

JEBARAJ ASIRVATHAM, Ph.D. (JEB)

Agriculture Bldg., Rm. 226, 1205 Lincoln Drive, Carbondale IL 62901

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Coordinator (Interim), University Core Curriculum, SIUC Jan 2021 – present

Administer the work at UCC. Oversee: implementation of core course curricular policies, review of core course proposals and modifications, Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) course requirements and participation, core course assessment, and execution of Early Warning Intervention Program (EWIP), among others.

Utilized technology to effectively perform job duties. These include *Argos*, *Banner*, *DegreeWorks*, *iQuest*, *Navigate*, *Xtender*, Office 365 applications, and statistical programs (*Stata*, in particular).

Associate Professor, Agribusiness Economics, School of Agriculture, SIUC July 2020 – present

Assistant Professor, Department of Agribusiness Economics, SIUC July 2015 – June 2020

Teach courses; conduct and publish scholarly research; direct graduate research work towards thesis, dissertation, and professional presentations; engage in professional (academic) activities; and other administrative work, such as serving on committees to serve the needs of the program, school, college, and university.

Graduate Program Director, Agribusiness Economics, SIUC Feb 2020 – present

Supervise and coordinate the administration of the Agribusiness Economics graduate program. Key tasks include overseeing applications, admission, advisement, student progress, and graduation. In addition conduct program assessment, oversee curriculum design and implementation, and oversee assistantship awards.

Instructor, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, University of Arkansas Fayetteville (UAF), Arkansas. Dec 2014 – June 2015

Research Program Associate, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, UAF, Arkansas. Mar 2011 – Dec 2014

Main job duties: conduct scholarly research, assist in grant writing, and assist colleagues in their research.

EDUCATION

PhD, Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), 2011. **Advisor:** Dr. Paul E. McNamara

Dissertation: Three empirical analyses of behavioral and nutrition policy influences on dietary choices

MS, Agricultural Economics, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, 2003

Advisor: Dr. Sanjib Bhuyan

Thesis: Analysis of the Economic Impact of Vertical Coordination

MSc, Agricultural Economics, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana, India, 1999

Advisor: Dr. Karam Singh

Thesis: Infrastructure development and long-term growth in agricultural productivity: a case study of Ludhiana (Punjab) and Thanjavur (Tamil Nadu) districts

BSc, Agriculture, Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur, Kerala, India, 1997

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Consumer Economics, Health Economics, Nutrition Economics, Agricultural Marketing, Food Insecurity, Agricultural/Farm Finance

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journals

Smith, Sylvia and **Jebaraj Asirvatham** (2021). *Rural Craft Beer Tourism: Consumer Attributes and Regional Economic Impact*. Journal of Gastronomy and Tourism. (Accepted)

Coulibaly, Ibrahima and **Jebaraj Asirvatham** (2021). *Does Human Capital Mitigate Resource Curse? Evidence in the Short- and Long-Run*. International Journal of Economics and Finance. 13(10), 157-168

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Michael R. Thomsen, Rodolfo M. Nayga, Jr. and Anthony Goudie (2019). *Do fast food restaurants surrounding schools affect childhood obesity?* Economics and Human Biology. 33, 149-169. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehb.2019.01.011>
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1570677X18301990>

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Michael R. Thomsen, and Rodolfo M. Nayga, Jr (2019), *Childhood Obesity and Academic Performance among Elementary Public School Children*. Educational Research. 61(1), 1-21. DOI: 10.1080/00131881.2019.1568199
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00131881.2019.1568199>

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Michael R. Thomsen, Rodolfo M. Nayga, Jr., and Heather L. Rouse (2018). *Do Peers Affect Childhood Obesity Outcomes? Peer-Effect Analysis in Public Schools*. Canadian Journal of Economics, 51(1), 216-235. <https://doi.org/10.1111/caje.12321>

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Michael R. Thomsen, Rodolfo M. Nayga, Jr., and Heather L. Rouse (2018). *Peer-Effects on Childhood Obesity among Elementary School Children: Heterogeneity in Race, Gender and Weight Status*. Health Behavior and Policy Review, 5(5), 3-12.
<https://doi.org/10.14485/HBPR.5.5.1>

Asirvatham, Jebaraj (2018). *Do Self-control Problems Increase Calorie Intake?* International Journal of Applied Behavioral Economics, 17(1), 14-34. DOI: 10.4018/IJABE.2018010102

