



#PRESIDENTS REPORT

Each year there is an informal tradition that the AARES President attends and is a speaker at the New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics conference. I really enjoyed my involvement this year, with the conference held in Hamilton on the 29th and 30th of August. The NZARES President, Tony Schischka, and our AARES NZ delegate, Darran Austin, did a great job to make me welcome. It was striking to go to a location where it rains all the time, in stark contrast to current conditions in central Queensland and most of eastern Australia.

The NZARES conference is smaller than AARES with about 60 attendees, but this generates a lot of advantages. I really enjoyed the quality of the presentations, a close focus on policy issues, and a lot more interdisciplinary work than we typically see at AARES. Some of the issues that came through at the conference were dealing with risk and uncertainty, particularly in developing policy instruments, mechanisms and evaluation of different climate change policies, and the economics of biosecurity. I definitely recommend this as a great conference to be involved with.

While I was there I attended the NZARES AGM. Tony is now past-president, and Anita Wreford from Lincoln University has moved into the President role. Phil Jouneux was awarded a life membership in

recognition of the long-standing involvement (decadal) in positions on NZARES and his broader contribution to the society. There was a preliminary discussion at the AGM about planning to hold the AARES conference in New Zealand in 2022, and I am sure the group there will do another great job.

Another feature at the conference was a valedictory address from Brian Bell. Brian is retiring after a long and varied career in economic analysis, policy and consulting, and he provided the audience with some insights into how much (and how little) changes have occurred since he started his career.

Turning to AARES matters closer to home, I'm glad to report that our new software and website system has now gone live. You can see the new site at: <https://www.aares.org.au> Rod McInnes has done an incredible job as Chair of our software committee to organise the build of the new website, as well as to do the checking and improvements.

Using the conference website will become important next month. The renewal notices for membership will be issued around the end of September, and registrations for the 2020 AARES Conference in Perth should become available at the beginning of October. This year everyone will need to pay their membership before they can register for the conference,

AARES 2020 CONFERENCE !!

The WA Local Organising committee are pleased to welcome you to join them at the 64th annual AARES Conference,

Date: 11-14 February 2020

Where:

University of Western Australia
Perth

Website: www.aares2020.org

CLICK HERE FOR FURTHER INFO

EARLY CAREER DELEGATES

A variety of events and activities are organised to provide a productive and enjoyable experience for early career professionals attending AARES 2020.

This includes a dedicated early career professional workshop on Monday the 10th of February, an EC social event on Tuesday evening, a mentoring program, and a three minute thesis competition.

CLICK HERE FOR FURTHER INFO

with both steps easy to complete on the new website. Please also remember the closing date of the 23rd of October to submit your paper and poster abstracts to AARES 2020.

An important issue that we discussed at the last AARES Council meeting was the Donna Brennan award. This supports a delegate from a developing country to attend and present at our AARES conference each year, with a preference to selecting early career and female applicants.

Council has agreed to underwrite this for a further three year period because of the focus of the award and the fact that it recognises one of our past colleagues. We have also decided to increase the support for the award to make it easier for successful applicants to fund their visit, and look forward to receiving applications for the 2020 conference.

We will shortly be issuing the following calls, which will close in mid-November:

- The Donna Brennan Travel Award
- The Post Graduate Research Prize
- The Quality Research Communication Award
- The Quality Research Discovery Award

Please watch for the email from office@aares.co.au which will have all the details. We strongly encourage members to apply or nominate others for the awards.

*Cheers,
John Rolfe*



AARES 2020 CONT..

CHILDCARE

For delegates requiring child care services during the conference, there will be a subsidy offered by AARES. The subsidy is subject to availability and will depend on the number of applicants, so we recommend getting in touch soon if you require child care services at office@aares.org.au

Delegates will be responsible for organising their own child care services, but you can contact the Local Organising Committee via marit.kragt@uwa.edu.au for help and advice on services available in Perth.

ACCOMODATION

There are many options for accommodation near the conference venue on the UWA Crawley campus. Accommodation ranges from modern, hotel-like rooms (at St Catherine's on Park, Trinity on Hampden and Forrest Hall) to basic and affordable, college-style rooms (at St Catherine's and in shared townhouses). Delegates are recommended to book early, as on-campus accommodation is limited. There are several AirBnB's within walking distance of the UWA campus, and a basic motel close to King's Park. There are regular busses from the Perth CBD to the UWA campus, with bus-stops within 300 metres of the UWA University Club. Four hotels provided special discount codes for AARES conference delegates. Details of these are provided on the conference website.

