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Meet the Staff

Center for Agricultural and Rural Development

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Meet the Staff

Cathy Kling, professor of economics, is beginning her second year as the Resource and Environmental Policy Division head at the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development.

"It is really enjoyable to work on big picture research problems rather than the standard academic research," Cathy says of her work at CARD. However, she also points out that learning to conduct the big picture research while doing academic research is a challenge.

Part of Cathy's research program focuses on valuing environmental goods. In order for society to make good decisions regarding the environment, it is important to consider explicitly the value placed on envi-

ronmental quantities. For example, in conjunction with Joseph Herriges, Cathy has a research project examining the potential use and value of Iowa wetlands to the citizens of Iowa. In her work at CARD, she is undertaking research to examine how agricultural practices affect water quality, wildlife, soil carbon content, and greenhouse gasses. In addition, this past fall, Cathy organized the first Heartland Environmental and Resource Economics (HERE) workshop. (For more information about the workshop, see the story on page 10.)

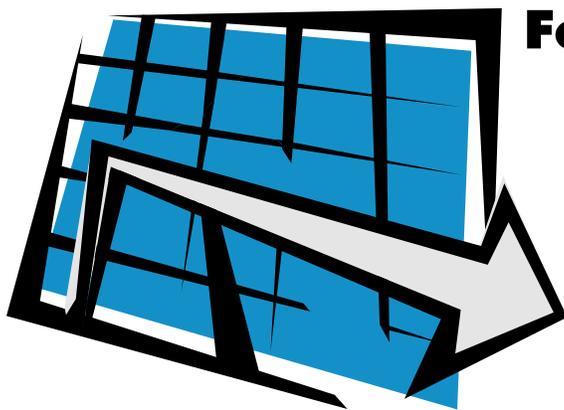
"I enjoy working with the CARD staff, the grad students, and the post docs. They are full of energy and ideas," Cathy says.

Cathy received a bachelor's degree in business and economics from the



Cathy Kling

University of Iowa and a doctorate in economics from the University of Maryland. She is married to Terry Alexander, also an economist at ISU, and they have two children, Danny and Maggie. Cathy spends her time away from CARD attending her children's activities, gardening, and participating in outdoor activities which include hiking and bird watching. ♦



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