XXIX International Conference of Agricultural Economists

8 – 14 August 2015

Agriculture in an interconnected world

Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy

COWBELL

YOUR CONFERENCE BULLETIN

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Looking back: George F. Warren

Whilst much is known about Elmhirst, less is known about the other founding members such as George F Warren.

In 1928 George Warren was 54 years old and Head of the largest College Department of Farm Management and Agricultural Economics in the US, with a large output of research results, and formal and extension teaching, and attracting post-graduate students from many States and overseas countries. Many of those who later influenced the Association – including Ladd and Elmhirst – had been his students.

He had a big family, a big farm, and a big research programme and in addition to teaching courses, found time to lecture widely to farmers’ meetings and to make effective contributions to State and Federal councils. Where the abilities and energies for all this came from can perhaps never be fully understood, but some explanations can be attempted.

Warren was a farm boy in south-east Nebraska – a Prairie State subject to high weather risks. Farm product prices were low, and, until he was 22, declining. As a child he was sent “to gather cakes of dried buffalo dung off the prairie in order that there might be sufficient fuel for cooking the family breakfast”. His family home was only 21 square metres, with pine board walls – draughty and cold in winter, an oven in summer – but shared with five older children in the total household of eight.

At the State College Warren majored in mathematics, but developed also his interests in crop science under a famous teacher – Charles Bessey – who fostered pragmatic approaches to problems and fact finding. After graduation in 1897 Warren spent five years as a teacher of mathematics in small town High Schools, as Principal of one, and as a Schools Superintendent. But his interest in agriculture led him to Cornell University to study agriculture under Liberty Hyde Bailey (1858-1954), then Director of the New York State College of Agriculture. Before long Bailey gave Warren the responsibility for a survey of apple orchards. Bailey wrote afterwards: “I think it is not too much to say that these surveys marked a departure in this kind of work, substituting the statistical method for previous means”. Indeed the orchard survey was the start of Warren’s developing farm management survey methods carefully over the years 1906 to 1911 when the famous survey in Tompkins County was published. So useful were these methods found to be that by 1925 over 71,000 farm records had been obtained in the USA and the method had spread to Canada and China.

These early Cornell years also developed Warren himself. His urge to public service was strengthened by Bailey’s great leadership. His abilities as a teacher and writer were greatly augmented, and his concepts of rural welfare probably became better defined because of the Country Life Commission which Bailey had been asked in 1908 by President Theodore Roosevelt to organize. Perhaps most important of all, Warren’s own powers of observation along with all his field enumeration work and stimulus from farmers and students built up in him a great wealth of vivid information about farming and farm family problems, and of human behaviour in the face of them. His book on “Farm Management” published first in 1913 and reprinted 6 times by 1917 is full of evidence of this wealth. He became a great “fact finder”, using all the methods available to him – surveys, cost accounts, case studies, travel, reading, public meetings, and more. Also his great wish for sound progress led him to look well ahead. He told Elmhirst “that ideally the pigeon holes of his desk would be full of research findings upon problems that intelligent foresight ought to be able to spot …. even although the politicians might not be ready to recognize them or to legislate for them for ten years to come”.

There were two characteristics of Warren that caused controversy. He often expressed frankly his dislike of approaches to problems that relied heavily on principles that had been deduced logically but only after too much oversimplification of reality. Also he gave judgements of what personal value patterns and behaviour should be. But essentially he was a researcher and teacher. He always wanted to deal with real problems. Warren became an economic adviser to Franklin D. Roosevelt when Governor of NY State and later when President of USA.

Extract from ‘The History of IAAE’ by John Raeburn and W.O. Jones
Contributed Paper presentations—all selected by a double-blind review process—remain the core of the conference proceedings, with 54 percent of the total presentations. Of these, the largest share, with 36% of total presentations, is the Oral Contributed Papers. Visual Contributed Papers, whose authors will present their research findings with the aid of a poster, account for another 18 percent of total presentations.

Another interesting feature of the conference is the share of contributors from Sub-Saharan Africa whose papers have come through the rigorous evaluation process for the Contributed Paper sessions. The overall spread of regions represented is very encouraging. This is testament to the growth in the strength of our discipline in Sub-Saharan Africa. In fact, North America and Sub-Saharan Africa have almost the same share of presentations. The share of Sub-Saharan Africa in the Organized Symposia, and in the program overall, is somewhat smaller, although this may be due to the more recent growth of the profession in this region. An important question in future conferences will be whether the share of papers given by scholars from Sub-Saharan Africa rises as the participants become more experienced.

In terms of gender, the share of female presenters is higher in the Contributed Paper presentations is higher for the Contributed papers, and especially the Visual Contributed Papers. It is lower in the Organized Symposia, Invited Panels and Plenary Sessions. To some extent this may be due to the younger age profile of female participants and might. A key question for the future will be whether this profile of papers changes as female participants increase their participation and gain experience.

