

SES News

SCHOOL OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES | DECEMBER 2018

All of your friends and colleagues in the School of Economic Sciences wish you a wonderful and joyous holiday season. We hope it is a glorious time for you and your family.

This has been a great year for the alumni, students, faculty, and staff of the School of Economic Sciences. In the pages ahead, you will learn about the many accomplishments of the SES family. Many of these achievements are the result of years of effort by the individuals and groups recognized. One very special highlight this year was the induction of Dr. Jill McCluskey as a fellow in the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association.

This fall, the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) welcomed our new Dean, André Wright. Dr. Wright is an internationally recognized researcher, and before joining CAHRS, he served as Director of the School of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences at the University of Arizona. Since his arrival, Dr. Wright has spent considerable time traveling the state to learn about the many CAHNRS missions and facilities and talking to stakeholders and alumni with the aim of charting a way forward for innovation and service to Washington. We look forward to working with André in the coming years to craft an even better future for SES and CAHNRS.

We welcome Dr. Ron Mittelhammer back home to SES. Ron did a marvelous job leading CAHNRS and has left the College stronger than ever! Ron is excited to be back in SES teaching and mentoring graduate students and renewing his research. It is wonderful having him back!

We greatly enjoyed seeing all the SES Alumni and Friends at the Annual Colloquium, Banquet and Auction on Homecoming Weekend. Our Colloquium this year featured three of our SES alum speaking on International Trade in a Dynamic Environment, and all events were well attended with old friendships renewed and new friendships made. A good time was had by all and the event was quite successful in raising scholarship and financial support for special events for the school.

We would like to express our deep appreciation to the many of you who have contributed financially and as volunteers to the School of Economic Sciences this past year. Your contributions are very important to us and support the school and its students in many ways. It is important to know that it is the shared vision for excellence and the sustained efforts of all members of the SES family that make the School of Economic Sciences the special place it is where discovery, learning, and service are part of the fabric of each day.

We take great interest and pleasure in reading about lives and careers and adventures in life. Please keep writing and remember to include your email address and/or home address when you do. If you wish to support our many activities through a financial contribution, please use this link: go.wsu.edu/supportSES, or mail your check to the address below.

We hope you enjoy reading about the progress and accomplishments of alumni, faculty, students, and staff in this issue of SES news. If you are in Pullman, you are most welcome to visit us in Hulbert Hall.

All of us in the School of Economic Sciences wish you a peaceful, joyous, and prosperous New Year.
GO COUGS!

H. Alan Love, Professor and Director

CONTACT US:

Faculty and Staff Highlights

McCluskey Receives AAEA Fellow Award



Jill McCluskey receives the AAEA Fellow Award after being nominated by Alan Love, Rich Sexton (UC Davis), and Harry Kaiser (Cornell). Left to right: Alan Love, Jill McCluskey, and AAEA Past President Jayson Lusk (Purdue University).

From nutrition to the environment to women in STEM, Dr. Jill McCluskey explores how information, incentives, and perceptions change markets and the world. “Perceptions and reputations matter,” she said. “They influence markets, agriculture, industry, the places we live and the things we buy—in short, our lives.” Singled out for her research, teaching, service, and leadership, McCluskey, Distinguished Professor of Sustainability at Washington State University’s School of Economic Sciences, was named a fellow of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) on Jan. 4, 2018. The recognition of fellow is the AAEA’s most prestigious honor. McCluskey is only the sixth

faculty member in the history of WSU to receive the honor of AAEA Fellow. She joins Ron Mittelhammer, former Dean of the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences, as a current AAEA Fellow. “I am honored to receive this award,” McCluskey said. “It was made possible by the outstanding mentors, colleagues, and students I have interacted with both at Washington State University and nationally.”

During her 19-year career at WSU, McCluskey has published more than 100 journal articles on topics that impact society and industry. Her research includes how environmental quality affects neighborhoods, how consumers respond to new food technologies, and how nutrition labels affect consumers’ food choices. Her major contributions include how collective reputations for quality, such the reputation for Washington apples, affect commodity markets, and how dual reputations affect the wine market. “Economists use data to understand how things actually work,” she said. “I study the incentives that drive our behavior. I love what I do.” As past president of the AAEA, she helped members communicate their research to the wider world, and pushed for a more diverse membership, encouraging women and minority members to assume more prominent roles. “I am humbled to be a relatively young recipient of this honor,” McCluskey said. “I hope to inspire women in agricultural and applied economics to seek leadership roles in their field.” The 2018 class of five fellows were recognized at the AAEA Annual Meeting, Aug. 5-7, 2018 in Washington, D.C.

