

# Distinction



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FROM THE DEPARTMENTAL CHAIR

## ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF

I have respect and appreciation for the Agriculture and Applied Economics Department alumni, CAFNR alumni, and MU alumni. Along with these feelings, I believe that Departmental faculty and staff and students represent the brightest academics and young minds, respectively, in the world. My decision to serve this group as chair was made simple by these qualities. I look forward to serving you over the next three years.

I'll offer a brief introduction of who I am so that you feel comfortable communicating with me. I was raised on a family pork and row crop farm in Sigourney, Iowa. I received my B.A. in mathematics from the University of Northern Iowa, and I received my M.S. and Ph.D. from Kansas State University. I have served the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics since 1998 as an Extension economist, as instructor of courses in agricultural marketing, and as a researcher in the area of value chain analysis and price analysis. My wife Julia and I have three energetic young daughters Karly, Katy and Jorah.

My goal as Department chair is to forge working relationships between alumni, students, staff, friends of the Department and faculty to improve the global



Joe Parcell



# Mike Cook Inducted into Cooperative Hall of Fame

By Mike Burden, CAFNR Communications



**M**ike Cook has earned the title hero — a cooperative hero.

On May 2, he was inducted into the Cooperative Hall of Fame at Washington, D.C.'s National Press Club after a public forum on cooperatives connected to the United Nations declaration of 2012 as the International Year of the Cooperative.

He has been a CEO, a mentor to CEOs of national and global cooperatives, counseled cooperative leaders in more than 40 coun-

tries, inspired students who have gone on to be leaders and award-winning professors and is still striving to solve the global hunger problem — a goal he's pursued since serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Uruguay in the mid-1960s.

Cook, the Robert D. Partridge Endowed Professor in Cooperative Leadership and executive director of the Graduate Institute of Cooperative Leadership (GICL) in CAFNR's Division of Applied Social Sciences, joins the likes of Howard Cowden, who was the founder of the cooperative that became Farmland Industries. An endowment in Cowden's honor started GICL, which Cook has overseen since 1993.

"The roster of the Cooperative Hall of Fame tells the story of the U.S. cooperative community through the lives and accomplishments of extraordinary individuals. Induction to the Cooperative Hall of Fame is reserved for those who have made genuinely heroic contributions to the cooperative community," said Gasper Kovach, Jr., Board Chair of the Cooperative Development Foundation (CDF) which administers the Hall of Fame.

Cook is one of only six educators who have been inducted into the prestigious group since 1976. Dick Vilstrup, Cook's mentor during his graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin, is one of the others. Vilstrup introduced Cook to cooperatives. "I was inspired by his brilliant mind; every time I went to see him he had 10 new ideas and he was working on them all. He was fantastic," Cook said of his former teacher.



## Student Activities

# Agricultural Economics Club

**T**he Mizzou Agricultural Economics Club is ready to hit the ground running this spring! To kick things off, the Club will be sending a Quiz Bowl team to the SAEA Annual Meeting in Orlando during the first week of February.

Due to the success of our inaugural Pitch Tournament last year, the Ag Econ Club is pleased to announce the expansion of this event. The tournament is our primary means of funding for the Jerry West Memorial Scholarship and will be at the

Columbia Elks Lodge the evening of March 1. Registration is open to alumni, faculty, staff, students and any others who wish to play. This is a great opportunity to network, partake in some friendly competition and enjoy great food and refreshments. We encourage you to find a teammate and email David Shively ([dwsmt4@mail.missouri.edu](mailto:dwsmt4@mail.missouri.edu)) for information on how to register!



Last fall also was a busy time for the club. We partook in a successful evening of recruitment at CAFNR's annual Fall Roundup where almost 50 freshmen expressed interest in the club. Since then, the club has hosted Bartlett & Company, Union Pacific, and a campus-wide Monsanto information session to link students with leaders in the ag industry. Members of the Ag Econ Club also participated in the annual Fall Agribusiness Tour in Chicago. Tour stops included the trading floor at Archer Daniels Midland in Decatur and the Chicago Board Options Exchange.

