

NEWS AND VIEWS

AARES Newsletter Volume 26, Number 1, April 2014

1. President's Column

Following AARES' very successful 58th Annual Conference in Port Macquarie, Alan Randall (AARES President) suggests positive progress toward an excellent Annual Conference in Rotorua. Alan also provided more information about participation in conferences and symposia of allied associations.

2. AARES 2015 Annual Conference

The AARES 2015 Annual Conference will be held at Rotorua in New Zealand from 10-13 February 2015. The topic of the conference will be *'Transformations in agriculture and natural resources'*.

The local NZARES organising committee - chaired by President, Matt Newman - are well into preparations for the conference. It is likely there will be a field trip and pre-conference workshops and/or special interest sessions on the 10th February, but these will be confirmed in due course.

Put the dates in your diary... more information will be available soon.

3. AARES 2014 Annual Conference

The 2014 AARES Annual Conference was held at the Glasshouse Arts Conference and Entertainment Centre in the Port Macquarie from 4-7 February, 2013. The conference was attended by more than 230 delegates from 18 countries and presented a great opportunity for all those involved in research, extension, teaching, policy-making and managing agricultural and natural resources to connect and contribute to future developments in this disciplinary area.

Copies of many of the powerpoint presentations, posters and full papers presented at the Conference are available on the AgEcon Search website.

The Local Organising Committee would like to thank all those delegates who responded to the customer satisfaction survey. The survey results are <u>available here</u>.

4. AARES in the Media

Cathy Reade of The Crawford Fund did an excellent job in getting media exposure in print and on the radio and television for many of our high profile speakers at the AARES 2014 Annual Conference.

5. Report from Secretary

The secretary (Bob Farquharson), provides a brief introduction to the Society for new members including information about Federal Council activities, various Society Awards, Conferences and Symposia, and membership.

6. Reports from the 2014 AARES Annual General Meeting

There was active debate at the AARES AGM about the future of the society, particularly into how best to keep members active. Past initiatives to modernise the finances and structure of the Society are now bearing fruit and updates were provided. As well there were comprehensive updates from the outgoing President and Federal council members.

- President's AGM report
- Treasurer's AGM report
 - o 2012-13 AARES Audited Accounts
- Secretary's AGM Report
- AJARE Editors' AGM Report

7. Reports from the May 2014 Council Meeting

- President's report
- Manager, Promotions and Development Report
- AJARE Editors' Report

8. Meeting at <u>2014 World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists</u> in Turkey.

AARES members attending the ERE World Congress in Istanbul from 28 June to 2 July 2014 are invited to participate in a meeting with representatives of other associations and consolidated regional networks, including the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economics, participating in the event. The purpose of this meeting is to identify how these groups can enhance cooperation for the benefit of the field. The AARES Federal Council would be very pleased if representatives of AARES would like to participate in this meeting.

If you are attending the World Congress in Istanbul and are interested in participating in this meeting, please contact Fiona Gibson at fiona.gibson@uwa.edu.au.

More information on the conference is available on the WCERE website.

9. Inaugural AARES WA Henry Schapper Visiting Fellow

The WA branch was pleased to host the Inaugural AARES WA Henry Schapper Visiting Fellow, Professor Ian Bateman, from February 19th to 26th.

In 2013, the WA branch of the Society decided to invest in the establishment of an annual visiting fellowship program, to bring a distinguished visitor to WA, to give a public lecture and other activities.

Given his significant contribution to the discipline in WA, it was decided that the Fellowship would be named in honour of Dr Henry Schapper.

The inaugural Fellow, Ian Bateman, from the University of East Anglia, was co-hosted by the School of Agricultural and Resource Economics, UWA, with support from the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy.

During his visit Ian gave a public lecture on "Valuing ecosystem services: how can economics help?" which outlined the work he has recently been involved in the UK as part of the UK National Ecosystem Assessment. He also held a workshop entitled "Research publication and impact: Are there any guidelines?" attended by a group of AARES WA branch Early Career Researchers. Finally, he also met with postgraduate students, where he discussed research and publication strategies.

Having Ian as the inaugural Fellow has put the initiative on the map, given his high profile and reputation.

More information about Henry Schapper Fellowship is available on the attached flyer.

10. AJARE Call for Papers: Special issue on Resources and Energy Commodity Cycles

The Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics is publishing a Special Issue on managing mining and energy commodity cycles for publication in 2015. Submissions are welcomed. The economic effects of commodity cycles in mining and energy sectors are a major policy topic in resource-rich countries. This Special Issue will follow a previous special issue on Mining and Resource Economics in the journal in 2012, which has been very highly cited. Submissions to the Special Issue should be focused on identifying and analysing economic drivers and impacts, as well as evaluating different policy mechanisms available to manage and ameliorate boom and bust cycles. It is planned that the Special Issue will be released in print form in April 2015. It is anticipated that an associated Symposium or workshop on the topic will be held in Australia in early 2015 to engage policy makers in the research findings.

11. Nominations for President-Elect, and Distinguished Fellowships

The Nominations Committee is calling for nominations for President-Elect and Distinguished Fellowships for the year 2014. Formal nominations should be submitted to Prof. Peter Warr (peter.warr@anu.edu.au) by Friday, **27 June 2014**.

Please note - any AARES member may nominate or be nominated for the role of President-Elect or other Federal Council positions.

12. Call for Submissions: AARES-NZARES 2014 Heading East Award

AARES and NZARES will jointly offer this award to facilitate the attendance of one Australian-based AARES member at the NZARES Conference to be held in Nelson, New Zealand from **28-29 August 2014.** The closing date for entries is 30 May 2014.

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Please send any News and Views contributions to this address