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XXIII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS

AUGUST 10-16, 1997 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



COWBELL

CONFERENCE BULLETIN



ISSUE #4

Wednesday, August 13, 1997

WEDNESDAY TOUR

Buses will begin boarding at 1:00 P.M. on J Street outside the Sacramento Convention Center. Look for our staff and guides with an IAAE identification to guide you. **WEAR YOUR IAAE NAME BADGES.** A box lunch will be provided. Vegetarian lunches will be provided for those who signed up with the Information Desk; please let the driver know you ordered one when you board the bus. Our tour is to the Kautz Ironstone Vineyard and Winery located in Murphy's in the Gold Country. Murphy's is a historic site with many notable figures having visited there and stayed in the hotel. These notables have included such people as Mark Twain, Jack London, and President U.S. Grant.

On the way to Murphy's you will see an interesting variety of agricultural operations that include fruit, dairy, poultry, and livestock operations. This year, fruit harvest is very early and you will see the harvesting of peaches, grapes, apples, and pears. You will also see almonds and walnuts in the preparation stage of being harvested. While the area you will be driving through is not noted especially for tomatoes, you will see along the highway a number of trucks hauling tomatoes to the canneries. You may even see a tomato harvester in the field.

Once at Kautz's, there will be lemonade available to quench your thirst before wine tasting. With 800 people visiting the winery, the tour of the winery will have to be done in shifts. There will be guides available to assist in organizing the tours. There will also be some University of California Farm Advisors to answer your questions. Wine tasting will be provided after the tours. In waiting for a tour you will be entertained with music as well as the opportunity to visit their museum and gift shop. You can also walk to the town of Murphys which is a short distance away. The meal will be served at 5:00 P.M.; we will begin boarding buses to return to Sacramento at 6:30 P.M. with the last bus leaving at 7:00 P.M. One bus will be designated to go to the Sacramento Inn.

Jerry Siebert, Chair Local Organizing Committee

IAAE COUNCIL MEETING

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR THE IAAE

The Executive Committee of the IAAE has spent considerable time over the past three years exploring the future strategic directions for the Association. While the

Association has many strengths, the Executive also recognizes many challenges in the years ahead.

The problems include:

1. The visible membership cost does not include or recognize the much larger costs associated with running the Association and the Conferences. Compared to membership receipts of \$90,000, the Fund for the ICAE raised \$160,000 this conference period to bring individuals from developing countries to this meeting, and local organizing committees need to raise \$350,000 to \$500,000 to put on the conference.
 2. For many years, several of the Executive Committee members have relied on their home institutions or sought grants to support their work in the Executive, rather than rely on the Association to fund their tasks. As examples, the Vice President Program requires up to \$50,000 for the three year period, and the President Elect, President and Past President sequences normally takes about \$50,000 over the nine years. As well, Oxford University and Iowa State University provide considerable support for the development of the Proceedings and the Journal. Finally, the development of the contributed paper and posters sessions for the conference imposes quite substantial costs on the chairpersons and their home institutions. Because of the reliance on home institutions and grants to support these Executive positions, it is virtually impossible to have these positions filled by someone without such heavy institutional backing. This situation denies access to many of our members to executive positions in the Association.
 3. Our Journal, Agricultural Economics, begun in 1985, peaked in terms of member subscriptions a few years ago. Unless we dramatically strengthen its presence for our world-wide profession, we run a strong risk of losing it within the next few years. This would leave the Association with only the triennial Conference as the bond across our membership.
1. Combine Journal and Membership fee for all members.
 2. Scale costs to income by individual or country, and student/professional status.
 3. Multiple inter-conference symposia in each triennium in association with regional or national associations.
 4. Progressively move publication policy from many instruments (Proceedings, invited and plenary papers, contributed papers, posters, workshop reports, symposia reports, Journal, Newsletter, Membership bulletin) into:
 - Blue Book for: Record of the Conference, Invited and Plenary papers, Agenda and Abstracts, Workshop Reports
 - Journal for: professional papers, peer reviewed and selected by Editor, Newsletter?, Membership Bulletin?, Contributed papers treated as regular submissions to the Journal
 - World Wide Web: Newsletter?, Membership Bulletin?
 - Outside editor and publishers for all other materials
 5. Strategic reserve or Foundation
 6. Prepare to fund Executive costs (from IAAE investments and strategic reserve/foundation)