—CAHNRS Communication ■

Ken Casavant, PacTrans Lifetime Achievement Award



Dr. Ken Casavant has been a professor of economics at Washington State University since 1971, where he has served as Interim Vice President Provost for Academic Affairs and Interim Vice Provost of Research. He has represented Washington State University (WSU) as its Associate Director of the Region 10 University Transportation Center Program, both with Pac Trans since its creation in 2012, and its predecessor, TransNow, beginning in 1996. Dr. Casavant has served as the director of the Freight Policy Transportation Institute (FPTI) since 2009 and as an Adjunct Professor for Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI) at North Dakota State University since 2002. He has served on the Washington State Governor’s Joint Natural Resources Cabinet and has been appointed to various boards throughout his distinguishing career, including the Border Policy Research Institute at Western Washington University and the Independent Economic Analysis Board of Northwest Power and Conservation Council. His numerous accolades include

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the Lifetime Achievement Award from Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute at North Dakota State University, Faculty of the Year (1990) from WSU, the Sahlin University Award for Public Service (2004) from WSU and the Sahlin University Award for Leadership (2009) from WSU. Dr. Casavant has been a member of no less than seven professional organizations, and served as chair or been a member of over 200 student graduate committees. Most of all, Dr. Casavant has been a dear friend and avid supporter of transportation research and education in the Pacific Northwest for over 50 years.

The PacTrans Lifetime Achievement Award is the highest and most prestigious award given by PacTrans. It is presented in recognition of individuals who have had distinguished careers in transportation education in the Pacific Northwest. ■

Gallardo Elected President of FDRS, Receives the Byrne Award for Emerging Leadership and the CAHNRS Early Career Excellence Award

Karina Gallardo was elected president of the Food Distribution Research Society (FDRS), and she received the Patrick J. Byrne Award for emerging leadership at the annual meeting on September 2018 in Washington D.C. WSU has a long history of involvement with FDRS. Emeritus Professor Des O'Rourke is a past president of FDRS. Earlier this year, Gallardo was awarded with the CAHNRS Early Career Excellence Award for the impact of her research and extension work. Gallardo is Associate Professor and Extension Economist and is stationed at the WSU Puyallup Research and Extension Center. She works with the retail food industry, grower associations, and other stakeholders and has developed extension programs in Spanish. She has developed cost-of-production studies for Washington tree fruit crops and outreach programs on farm management topics to the Hispanic tree fruit community. She conducts research on stakeholders' (e.g., producers, marketing intermediaries, and consumers) preferences for fruit quality attributes. Karina's program assesses the information on these preferences and transfers this knowledge to the industry and scientists, particularly fruit breeders. She is also researching the economic thresholds tree fruit producers must overcome to be able to invest in new technologies such as special mechanical fruit harvesters. The labor supply has become an issue for tree fruit producers because of cost and availability. ■



Left to right: Karina Gallardo and FDRS President Ramu Govindasamy (Rutgers Univ.)



Left to right: Ron Mittelhammer (former CAHNRS Dean) and Karina Gallardo.

Tenure and Promotion at SES



Pat Kuzyk



Mike Brady



Shannon Neibergs



Liz Gurocak

Patricia Kuzyk was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor, **Michael Brady** was promoted to Associate Professor, **Shannon Neibergs** was promoted to Professor, and **Elizabeth Gurocak** was promoted to Senior Instructor. Congratulations Pat, Mike, Shannon, and Liz! ■

Faculty and Staff Highlights

Cowan – Sabbatical



Ben Cowan with his cousin at a Cornell hockey game.

I was on sabbatical during the spring 2018 semester at the Department of Policy Analysis and Management (PAM) at Cornell University. This turned out to be a rich experience for my family and me. We rented a house near campus and I walked to my office every day past waterfalls, beautiful stone bridges, and Beebe Lake (where the Cornell hockey team used to play many years ago before they had an indoor facility). PAM has a mix of economists, sociologists, and demographers, with strengths in the fields of health and education (my research areas of interest). I usually attended multiple seminars each week given by leading scholars in these areas. I also got to know many of the faculty and a new research project has

already come out of my interactions with a few of them. While in the Northeast, I also got a chance to present research that is currently in progress at Cornell, the United States Military Academy (West Point), The State University of New York at Albany, and the Midwest Health Economics Meetings in Columbus, Ohio. Toward the end of my time at Cornell, I submitted a grant application with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to further this research agenda.