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Sanjib Bhuyan. *Incentives and Impacts of Vertical Coordination: A Multi-Stage, Multi-Player Analysis* (2017). *Journal of Industry, Competition & Trade*, 18(1), 59-95. DOI:10.1007/s10842-017-0247-2

Moon, Wanki, Jae Bong Chang, and **Jebaraj Asirvatham** (2017). *Identifying Factors Driving US Citizens' Preferences about Multifunctional Agriculture*. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, 49(2), 273-295. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aae.2016.43>

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Paul E. McNamara (2017). *Consumer heterogeneity in sugar consumption with special reference to fat and cholesterol intake*. *International Journal of Food Sciences and Nutrition*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09637486.2017.1333580>

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Paul E. McNamara, and Kathy Baylis (2017). *Nutritional Media Campaign Effects of the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990 (NLEA) on Dietary Outcomes*. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 3(1), 1327684. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2017.1327684>

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Michael R. Thomsen, and Rodolfo M. Nayga (2014), Jr. *Peer-Effects in Obesity among Public School Children: A Grade-Level Analysis*. *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 36(3), 438-459. <https://doi.org/10.1093/aep/ppy011>

Asirvatham, Jebaraj (2009). *Examining Diet Quality and Body Mass Index in Rural Areas using a Quantile Regression Framework*. *Review of Regional Studies*, 39(2), 149-169.

Lindbloom, Michael, **Jebaraj Asirvatham**, Wanki Moon, and Ira Altman (2021). *Is Motivation Necessary to Maintaining Dietary Health?* *Journal of Food and Nutrition Sciences*, 9(1), pp. 1 - 9. doi: 10.11648/j.jfns.20210901.11

Reports

McNamara, Paul E., **Jebaraj Asirvatham**, and Marcia Phillips. *How Locally Delivered Health Care Strengthens the Economic Fabric of Rural Indiana: The Case of Counties with Critical Access Hospitals*, A report prepared for the Indiana State Office of Rural Health and the Indiana Rural Health Association, September 1, 2004, 1-18.

McNamara, Paul E., **Jebaraj Asirvatham**, and Marcia Phillips. *How Locally Provided Health Care Strengthens the Economy of Warren County, Indiana*. Illinois Rural Health Workshop Report, October 2004: 1-3.

McNamara, Paul E., **Jebaraj Asirvatham**, and Marcia Phillips. *How Locally Provided Health Care Strengthens the Economy of Miami County, Indiana*. Illinois Rural Health Workshop Report, November 2004: 1-3. Report also prepared for Jennings County.

McNamara, Paul E., **Jebaraj Asirvatham**, and Marcia Phillips. *How Locally Provided Health Care Strengthens the Economy of Blackford County, Indiana*. Illinois Rural Health Workshop Report, December 2004: 1-3. Reports also prepared for Orange, Stueben, Pulaski, Rush, Clay, Clinton counties.

McNamara, Paul E., **Jebaraj Asirvatham**, and Marcia Phillips. *How Locally Provided Health Care Strengthens the Economy of Madison County, Indiana*. Illinois Rural Health Workshop Report, April 2005: 1-3. Reports also prepared for Randolph, Tipton, Wabash, Washington, White, Fulton, Greene, Gibson, and Jay counties.

IN THE POPULAR PRESS

Is childhood obesity contagious? Interviewed by Rich Morin at the **Pew Research Center**. July 2013. Link: <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2013/07/11/is-childhood-obesity-contagious/>

'Dual Self' Study Explores Why People Eat Unhealthy Food. Published by www.usagnet.com, website that serves American Agricultural Industry. May 2017.
Links: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=1090&yr=2017>
<https://news.siu.edu/2017/05/051017amh17040.php>

Healthy Versus Unhealthy Food Choices Are a Battle of the Brain. Published by Bipolar Hope magazine and the Healthcare Administrator website. October 2018.
Links: <https://www.bphope.com/impulse-eating-leads-to-higher-caloric-intake/>
<https://healthcareadministrator.net/impulse-eating-leads-to-higher-caloric-intake/>

Childhood Obesity Often Affects Academic Performance: Now We May Know Why. Published in SIU news by Hannah Erickson. March 2019.
Links: <https://news.siu.edu/2019/03/032619-research-studies-impact-of-obesity-on-academics.php>

BOOKS and CHAPTERS

Asirvatham, Jebaraj. *Farm Financial Management*. Publishers: Cognella, Inc., California. (Book publication in 2024).

