PURA

Purdue University Retirees Association

# Monthly Meeting

November 3, 2025

pura@purdue.edu https://www.purdue.edu/retirees/

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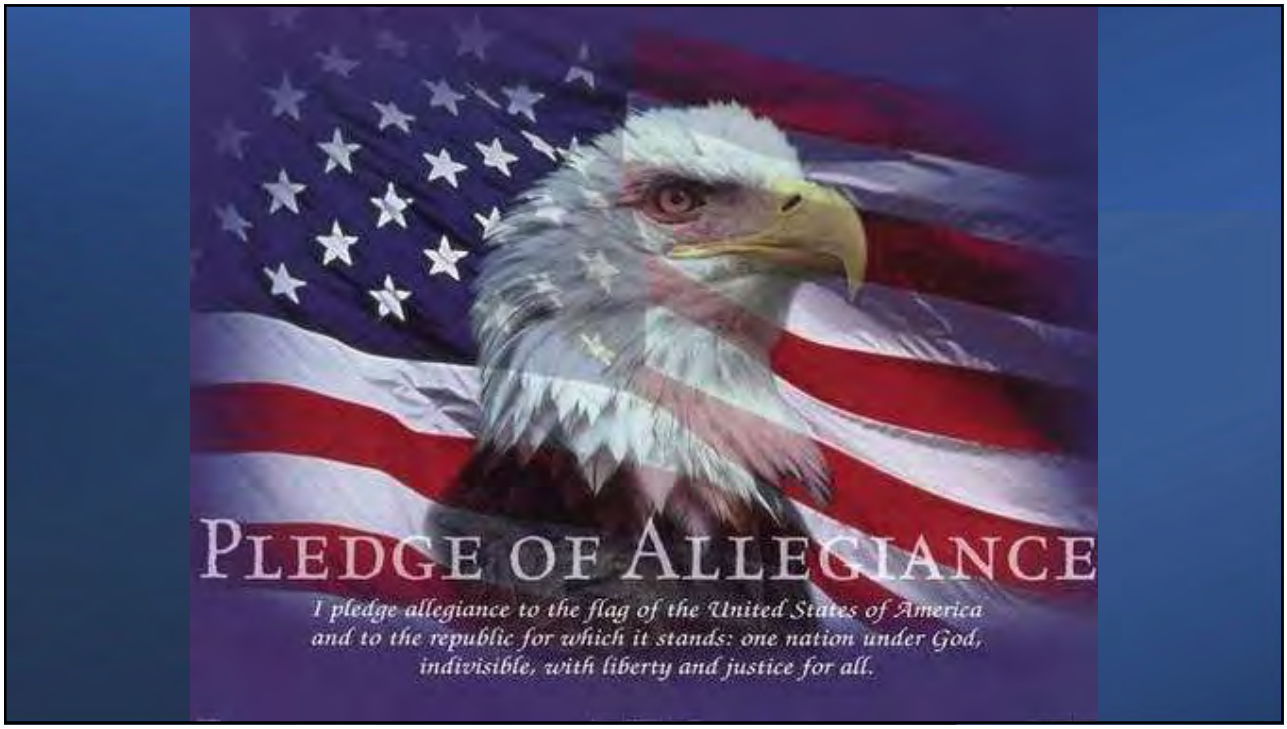


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## Tech Toys for the Holidays

Scott Ksander

## PURA 2025 Insurance Update

Benefit Committee

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# Tech Toys for the Holidays

November 3, 2025

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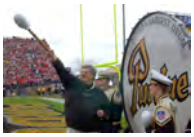
## Scott Ksander

ksander@purdue.edu



- 50+ years in the IT field, 26 years at Purdue
- Wrote his first program (FORTRAN) when he was in 5th grade. Purdue degree in Computer Science.
- Areas of interest – systems development, networking, security
- Scott and Peggy enjoy life with their kids and grandkids – especially on trips to DisneyWorld
- Scott grew up in Chicago and Peggy grew up in Fish Lake, Indiana (city boy meets farm girl at Purdue story – and the adventure continues …)

