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USDA Nutrition Education Initiative

USDA's fiscal year 1993 budget proposal includes a request for additional funding for educational programs designed to promote nutritional well-being. Emphasis is on educating children on the importance of good eating habits and on educating low-income adults on ways to improve their diets, spend their food dollar more wisely, and handle food safely. The initiative will be managed by an interagency coordinating committee cochaired by the administrator of the Food and Nutrition Service and the human nutrition program leader of the Agricultural Research Service. ERS is represented on the committee by Lorna Aldrich, Lester Myers, Patrick O'Brien, and David Smallwood. Other USDA agencies involved are the Human Nutrition Information Service, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Extension Service, National Agricultural Library, and Cooperative State Research Service.

The initiative includes nutrition education, monitoring, and research. ERS has lead responsibility for the subcommittee on nutrition monitoring. ERS will work with other agencies to develop an inventory of existing and planned nutrition education activities and performance evaluation efforts; develop and implement procedures for evaluating effects of education, monitoring, and related research activities under the initiative; and prepare reports for the Secretary of Agriculture on the status of the initiative and its effectiveness at achieving results.

ERS Special Merit Awards

The ERS Administrator's 13th Annual Special Merit Awards Ceremony was held on March 24. John Lee presented 21 awards that recognize ERS staff and others who have made major contributions to carrying out ERS's programs.

The awardees are **George Frisvold**, for outstanding publications in the area of public research investment; **Tim Osborn** and **Ralph Heimlich**, for design of the Conservation Reserve Program bid acceptance process; **Charles Hallahan**, for excellence in managing and providing analytical software support to ERS; **Patricia Vines**, for sustained exceptional performance and leadership in contributing to the estimation of cash receipts for agricultural commodities; **Harry Vroomen**, for outstanding work on fertilizer demand; **William Levedahl**, for outstanding research on cashing out food assistance programs; **Thomas Hady**, for management excellence in the accomplishment of employment and career opportunity goals for women and minorities; **Rita Chester (EMS)**, for providing outstanding technical and operational support to telecommunication needs of ERS; **Bruce Larson** and **Mary Knudson** (University of Michigan), for outstanding research on biotechnology regulation; **Gene Wunderlich**, for outstanding initiative, creativity, and leadership in editing and managing the *Journal of Agricultural Economics Research*, 1988-91; **William Hahn**, for best article in the *Journal of Agricultural Economics Research*, 1991; **Cheryl Christensen**, **Edwin Young**, **Jewell**

Tolliver, and **Nancy Cochrane**, for effective and skillful management of the ERS institution-building project in East and Central Europe in a complex interdivisional and interagency environment; **Betsey Kuhn**, **Leslee Lowstuter**, **Denice Bess**, and **Kenneth Robinson**, for developing and implementing an outstanding program to improve workplace community and diversity; **Sandra Suddendorf**, **Tammy McCauley**, and **Joan Donoghue**, for providing software support to maintain and enhance ERS's diverse use of microcomputers; **Ann Vandeman**, **Douglas Beach**, and **Phillip Kaufman**, for superior performance in assessing food safety research data needs; **Donald Blayney**, **Peter Buzzanell**, **Richard Fallert**, **Ronald Lord**, **Charles McCormick**, **Steven Neff**, **James Schaub**, and **Mark Weimar**, for outstanding service in supporting departmental decisions on critical commodity program issues; **William Anderson**, **Douglas Bowers**, **Joseph Braxton**, **Paul E. Flaim**, **Cecil Davison**, **James Horsfield**, **James Johnson**, **Robert Reinsel**, **Sara Wampler**, and **Dwight Gadsby**, for exceptional teamwork in planning and producing the ERS 30th Anniversary Conference on Economics and Public Service; **David McGranahan**, **Molly Killian**, **Paul Swaim**, **Linda Ghelfi**, **Timothy Parker**, and **Ruy Teixeira**, for outstanding achievement in producing *Education and Rural Development Strategies for the 1990's* (AGES-9153); **Jerome Stam**, **Steven Koenig**, **Susan Bentley**, and **Frederick Gale**, for outstanding achievement in producing the

