

May 2007

# *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**

### **Actions Requested of China to Address the Safety of Food and Feed**

On May 22-24, 2007 representatives of the United States Government met with representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China to request rapid action to accomplish certain goals related to food safety. U.S. representatives presented this request during several bilateral sessions conducted in conjunction with the second cabinet-level meeting under the U.S.-China Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED) in Washington D.C. For details please visit the USDA press release at: [http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7\\_0\\_A/7\\_0\\_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2007/05/0152.xml](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2007/05/0152.xml).

## **Research and Grant Information**

### **Notice of CSREES Extension of Deadlines for Select Grants**

The Grants.gov system was unavailable May 26-27, 2007 as it upgraded its infrastructure. As a result, CSREES extended application submission deadlines, as follows: (a) Supplemental & Alternative Crops Competitive Grants Program – June 1, 2007 (b) Smith-Lever Special Needs Program – June 8, 2007 (c) Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate & Postgraduate Fellowship Grants Program – June 8, 2007. CSREES will not extend any other submission deadlines as a result of the maintenance.

### **Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program**

The purpose of this competitive undergraduate scholarship grant program is to increase the multicultural diversity of the food and agricultural scientific and professional workforce, and advance the educational achievement of all Americans by providing competitive grants to colleges and universities. The Multicultural Scholars Program is available every other year. For more details please visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/multicultural\\_selq.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/multicultural_selq.html). Application deadline is June 29, 2007.

### **National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship Grants Program**

This program awards grants to train students for master's and/or doctoral degrees and provide additional postdoctoral training for Fellows who have completed their doctoral degrees at colleges and universities that have demonstrable teaching and research competencies in the food and agricultural sciences. Applications are being solicited in several Targeted Expertise Shortage Areas including agricultural management and economics. Application deadline is June 8, 2007. For details visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/national\\_needs.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/national_needs.html).

### **Social Science Research Council Offers Grants for Katrina Research**

The Social Science Research Council is offering small grants to enable researchers to complete projects bearing on Hurricane Katrina, its impacts on people and places, and the reconstruction of the Gulf Coast. Grants may supplement funds from other sources. Preference will be given to students completing dissertation projects and to younger researchers, but applications are welcome from others. For more details please visit: [http://www.ssrc.org/announcements/Katrina\\_Grants/](http://www.ssrc.org/announcements/Katrina_Grants/).

### **NSF Community-Based Data Interoperability Networks**

Digital data are increasingly both the products of research and the starting point for new research and education activities. The ability to re-purpose data; to use it in innovative ways and combinations not envisioned by those who created the data; requires that it be possible to find and understand data of many types and from many sources. Application deadline is August 23, 2007. For more details please visit: [http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf07565](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf07565).

### **USDA CSREES NRI Grants**

The National Research Initiative (NRI) Competitive Grants Program supports high priority fundamental and mission-linked research and competitively awarded research, extension, and education grants. In FY 2007, CSREES anticipates that approximately \$181 million will be available for support of this program and that of this amount, no more than 22 percent will be made available to fund integrated projects. The remaining funds will be used to fund research projects.

Over the past three years the agricultural, natural resources and applied economics profession has worked diligently with CSREES to include language in several non-traditional social science areas which would open the grants up to funding the work of economists. We encourage you to thoroughly review the NRI RFA for several potential program areas and contact the NPL with questions as to whether the program areas would be open to economists. Listed below are a few of the grants available through both traditional and non-traditional funding paths. For more information on how to obtain grants through CSREES and other agencies, you are encouraged to attend the Organized Symposium entitled, "Overview of the Behavioral and Social Science Programs at NIH and NSF and Opportunities for Applied Economists" organized by Siva Sureshwaran at the AAEA meetings held on July 30 from 10:30-12:00.

National Research Initiative - Global and Climate Change: Carbon Cycle Science - Program priorities are drawn primarily from the US Climate Change Strategic Plan (<http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/stratplan2003/default.htm>), and include human dimensions of these issues. Past initiatives include carbon cycle science and land use and land cover change. For 2007-2008, the Program is partnering with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Applied Science Program in seeking applications in Carbon Cycle Science. Please submit applications through NASA's Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences (ROSES) 2007 funding opportunity. Application deadline is June 5, 2007. For details please visit: <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/viewrepositorydocument/77296/A.03%20Carbon%20Cycle.pdf>.

