



## AAEA News

### 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting Information

- NOLA Tourism: <https://www.aaea.org/meetings/2024-aaea-annual-meeting/registration-travel/nola-tourism>
- Undergraduate Recruitment Fair: <https://www.aaea.org/meetings/2024-aaea-annual-meeting/about/undergraduate-recruitment-fair>
- Employment Center: <https://www.aaea.org/meetings/2024-aaea-annual-meeting/about/employment-center>
- Committee & Journal Meetings: <https://www.aaea.org/meetings/2024-aaea-annual-meeting/events/meetings/committee--journal-meetings>
- Section Business Meetings & Events: <https://www.aaea.org/meetings/2024-aaea-annual-meeting/events/meetings/section-business-meetings--events>

### PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, July 28

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Section Meetings</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Committee &amp; Journal Meetings</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Employment Center</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Gordon Rausser Keynote Address (Aaron Clauset)</a></li> <li>• Welcome Reception</li> <li>• <a href="#">Reunions &amp; Receptions</a></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various Times</li> <li>• Various Times</li> <li>• 9:30 am – 5:00 pm</li> <li>• 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm</li> <li>• Immediately following Gordon Rausser Keynote Address</li> <li>• 8:30 pm – 10:30 pm</li> </ul> |
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#### Monday, July 29

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">AAEA Business Meeting</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Undergraduate Recruitment Fair</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Presidential Address (Timothy Beatty)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Employment Center</a></li> <li>• Concurrent Sessions #1</li> <li>• <a href="#">Luncheons (Pre-ticketed Event)</a></li> <li>• Concurrent Sessions #2</li> <li>• Concurrent Sessions #3</li> <li>• <a href="#">Poster Reception</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">FAMPS Poster Competition</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Academic Bowl Finals</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">AAEA Awards &amp; Fellows Recognition Ceremony &amp; Appreciation Club Ceremony</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Reunions &amp; Receptions</a></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:00 am – 8:30 am</li> <li>• 8:00 am – 4:00 pm</li> <li>• 8:30 am – 9:30 am</li> <li>• 9:30 am – 5:00 pm</li> <li>• 10:00 am – 11:30 am</li> <li>• 11:30 am – 1:00 pm</li> <li>• 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm</li> <li>• 2:45 pm – 4:15 pm</li> <li>• 4:15 pm – 5:30 pm</li> <li>• 4:15 pm – 5:30 pm</li> <li>• 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm</li> <li>• 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm</li> <li>• 8:30 pm – 10:30 pm</li> </ul> |
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Tuesday, July 30

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Fellows Address (Bruce McCarl)</a></li> <li>• Concurrent Sessions #4</li> <li>• <a href="#">Galbraith Forum (Catherine Wolfram)</a></li> <li>• Concurrent Session #5</li> <li>• Concurrent Session #6</li> <li>• Concurrent Session #7</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30 am – 9:30 am</li> <li>• 10:00 am – 11:30 am</li> <li>• 11:45 am – 12:45 pm (**NEW TIME**)</li> <li>• 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm</li> <li>• 2:45 pm – 4:15 pm</li> <li>• 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm</li> </ul> |
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**The 2024 AAEA Room Block – 2 Weeks Left to Book**  
[New Orleans Marriott](#)

555 Canal Street  
 New Orleans, LA 70130  
 (504) 581-1000

Guest Rooms for Single/Double \$179 per room per night

Taxes are a total of 16.2% (9.45% State Tax, 5% Federal Tax, and 1.75% Tourism Tax) plus a \$3 per night occupancy fee.

Please reserve your room using the following link: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50476455>

Cut-off Date: **Thursday, June 27, 2024** or when sold out.

*Please note that all annual meeting sessions and the majority of activities will take place at the Marriott.*

**Register Now for the 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting!**

You may register for a Pre- and Post-conference Workshop while registering for the annual meeting or by calling the AAEA Business Office at (414) 918-3190.



