The XXVIII International Conference of Agricultural Economists

18 – 24 August 2012

Rafain Convention Center, Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil

COWBELL

YOUR CONFERENCE BULLETIN

Issue # 2

Monday 20 August 2012

IAAE Governance Update

Members are informed that proposals will be brought before the IAAE Council meeting today for the approval of a new IAAE organizational format that is required to comply with current U.S. regulations for nonprofit organizations. The biggest change involves moving from elections by Council to direct voting by paid members as of a certain date to elect the IAAE officers and board members. The rest of the changes are more operational in the same sense as the Executive Committee now functions, but under the title of Board of Directors.

The Resolutions for Approval are included in this issue of the Cowbell. A copy of the current Constitution, the proposed Articles of Incorporation and the proposed Bylaws will be available at the registration desk for those who are attending the Council meeting.

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS

Resolutions for Approval by IAAE Council on

August ___, 2012

1. Resolved, that, for various good business reasons, the Association shall be reorganized as a Wisconsin nonstock corporation and that the Association thereafter conduct its activities in the corporate form.

2. Resolved, that, in order to carry out the above resolution, the following actions are hereby authorized and approved:

   (a) Promptly after the approval by the IAAE Council of these resolutions, the officers of the Association shall cause to be formed a Wisconsin nonstock corporation to be known as the “International Association of Agricultural Economists, Inc.” (the “Corporation”), it being anticipated that such corporation (i) will have members with rights to vote for the election of the Corporation’s directors and officers; (ii) the officer positions of the Corporation and the identity of the initial officers of the Corporation will be the same as those of the Association; (iii) the board of directors of the Corporation will be comprised substantially similar to the current composition of the Executive Committee of the Association and that the identity of the initial directors of the Corporation will be the same as the current members of the Executive Committee of the Association; and (iv) will have initial Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws substantially as set forth in the attached Exhibits A and B, respectively.

   (b) Promptly following the organization of the Corporation, the officers of the Corporation shall cause to be prepared and filed with the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) on behalf of the Corporation an application for tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”); As soon as practicable after the Corporation obtains a favorable determination letter from the IRS to the effect that the Corporation is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended (the “Code”), the Association shall assign all of its assets, business and liabilities to the Corporation and the Corporation shall accept such assignment of assets and business of the Association and assume any such liabilities of the Association and from and after the effective date of such assignment and assumption (the “Effective Date”), the Association shall cease to operate other than for purposes of winding down and the Corporation shall from and after such date carry on the activities and mission of the Association in accordance with the provisions of the Corporation’s Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and other governing documents; and

   (d) After the Corporation succeeds to the activities and mission of the Association as described above, the officers of the Association shall take such actions as are necessary or appropriate in order to wind down any remaining affairs of the Association after the Effective Date, including, without limitation, the

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submission to the IRS of a final Form 990 for the Association.

3. Resolved, that Walt Armbruster shall work with the Association’s legal counsel and the Association’s executive management to finalize the attached Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Corporation and related organizational documents, the application for tax-exempt status described in the foregoing resolutions, and all other documents and resolutions as may be necessary to effectuate the foregoing resolutions and that Walt Armbruster and that the other officers of the Association are hereby authorized to execute such documents, make such filings with governmental bodies, and otherwise take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate in order to effectuate the foregoing resolutions.

IAAE Council: Nominations

Chairman of the Nominations Committee of IAAE Jo Swinnen is pleased to announce the nominations information and the candidate information for Council positions for the next triennial. Note that the rule of voting is as follows:

- All candidates will be presented on a single ballot for one vote.
- Only in the case of a tie vote for a position will there be an additional round of voting.

The following nominations were put before Council by the Nominations Committee.

Candidates for President-Elect

1. Will Martin - The World Bank
2. David Zilberman - University of California, Berkeley.

Candidates for Member-at-Large

1. Kym Anderson - University of Adelaide.
2. Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel - Georg August University Gottingen
3. Sara Savastano - University of Rome Tor Vegata.
4. Maximo Torero - IFPRI
5. Nick Vink - University of Stellenbosch.

Meet the candidates

Candidates for President-Elect:

Will Martin is Research Manager for Agriculture and Rural Development in the World Bank’s Development Research Group, leading a broad program of research on some of the most important issues in economic development. Most of his recent research focuses on policy issues in agricultural trade and food security, including widely-cited estimates of the impacts of high food prices on poverty and of the collective action problems associated with countries seeking to insulate themselves from increases in world

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food prices. He has written extensively on the WTO and its implications for world trade and agriculture.

