

## Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics

Newsletter for Alumni

January 2011

*Department website:* [http://www.umanitoba.ca/afs/agric\\_economics/](http://www.umanitoba.ca/afs/agric_economics/)

Dear Alumni and Friends:

The Department was saddened by the news that Elaine Negrych, long time receptionist for the Department, died suddenly and unexpectedly on December 31, 2010. Elaine had worked for the Department for over 30 years. Her first appointment began in 1975 and ended with early retirement after 24 years, then Elaine made a very welcome return as a half-time receptionist in 2001 and remained up until her untimely passing.

Elaine had a remarkable memory and ability to connect and stay connected with academics, staff and graduate students over the years. In more recent years she was the “go to” person for textbook orders for the Department, and assisted in general reception duties.

Elaine’s son and extended family hosted a come and go reception at the Holiday Inn South at 2 p.m. on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

### Daryl F. Kraft Lecture

To be formally confirmed, but the expected date will be Tuesday, March 1, 2011, with invited guest lecturer, Dr. Philip Pardey.

### Staff notes

Derek Brewin returned from a six-month sabbatical on January 4, 2011.

### **AAEA annual meeting news:**

Brian Oleson, Fabio Mattos, Julieta Frank and Jared Carlberg attended the AAEA/CAES/WAEA joint annual meeting in Denver, CO, from July 24-27.

Fabio presented a paper “Evolving Market Performance in Brazilian Futures Contracts Using Relative Efficiency” co-authored with Dr. Philip Garcia (University of Illinois) and Fabiana Urso (BM&FBOVESPA).

Fabio also assisted with judging the Graduate Student Case Study Competition.

Jared’s paper presented was “An Overview of the Remaining Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues” and also presented a poster “Impact of Market Access Reforms on the Canadian Dairy Industry”.

Julietta presented a poster “Impact of Free Trade Agreements on the Colombian Beef Sector” co-researched with Miguel Gomez (Cornell) and Tatiana Parra (Universidad Javeriana).

**Ian Proven**, M.Sc. graduate in 2005, has been a member of the Board of the Manitoba Division of the Canadian Cancer Society since 2006 and, in August 2010, was appointed President. Ian currently works as Vice-president for Marketing Insights, at Martron, a fully integrated marketing solutions and services company in Winnipeg.

**Fabio Mattos** and **Stefanie Fryza**, attended the annual meeting of the Academy of Behavioural Finance & Economics in Chicago, September 15-17. Fabio presented a paper co-authored with Stefanie titled “Decision Making Process in Grain Marketing: A Study in the Canadian Market”, and Fabio also chaired a session on “Information in Financial Markets”.

**Jared Carlberg** presented “Potential Healthcare Savings from Plant Sterol Enriched Foods in Canada” at the joint EAAE/AAEA seminar on the Economics of Food, Food Choice and Health, in Freising, Germany, from September 15-17. The paper was co-authored with **Collin Gyles**, M.Sc. graduate, and **Peter Jones**, Director of the RCFN.

**Ed Tyrchniewicz** was in the Ukraine for several days from October 9, along with Deans of Agriculture from University of Alberta and University of Saskatchewan, visiting five Ukrainian Agricultural Universities to assess the potential for long term collaboration in research and student exchanges.

**Jared Carlberg** presented a paper “Economic Evaluation of Nutrition Interventions: Current Status and Future Direction” at the ILSI-Brasil International Symposium on Functional Foods, in Sao Paulo, Brasil, October 21-22.

**Brian Oleson** attended the North American Case Research Association (Finance and Economics Track 2010) meeting in Gatlinburg, TN, October 28-30 and presented a case study “Granny’s Poultry Co-operative (Manitoba) Ltd.”, a study developed with **Charles Mossman**, Professor in the Asper School of Business.

## Welcome to international students

**Andre Tambelli and Andre Oliveira**, undergraduate students at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, spent several months in the Department from August to December 2010 undertaking thesis-related research with **Fabio Mattos** on topics relating to efficiencies in futures markets.