### **Our Purpose:**

- Advocate scholarship, fellowship and leadership
- Expand professional networking and employment opportunities
- Stimulate interest and enthusiasm for the ag industry beyond the scope of the classroom
- Promote the Department of Agricultural Economics within the college, the university, and the community via service and campus involvement

### **Our Involvement:**

- Community service including Adopt-a-Family and Trick-or-Treating for food items
- Student Labor Sale (Year-round; contact Andrew Perry at [ajphx9@mail.missouri.edu](mailto:ajphx9@mail.missouri.edu))
- Company presentations at monthly meetings
- Spring Swing Softball Tournament
- Annual Pitch Tournament/Jerry West Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser
- Fall Agribusiness Trip: 2012–Chicago, 2011–Minneapolis
- Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA) Regional Quiz Bowl Competition: Orlando

*If you have questions or want to connect with the Ag Econ Club, please feel free to contact Daysi Hawkins ([dch7wb@mail.missouri.edu](mailto:dch7wb@mail.missouri.edu)). Thanks for your support and for the paths you've paved for us!*



### **Centennial Fund Recap**



**W**hat a great year it was celebrating our first 100 years! Not only have we taken a walk down memory lane, but we have also looked to the future, receiving many donations enabling the department to continue its excellence in teaching, research, and extension efforts. Thank you for joining the celebration with your generous contributions to the Centennial Fund, and thanks to our anonymous donor for motivating others by matching their gifts.

The Centennial Fund is incredibly valuable to the department as we support funding priorities to advance our students and programs. From the

alumni mailing, we have received gifts totaling \$22,150 that were matched with a \$25,000 gift; our faculty/staff centennial campaign resulted in \$12,303.

Your gifts are still needed since we have no intention of sitting on our laurels. There is more to be done – more students to educate, more critical research to accomplish and more outreach across the state to plan. If you haven't given to the Centennial Fund before, now is a great time to begin being a part of the solution to our challenges.

*For more information on supporting the department, contact the CAFNR Office of Advancement at 573-882-7009 or toll-free, 866-400-4483. Visit <http://dass.missouri.edu/agecon/alumni/> to make a gift online.*



## Alumni News

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### Other contributions worthy of recognition include

- **Caleb Jones**, BS '02 – spoke to graduating seniors at the departmental senior send-off and awards banquet
- **Richard Maltsbarger**, BS '97, MS '99 – participated in the CAFNR Executive-in-Residence program speaking to classes, faculty, and student groups
- **Wes Uhlmeier**, BS '99; **Andy Ekern**, BS '93; and **Tim Lankford**, BS AnSci '76 – met with the Ag Econ Club during their Fall Agribusiness Tour

### Community and industry leaders making the department proud

- **Brett Begemann**, BS '83 – named President and Chief Commercial Officer of Monsanto
- **Pat Bracken**, BS '79 – assumed the role of President and CEO at America for Bulgaria Foundation
- **Bill Buckner**, BS '79 – now leads the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation as president
- **Christine Cochran**, BS '98 – became Executive Director of the Grain Foods Foundation in August
- **Jan Dauve**, BS '74, MS '77 – received a Faculty–Alumni Award from the Mizzou Alumni Association
- **Mark Fenner**, BS '85 – is the new Chief Operating Officer at MFA Oil
- **Dan Fennewald**, BS '87 – named Director of the Examination Policy Division for Farm Credit Association
- **Mike Geske**, BS '72 – was reelected to the National Corn Board for a three-year term
- **Joe Don McGaugh**, BS '06 – was elected to MO House of Representatives representing District 39
- **Lynette Reed**, BS '04 – named Corporate Counsel for H&R Block
- **John Keith Spackler**, BS '79, MS '85 – became CEO at Ag Processing Inc.