quality comprehensive monograph, *Farm Financial Stress, Farm Exits, and Public Sector Assistance to the Farm Sector in the 1980's* (AER-645); Kathryn Zeimetz, Edward Cook, Yuri Markish, William Liefert, and Kenneth Gray, for preparation of the quality and timely periodical, *USSR Agriculture and Trade Report: Situation and Outlook Series* (RS-91-1), that helped in forming USDA responses to development in the agricultural economics of the Commonwealth of Independent States; and John Link, Constanza Valdes, Barry Krissoff, Boyd Buxton, Donna Roberts, Myles Mielke, William Hahn, Suchada Langley, Shayle Shagam, and Andrew Burst (FAS), for exceptional contributions to the management and analyses of the North America Free Trade Agreement project.

ERS-ABARE Joint Project

ERS and the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics are planning a joint research project on EC trade and environment issues. In recent years, EC agricultural production has been associated with increased environmental stress caused by intensive crop and livestock production. The EC is under pressure to reduce budgetary outlays associated with agricultural and trade policies and at the same time improve the quality of the agroenvironment. But there is considerable uncertainty about the production, trade, and

environmental effects of alternative policy instruments. The purpose of the ERS-ABARE project is to examine the effects of several policy options to determine the implications of achieving environmental and budgetary goals.

The project will estimate the impacts of output pricing reforms and the impacts of policies designed to control agricultural chemical loadings on EC production, trade, and environmental quality. The study will use two approaches: aggregate trade analysis using SWOPSIM and microanalyses using a production function approach to examine changes in input use and output supply. The study will build on modeling experience shared by ERS and ABARE but will also draw on new data and techniques for much of the research.

Although the project focuses on the EC, implications will be drawn for the EC's trading partners, including the United States. The research will also help clarify how agricultural and environmental policies can be coordinated to achieve environmentally benign farm sector support. Margot Anderson and Carl Mabbs-Zeno visited ABARE in February to establish the joint project and negotiate working arrangements.

OECD Sustainable Agriculture Workshop

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Ad Hoc Group on Agriculture and the

Environment recently sponsored a workshop on sustainable agricultural technology and practices in Paris, France. The workshop focused on the linkages between agriculture and the environment and the potential gains from agricultural policy reform in OECD countries. John Miranowski attended as a member of the U.S. delegation.

The OECD countries are concerned about the impacts of conventional agriculture on land, water, air, landscape, and food quality. The workshop was designed to identify more sustainable agricultural systems that rely less on agricultural chemicals. Workshop participants—farmers, advisers, consultants, researchers, and policymakers—identified an array of field-tested practices and technologies that appear to be more sustainable than those in common use. Many of these sustainable practices have proven competitive with conventional practices. The general conclusion was that sustainable agriculture is highly dependent on incorporating the latest technology and sophisticated new equipment, and this requires a "high-tech" manager capable of understanding the complex interrelationships that must be controlled to maximize profits while protecting human and environmental health.

Another frequent message from farmers using sustainable agriculture techniques was that they could not depend on the traditional agricultural research and extension institutions for the development and dissemination of information on sustainable production systems, although some sustainable practices may originate within the traditional institutions. As a result, there may be a scale factor associated with adoption of sustainable farming systems. A larger scale operation or cooperation among a number of farmers is needed to support the costs of systems development and

See OECD, p. 4

ERS Newsletter

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Administrator and Associate Administrator's Letter

Toward a Publication Philosophy for ERS: Part II



Part I on ERS publication philosophy (in the last issue of this newsletter) stated the reasons we publish information and how we hope our publications do the job of informing. Attention to the quality of the reports themselves is only one dimension of the ERS publications program. To round it out, let us now address the more fundamental notion that ERS publications reflect the design and management of the research programs underlying the many reports we produce.