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I BELIEVE IT'S SOMETHING TO DO WITH WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY
LYNCH

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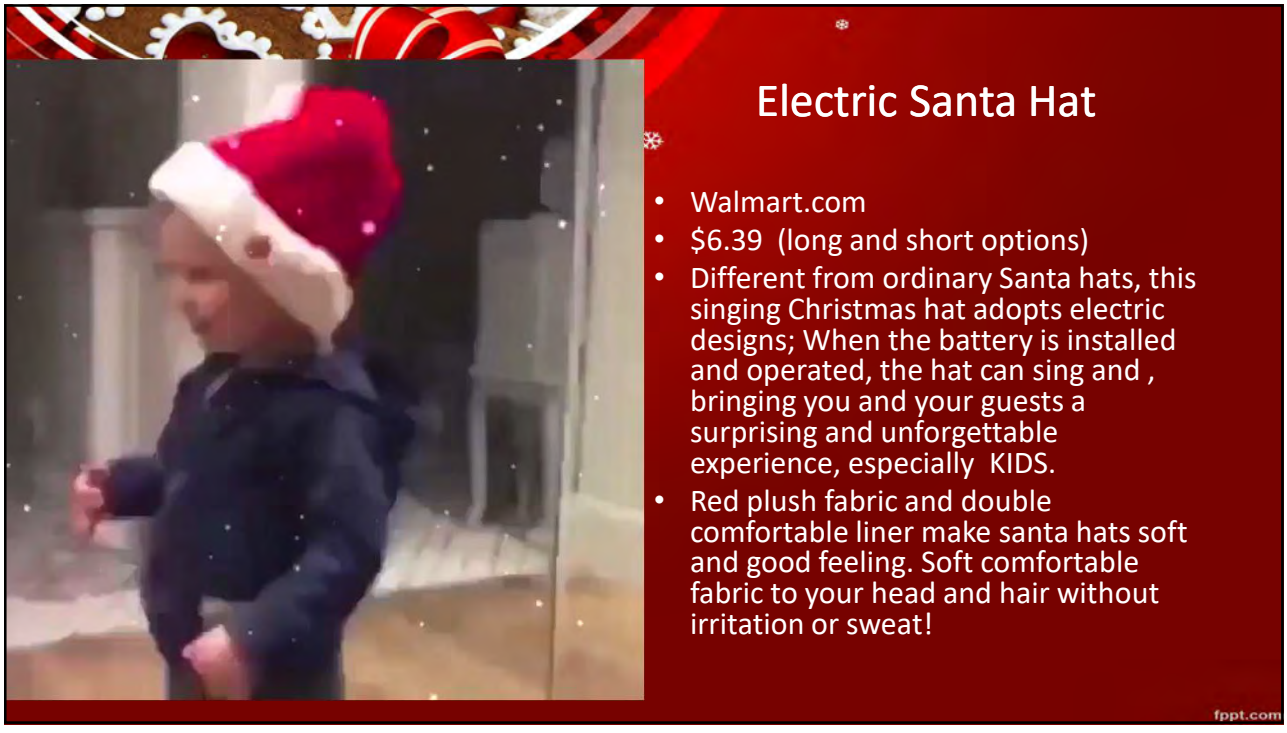
Electric Santa Hat
• Walmart.com
• $6.39 (long and short options)
• Different from ordinary Santa hats, this singing Christmas hat adopts electric designs; When the battery is installed and operated, the hat can sing and , bringing you and your guests a surprising and unforgettable experience, especially KIDS.
• Red plush fabric and double comfortable liner make santa hats soft and good feeling. Soft comfortable fabric to your head and hair without irritation or sweat!
fppt.com

