



XXXI

International Conference of Agricultural Economists



COWBELL

YOUR CONFERENCE BULLETIN

AUGUST 17-31, 2021 - ONLINE

iaae-agecon.org

Hashtags: #icae21 #icae2021 #icaevirtual #icae21virtual

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Inauguration of Leonard Elmhirst Lecture.....	2
31st ICAE Highlights	3
Our Sponsors	3
The Elmhirst Lecture	4
Elmhirst Lectures Series	5
Feature: Walter J. Arm- bruster	6
Past conference Themes	7
31st ICAE Highlights	8
Announcements.....	9

INAUGURATION OF LEONARD ELMHIRST LECTURE— 1976, NAIROBI, KENYA

By SAMAR R. SEN, IAAE President (1970-1976)

We have gathered today to honour the memory of our Founder-President, Leonard Knight Elmhirst.

Leonard Elmhirst was a man of great vision and initiative, a patron of the visual and performing arts as well as of the social sciences and a champion of the downtrodden and deprived all over the world. This last concern of his, in particular, prompted him to help the Indian poet-philosopher, Rabindra Nath Tagore, to initiate path-breaking experiments and studies in rural development in India, to undertake other valuable experiments in his own country and to establish the International Association of Agricultural Economists, of which he was the Founder-President for four decades.

I do not propose to take your time by going into the story of his unique life. A succinct account was published in the proceedings of our last Conference and many of you must be familiar with it.

I may briefly note, however, some crucial events in his remarkable career, which are of direct interest to our profession, namely, his first acquaintance with problems of under-developed agriculture during the First World War, his decision to study agricultural economics at Cornell University shortly thereafter, his close association with Tagore in setting up the Institute of Rural Reconstruction at Sriniketan, India, his many faceted experiments in the arts, crafts, education and social sciences at Dartington Hall in England, his initiative in organising and developing the International Association of Agricultural Economists and P.E.P. (Political and Economic Planning), his assistance for the International Institute of Agrarian Affairs (which was effectively our Association's base for 40 years) and the Oxford Institute of Agricultural Economics and his constant endeavour to facilitate communication between agricultural economists working under different social systems.

Leonard Elmhirst and his contributions for the promotion of the science of agricultural economics will be remembered by the members of our Association with deep gratitude for ever.

He was a man of many parts with a special gift of friendship and inspiring people for great endeavour. He had a deep human concern and his constant exhortation to his fellow economists was that they should always keep "man" as the main focus of all their analysis. The message that he sent in August, 1973, to our last Conference held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, aptly expressed this basic approach of his. He wished "for lots of down to earth discussions at the grass roots with plenty of vision for the future, and with the boots of economists firmly rooted in the soil and their heads in the skies". "May the computers", he urged, "be kept properly in their place as servants of, and not masters over, humanity". He gave this Conference the broad humanist outlook that characterises it. What he

also of the political economy of agriculture.

It is not that all his widespread endeavours proved to be successful. He had his share of failures. But that never daunted him. He referred to his failures as "negative results", judging them as no less useful than "positive results" in any scientific experiment and cheerfully taking up new experiments. Even at the age of 80 when he died he was looking forward and not backward. He was one of the blessed few who are ever young at heart.

Your Executive Committee felt that the best way in which your Association could honour Leonard Elmhirst's memory would be to invite one of the world's outstanding agricultural economists to give in each of our Conferences a lecture to be known as the "Leonard Elmhirst Lecture", on some theme which would touch upon one of the key problems in the field of agriculture which was so close to Elmhirst's heart.

I have, therefore, the great privilege today of inviting the doyen of our profession, Professor Theodore W. Schultz, to deliver the first Leonard Elmhirst Lecture.

Professor Schultz was born in 1902 and obtained his Ph.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1930. The same year he began his academic career as a teacher at the Iowa State College where he served as Professor of Agricultural Economics from 1934 to 1943. He joined the University of Chicago as Professor of Economics in 1943 and retired as the Charles L. Hutchinson Distinguished Service Professor in 1972. He has served with great distinction in many U.S. Government and international assignments in the field of agricultural economics and policy and travelled widely in both developed and developing countries. He has been President of the American Economic Association and Fellow of the American Farm Economics Association and a number of other important learned societies. His contribution to the development of the science of agricultural economics has been outstanding and his defence of academic values courageous. He is a pioneer among agricultural economists in emphasising and analysing the role of human capital. Among his many publications, special mention may be made of his books: *Redirecting Farm Policy, Agriculture in an Unstable Economy, Production and Welfare in Agriculture, The Economic Organization of Agriculture, Transforming Traditional Agriculture, Economic Crisis in World Agriculture, Economic Growth and Agriculture, The Economic Value of Education and Investment in Human Capital*.

