

Southern Rural Sociological Association
48th Annual Meeting



*Adjusting to Changing Climates in the South:
Prospects for Rural Progress in a Time of Uncertainty and Discensus*

Mobile, AL
February 5-6, 2017

Concurrent with the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS)

Program at a Glance

Abbreviations

Rooms

Mobile Convention Center: MCC
Riverview Plaza Hotel: RPH

Organizations

Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists: SAAS
Southern Rural Sociological Association: SRSA

Sunday, February 5, 2017

Day and Time	Location	Session Number and Title
7:45 am–3:00 pm	MCC Prefunction Area (201/202)	Registration and Poster Set-Up
8:00 am–9:00 am	MCC 201D	SRSA Executive Committee
9:15 am–10:30 am	MCC 201D	1 – Land and Small Farmers
10:45 am–11:30 am	MCC 201D	2 – Environment and Natural Resources
11:30 am–1:00 pm	N/A	Lunch (on your own)
1:00 pm–2:15 pm	MCC 201C	3 – Leadership, Technology, and Farm Development
	MCC 201D	4 – Livestock Systems
2:30 pm–3:45 pm	MCC 201D	5 – Food Systems
2:30 pm–3:30 pm	MCC 203B	SAAS Board Meeting
4:00 pm–5:00 pm	MCC 203B	SAAS General Business Meeting
4:30 pm–5:00 pm	Prefunction Area and East/West Ballroom	SAAS Social
5:00 pm	Prefunction Area and East/West Ballroom	Super Bowl Party

Monday, February 6, 2017

Day and Time	Location	Session Number and Title
7:45 am–3:00 pm	MCC Prefunction Area (201/202)	Registration and Poster Set-Up
8:15 am–9:30 am	MCC 201C	6 – Food Security and Nutrition
	MCC 201D	7 – Social and Economic Inequalities
9:30 am–10:45 am	MCC 201C	8 – Community and Community Development
	MCC 201D	Panel – Catalyzing Common Conceptions of Community
11:30 am–1:00 pm	RPH Jubilee Suite	SRSA Awards Luncheon
1:15 pm–2:30 pm	MCC 201C	9 – Economic Education and Development
	MCC 201D	10 – Health and Health Care Systems
2:45 pm–3:45 pm	MCC Prefunction Area (201/202)	Poster Session
3:45 pm–4:45 pm	MCC 201D	SRSA Business Meeting (all members encouraged to attend)
4:45 pm–5:30 pm	MCC 201D	SRSA Executive Council Meeting
6:00 pm	To Be Announced	SRSA Presidential Reception

Detailed Program

Sunday, February 5, 2017

7:45 am – 3:00 pm, MCC Prefunction Area (201/202): Registration and Poster Set-Up

8:00 am–9:00 am, MCC 201D: SRSA Executive Committee

9:15 am–10:30 am, MCC 201D: Session 1 – Land and Small Farmers

Moderator: Eleanor Green (Good Food for Oxford Schools)

Understanding the Economic Impact of Heir Property in Macon County, Alabama
Tristeen Bownes (Tuskegee University)

Millions of Acres and Billions of Trees Changed Hands but Everything Remained
(Almost) the Same
Conner Bailey (Auburn University) and Andrew Gunnoe (Maryville College)

Using Horticulture to Teach Local Food Systems to African American Small
Farmers and Youth
Tehran Jewell, Edwin Chavous, Austin Wright, Louie Rivers, Steven Skelton,
Mason Crawford, Nancy Dawson, and Marion Simon (Kentucky State University)

10:45 am–11:30 am, MCC 201D: Session 2 – Environment and Natural Resources

Moderator: Brooklynn J. Wynveen (Sam Houston State University)

Understanding Economic Impacts of Feral Hogs in Selected Black Belt Counties
in Alabama
Debaleena Dutta (Tuskegee University)

Climate Change and the Farmer's New Reality
Cynthia Rice, Buddhi Gyawali, Jeremy Sandifer, Ken Bates, Marion Simmons,
and Louie Rivers, Jr. (Kentucky State University)

Promoting Water Conservation Using Importance Performance Analysis and
Cognitive Dissonance Theory
Anil Kumar Chaudhary and Laura A. Warner (University of Florida)

Religiosity and Water Conservation Behavior
Lisa K. Lundy, Alexa J. Lamm, and Jessica Harsh (University of Florida)

11:30 am–1:00 pm: Lunch (on your own)

1:00 pm–2:15 pm, MCC 201C: Session 3 – Leadership, Technology, and Farm Development

Moderator: Lila B. Karki (Tuskegee University)

Personality Types and Generations of Agricultural Leadership Development Program Graduates

Valerie McKee, Hannah Carter, Megan Stein, and Brandon McKee (University of Florida)

Broadband Access: The Future for Small Rural Farmers

Courtney T. Owens (University of Florida) and S. Janine Parker (NC Department of Information Technology)

Using GIS to Create Map Books for Farm Planning and Development

Authors: Cynthia Rice, Buddhi Gyawali, Jeremy Sandifer, Ken Bates, Marion Simmons, and Louie Rivers, Jr. (Kentucky State University)

1:00 pm–2:15 pm, MCC 201D: Session 4 – Livestock Systems

Moderator: Lynn Woo (University of Mississippi)

Factors that Influence the Participation of Beef Cattle Producers in Educational Programs

Michele Curts and Hannah Carter (University of Florida)

Social Influence and Local Beef Consumers' Understandings of Food Safety: A Case Study in Alabama

Dalton Richardson (Auburn University), Michelle R. Worosz (Auburn University), and Amy Telligman (Wofford College)

A Case Study of Selected Alabama Small Livestock Producers' "Best" Practices

David N.O. Tackie, Sheila De-heer, Jannette R. Bartlett, and Akua Adu-Gyamfi (Tuskegee University)

Production and Processing Characteristics and Practices of Selected Florida Small Livestock Producers

David N.O. Tackie, Dana Reid, Jannette R. Bartlett, Akua Adu-Gyamfi (Tuskegee University), and Angela McKenzie-Jakes (Florida A&M University)

2:30 pm–3:45 pm, MCC 201D: Session 5 – Food Systems

Moderator: Caroline Canarios (University of Mississippi)

Unpacking the Local Foods Wave: Tennessee Whiskey as Terroir?

Douglas H. Constance and Delana Harvel (Sam Houston State University)

Why Rural Farmers in North Carolina are not Selling Food to Urban Restaurants
Godfrey Ejimakor, Deric Hardy, Joel Amoakon, and Brian Wilson (North Carolina A&T State University)

The Impact of Socioeconomic Factors on Willingness to Pay for Locally or Regionally Produced Livestock Products
Fa-Ako J. Kpombrekou, David N.O. Tackie, Jannette R. Bartlett, Ntam Baharanyi, and Akua Adu-Gyamfi (Tuskegee University)

Setting the Table in Eastern Kentucky
Alisha D. Mays (Western Kentucky University)

2:30 pm–3:30 pm, MCC 203B: SAAS Board Meeting

4:00 pm–5:00 pm, MCC 203B: SAAS General Business Meeting

4:30 pm, Prefunction Area and East/West Ballroom: SAAS Social/Super Bowl Party

Monday, February 6, 2017

7:45 am–3:00 pm, MCC Prefunction Area (201/202): Registration and Poster Set-Up

8:15 am–9:30 am, MCC 201C: Session 6 – Food Security and Nutrition

Moderator: Lila B. Karki (Tuskegee University)

