

January 2008

# *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

### **Secretary Conner Statement Regarding Full Market Access for Beef**

To view the January 23, 2008 statement by Acting Secretary Chuck Conner regarding Indonesia and Barbados access for beef products allowing full market access in line with international standards can be viewed at:

[http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB/.cmd/ad/.ar/sa.retrievecontent/c/6 2 1UH/.ce/7 2 5JM/.p/5 2 4TQ/.d/3/ th/J 2 9D/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?PC 7 2 5JM contentid=2008%2F01%2F0018.xml&PC 7 2 5JM parentnav=LATEST\\_R ELEASES&PC 7 2 5JM navid=NEWS\\_RELEASE#7 2 5JM](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB/.cmd/ad/.ar/sa.retrievecontent/c/6 2 1UH/.ce/7 2 5JM/.p/5 2 4TQ/.d/3/ th/J 2 9D/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?PC 7 2 5JM contentid=2008%2F01%2F0018.xml&PC 7 2 5JM parentnav=LATEST_R ELEASES&PC 7 2 5JM navid=NEWS_RELEASE#7 2 5JM)

## Research and Grant Information

### **National Integrated Water Quality Program**

The goal of the National Integrated Water Quality Program is to improve the quality of our Nation's surface water and groundwater resources through research, education, and extension activities. Application deadline is April 29, 2008. For more details please visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/water\\_quality.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/water_quality.html).

### **NSF Science of Science and Innovation Policy**

The National Science Foundation Science of Science and Innovation Policy (SciSIP) program underwrites fundamental research that creates new explanatory models, analytic tools and datasets designed to inform about the processes through which investments in science and engineering research are transformed into social and economic outcomes. The deadline is March 18, 2008. For details visit: [http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf08520](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf08520).

### **Market-Based Approaches for Increasing Water Efficiency**

EPA is soliciting applications for a project that will help transform the market for water efficient products or services. Application deadline is February 15, 2008. For more details visit: <http://www.epa.gov/wastewatergrants/>.

### **NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants**

The Conservation Innovation Grants stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging the Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production. Application deadline is February 20, 2008. For more details please visit: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ciq/>.

### **Higher Education Challenge Grants**

The deadline for USDA CSREES Higher Education Challenge Grants is February 1, 2008. For details visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/hep\\_challenge.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/hep_challenge.html).

### **Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program**

The USDA CSREES Higher Education Program for Hispanic Serving Institutions closing date is February 8, 2008. For more details please visit: <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/hispanic.html>.

### **CSREES NRI Program**

Several of the USDA CSREES NRI Programs will close on February 14, 2008. To view the RFA visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri\\_rfa.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri_rfa.html). You are encouraged to review opportunities in all areas of the NRI. CSREES responded to requests from C-FARE and the social science community to make the opportunities for social scientists more visible in the RFA, and added a new paragraph on page 5. For details visit: <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/nationalresearchinitiative.cfm>.

### **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Funding on Childhood Obesity**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program, Healthy Eating Research, supports research on environmental and policy strategies to promote healthy eating among children to prevent obesity. Funding focuses on policy and environmental studies in areas including food pricing and economic approaches. Deadline is February 6, 2008. For details visit: <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20084>.

## **Publications and Papers**

### **NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Science Strategic Prospectus**

The NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research recently released its strategic prospectus, "The Contributions of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research to Improving the Health of the Nation: A Prospectus for the Future." To view the document visit: [http://www.thehillgroup.com/OBSSR\\_Prospectus.pdf](http://www.thehillgroup.com/OBSSR_Prospectus.pdf).

### **CSREES Social Science Stakeholder Workshop Report Posted**

The November 27 USDA CSREES Stakeholder Workshop report is posted at: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/reporting/stakeholder/pdfs/ec\\_social\\_science.pdf](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/reporting/stakeholder/pdfs/ec_social_science.pdf). C-FARE appreciates the work of Dr. Sureshwaran and his efforts on behalf of the social sciences.

