# Agen Agen Friday Newsletter DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

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## Rosson's Roundup

On Saturday, I attended the Aggieland Saturday events in the AgriLife Center and AGLS. Our Aggie Reps did a great job of representing the department in meeting with prospective students and their parents. They also provided an excellent overview of departmental programs, clubs/associations and 'a day in the life' of a student in the Agricultural Economics department. Thanks to Fred Boadu, Carissa Beamon and Amy Connolly for organizing these activities and spending their Saturday visiting with future Aggies. I believe it was a highly effective event, as they connected with more than 150 people throughout the day. Aggie Reps who participated are recognized on the accompanying picture. Thanks to all for a job very well done!

Tuesday I had the opportunity to meet with Rex Bernardo, one of three candidates for the Borlaug-Monsanto Chair in International Crop Improvement. He currently holds an endowed chair in corn breeding and genetics at the University of Minnesota.

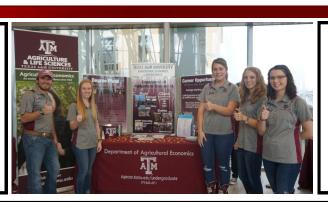
Wednesday, Joe Outlaw testified before the House Agriculture Committee on the Economic Outlook for Rural America to help Congress prepare for the upcoming farm bill. Also testifying were Robert Johansson, Chief Economist, USDA; Nathan Kauffman, Kansas City Fed-Omaha; Pat Westhoff, FAPRI – Missouri and Scott Brown, University of Missouri-Columbia. This was this first hearing of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress and precedes many scheduled field hearings to be held across the United States over the next few months. Thanks to Joe for his leadership and expertise is helping shape our next farm bill, which will be designed to return a true safety net to US agriculture.

Also this week we had two interviews for the Energy Market Analysis and Decision Making position. Sarah Johnston was here Monday and Tuesday, while Anastasia Shcherbakova interviewed Thursday and Friday. Next Monday, Jen He will be here to interview as well. Please attend the seminar Monday at 9:30 and the Open Faculty meeting immediate following.

Thursday, Kerry Litzenberg, Patrick Williams and I went to San Antonio to meet with Graham Weston, '86, former CEO of Rackspace Hosting, now Chairman of the Board and Ty Timm Honor Registry member. We presented him with a plaque recognizing his contribution to the Weston AgriFood Sales Program. We also took a brief tour of the new Geekdom facility in downtown San Antonio. It was a great visit and hopefully set the stage for further collaboration in the future.

February 27 marks the start of Staff Appreciation Week. Our Staff Advisory Committee is planning several exciting activities and events for that week and will be getting the agenda out to all very soon. Faculty, please thank your staff members for all that they do now, and throughout the year.

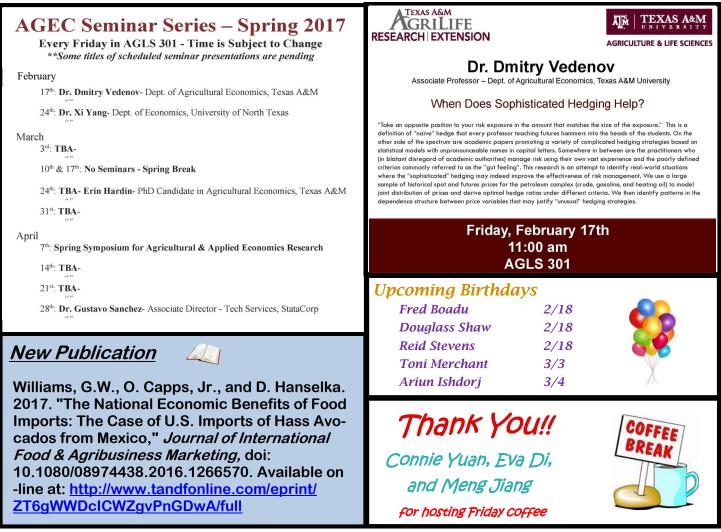
Aggie baseball starts tonight against Bowling Green, while the Aggie softball team hosts the Texas A&M Invitational against SFA, Missouri State and New Mexico. Sunday, the women's basketball team hosts Mississippi State, while the men's team hosts Auburn on Saturday. So, lots of sports in Aggieland this weekend. And, oh, there's intercolle-giate Quidditch at Veteran's Park. The weather should be perfect, so try to get out and enjoy the festivities. And, have a great weekend!



# **Upcoming** Events

February 20th-Presidents' Day Energy Market Interview 27th-Faculty Meeting 3:30 p.m. AGLS 301 27th-March 3rd-Staff Appreciation Week





#### **Position Announcements**

**Department Head**, Agricultural and Applied Economics, The Virginia Tech, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is seeking an accomplished, visionary leader for the position of Department Head. Responsibilities of the Department Head include leadership of all department programs and administrative responsibility for strategic planning, fiscal management and human resources. This includes recruitment, development, and retention of faculty and staff. Application Procedure: Qualified persons are asked to complete an online faculty application at <a href="https://www.jobs.vt.edu">https://www.jobs.vt.edu</a> posting #TR0170011 and are requested to submit the following: a letter of application; a statement of the applicant's vision and administrative/management philosophy and style, emphasizing their ability to provide leadership to the teaching, research, and outreach missions of the department, and leadership experiences and qualifications; a complete curriculum vita including names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of at least three references. Nominations of outstanding potential candidates for the position are welcomed. Initial nominations and inquiries will be kept confidential; references will be contacted only upon approval of the applicant. Review of applications will begin March 22, 2017. Direct inquires or questions about this position to Matt Hulver, Search Committee Chair: Phone: (540) 231-7354, Address: 338 A- Wallace Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0430. Email: <a href="https://www.jvt.edu">https://www.jvt.edu</a>

# Click here for more position announcements

Faculty, staff, and graduate students are encouraged to submit articles and photos on current events

Deadline for all submissions is noon, Thursday.

Please send your information to valnoyes@tamu,edu