Assessing the Relevance of Neighborhood Characteristics to Household Food Security Status in North Alabama
James O. Bukenya (Alabama A&M University)

Project Breaking Ground: Educating and Empowering the Oppressed for Food Systems Reform
Nicole Breazeale, Krystal Carver, Ben Turner, and Samantha Johnson (Western Kentucky University)

Cooking Up a Recipe to Better Measure Nutritional Behaviors Among Florida's Children
Halil Sari, Glenn D. Israel, Sebastian Galindo-Gonzalez, David C. Diehl, Saul Abarca Orozco, Nicole Owens, Elder Garcia, Lauren Headrick, and Karla Shelnuttt (University of Florida)

Early Childhood Malnutrition and Social Disruption in Rwanda: Do Orphanhood Status and Urban-Rural Residence Matter?
Aramide Kazeem and John M. Musalia (Western Kentucky University)

8:15 am-9:30 am, MCC 201D: Session 7 – Social and Economic Inequalities

Moderator: Lynn Woo (University of Mississippi)

A National Study: Differences in Public Perceptions of Poverty Based on Urban Versus Rural Residence

Jacquelyn Kay Nettles (University of Florida)

Disenfranchised by Design: The Media's Portrayal of Inequality Following Hurricane Katrina

James H. Patterson III and Jacob Helf (Auburn University)

A Tractor at the Gay Bar: Minority Stress among Agriculture Employees

Michael C. Parent and Garrett M. Steede (Texas Tech University)

9:30 am–10:45 am, MCC 201C: Session 8 – Community and Community Development

Moderator: Eleanor Green (Good Food for Oxford Schools)

Public Opinions of Community Preparedness of Disasters in [State]

Pei-wen Huang, Angela B. Lindsey, and Emmett T. Martin (University of Florida)

Towards the Development of “Town and Gown” Relations in Ghana: An Exploratory Study

Patrick Tandoh-Offin (Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration)

Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) and Ghana's Socio-economic Development

Patrick Tandoh-Offin (Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration)

9:30 am–10:45 am, MCC 201D: Panel – Catalyzing Common Conceptions of Community

Catalyzing Common Conceptions of Community

Don Albrecht (Western Rural Development Center), Mark Brennan (Penn State University), Courtney Flint (Utah State University), Michael W-P Fortunato (Sam Houston State University), Travis Paveglio (University of Idaho), Douglas Clayton Smith (Western Kentucky University), and Gene L. Theodori (Sam Houston State University)

11:30 am–1:00 pm, RPH Jubilee Suite: SRSA Awards Luncheon

1:15 pm–2:30 pm, MCC 201C: Session 9 – Economic Education and Development

Moderator: Elizabeth Sweeney (University of Mississippi)

Economic Development Priorities of Rural Texans: Data from a Statewide Survey
Fern K. Willits (Penn State University), Gene L. Theodori (Sam Houston State University), Michael W-P Fortunato (Sam Houston State University), and A.E. Luloff (Penn State University)

Using Teamwork to Provide Income Opportunities to Former Coal Miners
Laura Rogers, Steven Skelton, Tehran Jewell, Shelley Spiggle, and Marion Simon (Kentucky State University Cooperative Extension Program)

Members, Managers, and Labor: Addressing Unexamined Tensions in Agricultural Cooperatives
Thomas W. Gray (USDA, Cooperative Programs and Co-op Center, University of Saskatchewan)

Exploring the Relationship between Social Learning Opportunity and Financial Capability: A Case of Collegiate Youths
Lila B. Karki and Ntam Baharanyi (Tuskegee University)

1:15 pm–2:30 pm, MCC 201D: Session 10 – Health and Health Care Systems

Moderator: Caroline Canarios (University of Mississippi)

Healthcare of Marshallese Poultry Processing Workers in No Man's Land
Jin Young Choi (Sam Houston State University)

Navigating the Uncertain Healthcare Terrain: Voices of Kentucky Low-Income Rural Women
Patricia H. Dyk and Stephanie Lovely (University of Kentucky)

A Tale of Two Kidneys: Social Inequality in the Living Organ Donation Process
Brooklynn J. Wynveen (Sam Houston State University)

2:45 pm–3:45 pm, MCC Prefunction Area (201/202): Poster Session

Educational Attainment and Income: Examining Patterns at the County Level in Mississippi
Katrina Alford and John Green (University of Mississippi)

Strengthening Evidence-Based Practice in the Evaluation of Extension Programs at Land Grant Institutions

Ntam R. Baharanyi (Tuskegee University), Yaling Ma (Auburn University), Jennifer Wells-Marshall (Auburn University), and David N. O. Tackie (Tuskegee University)

Evaluating Farm to School in Mississippi: Defining Participation Using Mixed Methods Approach

Caroline Canarios and Sydney Bush (University of Mississippi)

The Viability of HBCUs and their Host Communities: Case Study of 1890 Land Grant Institutions

Debaleena Dutta, Ashi Agbogun, Mery Kone, Ntam Baharanyi, and Robert Zabawa (Tuskegee University)

Growing a Farm to School Program: The Story of Good Food for Oxford Schools

Eleanor M. Green (Good Food for Oxford Schools and the Oxford School District), Mary Elizabeth Smithson, and Elizabeth Speed (Good Food for Oxford Schools and FoodCorps)

Community-Engaged Research to Inform Environmental Public Health: Testing for Lead in Drinking Water in the Mississippi Delta

John J. Green, Katrina Alford, Danielle Buckingham, Kyle Chandler, Levi Crafton, Heather Greger, Robert McAuliffe, Ryan Snow, Stephanie Showalter Otts, Kristie Willett, Catherine Janasie, Lynn Woo (University of Mississippi), and Josephine Rhymes (Tri-County Workforce Alliance)

The Effects of Community Attachment on Crimes in Rural Texas

Seoyoung Hahm and Jin Young Choi (Sam Houston State University)

Describing the Protective Factors Among Resilient Low Socioeconomic Students at the University of Kentucky

Ashley Leer (University of Kentucky), Andrea Kirby (Estill County High School), and Stacy K. Vincent (University of Kentucky)

An Evaluation of Land Grant Institution's Attempt to Recruit African American Students

Tori Summey, Rashawn Franklin, Stacy K. Vincent, and Quentin Tyler (University of Kentucky)

Publishing in Peer-Reviewed Journals: Issues of Interest to Social Scientists

Elizabeth Sweeney and John J. Green (University of Mississippi and Editorial Office of *Community Development*)

3:45 pm–4:45 pm, MCC 201D: SRSA Business Meeting
(all attendees encouraged to attend)

4:45 pm–5:30 pm, MCC 201D: SRSA Executive Council Meeting

6:00 pm, Room number TBA: SRSA Presidential Reception

This program was developed through the work of faculty, staff, and students affiliated with the University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology in collaboration with the Southern Rural Sociological Association and the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists.



