

## From the editor

Harvey S. James Jr.

Published online: 12 December 2014  
© Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht 2014

*Agriculture and Human Values* is the official journal of the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society. The Society, founded in 1987, “promotes interdisciplinary research and scholarship in the broad areas of agriculture and rural studies,” as noted on the Society’s website (<https://afhvs.wildapricot.org/>). The Journal, as well as the Society, is open to any views that advance our understanding of the food and agriculture system. The Society does not endorse any specific policy or political platform. If it advocates anything, it is the promotion of sound scholarship.

The Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society holds a conference each year, usually during the summer, which is also co-sponsored with the Association for the Study of Food and Society. These annual meetings provide an ideal opportunity “for constructive, in-depth discussion of current agricultural and food systems issues in their broadest social, cultural, economic, ethical and aesthetic context” (<https://afhvs.wildapricot.org/Past-Conferences>).

As an international as well as interdisciplinary organization, the Society includes members from all over the world. In addition to an association with a wonderful group of scholars, membership in the Society provides an option for receiving this journal, *Agriculture and Human Values*.

The Society’s website has recently changed. Information about the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society, including information on how to join, is now available at <https://afhvs.wildapricot.org/>. If you are interested in the academic, networking and other benefits associated with membership in the Society, and if you are not already a member, I invite you to join.

This issue of *Agriculture and Human Values* contains the eight research articles, one discussion piece, and a special symposium. Driessen and Heutinck show how ethical concerns about technologies change as technologies become adopted. Rice provides theoretical and empirical support for the conceptualization of farmers market shoppers as predominately white, affluent, well-educated women. Mandondo and German examine the local economic, social and environmental consequences of large-scale land-based investments in a study of tobacco farming in Malawi. Emery explores how the virtues of independence and individualism interact and interfere with the expectation of farmer cooperation. Forssell and Lankoski develop a framework for evaluating the effectiveness of alternative food networks in meeting sustainability objectives. Thompson critiques the development and future prospects of agricultural ethics as a legitimate scholarly endeavor. Heiss et al. identify factors that facilitate and impede the development and operation of effective farm-to-institution supply chains. Wilke and Morton develop a typology of state and extension climatologists based on their perceived roles and responsibilities. Lotter’s discussion piece is an argument for a careful use of herbicides in developing countries. Jean Lagane prepared a special symposium of three papers on the topic of cross-cultural views of community supported agriculture. Book reviews and the list of books received complete this issue of the journal.

---

H. S. James Jr. (✉)  
Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University  
of Missouri, 146 Mumford Hall, Columbia, MO 65211, USA  
e-mail: [hjames@missouri.edu](mailto:hjames@missouri.edu)