National Research Initiative - Global and Climate Change: Invasive Species and Land Use - Program priorities are drawn primarily from the US Climate Change Strategic Plan (<http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/stratplan2003/default.htm>), and include human dimensions of these issues. Past initiatives include carbon cycle science and land use and land cover change. For 2007, the Program is partnering with the Environmental Protection Agency's Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program in seeking applications for research on the ecological impacts from interactions of climate change, land use change, and invasive species. Please submit applications through the EPA. Application closing date is June 26, 2007. For more details please visit: [http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2007/2007\\_star\\_ecoimpacts.html](http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2007/2007_star_ecoimpacts.html).

National Research Initiative - Human Nutrition and Obesity - This crosscutting program addresses the complex problem of obesity prevention. Projects funded by this program are intended to lead to a better understanding of the behavioral and environmental factors that influence obesity and to the development and evaluation of effective interventions to prevent obesity. Application deadline is June 5, 2007. For more details please visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri\\_rfa.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri_rfa.html).

National Research Initiative - Agricultural Markets and Trade - The Agricultural Markets and Trade program is designed to maintain and expand domestic and international markets and to identify public policies and private strategies that may be employed to enhance marketing efficiency and the competitiveness of agricultural producers. Application deadline is June 5, 2007. For more details please visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri\\_rfa.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri_rfa.html).

National Research Initiative - Air Quality - The long-term goals of this program include: a) develop emission data for agriculture, forest, and range production practices that will lead to emission reduction targets, based on sound science, that will significantly improve air quality and protect human and environmental health; and b) develop mitigation strategies that will increase adoption of best management practices to reduce agricultural emissions. Application Deadline is June 5, 2007. For more details please visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri\\_rfa.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri_rfa.html).

## Publications and Papers

### **World Development Indicators 2007**

The World Bank's annual compilation of data about development has been released. This statistical reference allows readers to consult over 900 indicators for some 150 economies and 14 country groups in more than 80 tables. It provides a current overview of the most recent data available as well as important regional data and income group analysis in six thematic sections: World View, People, Environment, Economy, States and Markets, and Global Links. For details visit:

[http://publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product?item\\_id=6355166](http://publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product?item_id=6355166).

### **Essay on "Globalization and Rural America"**

The June 2007 issue of the Chicago Fed Letter published an essay on "Globalization in Rural America" written by Dr. Bob Thompson. You can download the article at:

[http://www.chicagofed.org/publications/fedletter/cfljune2007\\_239.pdf](http://www.chicagofed.org/publications/fedletter/cfljune2007_239.pdf).

### **2007 Farm Bill Feature**

ERS analysts examine the economic effects of current farm legislation on producers, consumers, taxpayers, and rural communities, and evaluate potential effects of alternative policies and programs. This expanded web feature presents a selection of ERS research and analysis on issues that the farm bill debate will address. For details please visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Features/FarmBill2007/>.

### **Amber Waves Special Issue**

This special issue of Amber Waves, the magazine of the USDA's ERS, provides a closer look at key farm policy topics likely to be considered in the farm bill debate. Topics in the special issue include: (a) Managing Risk with Revenue Insurance, (b) Relaxing Fruit and Vegetable Planting Restrictions, (c) Food Assistance – How Strong is the Safety Net? (d) Improving Food Choices – Can Food Stamps Do Better? (e) Emphasis Shifts in U.S. Agri-Environmental Policy, (f) Environmental Credit Training – Can Farming Benefit? To view the publication please visit:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves/May07SpecialIssue/>.

### **Feed Grains Database**

USDA's ERS recently released information on an interactive database that contains statistics on four feed grains (corn, grain sorghum, barley, and oats), foreign coarse grains (feed grains plus rye, millet, and mixed grains), hay, and related items. Tables previously published annually in the Feed Yearbook are available and updated continuously as data are added to the database. Custom queries also allow users to retrieve historical data. For details please visit:

<http://www.ersusda.gov/Data/FeedGrains/>.

### **State of the Carbon Market 2007**

The seventh annual World Bank carbon market intelligence study can be viewed at:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:21319772~pagePK:34370~piPK:34424~theSitePK:4607,00.html>.

