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ISSUE # 7

Saturday, August 16, 1997

Closing Comments from President Hedley

As the XXIII Conference of the IAAE draws to a close, I know that all of you join me in extending a very warm and heartfelt thank you to our California hosts and the wonderful team from the USA who have made our stay in the "Golden State" so comfortable and rewarding. Also, our thanks go to Joachim von Braun and his team for providing us with an excellent program, with more content packed into fewer days than any previous Conference. Above all, these Conferences are about establishing and renewing professional friendships and networks around the world during our time together. The thoughtful discussion, challenging ideas, new insights and different perspectives in comfortable surroundings represent the heart and soul of the IAAE and our Conferences. To all who have contributed to this Conference success, our very great thanks.

In three years, we meet in Berlin, Germany for the XXIV Conference. Already this Conference is shaping up to be a superb event for all of us. We have a new team already underway in planning our time together. During the next three years, your new Executive, in addition to planning the XXIV Conference, will be addressing many issues facing the Association, its membership, the venues through which we interact on a continuing basis, and the means to do it all. I was very pleased with the support from the Council for the work of the Executive during the past three years and the confidence expressed in the new Executive to get on with these tasks. I look forward to your continued support and interaction throughout the next three years with our Executive team.

In Tennyson's poem, *Ulysses*, we find the words "...All experience is an arch where through gleams that untravelled world whose margin fades forever and forever as I move...". We have had a wonderful set of experiences at our Conference and I look forward to sharing that as yet untravelled world of the next three years with all of you. As we return to our homes and families, may I wish all of you a safe journey and God speed.

Douglas Hedley

Highlight from IAAE council meeting, August 14, 1997

Newly Elected Officers, 1997-2000

President:	Douglas Hedley
President Elect:	Joachim von Braun
Past President:	Robert Thompson
Secretary Treasurer	Walt Armbruster
Vice-President, Program:	Prabhu Pingali
Council at large:	Chris Ackello-Ogotu
Council at large:	Eugenia Muchnik de Rubinstein

Conference Invitation

Johan van Yyl, University of Pretoria, invited the IAAE to hold its 25th Conference in Capetown, South Africa on behalf of agricultural economists in Africa with the support of the national government in South Africa. Anthony Ikpi, Nigeria, spoke in support to the invitation on behalf of his fellow African agricultural economists.

Other

Preference was expressed for holding the Berlin Conference during the third week in August.

Strategic planning by the Executive Committee was discussed especially membership fees and support of the Journal. Alternative ways of financing member services and its publications were required.

As survey of members' preferences at the time of the next Newsletter is proposed by President Hedley.

2000 IAAE Conference Welcome to Berlin, Germany

The German members of the IAAE are very pleased to host the year 2000 IAAE Conference in Berlin, Germany. We anticipate that IAAE members will find the City of Berlin, its hinterland, and neighboring regions and countries exciting, and the conference site most conducive to the exchange of ideas and results.

The city of Berlin is located in the center of the new Europe without borders (at least with fewer borders than in the past). It has a long, often tumultuous history, which reflects the history of Europe. The only constant in this city is change. The most recent and exciting period began in November 1989 when the wall that divided the city and the country fell and the process of reunification began. The destruction of World War II and the devastation inherent in the division of the city and of the country are giving way to the New Berlin, which once again has become the capital of Germany and a major European center of the arts and sciences.

The conference site will be the *Haus am Köllnischen Park*. It is located in the heart of historic Berlin Mitte. History is ever-present

One of the central issues in international agricultural economics remains the transition of agriculture in the former centrally planned economies. Berlin has been a focal point in this regard as well. It is situated at the

intersection of East and West. In the Old Federal States of Germany farms have operated as privately owned units under a market economic environment and the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy. Agriculture in the New Federal States has had to go through the transition process rapidly. And, of course, each country in Central and East Europe and the former Soviet Union has chosen its own approach and pace for economic and agricultural transition - thus providing a wealth of opportunities to study various dimensions of agricultural transition and development.