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Wanki Moon. *Dietary Behavior and Health Outcomes: A Dual-Self Theory with Applications* (chapter) in *Behavioral-Based Interventions for Improving Public Policies*. Edited by Viorel Mahaila. Pub. IGI-Global, Hershey, PA, USA.

WORKING PAPERS (for peer-reviewed journals)

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Angie Bailey and Toni Kay Wright, and Mayowa Olaoye. *Are Parents of Obese Children Amenable to Diet Change Following a Pediatrician's Nutrition Prescription?*

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, and Mayowa Olaoye, Taren Swindle and Leanne Whiteside-Mansell. *Are Food Insecure (Head Start) Children More Likely to be Obese?*

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, and Harika Devi Rapolu. *Attitudes and Perceptions of Middle School Students Towards Food (Lunch) Attributes, Environmental Features, and Service Staff. (Under review)*

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Han Bum Lee, and Paul E. McNamara. *Extension Program Impacts on Women's Empowerment via Improving Social Capital.*

Singh, Gurbir and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Using Precision Agriculture to Develop Production Functions Using Landscape Positions in Mollisols and Alfisols of Illinois.*

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, and Ibrahima Coulibaly. *Does Tablet Distribution in Universities Contribute to Improved Educational Outcome?* (Combing student survey and GPAs)

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Ibrahima Coulibaly, and John Farrish. *Do Fast Food Restaurants Deserve a Bad Rap?*

WORKING PAPERS WITH STUDENTS (for peer-reviewed journals)

Microfinance Program: Mechanisms of its Impact on Business Profitability and Poverty
Graduate student: Enoch Jolaosso

Health and Diet Behavior along the Spectrum of Food Insecurity Measure: A Long-Run Examination of the Association Between Food Insecurity and Obesity.
Graduate student: Saad Ullah Khan

Impact of Exchange Rate on US Poultry Exports
Graduate student: Mayowa M. Olaoye

Consumer Profiles of Protein Supplement Users: A Consumer Demand Perspective
Graduate student: Freya Block

Evaluating Accounting Software Products for Agricultural Producers
Undergraduate student: Andrew Parton

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Program Associate, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF): March 2011 – Dec 2014

Supervisors: Drs. Rodolfo M. Nayga, Jr. and Michael Thomsen
Analyze factors affecting childhood obesity; develop econometric models, write papers for scholarly journals, and present research work in international journals and conferences. In addition, assist with grant writing for USDA, NIH and other agencies.

Research Assistant, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics (ACE), UIUC: September 2003 – May 2010 (except four semesters)

Supervisor: Dr. Paul E. McNamara
Data management, statistical analysis, and writing reports. Estimated multiplier effects using Impact Analysis for Planning (IMPLAN) software. Worked with datasets including *EFNEP* (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program), *BRFSS* (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System), and *TASO* (The AIDS Support Organization), Uganda.

Research Assistant, Food Policy Institute, Rutgers University: January 2003 – August 2003

Supervisor: Dr. Calum Turvey
Modeled the *Impact of Energy Deregulation in New Jersey with Special Emphasis on Food Sector.*

Research Assistant, Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics (DAFRE): October 2001 – December 2002

Supervisors: Dr. Adesoji Adelaja and Dr. Ramu Govindasamy

Project: Evaluating the New Jersey Turfgrass Market

Assisted in designing and implementing the survey and subsequent statistical analysis.

Graduate Assistant, DAFRE, Rutgers University: September 1999-August 2001

Supervisor: Dr. Sanjib Bhuyan

Assisted in data collection, and collecting literature in projects related to the structure, conduct and performance of the U.S. and the Indian Food Industry. Wrote a short report on the *Impact of Economic Liberalization on the Performance of Indian Food Processing Industry*.

Master's thesis, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, India, 1999: *Infrastructure Development and long-term growth in agricultural productivity: A case study of Ludhiana and Thanjavur districts in India*. *Advisor:* Dr. Karam Singh

Developed an index of infrastructure and institutional development, and analyzed the impact of important variables including the infrastructure and institutional index on agricultural productivity.

