 1) public policy, 2) health care, and 3) disease/disability prevention. Proposals that utilize an interdisciplinary approach, investigate multiple levels of analysis, incorporate a life-course perspective, and/or employ innovative methods are particularly encouraged. Application deadlines vary. For details visit: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-136.html>. Also visit: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-137.html>.

FY 2010 Request for Proposal for the Pollution Prevention Information Network

The Pollution Prevention Information Network supports grantees that form a national network of pollution prevention information tools and service providers. Proposals shall describe: 1) how the work will meet EPA grant requirements; 2) how the activities will address one or more of the P2 program strategic goals; 3) how collaboration and coordination will meet the needs of a specific audience; and 4) how activities, outputs and outcomes will be measured. Deadline is May 3, 2010. For details visit: <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/p2home/pubs/grants/ppin/ppin10.pdf>.

Approaches for the Prevention or Management of Overweight in Childhood

This funding opportunity invites exploratory pilot/feasibility study and small clinical trial applications from institutions/organizations that propose to test novel home or family based interventions for the prevention or management of overweight in infancy and early childhood. Tested interventions can use behavioral, environmental, or other relevant approaches. Application deadline varies. For details please visit: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-128.html>.

Applebaum Memorial Scholarship Award

The Food Distribution Research Society is pleased to accept applications for the 2010 William Applebaum Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded annually for outstanding student research in the area of food distribution and marketing. The competition is open to all graduate students with scholarly interest and career aspirations in the food distribution system that have completed the degree in 2009 or before June 2010. Application materials must be postmarked by June 1, 2010. For more information visit the FDRS web site at: <http://fdrs.tamu.edu>.

Aetna Foundation Announces 2010 Grant Program Funding Priorities

For 2010, Aetna Foundation will focus its grantmaking on issues that improve health and the healthcare system in: obesity; racial and ethnic healthcare equity; and integrated health care. Grant applications that address more than one of these areas will receive priority consideration. Deadlines are quarterly. For details visit:

<http://www.aetna-foundation.org/foundation/apply-for-a-grant/grantseeker-information/index.html>.

Nature of Learning Program Offers Funding for Climate Change Education

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge System and National Conservation Training Center, in partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the National Wildlife Refuge Association, are inviting applications from organizations interested in initiating the Nature of Learning program in their communities. Deadline is June 14, 2010. For details visit:

http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=charter_programs_list&CONTENTID=15104&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm.

Healthy Eating Research: Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity

Healthy Eating Research, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is designed to support research on environmental and policy strategies with strong potential to promote healthy eating among children and prevent childhood obesity, especially among lower-income and racial and ethnic populations at highest risk for obesity. Findings are expected to advance RWJF's efforts to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic by 2015. The deadlines vary. For details please visit:

<http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20922>.

Publications and Papers

Agricultural Research Funding in the Public and Private Sectors

USDA ERS recently released data for public and private funding of agricultural research and development cover the years 1970-2008 (public) and 1970-98 (private). Data are available as nominal figures and adjusted for inflation. For details visit:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/AgResearchFunding/>.

The Food Assistance Landscape, Annual Report

This USDA ERS report examines trends in USDA's food and nutrition assistance programs through fiscal 2009. It also discusses a recent ERS report that examines the prevalence, severity, and characteristics of food insecurity in households with children. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB6-7/>.

The Impact of Genetically Engineered Crops on Farm Sustainability

On April 13, 2010 the National Research Council held the public release of a new report on genetically engineered crops entitled, "*The Impact of Genetically Engineered Crops on Farm Sustainability in the United States.*" For details visit:

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12804.

Workshops and Meetings

FY 2010 Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Conference Webcast

The Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP) of the Economic Research Service (ERS) studies and evaluates USDA's domestic food and nutrition assistance programs. FANRP sponsors an annual roundtable discussion, open to the public, to identify crucial research and information needs that support the food assistance and nutrition programs and to ensure the policy relevance of FANRP's annual research agenda. A video of the FY09 conference is now available to inform interested parties and to encourage discussion. For details visit:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/ConferenceCenter/FANRP/FANRPDec2009/FANRP09AdobeConnect.htm>.

Farming, Finance, and the Global Marketplace

The 2010 Regional Symposium, "Farming, Finance, and the Global Marketplace," hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City will be held on June 8-9 in Kansas City, Missouri. The symposium will bring banking and business leaders, government officials, and academics together to explore the forces shaping the profitability and structure of the agricultural marketplace in the 21st century. For additional information and to register for this symposium, please visit

<https://www.kansascityfed.org/conference/10regsymposium>.

Other News

Job Opening NIFA – Family and Consumer Economics

USDA's NIFA is looking for a National Program Leader in Family and Consumer Economics. The GS-0101-13/14 position is listed under announcement number NIFA-2010-0021 at: <http://jobsearch.usajobs.gov/a9ag22.aspx>. The closing date is May 6, 2010.

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.