My wife homeschooled our kids while we were in New York, which presented some challenges (they attend public school in Pullman), but also allowed us the flexibility to explore the stunning Finger Lakes region and learn about the history of the area. A highlight was visiting many of the historical sites that were important in the founding of our church. Over spring break, we also had the chance to drive south and visit friends and family in North Carolina and Georgia. We drove through Shenandoah National Park on the way back to New York and now all of our kids can sing “Take Me Home, Country Roads” by heart. ■

Research at SES



Jon Yoder



Mike Brady



Joe Cook

Technology for trade: new tools and new rules for water use efficiency in agriculture and beyond.

A new \$5 million research project funded by USDA-NIFA led by SES Professor **Jonathan Yoder**, who along with two other SES faculty, **Michael Brady** and **Joe Cook**, will be working to identify promising emerging technologies and synergistic policies to improve technical and allocative water use efficiency in irrigated agriculture, through the use of water markets, improved seasonal water forecasting, and remote sensing for water use estimation. The research will be based on the Yakima, Okanagan, and Walla Walla Watersheds of the Columbia River basin. The project, titled “Technology for trade: new tools and new rules for water

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use efficiency in agriculture and beyond,” includes researchers from five programs at WSU—the State of Washington Water Research Center, the Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources, the School of Economic Sciences, the Department of Biological Systems Engineering, and the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. They will join forces with scientists at the University of Idaho, University of Washington, Kansas State University, the University of Utah, Mammoth Trading, Aspect Consulting, and a diverse group of water users and stakeholders. “Our project will help find ways to improve water use efficiency in agriculture, by focusing on how technology, water rights, and regulation work together to make the most of available water for all of its social and environmental values,” said Yoder.

—CAHNRS Communication ■

Economists help fight endemic foot-and-mouth disease in East African cattle.

In developing countries around the world, foot-and-mouth disease, or FMD, devastates cattle herds and causes more than \$2 billion in nutritional and economic insecurity every year. Herds are particularly vulnerable in East Africa, where researchers Umesh Bastola, a recent doctoral graduate of the School of Economic Sciences, and Thomas Marsh, joint professor in Economic Sciences and the Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health, are part of an international effort seeking solutions to frequent outbreaks harming the herds that rural residents depend on to survive. In *Nature Ecology and Evolution*, Bastola and Marsh joined colleagues from the University of Glasgow and WSU Global Health Tanzania to present findings showing that FMD outbreaks in East Africa are not caused by frequent transmission from wildlife, but rather are limited to specific virus types that spread through the domestic cattle population. These findings suggest that, in contrast to building ecologically destructive fences to separate wildlife and livestock, FMD control programs involving targeted vaccination of cattle could be effective in eastern Africa. Read the full story on the multi-disciplinary effort here: go.wsu.edu/example.

—CAHNRS Communication ■



Tom Marsh



Umesh Bastola

Fungicide Resistance Assessment, Mitigation and Extension Network for Wine, Table and Raisin Grapes (FRAME)



Ana Espinola-Arredondo

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture awarded \$2.4 million to the project “Fungicide Resistance Assessment, Mitigation and Extension Network for Wine, Table and Raisin Grapes (FRAME),” where Associate Professor Ana Espinola-Arredondo is a Co-PI. Espinola-Arredondo will study the decision-making process between growers and chemical companies and will develop a compensating mechanism that induces cooperation among agents involved in the negotiation. The research project expects to obtain a better understanding about the areas of potential conflict when implementing resistance management.

Ana Espinola-Arredondo accepted the position of Co-Editor of *Economic Inquiry*. ■

Behavioral economics research is growing at SES

Assistant Professor Richard Iles is testing whether perceptions of financial stress, complementing ‘real’ financial stress, also affects decision making. The casual pathway between financial stress, changes in individuals’ cognitive capacity and economic decision making is a central component of the work.

Faculty and Staff Highlights

Continued



Richard Iles, his son, and a group of Kenyan farmers.