CLICK HERE FOR FURTHER INFO



AARES
AUSTRALASIAN AGRICULTURAL &
RESOURCE ECONOMICS SOCIETY

64th Annual Conference
Perth, Western Australia
11-14 February 2020



Join us at the University Club on the beautiful University of Western Australia campus to share and discuss research on important issues of agricultural and resource economics. More information: www.aares.org.au  @AARES_Inc  YouTube youtu.be/kDb1RZaGWRY



Key Dates AARES 2020

PAPER AND ABSTRACTS DUE
23RD OCTOBER 2019

AUTHORS ADVISED OF THEIR SUCCESS OF
SUBMISSION
14TH NOVEMBER 2019

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
CLOSES
13TH JANUARY 2020

PRESENTING AUTHORS MUST
REGISTER
15TH JANUARY 2020



Donna Brennan

Donna was a high achiever throughout her life. I remember tutoring her agricultural economics class in the second year of her undergraduate degree (I was only in fourth year myself) and she quickly and clearly stood out as someone with intelligence and confidence.

She completed her PhD at the University of Western Australia in 1991. It was an outstanding piece of work that subsequently won the award of the Australian Agricultural Economics Society for the best thesis of the year in Australia or New Zealand.

Her work experience included stints at the Western Australian Department of Agriculture, the University of California, Berkeley, the University of Western Australia, the Ministry of Food, Dhaka, Bangladesh, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics, the University of Sydney, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, and as a self-employed consultant.

In all of these organisations and roles, she impressed with the consistently excellent quality of her work. In her later years, she focused her work on Vietnam. As usual, she put her intellect and determination to excellent use. She engaged intimately with farmers and their families, cut through the Vietnamese bureaucracy with her intellect and willpower, astutely identified many problems with the farming systems she dealt with, and was able to find and implement a number of solutions. Her work meant that tens of thousands of villagers have more food and higher incomes.

Finally, here is a brief extract from Donna's eulogy that speaks volumes. "Donna was truly an intelligent and determined woman with a generous heart and we are all privileged to have shared her life. For decades she has faced mortality with strength of character as time and time again, she successfully battled the disease. Her strength, sharp wit in the face of adversity and positive outlook will forever inspire us all."

-David Pannell UWA



Donna Brennan

AARES International Travel Grants

The Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) seeks applications for the Donna Brennan AARES International Travel Grant.

The purpose of the grant is to support a person from a developing country to attend the AARES conference, with a preference towards selecting people who were Early Career Researchers and/or females, working in agricultural-, environmental-, food-, resource-economics and agribusiness topics.

This grant will defray accommodation and transportation costs associated with attending the 2020 AARES Conference in Fremantle on February 11-14th. The grant will provide complementary registration to the conference and the conference dinner, and up to AU\$1,500 for travel and accommodation costs.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

ESSE AND EAERE 2019

Anthea Coggan CSIRO

In June/July 2019 I was very fortunate to be funded by the CSIRO to attend the European Society of Ecological Economics Conference in Turkey, Finland and the European Association of Environmental Economics Conference in Manchester, UK.

Whilst in the Northern Hemisphere I also ran a seminar on environmental offsets with the Finish Environment Institute (photo 1) and a seminar on Australian landholder participation in environmental stewardship programs at Leeds University (UK).

The ESEE conference focused on co-creation in environmental policy. Co-creation in policy development was discussed from many different angles and in different forums, from the philosophy of co-creation through to co-creation on-ground and in practice. Finland is a beautiful country - being in Finland at midsummer saw many a midsummer party invitation and not a great deal of sleep! (see photo 2).

At the EAERE conference I attended the pre-conference workshop on Behavioural and Experimental Economic Methods where discussion focussed on advances in methods and applications. The EAERE plenaries focussed on designing optimal (?) forest conservation interventions in developing countries (Prof Daan van Soest, Tilburg University) and climate migration (Katrin Millock, Paris School of Economics).

In the down time, the EAERE organised a social run (see photo 3) and we found the local pool where I decided not to join the 'local' swim squad as they looked a bit fast for me – turned out they were the national team! (see photo 4).

Photo 1: Environmental offsets in Australia



Photo 2: Midsummer celebrations Finnish style



Photo 3: EAERE social running attire



Photo 4: swimming with the locals in Manchester



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AARES

AUSTRALASIAN AGRICULTURAL &
RESOURCE ECONOMICS SOCIETY



NEWS & VIEWS

AARES publish an electronic newsletter "News and Views" three times a year to members. It contains information about future events, calls for awards, topical articles about developments in AARES etc.



AARES BRANCHES

There are 9 branches of the Australian Agricultural Resource Economics Society. Visit your branch page for information on how to contact them or any local news or notices your branch wishes to share.