

AARES 2010 National Conference Featured Speakers



Julian M. ALSTON is a professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics of the University of California at Davis. Alston was raised on a farm in northern Victoria, Australia. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Science from the University of Melbourne, a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics from La Trobe University, and a PhD in Economics from North Carolina State University. Prior to beginning in his current position in 1988, Dr. Alston was the Chief Economist in the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs in Victoria, Australia, where he had been employed in various capacities since 1975.



Kym ANDERSON is George Gollin Professor of Economics at the University of Adelaide. During 2004-07 he was on extended leave at the World Bank's Development Research Group as Lead Economist (Trade Policy). He also spent 1990-92 at the Research Division of the GATT (now WTO) Secretariat in Geneva. He has published around 300 articles and 40 books, including *The Political Economy of Agricultural Protection* (with Yujiro Hayami and others), *Disarray in World Food Markets* (with Rod Tyers), and *Agricultural Trade Reform and the Doha Development Agenda* (with Will Martin). During 2006-09 he directed a large empirical research project for the World Bank on *Distortions to Agricultural Incentives*, from which 4 regional books and a global overview book have been published and two more will appear in 2010. He is also directing a research project on prospects for the world's wine markets to 2030.



Derek BYERLEE, Member, Science Council, CGIAR. He was formerly with the World Bank most recently as Director of the World Development Report 2008, Agriculture for Development. From South Australia he has wide experience in agricultural and rural development, having lived more than 20 years in Asia, Latin America, and Africa in filling various posts. Before joining the World Bank he was Director of Economics at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, Mexico, and Associate Professor, Michigan State University, USA. He has published widely in several fields of agricultural development and is a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association. He is currently a senior adviser to a World Bank study on large scale farming in developing countries.



John FREEBAIRN graduated with a PhD from the University of California (Davis) in 1972 and then worked at the NSW Department of Agriculture until 1974, where he was senior economist. John became a Research Fellow at the Research School of Social Sciences at ANU in 1974 before moving as a Professor of Agricultural Economics at La Trobe University from 1977 until 1984. From 1984 until 1986 John took over the responsibilities of Research Director at the Business Council of Australia. He joined Monash University in 1986 as Deputy Director in the Centre of Policy Studies. In 1991 he moved to the Department of Economics at Monash and at various times was Chairman of the Department and Deputy Dean and Dean of the Faculty. John joined the University of Melbourne in 1996. He was Head of Department from 1997—2002 and Director of the Melbourne Institute from April 2005 to April 2007. In 2008 Professor John Freebairn was appointed as the Ritchie Chair, founded by R.B. Ritchie in memory of his son who had been killed in World War I.

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Johann KIRSTEN graduated with a BSc Agric Hons (Agricultural Economics) degree from the University of Stellenbosch before he joined the Department of Agriculture in Pretoria. While in Pretoria he completed his M.Sc. Agric (cum laude) and then spent 2 years in London as South Africa's agricultural attaché. He returned to South Africa in 1992 when he joined the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria as lecturer. He completed his PhD in 1994 and in 1996 was appointed Professor and head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development at the University of Pretoria. Johann has published 86 articles in peer reviewed journals as author and coauthor and also co-edited 4 books. His main research interests relate the commercialisation of farming in poor communities, land reform, and agricultural policy in general. Recently his research focus shifted to aspects related to price transmission and the role of market power in supply chains. He is currently appointed as a part-time council member of the National Agricultural Marketing Council and has been involved in many policy processes for the government. He also served as the Vice-President of the International Association of Agricultural Economists for the period 2006 – 2009.



Ross KINGWELL An agricultural economist with over 25 years experience in research and provision of policy advice, he is currently employed as chief economist in the Department of Agriculture and Food (WA) and as a professor in agricultural economics at the University of Western Australia. He's president of AARES and has over 100 published book chapters and articles in peer reviewed journals. He has wide experience spanning strategic analysis through to farm level analysis. His chief research interest is farming systems research.



William (Will) MARTIN is the newly appointed Research Manager for Rural Development in the World Bank. He trained in agricultural economics, and has written extensively on agricultural trade policy reform and complementary reforms in developing countries. Much of his work has focused on reforms negotiated under the World Trade Organization, such as agreements on textiles and clothing, and on agriculture. His primary regional focus has been on East Asia. He has published widely in journals, and books, including recent studies of global trade reform, implications of food prices for poverty, and of China's accession to the WTO.



Ron MITTELHAMMER is a Regents Professor of Economic Sciences and Statistics, Director of the School of Economic Sciences at Washington State University, and President of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. He received his BS and MS degrees from Rutgers University, and PhD degree with an emphasis in Econometrics and Marketing, from Washington State University. He has published two major textbooks in econometrics and statistics, including *Econometric Foundations* (Cambridge University Press) and *Mathematical Statistics for Economics and Business* (Springer-Verlag). His research interests include theoretical and applied econometrics and statistics; demand, supply, and price analysis, and agricultural and food marketing, and his research has appeared in leading economics, agricultural economics, statistics, and econometrics journals. He has taught undergraduate and graduate classes in statistical and econometric theory, applied econometrics, demand and supply systems theory and application, and agricultural marketing. He is a Distinguished Scholar of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, and received national and university awards for excellence in teaching.