The development of agriculture in Western Europe is interesting in its own right as it has embarked on major policy reform leading to a more market oriented environment for European farmers. The political unification of Europe is continuing; membership in the European Union will continue to grow; and, through currency union, members will draw closer together economically as well.

The German members of the IAAE look forward to welcoming you in Berlin for the XXIV International Conference of Agricultural Economists.

Harald von Witzke, Humboldt University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany.

Prabhu Pingali, New vice president program

Prabhu Pingali is the Director of the Economics Program at CIMMYT, Mexico City. He obtained his Ph.D. from North Carolina State University in 1982. Prior to joining CIMMYT in 1996, he worked for the International Rice

Research Institute in the Philippines from 1987 to 1996 and for the World Bank in Washington D.C. from 1982 to 1987. He has authored five book and numerous journal articles.

Newly elected Honorary Life members

JOHN L. DILLON

John L. Dillon has been active in the IAAE since the 1967 meeting in Sydney. His attendance at meetings has been irregular but memorable, and members still speak with mixed but usually smiling feelings about his frank but honest and accurate Discussion Opener remarks on the paper by Academician Rustaev at the Minsk meeting in 1970. These same characteristics of frank and fearless constructive criticism stood the Association in good stead during his long and active service on the Editorial Committee of *Agricultural Economics*.

Dillon has recently retired from the University of New England, where he served variously as Foundation Professor of Farm Management, long-time Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, Dean of the Faculty of Economic Studies, Pro-Vice Chancellor, and various other service offices, not to mention a wide multinational network of graduate students whom he mentored (in Chile, Brazil and India, as well as in Armidale, Australia).

Dillon is perhaps best known internationally for his published works, including Heady and Dillon (1961) *Agricultural Production Functions*, his 1968 *Analysis of Response in Crop and Livestock Production*, and his joint work with Anderson and Hardaker, *Agricultural Decision Analysis* in 1977. He continues to publish, and is completing a book for FAO with McConnell in 1997.

For others, especially in the international agricultural science community, he is even better known for his long and active role in the CGIAR, where he has served on more Boards of Trustees than perhaps any other and has participated prominently in many Center reviews.

Professional recognition has come in many forms, including election to Fellow of several learned societies, such as the American Agricultural Economics Association, a string of Honorary Doctorates, including from the University of Kiel, a Distinguished Alumnus

Award from his PhD alma mater, Iowa State University, and most recently the highest national honor, Member of the Order of Australia.

MICHEL PETIT

Michel Petit was elected to the Presidential chairs of the IAAE at the Malaga Conference in 1985, as an individual who had come to his professional maturity in three different cultures. First, he was a French "agronome", former student of Rene Dumont and Denis Bergmann, educated in the tradition of the grassroots agronomists who celebrated farmer contact and knowledge of all technical aspects of agriculture.

Michel was also the intellectual offspring of Michigan State University, whose culture, although basically grassroots, was much more than that of the French agronomist. This second culture was aimed at discovering the policy and social implications of microeconomic observation and analysis. He passed his PhD thesis examination under the supervision of Glenn Johnson, also a former IAAE President and Honorary Life Member, during the 1964 IAAE Conference at Lyon, France, in a room of the "cite universitaire", which for the occasion had been given extraterritorial privilege to be part of the Michigan State University campus for the day.

Finally, his third cultural source is India, where he was appointed program advisor for agriculture and rural development for the Ford Foundation. He lived and worked in India for two years in 1975 to 1978, discovering the realities of developing economies in Asia, in particular the intimate economic and social connections among hunger, poverty, resource availability, technology and food supply in rural areas.

From 1964 to the 1988, he was a researcher and teacher at Lyon in France. Subsequently, at the occasion of a stay at IFPRI in 1983-84, he shifted his interests to the

study of agricultural policies. As both teacher and researcher, he was among the founders of the European Review of Agricultural Economics, of which he was for many years the Associate Editor, in charge of Spain and France. In the late-1980s, his career took him more deeply into administration and management, when he was appointed head of the agricultural policy branch of the World Bank in Washington in 1988. He continues to serve the IAAE and the Executive with his quiet counsel and wisdom, and as the conscience of the profession and our membership.