The University of Mississippi Department of

**Sociology AND
Anthropology**

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Abstracts

Presentations and Panel

Catalyzing Common Conceptions of Community

Don Albrecht (Western Rural Development Center), Mark Brennan (Penn State University), Courtney Flint (Utah State University), Michael W-P Fortunato (Sam Houston State University), Travis Paveglio (University of Idaho), Douglas Clayton Smith (Western Kentucky University), and Gene L. Theodori (Sam Houston State University)

Community – that extremely elusive concept used by academicians, politicians, and laypersons alike – is defined and used in countless ways. An examination of the extant sociological literature reveals a paucity of shared operational definitions, theoretical foundations, or common uses of the concept of community in research. Undoubtedly, such variations in conceptual orientations and use have led to a somewhat complex and cloudy knowledge base with respect to community and its linkages to the practice of community development. In this panel session, we will examine various definitional issues surrounding the concept, as well as the multitude of theoretical and methodological perspectives used to frame the study of community. Our overall intent is to stimulate and/or contribute to discussions between/among academicians, policymakers, and/or practitioners (i.e., community development specialists, natural resources managers, agency personnel, stakeholders, etc.) who work either directly or indirectly at the community level.

Millions of Acres and Billions of Trees Changed Hands but Everything Remained (Almost) the Same

Conner Bailey (Auburn University) and Andrew Gunnoe (Maryville College)

Over the past two decades, approximately 40 million acres of timberland has changed ownership. The forest products industry divested itself of almost all of their land, most of which was purchased by Timber Investment Management Organizations and Real Estate Investment Trusts. Research to date in Alabama shows that the new corporate owners have continued to manage the land for timber production, but the approach they are taking is shaped by a shorter time horizon for their investment than was the case with the previous owners. Based on qualitative field interviews conducted over the past several years, we examine changes in management philosophy, land use patterns, and interactions between the new absentee corporate owners and communities where the land is located.

Understanding the Economic Impact of Heir Property in Macon County, Alabama

Tristeen Bownes (Tuskegee University)

Following the reconstruction era, many former slaves were turning from land workers to land owners. By the 1920's, African-Americans owned over 20 million acres of land in the U.S. However, from 1920 to 1998, African-American land ownership declined by 98 percent. Much of this land loss has been caused by the complicated nature of heir

property. Heir property refers to land that has been transferred across generations to family members without a clear title or will. As a result, the often large number of co-tenants have an undivided interest in the land that creates negative social, economic, and legal implications. The purpose of this research is to determine the economic impact of heir property at the county, community, and individual levels. Research methods will utilize GIS spatial analysis, county tax data, and landowner interviews in order to analyze the extent to which heir property hinders wealth creation and economic development.

Project Breaking Ground: Educating and Empowering the Oppressed for Food Systems Reform

Nicole Breazeale, Krystal Carver, Ben Turner, and Samantha Johnson (Western Kentucky University)

This presentation analyzes the case study of Project Breaking Ground, a sustainable jail garden and food justice project in a conservative, working-class, rural Kentucky county. Breaking Ground was initiated and implemented as part of a community development service learning project at a small, regional public University. Two Sociology of Agri-Food Systems classes have been taught at the jail. Undergraduates and incarcerated women have worked together to learn sustainable agriculture techniques and construct a $\frac{3}{4}$ acre garden next to the facility, which now provides fresh food to 200 inmates. The curriculum includes a critical re-examination of the contemporary food system, designed and taught in line with popular education pedagogy and integrating “storytelling for social change” practices and a community organizing project.

There are four key lessons that can be drawn from our experience with regards to how education can emancipate oppressed “students” and strengthen the food movement: (1) Those who benefit most from the opportunity to learn about food injustices are those who bear the brunt of the problems (the implication is that we must move our educational work to their table, on their terms); (2) When teaching oppressed populations, our educational practices must be liberating (here we have rich traditions to draw from, including Freire, Horton, & bell hooks); (3) We must provide a comprehensive and truly critical education about the food system, otherwise people have difficulty developing their “sociological imaginations,” drawing the connections between their personal problems and political issues; (4) Oppressed “students” must have an opportunity to work together to actually address some of the structural issues that are raised (otherwise they feel further disempowered and depressed; plus this is the only way for education to lead to social change since most Americans have never had a direct experience with collective action).

Assessing the Relevance of Neighborhood Characteristics to Household Food Security Status in North Alabama

James O. Bukenya (Alabama A&M University)

The paper contributes to the existing body of knowledge by examining the association between household food security and neighborhood characteristics. It seeks to determine if disparities in food resources, as measured in terms of access to quality food vendors

and walking access/proximity, exist between low-income and high-income neighborhoods in the Huntsville Metropolitan Area (MSA). The analysis utilizes both primary and secondary data, and geographic information system (GIS) to represent and analyze the spatial characteristics of food resources. The primary data were collected through a household food security and socio-economic telephone survey conducted in August/September, 2016. The neighborhoods studied were defined according to the geographic boundaries of census tracts and towns in the Huntsville MSA. The neighborhood characteristics are developed through mapping of local food resources, including supermarkets, grocery stores, farmers' markets and food pantries, using GIS.

Promoting Water Conservation Using Importance Performance Analysis and Cognitive Dissonance Theory

Anil Kumar Chaudhary and Laura A. Warner (University of Florida)

Natural resources Extension professionals are challenged to design programs that encourage water conservation behaviors. Although behavior change is a desired outcome, most programs are designed to increase knowledge or change attitudes. In this paper we are proposing use of cognitive dissonance theory and importance performance analysis (IPA) to promote water conservation among residents. IPA is used to quantitatively assess people's feeling about specific characteristics of an issue/phenomenon. The purpose of the study was to apply IPA to identify gaps between satisfaction and importance of clean and plentiful water for various purposes (e.g., plentiful water for recreation) to promote water conservation behaviors by identifying cognitive dissonance. Data were collected from a national sample of 1620 residents secured by a professional survey sampling company. Significant negative gaps were found for all but one clean and plentiful water construct. These gaps can be used to identify cognitive dissonance to promote residential water conservation behaviors.

Healthcare of Marshallese Poultry Processing Workers in No Man's Land

Jin Young Choi (Sam Houston State University)

Health care, immigration, and global labor are significant social issues in the United States. Under high needs in the labor market and changes in immigration policies, Marshallese migrants who have a unique legal standing in the United States have been considered as attractive employees without legal issues for the poultry processing industry. Marshallese were originally eligible for US public-assisted healthcare based on the COFA agreements, but the 1996 PRWORA has restricted Marshallese from getting access to government assistance. This study examined the health and healthcare issues of Marshallese poultry processing workers and the challenges for healthcare with the occurrence of workplace injury and illness. Forty-four in-depth interviews were conducted with Marshallese former and current workers, local health/service providers, Marshallese community leaders, and previous and current employees at the managerial level in poultry processing plants. The findings include: (1) injury and illness, as well as discouragement in seeking timely and appropriate healthcare in the workplace were major concerns; (2) lack of understanding about the company policies regarding safety and reporting work-related injuries and illnesses was identified as a major challenge; and

(3) many workers were placed in a “no man’s land” when they seek medical attention because they often could not afford to pay the premium for employer-sponsored insurance, and do not have access to government health insurance.

Unpacking the Local Foods Wave: Tennessee Whiskey as Terroir?

Douglas H. Constance and Delana Harvel (Sam Houston State University)

The concept of “terroir” has emerged in recent years in the sociology of agrifood literature as a way to legally protect the special climatological and cultural aspects of regional foods and drinks. Terroir is a central dimension of the emergence of the local foods phenomenon in agrifood studies. In Spring 2013 a controversy emerged in Tennessee over laws passed with the support of Jack Daniel to create an official definition of Tennessee Whiskey, a special kind of bourbon whiskey. Small distillers in Tennessee and the major distilled spirits transnational corporation Diageo of the UK challenged the new laws to allow them to use “used” barrels and avoid the Lincoln County process. The controversy between Jack Daniels (owned by Brown Forman) and George Dickel (owned by Diageo) continues. We utilize the contested definition of Tennessee Whiskey to investigate the concept of terroir.