## Workshops and Meetings

### **Conference on Sustainability in the Supply Chain**

The Center for Sustainable Processes and Practices at Portland State University will be holding a conference November 1-2, 2007 in Portland on sustainability in the supply chain. The submission deadline for refereed research papers is July 1, 2007. The submission deadline for non-refereed research abstracts is August 1, 2007. For details visit: [http://www.pdx.edu/sustainability/ap\\_center\\_supply\\_chain\\_conf.html](http://www.pdx.edu/sustainability/ap_center_supply_chain_conf.html).

### **Domestic and Trade Impacts of U.S. Farm Policy**

The November 15-16, 2007 conference entitled, "Domestic and Trade Impacts of U.S. Farm Policy: Future Direction and Challenges" will focus on the opportunities and challenges that arise out of the trade policy debate and implementation process, and will draw attention to the issues at the nexus of the international trade agreements and U.S. farm policy. The organizing committee is soliciting abstracts by July 25, 2007 for selected papers to be presented at the conference. The conference will be held in Washington, DC and is sponsored by S-1016 Regional Research Committee on Trade and Domestic Policy, Center for North American Studies-Texas A&M University, The Center for Peanut Competitiveness-University of Georgia, Farm Foundation, and C-FARE. For details visit [www.cfare.org](http://www.cfare.org).

### **Conference on the Science and Education of Land Use**

NASULGC and ICA (Association for European Life Sciences Universities - formerly the Interuniversity Consortium for Agricultural and Related Sciences in Europe) are sponsoring a joint international conference on Land Use Policy in Washington DC, September 24-26, 2007. For information visit: <http://nercrd.psu.edu/TALUC/>.

### **Challenges of Natural Resource Economics and Policy**

SERA 30, Southern Natural Resource Economics Committee partnered with the Center for Natural Resource Economics and Policy at Louisiana State University for a May 20-23, 2007 national conference addressing "Challenges of Natural Resource Economics and Policy." It was the second national forum on socioeconomic research in natural resources specifically related to coastal systems. The conference agenda is posted at: <http://www.cnrep.lsu.edu/2007/agenda.htm>.

## Other News

### **Land Management and Conservation Program Internship**

The objective of the internship is to provide opportunities for recent college graduates to gain hands-on experience in natural resource management, specifically in the areas of conservation biology, endangered species protection and management, conservation of sensitive species, and the management of public lands. Interns participating in this program will have the opportunity to learn first hand about BLM land management challenges and responsibilities. For more details please visit: [http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/res/blm\\_jobs/national\\_recruitment1.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/res/blm_jobs/national_recruitment1.html).

### **World Bank Job Opportunities**

Senior Adviser Climate Change - The Sustainable Development Network is seeking a Senior Advisor to provide leadership on the direction of Bank strategy and operations on climate change and to be the primary spokesperson for the institution on Climate Change. The closing date for applications is June 8. For details visit:

<http://web.worldbank.org/external/default/main?pagePK=64273552&piPK=64273556&theSitePK=1058433&JobNo=070667&order=descending&sortBy=job-req-num&location=ALL&menuPK=64262364>.

Young Professionals Program 2008 Selection - The Bank's Young Professionals Program is accepting applications for the 2008 Selection. The Program is a starting point for a career in the Bank. Application closing date is July 15. For details visit:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTHRJOBS/0,,contentMDK:20906802~menuPK:64262360~pagePK:64262408~piPK:64262191~theSitePK:1058433,00.html>.

### **PIPE: Call for Concept Notes**

CSREES has issued a call for concept notes for new additions to the Pest Information Platform for Extension and Education (PIPE). The PIPE system originated out of the tracking and dissemination of information about soybean rust through USDA's Website. Given its effectiveness PIPE is expanding into other areas of pest management. Visit <http://www.ipmpipe.org/sc/docs/ConceptCall2007.cfm> to submit concept notes and for more program information.

### **Stakeholder Comments for Animal Health**

The CSREES' Animal Health Team introduces the Animal Health Stakeholder Comment Form. To best serve public needs, and in accordance with relevant legislation, the team relies on input and feedback from stakeholders to set program priorities that align with USDA's strategic plan. The animal health component of CSREES involves animal health, protection, and biosecurity. For more information visit: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/animals/in\\_focus/an\\_health\\_if\\_sh\\_intro.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/animals/in_focus/an_health_if_sh_intro.html).

### **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 Wagerter, Executive Director at 202-408-8522 or by e-mail [tamarawagerter@cfare.org](mailto:tamarawagerter@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).

---

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.