



FIFTY YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT



The Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa



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FOREWORD

Our Association has celebrated its achievements on a number of occasions in the past, and has published retrospective views on at least three earlier occasions. The first was by Dr Dirk Smith in 1973 that covered the first 10 years; followed by the AEASA 21 publication in 1983 when Dirk Smith was President of the Association, and then by the 40-year history under the editorship of Mr Faan van Wyk, one of the founding members in 1961.

These documents are our institutional memory, and we would like to encourage the Management Committee to see to it that electronic versions (retrodigitised versions in the felicitous new-speak of the modern era!) be put on the Association's website as a permanent symbol of our achievements.

This year marks the 50th year of our existence – *Agrekon* is in Volume 50, and next year will be the 50th Annual Conference (a conference having been skipped in 1976). This is young by most standards, but still makes us the 12th oldest surviving Agricultural Economics association in the world.

In this latest history, we start with an assessment of the state of agricultural economics teaching and research in South Africa, prepared for presentation at the 2011 Conference. The emphasis is on the usefulness of the research agenda that is being pursued rather than on the tools and techniques that are employed by the leading agricultural economists, or the institutional history that the American Association published in its centennial year in 2010. This is followed by a number of Chapters that serve to update the record of the various University Departments (Chapter 2), the main office-bearers (Chapter 3), the Conferences and Conference themes (Chapter 4) and the various awards given by the Association (Chapter 5). These are followed by brief chapters on the relationship between AEASA and the International Association (Chapter 6) and the African Association (Chapter 7). The final four chapters cover the Tomlinson Lecture (Chapter 8), the Simon Brand Memorial Address (Chapter 9), *Agrekon* (Chapter 9) and the Bax Nomvete Trust (Chapter 11).

"This year marks the 50th of our existence – Agrekon is in Volume 50, and next year will be the 50th Annual Conference (a conference having been skipped in 1976). This is young by most standards, but still makes us the 12th oldest surviving Agricultural Economics association in the world."

Delegates attending the 49th Conference of the Association will receive a hard copy of this history, while the electronic copy will be posted on the Association's website. During the Conference we will be taking notes from the presentations made by the President and Past-Presidents of the Association. These will then be added to this volume. Furthermore, we have tried our best to ensure that the records contained here are as accurate as possible, but there are omissions, and there may be remaining errors. We therefore charge the Secretariat of the Association with the responsibility of keeping the records updated every year. We also extend an invitation to all members who have information that can add to the record to submit it to the Secretariat. In this way we can keep the history of the Association alive and part of the institutional memory of all the members.

What is missing from this text is a concise history of the contribution of the profession and Agricultural Economists in general to South Africa's development agenda. Faan van Wyk's 40th celebration book includes a chapter that sets out the history of the Division of Agricultural Economics and Marketing and provides brief notes on the roles of prominent Agricultural Economists in Government, Banks and the Private Sector. We felt that attempting to update this section without the necessary archives would run the risk of missing key and important people. However, a history of the Association and its influence and impact on South African policy and society is incomplete without acknowledging the role of Agricultural Economists outside academic institutions. These include leadership and input into various policy processes (Commissions and Task Teams), National and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, management of parastatals (NAMC, Land Bank, CSIR, ARC, WRC etc.), Private Sector (SA Protein Research Foundation, Red Meat Association, Citrus Growers etc.) and South African Banking (ABSA, Standard Bank, FNB etc.). The contribution these



institutions make in AEASA and its annual conference sponsorship and awards is highly appreciated by all the members.

The Editors would like to thank Mashudu Siobo at NAMC for the hard yards that she put in to looking for missing records, and for the hard work that lies ahead of keeping these records updated. Her work is part of the support given to AEASA by the National Agricultural Marketing Council. When Dr Moraka Makhura was president, an agreement was negotiated between AEASA and the NAMC to establish an administrative office at the NAMC. This agreement was passed by the AGM in 2007, and implemented from 2008 when Prof Mohammad Karaan was president. The NAMC undertook to:

- Maintain the AESA membership database
- Update and follow up on membership fees
- Prepare the AEASA financial statements.

This meant that for the first time the administration of AEASA was formalised, addressing a number of on-going management issues. AEASA sincerely appreciates this significant support from the NAMC in managing the affairs of the association.

Nick Vink
Sheryl Hendriks
Johann Kirsten
EDITORS

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CHAPTER ONE

Agricultural Economics: an exoteric or esoteric science?¹

Nick Vink²

1.1 Introduction

John Kenneth Galbraith (1981: 27) once wrote that agricultural economics "...left me with the strong feeling that social science should be tested by its usefulness." He also reminds his reader that Wassily Leontief "...surveyed the research achievements of the various branches of economics and concluded that agricultural economics had earned a special distinction in consequence of this test..." (Galbraith, 1981: fn3; see Leontief 1971). He also said that "... [Thorstein Veblen] distinguishes between esoteric and exoteric knowledge, the first having the commanding advantage of being without 'economic or industrial effect'. It is this advantage, he argues, which distinguishes the higher learning from the lowers. Ours, obviously, was the lower..." (Galbraith, 1975: 279). Galbraith was writing more than 30 years ago – 61 years after the founding of the American Association, and 20 years after the founding of AEASA. So the question in the title to this paper can be rephrased slightly: Does agricultural economics still pass the test of usefulness?

