



# AAEA

Agricultural & Applied  
Economics Association

Undergraduate Student Section

[www.aaea.org/sections/studentsection](http://www.aaea.org/sections/studentsection)

## **STUDENT SECTION OFFICERS**

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## FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

### **GREETINGS FROM SS-AAEA OFFICERS AND ADVISORS**

Hello everyone! The Student Section officers and advisors are so excited to begin another awesome year with AAEA. This past summer, we had a great conference in Atlanta with some excellent competitions and networking opportunities for students. We are already looking forward to next summer's conference and competition in Kansas City, Missouri!

The officers and advisors are working hard to plan some fun outings for the Student Section as well as some conference sessions. We hope to stimulate interest, increase participation, and promote awareness of our competitions for this coming year. If there is anything our team can do for you or any ideas you might want to share with us, feel free to reach out!

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*“Agriculture is the most healthful, most useful,  
and most noble employment to man.”*  
– George Washington

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### **LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

Dear Chapter Presidents and Advisors,

Thank you for joining us at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Atlanta. We had a great turnout with numerous universities attending this year and this is a feat that we hope to continue at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

Although summer is a long time away, the officer team and I have begun planning for the 2020 meeting. We hope to provide all the student contestants with a fun experience and a chance to explore some unique museums and delicious restaurants within downtown Kansas City, MO.

Please feel free to contact myself or any of the other officers with any ideas, suggestions, or questions that you may have. This feedback will help us to create the best possible experience and value for all attendees. I wish you all the best in this coming school year and look forward to our next meeting in Kansas City.

Kind Regards,  
Colt Hardee

## COMPETITIONS

Now is a great time to start working on different competitions held at the SS-AAEA meeting such as the Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet, Student Paper Competition, Outstanding Chapter Competitions, Academic Bowl, and Creative Club Competition. For more information, please go to <https://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/ss-aaea/aaea-annual-meeting>

### ATLANTA 2019 AWARDS

**Outstanding Paper Competition:** The student paper competition gives a student the opportunity to submit a paper that highlights the results of an original research project that the student planned and implemented under the guidance of a faculty advisor.

**Tied-First Place (\$200):** *Elizabeth Thilmany*, “Dispelling the Hype Over Hemp: How “Green” are the Production Opportunities for Hemp in U.S. Agriculture”. *University of Maryland*, Advisor: Paul Goeringer.

**Tied-First Place (\$200):** *Alexander Hildreth*, “Willingness to Pay to Support Non-Honey Bee Pollinator Conservation in Louisiana”. *Louisiana State University*, Advisor: Jerrod Penn.

**Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition:** The spreadsheet competition challenges students to develop a spreadsheet application that can be applied to a real-world problem in agriculture and applied economics.

**First Place (\$400):** *Elizabeth Thilmany*, “The Value of Corporate Values: A Comparison of Food Industry Portfolios Considering Corporate Social Responsibility”. *University of Maryland*, Advisor: Dawn Thilmany of Colorado State University.

**Second Place (\$200):** *Alexander Hildreth*, “Benefit Cost Analysis for Louisiana State University and University of Kentucky Becoming Bee Campus Certified”. *Louisiana State University*, Advisor: Jerrod Penn.

**Academic Bowl Awards:** The academic bowl competition allows students to showcase their agricultural knowledge and work as a team to represent their school.

**First Place (\$500):** Louisiana State University: Colt Hardee, Erynn Heffley, Whitney McKinzie

**Second Place (\$300):** Texas A&M University: Ian Cobb, Jason Edmondson, and Brett Hargis

**Third Place (\$100):** Arkansas State University: Trisha Davis, Kylie Meredith, and Valerie Regan (Texas A&M)

**Outstanding Chapter Award (\$200):** The outstanding chapter competition offers agribusiness and ag economics clubs the chance to show off their organization and highlight the ways they serve their department, their university, and their community.

*Iowa State University*; Advisors: Amy Brandau and Ron Deiter

**Creative Chapter Award (\$200):** The creative club competition offers agribusiness and ag economics clubs the chance to highlight a specific project that the organization's students planned and implemented during the past year.

*Clemson University*; Advisor: Michael Vassalos

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## 2020 AAEA ANNUAL MEETING

Are you ready to celebrate the 102<sup>nd</sup> year with AAEA? We are excited to send a warm welcome and invitation to the 2020 AAEA annual meeting in Kansas City, Missouri. The meeting this year falls over July 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Kansas City Marriott Marquis in downtown Kansas City.

We look forward to seeing all new and returning members in Kansas City this summer!