### Calling all commodity merchandisers

The Department would like to hear from alumni who work in the field of commodity trading and utilize your expertise. Please email Department Chair, Joe Parcell, at [parcellj@missouri.edu](mailto:parcellj@missouri.edu) for more information.

*Stay connected! Update us on any developments in your career, life, accomplishments by emailing [AgEconNewsletter@missouri.edu](mailto:AgEconNewsletter@missouri.edu) or connecting thru the Facebook page, University of Missouri Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.*



## Focus on the Faculty

### Corinne Valdivia

Corinne Valdivia is an associate professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics. In 2009 she received one of the first MU International Scholar for Outstanding International Engagement awards, recognizing her international scholarship in agricultural economics, leadership in developing and managing multidisciplinary and multinational teams, and her integration of international scholarship in her teaching, mentoring, and collaborative research at Mizzou.



Valdivia teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on International Agriculture Development, and directs the International Interdisciplinary Development Minor at the MU Graduate School. Her research programs have been awarded more than \$4.5 million in competitive grants from federal agencies and foundations, allowing her to engage graduate students in field research, both internationally and in the U.S.

For more than 20 years Valdivia has collaborated with people and their organizations in Latin America, East Africa, Asia, and communities in Missouri. She has shared findings with stakeholders, at the local level, and at national and international venues, such as the United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties, ministries, and international donor agencies. She serves in the "Blue Ribbon Panel of Experts" on Development of the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (C-FARE).

Corinne's work is currently dedicated to study three apparently disparate issues, but she uses a similar methodology to understand how people deal with change in Missouri and in the world: climate change, immigration, and agroforestry in Missouri farms. Climate change and globalization are impacting the livelihoods of people in rural communities of the Andes in South America.

- "Adapting to Change in Andean Ecosystems" is one of her recent collaborative and interdisciplinary projects with faculty from Rural Sociology and Soil, Environmental and Atmospheric Sciences at CAFNR, to study the dynamics of change in rural livelihoods and landscapes in Bolivia and Peru, linking science and local knowledge to build adaptive capacities.
- Immigration is changing rural communities in the Midwest. Valdivia collaborates with colleagues from Rural Sociology, Counseling Psychology, and Community Development at MU's Cambio Center to facilitate the integration of Latino immigrants to rural communities in the Midwest. "Assets Accumulation Strategies of Newcomers" and an on-going project "Immigrant Integration and Sustainable Rural Development" that she directs were funded by USDA competitive grants. Every year since 2002 she has helped to organize Cambio de Colores, a conference that brings together researchers, practitioners, community members, and policy makers from Missouri and the U.S.



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- Valdivia also collaborates with MU's Center for Agroforestry to identify how agroforestry practices may benefit small farms.

This year, Valdivia is collaborating in a new project in Kenya, where she has the opportunity to work with a Kenyan MU Ag Econ Ph.D. and colleagues from the Kenyan Agriculture Research Institute to understand the unintended consequences of genetically modified cassava on the food security of smallholder farmers.



An alumna of the University of Missouri, Ag Econ MS '83 & Ph.D. '90, Valdivia was a faculty member in the Department of Economics and Planning at the Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina in Lima, Peru (1978 to 1986).

She is married to Domingo Martínez, also an Ag Econ alum, and has two children, Lucía, who is working on her doctorate in English Literature at the University of Pennsylvania, and Sebastián, a senior in Journalism and Russian at MU.

She said her children and collaborating with farmers, students, and colleagues keeps her grounded. Valdivia's mom is from North Dakota and her dad from Peru, so she is a native speaker of North Dakotan (the Norwegian dialect) and Peruvian.



## News & Events

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### **Mike Cook Inducted**

Cook has passed on that inspiration. Fabio Chaddad, assistant professor in Agriculture and Applied Economics, was one of Cook's graduate students, who, like Cook, won the Edwin G. Nourse award for outstanding dissertation on cooperatives.

