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the cowbell

conference brief



iaae2006^{australia}

26th Conference of the
**International Association
of Agricultural Economists**

12-18 AUGUST 2006

Issue No.



Saturday, August 12, 2006

Welcome to Australia

Dear IAAE Members,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you personally and on behalf of the Executive of the IAAE to the Twenty-Sixth International Conference of Agricultural Economists. The program developed by Keijiro Otsuka, our Vice-President Program, is new and innovative, with many improvements and challenges for us throughout our stay at the Gold Coast. The theme: "Contributions of Agricultural Economics to critical policy issues," offers us a wide range of issues for debate through the week. We have a larger numbers of papers and posters, panels and workshops than ever before. As has been the practice since the IAAE 2000 Conference in Berlin, we will be giving awards for the best papers and posters. All in all, an interesting and challenging week for all of us. I hope you will also get some time to have fun in this absolutely spectacular setting.



*Prabhu Pingali,
President, IAAE*

During our meeting, the IAAE Council, the governing body of the IAAE, will be meeting on Monday and Thursday at 5:15 PM. During these sessions we will be reviewing the work of the Executive, electing new officers for the Executive, electing new Life Members, and making decisions about the future organization and operation of the Association. It is important that you

organize your country representative to attend the Council meeting.

I want to thank at the outset all of the people who have worked so long and hard to bring our Twenty Sixth Conference together in the Gold Coast. The work began even before our last triennial Conference in Durban. The Local Organizing Committee under the leadership of Julian Alston, Philip Pardey and Malcolm Wegener has done a wonderful job of providing a home for us this week. I also want to thank the Government of Australia, and all of the organizations and companies that have provided support to making this a successful conference. Please take the time to thank representatives of the Local Organizing Committee, the donors and organizations that have contributed so generously to our Conference as you encounter them during your stay at the Gold Coast.

Let me wish all of you a very warm "welcome" to our XVI Conference at the Gold Coast, Australia. I look forward to renewing acquaintances with old friends and meeting new friends from around the world involved in our profession of agricultural economics.

Sincerely,

Prabhu Pingali

President, IAAE





John Mullen
President, AARES

On behalf of your Australian hosts, it is my pleasure to welcome you to IAAE 2006 on the Gold Coast. We appreciate the fact that many of you have traveled long distances and we will be disappointed if your visit to Australia is not a memorable one. The Gold Coast is one of Australia's most popular holiday destinations and a great place to be in August. The locals won't be swimming, but those of us from places like Orange, where it could be snowing at this time, will certainly be spending time on the beach.

Of course the main topic of conversation for Australians will be football, with all codes at critical stages in their competitions. Kiwis and South Africans will be crestfallen because Australia will have recovered all the rugby silverware. Australians will be newly knowledgeable about the World Game and the peccadilloes of its referees towards any form of body contact.

The *Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society* (AARES) is proud to assist in hosting the IAAE Conference. The last time this Conference was held in Australia was in 1967 at Sydney. According to the late Keith Campbell's recollections of the early history of AARES:

"If there was an external impetus to form a professional society in Australia, it was in the person of J.R. (Jock) Currie, foundation secretary of the International Conference (now Association) of Agricultural Economists. Currie visited Sydney in gathering not only with his canny Scots personality, but also with his enthusiasm for the idea of agricultural economists meeting together professionally to their mutual benefit."

This year has been a special one for AARES. Not only do we host the IAAE Conference but our annual

conference in February this year at Manly marked our 50th. Almost 250 attended the Conference with a growing international contingent. We were pleased to have at the Conference dinner, seven of those who attended the first meeting at which AARES was formed. AARES now has 550 members with branches in Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland, Victoria, Canberra, New England (UNE), New South Wales, New Zealand and North America. Go to our website at www.come.to/aares for more information about AARES.

AARES publishes the *Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, focusing on scholarly research in agricultural and resource economics and *Connections*, an 'extension' outlet for papers about topical policy and resource management activities. Information about both journals can be found at the website.

The New Zealand branch of AARES is hosting the 2007 AARES annual conference at Queenstown New Zealand during 13-15 February 2007. Allan Rae, Massey University, who will then be President of AARES, is organising a conference program around the theme "Australasia's Resource-based Industries in a Future World". The AARES Conference will be in Canberra in 2008 and in Rockhampton in Queensland in 2009. We'd love to see you back here for one of our Conferences.

I can't sign off without once again welcoming you and without expressing thanks and congratulations on behalf of AARES to Julian Alston, Phil Pardey and Mal Wegener for their efforts over several years in organising what will be a most successful and enjoyable conference.