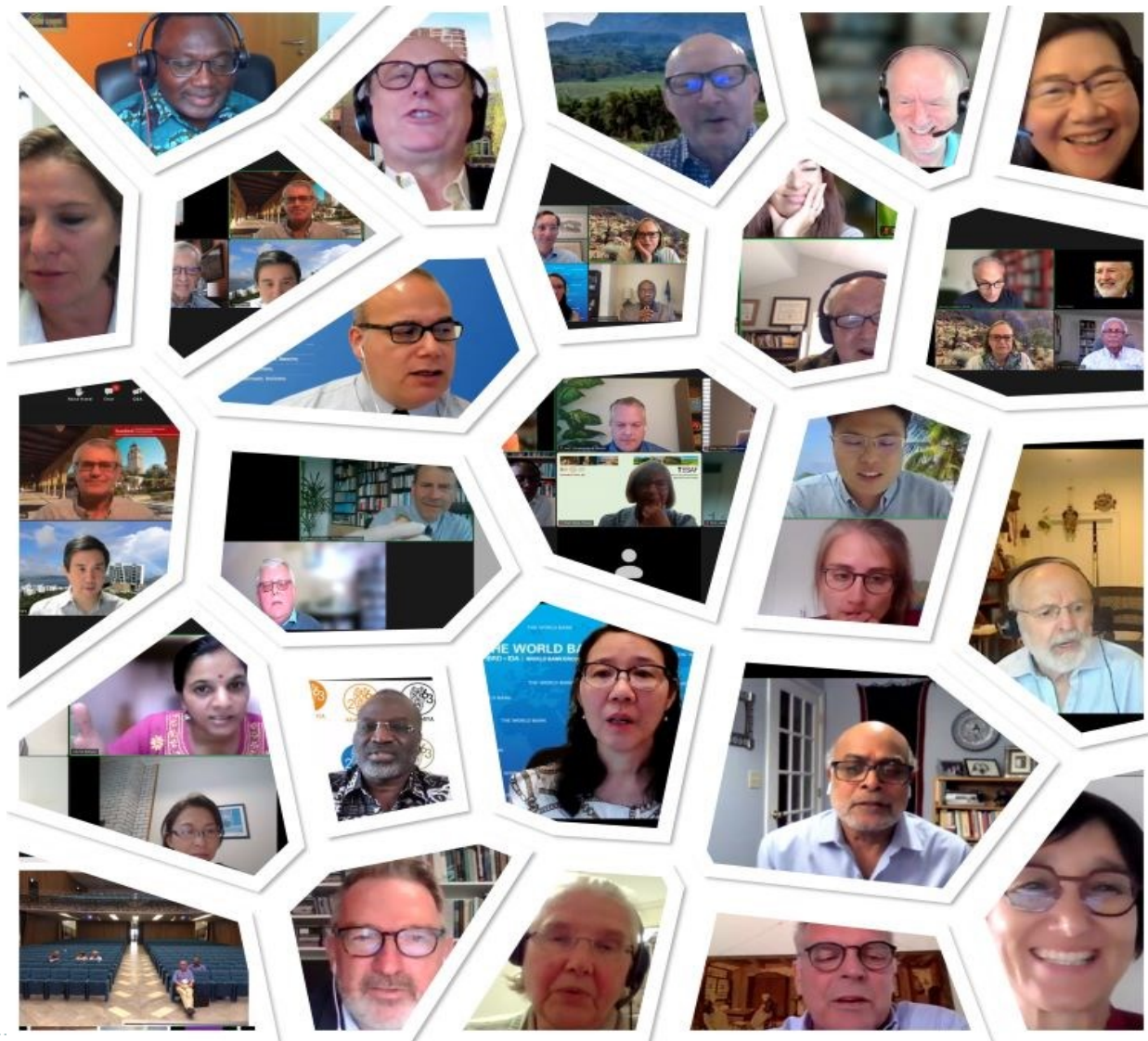
The theme on which Professor Schultz will be speaking today is "Economics, the Farm People and the Political Economy of Agriculture". There could not be a more appropriate subject for this first lecture instituted to honour the memory of Leonard Elmhirst.

