A 2015 NC-1034 Business Meeting was held on July 27, 2015 during the Joint Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) and the Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA) in San Francisco, California held July 26-28, 2015.

The following were AAEA/WAEA paper or poster presentations where NC-1034 members were authors or co-authors:

Regulation and technological change

Mandated Labels for GMOs, Julian Alston, University of California, Davis

Food Waste: The Role of Date Labels, Package Size, and Product Category, Bradley Rickard, Cornell University

Do Improvements in Environmental Performance Lead to Job Loss? Madhu Khanna, University of Illinois

Technology adoption

Changes in Technology Use in the Beef Industry: Welfare Analysis and Trade Implications,

David Bullock, University of Illinois

Testing for Complementarity: Glyphosate Tolerant Soybeans and Conservation Tillage, Moschini, Iowa State University

ICTs for Agriculture: Exploring the Impact of a Text-message Based Intervention on Adoption of Blackberry ICM in Ecuador, Jeffrey Alwang and George Norton, Virginia Tech

Measuring Productivity and its Impacts

Non-Neutral Marginal Research Costs and Induced Innovation Hypothesis, C. Richard Shumway, Washington State University

University Research Productivity and its Impact on the Regional Agricultural Economy: The Case of Colorado State, Gregory Graff, Colorado State University

An Empirical Investigation of the Stanford’s “1.2 Rule” for Fertilizer Recommendation, David Bullock, University of Illinois

Technical Efficiency and Adoption of Conservation Practices in Iowa Soybean Production Alejandro Plastina, Iowa State University

Asset Fixity under State-Contingent Production Uncertainty, C. Richard Shumway, Washington State University

Effects of Joint Primal-dual Estimation and Concavity Restrictions on Parameter Estimates of US Agricultural Production, Alejandro Plastina, Iowa State University

Education, Labor Quality, and US Agricultural Growth, Sun Ling Wang, V. Eldon Ball, USDA-Economic Research Service

Irrigation technology and climate change adaptation

Water Storage Capacities versus Conservation Efficiency: Substitutes or Complements? David Zilberman, University of California, Berkeley

Land Use Change as an Adaptation Strategy of US Farms to Climate and Risk, John Miranowski, Iowa State University

The Information Value of Decadal Climate Variability and Adaptation: A Case in the Missouri River Basin, Bruce McCarl, Texas A&M University

The Diffusion of Process Innovation: The Case of Drip Irrigation in California, David Zilberman, University of California, Berkeley

Bio-energy technologies

Estimating Producers’ Willingness to Supply Switchgrass as a Bioenergy Crop, Richard Perrin and Lilyan Fulginiti, University of Nebraska

Potential Welfare Effects of Soy-Based Mariculture Feed, Richard Perrin and Lilyan Fulginiti, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Biomass Crop Assistance Program: Critical, Notional, or Distortional Support for Cellulosic Biofuels? Madhu Khanna, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Research policy

The Economic Role of Plants in Global Health George Frisvold, University of Arizona

Mechanisms of Patent Licensing for Varietal Innovation, Bradley Rickard, Cornell University

The Political Economy of the Global Bio-Economy, David Zilberman, University of California, Berkeley

The following were AAEA / WAEA organized symposia where NC-1034 members served as organizers, panelists or discussants:

Guiding Investments in Sustainable Agricultural Intensification in Africa: New Research Evidence and Implications for Policy, Discussant: William Masters, Tufts University

Ebola: Predicting it, Addressing it, and Food Security Impacts

Organizer: George Norton, Virginia Tech

Mapping the Economics of the Beef Genome, Organizer: Nicole Ballenger, University of Wyoming, Discussant: Julian Alston, University of California, Davis, Panelist: Matthew Andersen, University of Wyoming;

Policy for Managing Infectious Livestock Diseases, Organizers: Julian Alston, University of California, Davis;

Measurement of US Agricultural Productivity: What Follows the External Review? Organizer: C. Richard Shumway, Washington State University, V. Eldon Ball, USDA-Economic Research Service

Enhancing African Agricultural Transformation, Panelists: Charles Moss, University of Florida;

Discussant: Andrew Schmitz, University of Florida

Minutes

1. Chuck Moss (FL) and George Frisvold (AZ) discussed plans and logistics to hold the 2016 NC-1034 research symposium and business meeting in Tampa Florida on February 26-27, 2016. Chuck volunteered to set up an on-line conference reservation system and conference web page where announcements and presentation papers and PowerPoint slides would be available for viewing and download.
2. Julian Alston (UC-Davis) reported that the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) was holding organizational meetings during the joint meetings to encourage greater North American participation in AARES. There followed general discussion of ways to encourage further collaboration across AARES and NC-1034 activities.
3. George Frisvold opened the floor for discussion of first draft of the NC-1034 project renewal proposal. Were there any elements that should receive greater or less emphasis? A number of people suggested providing more detail about climate change adaptation strategies and the role of agricultural research and technology adoption as adaptations strategies.
4. Discussion turned to future meetings and ways to improve attendance David Zilberman (UC-Berkeley) noted that in the past NC-1034 conferences had been held in conjunction with the annual Berkeley Bioeconomy Conference. As many NC-1034 participants also regularly attend the Berkeley conference, he was amendable to facilitating joint meetings in the future. Carl Pray also noted that many NC-1034 participants are actively engaged in planning and participating in the annual meetings of the International Consortium for Bioeconomy Research (ICABR). George Frisvold noted that ICABR meetings have in the past been an avenue to publish NC-1034 research together in one place in the journal *AgBioForum*.
5. George Frisvold discussed ongoing plans to publish an edited volume derived largely from papers first presented at last year’s NC-1034 research symposium, Pests, Germs and Seeds: The Economics of Policies, Programs, & Technologies for Managing Agricultural Pests & Diseases, March 28-29, at University of California, Davis. David Zilberman as a series editor for Springer discussed the components that would be needed to publish an edited volume as part of the Springer’s Natural Resource Management and Policy series. George Frisvold noted that he had secured funding from the Farm Foundation to support costs of book publication and printing. Julian Alston also noted that there were some funds remaining from the Giannini Foundation from last year’s conference that could also be applied to publication.
6. Finally, there was general discussion of ways to recruit younger faculty to participate in NC-1034 in the future. Bradley Rickard (Cornell) and Guanming Shi (Wisconsin) offered ideas about topics for the renewal project and people working on those topics that would might be promising.