	Advanced (June 1–July 18)		On-site (July 19 and after)	
	Member	Non-member	Member	Non-member
Graduate Student	\$140	\$335	\$180	\$380
Professional	\$560	\$720	\$635	\$795
Senior	\$450	\$580	\$525	\$655
Guest	\$75		\$75	

*\*Guests include any interested party not professionally in or a student of the fields of agricultural or applied economics, or a related discipline. Guest fees include the welcome reception, plenary sessions, and all concurrent sessions (Guests under the age of 16 are free, and don't need to register).*

*\*Cancellation: Cancellations of meeting registrations are subject to a \$50 processing fee. After July 5, no refunds will be given for meeting registrations or special event tickets. To cancel your Annual Meeting registration and/or special event tickets, contact the AAEA Business Office at (414) 918-3190 or [info@aaea.org](mailto:info@aaea.org). Website: [www.aaea.org](http://www.aaea.org). If AAEA cancels the meeting any paid meeting registration fees will be fully refunded.*

**AAEA Business Meeting**

Date: Monday, July 29, 2024

Time: 8:00 am-8:30 am

Room: Acadia

AAEA’s annual Business Meeting will be held during the annual meeting in New Orleans on Monday, July 29 in the Acadia room at the New Orleans Marriott. This meeting gives members the chance to hear about the state of the association. Updates will be given by the AAEA President, the Finance Committee, and the AAEA Trust Committee. Additionally, Board members and Editors who are completing their terms will be recognized for their service. Lastly, those in attendance will be given an opportunity to voice any questions or concerns that they may have. We hope you’ll join us in New Orleans. [View the Agenda](#)

**2024 AAEA Annual meeting Plenary Sessions**

All events below will take place in Acadia on the 3rd floor of the New Orleans Marriott.

July 28	
<a href="#">Gordon Rausser Keynote Address</a> <i>Aaron Clauset, University of Colorado, Boulder</i>	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
July 29	
<b>AAEA Business Meeting</b>	8:00 am – 8:30 am
<a href="#">Presidential Address</a> <i>Timothy Beatty, University of California, Davis</i>	8:30 am – 9:30 am
<a href="#">Academic Bowl Finals</a>	5:30 pm – 6:00 pm
<a href="#">AAEA Awards, Fellows, Appreciation Club Recognition Ceremony</a>	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
July 30	
<a href="#">Fellows Address</a> <i>Bruce McCarl, Texas A&amp;M University</i>	8:30 am – 9:30 am
<a href="#">Galbraith Forum</a> <i>Catherine Wolfram, MIT</i>	11:45 am – 12:45 pm

**2024 AAEA Annual Meeting Workshops & Luncheons**

Pre-registration for Pre- and Post-conference Workshops and Luncheons are required before the annual meeting. You may register for a Pre- and Post-conference Workshop while registering for the annual meeting or by calling the AAEA Business Office at (414) 918-3190.

**Pre-Conference Workshops****Saturday, July 27, 2024****[BEER Section Craft Industry Tour \(PC11\)](#)****\$100**

12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

(Note: will depart Marriott at 12:00 pm)

*Light lunch included in tour**Limited space available***[COSBAE Section Historical Plantation Tour \(PC12\)](#)****\$115**

8:00 am – 3:30 pm

Bus will depart Marriott at 8:00 am; meet at 7:45 am in lobby

Light lunch included

*Limited space available***[Engaging Industry and Academia on Agribusiness Research Topics and a Tour of a Grain Export](#)****[Terminal \(PC14\)](#) *Sold Out*****\$25**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Tour and pre-conference workshop

New Orleans Marriott

**[AAEA Teaching Academy \(PC15\)](#)****Students & ECP \$25; General \$55**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