Between In November 2017 and September 2018, **Richard Iles** and **Tom Marsh**, via a CAHNRS - College of Veterinary Medicine grant, led an effort to collect data in rural Kenya to test the decision-making process. The timing of the data collection coincides with the ending of a severe and prolonged drought that has impacted the financial well being of agro-pastoralist communities. Results indicate that changes in short-term cognitive capacity of individuals, due to financial stress, affects household expenditures in areas where financial returns are most uncertain, including crops, livestock, and education. The research team hopes to expand this research to test the same relationship among U.S. farming communities and identify tools to help decision makers process complex information more effectively during times of financial stress. ■



Eric Jessup

Transportation Research Group News

The Transportation Research Group has been busy with a variety of research projects this year. The largest effort has focused on improving the prioritization process for transportation infrastructure investments, specifically those that span entire export supply chains. The study was funded by the USDA and involved hosting workshops around the U.S. in order to facilitate discussion and obtain feedback from stakeholders, transportation officials and policymakers. The workshops were hosted in the following locations for each supply chain modeled: (1) Wheat, Seattle, WA; (2) Soybeans, Saint Louis, MO; (3) Tree Nuts, Oakland, CA; (4) Broilers, Atlanta, GA.

Associate Research Professor and Director of the Freight Policy Transportation Institute, Eric Jessup, then summarized the research findings at the National Agricultural Transportation Summit in Washington, DC in July 2018. Additional studies that are currently being conducted by the Freight Policy Transportation Institute include: (1) Modeling Container Availability for Pacific Northwest Agricultural Shippers; (2) Geographic Analysis of Barriers to Efficient Rail Grain Movements; (3) Agricultural Truck Freight Safety Analysis; and (4) Estimating the Impact of the Electronic Log Device and Hours of Service Mandate for Animal Transportation. ■

IMPACT Center News

The IMPACT Center is getting ready to release their fourth annual Washington Agribusiness Status and Outlook report. Some exciting things have happened this year. University of Washington's Center for

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International Trade in Forest Products (CINTRAFOR) has teamed up with us to contribute an article on Washington's forestry outlook. We are building off of the success from the 2018 issue, which was sent to all of the state representatives on agricultural committees and to the governor's office. Roughly 100 physical copies were distributed to various government and industry representatives around the state. There is a dedicated page to the report on the IMPACT Center site (go.wsu.edu/example) where reports from previous years can be downloaded. We continue to receive comments and requests from our readership, usually asking us when the next edition will be available. ■



Randy Fortenbery



Jeff Luckstead (Ph.D. 2013), now associate professor at the University of Arkansas, presenting at the SES Homecoming Colloquium.

Homecoming Colloquium and Banquet

The fifth annual SES Colloquium took place on WSU homecoming weekend. The Colloquium theme was International Trade in a Dynamic Environment. Alumni speakers were Jeff Luckstead (Ph.D. 2013), University of Arkansas and Lia Nogueira (Ph.D. 2008), now on the faculty at University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Emeritus WSU Professor Des O'Rourke and current faculty member Randy Fortenbery rounded out the program. An Alumni and Friends Social and Banquet followed at Palouse Ridge Pavilion. We were pleased to welcome home many alumni. They were treated to a football victory. ■



Tom Roney (B.A., 1980), discusses WSU football with Coach Mike Leach before the WSU homecoming victory.

Alan Love selected as Guest Football Coach

Alan Love teaches the large section of microeconomic principles (EconS 101) and has several WSU athletes in his class, including football players. One of the players nominated him to be a guest coach. He had a first-hand experience to observe just how hard students athletes work, and while he enjoyed the experience tremendously, he was not actually allowed to make any play calls. ■

Faculty and Staff Highlights

6th World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists (WCERE 2018)



Left to right: John Strandholm, Ana Espinola, Felix Muñoz, and Joe Cook

Three SES faculty (Ana Espinola-Arredondo, Joe Cook, and Felix Muñoz-García) and John Strandholm (Ph.D. 2017, now Assistant professor at University of South Carolina Upstate) participated in the 6th World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists (WCERE 2018) at Gothenburg in Sweden. The conference was a huge success with 1543 participants from 62 countries. Dr. Cook presented his research about water collection in Kenya, Dr. Espinola-Arredondo discussed her work on labeling of green products and greenwashing, and Dr. Muñoz-García presented his research on common pool resources and equity shares. ■