"Mike exposed me to the economic importance and complexity of coops and the opportunities to do research with coops; he inspired me to study coops," Chaddad said. "He advised me to find my own teaching persona to connect with students as well. It was good advice and it helped give me the freedom to experiment," Chaddad said.

"Few educators are recognized and this confirms and validates what a unique program GICL has been over the past four decades," said Kristi Livingston, a project development specialist in agricultural economics who has worked with Cook for the last 18 years. She started working with Cook after taking his coops class.

"Mike is gifted," Livingston added. "He has a unique perspective because he served in industry; he was a CEO of an agricultural cooperative and he takes that hands-on knowledge of how cooperatives work and function in the real world and that really guides all of the research that he does. He's able from the advances in economics of organization theory to help cooperative leaders better understand the issues and challenges they face because he can use theory and research but in a way that's really applied. He is uniquely gifted in the way he bridges those two worlds."

More than 2,000 cooperative leaders have graduated from the GICL institute. The GICL board is composed of influential leaders, such as Tom Payne, Vice Chancellor and Dean of CAFNR at MU, and CEOs, including Jerome Taylor, President and CEO of MFA Oil and a graduate of the GICL summer institute.

Taylor commented that MFA has hired several of Cook's former students. In his letter to the Cooperative Hall of Fame selection committee, Taylor said the following: "Mike Cook has done more to refine, regenerate, empower and strengthen the cooperative form of business than any individual in this country, and perhaps globally, because his services are requested all over the world."

Cook recently returned from a trip to Kenya and Uganda, where he and David O'Brien, professor of rural sociology in CAFNR, are advising Land O' Lakes International Development, a not-for-profit division of Land O' Lakes, Inc., that works "to help our fellow farmers around the

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## Honors

# Congrats Many Times Over to Jan Dauve



**J**an Dauve, teaching professor of agricultural and applied economics, director of undergraduate studies and advisor chair, was honored with the Mizzou Alumni Association's Faculty-Alumni award on Oct. 10, 2012.

Dauve regularly teaches the largest class in the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. Every year, he also advises approximately 100 students and mentors new faculty.

He is responsible for creating numerous new courses, including the "Foundation of Student Success" freshman orientation course and courses in international agriculture and natural resources for students studying abroad in various countries including Costa Rica and the Czech Republic.

Dauve uses innovative teaching ideas, such as "Dauve Dollars," to demonstrate how multipliers work, to enhance student learning. He also incorporates *The Wall Street Journal* as a required text to reinforce concepts in the context of current events.

He received his Ph.D. from Colorado State University. Dauve also has degrees from MU's department of agricultural and applied economics: BS '74; MS '77.

Over summer 2012, Dauve was promoted to Teaching Professor. And last spring, Dauve received CAFNR's senior teaching award.

Finally, this fall he was asked to be part of a series of CAFNR videos at MU football games. Representatives from around the College helped showcase the breadth of CAFNR's offerings by featuring trivia related to both football and the College. Dauve provided information on the economic impact of football games in Columbia.



Congratulations Jan!



## From the Department Chair

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### Allow Me to Introduce Myself

impact this group collectively has on agriculture, food, natural resources, and service. I will be working on several initiatives over the coming months to strengthen relationships, acknowledge successes, and increase awareness.

There are two initiatives I want to highlight. First, the Department will initiate an industry cluster reception in early 2013. Department alumni are diverse in their professional accomplishments. The analogy of birds of the same feather flock together has meaning within our alumni and friends of the Department. The first industry cluster to gather will be the risk and marketing cluster. A steering committee of Charlotte Montague, Brandon Kliethermes, Bruce Mershon, Brian Smith, Justin McAllister, Matt Stuever and myself has been formed to ensure all interested alumni, friends, and students are aware of this event.