**Julieta Frank** received funding from the “Emerging Leaders of the Americas Program” (ELAP) to provide for a graduate student from the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, to undertake research with **Barry Coyle**, from November 2010 to February 2011. **Luis Frank**, M.Sc. student, received \$7,500 to assist with his research and development of “Optimal Resource Allocation: The Case of Crop Production in Argentina”.

**Fabio** has also received funding from ELAP, allowing three graduate students from Brazil to undertake six months of research in our Department. **Yuri Calil**, from the Getulio Vargas Foundation, received \$10,000 for a project on a comparative analysis of the beef chain in Canada and Brazil; **Daniel Capitani**, from the University of Sao Paulo, received \$10,000 for development of a project on the feasibility of a rice futures market in Brazil; and **Fabio Guerra**, also from the University of Sao Paulo, received \$10,000 for a project relating to development and prospects of the Canadian biofuels market.

## Recent Seminars arranged from our Department

**John Cranfield**, University of Guelph “Functional Foods and Consumer Preferences: The Case of Isoflavone Enhanced Products”, August 26

## and ... from the 2010-2011 Department Seminar Series

**Janet Jiang**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics: “Money and Price Posting under Private Information”, October 27.

**Barry Prentice**, Professor in the Department of Supply Chain Management: “Refrigerated Transport to Mexico: Cold Chain Opportunities and Challenges”, November 24.

**Gary Johnson and Curtis Sawatzky**, “A Different Slant on Ethanol Production: Evaluating the Cellulosic Ethanol Biorefinery Concept”, December 8.

## Recent publications

**Carlberg, J.G.** 2010. Development and Implementation of a Mandatory Animal Identification System: The Canadian Experience. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics* 42: 559-70.

**Gyles, C.L., J.G. Carlberg, J. Gustafson, D.A. Davlut, and P.J.H. Jones.** 2010. Economic valuation of the potential health benefits from foods enriched with plant sterols in Canada. *Food & Nutrition Research* 54: 5113 - DOI: 10.3402/fnr.v54i0.5113

## In the news

**Milton Boyd** was quoted in The New York Times, August 18, following the BHP Billiton hostile bid for Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan. A brief comment appeared in "In The News", University of Manitoba Bulletin, September 9<sup>th</sup>, and the full article may be viewed at <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/19/business/global/19potash.html>

**Derek Brewin** was quoted in the Manitoba Co-operator, October 21 (page 7), in an article titled "Farmers welcome canola crush expansion", following an announcement of doubling the capacity of a canola-crushing plant at Altona. Derek commented that canola supplies could be tight next year due to reduced production this year and increased plantings of crops other than canola in 2011.

## "UniversityNews"

Daily news highlighting research projects and expertise from the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Manitoba. Check their website for print interviews and audio clips with academics and researchers in the Faculty, Bruce Cochrane being the moderator/interviewer.

<http://www.universitynews.org/f1Scripts.aspx>

## Other Faculty News websites

**staff.matters** - this bi-weekly e-newsletter gives a quick update of the news and events in the Faculty.

Online at [umanitoba.ca/afs/staffmatters](http://umanitoba.ca/afs/staffmatters)

**Special Seminars** - a video archive of selected presentations by Faculty members and special guests.

Check it out at [umanitoba.ca/afs/seminars/](http://umanitoba.ca/afs/seminars/)

## Graduate Program News from our Master's students

Welcome to **Robert Longtin** and **Jamie Poirier**, new students who began an M.Sc. in the department in the fall 2010 session. Also **Lue Zhan**, admitted to the pre-M.Sc. program.

2010-2011 J.G. Gilson Agribusiness Fellowship - awarded to **Jamie Poirier**. Jamie's program is being supervised by **Fabio Mattos**, and her research focus is on risk management and financial behaviours surrounding monetary gains and losses.

2010-2011 Daryl F. Kraft Graduate Fellowship - awarded to **Curtis Sawatzky**. Curtis' thesis research is based on the development of a financial model for a potential cellulosic ethanol biorefinery and is being supervised by **Gary Johnson**.