— END —

NOTE: All participants who need a certificate for attending the virtual ICAE are requested to send an email to [Jana Nowakowsky](#) with their name and paper title that they would like to appear on the certificate.

He was a man of many parts with a special gift of friendship and inspiring people for great endeavour. He had a deep human concern and his constant exhortation to his fellow economists was that they should always keep "man" as the main focus of all their analysis.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES



OUR SPONSORS



INTERNATIONAL
FOOD POLICY
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE



**Tata-Cornell
Institute**



Economic Research Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



THE ELMHIRST LECTURE

Leonard Knight Elmhirst (1893-1974) served as the first President of the IAAE from 1929-1958 and was designated, founder president, until his death in 1974. In his honor, the Leonard K. Elmhirst Memorial Lecture was instituted in 1976 and presented in Mysore, India by T. W. Schultz.

Elmhirst drew together a small group of agricultural economists from the United States and the United Kingdom in 1928 to develop plans and a program for what we now think of as the first International Conference of Agricultural Economists held at Dartington Hall, Devon, England in 1929. Fifty agricultural economists from eleven countries met at that first conference. They concluded that such conferences would be of great benefit to agricultural economists throughout the world in increasing their knowledge and understanding of other peoples and their problems and in promoting mutual understanding and good will.

The International Conference of Agricultural Economists was formally organized at the second meeting held in 1930 at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. The name of the organization was changed to the International Association of Agricultural Economists at the 1961 conference in Mexico.

Fifty agricultural economists from eleven countries met at that first conference. They concluded that such conferences would be of great benefit to agricultural economists throughout the world in increasing their knowledge and understanding of other peoples and their problems and in promoting mutual understanding and good will.



Leonard K. Elmhirst was born in Yorkshire, England. He was the second of eight sons of a Church of England vicar who was also an estate owner. Elmhirst developed a love of nature and the countryside and learned the importance of sound land management in his early years. After ten years of boarding school, he went to Trinity College, Cambridge to read theology and history.

In 1915 he was accepted for work in India with the YMCA, which was also ministering to British soldiers in India. In 1919 he went to Cornell to study for a degree in agriculture with the intention of returning to rural India and helping local farmers to

improve their agricultural production. While at Cornell he became involved in the Cornell Cosmopolitan Club and made many friends there from Latin America, China, Turkey and elsewhere.

At Cornell he studied with Carl E. Ladd and George F. Warren who were his life-long friends. After completing his degree, he spent the period from 1921 to 1923 in India working with rural villages in West Bengal and with the famous Indian poet and educator, Rabindranath Tagore. He travelled with Tagore in India in 1923, to

China and Japan in 1924, and to Argentina and Italy in 1925. In 1925 he married Dorothy Payne Whitney Straight, whom he had met while at Cornell and who had sponsored much of Elmhirst's work in India with Tagore.

Between 1925 and 1928 when he sent invitations for planning the first International Conference, he was heavily committed to establishing his home with his new wife at Dartington Hall. It needed much repair. They restored the old buildings, established a boarding school, setup a group of cottage industries and created a small agricultural research group. Elmhirst devoted much of his time and personal resources to developing the International Conference of Agricultural Economists and laying the foundations of the IAAE.

For additional information about Leonard Elmhirst, his life and his work, and for background on IAAE, obtain a copy of the book, *The History of the International Association of Agricultural Economists*, written by John Raeburn and J. O. Jones, published in 1990 by Dartmouth Publishing Company, Aldershot, UK.

LEONARD KNIGHT ELMHIRST LECTURES SERIES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nick Vink, President
Stellenbosch University
Department of Agricultural
Economics
Private Bag X1, Matieland 7600
South Africa

Uma Lele, President-Elect
Institute of Economic Growth
University of Delhi Enclave,
North Campus
Delhi, India, 110 007

Will Martin, Past President
International Food Policy Research
Institute
1201 I St NW, Washington DC
20005
USA

Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel
Secretary-Treasurer
Department of Agricultural
Economics
University of Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben, 5
37073 Göttingen, Germany

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Chris Barrett
Charles H. Dyson School of Ap-
plied Economics & Management
Warren Hall, Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853 USA

Cheryl Doss
Oxford Department of International
Development
Queen Elizabeth House
3 Mansfield Road, Oxford OX1
3TB, UK