Will holds a PhD from Iowa State University and is a Distinguished Fellow of the Australian Agricultural Economics Society. Currently, he is Chair-Elect of the International Section of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. He organized the Theme Day on Agricultural Price Volatility and Food Security for the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium in December 2011 and the G-20 seminar on Commodities in May 2012.

World agriculture is at a turning point, with production in developing countries growing rapidly and policies in many countries moving from taxation towards subsidization, while high fuel prices and biofuel policies are reshaping agricultural policy and even the role of agriculture. In such a rapidly-changing situation, the IAAE is vitally important as a forum for exchanging information about what works and what does not—and how to tell the difference. If elected, Will’s goal would be to help the Association draw on its diverse and talented membership to make a difference through successful conferences, an increasingly influential journal, and strengthened partnerships with other associations.

David Zilberman is a Professor and Robinson Chair in the ARE Department at U. C., Berkeley. David’s areas of expertise include agricultural, environmental and resource policy and the economics of innovation and risk. David is a Fellow of AAEA and the Association of Environmental and Resource Economics (AERE). David has published over 250 refereed journals ranging from Choices to Science and edited 16 books and won multiple awards including the AAEA 2005 and 2009 Publication of Enduring Quality Award and is the recipient of the UNESCO 2000 Water and the Economy Award. David received his B. A. in Economics and Statistics at Tel Aviv University and his Ph.D. at the U. C. Berkeley. He served as Department Chair and as Director of the Giannini Foundation. David is the co-founder of the International Water Resources Economics Consortium (IWREC), the International Consortium of Agricultural Biotechnology Research (ICABR) and the Behrns Environmental Leadership Program.

David’s vision for the IAAE is threefold. First is to expand the Association’s activities between meetings through workshops via both traditional and the social media aiming to foster collaboration among members and with related disciplines and increase visibility of the profession. Second is to amplify core IAAE activities (the journal, Agricultural Economics, newsletter and the international meetings) in terms of relevance, reach and prestige. Third is to raise funds to support the Association’s initiatives and its affordability to members across the globe. David looks forward to collaborating with the Executive Board and to engage in ongoing dialogue with the membership.

Candidates for Member-at-Large

Kym Anderson is the George Gollin Professor of Economics, foundation Executive Director of the Wine Economics Research Centre, and formerly foundation Executive Director of the Centre for International Economic Studies at the University of Adelaide in Australia, where he has been affiliated since 1984. Previously he was a Research Fellow at the Australian National University’s Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies (1977-83), following doctoral studies at the University of Chicago and Stanford University (1974-77); and in 2012 he rejoined ANU part-time as a Professor of Economics in its Crawford School of Public Policy. He was on extended leave at the Economic Research division of the GATT (now WTO) Secretariat in Geneva during 1990-92 and at the World Bank’s Development Research Group in Washington DC as Lead Economist (Trade Policy) during 2004-07. He is a Fellow of the AAEA, AARES, AAWE, ASSA and CEPR. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Washington DC-based International Food Policy Research Institute, and of the Commission of Australia’s Centre for International Agricultural Research.

He has published more than 300 articles and 30 books, including The Political Economy of Agricultural

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Protection (with Yujiro Hayami), Disarray in World Food Markets (with Rod Tyers), Agricultural Trade Reform and the Doha Development Agenda (with Will Martin), The World’s Wine Markets: Globalization at Work and, during 2008-10, a set of 4 regional and 3 global books on Distortions to Agricultural Incentives. His publications have received a number of AAEA and AARES awards, including the 2010 Bruce Gardner Memorial Prize for Applied Policy Analysis.

Kym views the IAAE’s triennial congress as a crucial means for sharing agricultural, resource and environmental economic research outputs and policy ideas across countries and regions, for building networks among researchers and policy analysts, and for encouraging the next generation of members of our global profession, particularly from developing countries. He also values the regional meetings the IAAE organizes in collaboration with local organizations between each triennial global congress, where a sharper focus on key issues of importance to the host region is possible and hence where it is easier to engage with and influence government, business and NGOs.

Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel is Professor for Agricultural Policy in the Department for Agricultural Economics and Rural Development of the University of Göttingen. Stephan did his BSc and MSc in Canada and his PhD in Germany.