New Orleans Marriott

Lunch included

Read more at the AETR Teaching Resource [webpage](#)**Post-Conference Workshops****Wednesday, July 31, 2024****[Extension Section Agricultural Tour \(PC51\)](#)****\$100***Additional details coming soon***[Post-Conference Workshop on Food Prices and Forecasting Sponsored by ERS \(PC52\)](#)****Note: 2-day workshop**

Wednesday, July 31 from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm;

Thursday, August 1 from 8:00 am – 12:30 pm

**New Orleans Marriott****Students & ECP \$25; General \$55**

**AAEA Student Member Travel Grant Available up to \$1,000 Deadline to apply is May 19<sup>th</sup>**

Complete this [application form](#) by May 19<sup>th</sup> (20 travel grants available – Restricted to AAEA Graduate Student Members and Early Career Professional Members)

**[Workshop on NIFA's Agricultural Economics and Rural Communities Awarded Projects \(PC53\)](#)**

Wednesday, July 31

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

New Orleans Marriott

\$35

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**Speaker Luncheons Preview**

Luncheons are a ticketed event and will occur on Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>. Additional details available [here](#)

**Extension Section Lecture & Luncheon (SP31)**

Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

New Orleans Marriott

\$74

**COSBAE and Africa Section Speaker Series & Luncheon (SP32)**

Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

New Orleans Marriott

\$74

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**Announcing 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting – Invited Paper Sessions**

- Innovations in Characterizing Rural Economic Activity  
Session #3757
  - New Developments in Assessing Global Food Security  
Session #3758
  - Leveraging multiple-data sources and methods to better inform food policies and market strategies  
Session #3759
  - When Efficiency Matters: Incentivizing Right Agent, Right Behavior, and Right Compensation to Improve Conservation Outcomes  
Session #3790
  - Burning Issues in Agricultural Trade Policy  
Session #3798
  - Case Studies – Paper Session  
Session #3897
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**Announcing 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting – Organized Symposia Sessions**

- Challenges and Solutions in Measuring Household Food Loss and Waste for Use in Policy Analysis  
Session #3765
- Reflecting on Key Dimensions of the Interdisciplinary Research Process  
Session #3767
- Teaching new and existing courses for students from other fields  
Session #3777

- Learning about various transitioning opportunities from the academic to the professional environment  
Session #3780
  - Tales from the Dark Side: Insights for Ag and Applied Economists from Administrators  
Session #3781
  - Applying for USDA–NIFA Funding for the Area of Agricultural Economics and Rural Communities  
Session #3782
  - Best Practices for Furthering Innovation and Capturing the Benefits of the Bioeconomy  
Session #3783
  - Overcoming Challenges and Constraints to Growth in Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, and Related Programs at 1890 Land–grant Institutions  
Session #3784
  - Examination of Agricultural Labor Policy Options  
Session #3785
  - The State of Academic Profession of Agricultural & Applied Economics  
Session #3789
  - Strategies for Health & Wellbeing in Agricultural Economics  
Session #3795
  - Empowering EU Consumers for the Green Transition  
Session #3983
  - Nutrition, Inequality, Gender, and Food Security  
Session #3800
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#### **\*NEW\* 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting Quiet Room**

Quiet Room: We will have a dedicated room available throughout the event for those who may wish to step out of the meetings. The quiet room provides a dedicated space for attendees to relax, recharge, and take a break from the noise and stimulation of the event. Studio 6 on the 2nd floor will be the Quiet room.

Hours:

- Sunday: 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
  - Monday: 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
  - Tuesday: 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
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#### **Undergraduate Student Section 2024 Competitions**

- The Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition
- Student Paper Competition
- Outstanding Paper Competition
- Creative Club Competition

Deadline is **June 17, 2024**

Read more about each competition here: <https://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/ss-aaea/aaea-annual-meeting>

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#### **Register for the 2024 Academic Bowl**

Each year, SS–AAEA sponsors an academic bowl competition for undergraduate students at the [AAEA Annual Meeting](#). Students compete on teams of three, which are affiliated with their school. The finals of the

competition are held immediately preceding the AAEA Awards Ceremony, with an audience of all meeting attendees. The winning team receives \$500.

