

# **INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH SUMMER 2002**

**By Glenn C.W. Ames and Mesfin Bezuneh\***

**AAEA Foundation sponsored visit of:**

**DR. WILSON NGUYO - Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development,  
Egerton University, Nairobi, Kenya**

*and*

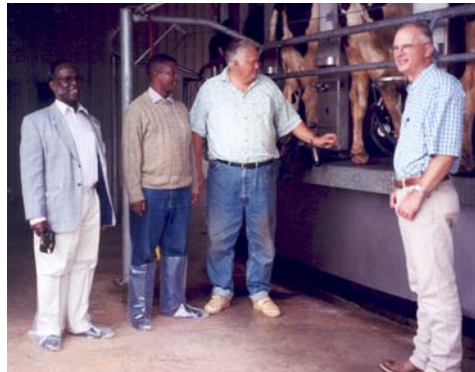
**MR. PELOSTWEU MOEPENG - Botswana Institute for Development Policy  
Analysis (BIDPA), Gaborone, Botswana**

**to the**

**AAEA annual meetings, Long Beach, CA, the University of Georgia and  
Clark Atlanta University**



Dr. Nyuyo speaking at the Free Session.



In Georgia, Mr. Henry Cabaniss explains the milking carousel to Dr. Nyuyo and Mr. Moepeng with Mr. Norm McGlohon observing.



At the AAEA meeting in Long Beach, CA.



Mr. Moepeng and Dr. Nyuyo at the harbor in Long Beach.

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\* Authors are Director, International Public Service and Outreach at the University of Georgia (Ames) and Head, Department of Economics, Clark Atlanta University (Bezuneh).

One of the primary objectives of international outreach is to provide scholars from developing countries an opportunity to exchange information and ideas with their American and international colleagues. A 2002 American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) Foundation grant awarded to Glenn C.W. Ames, and Mesfin Bezuneh, provided an opportunity for two African agricultural economists, Dr. Wilson Nguyo and Mr. Pelotshweu Moepeng, to attend the AAEA annual meetings in Long Beach, California. Prior to the meetings, they visited Clark Atlanta University and the University of Georgia as well as a dairy farm in rural Oglethorpe County.

Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng arrived in Atlanta on July 22 and July 23, 2002 where Dr. Mesfin Bezuneh and his staff met them. Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng met students and faculty at Clark Atlanta University. They also visited the Atlanta Black Arts Festival, which was held on the campus, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center in downtown Atlanta.



Mr. Moepeng and Dr. Nguyo tour the University of Georgia campus

On July 25, and 26, 2002, Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng visited the University of Georgia. Dr. Glenn Ames, Director of International Public Service and Outreach introduced them to colleagues in African Studies. On July 26, Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng presented a seminar in the Department of Agricultural

and Applied Economics on “Food Security, Agricultural Policy and Environmental Interface: An African Perspective.” Dr. Mesfin Bezuneh, Chairman, Department of Economics, Clark Atlanta University provided a perspective on food security research in Africa. Their



Food Security Seminar - UGA

seminar was attended by, Dr. Carlos Perez, Director of the SANREM Project, Dr. Edward

Kanemasu, Coordinator of International Agriculture, Dr. Akinloye Ojo, African Studies Institute, and 25-30 faculty and graduate students from across campus.



Dr. Ojo, Mr. Moepeng, and Dr. Nguyo at UGA reception.

Prior to the seminar, a lively discussion took place at the reception for Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. Faculty and students demonstrated a keen interest in food security issues in Southern Africa. They also explored opportunities to build linkages with their institutions, Egerton University in Kenya and the Botswana Institute for Development and Policy Analysis (BIDPA).

The highlight of Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng's visit to Georgia may have been their visit to Mr. Henry Cabaniss' dairy farm in Maxeys, Georgia. Mr. Norm McGlohon, Oglethorpe County extension agent, had organized a visit to Mr. Cabaniss' dairy farm to view his newly installed, million-dollar, 60 cow-milking carousel. Both agricultural economists were impressed with the 1,200 cow dairy and Mr. Cabaniss' emphasis on environmental protection, pollution control, and overall sanitation.



Mr. Henry Cabaniss demonstrates the use of computers in his dairy operation to Dr. Nguyo.

Dr. Nguyo remarked, "I am really impressed with this large dairy farm " while Mr. Moepeng stated, " I could not have even imagined such a thing!" Of particular interest to Dr. Nguyo was Mr. McGlohon's familiarity with the farming operation and Mr. Cabaniss' community leadership. In the computer room overlooking the rotating carousel, Dr. Nguyo, Mr. Moepeng, and Mr. Cabaniss engaged in a lively discussion about dairy production. As Dr.

Nguyo noted in his seminar, in Kenya 85% of the Agriculture Ministry's budget goes for salaries, leaving less than 15% for extension programs.

Mr. Moepeng, a keen observer of American society, marveled at the managerial structure of the Cabaniss' family enterprise. The role of the father, sons, daughter-in-law, and other employees impressed him with their efficient organization and enterprise management.

On July 27, 2002, Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng arrived in Long Beach, California as



Drs. Nguyo and Bezuneh with Mr. Moepeng during the Free Session discussion.

guests of the American Agricultural Economics Association.

Dr. Mesfin Bezuneh and Dr. Glenn Ames had organized a Free Session at the AAEA Annual Meetings where Dr.

Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng were the keynote speakers at a free

session on "Food Security, Agricultural Policy and

Environmental Interface: An African Perspective."

Later, Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng were introduced as recipients of the AAEA Foundation Grant Award at the International Banquet, Monday evening, July 29, 2002. During and after the international banquet, they met members of the AAEA Foundation Board, past presidents, distinguished fellows and discussed opportunities to strengthen linkages with their institutions in Kenya and Botswana.

During the AAEA meetings, Dr. Nguyo and Mr. Moepeng solidified their discussions on food security issues with American and international scholars. They also attended symposia and invited paper sessions on topics of their interest. Finally, they explored the Long Beach convention area before departing for Kenya and Botswana. They were very pleased with the opportunity



AAEA International Banquet with Dr. Ralph Christy from Cornell University.

afforded them during this international outreach effort sponsored by the AAEA Foundation, Clark Atlanta University, International Public Service and Outreach and the African Studies Institute at the University of Georgia. They expressed sincere gratitude.



Dr. Nguyo, Mr. Moepeng, and Dr. Bezuneh receiving commemorative shirts from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia.

## AAEA Free Session Abstract

### **Food Security, Agricultural Policy and Environmental Interface: An African Perspective**

A common definition of poverty is living on an income less than one dollar a day. By this definition, more than 50 percent of the population in most developing countries is poor since most cannot afford basic needs of food, clothing and shelter nor health and education for their children. The situation may apply to rural environment in many African countries and three agricultural economists from African institutions will discuss the issues of poverty, food security, and economic growth and development and the impacts each of these has on the people of Africa.

**Organizer:** Glenn C.W. Ames, University of Georgia

**Presentation: Poverty Alleviation, Food Security and Environment, Policy and Practice: A Kenyan View –** Wilson Nguyo, Egerton University, Nairobi, Kenya

**Food Security, Agricultural Policy and Environmental Interface: The Case of Botswana –** Pelotshweu Moepeng

**A Perspective on Food Security Research –** Mesfin Bezuneh, Clark Atlanta University