Our profession was born out of the attempts of the early pioneers in the United States to address two fundamental questions, namely what is the (reciprocal) relationship between the agricultural sector and the rest of the economy, and how can farms be managed more efficiently. So the question can once again be rephrased: Has agricultural economics provided useful answers to these two particular questions?

Alternative ways exist to answer this question, but here the focus is parochial, namely assessing the usefulness of our profession in shaping the South African future. In this regard, the two questions can again be rephrased this time to make them more specific to the South African context. These questions are:

1. What is the influence of public policy on the structure of agriculture? Here the structure of agriculture refers to the institutional organisation of the sector (in the public, private and voluntary/community spheres); its geographic organisation in terms of what gets produced and then processed, distributed and consumed, and where this takes place; and to its business structure in terms of the modes of production practiced and the resulting mix of farm sizes.
2. What is the influence of the governance of farm businesses on their success from a financial, economic, social and environmental point of view?

To arrive at a better understanding of the state of our profession today, this paper starts with a brief review of the history of our profession from its early roots in the United States. This historical review is followed by three examples or case studies whose purpose is to highlight the failure of our profession to provide useful information to stakeholders in the agricultural sector because agricultural economics has become a branch of applied economics and has lost its ability to integrate and synthesise knowledge across disciplinary boundaries. Section six concludes.

¹This contribution was originally prepared as part of an invited paper for the 49th Annual Conference of the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa, Pretoria, September 2011. Thanks to Ralph Christy, Theo Kleynhans, Philip Spies and Colin Thirtle for their useful comments, but I take responsibility for all errors.

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1.2 The origins of the profession

1.2.1 Early roots in the USA

Tracing the history of an academic discipline is never easy because of the egos involved. Our discipline is old enough so that its originators are no longer alive, but the struggle to define the profession and to ensure (reassure?) ourselves of its relevance is, by contrast, still very much alive. Probably the first time that this was raised was in 1907, when the American Economic Association devoted a session at its 10th meeting to the topic: "What is agricultural economics?" The newest versions come from C Ford Runge (2011) from the University of Minnesota, who was asked to write the definitive history of Agricultural Economics for the New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics in 2008³, and Paul W Barkley (2010) who was commissioned by the newly-named Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) to write the official version of this history. Barkley (2010: 1) relates two stories about the early development of the profession in the USA, prefacing them as follows:

"One story deals with the development of the discipline of economics as practiced in the United States in the years before the Association was organized. A second, and in some ways parallel, story tells how early American economists applied the insights of the discipline to the study of the production, processing, and marketing of farm commodities, and to the consumption of food.

The stories don't sound like much of a differentiation, but what Barkley goes on to explain is that the first story is about the way in which the economics profession as a whole was organised – i.e. the history of the formation of the American Economic Association in 1885 and the attention given to agricultural issues in its meetings and publications. Here he discusses the origins of the discipline and the central role of farm management as part of its subject matter. He shows that a total of 31 papers on the economic aspects of agriculture were published by the AEA between 1887 and 1910 (the year of the establishment of the American Farm Management Association, the forerunner of the AAEA), while agricultural issues featured prominently in all the conferences of the AEA. In 1897 a discussion session titled "Is there a distinct agricultural question?" was organised by Liberty Hyde Bailey, a horticulturalist who was Dean of Agriculture at Cornell. However, the name Agricultural Economics (as opposed to a discussion of agricultural issues) only appeared on the programme for the first time in 1907.

Barkley concludes that the AEA provided a forum for the discussion of the economic aspects of agriculture, but that the participants (all general economists) concentrated on the macro aspects of the industry, and were not interested in what he termed "*the management or administration of individual farms*" (Barkley, 2010:10). He then argues that those disaffected with this view were the true fathers of the profession. Importantly, he recognises these as "*Scientists and economists... concerned with developing an opportunity to discuss on-farm problems...*"

The second story starts with Isaac P Roberts, who moved from Ames, Iowa (Iowa State) to Ithaca, New York (Cornell) in 1874 – he was manager of the experimental farms at both colleges (Barkley, 2010: 11). Barkley explained that the private institutions such as Harvard started calling themselves Universities in this period, while the Land Grant institutions were still generally referred to as Colleges, with the distinct implication that the latter were inferior (Barkley 2010:fn26). Roberts taught a course in "farm accounting" at Cornell. His approach was to make a comprehensive inventory of the assets of a farm enterprise and to calculate the impact on profits of a shift in assets. Roberts' methods were followed by William J Spillman at USDA and Liberty Hyde Bailey, both of whom were trained horticulturalists.

According to Barkley (2010: 12-14) this culminated in the creation of the American Farm Management Association in 1910 after strenuous efforts by WJ Spillman, who became the first President, and George F Warren, the first Secretary-Treasurer and eventually PhD supervisor to Prof FR Tomlinson. This was the beginning of a tradition of strong influence over South African agricultural economists that still exists today (Spies, 2011).