### **USDA ERS State Fact Sheets**

The ERS State Fact Sheets contain frequently requested data for each state and for the total United States. To view the sheets visit: <http://www.ers.usdagov/StateFacts/>.

### **Science and Technology in the 2008 Election**

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), in partnership with the Association of American Universities and the Richard Lounsbery Foundation, has started a new Web site devoted to science and technology issues in the 2008 Presidential campaign. To view the site visit: <http://election2008.aaas.org/>.

### **NSF Research and Development Recommendations**

The National Science Board, which provides oversight for NSF and helps establish priorities, released "Research and Development: Essential Foundation for US Competitiveness in a Global Economy" which examines currently available data and provides recommendations. For more information on this publication visit: <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsb0803/nsb0803.pdf>.

### **DatelinERS Newsletter**

The DatelinERS newsletter offers concise summaries of ERS reports and events with links to areas within our website. To view the recent edition visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/News/DatelinERSNewsletter.htm>.

## **Workshops and Meetings**

### **Bioeconomy Conference**

The Farm Foundation and USDA conference entitled, "Transition to a Bioeconomy: Integration of Agricultural and Energy Systems" will be held February 12-13, 2008 at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel. Detailed program information is available at the Farm Foundation Web site [www.farmfoundation.org](http://www.farmfoundation.org).

### **Transition to a Bioeconomy: Integration of Agricultural and Energy Systems**

Farm Foundation and ERS are sponsoring the workshop, "Transition to a Bioeconomy: Integration of Agricultural and Energy Systems," in Atlanta, GA February 12-13, 2008. For details visit: <http://www.farmfoundation.org/projects/08-18Bioeconomy.htm>.

### **CSREES-USDA Integrated Competitive Programs Grantsmanship Workshop**

The 1890 Region and Florida A&M University will host a Grantsmanship Workshop on CSREES Integrated Competitive Programs focusing on the Section 406 Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Program and opportunities within the National Research Initiative for support of integrated activities. The Conference will be held March 10-11, 2008 in Memphis, TN. For additional details and registration information, visit <http://www.famu.edu/cesta/csrees-famu.cfm>.

## **FAMPS Food Safety Conference**

The Annual FAMPS and Food Safety Conference will be held March 10, 2008, at the Economic Research Service in Washington, DC. For more details as the date approaches visit: <http://www.aaea.org/sections/famps/>.

## **Other News**

### **Opportunities for Students in Washington, DC**

C-FARE has developed a web page for students interested in applying for internships in Washington, DC. Visit our website at [www.cfare.org](http://www.cfare.org) to view the information.

Material provided includes possible sources for internships, background on student housing, and other information. Students who are interested in applying for the C-FARE Summer 2008 Internship can also access description at:

[http://www.cfare.org/updates/CFARE\\_2008\\_Intern\\_Description.pdf](http://www.cfare.org/updates/CFARE_2008_Intern_Description.pdf). Deadline for applications is February 28, 2008.

### **USDA NASS Administrator Bosecker to Retire**

R. Ronald Bosecker, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), retired January 3, 2008, after nearly 43 years of service to American agriculture. C-FARE appreciates Ron's leadership at NASS and it was a pleasure working with him. To view the USDA press release please visit: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Newsroom/2008/01\\_02\\_2008.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Newsroom/2008/01_02_2008.asp).

### **2007 Census Delivery**

The 2007 Census of Agriculture has been mailed out to agricultural producers across the United States. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. For more information about the Census, visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov).

### **USDA Economist Group Annual Meeting**

The USDA Economist Group held their annual meeting on January 23, 2008. The USDA Economist of the Year was presented to Frank Fillo (USDA APHIS), and the W. Fred Woods Award for Excellence in Public Policy Research and Education was presented to Keith Collins (USDA OCE).

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:CFAREinfo@aol.com).

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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.