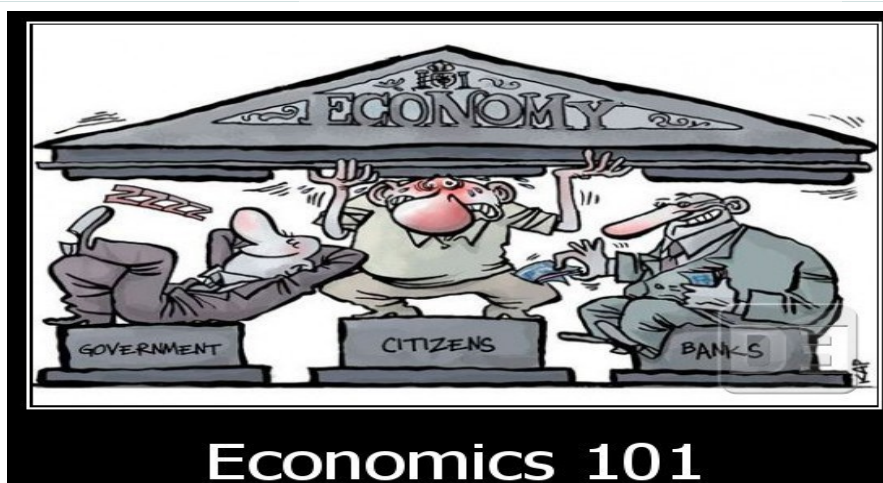
Matin Qaim
Department of Agricultural
Economics
University of Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben, 5
37073 Göttingen, Germany

CO-EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Awudu Abdulai
Chair of Food Economics and Food
Policy
Dept. of Food Economics & Con-
sumption Studies
University of Kiel
Olshausenstrasse 40, 24098 Kiel,
Germany

Ashok Mishra
Kemper and Ethel Marley Founda-
tion Chair
Morrison School of Agribusiness
W. P. Carey School of Business
Arizona State University
7271 E Sonoran Arroyo Mall
Mesa, AZ 85212 USA

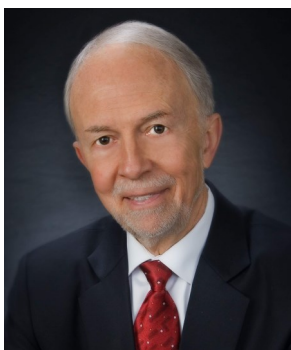
SPEAKER	INSTITUTION	YEAR
T. W. Schultz	University of Chicago	1976
Sir W. A. Lewis	Princeton University	1979
Keith O. Campbell	University of Sydney	1982
Amartya Sen	University of Oxford	1985
Yujiro Hayami	Aoyama Gunkin University	1988
V.S. Vyas	Institute of Development Studies	1991
D. Gale Johnson	University of Chicago	1994
Yair Mundlak	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	1997
James T. Bonnen	Michigan State University	2000
Bruce Gardner	University of Maryland	2003
Hans P Binswanger	Tswane University of Technology, World	2006
Alain de Janvry	University Bank of California, Berkeley	2009
Peter Hazell	International Food Policy Research Insti- tute	2012
Philippe Aghion	INSEAD	2015
Dave Donaldson	MIT	2018
Kym Anderson	University of Adelaide and ANU	2021



SPECIAL FEATURE:

WALTER J. ARMBRUSTER

Secretary-Treasurer 1991-20215



Walt Armbruster retired from a 30-year career at Farm Foundation in 2008, the last 17 as its president. He has remained active in agricultural economics and co-organized (with Gene Nelson) an AAEA preconference workshop on Leadership Development for their annual meeting held in Austin, Texas. It was intended to provide emerging leaders insights from practicing economists who volunteered their time to show up earlier than otherwise needed to address a variety of topics in the preconference sessions.

Walt has been active in the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA), serving as Chair of the Fellows Selection Committee since 2014. He also has been involved in updating the IFAMA Bylaws. Walt is a Counselor to the Board since stepping down as an IFAMA Board Member. He was President of the organization in the mid-90's.

Earlier Walt Armbruster was president of the American Agricultural Law Association following his active role in helping start it. This role followed closely upon his leadership of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association--then known as the American Agricultural Economics Association.

During his tenure with AAEA Walt led initiation of Sections which was not without controversy. Some thought it would be the end of AAEA as an organized body and would self-destruct. Now Sections are the center of organizing sessions and providing opportunities for many to serve in rotating roles as leaders of the numerous Sections which members can join for modest fees.

