



# Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

## Newsletter

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### Research Aids in Dairy Bill Creation

Research quantifying the contribution of the state's \$1 billion dairy industry was instrumental in aiding in the creation of Public Act 09-229, which allocates funding from deed recording fees to the state's dairy farmers for two years.

Governor M. Jodi Rell, shown upper right with Department Head Dr. Rigoberto Lopez, Dean Gregory Weidemann, and Connecticut Commissioner of Agriculture Phillip Prelli, acknowledged the work of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics under the direction of Dr. Lopez, in partnership with state agencies.

Dr. Lopez will be honored at a ceremony on November 6th hosted by the Connecticut Farm Bureau for his research contribution to the bill.

Top right: Professor and Department Head Rigoberto Lopez, Commissioner Prelli, Governor Rell, and Dean Weideman.

Bottom right: Bill Peracchio of Hytone Farm in Coventry, a College of Agriculture and Natural Resources alum, accepted the first signed copy of the Public Act on behalf of the state's dairy producers at the July 17th signing ceremony.



### Professor Robert Pomeroy's Work Aids Fisheries Around the Globe

Fishing, one of humankind's oldest methods of procuring food, reaches far beyond the individual fisherman and employs and feeds millions of people. As humans are learning, however, the supply of fish and marine resources isn't endless, and problems of over-fishing, climate change, and human activity have had large impacts. Professor Robert Pomeroy has focused his career on such problems and on aquaculture, the farming of freshwater and saltwater organisms, and in putting research and best practices into the hands of stakeholders.

Working in developing countries around the world, Dr. Pomeroy, also the Principal Scientist with The WorldFish Center in Penang, Malaysia, has effectively aided fishers. He is currently at work on several projects: a large project in Vietnam that works on

small scale fisheries management, a project on the impacts of climate change on the aquaculture in Vietnam, and project in the Philippines that looks at ecosystem-based fisheries management and governance. Based at UConn's Avery Point campus, Dr. Pomeroy also currently working on a new project supported by Environmental Defense Fund on the development of catch share management—a practice in which a specific share of the catch is dedicated to individual fisherman—in New England fisheries.

About his work, Dr. Pomeroy says "the future of governance of small-scale fisheries is becoming more inclusive and sustainable, with the trend of all stakeholders having a say in the way that things are managed becoming more prevalent. Recent changes in legis-

lation and behavior likely foretell a better system that alleviates poverty and conserves natural resources. I am constantly working on new ideas and ways to apply them and through my continued travels around the globe, trainings with world leaders, and publications for conservation managers in the field, I hope to continue the meaningful growth and exciting momentum I have helped to create."



Photo by Peg Van Patten

## Professors Participate in Conference in Beijing, China



Above, from left to right: Dr. Lopez, Dr. Zhu, Dr. Cotterill, and Dr. Lan at China University of Political Science and Law, Beijing.

Department Head Rigoberto Lopez, Professor and Food Marketing Policy Center Director Ronald Cotterill, Professor Boris Bravo-Ureta, and Assistant Professor Rui Huang participated in the twenty-seventh conference of the International Association of Agricultural Economics in Beijing, China from August 16-22, 2009.

Dr. Cotterill presented a keynote paper on the first day of the conference on the topic of antitrust economic analysis in food marketing channels to approximately 500 attendees. Dr. Lopez presented two contributed papers titled "The Re-

tail Services, the Market Power and the Vertical Relationships in the Breakfast Cereal Industry" and "Is Wal-Mart a Monopsony? Evidence from Local Labor Markets."

Dr. Huang presented a paper investigating the impact on human capital decisions and income growth of lower life expectancy as a result of HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Bravo-Ureta was invited to participate in the T.W. Schultz Award Committee to select the best contributed paper presented by a member under thirty-eight years of age. He also chaired a session entitled "Efficiency Analysis in Europe."

Xiaou Liu, a recent graduate of Uconn's ARE Ph.D. program, is assistant professor of economics at Shandong University. She and Dr. Lopez presented "Rational Addiction Evidence from Carbonated Soft Drinks."

Drs. Lopez and Cotterill met with Vice President of China University of Political Science and Law, Dr. Yong Zhu, and Director of International Cooperation and Exchange Dr. Xu Lan to discuss possible exchanges of scholars and graduate students. They are hoping to begin such an exchange in 2010.

### Jessica (Kukielka) Puszcz (B.S. '05, M.S. '08) wins award

Jessica (Kukielka) Puszcz (B.S. '05, M.S. '08) was the recent winner of the "Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association: Outstanding Masters Thesis Award for her thesis entitled: "Systematic Variation in Willingness to Pay for Agricultural Land Preservation and Implications for Benefits Transfer: A Meta-Analysis". Jessica now works for Science Applications International Corporation in Orlando, Florida.



