

MARGINAL MEMOS

Internal Bulletin of the Department of Applied Economics

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Ellen Carlson, Editor

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND BENEFITS FAIR – Benefits-eligible employees can learn more about health benefits and retirement investments on Wednesday, November 4, North Star Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center. The event runs 10:00 am – 4:30 pm. For more information, e-mail employee benefits at benefits@umn.edu or call 612-624-9090.

SEMINARS

- ▶ TRADE & DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR – Omar Da'ar, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Applied Economics will speak on “Trade in Genetically Modified-Sensitive Industries and Role of Biotechnology, Innovation and Intellectual Property Rights Protection: Cross Country Analysis,” TODAY from 10:30 to 11:45 am in Room 230 Classroom Office Building. (Note Room Change)
- ▶ ENVIRONMENTAL & RESOURCE ECONOMICS SEMINAR – Stephen Polasky, Professor, Applied Economics will present “Conservation Economics,” on MONDAY, November 2 from 12:00 to 1:30 pm in Room 230 Classroom Office Building.
- ▶ APPLIED ECONOMICS SEMINAR – First of a special 3-Part Series. Paul Glewwe, Professor, Applied Economics, will speak on “Econometrics of Program Evaluation,” on THURSDAY, November 5 from 10:30 am to Noon, Room 119 Classroom Office Building.
- ▶ FIRST THURSDAY @ 4 – This month’s gathering will take place on November 5 in the Cargill Building Atrium. The conversation will be hosted by the Curriculum Revision Guidelines Task Force, which has posed the following question, “How can we ensure that students understand the interdependency of agriculture, food, and natural resource systems?” All faculty, staff, students, alumni and other stakeholders are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND DEADLINES

TODAY – Friday @ 9:00 Coffee Break in Room 230 COB – Sponsored by the Grad Club

TODAY – Trade & Development Seminar: Omar Da’ar, Applied Economics, 10:30 am, Room 230 COB

November 2 – Job Market Workshop: Jay Coggins, 10:00 am, Room 119 COB

November 2 – Env & Resource Economics Seminar: Stephen Polasky, Noon, Room 230 COB

November 4 – Wednesday Department Coffee Break at 10:00 am, South End, 2nd Floor COB

November 4 – Agricultural Education Open House from 4:00-6:00 pm in Room 146 COB

November 5 – Applied Economics Seminar: Paul Glewwe, Applied Economics, 10:30 am, Room 119 COB

November 9 – Job Market Workshop: Jay Coggins, 10:00 am, Room 119 COB

November 10 – TFIC Student Networking Conference: 1-5 pm, Coffman Memorial Union, U of MN

OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ TFIC 2009 STUDENT NETWORKING CONFERENCE – Please join The Food Industry Center for its Fall Student Networking Conference, an annual event bringing together University students and food industry professionals to meet each other and learn more about topics currently engaging the food industry. This year's topic is "Local Foods and Consumer Demand." The conference is on Tuesday, November 10 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm, Coffman Memorial Union. For more information and to register visit: <http://foodindustrycenter.umn.edu/Events.html>. All UMN students and employees of TFIC sponsoring member companies attend for free. This year's event is co-hosted by the Institute for Research in Marketing at the Carlson School of Management and the Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture.

PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ Orazem, Peter F.; Glewwe, Paul; Patrinos, Harry. "The Benefits and Costs of Alternative Strategies to Improve Educational Outcomes" IN: *Global Crises, Global Solutions* (2nd Edition), edited by Bjorn Lomborg. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, 2009, pp.180-214.

JOBS

For further information on these jobs, visit the October Job File in Waite Library.

- ▶ USDA's ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE (ERS) is seeking a Branch Chief (Supervisory Agricultural Economist), Resource and Rural Economics Division, Farm and Rural Business Branch. ERS serves as the research and policy arm of the United States Department of Agriculture. ERS conducts research that informs decision-makers on public programs and policies involving agricultural commodities, food, farming, natural resources, and rural development. The Farm and Rural Business Branch (FRB) develops, interprets, and disseminates current analyses and longer term perspectives on the financial structure and performance of farms, the farm sector, and rural areas. Notably, the Branch produces USDA's estimates and forecasts of farm income. A complete position announcement with application procedures is available at the following website: http://www.saea.org/docs/usda_ers.pdf. Deadline: Applications must be received no later than midnight, November 30, 2009.