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Marginal Memos

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Announcements

The Food Industry Center Luncheon Series

TFIC will host its first Luncheon Series of the new year on Wednesday, January 25th. Aaron Riippa, Sourcing Business Leader with General Mills Yogurt Operating Unit will present "*Consumer Trends in Yogurt, and Why it Matters*". As a member of the Extended Yogurt Leadership Team, Aaron is responsible for the connection and strategy alignment between Sourcing and the Yogurt brands, such as Yoplait, Annie's, Liberte, and others. Aaron is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and University of Arkansas. [Register online](#) by Friday, January 20th. [More details.](#)

Jobs

Economist

There are several openings for Economists at Economic Research Service of the USDA. The Resource and Rural Economics Division (RRED) informs public and private decisions involving natural resources and the environment, rural development, farm households and businesses, agricultural technology and productivity, and farm structure. Indicators, forecasts, and special studies are disseminated to policy makers and the public through a variety of outputs.

If selected for the RRED position, you will improve the acquisition and processing of data for forecasting farm business and farm household income; or you will have responsibility for coordinating an annual field-level survey of farm production practices, input use, and costs.

The Market and Trade Economics Division (MTED) conducts research on U.S. and global economic factors affecting markets for agricultural products. MTED plays a leading role in market analysis and projections for USDA and publishes commodity market information through a variety of outputs. MTED also provides leadership and support for the Department's annual baseline analysis of long-term commodity projections.

If selected for the MTED position, you will serve as a situation and outlook analyst. You will assist in the creation and dissemination of Situation and Outlook newsletters and annual Yearbooks; perform analytical assignments that maintain and support the ERS market outlook program while advancing an understanding of crop and livestock markets; and review economic and industry-related literature to support economic analysis of market issues.

The Food Economics Division (FED) provides economic research, data, indicators, and policy analysis of consumer, food marketing, and food assistance issues related to

consumption determinants and trends; consumer demand for food quality, safety, and nutrition; food security; food market competition and coordination; low-income assistance programs; and food safety regulation.

If selected for the FED position, you will work with a senior economist on food safety analysis and data and on projects that link food and nutrition databases. You will also manage and improve ERS' Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey (FoodAPS) web page, including developing website resources for FoodAPS public-use files. You will track ERS and external research studies related to FoodAPS and help make them available online. You can [apply online](#) for all of these positions.

Research Fellow

Two Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Positions are available at The University of Western Australia.

(1) Three-year appointment

The position focuses on the co-benefits and trade-offs between environmental, economic, and cultural outcomes, requiring a skillset in the design and use of environmental planning tools, such as multi-criteria analysis, and in analysis of the performance and outcomes of interdisciplinary research. The position will work in collaboration with other researchers in the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy at UWA, and with Scientists nationally in the NESP's Northern Australia Environmental Resource Hub. [Apply online.](#)

(2) 12-month appointment

The position focuses on non-market valuation, and particularly on benefits transfer. The position will work in collaboration with other economists in the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy at UWA, and with Scientists nationally in the NESP Threatened Species Recovery Hub and the CRC for Water Sensitive Cities. [Apply online.](#)

Post-Doctoral Fellowships

The Frederick A. and Barbara M. Erb Institute for Global Sustainable Enterprise at the University of Michigan will be accepting applications from scholars who will conduct high-quality and impactful research, participate in seeking extramural funding related to their research, write jointly-authored and peer-reviewed articles, and contribute content for a broad array of audiences under the Erb Institute's thought leadership banner in at least one of the following four areas: Consumer behavior and conscious consumption; Community and human development; Global change; and/or Corporate governance. [Apply online.](#)

Graduate Assistant

West Virginia University seeks qualified applicants for a PhD in Natural Resource Economics or a MS in Agricultural and Resource Economics. Both graduate programs are administered by the Division of Resource Economics and Management. Division faculty are engaged in applied research projects dealing with various topics related to land, water, energy, and economic development. Assistantship funding opportunities are available through the Division, faculty grants and contracts, a cooperative agreement with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Regional Research Institute located at WVU. For more information about applying for either the PhD or MS program, please contact Dr. Alan Collins by [email](#) or phone(304)293-5486, or [visit their site.](#)

Departmental Seminars

Agricultural and Applied Economics Seminar

TBD

Metin Cakir, Assistant Professor, UMN

Wednesday, February 8

12:00 p.m., 119 Ruttan Hall

Seminars in Other Departments

HCRC Seminar

"A Menu-Based Approach to Parent Involvement: Processes, Strategies, and Impacts"

Momoko Hayakawa, Child-Parent Center Program, UMN

Tuesday, January 17

12:00 p.m., Humphrey School, Room 205

Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences Lecture Series

Emerging Diseases in a Changing Environment

"The Dynamics and Evolution of Emerging Pathogens: Insights from Californian Salt Marshes, House Finches & Zika Virus"

Andrew P. Dobson, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University

Tuesday, January 24

11:30 a.m., Mississippi Room, Coffman Union

Departmental Publications

Boersma, Kate S., Laura E. Dee, **Steve J. Miller**, Michael T. Bogan, David A. Lytle, and Alix I. Gitelman. 2016. "Linking Multidimensional Functional Diversity to Quantitative Methods: A Graphical Hypothesis-Evaluation Framework." *Ecology* 97 (3): 583-93. doi:10.1890/15-0688. Available [online](#).

Cuesta, Ana, **Paul Glewwe** and Brooke Krause. "School Infrastructure and Educational Outcomes: A Literature Review, with Special Reference to Latin America". *Economia* vol. 17, no. 1, pp.95-131. (Fall 2016). Not available online.

Dee, Laura E., **Steve J. Miller**, Lindsey E. Peavey, Darcy Bradley, Rebecca R. Gentry, Richard Startz, Steven D. Gaines, and Sarah E. Lester. 2016. "Functional Diversity of Catch Mitigates Negative Effects of Temperature Variability on Fisheries Yields." *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B: Biological Sciences* 283 (1836). doi:10.1098/rspb.2016.1435. Available [online](#).

See you next year!

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