ADVISEMENT - GRADUATE STUDENTS

Committee Chair, M.S.

- Daniel Van Over Beeke, 2017
- Freya Block, 2017
- Mayowa M. Olaoye, 2017
- Ryan Bailey, 2017
- Enoch Jolaoso, 2018
- Saad Ullah Khan, 2018
- Katie Bell, 2019
- Louria Meyu, 2020
- Success Okafor, 2022
- Olamide Awomoyi, 2023 (expected)
- Justin Tovilode, 2023 (expected)
- Richard Amoako, 2023 (expected)

Committee Member, M.S.

- Ethyan Kramer, 2016
- Pengfei Wang, 2016
- Jason Dienema, 2018
- Paul Egbo, 2018
- Ibrahim Arala, 2020
- Awangku Muhammad Aizat, 2020

Committee Chair, Ph.D.

- Ibrahima Coulibaly, 2020
- Harika Devi Rapolu, 2022 (expected)

Committee Member, Ph.D.

- Christian I Darfah, Economics, 2021
- Erfan J Kareem, Economics, 2021
- Sai Ram Gajjala, Engineering, 2022 (expected)
- Sheila M De Heer, Ag Education, 2022 (expected)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Associate & Assistant Professor, Agribusiness Economics, SIU, Carbondale, Fall 2015 – present

- Financial Management in Agriculture
- Advanced Financial Management in Agriculture
- Marketing and Pricing of Agricultural Products
- Advanced Marketing and Pricing of Agricultural Products

Instructor, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, UAF, Fayetteville, Spring 2015

- Agribusiness Financial Records with QuickBooks, an accounting software
- Farm Business Management

Teaching Assistant, Department of ACE, UIUC

- World Food Economy, an undergraduate course (Dr. Alex Winter-Nelson, Spring 2009)
- World Food Economy, an undergraduate course (Dr. Kathy Baylis, Fall 2008)
- World Food Economy, an undergraduate course (Dr. Laurian Unnevehr, Fall 2005 and Spring 2006)

In 2008 and 2009, I held weekly discussion sections and office hours, graded 3 term projects for about 55 and 110 students, and provided other assistance. In 2005-06, I graded 3 term projects for about 150 students, held weekly office hours, gave guest lectures, and provided other assistance.

Team Leader, Research Apprentice Program (RAP), UIUC, Summers of 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007, 2008

Program Coordinator: Assistant Dean Jesse Thompson, Jr., College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES)

- Supervised advanced high school minority students to write research paper on
 - a. Diet quality, emphasizing vegetable consumption, and socioeconomic factors, 2004
 - b. HIV/AIDS in India, and on the socioeconomic factors and blood folate levels, 2008.
- Supervised student groups to present team projects before executives from Cargill, Archer Daniels Midland (ADM), and/or Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., 2006 and 2007

INVITED LECTURES

SIU Carbondale, Department of Economics, *Vandeveer Lecture Series*, Sept 2016

Central University, Department of Economics, Kerala, India, July 2016

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Rapolu, Harika and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Attitudes and Perceptions of Middle School Students Towards School Lunch: Food, Staff and Environmental Attributes*. American Association of Agricultural Economics (AAEA) annual conference, Kansas City, MO, July 2020. [Selected but not presented due to Covid-19]. Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA), October 2021. (Presenter: Harika)

Meyu, Louria, and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Do Exports and GMO Regulations Determine Adoption Rate of GM Crops by Exporting Countries?* Midwestern Economics Association (MEA) annual conference, Evanston, Illinois, March 2020 (presenter: Louria). Conference canceled due to Covid-19.

Coulibaly, Ibrahima and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Evidence that State Tuition Guarantee Policy Can Adversely Impact the research University Enrollment More Than the Regional University: Illinois Truth-in-Tuition effect on the Southern Illinois University of Carbondale Versus Southeast*. Missouri University. Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA), October 2019. (Presenter: Ibrahima)

Smith, Sylvia, John Farrish, **Jebaraj Asirvatham** and Nicole Davis. *Economic Impact from Rural Craft Beer Trail Tourism*. International Society of Travel and Tourism Educators (ISTTE) annual meeting, Niagara Falls, NY, October 17-19, 2018. (presenter: Sylvia and John)

Singh, Gurbir and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Using Precision Agriculture to Develop Production Functions Using Landscape Positions in Mollisols and Alfisols of Illinois*. Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) annual meeting, Washington DC, August 5-7, 2018.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Han Bum Lee, and Paul E. McNamara. *Extension Program Impacts on Women's Empowerment via Improving Social Capital*. Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) annual meeting, Washington DC, August 5-7, 2018.