- Undergraduate Student Section Officers



### **Things to do in Kansas City, Missouri:**

**BBQ Restaurants:** Arthur Bryant's Barbeque, Q39, Jack Stack Barbecue, Joe's KC BBQ, and Gates BBQ

**Historical Museums:** WWI Museum, Union Station, and Kansas City Federal Reserve Money Museum

**Theme Parks:** Worlds of Fun and Schlitterbahn Waterpark

**Sports Fanatics:** College Basketball Experience, Kansas City Royals game, and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

**Other Activities:** Kansas City Zoo, LEGOLAND, Kaleidoscope, and Brewery Tours

**More Museums:** Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Arabia Steamboat Museum, National Museum of Toys and Miniatures, American Jazz Museum, Airline History Museum, Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, and Science City

**Take a ride on the KC Streetcar for free!**

# Meet your Officers

## **President: Colt Hardee**

Hey y'all! My name is Colt Hardee and I am honored to serve as your president this year. I'm a junior at Louisiana State University majoring in Agribusiness with minors in Agriculture, Business Administration, and Entrepreneurship. I am originally from Kaplan, Louisiana, known to many as the "most Cajun place on earth." I love my Cajun culture. When I'm not eating gumbo, boudin, or boiled crawfish, you can find me playing the Cajun accordion. I grew up working on a rice and crawfish family farm in southwestern Louisiana, which is now in its fifth generation. I love catching crawfish and hauling rice to the dryer. For hobbies, I like to deer hunt, run, read, and watch all LSU sporting events. At LSU, I'm president of our Agribusiness Club, captain of our quiz bowl team, and involved in undergraduate research. In 2019, I was honored as LSU's Undergraduate Student Leader of the Year and named to the Homecoming Court. I can't wait to have a great conference in Kansas City this year and I look forward to meeting all of you. Please reach out if ever I can be of assistance to you. Geaux Tigers!



## **Vice President: Carter Jay**

Hey y'all! My name is Carter Jay and I am from Greenville, South Carolina. I am a senior at Clemson University majoring in Agribusiness and minoring in Finance. Growing up hearing stories about the old family farm and spending weekends with my dad hunting, I became fascinated with agriculture and land at an early age. I have been blessed to be able to study these interests at Clemson University. On campus, I serve as secretary of our Agribusiness Club. In my free time I enjoy being on the lake, at the farm, or attending Clemson football games with my friends and family. I am excited to serve on the AAEA Student Board and look forward to meeting all of you this year!

## **Secretary: Janie Oswald**

Hi everyone! My name is Janie Oswald, and I am a senior Agribusiness major with a minor in Horticulture at Clemson University. I grew up in a place that is most known for its close proximity to the Savannah River Site or commonly known as the "Bomb Plant" during the World War II. It's a tiny, one stop light town on the South Carolina-Georgia border. Allendale is the place that I love calling home as do many other rural farming families. I grew up on a cultivated multi-acre piece of Heaven where we raise cattle and grow corn, wheat, cotton, soybeans, and peanuts. In my free time, I enjoy being with family and friends grilling out, floating on the river, playing golf, and working out. My mom and I also relish many afternoons walking around the farm while playing with our numerous dogs, many that were rescues. I am tremendously grateful for this opportunity to serve as Secretary and to gain experience by being on the AAEA Student Leadership Board; I am committed to fulfilling my duties and anxiously await to see what the coming year holds.





### **Treasure: Ian Cobb**

Howdy! My name is Ian Cobb. I am a senior Agricultural Economics major with a double minor in Rural Entrepreneurship and Financial Planning from Texas A&M University. I grew up in a heavy agricultural area in New Home, Texas. My father is an entrepreneur. He and I currently run his crop consulting firm serving farmers all over the South Plains region of West Texas. I hope to follow in his footsteps as an entrepreneur of my own service-oriented businesses someday. At Texas A&M, I am very involved in many of the Agricultural Economics Department's student organizations. I also serve as a Teaching Assistant for the Rural Entrepreneurship Program. When I am not spending time doing either of those, you will more than likely find me playing fantasy sports, shooting shotguns, or working out. I am very excited for the opportunity to further involve myself in this organization as I serve as a member of the 2019-2020 Student Board.

### **Public Relations: Jessa Lowman**

Hey y'all! I am a senior at Angelo State University, majoring in Business Management. Although I am not studying an ag-related field, agriculture has always been a part of my life. I grew up in the small town of Harper, TX where FFA and agriculture were only second to Friday night football. This appreciation for agriculture has influenced my time here at ASU. I am involved in the Agribusiness Student Association and many other related events. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with friends and family, my job at the bingo hall, and attending ASU sporting events. I am excited to get the opportunity to serve on the AAEA Student Board. Being a part of this organization has helped me further appreciate agriculture and its importance in our economy. I cannot wait to see what this next year holds!