CAHNRS Faculty Features: Michael Brady, Mark Gibson, Pat Kuzyk, and Alex Prera



Mike Brady



Mark Gibson



Pat Kuzyk



Alex Prera

CAHNRS asked the CAHNRS Ambassadors to name their favorite or most influential professors. The School of Economic Sciences dominated the discussion with four featured faculty. CAHNRS Ambassadors asked what advice they would pass along to students. Pat Kuzyk said, “I’d tell them to enjoy this time of their lives and really try to learn as much as they can while they’re here. No other time of life provides an environment that’s more conducive to personal and intellectual growth.” Alex Prera said, “Take more math and stats. Regardless of your major, those are very important in the ‘real world.’ If you want to figure things out, take economics. It is amazing how useful it is, especially in the business world. I worked at a private bank for about a year, and I wish I had taken more math, stats, and economics.” Mark Gibson responded, “Attend class, pay attention, and get to know your instructors and classmates. Have lots of fun, too.” They asked Michael Brady what is his favorite thing about working with college students. Brady responded, “I teach agriculture related economics courses, and the best thing about working with our undergrads is how much they know about agriculture, and how much they care about it.” ■

Leigh Lecture

Nobel Laureate and Harvard professor Eric Maskin presented two accessible and stimulating talks describing his recent work in voting theory. In a morning faculty/grad student seminar titled “Elections and Strategic Voting: Condorcet and Borda,” he evaluated several well-known voting systems against different properties

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Leigh Lecture dinner at Merry Cellars. Left to Right: Robby Rosenman, Fred Mills, Alan Love, Felix Munoz-Garcia, Eric Maskin, Jia Yan, Xinlong Tan, Jiehong Qiu, Mark Gibson, Duane and Joan Leigh, Pam Rosenman, Ana Espinola-Arredondo, Pat Kuzyk, Ron Mittelhammer, Jill and Matt McCluskey, Olvar Bergland.

widely accepted in the literature. His afternoon public lecture was titled, “Is There a Better Way to Elect Presidents?” Here, Eric zeroed in on the 2016 presidential election discussing several issues that received considerable attention including vote splitting, polarization of voters, and domination of primaries by true believers. His conclusion is that a majority rule system that makes use of a restricted class of rankings offers several advantages over our current system for electing presidents as well as for state and local elections. ■

WSU Reunion at the AAEA meetings



Left to right: Jude Bayham (Ph.D. 2013, Colorado State), Mike McCullough (Ph.D. 2008, Cal Poly), Joshua Berning (Ph.D. 2008, Colorado State), Kara Grant (current Ph.D. student), Jason Winfree (Ph.D. 2003, Univ. of Idaho), Tom Marsh (Ph.D. 1998, WSU), Gnel Gabrielyan (Ph.D. 2014, Cornell), Ron Mittelhammer (Ph.D. 1978, WSU), Jingze Jiang (Ph.D. 2013, Edinboro Univ.), Lia Nogueira (Ph.D. 2008, Univ. of Nebraska), Marco Costanigro (Ph.D. 2007, Colorado State), Dave Willis (Ph.D. 1993, Clemson University), Youngran Choi (current Ph.D. student), Kuan-ju Chen (current Ph.D. student), Tony Delmond (Ph.D. 2018, Univ. of Tennessee, Martin).

Undergraduate News



Max Mielke

Fifth generation farmer and WSU student, in national AFA leadership

When you're the fifth generation of your family to grow up on a farm, agriculture is sort of ingrained. "There's so much you aren't in control of, it's up to mother nature," said Max Mielke, a Washington State University senior from Davenport, Washington, who plans to graduate in December. "It's a lifestyle and I'm drawn to it." Mielke, who is majoring in Agricultural Economics, hopes to one day take over his family farm from his dad. But before that, he's taking advantage of being a college student, learning and experiencing as much as he can. As part of that, Mielke has been named one of 10 student advisors from around the country to represent the group **Agriculture Future of America (AFA)**. "It's a huge honor and responsibility," said Mielke, who will work as an intern with Northwest Farm Credit Services this summer. "AFA helps students move from school into the ag industry seamlessly and become leaders once they get there." Mielke got involved with AFA as a senior in high school, when he received a scholarship to attend their annual leadership conference in Kansas City. "It was a little overwhelming, but I learned so much," he said. "I did a resume workshop with a professional in the ag industry. It was a huge advantage to learn those skills so early." Since then, Mielke has been to AFA events in cities ranging from Washington, D.C. to Des Moines, Iowa to Sacramento, California. "I've toured corn fields in Iowa, stockyards in Kansas City, and legislator's offices in D.C.," Mielke said. "I've gotten so much from my work with AFA, I can't wait to give back." He'll be giving back as part of the student advisory team, which includes students from universities all around the country. The team is planning and will facilitate the 2017 AFA Leaders Conference, held in November in Kansas City. They also represent AFA nationally at other events around the country. That's on top of their regular schoolwork at their universities.