The Academic Bowl Competition will be held on Monday, July 29 at 8:00 am – 2:00 pm followed by The Finals at 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm prior to the Awards Ceremony at the [2024 AAEA Annual Meeting](#). [Read more >>>](#)

**Register for the 2024 AEM-GSS Case Study Competition**

The Agribusiness Economics and Management (AEM) – Graduate Student Section (GSS) Case Study Competition allows graduate students to test their communication skills and their ability to apply their knowledge of agricultural economics and agribusiness to practical situations.

Each team must complete the 2024 AEM–GSS Case Study Registration Form by **June 16, 2024**. Teams can be comprised of up to three graduate students. Students may either compete as a team from the same university or partner with students from other universities. If there is only one student from a university that wants to participate, the student can compete on their own; or they can be matched with other students.

[Read more >>>](#)

# BUILD YOUR DATA VISUALIZATION SKILLS THIS SUMMER!

<p><b>WEBINAR 1: PRINCIPLES OF DATA VISUALIZATION</b> FRI., JUNE 7 (2-3 PM EDT)</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p><b>Winfrey Norton</b> USDA Economic Research Service</p> <p><b>Dr. Annie Specht</b> Ohio State University Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership</p> <p><a href="#">LINK TO REGISTER</a></p>	<p><b>WEBINAR 2: CREATING DATA VISUALIZATIONS IN TABLEAU</b> WED., JUNE 12 (2-3:30 PM EDT)</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p><b>Sara Elazan</b> USDA Agricultural Marketing Service</p> <p><a href="#">LINK TO REGISTER</a></p>	<p><b>WEBINAR 3: CREATING DATA VISUALIZATIONS IN R</b> WED., JUNE 26 (2-3:30 PM EDT)</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p><b>Dr. Siddhartha Bora</b> West Virginia University Division of Resource Economics and Management</p> <p><a href="#">LINK TO REGISTER</a></p>
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BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



**AAEA**  
Agricultural & Applied Economics Association  
GRADUATE STUDENT SECTION



**USDA**  
Agricultural Marketing Service

**LOCAL FOOD ECONOMICS DATA VISUALIZATION CHALLENGE ORGANIZING TEAM**

**New for 2024 FAMPS Section Poster Competition**

Read more here: <https://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/famps/aaea-annual-meeting>

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**GSS & C-FARE 2024 Policy Communications Competition**

In today's market, graduate students may seek careers where they are tasked with evaluating policy issues and effectively communicating their results to policymakers and other stakeholders. Therefore, the Graduate Student Section (GSS) and Council on Food, Agricultural & Resource Economics (C-FARE) partner for the 4th Annual Policy Communications Competition. This competition provides graduate students with an opportunity to gain experience in both written and verbal policy communication.

Entries can be based on the graduate student's ongoing research. They should address a pressing, relevant policy issue relating to the 2024 Policy Communications Competition theme at the local, state, or federal levels.

**2024 Competition Theme**

The farm bill is a package of legislation updated by Congress every five years. As the 2018 Farm Bill expires in 2023, Congress has begun negotiating the next Bill. We identify five main topics from the USDA 2023 Budget Summary that tie into critical issues policymakers must consider when drafting the farm bill. These include:

1. Farm Production and Conservation
2. Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs
3. Climate Change and Farmers
4. Rural Development
5. Food and Nutrition Security

Policy briefs for the 2024 Policy Communications Competition should relate to one or more of these five themes.

**Objectives for Participants**

- Evaluate a relevant agricultural, food, or resource policy issue relating to the 2024 Policy Competition theme at the local, state, or federal level.
- Provide written and verbal communication that addresses a policy-relevant research question clearly, and concisely.

**Participant Eligibility**

Graduate students must be a member of the GSS with a graduation date of Fall 2024 or later. They should be conducting research in agricultural economics, resource economics, regional development, or a related field.