### ICAE 2015 – About Our Presentations

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<th>Presenters Title by Type of Contribution</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contributed Paper (Oral)</strong></td>
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Organized Symposia—which include a number of Innovative Sessions in formats such as Debates or Hard Talks—are another important part of the conference. Invited Panels and Plenary sessions, which address many of the key issues identified for the conference, account for seven and two percent of the total presentations.

It turns out that these presentations are given by quite different groups of people. Half of the Contributed Papers are presented by Graduate Students and Junior Faculty members, while only around 20 percent are written by senior academics. It is very encouraging to see such interest among younger academics; they are indeed the future of the profession. In the Organized Symposia, this share drops to 30 percent, while Senior Academics account for 38 percent. In the Plenary sessions, the share of presentations made by senior academics rises to 76 percent.

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Report on the first IAAE Business Meeting

The first IAAE Business Meeting was held on Monday August 10 at 19:00 in the main auditorium of the conference venue. Up to and including the ICAE in Iguazu, Council Meetings were held at each ICAE. These were attended by country representatives. The new IAAE bylaws, which were adopted in Iguazu in 2012, call instead for a Business Meeting that is open to all IAAE members.

At the Business Meeting on Monday, President Jo Swinnen announced the changes to the IAAE Board of Directors that will take place after the close of the Milan ICAE, and he thanked the outgoing Board members (Kym Anderson – 2013/15, Kei Otsuka – 2003/15, Jerry Shively – 2006/15 and Walt Armbruster – 1991/2014) for their years of service. Secretary-Treasurer Stephan von Cramon briefly presented the financial situation of the IAAE. Jo Swinnen reminded everyone that the next ICAE will take place in Vancouver Canada in 2018 (there is an information booth just outside the main auditorium), and announced that the Board had received expressions of interest in hosting the 2021 ICAE from delegations from India and Indonesia.

The next Business Meeting will be held during the 2018 ICAE in Vancouver. For more information on the Business Meeting, please contact Stephan von Cramon (iaae@gwdg.de).

From Member to Member

The last pages of the daily Cowbell is the place for exchanging ideas, distributing information and communicating with members. If you want to organize an ad-hoc discussion group or a reunion, or communicate other things to the conference attendants, just let us know and it will be published in the next day’s Cowbell!

Email your notices for the Cowbell to nv@sun.ac.za by 14h00 (2pm) of the day before publication.

2018 ICAE takes place in Vancouver, Canada!

The 2018 International Conference of Agricultural Economists will be in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Great place, great program.

Welcome!
Dates: 28 July – 2 August, 2018
Mark your calendar!

Watch for updates at http://www.icae2018.com/

Notice: Venue Changes

Due to problems related to the air conditioning, there are changes in the rooms assigned to some sessions:

Permanent changes:

- all sessions assigned to room 211 will take place in room 104 instead
- all sessions assigned to room 510 will take place in room 517 instead
- all sessions assigned to room 201 will take place in the Auditorium

Note that all changes have been registered in the Conference4me smartphone app.
Looking for quality materials to use in your classes?
Consider searching the 88,000+ working papers, conference papers, and journal articles in AgEcon Search, which are all full text and free of charge.

5th AAAE Conference - Call for Paper Submissions
September 26-29, 2016, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
“Transforming smallholder agriculture in Africa: The role of policy and governance.”

AAAE invites submissions for the 5th Conference of African Association Agricultural Economists (5th CAAAE) 2016, that will be held at the United Nations Conference Centre-Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. For more details please visit the aaaa-africa.org website

GMCC-15 from Nov 17 to Nov 20 2015 in Amsterdam

The Seventh International Conference on Coexistence between Genetically Modified (GM) and non-GM based Agricultural Supply Chains will take place from Tuesday, 17 November 2015, until Friday, 20 November 2015, in the Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The conference provides a unique stage for active debate on policy, legal, economic and technical solutions that seek to facilitate coexistence. Plenary speeches will be given by globally leading scientists such as Jayson Lusk and David Zilberman as well as leading representatives from industry such as Jaime Piçarra and Ruud Tijssens (both Feed Compounder Industry Association).


EuroChoices: Special Issues on Agriculture and Climate Change

EuroChoices is an outreach publication in the field of agrifood and rural resource economics. Produced on behalf of the Agricultural Economics Society (AES) and the European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) it is published three times a year.