Jolaoso, Enoch and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Impact of microfinance on poverty and household income in Rural Areas in Nigeria*. Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting (SAEA), Feb 2018.

Khan, U. Saad and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Examining the changing role of risky behaviors in the association between food insecurity & obesity*. Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting (SAEA), Feb 2018. (presenter: Saad)

Olaoye, Mayowa and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Estimating The Factors Affecting U.S. Poultry Exports*. Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA), October 2017. (presenter: Mayowa)

Bailey, Ryan and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Evaluating Farm Financial Performance In Illinois*. Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA), October 2017. (presenter: Ryan)

Block, Freya and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Consumer Profiles of Protein Supplement Users*. Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA), October 2017. (presenter: Freya)

Moon, Wanki, Gabriel Pino and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Agricultural Protection, Domestic Policies, and International Political Economy: What is the Role of the State in Explaining Agricultural Protection?* Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) annual meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, July 31-August 2, 2016. (presenter: Wanki)

Moon, Wanki, Jae Bong Chang and **Jebaraj Asirvatham**. *Identifying Factors Driving US Citizens' Preferences about Multifunctional Agriculture*. Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meeting, San Antonio, Texas, February 6-9, 2016. (presenter: Wanki)

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Wanki Moon. *A Dual-Self Theory of Dietary Behavior and Health Outcomes*. Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA), October 2016.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Rodolfo M. Nayga, Jr., and Michael R. Thomsen. *Peer-Effects in Obesity among Elementary Public School Children: Identifying the Effect of Race, Gender and*

Neighbors. American Association of Agricultural Economics (AAEA) annual conference, Washington, DC, Aug 2013.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj, Rodolfo M. Nayga, Jr., and Michael R. Thomsen. *Peer-Effects in Obesity among Public School Children: A Grade-Level Analysis*. Food Environment: The Effects of Context on Food Choice Joint Conference of AAEA and EAAE held at Boston, MA, May 2012; Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. September 2011; and a guest lecture in Econometrics Course, November 2011; Fifth International Conference on Agribusiness Economics and Management, Davao City, Philippines, December 2013.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj. *Heterogeneity in Diet Quality and Body Mass Index (BMI) in Rural Areas Across States in a Quantile Regression Framework*. The 68th annual Professional Agricultural Workers Conference (PAWC), Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Alabama, December 2010.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Paul E. McNamara. *Did Implementing the Nutritional Labeling and Education Act Improve Diet?* Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual conference, Denver, Colorado, July 2010.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj. *Effects of Self-control and Impulsivity on Calorie Intake*. International Association for Research in Economic Psychology (IAREP) and the Society for the Advancement of Behavioral Economics (SABE) joint conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, July 2009; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 2009; Center on Health, Aging, and Disability (CHAD) symposium, UIUC, April 2010; and Regional Population & Health Economics (RPHE) - Second Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit, UIUC, April 2009.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Paul E. McNamara. *Dynamics in the Effects of Education and Nutrition Policy on Diet*. American Association of Agricultural Economics (AAEA) annual conference, Orlando, Florida, July 2008.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj. *Examining the Diet Quality and BMI in Rural Areas in a Quantile Regression Framework*. Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA) conference, Washington DC, March 2008; and Research and Policy Symposium, Carle Foundation Hospital Forum, Urbana, Illinois, March 2006.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Paul E. McNamara. *Examining Consumer Heterogeneity in Dietary Choice: A Quantile Regression Approach to the Case of Added Sugars*. The AAEA annual conference, Providence, RI, July 2005, and the Midwestern Economics Association (MEA) annual conference, Chicago, Illinois, March 2008.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Sanjib Bhuyan. *Incentives and Impacts of Vertical Coordination: A Multi-stage and Multi-Player Analysis*. The AAEA annual conference, Denver, Colorado, July 2004.