Between his term serving as an AAEA Board member and being elected President, Walt worked with others to initiate the Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics (C-FARE) which still thrives today after many years of struggling to maintain a budget to keep it going. Walt served as the first Chair of C-FARE for 4 years before resigning once elected to the AAEA Board. He returned to active involvement after his AAEA term ended. C-FARE was AAEA's first official representative to the U. S. Congress for several years. C-FARE is now providing focused sessions on topics of importance to agricultural economists and continues to be led by volunteers who devote time to it. In the meantime, AAEA has appointed a representative to interact with Congress.

Turning to IAAE, Walt was Secretary-Treasurer from the time of the meetings in Japan in 1991 until turning over the duties to Stephan von Cramon in 2015—a total of 24 years. During that time, many changes occurred. The IAAE Bylaws were rewritten to comply with U.S. accounting requirements. The publication of the proceedings and related articles went from being an \$80,000 annual burden for the Association to a money producing contributor enabling growth in the financial assets by the end of his term. The traditional decision-making body of the association was changed from the Council to a one person-one vote organization in which all members could cast a ballot. The Board of Directors is now the decision-making body and reports to the Conference attendees on the status of the Association. A Newsletter was started in 1991 which continues to be published semiannually even today, with John Longworth and Walt creating the basic approach still much in use. All these changes involved working closely with the IAAE Presidents and Board of Directors.

Walt plays golf with a few friends during the May to October season in Chicago, does some yard work to keep active, and occasionally takes to his cross-country skis when the weather provides the right kind of snow. He enjoys spending time with his son Sean and daughter-in-law McKinley who live nearby, and his wife Helen.

The past year plus has led to total disruption of his previous travel out of the country 2 or 3 times a year for various conferences and others within the U.S. That is a major change he still misses, even though it is about time to back off such schedules. The frequent interaction with the IAAE community is missed and even though most planned conferences were Zoomed, it isn't the same as in-person interaction.

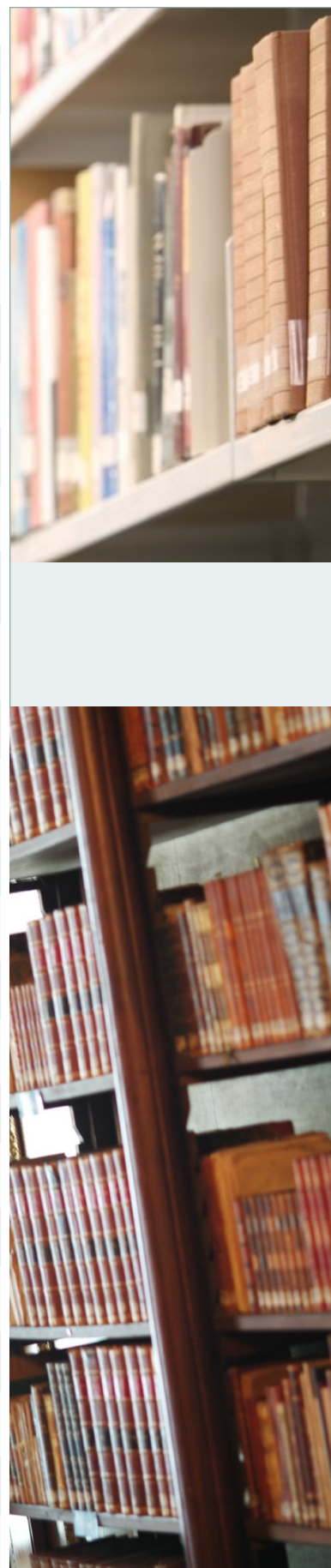
Walt wishes the best for continued gains in membership for IAAE to help spread the work of its many brilliant minds producing so much of value to business leaders, policymakers, ERS and NASS, and the universities with which he worked so closely over the years. — END—

NOTE: *Walt is now working on an IAAE history project in preparation for our Association's 100th Birthday in 2029 – we couldn't think of anyone better suited for the job.*