As managers of our own and others' research, we need to be concerned both about the relevance of individual projects and the usefulness of their products and whether the pieces add up to a comprehensive body of intelligence on important subjects or issues. If a research program has researchers wandering around without direction or guidance within a subject matter area, some excellent products may result. But the products are more apt to be a cacophony of bits and pieces that only partially address important topics. Moreover, if no forethought goes into designing the pieces so that they can be comparable and additive, we may fail to develop either the analytical building blocks or the human capital required to synthesize research findings into a big-picture perspective on critical issues.

How can ERS assure production of some "symphonies" as opposed to cacophony? At a minimum, ERS research programs should be designed to add up ultimately to a comprehensive body of intelligence from which arises the kind of synthesis that reveals intuitive and sometimes counterintuitive insights and innovative perspectives. Thus, we must plan individual research programs with a big picture in mind and carefully coordinate research plans across individuals and organizational units. An organized, focused team effort may occasionally be the best approach to producing a comprehensive report on an important problem or critical issue. In such cases, our responsibilities as research managers demand that we support and reward contributions to teams as much as individual efforts.

* * * * *

In response to Part I of this series, a reader asked, "What proportion of the total effort should be spent on doing the research/analysis and what portion doing the writing/communicating?" The answer, of course, depends on the difficulty of the research and on the number and types of target audiences for which research reports are prepared. We should invest enough at the margin in communicating to capitalize on the sunk costs of the research. But for applied or problem-solving research in ERS, the original planning should include consideration of why the research is being done, to whom the findings should be addressed, and the package of means (including publications) by which the findings will be communicated to the appropriate users. In other words, determining how much of the "total effort" should go into communicating results should be part of the forethought, not afterthought, of research.


John Lee


Katherine Reichelderfer

ERS reports should:

- have a clearly identified purpose and audience and be written appropriately for that purpose and audience;
- provide the reader with the context and perspective necessary to fully comprehend the message;
- reflect the application of good science;
- receive rigorous peer review;
- be accurate, precise, and well written;
- reflect objectivity through the use of value-free language;
- persuade the reader of the significance of reported findings without overselling or extending conclusions beyond what the research will support; and
- account for and address the reasons for any differences in results among ERS publications dealing with similar and related issues.

field-testing. Most of the practitioners present from OECD countries have large-scale operations or are cooperating with a large number of other operators in developing and testing sustainable systems and practices.

A number of problems with adoption of sustainable systems were also discussed. First, the market signals between consumers and farmers are distorted; for example, the signals sent by commodity programs to farmers may not be an accurate reflection of consumer preferences. Second, markets fail because price signals do not accurately portray the capacity of ecosystems and the environment in general to sustain production. Third, governments have been less than responsive in promoting sustainable systems and in providing the necessary incentives to adopt such systems. The general conclusion was that sustainable farming systems could be viable and competitive if the necessary management expertise were present.

ERS Alumni Notes

[We invite ERS alumni to write to us at the address on page 2 about what they or other alumni are doing, where they are living, etc.]

ERS retiree **Harold Dill** (81) died January 16 in Quail Creek, N.C. • ERS retiree **John Gerald** now lives at 4602 Hendrick Street, North Myrtle Beach, S.C. 29582 • and ERS retiree **Donald Seaborg** now lives at 7496 Edgehill Drive, Warrenton, Va. 22186.



Smallwood and Blaylock

Smallwood and Blaylock Named *JAER* Editors

David Smallwood and James Blaylock are the new coeditors of the *Journal of Agricultural Economics Research* for the publication years 1992-94, replacing Gene Wunderlich who served in that role for 4 years.

Smallwood and Blaylock came to ERS in 1979 and worked on economic determinants of household food consumption patterns. Their research has been recognized by three ERS Administrator's Special Merit Awards for outstanding research. Individually and jointly, they have published research articles in numerous professional journals and books.