From 2000 to 2006 he was Editor-in-Chief of Agricultural Economics, the official journal of the IAAE, and he is currently a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (AJARE). His work focuses on the analysis of agricultural policies as well as on price transmission and market integration. Stephan has worked extensively in the EU, the countries of the Former Soviet Union, and Latin America. He has ongoing research projects in China, Mongolia, Israel, Palestine and the EU. He currently coordinates a joint Masters program between the University of Göttingen, the Universidad de Talca in Chile and Bogor Agricultural University in Indonesia. Stephan is married with 4 children and is a dual citizen of Canada and Germany.

"The IAAE is a vital and vibrant institution that provides a unique forum for international dialog and exchange on agricultural and applied economics research and its relevance for human welfare, policy and commerce. The IAAE must continue to link colleagues from different parts of the world so that our profession can contribute to finding solutions to global problems. I would work on increasing the IAAE's outreach to agricultural economic associations in developing and emerging regions of the world. I have been proud to serve the IAAE in the past, as the editor of Agricultural Economics for six years and by coordinating the contributed paper submission and selection process for the 2009 IAAE Conference in Beijing. I would be grateful for an opportunity to add to this record of service."

Sara Savastano is an Assistant Professor in Economics at the University of Rome Tor Vergata – Italy. She is member of CEIS and Secretary General of ICABR a broad-based international consortium of academics and other stakeholders interested in the bioeconomy.

Sara obtained a PhD in Economics from the University of Rome Tor Vergata in 2003, and worked at the Development Research Group of the World Bank. She then served as an Economist in the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance. She consults for FAO, the World Bank, and other international organizations and private institutions.

Her research interests gradually expanded from option value theory and investment analysis to development economics with a focus on agricultural development, and in particular agricultural efficiency and productivity analysis. More recently, Sara started to explore innovative topics in Neuroeconomics and Behavioral Economics.

We live in a new era of agricultural economics where the links with important biology-economics interface are more profound. Globalization and liberalization, rapid urbanization, emergence of agro-industrial firms and new technologies in agriculture, large scale acquisitions, modern supply chain, environmental pressures and climate change, increased demand for biological means...
of producing industrial chemicals, plastics and pharmaceuticals are the main drivers of this change.

In this context, the IAAE should serve as a multidisciplinary forum to bring forth research of the highest academic standards in conjunction with other international associations involved in related disciplines such as general economics, environmental, ecological, industrial, and health economics.

This entails strengthening collaborative networks of academic researchers, policy-makers and other relevant stakeholders, together with international development organizations, NGOs, regional and international financial institutions, business partners and government representatives.

The IAAE triennial conference would be the place where new knowledge is disseminated, collaboration between researchers is encouraged; job market of young researchers is facilitated, and priorities for the future research and policy agenda are set.

Maximo Torero is the Division Director of the Markets, Trade, and Institutions Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute and leader of the theme on Linking Small Producers to Markets in the CGIAR research program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets. His major research work lies mostly in analyzing poverty, inequality, importance of geography and assets (private or public) in explaining poverty, and in policies oriented towards poverty alleviation based on the role played by infrastructure, institutions, and on how technological breakthroughs (or discontinuities) can improve the welfare of households and small farmers. His experience encompasses Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia. Dr. Torero received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles, held a postdoctoral fellow position at the UCLA Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), and is a professor on leave at the Universidad del Pacífico and an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at University of Bonn, Germany. He has won the World Award for Outstanding Research on Development given by the Global Development Network (GDN) twice.

Top quality research has an historical role to play in solving the ongoing challenges of global food security, volatile food prices, extreme weather shocks, famine, and conflict and unrest. Dr. Torero believes that the IAAE is crucial in: (1) facilitating the exchange of evidence-based policy research results, (2) ensuring state-of-the art research, (3) addressing key challenges on a national, regional, and global scale, and (4) providing evidence-based solutions. He believes the IAAE should continue to promote innovation through scientific dialogue, increase its impact by strengthening its network of global researchers, and promote high quality evidence-based research. He will commit all his efforts to this goal and would be privileged to serve on the IAAE Executive Committee.

Nick Vink is from South Africa and has been Chair of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Stellenbosch since 1996; prior to that he was a policy analyst and policy manager at the Development Bank of Southern Africa. He is currently President and an Honorary Fellow of the African Association of Agricultural Economists and a Fellow of the American Association of Wine Economists. He also served as President of the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa (AEASA) in 1991-1993. He was Editor of Development Southern Africa for more than 10 years, and of Agrekon, the Journal of AEASA, from 2002 to 2010.

