SEMINAR TITLE:

U.S. Farm Policy through a WTO Lens

OVERVIEW: Although the Doha Round WTO negotiations are bogged down it remains relevant to evaluate the implications of existing and potential U.S. commitments on domestic support and how these might constrain farm policy choices. This seminar will discuss the U.S. chapter in the forthcoming book *WTO Disciplines on Agricultural Support: Seeking a Fair Basis for Trade* edited by David Orden, David Blandford and Tim Josling (Cambridge University Press http://cambridge.org/uk/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9781107005440). Commitments on domestic support measures continue to be controversial in international trade negotiations and new disciplines will have to be an integral part of any future negotiated WTO agreement. Thus, the direction U.S. policy takes relative to potential Doha commitments is important even before such an agreement is reached.

PRESENTER: David Orden, PhD
Professor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute

David Orden is Professor and Director of the Global Issues Initiative, Institute for Society, Culture and Environment, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and Senior Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute. He has been a visiting fellow at the University of New South Wales in Australia, chairman of the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium, and visiting professor at Stanford University. His previous books include *Policy Reform in American Agriculture: Analysis and Prognosis* (with Robert Paarlberg and Terry Roe, 1999) and *Food Regulation and Trade: Toward a Safe and Open Global System* (with Tim Josling and Donna Roberts, 2004).

DATE: Tuesday, February 15, 2011
TIME: 12:00 to 1:00 pm (room reserved until 1:30 pm for further Q&A)
PLACE: USDA Headquarters (Rear of South Building Cafeteria)
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC  20250

SPONSORS: USDA Economists Group

CONTACT: Antonio McLaren, NIFA/ECS, 202-720-5997, amclaren@nifa.usda.gov