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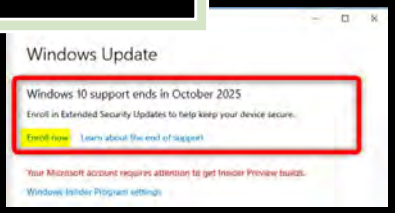
Windows 10!! Microsoft has offered “extended support” for one additional year




- Enroll in ESU (Extended Security Updates)
  - Ensure your system is up to date
  - Go to Setting > Update & Security > Windows Update
  - Look for “Enroll now” or “Enroll in ESU”
  - Sign in with a Microsoft account
  - Select an enrollment option
    - Make a one-time purchase ($30)
    - Redeem 1,000 Microsoft Rewards points
    - Sync your PC settings to OneDrive
  - Complete the process

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## Windows 11 Laptop

- Dell 16 Laptop
- 8 - 16GB RAM
- 512GB SSD
- Windows 11
- $399 - $499
- Check Dell Outlet (under $300)

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Gboard Dial Keyboard
69 “keys”
No switches
Raspberry Pi Pico Controller
Stepper motors
Open-source software
Build it yourself
fppt.com

11

Origami Bluetooth Folding Mouse
Shop.yankodesign.com
$79
Eronomic Design
Ulta-Lightweight & Slim
Soft-click Buttons
USB-C rechargeable
UNFOLDED SIDE PROFILE
fppt.com

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## KeySmart Wallet Tracker Card

- 2mm thick (less than 2 credit cards)
- Compatible with Apple Find My App
- Plays a sound to find if nearby
- Get notifications when you leave it behind!
- Wireless charging (up to 8 months of battery life)
- Waterproof
- Does not support Android devices
- Amazon, $39.99

fppt.com

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## Singing Reindeer

- Walmart.com
- $48.42
- Motion Activated
- Festive Santa hat and multi-colored LED light strand on antlers
- Sings 5 Christmas songs and 5 holiday greetings
- 16” x 9” x 17”
- Battery operated (2 x AA batteries)
- 6-hour timer

fppt.com

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## 3D Fan “Holographic” Fan

- 4.3” to 22”
- $26.01 - $149
- 700+ video library
- Wi-Fi with app connectivity

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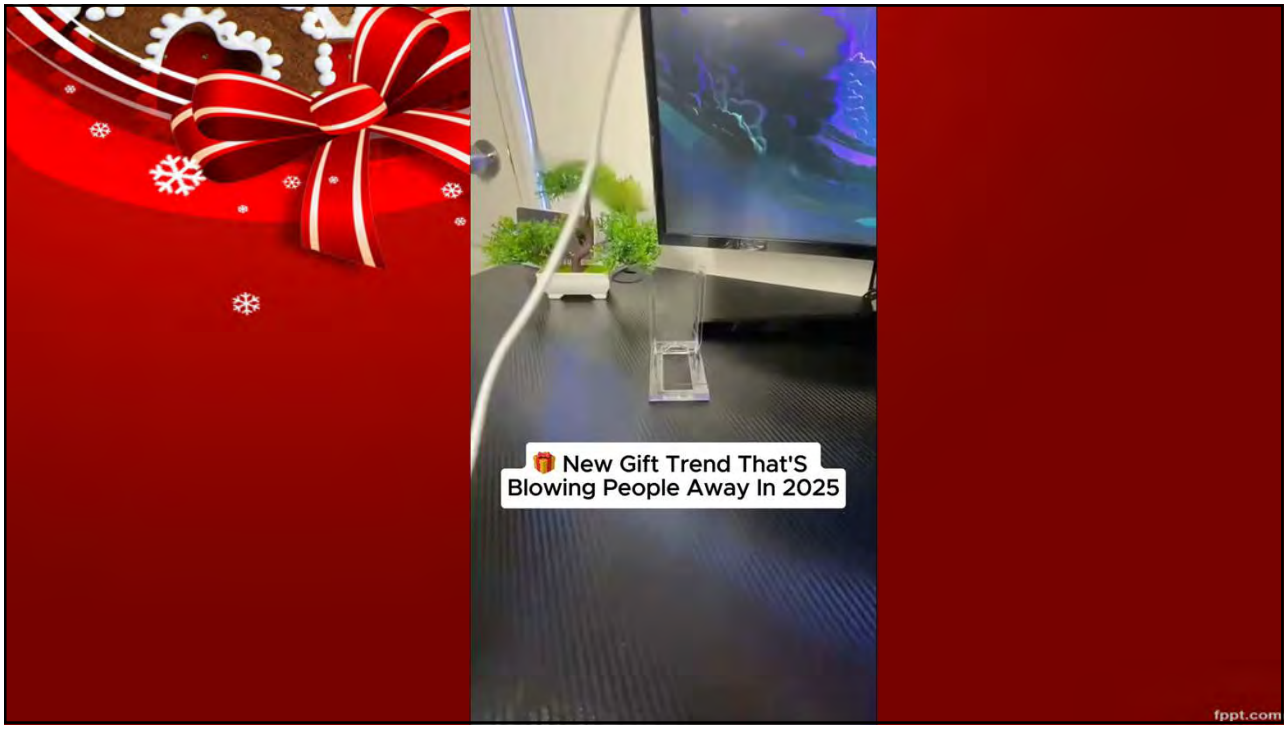