John Mullen

President, AARES



Origins of the IAAE

The International Association of Agricultural Economists grew out of a conference hosted by Leonard Elmhirst at his home in Dartington Hall, Devon, England in late August and early September 1929. Fifty agricultural economists from 11 countries attended. There were representatives from Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Trinidad, the United Kingdom and the United States. Those present felt they had gained so much in improved understanding of both the differences and commonalities in the problems they faced in research and teaching that they resolved to find ways to increase their contacts and promote greater understandings among themselves and their colleagues.

With generous financial support from the Carnegie Endowment and the Elmhirst family a second Conference was held at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., in August 1930 with 309 representatives from 20 countries attending: 234 were from the US and Canada coming from 30 states and 5 provinces. A Constitution for IAAE was developed and adopted under the leadership of Arthur Ashby (Aberystwyth, UK). The Conference extended over 10 days with presentations from 84 speakers. It was agreed that the proceedings should be published for the first two conferences under the leadership of F.F. Hill, one of the subsequent leaders in the founding of IRRI, CIMMYT and the international agricultural research centers. Many of the traditions of our Conferences stem from these beginnings.

Organization

The IAAE is governed by a Council of officers and member delegates. National and area branches, made up of members in specific countries or a group of countries, promote the objectives of IAAE within their country or area. Each branch designates a member as its representative to provide liaison between its members and the IAAE Executive Committee. The elected officers of the IAAE are President, President Elect, Past President, Vice President Program, Secretary-Treasurer, and two at-large members who constitute the Executive Committee. This committee acts for the Council between Council meetings. The officers appoint a proceedings editor and an editor-in-chief of its

international journal *Agricultural Economics*. Both of these appointees serve as ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

Objectives of the IAAE

- Foster the application of agricultural economics to improve rural economic and social conditions;
- Advance knowledge of agriculture's economic organization;
- Facilitate communication and information exchange among those concerned with rural welfare.

Membership Benefits

Membership in the IAAE is for a three-year period, currently from January 1, 2005, through December 31, 2007. Members receive the biannual IAAE Newsletter, which contains information about IAAE activities and publications and other international events and opportunities. Members further received the Proceedings of the triennial conference, a Special Issue of the journal containing conference papers, and access to the IAAE web page "Members Only" section.

Agricultural Economics

The Journal of the International Association of Agricultural Economists, is the flagship publication of the IAAE. It is provided to all members in electronic form. Those who wish may obtain a hard copy at a cost of \$105 additional to their dues.

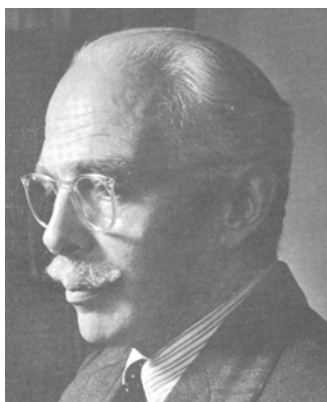
Membership Fees

The membership fees for the **three-year period** depend on the income level of the member:

- US\$75 for members who earn less than US\$20,000 per year.
- US\$130 for members who earn between US\$20,000 and US\$50,000 per year.
- US\$160 for members who earn more than US\$50,000 per year.

Leonard Elmhirst

Leonard Elmhirst (1893-1974) came from a land-owning family in Yorkshire. His experience on a trip to India led him to take a course in agriculture at Cornell University. Whilst at Cornell, Leonard met (and later married) Dorothy Whitney Straight, widow of U.S. diplomat, Willard Straight, and daughter of William C. Whitney, the fabulously wealthy American businessman and statesman. Dorothy Elmhirst's money enabled the couple to buy Dartington Hall (in Devonshire, in the UK) in 1925, found the well-known school there based on unorthodox teaching methods, and also found the world-famous music centre. They also, later, endowed a building at Oxford University (named Dartington House) which housed the Agricultural Economics Institute attended by many overseas and UK agricultural development economists.



Cornell University had extensive interests and influence in India and China, and there was a natural empathy about international development and affairs between senior academics there, notably George Warren and Carl Ladd, and the Elmhirsts. Their relationship led to the proposal for an international conference in 1928, when Carl Ladd was on sabbatical at Dartington. In early 1929 Leonard Elmhirst issued invitations to the first IAAE conference which was held at Dartington Hall later that year.