Factors that Influence the Participation of Beef Cattle Producers in Educational Programs

Michele Curts and Hannah Carter (University of Florida)

Professional development and educational programs are vital to keeping the cattle industry on the cutting edge of new research and best management practices. One of the most important factors in sustaining such a vast industry, is the need for relevant educational programs that engage and provide scientific knowledge and expertise applicable to all beef cattle producers. The primary goal of beef cattle industry educational programs has been to improve the Florida cattle industry as a whole and ensure safe quality beef products for consumers. The problem addressed in this research study was to identify the factors that influence Florida beef cattle producers, who choose to participate or not participate in educational programs, in order to standardize the quality of Florida beef cattle production methods. Producer utilization of educational opportunities throughout the cattle industry is vital in gaining the potential benefits of value and profit added to the beef products.

Understanding Economic Impacts of Feral Hogs in Selected Black Belt Counties in Alabama

Debaleena Dutta (Tuskegee University)

The spread of the feral hog (*Sus scrofa*) population across the Southeastern United States is a matter of concern due to the extensive ecological damage. There is considerable damage due to interactions with local wildlife and domesticated livestock. The associated economic cost is substantial. At the same time, there are some benefits to feral hogs that include hunting for recreation and food source. To effectively manage the feral hog issue it is crucial to understand the extent of benefits, damages and the attitude of stakeholders.

The primary goal of this study is to understand the economic costs and benefits caused by feral hogs on limited resource farmers in Macon and other Black Belt counties in Alabama. The data obtained from USDA and the National Wildlife Research Center study will be used along with site-specific questionnaire to understand the socioeconomic challenges faced by limited resource farmers due to feral hog invasions.

Navigating the Uncertain Healthcare Terrain: Voices of Kentucky Low-Income Rural Women

Patricia H. Dyk and Stephanie Lovely (University of Kentucky)

Women in rural communities face a variety of challenges in maintaining their health, including accessing appropriate healthcare services. One of the changing climates in the rural South is the uncertainty of the future of the Affordable Care Act, commonly referred to as Obamacare. In 2015 Republican Governor Matt Bevin was elected after promising to make radical changes to the state's approach to Medicaid and to terminate Kentucky's state-based health insurance exchange, Kynect. To gain a sense of the extent to which rural low-income women were being affected, and/or perceived they would be affected by changes in Obamacare, we returned to three Appalachian counties where we have been researching women's health perceptions and physical well-being through the Rural Families Speak about Health multi-state project. Findings from our interviews will be reported. Discussion will focus on implications for developing strategies to give voice to rural realities in the current policy environment.

Why Rural Farmers in North Carolina are not Selling Food to Urban Restaurants

Godfrey Ejimakor, Deric Hardy, Joel Amoakon, and Brian Wilson (North Carolina A&T State University)

One of the benefits of the local food movement is its contribution to local economic development. Locally-produced food is supposed to enhance local farm incomes, employment, economic empowerment and wellbeing. Because almost half of every food dollar is spent at restaurants or on food away from home, the benefits of local food could increase substantially if local farmers increase the sale of food to local restaurants. This is especially true for communities such as the Piedmont Triad region where three cities are surrounded by nine rural counties. Regional economic wellbeing could be enhanced if farmers in the rural counties can increase local food sales to the restaurants in the cities. An understanding of the factors that impede such sales is a useful first step in addressing such impediments. This study, among others, identifies impediments to farmer-to-chef sales of locally produced food in a 12 county region of North Carolina.

Members, Managers, and Labor: Addressing Unexamined Tensions in Agricultural Cooperatives

Thomas W. Gray (USDA, Cooperative Programs and Co-op Center, University of Saskatchewan)

“A cooperative is a user-owned, and controlled business form in which benefits are derived and disturbed on the basis of use” (Dunn). This aspect of cooperatives has been

captured by Schaars and later by Dunn in three cooperative organizing principles: 1) The User-Owner Principle, 2) The User-Democratic Control Principle, and 3) The User-Benefits Principle. These organizational guides build various recognized tensions within a cooperative. Embedded are values of equality, equity, participation, and self-governance, but also efficiency, performance, and economic return. Missing from the literature, however, is one of the most fundamental tensions inherent within agricultural cooperatives: that between member-users and worker-employees. This paper discusses a range of tensions, but gives particular focus to the farmer-member, worker-employee tension.

Public Opinions of Community Preparedness of Disasters in [State]

Pei-wen Huang, Angela B. Lindsey, and Emmett T. Martin (University of Florida)

[State] is a state with a history of having been impacted by natural and man-made disasters. While disaster recovery can lead to economic strains in local communities and government, disaster plans are needed to ensure that citizens' health, safety, and welfare are protected. To guide governments' future disaster plans, an online survey of [State] residents (n = 525) was conducted to collect public opinions of community preparedness for disasters. The findings from this descriptive study indicated that most respondents perceived their communities were vulnerable to disasters that result from extreme weather events, that recovery programs and direct assistance targeting those in need are important post-disaster resources, and that their community needs additional programs to help with recovery following disasters. Local governments should develop or strengthen local disaster plans and post-disaster recovery programs. There is also a need to educate the general public about how to access and use the programs.

Using Horticulture to Teach Local Food Systems to African American Small Farmers and Youth

Tehran Jewell, Edwin Chavous, Austin Wright, Louie Rivers, Steven Skelton, Mason Crawford, Nancy Dawson, and Marion Simon (Kentucky State University)

The Kentucky State University Small Farm team have worked together with the University research farm's mobile processing unit manager to develop educational programs on horticulture, local food systems, and to use the plastic laying machines that were purchased for use by the Extension Area Agents. These have provided the expertise for horticulture and local food systems to rapidly expand in their service areas, most of which are in the StrikeForce Zone. Additionally, a nutrition program was added for an African American 4-H club where under-privileged youth learn not only to produce vegetables, but learn to prepare meals from their produce. The Kentucky State University mobile food processing unit and Thorobred mobile kitchen manager joined the team to teach the food preparation and nutrition portion of the 4-H program. This 4-H effort soon expanded to include several residents of the local community. The 4-H program received the "i-Three-Corps award" from eXtension as a part of the 4-H JOIN THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY initiative.

Exploring the Relationship between Social Learning Opportunity and Financial Capability: A Case of Collegiate Youths

Lila B Karki and Ntam Baharanyi (Tuskegee University, College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Science, Cooperative Extension)

Financial literacy is becoming increasingly more important as collegiate youths have been gradually taking more financial responsibility and striving for financial independence. Historically black colleges and universities play an indispensable role as they educate students and communities to create wealth for the African American middle and lower class. Skegee Money Smart (SM\$) Financial Literacy Program was offered to collegiate youths. Workshops, project works, presentations, financial quizzes, fact sheet, and poster contest tools were used to educate students with a plethora of financial educational materials along with a piggy bank project. Twelve workshops were organized, 174 students participated in total. Results showed that 100% participants increased their knowledge on personal finance management, 80% developed a spending plan, and 35% started saving money with the coin project. The collegiate youths collectively set a goal to save \$3,600.00/year; in addition, 85% increased their social learning opportunity, 90% strengthened their financial capability, and 75% prepared their money saving plan.