Asirvatham Jebaraj and Calum G. Turvey. *The Impact of Energy Deregulation on the New Jersey Food Industry*. Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA) annual conference, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, June 2003.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj and Sanjib Bhuyan. *Economic Impact of the Vertical Coordination: A Multi-Stage, Multi-Player Analysis*. The NAREA annual conference, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, June 2002.

Asirvatham, Jebaraj. Seminar on *Issues on Institutional Development of Co-operatives in India* during the Master's program in the Punjab Agricultural University, Punjab, India, 1998.

DISCUSSANT/MODERATOR AT CONFERENCES

- Organized a joint session for the Food Safety and Nutrition section and the Institutional and Behavioral Economics Section for the AAEA meetings at Denver, Colorado, July 2010
- Moderator of a session (Dairy Finance & Management) at the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) annual conference, July 2015.
- Moderator of a session at the Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA) annual conference, Oct 2016.
- Discussant of a research paper, Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA) annual conference, Oct 2015.
- Discussant of a research paper, Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA) annual conference, Oct 2016.
- Discussant of a research paper, Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA) annual conference, Oct 2017. [Discussant in the place of Ryan Bailey]

GRANTS

Title: Revitalize High Tunnel at the Sustainability Center/Farm for Training SIU students.

Institute: SIUC Foundation grant

Duration & amount: Jan 2021 – June 2022

Responsibility: PI.

Title: *Healthy Food, Healthy Families.*

Institute: Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH)

Duration & amount: June-Dec 2017. Funding for one Research Assistantship (RA)

Responsibility: Co-PI with Angie Bailey, SIH (PI); Toni Kay Wright, University of Illinois Extension (co-PI); and Dr. Lukasz Dabrowski (Pediatrician, Center for Medical Arts, SIH).

Title: *Know Your Numbers, Know Your Options.*

Institute: National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) through North Central Extension Risk Management Education Center

Duration & amount: April 2017 - Sept. 2018; \$47,000 for 18 months

Responsibility: Project team member with Ruth Hambleton (Project Director); and others including - Shannon Sand, South Dakota State University, Aberdeen, SD; and Claudette Roper, Director of Administration, Annie's Project-Education for Farm Women.

Title: *Effect of Food, Home and Community Environments on Early Childhood Obesity.*

Institute: Arkansas Biosciences Institute (ABI)

Duration & amount: 2012-2015; \$50,000 (approx.) annually for three years. Competitively awarded each year.

Responsibility: Co-PI with Rodolfo M. Nayga, Jr. (PI); Michael R. Thomsen (co-PI); and Leanne Whiteside-Mansell, Ed.D (co-PI).

Assisted UG funded research (2021 REACH Awards Competition)

Title: Urban Buffers and the Community Capitals Framework.

Duration: 2021-2022

Undergrad student: Davis Reece

Responsibility: Advisor and mentor.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Board member, Amity Journal of Agribusiness (AJAB)

ISSN: 2455- 9873 (Print); ISSN: 2456-1525 (Online)

Journal Reviewer (referee) for the *American Journal of Public Health (AJPH)*, *Economics & Human Biology (EHB)*, *Food Policy*, *Journal of Economic Psychology (JEP)*, *Journal of Nutrition Education & Behavior (JNEB)*, *Review of Regional Studies*, *Social Science & Medicine (SSM)*, and *AERA Open* (open access journal published by the American Educational Research Association).

FreshRoots Directors Cup by Farm Credit Illinois: judged 40+ applications by Young & Beginning Farmers for the Directors Cup. Illinois. April, 2019

Grant Evaluator for a USDA-NIFA grant. Aug, 2019

Leasing Workshop: Organized, in collaboration with Ruth Hambleton (who was the main organizer), Leasing Workshop for farmers (tenants) and landlords held at SIU Carbondale, IL. 2017

Accounting Software for Farmers: Organized, in collaboration with Ruth Hambleton, **QuickBooks for Farmers workshop** for local farmers in helping with financial management accounting. My role was to teach *QuickBooks* and work with IT personnel to ready the lab. Dec 2016 and Feb 2017.

QuickBooks, an accounting software, to women farmers in Effingham, IL: Organized by Annie's Project to provide women farmers in helping with financial management accounting. My role was to give a demonstration on accounting in *QuickBooks*. April 2018

Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers (IAVAT) Professional Development for agriculture teachers, June 9-10, 2016. Presented hands-on lesson to Ag teachers from District 5, Illinois, to help teach high school students.