Douglas J. McRorie Memorial Scholarships for 2010 were awarded to **Curtis Sawatzky, Matt Hink, Jamie Poirier and Stefanie Fryza**. These awards, each valued at \$1,500.00 are made available through the support of the RBC Foundation, and were created in 1990 by the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation in honour of past-president and agri-finance leader, Doug McRorie, who served as Vice-President of Agriculture for the Royal Bank and was a well-respected agricultural leader in Canada.

***Congratulations to the following students on successful thesis defences or comprehensive research paper presentations over the last few months and on their subsequent October 2010 graduations!***

**Wen Tan** - *"China's COFCO and Canada's CWB: A Case Study in Bargaining Between State Trading Enterprises Assuming Price Discrimination"* (Comprehensive Research Paper, advisor Derek Brewin)

**Jason Jones** - *"Effects of a Traceability System on the Economic Impacts of a Foot-and-Mouth Disease Outbreak"* (Thesis advisor, Jared Carlberg)

**Huihui Wang** - *"Factors Influencing Consumers' Life Insurance Purchasing Decisions in China"* (Thesis advisor, Milton Boyd)

**Saina Fan** - *"Food Trade Issues and Food Purchasing Decisions by Consumers in China"* (Thesis advisor, Milton Boyd)

**Mark Fynn** - *"Comparing Two Systems of Sow Group-Housing: Animal Welfare and Economics"* (Thesis advisor, Gary Johnson)

**Karen Hodgson** - *"Risk Management Behavior of Agricultural Producers: Preferences and Perceptions"* (Thesis advisor, Milton Boyd)

**Fengzhang Lu** - *"Does RMB Exchange Rate Affect China's Exports?"* (Comprehensive Research Paper, advisor Barry Coyle)

**Linjing Xie** - *"Econometric Analysis of Influence of China's Exchange Rates on its Agricultural Exports"* (Comprehensive Research Paper, advisor Barry Coyle)

***..... and successful thesis defences or comprehensive research paper presentations in the fall term, for February 2011 graduation***

**Mark Hayward** - *“AgriStability and the Impact of Diversification”*  
(Comprehensive Research Paper, advisor Barry Coyle)

**Anais Hacault** - *“Investing in Land Restoration in Manitoba”* (Thesis advisor, Derek Brewin)

### Undergraduate Program News

CIBC Undergraduate Agribusiness Awards for 2010/2011 awarded to Kelvin Friesen and Bonnie Schott.

Kraft Undergraduate Policy Paper Prize for 2010 was awarded to Kelvin Heppner for his paper titled “The Effects of Market-Driven Versus Legislated Changes to Animal Welfare Standards”.

### Exchange Program News - Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet (SLU) - Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Magnus Rinman, an undergraduate student in Agricultural Economics at SLU, has been at University of Manitoba since August 2010 and is remaining here for the current winter 2011 term taking classes in our Department’s undergraduate program.

Jamie Poirier, M.Sc. student, is accepted to attend SLU for the winter term 2011 at Uppsala. Jamie will take two courses for credit transfer towards her M.Sc. degree.

Trent Workman, Master’s student in Landscape Architecture, is currently at SLU’s Alnarp campus. He arrived in mid-August 2010 and will remain for their spring 2011 term, taking courses in Landscape Planning and Architecture. At SLU’s Alnarp campus research and teaching is carried out within the fields of landscape planning, horticultural science and agricultural science. Alnarp is located in Sweden’s dynamic southern agricultural region, a stone’s throw from the sea near the student towns of Malmo and Lund, and the big city life of Copenhagen.

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Your comments are welcome - you may also like to include any important announcements and we will consider them for publication in this online newsletter.

Please email comments or news to: [John\\_Schoffner@umanitoba.ca](mailto:John_Schoffner@umanitoba.ca)

**Judy Powell**  
**General Editor**  
**Department Newsletter for Alumni**