Nick attended his first IAAE conference in Buenos Aires in 1988, and edited the Cowbell in 2003, 2009 and 2012. He has an active faith in the ability of African agricultural economists to contribute to agricultural development in Africa, and believes that the forum that IAAE creates through its conferences and journal contributes to this ability. The strength of the Association lies in the opportunities it creates to meet and network with colleagues from other parts of the world.

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Linxiu Zhang was trained in agricultural economics and holds a PhD degree from University of Reading. As a deputy director at the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy (CCAP) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), her current institutional responsibility is to oversee a research program on “Integrated Rural Urban Development and Anti-Poverty Policy” at CCAP. Most of her research work concentrates on policy relevant studies on rural labor market development, land tenure and resource productivity, community governance, public investments, social protection in rural China. In recent years, her research work has been exclusively on the economics of rural education and health care. She has extensive experience in conducting large scale field surveys in rural China.

Linxiu is interested in joining the Executive Committee of the IAAE for three reasons. First, she hopes that research work done by economists needs to address more real world issues and problems and be more policy relevant. Secondly, development effectiveness requires us to better understand policy/intervention impact to know what works, work does not work and how to make them (policies) work better. Thus, promoting rigorous impact evaluation should be high in research agenda. Thirdly, she believes that the role of education and human capital in the process of agricultural and rural development should be strongly emphasized. If she will be elected, she would like to make contributions to the above.

Past Presidents

The Constitution of the international Association of Agricultural Economists was first approved in 1934, with the first slate of officers elected in that year. Prior to this, Leonard K. Elmhirst provided the leadership and chairmanship at the first conference and George F. Warren of Cornell University at the second Conference.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Founder President</th>
<th>1958-1974</th>
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<td>Presidents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leonard Knight Elmhirst, U.K.</td>
<td>1934-1958</td>
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<td>Sherman E. Johnson, USA</td>
<td>1958-1961</td>
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<td>Nils Westermarck, Finland</td>
<td>1961-1970</td>
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<td>Samar R. Sen, India</td>
<td>1970-1976</td>
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<td>Theodor J. Dams, Germany</td>
<td>1979-1982</td>
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<td>Glenn L. Johnson, USA</td>
<td>1982-1985</td>
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<td>Michel Petit, France</td>
<td>1985-1988</td>
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<td>Robert L. Thompson, USA</td>
<td>1994-1997</td>
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<td>Douglas D. Hedley, Canada</td>
<td>1997-2000</td>
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<td>Joachim von Braun, Germany</td>
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<td>Prabhu Pingali, USA</td>
<td>2003-2006</td>
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<td>David Coleman, UK</td>
<td>2006-2009</td>
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<td>Keijiro Otsuka, Japan</td>
<td>2009-2012</td>
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<td>Jo Swinnen</td>
<td>2012-2015</td>
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Notice to all members

Available Faculty Positions at Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University (MSU), East Lansing, Michigan, USA.

Communication and Information Technology Economist Assistant Professor tenure system-Applications are encouraged from scholars working within a diverse range of methodological traditions whose research addresses the economic impact, use, design, or management of information and communication technologies.

POSITION APPROVAL PENDING = Agriculture/Food Industry Position – tenure system. Research and educational programs focused on economic, finance, and/or management issues related to agricultural and food industries.

POSITION APPROVAL PENDING. Environmental Economist – tenure system. Research and educational programs related to water, an area of priority for MSU, potentially addressing interactions between water resources and food, health, energy, environment, development, and/or climate change.

Research Associate, Bioenergy and Agricultural Production Economics (fixed term). Policy-relevant research into economics of sustainable bioenergy production at major research center. Available from September 2012.

Detailed position descriptions are available at http://aec.msu.edu/facposition/index.htm

MSU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities

www.economia.uniroma2.it/icabr-conference/2013
www.icabr.org

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**Jokes of the Day.**

**Sustainable**

![Graph showing the frequency of the word "sustainable" over time. The graph indicates a steady increase from 1960 to 2109, with a notable increase in usage after 2036. The graph suggests that the word "sustainable" is becoming more frequent in text, reaching a peak in 2109 when practically all sentences contain the word "sustainable" repeated over and over.](http://xkcd.com/)

**The word "sustainable" is unsustainable.**

Source: [http://xkcd.com/](http://xkcd.com/)

**Natural Parenting**

![Comic strips depicting a conversation about natural parenting.](http://xkcd.com/)

**Oh man, we made a baby.**

**Don't panic. Don't panic.**

**Parenting can't be that hard. Let's just do what comes naturally.**

**Soon:**

**Ah, crap.**

Source: [http://xkcd.com/](http://xkcd.com/)