

November 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

Senate Activity on Farm Bill

The Senate is daily making progress on the Farm Bill. For an up-to-date review of their activities please visit their website which is linked above. For details please visit: <http://agriculture.senate.gov/>.

Recent Activity in the House of Representatives Agriculture Committee

- On October 3 the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture held a hearing to examine the joint performance of USDA APHIS, the Customs and Border Protection, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in protecting U.S. agriculture from foreign pests and diseases.
- On October 4 the House Committee on Agriculture heard from agriculture organizations and farmers concerned with the growing shortage of farm labor in the United States.
- On October 15 the U.S. House of Representatives approved H.Con.Res. 25 which is a resolution to expand renewable energy production in the United States over the next two decades.
- On October 18, 2007 the House Agriculture Committee held a hearing to review the structural changes taking place in agriculture and their impacts on the farm economy. The witness panel included three economic analysts.
- On October 24 the House Agriculture Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review reauthorization of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.
- On October 25 the House Committee on Agriculture heard about drought, flood, fire and other weather-related disaster conditions.
- On October 30 The House Committee on Agriculture held a hearing to review technologies in the meat industry.
- On November 7 the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry held a hearing to review recent recalls in the meat industry.
- To view these and other hearings from the House Agriculture Committee please visit: <http://agriculture.house.gov/press/index.shtml>.

Peru Trade Promotion Agreement

On November 8 USDA posted a statement by Acting Agriculture Secretary Chuck Conner regarding approval of the Peru Trade Promotion Agreement. For details visit: <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2007/11/0333.xml>.

Secretary of Agriculture Nomination of Schafer

Ed Schafer was recently nominated as the new Secretary of Agriculture. To view a statement by Acting Secretary Conner view:

<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/6/ th/J 2 9D/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?PC 7 2 5JM contentid=2007%2F10%2F0321.xml&PC 7 2 5JM parentnav=LATEST R ELEASES&PC 7 2 5JM navid=NEWS REL>.

Research and Grant Information

2008 Julius Shiskin Award

Nominations are sought for the Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics which recognizes original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics. Deadline for nominations is April 1, 2008. For details visit: http://www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/shiskin.html.

EPA Environmental Education Grants

The program supports environmental education projects that promote environmental stewardship and help develop awareness. Application deadline is December 20, 2007. For details visit: <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/pdf/solicitationnotice2008.pdf>.

NSF Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers Program

The program develops long-term partnerships among industry, academe, and government. The centers are catalyzed by a small investment from NSF and are primarily supported by industry center members, with NSF taking a supporting role in their development and evolution. Application deadline is March 28, 2008. For more details view: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf07537.

NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates

The program supports active research participation by undergraduate students in any of the areas of research funded by NSF. Application deadline is June 6, 2008. For details visit: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf07569.

Health Resources & Services Administration Minority Faculty Fellowships

These grants increase the number of under represented minority individuals who are faculty in a health school. Application deadline is December 14, 2007. For details visit:

<https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/FundingOppDetails.asp?FundingCycleId=74576F12-84ED-4702-A2D6-9C3C43EAC7B1&ViewMode=EU&GoBack=&PrintMode=&OnlineAvailabilityFlag=&pageNumber=&version=&NC=&Popup=>.

NIH Retirement Economics

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) invites applications for research on retirement economics. Application deadline varies. For details visit:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-236.html>.

Ruth L. Kirschstein Awards for Individual Predoctoral

The participating Institutes of the NIH provide individual predoctoral research training fellowship to doctoral candidates. Application deadlines vary. For details visit:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-002.html>.

Plant Feedstock Genomics for Bioenergy

The U.S. Department of Energy and the USDA CSREES NRI Competitive Grants Program announce their interest in receiving applications for genomics-based research that will lead to the improved use of biomass and plant feedstocks for the production of fuels such as ethanol or renewable chemical feedstocks. Application deadline is January 23, 2008. For details visit:

<https://e-center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/UNID/1A749FE781C1AA8C8525736F00611D99?OpenDocument>.

NRI International Cooperative Biodiversity Group

CSREES, in partnership with National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy, is inviting applications for International Cooperative Biodiversity Groups to address the interdependent issues in biodiversity exploration for applications in health, agriculture, and energy while supporting the sustainable use of these resources and enhanced economic growth. Application deadline is December 5, 2007. For details visit:

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/internationalcooperativebiodiversitygroups.cfm>.