"It takes a lot of time and is a huge responsibility," Mielke said. "But it's been the most impactful thing I've ever done. It's huge for my own career development and has opened so many doors for me, I just want to pass that along to more students. I want them to see how helpful AFA is and how much they can gain from it."

—CAHNRS Communication ■



Eliana Bolt

Interview with Eliana Bolt by CAHNRS News

Eliana Bolt was selected the Western Agricultural Economics Association Outstanding Senior. She is from Custer, Washington.

What are you studying? I'm majoring in Agricultural and Food Business Economics.

Why did you choose WSU? I knew for an agriculture degree in Washington state, this is the best place for high caliber research and learning opportunities.

What is special about being a CAHNRS Cougar? Feeling the value being place in you as a student.

Who are influential professors that you've had, and how did they impact your life? Mark Gibson is a hilarious professor who works hard to see students succeed. Rebecca Liao is my advisor and has been a support system every step of the way for me, especially as a transfer student.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in besides ambassadors? President of Econ Club, clerical worker in the School of Economic Sciences, assistant for CAHNRS Alumni and Development

What is a fun fact about you? I do a lot of calligraphy!

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What advice would you give an incoming freshman/high school senior to help them adjust to college? Follow your passions and opportunities will follow.

Favorite item/flavor at Ferdinand's? Lemon Chiffon, when they make it in the summer. Yum! ■



Kevin Morris

Interview with Kevin Morris *by CAHNRS News*

Kevin Morris (senior, Economics with Financial Markets option) from Chelan, Washington, typically spends his summers working on the family fishing boat off the coast of Alaska. The summer of 2018 was different. He spent it on an undergraduate research project, supported by CAHNRS, studying policies for microplastic pollution in agriculture. His advisor was Dr. Tom Marsh.

The problem? Kevin points out “there is a growing demand for plastic in agriculture as countries invent new technologies and practices using plastic to enhance food production for the world's growing population. For conventional plastics with long half-lives there is a contamination and disposal crisis.” He also added that “Terrestrial microplastic pollution in soils can arise, just as in rivers, lakes, and oceans. As well, disposal options

for agricultural plastic can be limited or costly because it is contaminated by soil, chemicals, fertilizers, etc.”

So what is a solution? “Biodegradable plastics, which are designed to meet quality standards, retain favorable production characteristics, and limit plastic pollution are one viable option.”

What policies are feasible? “Identifying and enforcing industry production standards that ensure products actually are biodegrade ... is one key action. Or, extended producer responsibility—more popular in Europe—may be a way to better incentivize the system.”

Describe the most interesting part of the project? Kevin thought the most interesting parts were attending working group conferences, and meeting and talking with scientists around the USA as well as understanding better what a large research project looks like.

Can you recommend undergraduate research to other students? The most challenging part was establishing a connection with a faculty member, after that, the ball got rolling and the actual research was interesting and enjoyable. ■

Undergraduate awards

Vanessa Giramata – Emerging Undergraduate Leader in Agricultural Sciences

Chet Broberg – Family and Consumer Scientist of the Year

Lindsay Schilperoort – Outstanding Junior in Agricultural Sciences



Left to right: John Thulen (Agricultural Economics, 1991, Vicki McCracken, and John's son Wylie Thulen (B.S., 2018).

SES Outstanding senior awards

Max Mielke – Agricultural Economics option

Marisa Cargin – Business Economics option

Chet Broberg – Economics, Policy and Law option

Julian Khalifa – Financial Markets option

Elizabeth Price – International Economics & Development

Megan McCormick – Quantitative Economics option

Molly Dilworth – Outstanding Senior in Agricultural and Food Business Economics

Eliana Bolt – Western Agricultural Economics Association Outstanding Senior in SES

Graduate News

Graduate Placement for Academic Year 2017-2018

The 2017-2018 academic year saw one of the largest groups of graduate students in the School of Economic Sciences enter the job market. A total of 22 students were placed in various jobs during that year. The majority of the students entered various academic jobs. The academic year started strong when one of our job market candidates, Nathan Delay, was hired as an assistant professor at Purdue University. By the end of the academic year, 16 students were placed in academic jobs. Out of the 16 students in academic positions, nine students remained in the US while seven obtained academic positions in other countries, including China, Hong Kong, India, Pakistan, Sweden, Korea, and Turkey.