Since 1986, Smallwood has been leader of the Food Policy Research

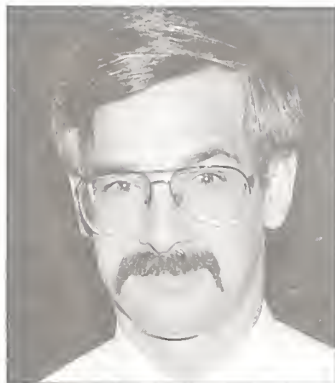
Section, Food Marketing and Consumption Economics Branch, Commodity Economics Division. He has a B.S., an M.E., and a Ph.D., all in economics, from North Carolina State University.

Blaylock was appointed to a senior economist position in the Food Demand Research Section, Food Marketing and Consumption Economics Branch, in 1986 and became leader of that section in 1990. He has a B.A. in economics from Sacramento State College and an M.S. and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the University of California (Davis).

The new editors encourage ERS researchers and those working on ERS cooperative agreements to submit manuscripts to the *JAER*.



Ballenger



Allen



Lin



Sanford

Ballenger Is New Branch Chief in RTD

Nicole Ballenger has been named chief of the Resource Policy Branch, Resources and Technology Division.

Ballenger was most recently acting deputy director, Commodity Economics Division, where she coordinated the international component of the grain quality study and the North American Free Trade Agreement analyses. She has been senior staff economist for agriculture and international trade, Council of Economic Advisers, a resident fellow at the National Center for Food and Agriculture Policy, Resources for the Future, and leader of the Commodity Trade Programs Section, Commodity Economics Division.

Earlier in her career, Ballenger was with a San Francisco investment firm and also served as a volunteer for the Institute for Food and Development Policy.

Ballenger has a B.A. in economics from the University of California (Santa Cruz) and an M.S. and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the University of California (Davis). She received a USDA Superior Service Award for participation on a team that contributed to the formulation of the U.S. GATT proposal.

Allen Is New CED Section Leader

Edward Allen was recently named leader of the Food Grains Analysis Section, Crops Branch, Commodity Economics Division. He has been coordinator of ERS's wheat situation and outlook report, ERS's country analyst for Brazil, and cotton and oilseeds analyst. Allen was a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia during 1977-79.

Allen has written numerous articles in ERS periodicals. He received a USDA Certificate of Merit for his contribution to a project on U.S. competitiveness in world wheat markets.

Allen has a B.A. in philosophy from St. John's College and an M.A. in economics from the State University of New York (Stonybrook).

Lin Named CED Senior Economist

William Lin has been named senior economist, Office of the Director, Commodity Economics Division, where he will be responsible for coordinating the congressionally mandated USDA Grain Quality Study.

Lin has been conducting research to evaluate the costs and

benefits of cleaning grain in the United States since 1990. He first joined ERS in 1976 to conduct research on the structure of the farm sector and factors such as farm commodity programs that contribute to changes in farm structure. During 1980-82, Lin was an economist with the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of the Interior. He rejoined ERS in 1982 as leader of the Grains and Feeds Research Section.

Lin has authored numerous research articles on grains and feeds for USDA reports and professional journals, including the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

He has a B.S. in agricultural economics from Taiwan Provincial Chung-Hsing University (Taichung) and an M.S. and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the University of California (Davis). He received an ERS Administrator's Special Merit Award for commodity program management support. Lin also received three USDA Certificates of Merit: one for exceptional effort in developing and planning cooperative research on grain quality, one for exceptional effort in supporting ERS's 1988 drought impact analysis activities, and one for demonstrating proficiency to produce high quality economic research.

Sanford Is New CED Section Leader

Scott Sanford was recently named leader of the Oil Crops Analysis Section, Crops Branch, Commodity Economics Division. Since 1987, he has worked on fiber situation and outlook and on agricultural policies affecting the fiber production-marketing-distribution system. Sanford joined ERS in 1986, and worked on a variety of research projects and staff analyses dealing with the effects of

income levels and sources on rural people and areas.