The conference was attended by only 50 people, 11 from the USA, 24 from the UK, with the remaining 15 coming from nine other countries. Elmhirst himself became the first President of the IAAE, and lent it unstinting support throughout his life. The first conference lasted eight days, which set the pattern for all subsequent conferences – it is now reduced to six days. But there were only 18 formal sessions during that time – a far cry from Australia's crowded schedule.

IAAE Executive Committee

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FAO, Rome, Italy

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University of Manchester, UK

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Purdue University, USA

Editor-in-Chief, Agricultural Economics
Stephan von Cramon Taubadel
Georg-August University, Germany

The Tradition of the Cowbell

It is a tradition that each triennial Conference of the IAAE is opened and closed by the ringing of a “cow bell.” Presumably this was an appropriate way to call an agricultural meeting to order in England in the 1920s. It now symbolizes the need to remember our roots in agriculture during conference discussions.

Leonard Elmhirst wrote the following statement about the actual origin of the first bell in this conference bulletin, *The CowBell*, August 25, 1955 in Finland. “The first cow bell was not I suspect a cow bell but a sheep bell. It came from an old shop in Amesbury, the nearest village to Stonehenge, the Bronze Age druidic temple on Salisbury Plain, England. Here the Celts grazed their flocks on the chalky pastures high above the swamps and heavy forest where the Saxons later found the richest farmland.

In World War II it was found possible to fertilize and plough these downs which had not been cultivated for 3000 years and then only in tiny welchets, or small strips. This bell had a quaint shape and harness of its own with leather neck harness and oak pegs. It is represented on the back of every volume of our official proceedings. It was presented to our first Vice-President, G. F. Warren of Cornell and is now one of his family heirlooms. Our present bell, acquired before the 1949 conference in Stresa, is a real cow bell from Chamoniz in Switzerland.”

The preceding quote is taken from John Raeburn’s *History of the IAAE*, p.172. Raeburn goes on to say that in an issue of *The CowBell* at the Lyon Conference in 1964 it was reported that, “The large bell presented on Monday to the Association by Denis Bergmann on behalf of the French Committee is about a hundred years old. Despite its size it is a genuine Alpine cow bell...” The present whereabouts of this Alpine cowbell is something of a mystery.

The Other Cowbell

This daily newsletter is the other Cowbell you will encounter during the Conference. It contains information about our Association, pointers on what to see and do while here at the Gold Coast, important information on IAAE Council meetings, notices on program changes, etc.

The editor of the Cowbell is Wally Tyner, IAAE Executive Committee member. However, he has had tremendous help from Henrich Brunke, who handled most of the assembling of the historical information, letters, and many other aspects. If you want to submit material for any upcoming issue, bring it, preferably in electronic form, to the IAAE office or email to Wally at wtynr@purdue.edu. In particular if you want to have a reunion for your university or group, please get us that information in plenty of time to publicize the event.

Past IAAE Presidents

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

IAAE Presidents

Founding President

Leonard K. Elmhirst, U.K.	1934-1958
Sherman E. Johnson, USA	1958-1961
Nils Westermarck, Finland	1961-1964
Nils Westermarck, Finland	1964-1967
Nils Westermarck, Finland	1967-1970
Samar R. Sen, India	1970-1973
Samar R. Sen, India	1973-1976
Dennis K. Britton, U.K.	1976-1979
Theodor J. Dams, Germany	1979-1982
Glenn L. Johnson, USA	1982-1985
Michel Petit, France	1985-1988
John W. Longworth, Australia	1988-1991
Csaba Csaki, Hungary	1991-1994
Robert L. Thompson, USA	1994-1997
Douglas D. Hedley, Canada	1997-2000
Joachim von Braun, Germany	2000-2003
Prabhu Pingali, India	2003-2006
David Colman, U.K.	2006-2009