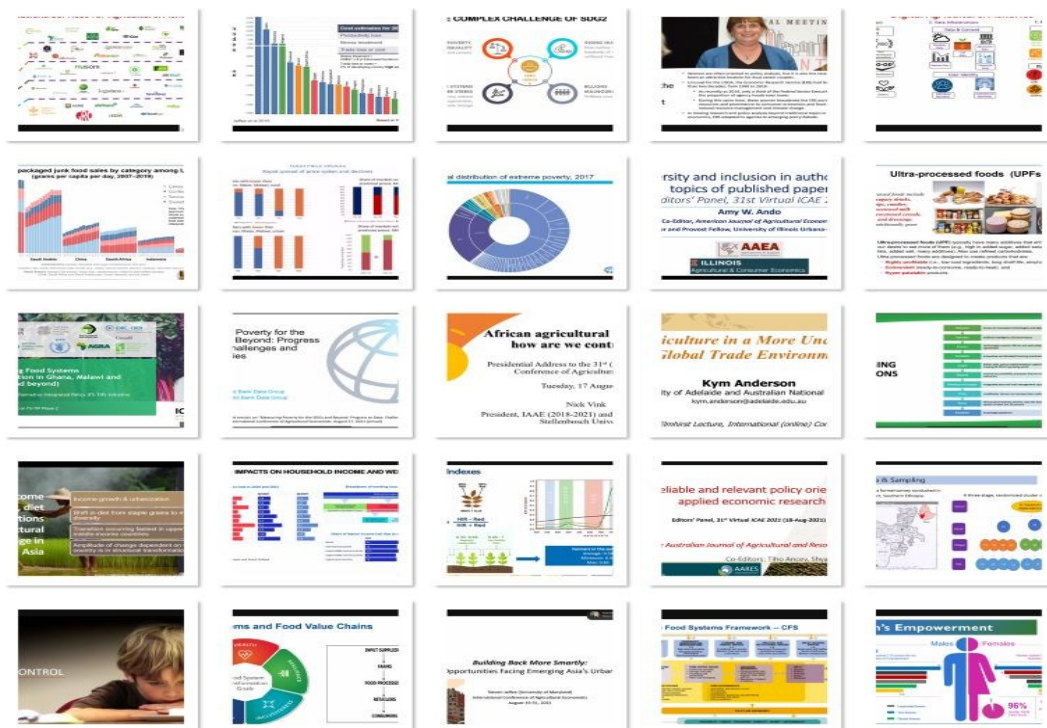
Walt was Secretary-Treasurer from the time of the meetings in Japan in 1991 until turning over the duties to Stephan von Cramon in 2015—a total of 24 years.

PAST CONFERENCE THEMES

YEAR	THEME
2021	Agriculture under the 4th Industrial Revolution
2018	New Landscapes and New Mandates for Agriculture
2015	Agriculture in an Interconnected World
2012	The Global Bio-Economy
2009	The New Landscape of Global Agriculture
2006	Contributions of Agricultural Economics to Critical Policy Issues
2003	Reshaping Agriculture's contributions to Society
2000	Tomorrow's Agriculture: Incentives, Institutions Infrastructure and Innovations
1997	Food Security, Diversification and Resource Management: Refocusing the Role of Agriculture
1994	Agriculture Competitiveness: Market Forces and Policy Choice
1991	Sustainable Agriculture Development: The Role of International Cooperation
1988	Agriculture and Governments in an Interdependent World
1985	Agriculture in a Turbulent World Economy
1982	Growth and Equity in Agricultural Development
1979	Rural Change: The Challenge for Agricultural Economists
1976	Decision-making and Agriculture
1973	The Future of Agriculture: Technology, Policies and Adjustment
1970	Policies, Planning and Management for Agricultural Development
1967	The Economist and Farm People in a Rapidly Changing World
1964	Disparities in the Pace and Form of Agricultural and Rural Development
1961	Role of Agriculture in Economic Development
1958	Agriculture and its Terms of Trade
1955	The Implications of Technical Change in Agriculture



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABOUT IAAE

The IAAE is a worldwide professional membership association of agricultural economists, whose mission is to promote the common business interests of economists having as a major focus of their work, the study of the economics of agriculture. iaae-agecon.org



AgEcon SEARCH
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

AgEcon Search, <https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/> now has 160,000+ papers in over 20 languages from 69 countries. This includes 138 journals and materials from 69 professional organizations. If your group would like to contribute papers, please e-mail repository managers Linda Eells and Julie Kelly at aesearch@umn.edu

Papers and posters from ICAE 2021 will be added to AgEcon Search in the weeks after the conference. AgEcon Search, <https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/> currently has over 5000 papers from IAAE dating back to 1929 and this includes material from journals, symposia, and conferences as well as occasional papers and histories.

International Association of Agricultural Economists

411 Richmond Street East,
Suite 200
Toronto, ON
M5A 3S5
CANADA

Email: info@iaae-agecon.org
Website: iaae-agecon.org



The last pages of the **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
<communicationsdirector@iaae-agecon.org>

Editor: Jeffers Miruka

Send announcements to communicationsdirector@iaae-agecon.org