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## Memory Orb Ornament

- Amazon.com
- $38.69 (special price until 11/10/25)
- $53.99 with Wi-Fi
- This crystal ball memory video lets you capture favorite photos and videos inside its 2.7" orb. With a soft glow and elegant design, it becomes a meaningful keepsake for holidays, birthdays, or weddings—turning precious moments into a shining display
- Enjoy stunning clarity and a wide 180-degree viewing range with this memory orb.
- No tech skills needed—easily upload images and videos via USB or SD card. Equipped with a USB-C rechargeable battery, this lightweight video Christmas ball is perfect for gatherings, desk decor, or adding warmth to any space. Share memories anywhere, free from cords and outlets for flexible use
- Import videos via Wi-Fi via the app

fppt.com

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## Santa's Magical Telephone

- Mrchristmas.com
- $99.99
- Real Conversations (60 minutes of talk time included, and additional minutes available for purchase)
- Multi-Language Magic
- Ages 3 and up with kid-friendly conversations
- "Classic Rotary Phone"
- Connects via Wi-Fi. No app required

fppt.com

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## Poop Shooting Game

- Walmart.com
- $16.99
- The Toilet Tank is a talking toilet that loves to play and interact with you and a friend.
- This dexterity game challenges you and another player to be the first to launch all six of your "poopy projectiles" into the Toilet Tank's mouth.
- The Toilet Tank will cheer you on as you take aim and fire away.
- Sink your last "floater" and win the game! Don't forget to flush when you're done.

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## Toy Racing Adventure

- Thetoyrealm.com
- $85
- Steer left and right to dodge cars
- Beep the horn
- Race to the finish
- For kids 3 and up