Early Childhood Malnutrition and Social Disruption in Rwanda: Do Orphanhood Status and Urban-Rural Residence Matter?

Aramide Kazeem and John M. Musalia (Western Kentucky University)

Our research investigates the implication of exposure to civil war and armed conflict on the nutrition of children between the ages of zero and five years old in Rwanda. Attention is placed on the nutrition of orphans in rural Rwanda in order to examine whether the country is on-track to meet the second objective of the Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The second target of SDGs calls for overcoming nutritional deficiencies among children under the age of five who live in rural and urban slums of the developing world, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia countries. In the research, we analyze the 2000 Rwanda Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). We examine whether exposure to the social disruption caused by the 1994 Rwanda genocide has negative consequences for children's nutritional outcomes, measured by weight-for-height (wasting) and height-for-age z scores (stunting). We will provide answers to the following research questions. 1) Do exposure to social disruption caused by the 1994 Rwanda genocide, measured by timing of birth (child born before 1997 and zero otherwise) increase early childhood malnutrition? 2) Does the interaction of exposure to the social disruption and being an orphan increase early childhood malnutrition and is the relationship contingent on children's place of residence (urban versus rural residence)?

The Impact of Socioeconomic Factors on Willingness to Pay for Locally or Regionally Produced Livestock Products

Fa-Ako J. Kpombrekou, David N.O. Tackie, Jannette R. Bartlett, Ntam Baharanyi, and Akua Adu-Gyamfi (Tuskegee University)

The study examined the impact of socioeconomic factors on willingness to pay for locally or regionally produced livestock products. Data were obtained from a convenience sample of participants from selected Florida counties, and analyzed using descriptive statistics and binary logistic regression analysis. The demographics showed more females than males; more Whites than Blacks; more middle-aged or older persons than otherwise; more highly educated participants than otherwise; nearly half with moderately high household incomes (more than \$50,000 per year), and more married persons than singles. The binary logistic regression showed that gender had a statistically significant effect on with willingness to pay more for beef or goat meat certified as locally or regionally produced. This suggests that females may be more likely than men to pay more for beef or goat meat certified as locally or regionally produced. Further studies are suggested to validate the findings of the study.

Religiosity and Water Conservation Behavior

Lisa K. Lundy, Alexa J. Lamm, and Jessica Harsh (University of Florida)

Determining what motivates citizens to take action to conserve water is complex. Given Extension has historically identified religion as an important cultural context to understanding behavior in rural communities, this study sought to explore the relationship between religiosity and water conservation behavior within a national sample. The study used the Centrality of Religiosity Scale (CRS) to measure the centrality, importance, and salience of religion to one's personality and the five core dimensions of religiosity: public practice, private practice, religious experience, ideology and intellectual dimensions. Religiosity, and its dimensions, were found to be predictors of water conservation intentions and self-reported behaviors. The findings provide important implications for extension educators and communicators seeking to promote natural resource conservation in rural communities.

Setting the Table in Eastern Kentucky

Alisha D. Mays (Western Kentucky University)

How do Appalachian Kentuckians talk about food? Using a symbolic interactionist framework, we will examine how food reinforces community in Eastern Kentucky. Data from qualitative interviews based in Clay County, Kentucky, suggest that through methods of hunting, teaching, and exchange, food production and consumption is more than answering a physiological hunger response. Through systems of food-sharing, subsistence strategies in Appalachian Kentucky are more communal than individual, and more social than biological. This preliminary study heralds new ways to address how hunger, food, and community are addressed in Eastern Kentucky.

Personality Types and Generations of Agricultural Leadership Development Program Graduates

Valerie McKee, Hannah Carter, Megan Stein, and Brandon McKee (University of Florida)

Agricultural leadership development (ALD) programs began in the mid-1960s with the purpose of developing rural leaders so that they would be equipped to address the

complex problems in their communities, industries, and beyond. ALD programs have shown to make a substantial impact in rural communities and the agricultural and natural resources industries. While demographic information was collected to indicate the representation of multiple generations among program graduates, interpersonal information, such as personality types, collected from program graduates has not been studied to determine possible trends within these represented generations. The purpose of this study is to describe the Myers-Briggs personality types of the graduates and current participants of a particular program in [state]. This study also explores the trends in personality types according to the three generations represented in this population. Results will help program directors better understand and serve the needs of their participants in the future.

A National Study: Differences in Public Perceptions of Poverty Based on Urban Versus Rural Residence

Jacquelyn Kay Nettles (University of Florida)

The nation's official poverty rate in 2014 was 14.8 percent, meaning there were 46.7 million people in poverty. Neither the poverty rate nor the number of people in poverty were statistically different from 2013 estimates. The study will focus on the public perceptions towards current issues of poverty. More specifically, the study will examine opinions and trust of the public services that are provided to alleviate poverty. Recent data shows the public perception of state governmental services has a favorable view at 57%, compared to a low 28% favorable view of federal governmental services, (Pew Research Center, 2013). The implications of this potential research will provide public opinions of poverty issues and public perceptions of current services. This data will provide a foundation on which governmental services can develop communication messages regarding complex issues. A national survey will be conducted in early fall 2016 through the UF/IFAS PIE Center. Questions will be developed in order to gauge public perception and opinions of governmental services provided for poverty aid.

Broadband Access: The Future for Small Rural Farmers

Courtney T. Owens (University of Florida) and S. Janine Parker (NC Department of Information Technology)

Almost all of the southeastern states are considered rural by county population density; and in many of those counties, there are large numbers of small farmers. Many of these small farmers either have limited or no access to broadband, or do not see the utility in using broadband. Exponential technology changes from the birth of the internet has affected many industries in a positive way, including agriculture. But when it comes to small farmers, access and usage of broadband has been slower than many other industries. Access to broadband has been a consistent issue for many rural counties over the years, but with new vested interest in increasing access to rural areas at the state level, small farmers will have a new opportunity to have access to broadband and adoption. Therefore, the purpose of this research is to explore future opportunities for small farmers through broadband access.

A Tractor at the Gay Bar: Minority Stress among Agriculture Employees

Michael C. Parent and Garrett M. Steede (Texas Tech University)

The minority stress paradigm posits that minority individuals experience unique, chronic, and socially-based stress. Such stress may be particularly important within agriculture, as this field is traditionally masculine. The present study applied the minority stress paradigm to gay and bisexual men working within agriculture. Although some work has addressed gender-based ideologies found in rural-based communities, the concerns of rural and working-class LGB persons remain under-studied. Data have been gathered from over 100 gay and bisexual men employed in agriculture, and data on their experiences of stress, psychological well-being, and person-job fit. Regression-based analyses were used to assess the association between minority stress and psychological health, and how person-job fit may help to buffer against experiences of stress. The results of the present study can inform job shaping and interventions with LGBT agriculture employees.

Disenfranchised by Design: The Media's Portrayal of Inequality Following Hurricane Katrina

James H. Patterson III and Jacob Helf (Auburn University)

This study examined how the print news media frames the inequality of climate change, particularly as it impacts race, public health, and economic stability. Focusing on Hurricane Katrina, we searched Lexis-Nexis and Access World News between the dates of 2005 and 2016 using keywords like "Hurricane Katrina," "disproportionate impact," "racism," "public health," and "climate change." In total, 403 newspaper articles were found, 76 of which were analyzed based on the article date, location of publication, claims, claims-makers, main point, and type of discourse. In the 76 articles analyzed, 53 made claims regarding inequality; 96% of those articles framed the preparation and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as environmental racism. The media rhetoric of "Disenfranchised by Design" was used to frame the inequality in the Gulf Region; 97% of the data used environmental justice discourse to frame the public's displeasure with the government's mismanagement of public health after Hurricane Katrina.