Honorary Life Members

Sherman Johnson, USA	1973	Yujiro Hayami, Japan	1997
Joseph Ackerman, USA	1973	Michel de Benedictis, Italy	1997
		John Dillon, Australia	1997
		Michel Petit, France	1997
Edgar Thomas, UK	1976	Vijay Vyas, India	1997
John R. Raeburn, UK	1976		
Max Rolfes, USA	1976		
Harry Trelogan, USA	1976	Alberto Valdes, Chile	2000
		Wilhelm L. Nieuwoudt, South Africa	2000
		D. Gale Johnson, USA	2000
F. F. Hill, USA	1979	John W. Longworth, Australia	2000
Ryszard Manteuffel, Poland	1979		
Nils Westermarck, Finland	1979		
		Kirit Parikh, India	2003
		Jock Anderson, Australia	2003
Walton J. Anderson, Canada	1982	Laurent Martins, Belgium	2003
Don Paarlberg, USA	1982	Ruvimbo Chimedza, Zimbabwe	2003
Samar R. Sen, India	1982	Ian Behrman, South Africa	2003
		Carl Eicher, USA	2003
		Csaba Csaki, Hungary	2003
Denis Bergmann, France	1985		
Keith O. Campbell, Australia	1985		
M. L. Dantwala, India	1985		
Kazushi Ohkawa, Japan	1985		
Dennis K. Britton, UK	1988		
C. C. Chang, China	1988		
Ulf Renborg, Sweden	1988		
T. W. Schultz, USA	1988		
Theodor Dams, Germany	1991		
Ferenc Fekete, Hungary	1991		
Glenn L. Johnson, USA	1991		
Dusan Tomic, Yugoslavia	1991		
Keizo Tsuchiya, Japan	1991		
R. J. (Jim) Hildreth, USA	1994		
Erly Dias Brandao, Brazil	1994		
J. Owen Jones, UK	1994		
Bernard (Bud) F. Stanton, USA	1994		
XiJi An, China	1994		

Connecting at the Conference

Delegates can have access to the internet free of charge using computers provided at the internet pod located in the foyer opposite Meeting Rooms 5-9. There will also be a few additional cables available for you to connect your own laptop.

Alternatively, if you wish to use your own laptop, wireless service is available throughout the Convention Center, but not for free. Payment options will be available via the provider upon logging in. To obtain this service you must have a wireless facility on your laptop.

On the Lighter Side

The questions below about Australia, are from potential visitors. They were posted on an Australian Tourism Website and the answers are the actual responses by the website officials, who obviously have a sense of humor.

Q: Will I be able to see kangaroos in the street? (USA)

A: Depends how much you've been drinking.

Q: I want to walk from Perth to Sydney - can I follow the railroad tracks? (Sweden)

A: So it's true what they say about Swedes.

Q: Are there any ATMs (cash machines) in Australia? Can you send me a list of them in Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville and Hervey Bay? (UK)

A: What did your last slave die of?

Q: Can you give me some information about hippo racing in Australia? (USA)

A: A-fri-ca is the big triangle shaped continent south of Europe. Aus-tra-lia is that big island in the middle of the Pacific which does not... oh forget it. Sure, the hippo racing is every Tuesday night in Kings Cross. Come naked.

Q: Which direction is North in Australia? (USA)

A: Face south and then turn 180 degrees. Contact us when you get here and we'll send the rest of the directions.

Q: Can I bring cutlery into Australia? (UK)

A: Why? Just use your fingers like we do.

Q: Can you send me the Vienna Boys' Choir schedule? (USA)

A: Aus-tri-a is that quaint little country bordering German-y, which is...oh forget it. Sure, the Vienna Boys Choir plays every Tuesday night in Kings Cross, straight after the hippo races. Come naked.

Q: Can I wear high heels in Australia? (UK)

A: You are a British politician, right?

Q: Are there supermarkets in Sydney and is milk available all year round? (Germany)

A: No, we are a peaceful civilization of vegan hunter/gatherers. Milk is illegal.

Q: Please send a list of all doctors in Australia who can dispense rattlesnake serum. (USA)

A: Rattlesnakes live in A-meri-ca which is where YOU come from. All Australian snakes are perfectly harmless, can be safely handled and make good pets.

Q: I have a question about a famous animal in Australia, but I forget its name. It's a kind of bear and lives in trees. (USA)

A: It's called a Drop Bear. They are so called because they drop out of Gum trees and eat the brains of anyone walking underneath them. You can scare them off by spraying yourself with human urine before you go out walking.

Q: Do you have perfume in Australia? (France)

A: No, WE don't stink.

Q: I have developed a new product that is the fountain of youth. Can you tell me where I can sell it in Australia? (USA)

A: Anywhere significant numbers of Americans gather.

Q: Can you tell me the regions in Tasmania where the female population is smaller than the male population? (Italy) .

A: Yes, gay nightclubs.

Q: Do you celebrate Christmas in Australia? (France)

A: Only at Christmas.

Q: I was in Australia in 1969 on R+R, and I want to contact the girl I dated while I was staying in Kings Cross. Can you help? (USA)

A: Yes, and you will still have to pay her by the hour.

Q: Will I be able to speak English most places I go? (USA)

A: Yes, but you'll have to learn it first.

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<http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au>



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