To mark the UNFCC Conference on Climate Change in Paris at the end of 2015, two special issues focus on climate change and agriculture, covering mitigation, adaptation and policy issues in agriculture. For more information please contact co-Editor Wilfrid Legg at the ICAE (wilfrid_legg@hotmail.com).

http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1746-692X/issues
The relevance of agriculture in formal employment has decreased in many European, Central and East Asian countries during recent decades. The mutually reinforcing and interdependent processes of non-agricultural sector development and urbanization have resulted in new dynamics and diversity in the rural labor landscape. Remittances as the link between urban and international migrants and their original households have become more important for sustaining rural livelihoods, especially in poorer countries and regions. Yet in a number of countries agricultural activities still fulfill important safety net functions. However, a potential lack of qualified agricultural labor and increasing wages, as observed in some places, will constrain future prospects of the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. These phenomena are not fully understood in terms of their functioning, or their poverty and sustainability outcomes.

The IAMO Forum 2016 focuses on the interlinkages between people's mobility across localities, countries, sectors and types of employment, as well as local economic development. The drivers and consequences will be debated from a social sciences perspective, including economics, political sciences, sociology, anthropology and history. We welcome submissions of papers addressing these aspects with a regional focus on Europe, Central Asia and China. Contributions on the following topics are welcome:

- Links between rural economic development and migration.
- The effects of migration on rural households’ welfare.
- The role of agricultural development in labor shortage and excess labor.
- Institutional drivers and barriers of regional and occupational mobility.
- Organization of labor relations and management in agriculture.
- The effect of migration on local governance and transition processes.

Submissions that do not correspond to the above issues but fit within the general conference theme will also be considered by the organizing committee.

The conference will be jointly organized with the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA). More information about the IAMO Forum 2016 is available at [www.iamo.de](http://www.iamo.de).

**Call for Organized Sessions**

We welcome proposals for organized sessions that match the theme of the IAMO Forum 2016. Session proposals should include the title of the proposed session and an abstract of up to 1,000 words (excluding bibliography) that concisely and clearly describes the relevance of the session to the meeting theme and states a list of potential speakers. Session proposals must be submitted electronically at [www.iamo.de/forum/2016](http://www.iamo.de/forum/2016) until Monday, January 18, 2016. Notification of acceptance of session proposals will be sent by Monday, February 22, 2016.

**Call for Extended Abstracts**

We request the contribution of extended abstracts with up to 1,000 words (excluding bibliography). The abstracts need to include a concise summary of the significance, major research questions, data and methods, and findings. Abstracts must be submitted electronically at [www.iamo.de/forum/2016](http://www.iamo.de/forum/2016) until Monday, February 8, 2016. All contributed extended abstracts will go through peer review. Notification of selected abstracts for an oral presentation will be sent by Monday, March 4, 2016. All accepted abstracts will be published on the conference website.

**Contact**

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E-mail: [forum2016@iamo.de](mailto:forum2016@iamo.de)
Agricultural Transitions along the Silk Road

Restructuring, Resources and Trade in the Central Asia Region

Organized jointly by
Kazakh National Agrarian University (KazNAU),
Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO),
and the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE)

Since ancient times, the Silk Road has served as a hub for the exchange of valued commodities, ideas and people between Asia and Europe. Emerging from the conditions of a socialist world order, the countries in the region opted for their own unique paths of transition. However, agriculture has remained important for rural employment and livelihoods in all countries. Questions of irrigation management, land reform, food security and government earnings from agriculture highlight the importance of the sector for general economic development across the region. The aim of this Inter-Conference Symposium is to provide a platform for knowledge exchange, discussion and networking that revives the traditional role of the Silk Road. The symposium will be structured around three sub-themes: (1) agricultural restructuring, (2) natural resources management and (3) regional trade and integration. It invites international researchers and scientists active in the wider Central Asian and Caspian Sea region with a background in agricultural economics, rural development, water management and related disciplines to share and discuss their findings to better understand the complex issues, challenges and opportunities of agricultural development along the Silk Road.

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From: "Douglas Hedley"
Date: 10 August 2015 at 10:59:45 PM GMT+2
To: "Walt Armbruster";"Nick Vink";"Stephan"
Subject: Looking ahead

Headline in the Globe and Mail today:
"Hungry grizzly shot while invading home in Kimberley, B.C."

Might not encourage attendance.

Douglas
Douglas D. Hedley
Nepean, Ontario
CANADA  K2J 2V3
Joke of the Day

PUBLISHING

Your manuscript as submitted

... and after peer review and revision

minor revisions
introduction and discussion should be significantly expanded

more replicates needed

the latest top-mounted laser cannon. Because.

please add necessary

* circular and triangular windows
* reviewer 3 sells odd-shaped windows

front windshield needs to be removed or tinted red

horse hitch "cause that's how we always did it"

please try this alternate approach

REDPEN/BLACKPEN http://redpenblackpen.jasonya.com