

Editor's Comments

The Journal of Southern Agricultural Education Research enters its ninth year with growth and maturity on the agenda. During the business meeting at the 2008 AAAE Southern Region Meeting, it was moved and approved to separate the Journal article selection process from the selection process of the Southern Region Agricultural Education Research Conference. As editor, I view this as a positive change that will allow for more diversity of the articles we publish as well as a move that will strengthen the standing of the Journal in academic circles. At the current time, a committee is working on creating the documents that will guide the submission, selection and publication for the future of the Journal. These changes will be presented at the 2009 SAERC. I look forward to this next step and welcome your comments and suggestions for improvement.

Following the procedures first implemented in 2004, articles found acceptable for publication in the Proceedings of the 2008 Southern Region AAAE Research Conference (SR-AAAERC), whose authors had indicated that they be considered for publication in the JSAER, were submitted to a second peer review process. Dr. Gary Moore, North Carolina State University, the Co-Chair of the SR-AAAERC, also served as Co-Editor and provided information to myself in a timely, efficient manner. The six members of the Southern Region AAAE Research Committee served as the Editorial Board for the 2008 JSAER. The members for 2008 were Anna Ball, Scott Burris, Tracy Kitchel, John Rayfield, Shane Robinson and Grady Roberts. They provided meaningful comments on each paper in a timely manner and were a great editorial board. I sincerely appreciate each one's dedication to the profession and willingness to invest their time and energy.

A total of 12 articles were submitted for consideration to the JSAER following their acceptance through the SR-AAAERC review process. Of these, five authors subsequently withdrew their manuscripts from consideration. The review procedure, adopted with Volume 55, allows JSAER reviews to "Accept with Major Revision," and "Accept with Minor Revision" in addition to the "Accept" and "Reject" options available to reviewers in Volumes 53 and 54. Given these options, the following decisions were made. Two articles were accepted without revision, two were accepted with Minor Revision, and three were accepted with Major Revision.

At the completion of the review process, 7 articles were selected for publication. The Editorial Board established a policy that the Editor would publish the total number of articles accepted in the JSAER divided by the total number of unique submissions to the SR-AAAERC. There were 58 articles submitted to the 2008 SR-AAAERC. Twenty-eight were published in the conference proceedings (48%), and 7 were published in Volume 58 of the JSAER for an official acceptance rate of 12%.

Respectfully,

Todd Brashears, Editor
Texas Tech University