Prior to joining ERS, Sanford was a research assistant at Oklahoma State University during 1981-86 and a research assistant at Mississippi State University during 1979-81.

Sanford has written numerous articles for USDA reports and professional journals, including the *Southern Journal of Agricultural Economics* and *Review of Regional Studies*.

Sanford has a B.A. in political science from the University of Mississippi (Oxford), an M.S. in agricultural economics from Mississippi State University, and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Oklahoma State University. He received two USDA Certificates of Merit: one for coordinating the cotton and wool situation and outlook report, and one for outstanding contributions to the situation and outlook program for cotton and wool.

Highlights of Staff Activities

Agriculture and Rural Economy Division

Calvin Beale spoke on 1980-90 rural population trends at a seminar for reporters at the Washington Journalism Center, in Washington, D.C. • **Kenneth Deavers** participated in a Congressional Research Service panel on "Community and Economic Development: Rethinking the Federal Role," in Washington, D.C. • **Ron Durst** spoke on Federal tax issues of importance to farmers at an American Wheat Growers Association meeting in Reno, Nev. • **Kenneth Hanson** presented a paper, "North American Trade Liberalization and the Role on Nontariff Barriers," at a U.S.

International Trade Commission symposium on "Economywide Modeling of the Economic Implications of an FTA with Mexico and a NAFTA with Canada and Mexico," in Washington, D.C. • **Molly Killian** and **David Sears** participated in a Rural Policy Research Institute meeting to determine research guidelines for the new multidisciplinary institute, in Kansas City, Mo. • **Sara Mazie** presented a profile of rural America at a National Leadership Development Program sponsored by the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy, Resources for the Future, in Washington, D.C.

• **James Mikesell** participated in a Western research coordinating committee meeting on rural finance and development in the West, in San Diego, Calif. • **Michael Salassi** presented a paper, "Location Concentration in U.S. Rice Production," at a Rice Technical Working Group meeting sponsored by the University of Arkansas, in Little Rock, Ark. • and **Peter Stenberg** participated in a seminar on recycling and demand for minerals at the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy, Resources for the Future.

Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division

At a Southern Agricultural Economics Association meeting in Lexington, Ky., **Mary Burfisher** presented a paper, "Free Trade Impacts on U.S. and Southern Agriculture"; **Barry Krissoff** presented a paper, "Preferential Trading Arrangements: Wheat Trade in Western Hemisphere Countries"; **Mark Peters** presented a paper, "Regional Demand for Meat: An Application of an Inverse Almost Ideal Demand System" (coauthored by Thomas Spreen,

University of Florida); and **Thomas Vollrath** presented a paper, "Exchange Rate Misalignment and Agricultural Export Performance in Developing Countries" (coauthored by **Daniel Pick**) • **Terry Disney** participated in a conference on opportunities for the livestock industries, sponsored by the National Forum for Agriculture, in Des Moines, Iowa • **Arthur Dommen** participated in a roundtable meeting on the links between market conditions and the

intensity of resource use, sponsored by the United Nations Committee on Trade and Agricultural Development, in Geneva, Switzerland • **Robert House** participated in a Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute baseline review meeting in Kansas City, Mo. • **Michael Kurtzig** participated in an American-Turkish Friendship Council conference to update private and public sector officials on developments in Turkey and surrounding regions, in

Washington, D.C. • **Maurice Landes** traveled to New Delhi, India, as a U.S. delegate to a Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations regional conference on Asia and the Pacific • **Mark Lundell** participated in a technical assistance training mission at the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture, in Budapest • **Carl Mabbs-Zeno** participated in a National Academy of Sciences panel on improving research on Russian and other

transitional economies, in Washington, D.C. • **Mary Lisa Madell** spoke on the status of GATT negotiations at a National Dry Bean Council meeting in Washington, D.C. • **Gene Mathia** participated in an S-224 regional research committee meeting on trade of Southern agricultural products, in Lexington, Ky. • **Shahla Shapouri** traveled to Rome to present a draft of the African food strategy project to the