On Thursday, the IAAE Council will be asked to endorse the strategic approaches described at the Council on Monday evening. Specifically, the Council will be asked to agree to the following strategic directions:

Activities

- streamline and strengthen communications with members
- increased use of the world wide web
- more inter-conference symposia

Financing

- combine membership and Journal costs, starting 1999-2001
- scale costs to country income level, professional status
- a strategic reserve or Foundation
- increase access to Executive through greater support from IAAE funds.

The IAAE is unique around the world as an association of agricultural economists. It is the only global association for our profession, and serves to complement the regional and national associations. We need to strengthen the role of the Association with a strong Journal, more inter-conference symposia, much greater use of the World Wide Web as a communication tool with our membership, and a streamlining of our costs and benefits for our membership.

The proposals which the Executive is considering and will have to make decisions on during the next year or so include:

NOMINATIONS

Shortly after each IAAE Conference, the process of renewal of the Executive members begins again. It is

the task of the President to appoint the members of the Nominating Committee, and it is the task of the President Elect to chair the Nominating Committee. For this Conference period, the members of the Nominating Committee were: Douglas Hedley (Chair), Anthony Ikpi of Nigeria, Earl Kellogg of the USA, Gordon MacAulay of Australia, Laurent Martens of Belgium, A. Vaidyanathan of India, and Alberto Valdes of Chile/USA. Alberto Valdes withdrew from the Nominating Committee as soon as his name was placed in nomination.

The slate of nominees proposed by the Committee is:

Past President:	Robert Thompson
President:	Douglas Hedley
Secretary Treasurer	Walt Armbruster
President Elect:	Alberto Valdes
	Joachim von Braun
Vice-President, Program:	Antonio Salazar Brandao
	Roley Piggott
At Large:	Chris Ackello-Ogutu
	Ke Bingsheng
	Eugenia Muchnik
	de Rubinstein
	Kirit Parikh

Walt Armbruster is the Managing Director of the Farm Foundation in Chicago, and the current President of the American Association of Agricultural Economics. He has served as Secretary Treasurer of the IAAE for a number of years.

Alberto Valdes was trained at Catholic University in Santiago, Chile, with an MA from University of Chicago, and a PhD from London School of Economics. He has worked at Catholic University as professor and Dean, at CIAT in Colombia, at IFPRI in Washington and is currently Agricultural Advisor for East and Central Europe and Latin America at the World Bank. Alberto was Vice President Program of the IAAE in 1986-88, organizing the program for the Conference in Buenos Aires in 1988.

Joachim von Braun completed his undergraduate training at the University of Bonn, and his PhD at the University of Goettingen in Germany, where later he was awarded a professorial title. He has worked as a research fellow at IFPRI in Washington, and is currently chair of the Food Economics, Food Policy and World Food Issues at the University of Kiel in Germany. Next month, he will begin as Founding Director and Head of the Economics Department of the newly created Centre for Development Research at the University of Bonn. Joachim is the Vice President Program of the IAAE in

1995-97, organizing the program for the Conference in Sacramento in 1997.

Antonio Salazar Brandao was trained the University of Minas Gerais in Brazil, with graduate work at Vargas Foundation, and a PhD from Purdue University. He is currently the Director of Brazilian Economics at the Vargas Foundation in Rio de Janeiro. Tony is also a member of the Advisory Board of the IAAE Journal, Agricultural Economics.

Roley Piggott began his training at the University of New England at Armidale in Australia, with a Masters from the same university, and a PhD from Cornell University in agricultural economics. He is currently the Chair of the Department at University of New England, Armidale. Roley is the past president of the Australian association, and former editor of the Australian journal.

Chris Ackello-Ogutu began his degrees at University of Nairobi and completed his PhD at University of California, Davis. He is currently Associate Professor at University of Nairobi. Chris is also the chair of the East and Southern Africa Association of Agricultural Economics, and Senior Director of the Resource Management and Policy Analysis Institute in Nairobi. He is a member of the African Rural Social Sciences Research Network and has worked widely throughout eastern and southern Africa.