**Competition Information**

The competition will consist of two rounds. Participants must submit a typed policy brief in the first round, not to exceed two pages (double spaced, 12-point font, including references, figures, and graphics). This document should summarize the background and current status of the issue, key facts (i.e., benefits and costs



of government programs or project alternatives), findings, and conclusions. The participant's job is not to convince the policymaker to take a particular position or vote a certain way but rather to evaluate, gather, and present the necessary information to make an informed decision on the issue.

The second round of the competition will consist of an oral presentation by select finalists. Within the presentation, which is not to exceed 10 minutes in length, the student should detail the specifics of the policy issue and identify additional key facts and findings surrounding the topic. An effective presentation will complement the written policy brief and should be easily accessible for policymakers.

### Preliminary Timeline

Friday, June 21, 2024:	Registration and policy brief due
Friday, July 12, 2024:	Finalists announced
Sunday, July 28, 2024:	Finalists present at the AAEA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC

### Registration Information & Deadline

Applications should be submitted via the Qualtrics link below. Questions may be addressed to Roberto Koenke ([rkoeneke@ufl.edu](mailto:rkoeneke@ufl.edu)) and must include:

- A cover page containing:
- Participant's name and contact information
- Mentor's name and contact information
- The student's policy brief (2–page maximum).
- Applications must be submitted electronically no later than midnight CT on **June 24, 2024**.

Link to Submit: [https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_agV7zVWQU3gZbTM](https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_agV7zVWQU3gZbTM)

### Finalists at AAEA

Selected finalists will make a 10–minute presentation at the AAEA Annual Meeting in New Orleans on Sunday, July 21, 2024. The judges will evaluate presentations using a grading rubric shared with selected finalists. The selection of the finalists will be based on the material submitted and the criteria listed below. Finalists will be notified by July 12, 2024.

### Criteria for Selecting Finalists

1. The participant clearly defines the problem and discusses the feasibility of the policy ideas. The participant provides background and supporting research on the topic, including areas of government failures or unintended consequences, and addresses the proper target audience.
2. The participant integrates knowledge and research from various sources and provides a clear, concise summary of the issue.
3. The participant uses formal but non–technical language that is easily accessible to policymakers, and their brief is free of grammatical mistakes.
4. The policy brief uses appropriate formatting (proper headings, length no more than two pages, proper citation, ordered appearance, etc.).

## Awards

The top three competitors will be recognized at the AAEA Awards Ceremony and will be invited to present their work at a future C-FARE webinar (more details to come). In addition, the winner of Policy Communication will receive a plaque and a cash prize. The second and third-place competitors will receive certificates and cash awards. Cash prizes are as follows:

First place: \$300

Second place: \$200

Third place: \$100

## Additional Resources

[2025 USDA Budget Summary](#)

[House Agriculture Committee Website](#)

[House Agriculture Farm Bill](#)

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## Call for Papers:

### **Special Issue: Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics Use in the Classroom and Academy**

*Deadline: June 30, 2024*

*Applied Economics and Teaching Resources* is calling for manuscripts about the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and data analytics in undergraduate and graduate education in the classroom and across the academy. Submissions of case studies, teaching and extension scholarship and research, educational innovations and methods, extension education innovations and methods, and commentaries about use of artificial intelligence, including use of large language models (LLMs) and platforms, such as ChatGPT, Bing AI, Bard, amongst other, and data analytics in undergraduate and graduate education, extension education, and other learning venues in institutions of higher learning. This special issue is open to a wide array of topics related to artificial intelligence and data analytics across the agricultural and applied economics and agribusiness and management economics disciplines. Topics may include but are not limited to innovative use of AI and data analytics in the classroom; innovative data analytic teaching modules and teaching case studies; teaching case studies about the impact of AI on agriculture, the agricultural industry and society; ethical and academic concerning the use of AI in the academy; assessments of AI for different learning outcomes and tasks; and use of AI and data analytics in extension education programming.