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Prabhu PINGALI, Deputy Director, Agriculture Development Division, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Formerly Director of the Agricultural and Development Economics Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations, from 2002-2007. Pingali was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences as a Foreign Fellow in May 2007. He was the President of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE) from 2003-2006. He was elected Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association in 2006 and of the International Association of Agricultural Economists in 2009. He was appointed to the U.S. National Academies Round Table on Sustainability (2006-2010). Pingali has three decades of experience analyzing food, agriculture and development policy in Asia, Africa and Latin America. An Indian national he earned a PhD in Economics from North Carolina State University in 1982. He was Director of the Economics Program at CIMMYT, Mexico from 1996-2002. Prior to joining CIMMYT, he worked at the International Rice Research Institute at Los Baños, Philippines from 1987 to 1996 as an Agricultural Economist, and prior to that at the World Bank's Agriculture and Rural Development Department from 1982-1987 as an economist. Prabhu Pingali has authored ten books and over 100 referred journal articles and book chapters on food policy, technological change, productivity growth and resource management in the developing world. He has received several international awards and recognitions for his work.

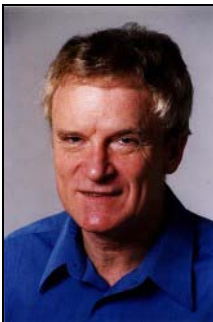


Steve POLASKY holds the Fesler-Lampert Chair in Ecological and Environmental Economics at the University of Minnesota, with a joint appointment in the Department of Applied Economics and the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior. He received a PhD in Economics from the University of Michigan in 1986. He previously held faculty positions in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at Oregon State University and the Department of Economics at Boston College. Dr. Polasky was the senior staff economist for environment and resources for the President's Council of Economic Advisers 1998-1999. He is a Founding Fellow of the Institute on the Environment at the University of Minnesota, a Research Fellow of the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics in Stockholm, and a University Fellow at Resources for the Future in Washington, DC. He was elected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2007. He has served on two committees for the EPA's Science Advisory Board: Valuing the Protection of Ecological Systems and Services Committee and the Environmental Economics Advisory Committee. He has also served on the Committee on Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration for the U.S. Department of Interior and is currently serving on the Science Council of The Nature Conservancy. His research interests include biodiversity conservation, integrating ecological and economic analysis, ecosystem services, renewable energy, environmental regulation, and common property resources. His papers have been published in *Ecological Applications*, *Journal of Economics Perspectives*, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, *International Economic Review*, *Land Economics*, *Nature*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Science* and other journals.

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Peter TIMMER is a scholar-practitioner with interests in economic history and development. As a faculty member at Stanford, Cornell, three faculties at Harvard, and the University of California, San Diego, Timmer taught courses on pathways out of rural poverty, the structural transformation in historical perspective, and the role of agriculture in economic development. As a policy advisor, mostly in Indonesia, China and Vietnam, he focused on the special nature of rice economies and the relationship between domestic markets for rice and price formation in the world market. His work in the 1980s on the design and implementation of stabilization policies for rice prices in large Asian countries remains influential in judging current price policies. Since early in 2007, Timmer has been deeply involved in understanding the causes of the 2007/08 world food crisis, as well as in actions at both national and international efforts to resolve it. This is a role he also played during the world food crisis of 1973/74. Timmer is Thomas D. Cabot Professor of Development Studies, emeritus, Harvard University. He can be reached at ptimmer63@gmail.com.



Brian WRIGHT's interests in economics uncertainty and innovation date from his early experiences on his family's sheep station in the Riverina district of New South Wales, Australia. He received a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics (First Class honors) from the University of New England, Armidale, and won one of two Frank Knox Fellowships given annually to Australian students by Harvard university, where he received an A.M. and Ph.D. in Economics. He then joined Yale University's Economics Department and is now Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of California, Berkeley. Wright is a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association. He served as the economist member of the Subcommittee on Proprietary Science and Technology of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). He also served on the Committee on Intellectual Property in Genomic and Protein Research and Innovation of the National Academies' Board of Science, Technology and Economic Policy. His research interests include economics of markets for storable commodities, market stabilization, agricultural policy, industrial organization, public finance, invention incentives, intellectual property rights, the economics of research and development, and the economics of conservation and innovation of genetic resources. He has co-authored or co-edited several books, including *Storage and Commodity Markets*; *Reforming Agricultural Commodity Policy*; *Saving Seeds: The Economics of Conserving Genetic Resources at the CGIAR Centers*, and *Accessing Biodiversity and Sharing the Benefits: Lessons from Implementing the Convention on Biodiversity*. He has published extensively in the leading journals in Economics and Agricultural Economics. In addition, he has co-authored articles in *Nature Biotechnology*, *The Handbook of Plant Biotechnology*, and *Crop Science*.

More speakers are currently being confirmed, please check back soon for more information.