



October 2018

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nick Vink, *President*

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

Uma Lele, *President-Elect*

Institute of Economic Growth
University of Delhi Enclave, North Campus
Delhi, India 110 007
Email: umalele1@gmail.com

Will Martin, *Past President*

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

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

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

Chris Barrett, *Member-at-Large*

Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics &
Management
Warren Hall, Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853 USA
Email: cbb2@cornell.edu

Cheryl Doss, *Member-at-Large*

Oxford Department of International Development
Queen Elizabeth House
3 Mansfield Road, Oxford OX1 3TB, UK
Email: cheryl.doss@qeh.ox.ac.uk

Matin Qaim, *Member-at-Large*

Department of Agricultural Economics
University of Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben, 5
37073 Göttingen, Germany
Email: mqaim@uni-goettingen.de

Awudu Abdulai, *Editor*

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

Ashok Mishra, *Editor*

Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation Chair
Morrison School of Agribusiness
W. P. Carey School of Business
Arizona State University
7271 E Sonoran Arroyo Mall
Mesa, AZ 85212 USA
Email: Ashok.k.mishra@asu.edu

International Association of Agricultural Economists

Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear members of the IAAE,

It is hard to believe that our 30th triennial conference is a thing of the past, that there has been a change of leadership, and that our new President-Elect, Uma Lele, is already hard at work for 2021 in New Delhi. During this transition we were able to test three things: was the record attendance in Milan the continuation of a trend, or was it a once-off record? Second, can our Bylaws stand up to the rigors of planning a conference of this magnitude, and third, have we succeeded in addressing the right issues at our conferences?

Conference attendance has grown steadily, albeit erratically, since 1929. We permanently breached the 500 delegate mark in 1964 (Lyon, France), although the last pre-war conference, held in Ste. Anne de Bellevue in Quebec, Canada, already had 510 delegates, and the 1982 conference in Jakarta, Indonesia, only 480. Since the Lyon conference, we breached the 900 delegate mark three times (Tokyo, 1991, Berlin, 2000 and Gold Coast in 2006), but generally stayed in the 500 to 800 range. Milan, therefore, was a pleasant surprise, with its 1158 paid registrations. After that record attendance, the received wisdom was that Vancouver would attract fewer people, because the west coast of Canada was both far away and expensive. Both of these turned out to be true, but did not seem to deter members, because 1235 people turned up for the 6 days of 800 contributed papers and posters (running as 22 sessions in parallel), 40 Organized Discussion Sessions, 15 Invited Panels and seven Plenary Sessions. Now we can look forward to an even larger attendance in New Delhi, as it seems that a new trend is revealing itself!

Second is the way our governance structures work, especially with regard to the organization of the conference, which, along with the Journal, is our flagship offering to members. We have been able to test our new Bylaws, which were adopted at the 2012 meetings in Foz do Iguaçu, for two conferences now (Milan and Vancouver), and it is clear that they work. Ultimately, a successful conference depends on a seamless working relationship between the President-elect, the Local Organizing Committee, and the Conference Organizers.

Third, did we address all the issues that we should have in Vancouver? Of course not, there are too many, and even where we were able to fit something onto the agenda it could never be the last word on the subject. This gives us the motivation to come back again in three years' time and hopefully also to engage with Uma Lele on topics that you want to see on the program.

(President's Message, cont'd) It remains for me to say a special thank you to Jan Greyling, who was my trusted right hand in the planning and execution of the program, and to Colin Thirtle, Jenny Piesse and Jerry Shively who helped with the Contributed Papers and Organized Sessions. Ryan Caldwell and the whole of the Vancouver Local Organising Committee, and Kat Duda from Venue West ensured that our work was seamless.

Best regards,

Nick Vink

31st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS NEW DELHI, INDIA, AUGUST 2021



Dear IAAE Members,

What an honour and a pleasure it is to be elected President-Elect of IAAE, to be the first woman President-Elect in IAAE's 90-year history, and to be planning a conference in my country of origin. It is an awesome responsibility but also an exciting opportunity. I will welcome input from all IAAE members both on the substance and process of the conference planning. I am fortunate to be working with a dedicated, intellectually and organizationally well-endowed local organizing committee consisting of P.K Joshi (Director of IFPRI's South Asia Office), Mahendra Dev (Vice Chancellor of the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research), and Suresh Pal (Director of the National Institute of Agricultural Policy of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research).

I will be visiting Delhi in November 2018 to begin the planning process. Among other things the exact dates of the conference in August 2021, including pre-conference workshops, need to be firmed up.

IAAE is a true global organization with membership from all corners of the world. The program must be of interest and relevance to all members. With rapid pace of change, much can change by 2021. And yet some perennial issues concern both developed and developing countries, for example, climate change, trade, the rapidly growing demand for food, fibre and energy from a growing population, urbanization and income growth, and the growing pressure on natural resources, including water, soils and forests. Climate change and resource degradation are threatening the sustainability of agriculture and pushing marginal populations across national borders.