## Special Issue Timeline:

If you are interested in making a submission to the special issue, please submit a 300 word abstract to Dr. Jason Bergtold ([bergtold@ksu.edu](mailto:bergtold@ksu.edu)) by **June 30, 2024**, at the latest. The abstract should describe the overall theme/topic of the manuscript, how it relates to the special issue call, and how it can be used for educational purposes. Your abstract will be reviewed once submitted and you will then be informed if you will be invited to submit a submission to the special issue.

Full papers for accepted abstracts must be submitted through AETR at [www.aetrjournal.org](http://www.aetrjournal.org). All papers will go through a double-blind peer review process and be available online via Advanced Access for readers once accepted. All submissions will need to follow the AETR submission guidelines

at: <https://www.aetrjournal.org/contribute/submission-guidelines>. If you have questions about the special issue, please email the special issue editors.

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### **Call for Papers**

#### **Special Issue: Designing Agribusiness Education for Changing Student Demographics and Employer Needs**

*Deadline: June 30, 2024*

Applied Economics and Teaching Resources is calling for manuscripts related to agribusiness education and curriculum. Agribusiness programs are simultaneously grappling with changing student demographics and evolving employer needs. Continued consolidation across all agricultural sectors means that fewer students are growing up on farms and ranches than in previous generations. Additionally, automation and technological change are rapidly transforming agricultural supply chains. This change has contributed to a growing gap between the skills and knowledge sets that agribusiness programs prioritize and what employers within the food supply chain value (Johnson, Downey, and Holcomb, 2023). Agribusiness programs must both broaden their appeal to students without an agricultural background and adapt curriculum to ensure students are given the tools they need to thrive after graduation. Programs that achieve these objectives will help empower the next generation of problem solvers to grapple with increasingly intricate challenges within the food value chain. Departments that cannot meet these objectives may experience decreased enrollment and struggle to place graduates.

We are seeking submissions that address the following concerns:

- **General Decline in College Students Nationally and Changing Backgrounds:** Agribusiness programs face enrollment challenges from two fronts. First, declines in the population that is college age, along with growing skepticism of higher education from the public, will shrink the pool of students attending a university at the national level. Second, fewer students are growing up on farms and ranches each year, which shrinks the pool of students that traditionally formed the cornerstone of agribusiness programs. To avoid declining enrollment, agribusiness programs will need to appeal to a wider demographic of students. This is likely to create challenges in instruction and require content to focus on skills, as well as agriculture specific content. Research contributions could include curriculum aimed at addressing this change or analysis aimed at measuring this change and predicting its impacts on recruitment.
- **Disparity in Defining Agribusiness Bounds:** There has been a growing discussion over the identity of agribusiness as a discipline. There are increasing employment opportunities in parts of the supply chain far from the farm gate, but agribusiness programs risk losing their core competencies if they become too general. Individual departments may have responded to this question in unique ways. Thus, having a discussion on what programs offer in their curriculum in terms of courses, electives, concentrations, experiential learning, or opportunities for learning outside of the classroom would be illuminating.
- **Generational Gaps:** Each generation grows up exposed to different social and cultural landscapes than previous generations. These changing experiences can impact the average skill and deficiency levels students within an age group have for various topics (e.g. stronger technological savvy than the previous generations but weaker communication skills on average). Discussions of necessary adjustments to the curriculum in order to leverage generational strengths and help refine generational skill gaps would benefit the future positioning of agribusiness programs. A few examples of topics

within this vein include work that measures these generational changes or work that presents pedagogical contributions for addressing them in the classroom.