Secondly, the Department Advisory Board will be brought to campus. The advisory board has not met for several years, but this board is to be credited for calling for the annual alumni newsletter and for championing the Department (CAFNR & MU as well) entrepreneurship emphasis. During the spring of 2013, I will reconvene the advisory board. The advisory board will be helpful in ensuring the appropriate alumni communications come from the Department, gathering feedback as to the direction of graduate skills, and for championing other efforts within the Department. Ken Schneeberger will be assisting. The results of those initial roundtables are far reaching within the Department and include alumni-driven initiatives such as enhancing communication, evaluating graduation requirements, initiating an agri-entrepreneurship program and degree option, inviting in professionals for Professor for a Day, and developing faculty-alumni-student relationships that continue on today.

I look forward to working with you on these important initiatives over the next year. Please feel free to contact me at [parcellj@missouri.edu](mailto:parcellj@missouri.edu) or 573-882-0870.



## News & Events

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### **Mike Cook Inducted**

world and to improve the efficiency of markets and the viability of agribusinesses.” The project brought together dairy farmers from all over the world, including Nicaragua, India, the U.S and Kenya and Uganda.

“Dr. Cook and Dr. O’Brien have been not only advisors to the project from a technical perspective but also boots on the ground, collecting data, helping us to understand how our project could be positioned in terms of leading frameworks and thinking in the research community,” said Rebecca Savoie, project manager for the Cooperative Development Program, managed by Land O’ Lakes International Development and funded by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Back in the classroom, Cook and O’Brien also team up to teach a graduate class on collective action.

“It’s one of the best classes I’ve taken,” said Phillip Mohebalian, a Ph.D. student in forestry who also served in the Peace Corps in Paraguay. Mohebalian plans to apply the concepts he explored in class to work with communities to manage their forest resources.

Mohebalian also noted that the concepts of collective action can move from the global scale, such as addressing climate change to small situations, too. He also hopes to solve the forestry graduate student coffee dilemma, where several students partake of the collective good — coffee — but don’t contribute to the supply often enough or at all.

“This class changed the way I think about how people work together,” Mohebalian said.

Cook will continue to innovate, inspire and lead cooperative education, research and practice. Of all his successes, he said he’s most proud of his students and the global network they’re creating through research, outreach, and education.

“One of the reasons he has such a passion for coops is that deep inside he’s a Peace Corps Volunteer who wants to serve the world,” said Juanamaria Cordones-Cook, his wife and a professor of Spanish at MU. “That’s one of the things I admire in him — the desire to give to his fellow human beings, to make life better for other people.”



## Awards & Honors

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### ***Congratulations go out to...***

#### **Awards**

**Chris Boessen**, College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR), Golden Apple Teaching Award

**Fabio Chaddad**, CAFNR, Golden Apple Teaching Award

**Michael Cook**, Cooperative Development Foundation, Cooperative Hall of Fame

**Jan Dauve**, University of Missouri Alumni Association, 2012 Faculty-Alumni Award

**Jan Dauve**, CAFNR, Outstanding Senior Teacher Award

Emily Brundick, who studied agricultural economics, was named the College's Outstanding Senior at 2012 December commencement.

**Tom Johnson**, University of Missouri, President's Economic Development Award

**Tom Johnson**, University of Missouri, Provost's Award for Leadership in International Education

**Peter Klein**, Academy of Management Entrepreneurship Division, 2012 Distinguished Reviewer

**Joe Parcell**, University of Missouri Ag Alumni Association, Honorary Alumni Award, University of Missouri, 2012

#### **Honorary Positions**

**Fabio Chaddad**, Chair, Agribusiness Economic and Management Section, Agriculture and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), 2012-2013

**Nicholas Kalaitzandonakes**, Communications and Publications Committee, AAEA, 2011-2014

**William Meyers**, Senior Fellow, University of Bologna, Oct. 1 to Nov. 15, 2011

**William Meyers**, Chair-Elect, AAEA International Section, August 2012 to August 2013

**William Meyers**, elected to the Board of Directors for 2012-2016, Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD)