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New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (Inc)

NEWSLETTER

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Dear members,

I hope this edition of the NZARES Newsletter finds you well in body, mind and spirit as we head into winter. There seems to be much gnashing of teeth throughout Godzone with an economy that is, according to one commentator I heard this morning, relatively better than most but just doesn't feel like much fun! And yet NZ is, according to a recent study, number one ranking in renewable resources. What a timely theme our Conference has - Green Growth: Logical Possibility or Oxymoron? So, with your feet up by the fire, research in your back pocket and so many questions in your head – its time to start on those papers for the conference!

NZARES conference 2012

Your committee has been working hard to develop the conference program you will find at the link below. The Conference will kick off with a series of potentially contrasting views on the dairy industry from three people with plenty of in depth knowledge and experience. There is a special session on natural capital and ecosystem services, with speakers focussing on soils. Following dinner, we will no doubt be entertained and challenged by Dr Nick Smith. On the second day, we will hear from the AARES President, Dr Mal Wegener with a focus on renewable energy.

Programme

<http://www.nzares.org.nz/pdf/2012/NZARES%20Conference%202012%20Programme%20FINAL.pdf>

Registration form

<http://www.nzares.org.nz/register2012.aspx>

There is room for up to 52 contributed papers. Please submit your abstracts by 1 July via the following link – <http://www.nzares.org.nz/SubmissionPage.aspx>. Full papers are required by 1 August.

Your committee has been working on a new and improved process for best paper judging this year. This is in an effort to lift the level of attention able to be put by the judges onto those people who put a lot of effort into their papers. So rather than considering all papers, only those which are self nominated will be considered for judging.

So ensure you nominate yourself by ticking the box(es) when you submit your paper. Best paper judging guidelines can be found here – http://www.nzares.org.nz/pdf/2012/NZARES_Best_Paper_Award_Guidelines.pdf

Congratulations to recent award winners

Two NZARES post-graduate awards were granted for 2012:

- Ms Maiki Andersen of Lincoln University with her challenging thesis titled, *"Is there a significant difference between Maori and non-Maori values towards preservation and protection of water resources"* using stated preference non-market valuation.
- Mr Tom Ndebele of Waikato University who is tackling the question, *"How green is your electricity supplier?"* using choice modelling to explore drivers of households' electricity decisions.

The 2012 AARES Heading North award winner is Dr Tess Stafford of the University of NSW. She will present her paper on "Ignoring the multi-species aspect of labor supply decisions in spatially explicit bio-economic fishery models" at the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association in Seattle in August.

Nominations please! ... for the Heading West Award

Nominations for the 2012 Heading West Award is now open to NZ-based AARES members. The winner will receive a grant of \$1,500 to support attendance at the AARES Conference in Sydney in February 2013. The award is particularly aimed at professionals early in their careers and/or those for whom funding would be difficult to obtain from other sources. So those who are closely associated with new or recent graduates please encourage them to put their names forward via email to Annie Hurst at the AARES Central Office (office@aares.org.au) by 30 September. Further information can be found on AARES website www.aares.org.au Honours and Awards.

Collaborating with EIANZ?

The NZ chapter of the Environment Institute of Australia and NZ (EIANZ) is keen to collaborate with NZARES members. EIANZ is a multi-disciplinary institute and holds various events throughout the year such as panel discussions and evening networking events. Please contact charlotte.cudby@mpi.govt.nz or the EIANZ Wellington chapter coordinator, Jo Buckner buckwill@xtra.co.nz if you are interested in organising and/or participating in an event. <http://www.eianz.org/>

Kind regards,
Murray Doak
President