Conference Reviewer for abstracts submitted to the AAEA annual meetings during 2011-2015.

Poster Reviewer for posters presented at the AAEA annual meetings, July 2015.

Experiences of Alumni. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign at the International Policy and Development Workshop, Feb 2017

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, OR DEPARTMENT

Information Technology Policy committee member, College of Ag Sciences, SIU. 2016-present.

Faculty Advisor, Agribusiness club, SIU (open to students in the Department of Agribusiness Economics). 2016-present.

Faculty Advisor, LOGIC, SIU (Local Garden Initiative of Carbondale) (run by all students in the university). 2017-2019.

Faculty Advisor, Sigma Pi, SIU (open to all students in the university). 2019-present.

ABE-MS Admissions committee member, Department of Agribusiness Economics, SIU. 2016-present.

Honors Research projects, supervised:

- Ben Westrich on Food Marketing Strategies: A Case Study of Chipotle, May 2017
- Renee Kinzinger on Accounting Software Methods in Agriculture, Dec 2016

Master's Fellowship award committee, Graduate school, SIU Carbondale, IL, 2019-2021.

Outstanding Thesis Awards committee, SIU Carbondale, IL, 2018-2020.

Judge for Research Presentations by graduates at a research symposium at SIU Carbondale, IL, April 2017.

Judge for Research Poster Presentations by undergraduates & graduates at a research symposium at SIU Carbondale, IL, April 2016.

Search Committee member for Assistant Professor, Department of Agribusiness Economics, SIU. 2016.

Search Committee member for Assistant Professor, Animal Science, SIU. 2021.

Search Committee member for Dean, CALPS, SIU. 2021.

SIU Agronomy Field Day, Sept 20, 2016. Assisted in student recruitment activity.

GUEST LECTURES

- *Peer-effects and Childhood Obesity among Public School Children*, in a graduate econometrics course, April 2014.
- Basics of marketing theory in a graduate marketing course, 2013.
- *Nutritional Media Campaign Effects of the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990 (NLEA) on Dietary Outcomes*, in a graduate agricultural marketing course, Sept 2012.
- *Grade-level Peer-effects in Obesity among School Children*, in a graduate econometrics course, 2011.
- *Nutrition Transition in Low-income Countries: An Emerging Crisis*, in a graduate nutrition course, 2007
- *Obesity in America*, in an undergraduate economics course, 2005
- On the science and economics of biotechnology, in an undergraduate economics course, 2005

Survey Project, DAFRE, Rutgers University: October 2000 – December 2000

Six graduate students conducted *An Assessment of the DAFRE Graduate Program: An Employers' Perspective* to restructure the graduate program keeping in view the employer needs.

Student member, Graduate Committee, DAFRE, Rutgers University. Jan 2000 – Fall 2001

Dairy Project, Department of Agricultural Economics and Sociology, PAU: 1998
Performed financial and economic analysis using Net Present Value (NPV) and Internal Rate of Return (IRR) methods for an optimal number of 50 high-breed cows in Punjab, India by conducting in-person interviews of select dairy farmers in Punjab and the banks that sponsored dairy projects.

President, Students Union, College of Horticulture, KAU, Thrissur, 1995 – 96

Secretary, Arts club, Students Union, College of Horticulture, KAU, Thrissur, 1994 – 95

Secretary, Quiz club, Students Union, College of Horticulture, KAU, Thrissur, 1993 – 94

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Elsevier/IAREP/SABE Student Paper Award at the IAREP/SABE joint international conference at Halifax, Canada, 2009. [International-level]

William Applebaum Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Master's Thesis awarded by the Food Distribution Research Service (FDRS), Biloxi, MS, 2003. [International]

Student paper award at the 68th annual Professional Agricultural Workers Conference (PAWC), Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Alabama, 2010. [National]

Henry F M Apparel Fellowship, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, UIUC, 2010 – 2011. [College]

Early Career Professional Travel Grant award from AAEEA, 2013. [International]

Student Travel Grant awards from AAEEA, 2004, 2005. [International]

Junior Research Fellowship for the Master's program by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in 1997. This is awarded on the basis of an All-India entrance exam. [National]

Selected to the undergraduate program in KAU from the State Government, Goa, India, on merit basis with **scholarship** (state), 1992-1997. [State-level]