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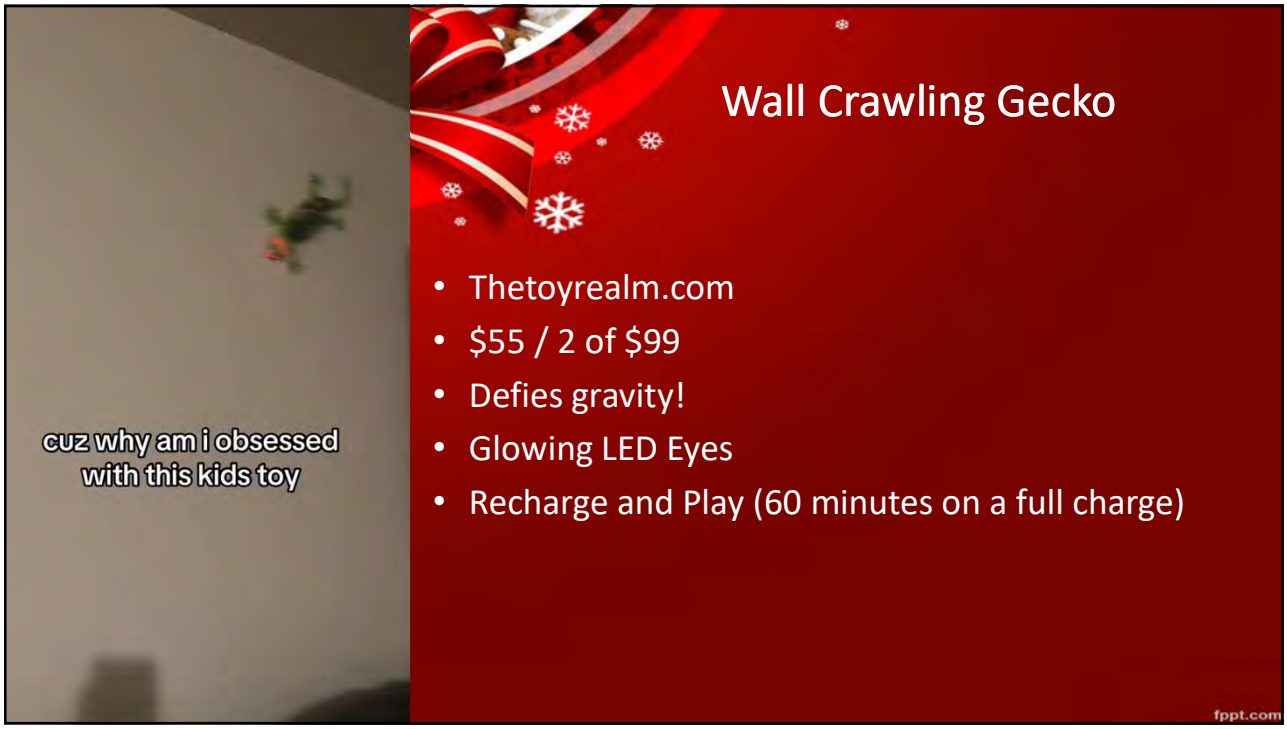


## Wall Crawling Gecko

- Thetoyrealm.com
- $55 / 2 of $99
- Defies gravity!
- Glowing LED Eyes
- Recharge and Play (60 minutes on a full charge)

fppt.com

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## Mini Claw Machine

- Freshfrenzy.co
- $149
- Includes over 35 prizes
- Detachable controller
- Variety of lights and sounds
- Add your own prizes
- 1 year warranty
- Ages 3 and up

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## Thoson Bot

- Amazon.com
- $62.99 (special until 11/9/25)
- 100 drawing cards
- No app, no Wi-Fi

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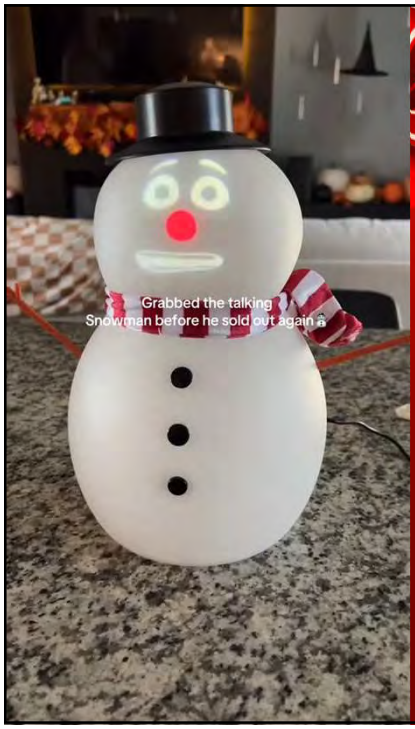


