**Eric Belasco Bio**

Eric Belasco is a professor and department head in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics at Montana State University. He received his Ph.D. and MS in Economics from North Carolina State University and his BS in Economics from Saint Mary's College of California.  His research focuses in the areas of agricultural marketing, technology, financial engineering, crop insurance, farm policy, and risk management, which includes 34 peer-reviewed journal articles and two book chapters. This research has been highlighted in outlets including the Washington Post, New York Times, MarketWatch, as well as many regional news outlets. Eric's teaching has included courses in agricultural policy, financial engineering, agricultural marketing, international trade, and microeconomics.  Belasco has traveled with students all over the world as part of the Ag in a Global Context course that he teaches, most recently visiting Japan in May 2025.  He has managed over $4 million in federal grants working on interdisciplinary topics including education and communication efforts related to agricultural production and weather risk, the development of engineering biodegradable mulches, the value and barriers associated with organic labeling, and the design of weather-based agricultural policy programs, among others.  Eric currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics, is a Visiting Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, is the former President of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, and is an Associate Editor for the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* and the *Agricultural Finance Review*.