Using GIS to Create Map Books for Farm Planning and Development (Oral presentation)

Cynthia Rice, Buddhi Gyawali, Jeremy Sandifer, Ken Bates, Marion Simmons, and Louie Rivers, Jr. (Kentucky State University)

The development of an automated process to create a map book using python, which can then be used to process current and future available farm parcels, will assist farmers in future farm development. Many datasets and visual representations of parcels could be used to gather a more complete profile of a parcel than that which is currently visible to the naked eye. Through the use of parcel data and terrain datasets and possibly other datasets, a visual representation of current features illustrating contours and terrain with related vegetation representation and possible analysis such as normalized difference vegetative index (NDVI) and drought information from previous, publicly available data

could help a farmer determine to effects of rain and solar exposure or lack of each. Working from images created for the map book, a farmer could run what if scenarios to determine future projects and contemplate possible effects of climate change and possible mitigation efforts in advance of the impact on their farm. With the anticipation of changed and possibly reduced precipitation, development of water catchment systems as well as exploring water storage capabilities will allow farmers to maintain soil moisture and vegetation cover. Other planning possibilities exist which the developed map book could be used in conjunction with sustainable practices such as paddock placement, silvopasture development, riparian area development, conservation buffers, wetlands development/maintenance and environmentally friendly irrigation systems. By making such articles as the map book available to farmers, food security can be increased at the local community level.

Climate Change and the Farmer's New Reality (Poster or second oral presentation)
Cynthia Rice, Buddhi Gyawali, Jeremy Sandifer, Ken Bates, Marion Simmons, and Louie Rivers, Jr. (Kentucky State University)

As the saying goes “Things be a-changing” and climate change is bringing big changes if trends continue along projected paths. Since the first farmers, people have told them of a better way to farm. New, bigger, more crops, more yields, less work and if these things didn't work the farmer could go back to their old ways. With climate change, that may not be a possibility. Farmers don't know what works for them unless they try it. The impact of climate change will be felt by more than just the farmer. Everyone who interacts with the farmer (consumers, vendors, family, friends, community and government at all levels) must now support him/her as they see what will be viable in the future on their farms. No one know what will work as this is “new” territory and there is nothing to compare the new practices to. Local zoning and state regulations must change their rules and regulations on farmable land as farmers across the land try to find solutions to keep their farms producing existing and new heat and water stress tolerant varieties. Plant hardiness zone, native plants and animals (including insects and organisms) are creeping north as they try to adapt to existing and continued climate changes (long term weather pattern changes). Failure to start on short and long term plans to mitigate future climate change issues will have disastrous effects on farmers' ability to feed our nation. Food security is a very real threat facing America and future generations.

Social Influence and Local Beef Consumers' Understandings of Food Safety: A Case Study in Alabama

Dalton Richardson (Auburn University), Michelle R. Worosz (Auburn University), and Amy Telligman (Wofford College)

Our research analyzes the influence of consumers' social circles on their willingness to purchase locally produced beef (LPB) in the event of a foodborne disease outbreak. Current literature detailing consumer decisions about local food products analyzes consumers' choice between purchasing food from standard supply chains and localized markets, as well as multiple complex socioeconomic relations that effect these choices. This poster focuses on the normative referents.

Utilizing intercept survey data from interviews (N=279) at 18 grocery stores and 8 farmers' markets in Alabama during the summer of 2014, we investigate the ways that consumer referents influence food purchasing decisions. The instrument, following the theory of plan behavior, measures attitudes toward LPB and consumers' response to a foodborne disease outbreak in beef. We expect our data to show key references influencing LPB and to indicate that race, class, and political affiliation influence consumers' perceptions about the safety of LPB.

Using Teamwork to Provide Income Opportunities to Former Coal Miners

Laura Rogers, Steven Skelton, Tehran Jewell, Shelley Spiggle, and Marion Simon
(Kentucky State University Cooperative Extension Program)

The coal industry is declining in Appalachian Kentucky. In 2015-2016 800 coal miners were laid off, with more layoffs planned. These families were immediately unemployed, with no time to plan, and few jobs available in their home towns. The Kentucky State University Area Small Farm Agent started identifying needy families and determining if they had farms that were underutilized or suitable yards where something could be grown. She solicited the help of the Kentucky State University Small Farm team, which includes Extension professionals and the University farm's mobile processing unit manager, and they went to work helping former coal mining families to supplement their income and/or food supply through raising pastured poultry, rabbits, and honeybees, in addition to horticulture and other enterprises. As many as 150 beginning and limited-resource small farmers attended hands-on training meetings in a region where attendance at Extension meetings is historically very low. The team approach is working to reach families that had little or no hope of making a living in some of the most impoverished counties in the nation (including the Promise Zone and StrikeForce Zone).

Cooking Up a Recipe to Better Measure Nutritional Behaviors Among Florida's Children

Halil Sari, Glenn D. Israel, Sebastian Galindo-Gonzalez, David C. Diehl, Saul Abarca Orozco, Nicole Owens, Elder Garcia, Lauren Headrick, and Karla Shelnett (University of Florida)

Florida CES' Family Nutrition Program (FNP) includes educational outreach to students in many rural, suburban, and urban areas of the state. A major goal of the FNP is to improve nutritional status of participants and the program emphasizes the adoption of specific behaviors, such as eating more fruits and vegetables. Concurrently, state and federal agencies have been requiring more rigorous measurement of program outcomes and FNP evaluators have been working to meet accountability expectations. The old version Youth Behavior Survey (YBS) is a nutrition education instrument developed so as to identify students' specific health behaviors and eating habits, and has been used for elementary school students for many years. The YBS is administered as pre- and post-tests with the gain score from pre to post denoting behavior change. The new YBS is the revised version of the old one. The revision includes changing response options from never, some days, most days, always to 0 days, 2-3 days, 4-6 days, and 7 days in a week, as well as revising item wording. The main purpose for making these changes was to

collect more accurate information. The purpose of the study is to assess the psychometric characteristics of both old and new scales of YBS, and compare them with one another. The main objective is to examine variety aspects of validity of the tools and reliability of the scores produced by the two. The measures of the study include dimensionality analysis (e.g. CFA), item level statistics (e.g., difficulty and discrimination) and Cronbach's alpha as a measure of internal consistency. In parallel with the statistical measures, we conduct qualitative interviews with the target groups of students to explore their attitude against both versions of the survey. Both qualitative and quantitative findings are collected and still being analyzed. The findings will be discussed with the researchers and practitioners. The recommendations, limitations and further research will also be presented.

A Case Study of Selected Alabama Small Livestock Producers' "Best" Practices

David N.O. Tackie, Sheila De-heer, Jannette R. Bartlett, and Akua Adu-Gyamfi
(Tuskegee University)

The study focuses on the "best" practices of selected Alabama small livestock producers. Data were obtained through interviews from twelve producers, cases, in selected South Central Alabama counties emphasizing best practices as well as other production indicators. The subjects were mainly beef cattle and meat goat producers. The identified best practices were: rotational grazing, soil testing, quarantining, deworming, veterinary services, and record keeping. The data were analyzed using descriptive narrative and simple statistics. The demographics showed more male than female producers, and more meat goat producers than beef cattle producers. Also, the results revealed that the commonest best practice was deworming; followed by soil testing and quarantining, and rotational grazing and record keeping. Using veterinary services was the least practiced "best" practice; most producers chose to provide their own health services. The results provide an opportunity for assistance providers to educate producers on the importance of practicing the "best" practices.

Production and Processing Characteristics and Practices of Selected Florida Small Livestock Producers

David N.O. Tackie, Dana Reid, Jannette R. Bartlett, Akua Adu-Gyamfi (Tuskegee University), and Angela McKenzie-Jakes (Florida A&M University)

The study assessed the characteristics and practices of small livestock producers, emphasizing production and processing. Data were obtained from a convenience sample of seventy small producers from selected counties in Florida, and analyzed using descriptive statistics, including chi-square tests. The socioeconomic characteristics showed that there were more part-time farmers, White producers, middle-aged producers, producers with at most a two-year/technical degree or some college education, and producers with at most \$40,000 or less annual household income than otherwise; there were equal proportions of male and female producers. A majority practiced rotational grazing, fed a combination of forage and concentrate, and less than half conducted soil tests regularly. Moreover, over half had parasite problems and treated primarily with anthelmintics. Nearly all producers sold animals live, implying very little processing.

Processing could be encouraged. The chi-square tests showed that household income, race, farming status, and gender had statistically significant relationships with production characteristics.

Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) and Ghana's Socio-economic Development

Patrick Tandoh-Offin (Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration)

Ghana is a predominantly faith-based country. The 2000 Population and Housing Census projects that about 84% of Ghanaians were affiliated with faith-based groups, of which Christians were 69% and Moslems were 15% with those belonging to other religions and those not affiliated to any religions comprising the remaining 15%. Since the arrival of the first missionaries in Ghana in precolonial era, the mission of the church was mainly spreading the gospel, and providing health, and education. In recent times, there has been a shift or expansion in the missions of FBOs to include more visible roles such as for-profit education and health, and influencing democratic and governance processes and other business activities. The following questions guide this research; can FBOs be made to assume Corporate Social Responsibilities, like the corporate world? Do we need laws and regulations to streamline the for-profit activities of FBOs? Through content analyses of selected FBOs, this research examines the evolving nature of the missions of FBOs and the implications of such evolutions for policy making and national development.

Towards the Development of 'Town and Gown' Relations in Ghana: An Exploratory Study

Patrick Tandoh-Offin (Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration)

This exploratory study seeks to establish first hand, the state of the town and gown idea in Ghana; that is the nature and character of the relationships and partnerships that exist between tertiary institutions and the immediate communities and local economies within which they are located. Mention is made in the literature of benefits for both communities and the tertiary institutions in the areas of local workforce, financial and social capital development through the presence of consumers, jobs and educated residents. Similarly, these partnerships that thrive on adequate funding, clear communication and reachable goals are also not without challenges for both the tertiary institutions and the communities in terms of the security, infrastructure and other resource development demands. In this exploratory study therefore, attempt is made through qualitative research techniques to establish the idea of town and gown relations as a major field for the practice of community and rural development research in Ghana.

Economic Development Priorities of Rural Texans: Data from a Statewide Survey

Fern K. Willits (Penn State University), Gene L. Theodori (Sam Houston State University), Michael W-P Fortunato (Sam Houston State University), and A.E. Luloff (Penn State University)

The need for economic development and social revitalization of rural areas is increasingly recognized by policy makers at state and national levels. As a result, a variety of programs have evolved to assist rural people and communities. However, in a

democratic society, it is important to understand citizens' views of such efforts. Data from a statewide survey of rural Texans are analyzed to assess the relative priority these residents give to various state rural development efforts and how these views differ depending upon the individual's sociodemographic attributes, views of rural life, and the characteristics of their areas of residence in terms of unemployment and income levels, metropolitan status, agricultural characteristics, and entrepreneurial rates. Implications of these findings are discussed.

The need for economic development and social revitalization of rural areas is increasingly recognized by policy makers at state and national levels. As a result, a variety of programs have evolved to assist rural people and communities. However, in a democratic society, it is important to understand citizens' views of such efforts. Data from a statewide survey of rural Texans are analyzed to assess the relative priority these residents give to various state rural development efforts and how these views differ depending upon the individual's sociodemographic attributes, views of rural life, and the characteristics of their areas of residence in terms of unemployment and income levels, metropolitan status, agricultural characteristics, and entrepreneurial rates. Implications of these findings are discussed, and implications for policy development suggested.

A Tale of Two Kidneys: Social Inequality in the Living Organ Donation Process

Brooklynn J. Wynveen (Sam Houston State University)

The sociological literature has long highlighted four types of capital that are unequally distributed on the basis of class (as defined socially, economically, and so forth). These include: economic capital, human capital, social capital, and cultural capital. Deficiencies in each form of capital have been associated with adverse outcomes in terms of education, income, health, and even longevity. This presentation illustrates the process of disparity through a conceptual description of two women in need of kidney transplants, highlighting the roles of various types of capital in each of their journeys toward transplantation. This conceptual description will assert the need for empirical inquiry into the prevalence of disparity among those patients awaiting organ donations, with the ultimate objective of designing and improving systems of allocation in the direction of greater equitability.

Posters

Educational Attainment and Income: Examining Patterns at the County Level in Mississippi

Katrina Alford and John Green (University of Mississippi)

Social scientists have long recognized the correlation between educational attainment and income. When the recession hit in 2008, individuals around the world were impacted; with this recession came a growing gap between the upper and lower classes, which has seemed to only emphasize the importance of obtaining an education to assure financial security. While many researchers have evaluated the relationship between education and income, there is a lack of literature that specifically addresses how this correlation may have changed post-2008 recession. This study involves a statistical comparison of the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey's five-year estimate data for the time periods 2006-2010 and 2011-2015 at the county level in Mississippi. This statistical analysis evaluates earnings from income for all educational attainment groups to determine if the 2008 recession affected differences in the patterns of income earnings between these groups. Additionally, this analysis allows for descriptive comparisons and evaluation of change over time.

Strengthening Evidence-Based Practice in the Evaluation of Extension Programs at Land Grant Institutions

Ntam R. Baharanyi (Tuskegee University), Yaling Ma (Auburn University), Jennifer Wells-Marshall (Auburn University), and David N. O. Tackie (Tuskegee University)

As program development specialists and Land Grant administrators, it gives us no joy in insisting and requiring evidence-based practices in program implementation and evaluation from county and field staff as well as from Extension specialists and faculty. After all, the challenges faced are real, but initial resources and best practices exist across the land grant system and other governmental and non-governmental organizations with similar accountability requirements. This presentation will use selected 1890 and 1862 Land-Grant Institutions as a case study to review a list of evidence-based programs potentially available for them, discuss strategies and best ideas that have been proven to match those resources and address problems historically faced by Extension and other Land-Grant personnel. In terms of specific approaches to infuse in programs with limited resources, we may use implications from other studies with similar samples or curricula. Those implications could tap either the research side of the program such as tailoring curriculum contents (with proven evaluation studies), or the instruction side of the program. In addition, there are low-cost evaluation approaches (e.g., post evaluation with retrospective pre-test) that are easy to administer and analyze, and thus allow the Land Grant system to strengthen the evidence based practice in the evaluation of Extension and other Land-Grant work.

