



April 2018

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Will Martin, *President*

International Food Policy Research Institute
2033 K St NW, Washington DC 20006
Email: w.martin@cgiar.org

Nick Vink, *President-Elect*

University of Stellenbosch
Department of Agricultural Economics
Private Bag X1, Matieland 7600 South Africa
Email: nv@sun.ac.za

Johan Swinnen, *Past President*

LICOS Centre for Institutions
and Economic Performance, KU Leuven
Waaistraat 6
Leuven 3000, Belgium
Email: jo.swinnen@econ.kuleuven.be

**Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel
*Secretary-Treasurer***

University of Göttingen
Department of Agricultural Economics
Platz der Göttinger Sieben, 5
37073 Göttingen, Germany
Email: iaae@gwdg.de

Karen Brooks, *Member at Large*

International Food Policy Research Institute
2033 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20006, USA
Email: k.brooks@cgiar.org

Julian Alston, *Member at Large*

University of California
Dept. of Agricultural & Resource Economics
1 Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616, USA
Email: julian@primal.ucdavis.edu

Steven Were Omamo, *Member at Large*

World Food Programme
Via C.G. Viola 68/70
Rome 00148, Italy
Email: stevenwere.omamo@wfp.org

Awudu Abdulai, *Editor*

Chair of Food Economics and Food Policy
Dept. of Food Econ. and Consumption Studies
University of Kiel
Olshausenstrasse 40, 24098 Kiel, Germany
Email: abdula@food-econ.uni-kiel.de

Ashok Mishra, *Editor*

Louisiana State University
Dept. of Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness
128 Martin D. Woodin Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70803, USA
Email: Ashok.K.Mishra@ASU.edu

International Association of Agricultural Economists

Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear members of the IAAE,

We are now in the most exciting phase of the three-year membership cycle for the International Association of Agricultural Economists—the countdown to our Triennial Conference. This Conference will be the 30th held in the 90-year life of our Association, and the first to be held in the beautiful Pacific Northwest of North America.

While attendees will be able to enjoy the delightful surroundings of Vancouver harbour, some hard thinking will be needed at this Conference. Many of the ideas that have long guided thinking in the social sciences—and indeed much of science itself—are under challenge. As one example, the idea that genetically-modified foods are safe appears to be strongly grounded in science, and yet rejected by many consumers and policy makers. Powerful policy makers are taking the view that the scientific consensus on global warming is just a myth. The old view that open trade is generally good, and that trade wars are easy to start but hard to stop, has come under challenge from a potentially-falsifiable hypothesis that “trade wars are good, and easy to win”.

A key question for those of us interested in policy—or in the contributions that analysis may make to policy—is how best to respond to these developments. Should we be looking for opportunities to better “sell” our existing ideas on policy? Or should we be looking for new ideas and approaches that might respond to the concerns that underlie alternative approaches to policy? Or, for those more directly involved in policy, does it make sense to identify approaches that will achieve the goals of policy makers at the lowest possible cost? And, of course, how might collective action problems be best addressed when key countries are taking aggressively unilateral stances? There will be much to think about during the six days of the Vancouver Conference, and I’m sure there will be very lively debates on how to deal with these—and many other—policy challenges.

On a happier note, the Association held a highly-successful Inter-Conference Symposium on Agricultural Productivity, Climate Change and Sustainable Resource Management in Talca, Chile, October 17-20, 2017. This event attracted close to 200 participants from Latin America for a wide-ranging conference. Special thanks are due to Boris Bravo-Ureta and his team in Talca for his hard work in leading this event.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Vancouver Conference, July 28 to August 2!

Best regards, Will Martin

30th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS

"NEW LANDSCAPES AND NEW MANDATES FOR AGRICULTURE"

VANCOUVER, JULY 29 to AUGUST 2, 2018



The 30th International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE), which will be held in Vancouver from July 29 to August 2, is rapidly approaching.

The Westin Bayshore Hotel will be the main Conference venue and one of the Conference hotels. More information about the venue, as well as on accommodations and attractions in Vancouver is available on the Conference website (www.icae2018.com). You can also follow updates on Twitter at @ICAE_2018. Vancouver is an exciting city, and the Conference program is full of highlights. Based on the number of submitted papers we are expecting a great turnout and demand for accommodations, so be sure to book early to ensure that you benefit from Conference-rate rooms.

The academic program for the Conference is nearing completion. The Elmhirst Memorial Address entitled "Comparative Advantage and Agricultural Trade" will be delivered by Dave Donaldson. Plenary sessions will examine key questions such as:

- (i) Agriculture and the environment — the data revolution
- (ii) The future of food systems in developing countries
- (iii) New landscapes and challenges amidst Africa's rapidly transforming food systems
- (iv) Agriculture, land use and ecosystem services
- (v) Insights from behavioural and experimental economics: turning research into actionable policy advice.