## Animated Talking Snowman

- Walmart.com
- $33.99 / 2 for $65.44
- Bring the magic of Christmas to life! This animated singing snowman features LED facial projection, lifelike lip-sync animation, and a powerful USB speaker, creating a dazzling performance that fills any room with festive cheer.
- Watch as the talking glass snowman entertains with perfectly timed music and expressive animations, instantly transforming your space into a joyful holiday wonderland—perfect for family gatherings, office parties, and Christmas celebrations.
- Enjoy hassle-free decorating with dual power modes—use 4 AA batteries for cordless convenience or plug in via USB for nonstop festive fun. Effortlessly display it on mantels, shelves, tables, or desks.

fppt.com

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## Space Projection Light

- Amazon.com
- $32.99
- This galaxy projector for the bedroom is equipped with 13 different HD galaxy discs, including the Solar System, Earth, Moon, Virgo Supercluster, Centaurus A, Black Hole, Antennae Galaxies, Wormhole, the Milky Way, Mystic Mountain, Sharpless 2-308, Small Magellanic Cloud, and Laniakea Supercluster. These realistic galaxy film discs make the star projector an ideal choice for room decor for kids, teen girls, and adults. Note: There are a total of 13 projection cards, with one of them built-in the galaxy projector
- With enhanced brightness and an enlarged projection area, this bedroom galaxy light projector can now fill an entire ceiling or wall with a dazzling starry sky
- The 360° rotation feature allows users to easily change the projection angle. This bedroom light projector can project stars and the solar system onto walls, floors, and ceilings, with a projection distance of 1.5 to 16 feet (the optimal projection distance is 9.84 feet). The space projector covers an area of 135 to 754 square feet. The ceiling projector is USB-powered.
- The galaxy light projector in the bedroom can be set to automatically turn off after 1 hour or 2 hours.

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## Stargate Projection Lamp

- Walmart.com
- $56.99
- Dual Control Modes：Supports both host button and remote-control operations. The remote allows easy adjustment of functions like main switch, timing, projection settings, and Bluetooth pairing, enabling convenient use from a distance.
- Integrates a Plasma Ball that activates on power - on, and a projection lamp with adjustable color and brightness. Can project cycled lights, set ambient lighting, and transform rooms into cosmic - like environments.
- Equipped with time display and alarm settings. Users can set alarms, adjust hour/minute, and choose alarm tones. The alarm activates with visual (indicator flashing) and potential audio cues (if paired with audio).
- Enables Bluetooth connection for audio playback. Can play, pause, switch songs, and adjust volume via both host buttons and remote, combining lighting effects with music for an immersive experience

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## Alexa Smart Remote

- Amazon
- $19.99
- It basically has four buttons that you can configure via the Alexa app or ask Alexa+ to map routines to. During a demo at the event space, an Amazon representative told an Echo Show "Alexa, when I press the top button, I want you to activate the party time scene and play "Alive" by Pearl Jam.
- The battery-powered remote can be mounted on a wall or surface and can be magnetically attached for maximum convenience.

fppt.com

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## Solar Hat

- Us.ecoflow.com
- $99.00
- Medium-Large size: 56-58 cm
- Large-XLarge size: 59-61 cm
- Solar charging on the go
- Captures solar energy from all angles without any blind spots.
- Dual USB-A & USB-C ports for charging two devices simultaneously.
- UPF 50+, sun and UV protection
- Up to 24% thermal-to-electricity conversion, for a cooler wearing experience
- IP65 waterproof and dustproof-rated, ideal for hiking, beach trips, fishing, and outdoor activities.
- OK – It is UGLY!!

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**Next Meeting – Monday, December 1**
10AM - VFW

Update for Higher Education

Dr. Jay Akridge
Professor, Ag Econ
Former Provost, Purdue University

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PURDUE UNIVERSITY

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