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PROCEEDINGS OF A SYMPOSIUM
ON
REGIONAL RESEARCH: LESSONS FOR
A GLOBAL RESEARCH AGENDA



Sponsored by the

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FOREWORD

* This is the fifth in an annual series of proceedings publications involving the effective use of public resources in agricultural economics. The first CSRS sponsored publication, Agricultural Economics Program Analysis, focused on computer applications of input and output data for agricultural economics units in academic and government environments. Papers were also presented on computer based information systems regarding research activities in agricultural economics, as well as a conceptual framework for evaluating the effectiveness of research, teaching, and extension functions.

* The second proceedings represented the results of a joint AAEA-CSRS Symposium held at the Annual Meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association at Knoxville, Tennessee, on August 2, 1988. The papers dealt broadly with the Analysis and Management of Agricultural Economics Programs. More specifically, the papers identified and prioritized research issues in agricultural economics, assessed performance of agricultural economics departments, provided an update of the Agricultural Economics Research Information System, reviewed funding for marketing research at State Experiment Stations, and outlined alternative approaches for reviewing programs of agricultural economics.

* The third proceedings, The Role of International Trade in Agricultural Economics Programs, attempted to analyze the emerging role of International Trade Centers, review the current status of research in international trade, and present a critique of these programs from the external perspectives of a college administrator and a President and CEO of an international agribusiness company.

* The fourth proceedings, Global Grain Distribution Systems: Impediments to Increased Exports, identified the transportation and infrastructure barriers in domestic transoceanic, and foreign distribution systems that impede the efficient movement and effective marketing of U.S. produced agricultural commodities.

This fifth proceedings, Regional Research: Lessons for a Global Research Agenda, focuses on the regional approach as a framework for future research efforts which take on global dimensions. Since U.S. agriculture competes and markets in a global environment, many of the problems and issues have global dimensions. To maintain relevancy, our research must likewise become more global. As the profession incorporates global dimensions into the research agenda, there is much that can be learned from the regional approach.

Copies of all five proceedings issues are available until supplies are exhausted from Leo Polopolus, Department of Food and Resource Economics, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611.

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