VIJAY S. VYAS

Professor Vijay Shankar Vyas is Director of the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) in Jaipur, India. Prior to joining the IDS, Professor Vyas was the senior advisor in the agricultural and rural development department of the World Bank in Washington. In 1983-84, he was awarded an IDRC Senior Research Fellowship and was a Visiting Scholar at the Asian Studies Center of Boston University. From 1978 to 1982, he was Director of the Indian Institute of Management at Ahmedabad.

Subsequent to receiving his PhD in Economics from the University of Bombay in 1958, Professor Vyas was on the faculty of Bombay University, Sardar Patel University and the Indian Institute of Management. He has extensive experience in the field of rural development and agricultural policy in India and abroad. He was a member of the Agricultural Prices Commission of the Government of India and served as Chairman or Member of other Commissions and Committees set up by the Union and the State Government.

He has consulted with the United Nations and other international institutions. He served on the Board of the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Colombia, and was a member of the Governing Council of the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University.

He has written extensively on various aspects of agricultural development and policies, and has been honored by the academic community of India and abroad for his contributions. Professor Vyas delivered the Sixth Elmhirst Lecture at the XXI Conference of the IAAE in Tokyo, Japan, in 1991.

YUJIRO HAYAMI

Yujiro Hayami began his education in Liberal Arts at the University of Tokyo, and continued on to Iowa State University for his PhD degree as a Rockefeller

Foundation Scholar. His career has taken him through several positions in Japan, starting at the National Research Institute of Agricultural Economics, later at Tokyo Metropolitan University as Professor and University Council member, later at the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines, and finally to Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo where he continues as Director of the Centre for International Studies. He has served as a Visiting Professor or Fellow at the University of Minnesota, the University of the Philippines at Los Banos, Australian National University, the Institute for Economic Growth in Delhi, India, the Economic Growth Centre at Yale University, and as the T.H. Lee Professor of World Affairs at Cornell University.

Yujiro came to world-wide prominence in our profession with his publication, jointly with Vern Ruttan, of the book Agricultural Development: An International Perspective. His follow-up books on Japan, Taiwan, Korea and the Philippines, and the revised edition of the induced innovation hypothesis in 1985 represent one of the most widely known and taught bodies of literature in agricultural economics. His Anatomy of a Peasant Economy epitomized the careful and thoughtful observation and analysis he brought to his entire professional career. More recently, his book Japanese Agriculture Under Siege offers a compelling history and analysis of the political economy in Japan as it made the transition from a taxed developing agriculture to a highly developed and subsidized agriculture. He continues to publish on agrarian affairs in Japan and throughout Asia.

Yujiro has received many academic and scholarship awards including the Distinguished Research Award from the Agricultural Economics Society of Japan, the Outstanding Published Research Award of AAEA, the Outstanding Economic Book Award from Nikkei Shinbun, Japan Economic Newspaper, the Best Journal Article from AJAE on two occasions, the Award for Enduring Quality Publication from the AAEA, the Tohata Memorial Award for Distinguished Policy Research from the National Institute for Research Advancement in Japan, and the Award for Quality of Research Discovery by the AAEA. He is a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association, Honorary Professor of Tokyo Metropolitan University, and he was the Fifth Elmhirst Lecturer at the XX Conference of the IAAE in Buenos Aires, 1988.

Winners of the most frequent conference attendee/ accompanying person competition

Winner of most frequent conference attendee competition is: Georges Bublot, Belgium. Prof. Bublot attend 14 IAAE conferences, he never missed a conference since the one of Mysore, India in 1958. The next most frequent attendees - both have participated in 12 conferences – Glenn Johnson and Michel Petit.

The most frequent accompanying person is May Hildreth, who has attended 8 IAAE conference so far !

CONGRATULATIONS !!!!!