

March 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

USDA Farm Bill Information

On February 29, 2008, USDA provided a detailed document developed from the Administration analysis of impacts to current USDA programs - in the absence of enactment of a new farm bill or an extension of the 2002 farm bill past March 15, 2008. This information was developed at the request of senior House and Senate agriculture committee staff. For details please visit:

<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2008/02/0062.xml>.

Hearing on Agriculture Research, Education and Economics

On March 11, 2008 the US House of Representatives Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee held a hearing on "Research, Education and Economics Budget" for USDA where Dr. Gale A. Buchanan, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education and Economics, was the main witness. For details visit:

http://appropriations.house.gov/Subcommittees/sub_ardf.shtml.

House Committee on Agriculture Farm Bill Information

March 12, 2008, the House and Senate approved S. 2745 on to extend agricultural programs to April 18, 2008. The summary of this bill can be found on the Library of Congress (<http://thomas.loc.gov/>) Legislative Information page. For more information and statements from the House Committee on Agriculture please visit their website at: <http://agriculture.house.gov/index.shtml>.

Statement on Farm Bill Extension by Senator Harkin

To view the March 12, 2008 statement by Senator Harkin (IA) on the Short-Term Extension for the Farm Bill please visit: <http://agriculture.senate.gov/>.

Research and Grant Information

Watershed Protection Program Grants

The U.S. EPA is accepting proposals from eligible applicants under two National Priorities: (1) Watershed/Total Maximum Daily Load National Priority and (2) Nonpoint Source National Priority. Application deadline is April 22, 2008. For more details please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/funding/rfp.html>.

NSF Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems

The NSF Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems competition promotes quantitative, interdisciplinary analyses of relevant human and natural system processes and complex interactions among human and natural systems at diverse scales. Application deadline is November 18, 2008. For details please visit: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf07598.

NSF Energy for Sustainability

The NSF Energy for Sustainability program supports fundamental research and education in energy production, conversion, and storage and is focused on energy sources that are environmentally friendly and renewable. Application deadline is September 15, 2008. For more information visit: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2005/nsf05027/nsf05027.jsp>. Proposals for Small Grants for Exploratory Research, Conferences, Workshops, and Supplements may be submitted at any time, but must be discussed with the program director before submission. Please refer to the Grant Proposal Guide (GPG), January 2008, (NSF 08-1) when you prepare your proposal. The GPG is available for download at: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=pgg.

Robert S. McNamara Fellowships Program

The program provides support to young researchers from eligible countries preparing a doctoral thesis. For details visit: <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/WBI/EXTWBISFP/EXTRSMFP/0,,contentMDK:21588578~menuPK:552352~pagePK:64168445~piPK:64168309~theSitePK:551843,00.html>.

Economic Development Research Projects Program Competition

Through this competitive solicitation, EDA solicits applications for funding that address one or more of the following three research projects: (1) regional innovation systems; (2) urban economic development policy; and (3) global economic development strategy. Application deadline is May 9, 2008. For more details visit: http://www.eda.gov/ImageCache/EDAPublic/documents/pdfdocs2008/fy08researchffofinal031408_2epdf/v2/fy08researchffofinal031408.pdf.

2008 PREISM Competitive Awards Program

Under the Program of Research on the Economics of Invasive Species Management (PREISM), ERS conducts intramural research and funds extramural research to support the economic basis of decisionmaking concerning invasive species issues, policies, and programs. PREISM focuses on economic issues related to invasive species of agricultural significance or other pests that fall under USDA program. These include exotic pests of crop, forest, and range land (such as insects, weeds, and disease-causing pathogens), and foreign livestock, poultry, and zoonotic diseases (transmittable between animals and humans), but also exotic pests and foreign diseases affecting public lands, ecosystems, and urban systems. USDA programs that address invasive species relate to exclusion, detection, monitoring, eradication, control, and restoration, and their domestic and international components. Application deadline is April 25, 2008. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/AP/AP026/>.

Economic Development Assistance Programs

Under this announcement, Economic Development Assistance solicits proposals for the following programs under PWEDA: (i) Public Works; (ii) Planning; (iii) Local Technical Assistance; and (iv) Economic Adjustment Assistance. For details visit: http://www.eda.gov/ImageCache/EDAPublic/documents/pdfdocs2008/fy08edapffofinal_2epdf/v1/fy08edapffofinal.pdf

Workshops and Meetings

16th Informa Economics Annual Food and Agriculture Policy Conference

Informa Economics, Inc. annually organizes an industry-wide annual policy conference. They will be holding the 16th annual meeting April 8 & 9 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, VA. For more details please visit: <http://www.informaecon.com/WashBrochure08.pdf>.

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.