Food insecurity was once an exclusive concern of developing countries with large undernourished populations. As the nature of the food insecurity challenge has changed to include under- as well as over-nourishment, micro-nutrient deficiencies and obesity, and as the health consequences of poor food choices have become obvious, the nature and types of value

chains which connect farmers to consumers have become of universal interest.

Finally, the “me too” movement in the west is reminding us that unequal gender rights are not just a live issue in developing countries. What should a woman’s leadership of IAAE be expected to bring? Greater membership and participation of qualified women, their mentorship and research on issues which concern half the world’s population.

I also hope we will address the role of modernizing agriculture in combatting youth unemployment in parts of the world where millions of young men and women are looking for productive, gainful employment.

Do remain engaged, keep your comments and suggestions coming and come to Delhi in 2021 both for intellectual and cultural stimulation. Enjoy India’s ancient history and culture and make ICAE 2021 a resounding success.

Please do not hesitate to direct your communications to me at umalele1@gmail.com. I will respond to communications as and when needed but will take into account all suggestions.

Best regards,

Uma Lele

OTHER BUSINESS

JOURNAL BUSINESS

This year was another successful one for the IAAE’s official journal, *Agricultural Economics*. Some of the highlights include:

- The paper selected from 2017 for the best article award was “*Is late really better than never? The farmer welfare effects of pineapple adoption in Ghana*” by Aurelie Harou, Thomas Walker and Christopher Barrett. Plaques were presented to the authors at the ICAE conference in Vancouver.
- A number of colleagues have joined us as new Associate Editors. These are Rico Ihle, Anthony N. Rezitis, Stefan Hirsch, Million Tadesse, Guignon Serge Adjognon and Jacob Rickert-Gilbert.
- Our sincere thanks go out to the entire editorial team for their service and commitment to our community of scholars. The entire team can be found listed at the journal’s web site: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/%28ISSN%291574-0862/homepage/EditorialBoard.html>

We continue to receive an increasing number of regular submissions to the journal. The number of submitted manuscripts increased last year, with 624 new submissions and 126 resubmissions, for a total inflow of 833 manuscripts. This compares with 606 new submissions and 133 resubmissions in 2016-17. The number of papers ultimately accepted was 84 in the past year, a bit higher than the 81 in 2016-17. The one-year rejection rate (based on 553 rejections and 833 new, pending and resubmitted manuscripts) was 66% of all submissions, same as last year. About 18% of initial submissions were returned for revision; some of those papers are eventually rejected and others are

subsequently accepted. Based on 833 papers submitted or resubmitted, and 84 papers accepted, the annual acceptance rate remained at 10%. Strong competition for acceptance in the journal requires that we turn away a large number of high-quality manuscripts in order to maintain reasonably quick throughput and a modest journal backlog.

In June 2018, the ISI 2017 Impact Factors were released. The one-year Impact Factor for *Agricultural Economics* decreased marginally from 1.759 in 2016 to 1.738 in 2017, and leaving it 5th on the list of 17 journals in the *Agricultural Economics and Policy* category. In terms of overall citations, we ranked third with 2,411 total citations during the period. The 5-year JCR impact factor for *Agricultural Economics* increased from 2.009 in 2016 to 2.509 in 2017.

We thank all our authors, associate editors and referees, for their many contributions. We are especially pleased to see more than half of our articles accompanied by data archives, to help others replicate and build on these papers.

As usual, we look forward to hearing from you, by email at aabdula@food-econ.uni-kiel.de or through our websites listed below.

Awudu Abdulai and Ashok Mishra
Co-Editors, *Agricultural Economics*

General information:

www.iaae-agecon.org/journal/journal.html

Journal contents:

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15740862>

Article submission :

www.editorialexpress.com/agecon

INTER-CONFERENCE SYMPOSIA

Another key activity of the IAAE are its Inter-Conference Symposia. These are generally structured to help strengthen relations between agricultural economists in particular regions. They have also been used to prepare the ground for hosting an ICAE. In recent years, Inter-Conference Symposia have been held in Almaty, Kazakhstan and Talca, Chile. In contrast with our Triennial ICAEs, there is no fixed schedule for Inter-Conference Symposia, and we could hold more than the one per year that has been our traditional practice. Proposals for future Inter-Conference Symposia are welcome and can be addressed to any member of the IAAE Board of Directors (see contacts on page 1).

PROPOSALS TO HOST THE 32nd ICAE IN 2024

We are very excited to be going to New Delhi for the 31st ICAE in 2021! Looking further ahead, the IAAE Board of Directors invites proposals to host the 32nd ICAE in 2024. 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 venue, 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.

The IAAE Board of Directors is in preliminary discussions with the African Association of Agricultural Economists regarding the possibility of holding the 32nd ICAE in Kigali, Rwanda, but is open to entertain other options as well at this stage.

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, 2019.

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 **March 2019**. Information for the March 2019 issue must reach the IAAE Secretary-Treasurer's office by February 28, 2019 (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.