There were also six students placed in various think tanks, private companies, and federal agencies. Two of our graduates, Jiehong Qiu and Xinlong Tan, started their own company called Bayes Data Intelligence Technology Service Inc. The company uses econometric methods and artificial intelligence algorithms in helping private firms improve operating efficiency and market effectiveness.



NAME	DISSERTATION	PLACEMENT
Haseeb Ahmed Advisor: Ben Cowan	Livestock Management, Human Health and Welfare in Agricultural Households	Assistant Professor, Information Technology, University Lahore Pakistan
Matthew Birch Advisor: Rob Rosenman	Financial Aid Policies and Enrollment Behavior in Higher Education	Assistant Professor, Texas Lutheran University
Christopher Clarke Advisor: Ray Batina	Public Capital, Politics, and Inequality	Instructional Assistant Professor, University of Houston
Nathan Delay Advisors: Tom Marsh & H. Chouinard	Agricultural Risk Management Policy and Producer Decision Making	Assistant Professor, Purdue University
Anthony Delmond Advisor: Jill McCluskey	Essays on Perception of Quality	Assistant Professor at University of Tennessee, Martin
Brett Devine Advisors: Felix Muñoz-Garcia & Jonathan Yoder	Essays on Industrial Organization	Visiting Assistant Professor, Washington State University
Isaac Duah Advisor: Alan Love	The Green Paradox and Beyond	Senior Regulatory Specialist, Commonwealth Edison
Eric Dunaway Advisor: Felix Munoz-Garcia	Essays in Campaign Finance, Vaccination Choice and Advertising	Visiting Assistant Professor, Wabash College
Zhuang Hao Advisor: Ben Cowan	Three Essays on Health Economics	Assistant Professor of Economics, Beihang University

NAME	DISSERTATION	PLACEMENT
Yeon A Hong Advisors: Greg Galinato & R. Karina Gallardo	Essays on Determinants of Environmental Outcomes, and Agricultural Policy	Research Fellow, Korea Rural Economic Institute
Dila Ikiz Advisor: R. Karina Gallardo	Essays on International Development, Trade, and Agribusiness	Lecturer, Koc University, Turkey
Kiriti Kanjilal Advisor: Felix Munoz-Garcia	Essays in Behavioral Industrial Organization and Natural Resource Economics	Assistant Professor, Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology
Lyudmyla Kompaniyets Advisor: Robert Rosenman	Topics in Consumer Health Decisions	Prevention Effectiveness Fellow, Center for Disease Control
Rui Luo Advisor: Jia Yan	Essays on Financial Economics	Assistant Professor, University of International Business and Economics
Austin Miller Advisor: Robert Rosenman	On the Role of Psychological Variables in Decision Making	Assistant Professor, Hamline University
Jiehong Qiu Advisor: Jia Yan	Essays on Empirical Industrial Organization	Co-Founder, Bayes Data Intelligence Technology Service Inc.
Xinlong Tan Advisor: Jia Yan	Essays on Empirical Industrial Organization	Chief Data Officer, Bayes Data Intelligence Technology Service Inc.
Xiangrui Wang Advisor: Ron Mittelhammer	Three Essays on Natural Resource Economics, Agricultural Policy, and Food Policy	Assistant Professor, Renmin University
Melissa A. Wright Advisors: Bidisha Mandal & Hayley Chouinard	Essays on Food and Nutrition Policy	Visiting Assistant Professor, College of William & Mary
Qingqing Yang Advisor: Robert Rosenman	Three Essays on Health and Socioeconomics Status	Model Validation Analyst, Bank of the West BNP Paribas
Haowei Yu Advisor: Gregmar Galinato	Essays on Environmental Economics	Postdoctoral researcher, City University of Hong Kong
You Zhou Advisor: Gregmar Galinato	Issues in Public Infrastructure Spending and Transportation	Postdoctoral researcher, Washington State University