CSREES International Science and Education Grants Program

This program supports research, extension and teaching activities that will enhance the capabilities of colleges and universities to conduct international collaborative research, extension and teaching. Application deadline is January 17, 2008. For details visit:

http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/intl_science.html.

CSREES National Integrated Food Safety Initiative

The National Integrated Food Safety Initiative supports food safety projects that demonstrate an integrated approach to solving problems in applied food safety research, education, or extension. Application deadline is January 11, 2008. For details visit:

http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/food_safety.html.

Competition Opens for Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships

Administered by the National Research Council, the Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships seek to increase the diversity of U.S. college and university faculties. To facilitate these goals, NRC awards fellowships at the pre-doctoral, dissertation, and postdoctoral levels to students who demonstrate excellence, a commitment to diversity and a desire to enter the professoriate. Application deadlines vary. For details visit: <http://www7.nationalacademies.org/fordfellowships/index.html>.

World Bank's Scholarship Program

The Programs provide opportunities for graduate studies leading to master's degree in development-related fields for mid-career professionals from the Bank's member countries, eligible to borrow. For details visit:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/WBI/EXTWBISFP/0,,menuPK:551559~pagePK:64168427~piPK:64168435~theSitePK:551553,00.html>.

Microsoft Accepting Proposals for Breakthrough Research Award

Microsoft Research is accepting proposals for the A. Richard Newton Breakthrough Research Award. Applications must demonstrate problem solutions with impacts for the sciences and society. Deadline is December 3, 2007. For details visit:

<http://research.microsoft.com/ur/us/fundingopps/rfps/ARichardNewtonAward.aspx>.

American Association of University Women Career Development Grants

The American Association of University Women Educational Foundation's Career Development Grants support women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance their careers. Application deadline is December 15, 2007. For details visit:

http://www.aauw.org/education/fga/fellowships_grants/career_development.cfm.

FANRP 2007 Awards

FANRP's Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program made awards in FY 2007 to fund research on food choices. For details visit:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/FoodNutritionAssistance/Funding/Awards2007.htm>.

PREISM 2007 Competitive Awards

ERS's Program of Research on the Economics of Invasive Species Management funded 6 research projects under its 2007 competitive awards program. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/InvasiveSpecies/FY2007PREISMAwards.htm>.

Publications and Papers

Amber Waves, November 2007

Amber Waves covers the economics of agriculture, food and nutrition, the food industry, trade, rural America, and farm-related environmental topics. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves/November07/>.

DatelinERS Newsletter

The DatelinERS newsletter offers concise summaries of ERS reports and events. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/News/DatelinERSNewsletter.htm>.

ARE Update

The new issue of the ARE Update is available. For details visit: <http://www.agecon.ucdavis.edu/extension/update/issues/v11n1.pdf>.

Online Tool for Data Analysis

The World Bank's Enterprise Surveys team has launched a custom query tool called Do Your Own Analysis. For details visit: <http://www.enterprisesurveys.org/Custom/>.

Workshops and Meetings

NRI Stakeholder Workshop on November 27

The 2nd annual NRI Social Science Stakeholder Workshop will be held on November 27, 2007. The workshop will be presented in two sessions. Session I (10:00 -11:30 am) is primarily focused towards Agricultural Economists and Session II (2:00 – 3:30 pm) is primarily focused towards Rural Sociologists. However, both the sessions are open to all social science disciplines. If you are interested in participating please contact Angela Holloman, Program Assistant at aholloman@csrees.usda.gov ASAP. For details visit: <http://cfare.typepad.com/blog/>.

FY 2008 Food Assistance Research Conference

The annual Food Assistance Research Conference identifies emerging research issues related to domestic food assistance and nutrition programs administered by USDA. This year's conference entitled, "Recent Findings and Emerging Issues" will be held on December 6, 2007 at USDA's ERS. Attendance is free but registration is required due to limited space. For details visit: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/ConferenceCenter/FANRP/FANRPDecember2007/>.

Applied Commodity Price Analysis Conference

The 2008 NCCC-134 meeting on Applied Commodity Price Analysis, Forecasting and Market Risk Management will take place April 21-22, 2008 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. For details visit: <http://www.farmdoc.uiuc.edu/nccc134/>.

Other News

American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellowships

AAAS offers fellowships in six programmatic areas: (1) Congressional (2) Diplomacy (3) National Defense and Global Security (4) Health, Education & Human Services (5) Energy, Environment, Agriculture, and Natural Resources (6) Roger Revelle Global Stewardship. Application deadline is December 20, 2007. For details visit: http://fellowships.aaas.org/02_Areas/02_index.shtml.

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.