Invited Sessions and Organized Symposia will cover the full gamut of topics in agricultural economics, allowing exploration of many topics in everyone's area of interest. A set of innovative sessions will break new ground in terms of format, including sessions structured as Oxford Union-style debates and as hard talk interviews. A record number of Contributed Papers—all evaluated through a rigorous, double-blind review process—will present the results of the latest research in all areas of interest to members of our profession.

Please also consider coming a day or two early for one of the pre-conference workshops being held on July 28. As detailed on the Conference website, these sessions cover:

- (i) Annual Meeting of the Canadian Agricultural Economic Society
- (ii) Rural Transformation in the 21st Century: The Challenges of Low-Income, Late Transforming Countries
- (iii) Quantitative Food System Analysis
- (iv) Advancing Research on Nutrition and Agriculture
- (v) 20 Years of Value Chain Research. What Have We (Not) Learned?
- (vi) Global Club of Agricultural Economics Administrators.

Registration for the 30th IC AE is now open. Note that only IAAE members can participate in the Conference – existing members can [register here](#) and must provide their membership number. Non-members can settle their membership fees within the conference registration website, [click here](#) to access the non-member registration site. The deadline to qualify for the early registration fee is May 15, 2018. For information related to registration, such as the early fee and regular fee amounts, please see the conference web site (www.icae2018.com). All paper presenters must register by June 15, 2018 to be included in the final program.

The Local Organising Committee has prepared fifteen fascinating tours that will take place in the late morning and afternoon of July 31, 2018. These tours will showcase agricultural, recreational or other attractions in the Vancouver or lower BC mainland area, including for example a Vancouver Harbour boat tour with a focus on major grain and commodity export terminals; an artisanal farm production tour in the Central Fraser Valley; and a First Nations resource development tour. More information is available on the Conference website. Be sure to sign up for the tour of your choice when you register for the Conference, as each tour will have limited capacity.

We are looking forward to meeting you all at this exciting event!



OTHER BUSINESS

ELECTIONS: IAAE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Between June 1 and June 30, 2018, all IAAE members will be able to vote electronically for the members of the new IAAE Board of Directors, who will take office for three years at the close of the upcoming 2018 ICAE in Vancouver. Elections will be held for the positions of:

- President Elect;
- Secretary-Treasurer; and
- three Members-at-Large.

The Nominations Committee under the chairmanship of Past-President Jo Swinnen is preparing lists of nominees for these positions that include at least two candidates for each Member-at-Large position and the President-Elect position, and one candidate for the Secretary-Treasurer position. Members will be informed about these nominees and the voting procedures in time for the opening of the voting on June 1, 2018.

Article 6.4.2 of the IAAE Bylaws stipulates that nominations are also possible by petition “of no less than twenty (20) Active and Honorary Life Members”. Members who wish to submit such a nomination by petition should do so by no later than **midnight GMT on May 1, 2018** to the Secretary-Treasurer, Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel (iaae@gwdg.de).

Only IAAE members who are paid in full for the 2017-19 conference period as of June 1, 2018 (and Honorary Life Members) will be eligible to vote, so please renew your membership soon and participate in these important elections!

PROPOSALS TO HOST THE 2024 ICAE

The venue for the 2021 International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE) has already been selected – we are very excited to be going to Delhi in 2021!

Looking further ahead, the IAAE Board of Directors invites proposals to host the 2024 ICAE. A Local Organizing Committee (LOC), operating under the auspices of a national or regional association of agricultural

economists, leads the planning of all logistics involved with holding the ICAE. This includes selecting a location, arranging for hotels, booking the Conference site, organizing mid-week tours during the ICAE, and all other details of hosting the ICAE. Normally much of the detailed work is contracted by the LOC to a local conference management organization. The LOC works closely with the IAAE President-Elect, who is responsible for developing the program of the ICAE, and the IAAE Secretary-Treasurer, who assists with financial management.

Interested parties may obtain additional information about the general content of the proposal needed by the IAAE Board of Directors, the responsibilities of the LOC and the IAAE respectively related to planning an ICAE, and a sample budget from Secretary-Treasurer Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel (iaae@gwdg.de). This information will help the potential LOC understand the elements of the Conference which must be budgeted to set an appropriate registration fee, and to prepare its proposal. Proposals must be received by IAAE (IAAE@execinc.com) not later than June 30, 2018.

The IAAE Newsletter

The IAAE Newsletter (ISSN1052-5815) is published semi-annually by the IAAE. News Alerts are published periodically to provide new information. The next IAAE Newsletter will be published in **October 2018**. Information for the September 2017 issue must reach the IAAE Secretary-Treasurer’s office by February 28, 2017 (contact on page 1). Every effort will be made to include the material provided. IAAE reserves the right to select and shorten items for publication.

IAAE Website Job Postings

Requests for job postings, along with a check for \$200 for each listing for international or regional organizations and \$300 for postings from other organizations, should be sent to the IAAE, 555 E Wells St., Suite 1100, Milwaukee, WI 53202, U.S.A. Postings of up to 300 words will generally be linked to the complete job posting on the organization’s own website and maintained for up to 90 days.