M.S. Graduates 2017-2018

NAME	ADVISOR
Nawwaf Aljulaifi	Alan Love and Jill McCluskey
Ailun Li	Jill McCluskey
James Miller	Jill McCluskey
Morgan Conklin Spangler	Felix Muñoz Garcia
Adrian Tippitt	Jia Yan
Xin Wang	Robert Rosenman
William Warfel	Alejandro Prera

Alumni News



Left picture: Ethan Spangler (Ph.D. 2017) and Morgan Spangler (M.S. 2018). Right picture: Mark Gibson, William Warfel (M.S., 2014), Ethan Spangler, Morgan Conklin Spangler, and Ryan Bain (ABD).

Ethan Spangler and Morgan (Conklin) Spangler were married on September 2, 2018. Morgan is now working on her Ph.D. at the University of Chicago and Ethan is working for JPMorgan Chase.



Thomas Heckelei (Ph.D. 1995) Professor at University of Bonn, Germany, visited Pullman in July.

Left to right: Thomas Heckelei and Ron Mittelhammer

Retirement

Professor **Robert Rosenman** will retire at the end of 2018 after serving WSU for 35 years. Hired by Lane Rawlins, Rosenman began his WSU career in 1983 in the Department of Economics and was Department Chair at the time of the merger which formed the School of Economic Sciences in 2004. Rosenman agreed to continue in a leadership role as Associate Director (2004-10) with Ron Mittelhammer. Together, they laid the foundation for the success that SES has experienced. Rosenman excelled in leadership, research, and instruction. He was recognized with WSU's Sahlin Faculty Excellence Award for Leadership in 2012. He served WSU in numerous ways, including as Chair of the WSU Faculty Senate and Interim Director of the School of Economic Sciences. Rosenman made impactful research contributions in health economics, industrial organization, and public policy. His research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, Resources for the Future, NSF, and other sources. He also served as a Co-Editor of Economic Inquiry. He was a Fulbright Scholar with experience in Thailand and Poland. An award-winning teacher, Rosenman impacted many students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Rosenman will continue to work on externally funded grant projects as Emeritus Professor in SES. He and his wife Pam look forward to having more time to visit with their beloved grandchildren. ■



Robert Rosenman

SES Friends Development Committee

The SES Friends Development Committee supports the programs of the School of Economic Sciences by leading fundraising efforts for privately-donated endowments and development funds. The goal for this year is to raise \$125,000 for the SES Excellence Fund and for scholarships and fellowships. Last year, the committee raised nearly \$56,000 for these purposes and received \$12,000 in new pledges.

The SES Friends Development Committee was pleased to recognize Jian Cao and Boqing Wang with the 2018 SES Honored Alumni and Friends Award. ■

SES Friends Development Committee Members

Michael McCullough, Chair, California Polytechnic State University, '08 Ph.D. Economics

Bruce Pregelbauer, Globalwise, Inc. '73 B.S. Agricultural Economics

Thomas Roney, Thomas Roney LLC, '80 B.A. Economics

Tristan Hanon, University of California, Davis, '14 B.S. Economic Sciences

Mark Brandon, Banner Bank, '76 B.S. Agricultural Economics

Hayley Hohman, Washington Department of Early Learning, '16 B.S. Economic Sciences

Monte Marti, Snohomish Conservation District, '80 BS, '82 M.A. Agricultural Economics

Lindsay Schilperoort, WSU undergraduate, '19 (expected) B.S. Economic Sciences

Alexander Smith, Limeade, '13 B.S. Economic Sciences

Michael Stolp, NW Farm Credit Services, '96 B.S. Agricultural Economics

Kyle Strachila, Bayer Crop Science, '17 B.S. Economic Sciences

Pitchayaporn (Peach) Tantihkarnchana, Pennsylvania State University, '16 Ph.D. Economics

Robert D. Thayer, '76 M.A. Agricultural Economics

Jadrian Wooten, Pennsylvania State University, '14 Ph.D. Economics

How can you most help the School of Economic Sciences through your gift? Create your own scholarship – It's easy! Or contribute to:

The SES Friends Development Committee has set scholarships and fellowships as its highest fundraising priority. Why? Graduate tuition now costs \$11,722 and total student costs approach \$29,000 per academic year. If you wish to support our many activities through a financial contribution, please use this link: go.wsu.edu/supportSES or mail your check to the address on the front page. ■



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