- Evolving Employer Needs and Trends: Personal characteristics and essential (or soft) skills draw top billing by the agribusiness profession when evaluating graduates for potential employment. However, the business and economic knowledge held by graduates still remains a high priority for agribusinesses. Agribusinesses have also started putting more emphasis on the lower ranked areas of technical knowledge, computer skills, and work experiences. This presents a challenge for programs on how to balance developing graduates skills and knowledge while maintaining limited credit hours. Perspectives and practices that speak to how programs can shift classes, curriculum, or teaching methods to help students to be competitive in the job market and valued by agribusiness hiring personnel would push the academy forward to meet the future challenges. Particular interest will be given to work that highlight insights from industry shareholders or provides survey results.

We expect this special issue to facilitate a discussion of innovative ideas aimed at supporting recruitment, curriculum and course development, teaching methods, and outreach to industry. By addressing these issues, agribusiness programs can ensure that graduates are well-equipped to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st-century agricultural sector and food supply chain. This special issue would serve as a valuable resource for educators striving to shape the future of agribusiness education. Authors are encouraged to submit any type of work that fits within the four categories discussed. The special issue will have three guest co-editors Dr. Tanner McCarty ([tanner.mccarty@usu.edu](mailto:tanner.mccarty@usu.edu)), Dr. Anastasia Thayer ([awthaye@clemsun.edu](mailto:awthaye@clemsun.edu)) and Dr. Aaron Johnson ([ajjohnson@ksu.edu](mailto:ajjohnson@ksu.edu)) in addition to the AETR Editor, Dr. Jason Bergtold ([bergtold@ksu.edu](mailto:bergtold@ksu.edu)).

#### Special Issue Timeline:

If you are interested in making a submission to the special issue, please submit a 300 word abstract to Dr. Anastasia Thayer ([awthaye@clemsun.edu](mailto:awthaye@clemsun.edu)) by **June 30, 2024**, at the latest. The abstract should describe the overall theme/topic of the manuscript, how it relates to the special issue call, and how it can be used for educational purposes. Your abstract will be reviewed once submitted and you will then be informed if you will be invited to submit a submission to the special issue. Full papers for accepted abstracts must be submitted through AETR online by December 31, 2024. All papers will go through a double-blind peer review process and be available online via Advanced Access for readers once accepted. All submissions will need to follow the AETR submission guidelines at: <https://www.aetrjournal.org/contribute/submission-guidelines>. If you have questions about the special issue, please email the special issue editors.

## Government Relations & Washington Update

### June 2024

#### House and Senate Agriculture Committees Make Progress on Farm Bill

The month of May provided significant movement as the House and Senate Agriculture Committees worked to advance legislation to reauthorize the Farm Bill. The 2018 Farm Bill expired at the end of September 2023 and is currently operating on a one-year extension that ends on September 30, 2024. Successfully navigating the reauthorization process will be challenging. Spending in the new Farm Bill is expected to far eclipse any previous versions, with nutrition programs alone projected to cost over \$1 trillion for the life of the bill. Managing competing funding interests, along with being a presidential election year, complicates the path to completing a new bill.

House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn “GT” Thompson (R-PA) has stated his desire to move legislation in the House as quickly as possible. To that end, he released his proposed version of the Farm Bill, entitled the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024, on May 17<sup>th</sup>. A full committee mark-up of the legislation was held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. After a long, and sometimes contentious, meeting the House Agriculture Committee approved the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 by a margin of 33–21. Four Democrats crossed the aisle and voted with Republicans to advance the bill. Ranking Member David Scott (D-GA) and the majority of his Democratic colleagues voted against the bill because of concerns with nutrition and conservation provisions. The next step in the process will be floor consideration by the full House.

In the Senate, Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) has released her proposed farm bill framework entitled the Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act. While the detailed legislative text is not yet available, the committee has provided a bill summary and section-by-section analysis of the bill. Ranking Member Boozman has indicated that he will release his proposed Farm Bill framework the second week of June. The Senate Agriculture Committee has yet to schedule a committee mark-up and it is unclear if they will move prior to House floor consideration of its version.