World Food Council • **Lloyd Teigen** was interviewed by the Illinois Farm Bureau Federation's *Farm Week* magazine on corn yields in general and the prospects for Illinois corn yields in 1992 • and **Francis Urban** spoke on economic policy reforms of and the economic outlook for Central and Eastern Europe at a Government Retired Economists Group meeting, in Washington, D.C.

Commodity Economics Division

At a Southern Agricultural Economics Association meeting in Lexington, Ky., **Nicole Ballenger** discussed a paper on U.S.-Mexico trade; **William Levedahl** presented a paper, "Calculating the Effect of Food Stamp Outreach Programs Using the Household's Anticipated Program Eligibility"; **Stephanie Mercier** presented a paper, "The Farm-Export Price Spread for U.S. Wheat"; and **Steven Neff** moderated a session on Dairy Policy, Output, and Marketing • **Peter Buzzanell** presented a paper, "World and U.S. Sugar Markets in Transition," at an American Farm Bureau Federation meeting in Tempe, Ariz. • **Buzzanell** also discussed current developments and prospects for Cuba's sugar industry at a Sugar Industry Conference in La Romana, Dominican Republic • **Buzzanell** also spoke on employment opportunities in ERS for minority students at Fort Valley State College • **Buzzanell** also presented a paper, "World and U.S. Sugar Markets in Transition," at a Holly Sugar Corporation meeting in Santa Rosa, Calif. • **Linda Calvin, Gregory Gajewski, Catherine Greene, Biing-Hwan Lin (RTD), and Utpal Vasavada (RTD)** participated in a conference on adaptive onfarm research in the Chesapeake Bay region, in Annapolis, Md. • **Gajewski, David Harvey, and Frederic Hoff** participated in an aquaculture expo conference in

New Orleans, La. • **Greene** participated in a conference on organic sustainable agriculture policies, in Bethesda, Md. • at a Rice Technical Working Group meeting in Little Rock, Ark., sponsored by the University of Arkansas, **Nathan Childs** presented a paper, "Trends in U.S. Rice Consumption, 1978/79-1988/89"; **Linwood Hoffman** presented a paper, "Forecasting U.S. Rough Rice Prices at the Producer Level with Futures Market Prices"; **Janet Livezey** moderated a panel and presented a paper, "Analysis of U.S. Rice Imports"; **Stephen MacDonald** presented a paper, "The Accuracy of USDA's Forecasts of U.S. Rice Exports"; and **Parveen Setia** presented a paper, "Planting Flexibility Choices on Southern Rice Farms under Uncertainty: A Portfolio Analysis" • **Livezey** also presented a paper, "U.S. Rice Situation and Outlook," at an L.C. Carter Rice Conference in Corning, Ark. • **Lee Christensen, Agnes Perez, and Lawrence Witucki** participated in an international poultry show in Atlanta, Ga. • **Christensen** also presented a paper, "Economic Outlook for the Poultry Industry," at an Ohio Poultry Conference in Columbus, Ohio • **Terry Crawford** presented a paper, "Beef Trade Outlook," at an Australian Outlook Conference in Canberra, Australia • **Verner Grise** presented a paper, "Tobacco Situation and Outlook," at a