Ke Bingsheng's first degrees were from Beijing University and Beijing Agricultural University, and later a PhD from University of Hohenheim in Germany. He is currently the Vice President of China Agricultural University in Beijing. He is a former dean of the same university, and a member of several committees and boards involving agricultural economics, rural economy, and science and technology in China. He has consulted widely through FAO on Chinese rural and food development

Eugenia Muchnik de Rubinstein was trained initially at University of Chile, and later received a Masters and PhD from the University of Minnesota, and finally a Post Doctorate at CIAT in Colombia. Eugenia is currently heading the Agricultural Development Unit of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. She worked for many years at Catholic University in Chile, and continues to serve as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee to the CGIAR. She will soon take up new duties at a non-profit organization in Chile devoted to the development of agri-business in Chile.

Kirit Parikh began his university training at Gujarat University in India, and completed his training at MIT in the USA in Economics. He is currently the Founding

Director and Vice Chancellor of the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research in Mumbai, India. For many years he was Director of the Food and Agriculture Program of the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis, near Vienna, Austria. He has served on a number of advisory boards and commissions, including the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council in India.

Election Procedures

In the IAAE Council meeting on Thursday, President Thompson will call for further nominations from the floor before the election of each of the positions. Elections for each of the positions on the Executive of the IAAE will be taken in the following order: Secretary Treasurer, President Elect, Vice President Program, and two Members at Large.

Following these elections, the President will ask the Council to confirm the current President Elect as the President for the next three years.

Honorary Life Members

Another task of the Nominating Committee is to propose Honorary Life Members of the IAAE. Honorary Life Members are those who have made outstanding lifetime contributions to the field of agricultural economics and the IAAE, within their own country or around the world. The proposed new members will be put before the IAAE Council on Thursday evening, with announcements on Saturday morning, 16 August.

FROM MEMBER TO MEMBER

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PANEL ORGANIZERS

Before end of conference please submit write-up of your panel (max. 5 pages) to Joachim von Braun (copy to George Peters).

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Discussants for Contributed Paper sessions are reminded to provide a copy of their written comments to Peter Hazell, or leave them at the Speakers' Desk in the Registration area. A brief questionnaire will also be provided to each Discussant at the beginning of their session, which should be completed for each paper and returned in the same way.

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RAPPORTEURS!!

All those who have volunteered to act as rapporteur please report to speakers desk if you have not yet done so.

◆◆◆◆◆ NEWS ◆◆◆◆◆

A Message Board is located near the Information Desk. You may post messages and receive messages there. Please check to see if you have any messages.

◆◆◆◆◆ REUNIONS ◆◆◆◆◆

Purdue University— Graduates, current and former faculty, visiting scholars, and short course participants are invited to a reunion 8-10 pm, Thursday, in the Santa Barbara room (2nd floor).

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Meeting of Participants from Japan

August 14, Thursday, 20:00 to 22:00. Location will be announced later in COWBELL or on Board. All participants from Japan are invited to attend to say 'hello'.

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Africa Group Meeting

Thursday, 14th August, Time:13:00, in: Golden State

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Members of the CGIAR

The meeting planned with the IAEG will take place Thursday at 7:00 pm in Ventura room, 2nd floor. If you plan to attend please indicate to Eugenia Muchnik.

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Informal Discussion area. An informal discussion area with tables and chairs has been set up on the second floor outside the Capitol Boardroom. Please feel free to use this space.

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Avis Car Rental: A number of you have reserved Avis Rental Cars for Thursday and Friday to be dropped off at the San Francisco airport. For those of you considering renting a car from Avis, which is located in the Hyatt Hotel, you should let them know as early as possible of your needs in order to have enough cars on hand. The rental rate is \$55.00 for a 24 hour period with no charge for dropping the car off. Contact the Avis desk for details.

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Lost Books. Will whomever took the two books from Ashgate Publishing and one book from Cornell University Press at the book display please return them. They are for display purposes only. Some of your colleagues would like to look at them.

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Man's gold band ring lost in the Convention Center on Sunday. Contact: Mark Darroch, Econolodge, Room 210.

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