Evaluating Farm to School in Mississippi: Defining Participation Using Mixed Methods Approach

Caroline Canarios and Sydney Bush (University of Mississippi)

The Mississippi Farm to School Network strives to enhance child nutrition and eradicate food insecurity in the state by connecting school systems with their local food systems. The framework for reaching this goal consists of three central components: local procurement in the cafeteria, school gardening, and nutritional education. To better understand these initiatives in the state and help plan for the future, the UM Center for Population Studies has partnered with the network to evaluate farm to school in Mississippi. The first phase of the evaluation was conducted using publicly-available secondary data, primary data collected from interviews with school district food service directors, and surveys of the Mississippi Farm to School Network and Mississippi Farm to School Conference. Initial findings show potential gaps due to lack of available data reported from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), US Department of Defense (DoD), and the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). Based on the secondary data collected, it is suggested that the definition of participation in farm to school be reexamined to better understand sustained involvement within the state.

The Viability of HBCUs and their Host Communities: Case Study of 1890 Land Grant Institutions

Debaleena Dutta, Ashi Agbogun, Mery Kone, Ntam Baharanyi, and Robert Zabawa (Tuskegee University)

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have a track record of “serving the underserved” and “reaching the unreached.” Until today, these campuses are proud to remain the custodians of access to and opportunity for higher education in underserved communities. Yet, between significant financial woes and questions regarding their relevancy, some wonder if these institutions of higher learning will survive the many challenges being faced due to history, current conditions and existing policies and programs. Current conditions also include the viability of communities in which HBCUs are located. Geography matters. In this age of competition with majority white institutions, many African Americans with a choice don’t want to send their children to school in areas dominated by depilated housing, poor services, street crime and general economic malaise. This study uses 1890 Land-Grant Institutions as a case-study to classify their host communities and assess the future of such institutions in function of selected historical, socioeconomic and policy variables.

Growing a Farm to School Program: The Story of Good Food for Oxford Schools

Eleanor M. Green (Good Food for Oxford Schools and the Oxford School District), Mary Elizabeth Smithson, and Elizabeth Speed (Good Food for Oxford Schools and FoodCorps)

School districts, states, and the federal government are investing more funds, time, and energy into farm to school programs. In 2013, the Oxford School District (in north Mississippi) began the Good Food for Oxford Schools (GFOS) program, with planning

support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The program brings local farm produce into school cafeterias that serve more cooked-from-scratch and fresh menu items. In its first year, GFOS had several successes, including 75% of school meals being made from scratch, increased use of locally sourced food, creation of school gardens, increased participation in the school lunch program, and gains in community support. Our projects include bringing local products into our schools, improving our school lunch menus, classroom lessons, community partnerships and educational summer camps. In the fall of 2016, in an effort to respond to parent and student feedback regarding the lunch menu, GFOS and the Oxford School District Child Nutrition Department began creating a new global menu. In order to take further elevate the school lunches in our district, in the winter of 2017, a parent and student driven committee will be trained regarding USDA school lunch requirements and create a new spring menu. This poster examine this process and will share findings from the evaluation of school lunch data as well as discuss successes and challenges in creating a menu that addresses health concerns in our community, appeals to students and meets USDA federal school nutrition guidelines. Findings may help to inform future farm to school initiatives.

Community-Engaged Research to Inform Environmental Public Health: Testing for Lead in Drinking Water in the Mississippi Delta

John J. Green, Katrina Alford, Danielle Buckingham, Kyle Chandler, Levi Crafton, Heather Greger, Robert McAuliffe, Ryan Snow , Stephanie Showalter Otts, Kristie Willett, Catherine Janasie, Lynn Woo (University of Mississippi), and Josephine Rhymes (Tri-County Workforce Alliance)

Lead exposure can have severe developmental and other health impacts, especially among infants and children. While much of the monitoring, research, and policy focuses on exposure through lead paint, there is less attention to potential exposure through water. However, recent crises have drawn attention to this issue. Water from public utilities must be tested for lead, but only a small percentage of homes are included in these tests. This poster reports the methods and preliminary findings from a community-based research project conducted with families in the Mississippi Delta to connect housing location, household characteristics, and lead tests from drinking water. What is learned from this multi-disciplinary (toxicology, sociology, and law) project will be used to inform methods for future community engagement to improve environmental public health.

The Effects of Community Attachment on Crimes in Rural Texas

Seoyoung Hahm and Jin Young Choi (Sam Houston State University)

According to the several national reports and studies, there are substantial differences in crime rates among rural, suburban and urban areas. One of the potential explanations for the difference is the level of community attachment by geographic area of residence. Many studies have documented the different levels of community attachment by rurality and the beneficial effects of community characteristics (e.g., community attachment, cohesion) on crime. Focusing on rural communities, this study examines the differences in crime rates by community size (a proxy measure of rurality) and community

attachment, and then the effects of community attachment on crimes. We use 2012 and 2013 Texas Rural Survey (TRS) data, which include information on a representative sample of rural residents selected from 44 rural places in Texas. The results show that there are differences in community attachment by race, gender, and size of community that respondents reside in. Crime rates differ by community size, but the effect of community size on crime rates was mediated by community attachment. Suggestions for future research and policy implications are discussed.

Describing the Protective Factors Among Resilient Low Socioeconomic Students at the University of Kentucky

Ashley Leer (University of Kentucky), Andrea Kirby (Estill County High School), and Stacy K. Vincent (University of Kentucky)

For generations, researchers have examined attributes, also known as protective factors that allow students to be resilient. The purpose of this study was to describe the protective factor(s) that contributed to the success of first-generation, low socioeconomic status students at The University of Kentucky. The population consists of the 37 participants representing the First Scholars program during the 2015–2016 academic year. Out of 24 protective factors listed, participants scored the ability to achieve goals, plan for one's future, and ability to focus on one's education to be the highest scored. In an effort to promote, recruit, and retain similar students it is recommended that similar programs provide tutoring and support services, continue to recruit diverse individuals, and offer workshops that foster goal-setting and independence after high school. These findings can be individualized to meet the needs of rural education programs looking to foster academic success in low socioeconomic communities.

An Evaluation of Land Grant Institution's Attempt to Recruit African American Students

Tori Summey, Rashawn Franklin, Stacy K. Vincent, and Quentin Tyler (University of Kentucky)

The purpose of this study is to identify methods utilized by recruiters of 1862 Land-Grant Institutions (LGI) to appeal to potential African American students, and determine the efficiency of those methods. Using Critical Race Theory, the researcher(s) coded transcripts collected from interviewing 9 different LGI recruiters at the National Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) conference, an organization for minority students in agriculture. A focus was placed on determining colorblindness, existing barriers in the university system, and disconnects created from the internal bias of students and recruiters. The results suggest several deficits within the recruitment process and three emerging themes; a lack of resources, a perceived misconception of African Americans' views of agriculture, and a disconnect within African American recruitment. Recommendations are provided for the improvement of LGI recruitment strategies and resources needed to bridge a growing cultural divide between Colleges of Agriculture and African American students.

Publishing in Peer-Reviewed Journals: Issues of Interest to Social Scientists

Elizabeth Sweeney and John J. Green (University of Mississippi and Editorial Office of *Community Development*)

Publishing in peer-reviewed journals is complex, and many students, faculty, and practitioners may find it difficult to publish their work. This poster provides an overview of common structures and processes involved in peer-reviewed journals, from submission to publication. Additionally, it highlights trends in publishing in this digital age. The poster ends with recommendations for authors to have better success at getting their manuscripts accepted and published.