Tobacco Association of the United States meeting, in Hilton Head, S.C. • **William Hahn** presented a paper, "Measuring the Economic Costs Arising from the Differential Adoption of Bio-Technologies in Animal Production," at an Agricultural Economic Society meeting in London, UK • **Doyle Johnson** was interviewed by ABC News on the effects that imported flowers have on the U.S. market and domestic growers • **Johnson** also presented a paper, "Situation and Outlook for Nursery and Greenhouse Agriculture and Related Industries in the 1990's," at an environmental horticulture workshop in Lexington, Ky., sponsored by the University of Kentucky • **Lester Myers** participated in a National Dairy Promotion and Research Board meeting in Chicago, Ill. • **Judith Putnam** was interviewed by the *Washington Post* on food consumption trends • **Hosein Shapouri** participated in an AAEEA-sponsored national task force conference to solve differences in methodologies used by ERS and universities, in Tucson, Ariz. • **Frederic Surls** spoke on commodity prospects for 1992 at an Independent Bakers Association meeting in Palm Beach, Fla. • and **Glenn Zepp** traveled to Hershey Foods in Hershey, Pa., with a Polish sugar team to discuss factors to consider when estimating sugar needs and sugar buying strategies.

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Resources and Technology Division

Gregory Amacher presented a paper, "Household Production and Consumption for Forestry and Economic Development," at a conference on forestry and the environment, in Jasper, Canada

- **Eldon Ball** discussed three papers in a session on sources of agricultural economic growth and productivity, at an American Economics Association meeting, in New Orleans, La.
- **Nicole Ballenger** spoke on the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement at a University of California Agricultural Issues Center conference, in Los Angeles
- **Ballenger** also spoke on trade, economic growth, and agriculture in GATT and North America Free Trade Agreement negotiations at a STRATUM Conference at Arizona State University
- At a Western Regional Science Association meeting in Stateline, Nev., **Henry Buist** presented a paper, "Firm

Relocation, Suburbanization, and Central City Problems"; **Buist** also received the Tiebout Prize Award for the best student paper in regional science; **Patrick Canning** presented a paper, "A Methodology for Environmental Impact Analysis Using Industry Rent Data"; and **Joseph Cooper** spoke on optional bid selection for dichotomous choice contingent valuation surveys at a W-133 Regional Research Committee meeting on nonmarket valuation

- **Cooper** and **Daniel Hellerstein** spoke on ERS's research program and met with Department of Agricultural Economics staff at the University of California (Davis)
- **William Hyde** participated in a conference on forests and wood-based biomass energy as rural development assets and a workshop on forestry research at Yale University
- **Robert Kellogg** participated in a USDA water quality management system

evaluation area investigators meeting in Des Moines, Iowa

- **Betsy Kuhn** and **Kenneth Robinson** participated in a job fair at Atlanta University and met with students and faculty at Spelman College
- **C.S. Kim** presented a paper, "A Dynamic Model of Agricultural Use and the Effect of the Discount Rate on Groundwater Quality" (coauthored with **John Hostetler** and **Gregory Amacher**), at a Missouri Valley Economic Association meeting in St. Louis, Mo.
- **Michael Moore** presented a seminar on empirical tests of water and land as quantity-rationed inputs in California agriculture and met with students in the Native American Agriculture Scholars Program at North Dakota State University
- and **James Tobey** participated in an Endangered Species Committee hearing on the northern spotted owl, in Portland, Oreg.

Office of the Administrator

John Lee participated in a USDA-sponsored 1890 Leadership Group meeting at Prairie View A&M University

- **Lee** also presented a seminar on ERS at the University of Delaware and at Southern University
- **Lee** also testified on the proposed ERS budget for FY 1993 before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
- **Katherine Reichelderfer**

participated in a meeting of the Social Science Agricultural Agenda Project at the Hubert Humphrey Institute in Minneapolis

- **Reichelderfer** also gave a seminar on explaining public interest intervention in agriculture in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics series at the University of Maryland
- **Reichelderfer** also spoke on the future of agriculture in the land-grant universities system to faculty and staff at Michigan State

University

- and **Reichelderfer** spoke on challenges facing American agriculture at a Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station-sponsored conference on the status and potential of Michigan agriculture, in East Lansing
- and **Edward Reinsel** spoke on ERS's FY 1993 budget at a meeting of the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, in Washington, D.C.