The most contentious differences between the House and Senate versions of the Farm Bill center around nutrition and conservation. The House bill would limit changes to the Thrifty Food Plan, aside from inflationary increases, and require Congressional action for changes other than for inflation. Historically, TFP changes were cost neutral, until a recent change by the Biden Administration. Democrats strongly oppose these limitations and assert that they will amount to significant cuts to future benefits. In conservation, Democrats would like to use funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act specifically for climate change programs, while Republicans favor using those funds for a broader spectrum of conservation initiatives.

The Research Title of the Farm Bill is one of the less controversial titles of the Farm Bill. Both the House and Senate versions would reauthorize key agricultural research and extension programs including the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) and capacity programs such as Hatch and Smith Lever. While most Research Title provisions provide discretionary authority, there are several programs funded through mandatory spending. Both versions would provide mandatory funding for the Research Facilities Act to support infrastructure improvements with the House allocating \$2.5 billion and Senate \$100 million.

Below is a summary of key programs that would receive mandatory funding:

<b>Program</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Senate</b>
Research Facilities Act	\$2.5 billion	\$100 million
Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research	0	\$250 million
Specialty Crops Research Initiative	\$175 million/yr	\$130 million/yr
Organic Research Initiative	\$50 million/yr	\$50 million/yr
Farming Opportunities Training and Outreach	\$50 million/yr	\$50 million/yr
1890s Scholarships	\$100 million	\$10 million/yr

#### **Additional Farm Bill Information:**

##### **House**

[Bill Text](#)

[Title-by-Title Summary](#)

Senate

[Bill Summary](#)

[Title-by-Title Summary](#)

## Other News

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### **65<sup>TH</sup> Annual Conference of the Food Distribution Research Society**

The Food Distribution Research Society is soliciting abstracts for the upcoming conference in Puerto Rico October 20–22, 2024. We are excited for the opportunity to meet and discuss research, extension and teaching programs related to any food distribution area, from the farm gate through retail to the consumer. This year's theme is Resilient AgriFood Systems! Please submit your proposals by June 15, 2024 to [FDRSVPResearch@gmail.com](mailto:FDRSVPResearch@gmail.com)

For more information on Call for submissions, registration and hotel visit our website [2024 Puerto Rico Conference](#).

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### **NBER Conference on Competition in the US Agricultural Sector**

To promote research on competition in the agricultural sector and the consequences of the industrial organization of this sector for consumers as well as input suppliers, the National Bureau of Economic Research, with support from the Economic Research Service of the US Department of Agriculture, will convene a research conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on December 12, 2024. The conference will be organized by James MacDonald (University of Maryland) and Fiona Scott Morton (Yale University and NBER).

More details on the conference may be found at this link: <https://www.nber.org/calls-papers-and-proposals/competition-us-agricultural-sector>. The deadline for submissions is **September 3, 2024**, and submissions should be of complete, or nearly complete, papers.

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### **VIII Beeronomics Conference**

The 2024 Beeronomics Conference will take place at University of Milan Bicocca, Italy, 19–22 June. Main panels and sessions will be held at the University of Bicocca main campus located in the heart of the city. The Conference Organising Committee, led by Christian Garavaglia, welcomes all high-quality research on the economics of beer and brewing. With a strong interest in interdisciplinary research, we are looking for submissions covering topics including:

- Trends and driving forces in local and global beer production, consumption, distribution
- Management, marketing, market structure and industrial dynamics
- Individual beer choice and health
- Policy and regulation
- Impact of beer on society and culture
- Environmental issues affecting beer and brewing
- Others: food industry and alternatives to beer

Please find the official Conference Flyer/Call for Paper attached. Additional information about abstract submission and event details can be found on the conference's webpage:

<https://beeronomics2024.unimib.it/>

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact: [beeronomics2024@unimib.it](mailto:beeronomics2024@unimib.it). If you know of someone who might be interested in attending the conference, please pass this message on and as ever, apologies for cross-posting.

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*Volume 46, Issue 12–June 2024*

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