#### The Newsletter of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

Agricultural & Volume 11 Issue 2\* Spring 2019 Resource Economics Reporter

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#### **New ARE Department Head**

Dr. Kimberly Rollins has been appointed as the new ARE Department Head, starting on August 23, 2019. Dr. Rollins is currently a professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Reno-Nevada. Prior to that, she was an associate professor at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. Dr. Rollins got a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics from the University of Wisconsin in 1990. She brings a wealth of research, outreach, and teaching experience, including being awarded

over \$6 million in new extramural grants and contracts since 2011 at UNR. Her research and teaching expertise is on environmental and natural resource economics. Her past experience includes advancing diversity, equity and inclusion, such as working with under-represented groups such as a Canadian First Nation. She envisions a department with an inclusive culture that promotes the highest professional development and satisfaction for each faculty member, student, and staff person, relying on collaborative leadership and shared vision.

### Alumna Helped Found First Food Stamp Program



Isabelle Kelley, who was the first woman to receive a degree in Agricultural Economics from UConn, was memorialized by the New York Times for her contributions during her life. Although Kelley died in 1997, the Times sought to highlight her accomplishments as her death originally went unreported. Among her achievements, she played a role in six presidential administrations from FDR through Nixon, developing and directing the food stamp program (now known as SNAP). She also used her

role to improve hiring practices for women and people of color.



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## **Faculty News**

#### Bovay to Virginia Tech



Assistant Professor and Extension Economist

Agricultural and Applied Economics at Virginia

Tech as an assistant

professor starting in

safety and food policy,

continued success in his new position.

John Bovay will join

the faculty of

August. John specializes in food

and we wish him

HUBICLE

On March 27, 2019, **Emma Bojinova** received the 2019 CAHNR Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Teaching at the 2019 CAHNR Awards and Honors event. The award is an acknowledgment of her outstanding dedication and teaching record.

## Steinbach Hits Ground Running

Bojinova Receives 2019 CAHNRA Recognition

Professor **Sandro Steinbach** started his first fall semester with garnering a \$500k NIFA grant and subsequently, he has got another \$150,000 internal funding. In addition, he published in articles in Economics Letters and the European Journal of Health Economics. Moving forward, he will hire a postdoc and fund four PhD students to conduct his research program and continues to target top journals and competitive funding.





#### Fiala in Myanmar, Published in Top Journals

In February, **Nathan Fiala** traveled to Myanmar to work with Mercy Corps and the government to help improve transparency in governance. He is seen here in the picture on the left meeting with villagers to discuss local development

projects. Also, Prof. Fiala's papers "Do anti-poverty programs sway voters? Experimental evidence from Uganda", and "Trusting Former Rebels: An Experi-

mental Approach to Understanding Reintegration after Civil War", were published in journals *Review of Economics and Statistics*, and *The Economic Journal*.



Njuki to <u>ERS-</u>

#### Nancy Bockstael Working With Towe



University of Maryland Professor Emeritus Nancy Bockstael has been working with **Charles Towe** and Ph.D. student **Zhenshan Chen** on a CIRCA-sponsored project for the past year. They are investigating the effects of sea level rise and coastal flooding on housing prices in the flood plain of Connecticut's coastal towns. Bockstael, an AAEA Fellow with a distinguished academic career. Dr. **Eric Njuki** will join the Economic Research Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture as a Research Agricultural Economist. Eric has been a postdoc and an assistant research professor. We wish him continued success in his new position.

## Student and Alumni News

## Krumel Wins Award, Selected for Duke Summer Institute



Ph.D candidate **Thomas Krumel Jr.** was selected as the recipient of the 2019 AAEA Teaching-Learning-Communication (TLC) section graduate student teaching award. Additionally, he was also selected to participate in the 2019 Summer Institute on the history of Economics at Duke.

## Ph.D. Graduates Placed in Academic Positions



Ph.D. graduates **Timothy Murray** and **Anwesha Chakrabarti** will be joining faculties at new

schools, with Murray joining the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington as a tenure-track Assistant Professor, starting August 2019. Anwesha Chakrabarti will become a post-

doctoral researcher at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, in Piacenza, Italy in May 2019.



**Eric Owusu** and **Berihun Adugna** (pictured on right) conducted training for enumerators in Ethiopia (Mar 15 - 23) on the use of Survey Solutions, the World Bank's Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) tool. This is for data collection on the NSF-funded Project: PIRE—Taming Water in Ethiopia.

### Brimah Still Chasing NBA Dream



2015 B.S. graduate **Amida Brimah** currently plays for the San Antonio Spurs' affiliate in their developmental league for young talent, and still hopes to make his

NBA debut. He used his offseason time by training with Jim Calhoun's St. Joseph assistant coach, Glen Miller, Miller with Brimah pictured on left.

Annie Wilson B.S. ARE 2018 **Current Organization**: Old Mission Capital LLC (Chicago, IL) **Position**: Middle Office Analyst

## Where Are They Now?

Jessica Kukielka (Pusz) M.S. ARE 2008 **Current Org:** Siemens Energy, Inc (Providence, RI) **Position**: Product Marketing Specialist



Carina Immer B.S. ARE 2017 **Current Org:** COFCO Int.(NYC) **Position**: Coffee Trading Trainee



#### Scholarship Recipients Undergraduates

Jaime Calderon Nick Cordero John Edwards Kelly Finn Josue Gonzales Christian Heiden Meghan Henderson Risa Lewis Frederick Pacheco Mark Sniffen Shaina Stamp Elaine Wehmhoff Betty Wondmagegne Grad Students

Francesco Biancardi Khanal Binod Christopher Bruno Sijia Chen Allison Grabarz Liam Hinsley Thomas Krumel Xiaoying Nie Eric Owusu



The University of Connecticut

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**Bachelor of Science** Johnathan Albert Erica D'errico Owen Maloney Michelle Allen Wayne Ducharme Christopher Mishler **Rosemarie Andrews** Anna Esposito Rebecca Moody Amanda Arroyo David Foberg Rodney Moore Jeffrey Baksa Charles Frazine Zayne Olsen Christopher Orszulak Colin Beesley Mary Harrell Hailey Belsito Jacob Hauser-Ramsey Shangtong Pan Hayley Brant Peter Hecht Jonathan Plickys Megan Reiser Connor Bunovsky Ellis Jennings Kyle Buss Mary Ricci Jeffrey Kersten Maria Buzzelli Barrett Langendoerfer John Seymour **Daniel Carrington** Matthew Sniffen Ryan Lesko **Brian Cespedes** Anthony Libera Santana Sterling Lu Chen Kasey Mahan Katherine Zwick Kyle Crist Elizabeth Mahonski

Yinhe Jiao Rui Sun Yue Yin <u>Ph.D.</u> Anwesha Chakrabarti Xi He Yuan Niu **Timothy Murray** Giulia Tiboldo

Master of Science Francesco Biancardi Julia Dumaine Alison Grabarz

#### **Spring/Summer 2019 Graduates**