**News Flash!**  
Enrollment in  
Resource Economics is up  
**44%!**

The 2009-2010 academic year has brought a record number of graduate students to the Department. Right, graduate students and faculty gather at a welcome luncheon in September.



## Graduate speaks to Resource Economics Club

Resource Economics graduate Daniel Morley (B.S. '85) spoke to the Resource Economics Club on October 5, 2009. Led by Professor Linda Lee, the Resource Economics Club provides majors with the opportunity to hear speakers from the field of agricultural and resource economics, learn about career opportunities, and network with fellow majors. For more information, please contact Linda Lee at [linda.lee@uconn.edu](mailto:linda.lee@uconn.edu).

Right, Resource Economics Club members and Dr. Linda Lee pose with Daniel Morley '85, center.



## Students receive scholarship awards at Big E

Damiana Serafini, a graduate student in the Department, and Chelsea Williams, an undergraduate, both were winners of scholarship awards at Connecticut Day at the Big E.

Left, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Gregory Weidemann, Chelsea Williams, Governor M. Jodi Rell, and College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Associate Dean of Academic Programs Cameron Faustman at the Big E.

### Did you know?

- ARE is on Facebook! Visit us at [www.are.uconn.edu](http://www.are.uconn.edu) and click on the Facebook logo.
- The Dorothy Goodwin International Experience Fund is accepting applications for foreign travel and study in 2010 for ARE students! Visit <http://are.uconn.edu/undergraduate/scholarships.html> for more information!



- A new course has been introduced, ARE 4444, Economics of Energy and the Environment.
- For the first time, the Department is offering ARE 3436, The Economics of Integrated Coastal Management, at the Storrs campus.

### Learning for International Development

Visitors from Kenya participated in the Learning for International Development (L.I.D.) program hosted by the Department. Members of Kenya's Ministries of Finance and Agriculture attended a series of lectures on the topic of negotiation in August, 2009. A second Kenyan group came in October, 2009. The L.I.D. program brings visitors to the Department from around the world who seek knowledge of the "formulation, implementation, and evaluation of development projects with the intention of promoting the effectiveness of international development assistance." For more information, visit <http://www.lid.uconn.edu/>.



## Faculty News

Assistant Professor **Rui Huang**, Postdoctoral Fellow **Joshua Berning**, graduate student Charles Rhodes, alums Yoon Lee (Ph.D. '09), Alessandro Bonanno (Ph.D. '07), and Rebecca Cleary (M.S. '08) attended the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association's annual meeting in Milwaukee, WI in July.

Two 2009 graduates of the Department's Ph.D. program have joined the faculty for the 2009-2010 academic year. **Michael Cohen** will work as a Postdoctoral Fellow, teaching. **Deepak Joglekar** will serve as Assistant Professor in Residence through 2010.

**Syma Ebbin** gave a presentation on her teaching approach and participation in the Avery Point Learning Community at the Innovative Pedagogy & Course Redesign Conference IX held at Fairfield University Center for Academic Excellence.

**Rosaria Viscecchia** from the University of Foggia in Italy and **Indah Susilowati** from Diponegoro University in Indonesia are visiting scholars in the Department in Fall 2009. Right: Indah Susilowati and Rosaria Viscecchia.



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## Alumni News

Do you have news for the Alumni section?  
Send to [Hadley.Rosen@uconn.edu](mailto:Hadley.Rosen@uconn.edu)



Past and present students Yoon Lee (Ph.D. '09), Charles Rhodes (current graduate student), Rebecca Cleary (M.A.'07), and Assistant Professor Rui Huang at the AAEA Conference in Milwaukee, WI.

Right: Recent Ph.D. graduate Shadab Qaiser with her thesis advisor Susan Randolph and Marilyn Altobello.

Congratulations to the following August, 2009 Ph.D. graduates:

**Minjuan Zhao** (Advisor: M. Altobello), "Two Essays on Natural Resources Valuation: Wetlands Benefit Transfer and Farmlands Preservation Efficiency".

**Yoon Lee** (Advisor: F. Shah), "Economics of Sustainable Watershed Management Under Alternative Climate Change Scenarios".

**Michael Cohen** (Advisor: R. Cotterill), "Differentiated Product Demand Analysis With a Structured Covariance Probit: A Bayesian Econometric Approach".

**Shadab Qaiser** (Advisor: S. Randolph), "Nonlinearities Between Financial Development and Economic Development".



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