In 1915 the National Association of Agricultural Economists was formed (Barkley, 2010; Runge, 2011).

³While Runge's contribution for the Palgrave Dictionary is noteworthy, the Oxford Dictionary of Economics does not have a separate entry for agricultural economics, but Wikipedia does!



In 1917, the AEA meeting was held jointly with this Association and the American Farm Management Association, setting off talks of a merger between them, which came to fruition in 1919 as the American Farm Economics Association. It retained this title until 1968, when it became the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA).

All these strands, namely the rivalry between the “universities” and the “colleges”; between the ‘macro’ economists and the farm economists; and between the economists and the business protagonists are wonderfully summarised by John Kenneth Galbraith (1981: 55-56) in the following quote about John D Black, Professor in Agricultural Economics at Harvard University (note that he was recruited there from Minnesota College, where he taught from 1918 to 1927):

“All academic disciplines have their feuds – intense conflicts much cherished by the participants and regularly combining differences in scholarly method or conclusion with deep personal dislike. They are large in the minds of those involved and usually unknown to the world outside. Agricultural economists in those years were bitterly divided between a progressive faction led by John D Black and a retarded faction headed by Professor George F Warren of Cornell. (The terminology reflects Black’s view). The difference turned partly on the farm problem. Black greatly approved New Deal farm policies while Warren, anticipating the later faith of Professor Milton Friedman, thought all could be solved by the right monetary policy. Warren also thought the best way to improve farm management practices was to survey numerous farms to see which methods gave the lowest costs and largest returns. Black’s method consisted in building a budget for income and outgo for a particular farm and then calculating the effect on costs, income and profits of any plausible changes in crops, livestock, scale and methods.

My devotion to Black’s view of farm policy and the budget method of farm management improvement, like my devotion to Black, was complete... When Warren retired, the nearly undisputed leader of the retarded school was Earl Butz at Purdue, who was joined by... Professor Joe Carroll Bottum. Butz and Bottum made a formidable team on the other side ...⁴

On the other hand Ralph Christy⁵ While Runge’s contribution for the Palgrave Dictionary is noteworthy, the Oxford Dictionary of Economics does not have a separate entry for agricultural economics, but Wikipedia does⁵, who is the current link between Cornell and South African agricultural economists (principally through Stellenbosch University and Mohammad Karaan), argues that the battle between Harvard and Cornell was a side issue. He (Christy, 2011) says that:

“The bigger fight was between Harvard and the University of Chicago, and to some extent still is today. In this regard, Glenn Johnson at MSU, a Chicago graduate, did not waste his energy on attacking Cornell; he simply called us “the Cornell Empiricists” stating rather sarcastically one day in class that they collected so much data at Cornell that there must be a theory somewhere. And, when life got really bad for us poor graduate students at MSU, some faculty would always remind us that we could transfer to Purdue (Earl Butz’s country)! Instinctively, I somehow knew that transferring to Purdue could be a bad thing, but did not know how bad until I briefly met Butz at an AAEA meeting. On my return drive to East Lansing, I distinctly recall having the feeling of being “very lucky” to be at MSU.

1.2.2 Developments elsewhere

Internationally, the first Agricultural Economics Association outside of the USA that is still active seems to be the Agricultural Economics Society of Japan, established a year before the Agricultural Economics Society (of the UK) (See Table 1). Australia, Brazil and South Africa are relative latecomers, followed another two decades later by some southern European countries and then most recently by the African Association (2003). This list cannot be complete given the language problem, but these 25 Associations and Societies probably represent the bulk of the legacy of those early American pioneers.

⁴Note: Both were at Purdue in the 1940s and 50s (Butz was the first Purdue PhD in 1937, and was Dept Chair 1946-1954) http://www.ag.purdue.edu/agecon/Pages/history_agecon.aspx

⁵A graduate of Michigan State University and currently Director of the Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development, Ralph was the first African-American President of the AAEA. Note that Butz lost his job as Secretary for Agriculture in the Ford Administration because he was overheard telling a racist joke.



Table 1: The establishment of learned societies in Agricultural Economics

Association	Est.	Website
Agricultural and Applied Economics Association	1910	http://www.aaea.org
Agricultural Economics Society of Japan	1925	http://www.soc.nii.ac.jp
Agricultural Economics Society	1926	http://www.aes.ac.uk/index.php
International Association of Agricultural Economists	1929	http://www.iaae-agecon.org/
Canadian Agricultural Economics Society	1930	http://caes.usask.ca/
Indian Society of Agricultural Economics	1939	http://www.isaeindia.org/history.html
Société Française d' Economie Rurale (SFER)	1948	http://www.sfer.asso.fr/
Australian Agricultural Economics Society	1957	http://www.aaes.org.au/
Sociedade Brasileira de Economia e Sociologia Rural	1959	http://www.sober.org.br/
German Association of Agricultural Economists	1959	http://www.gewisola.de/
Agricultural Economics Society of Ireland	1960s	http://www.aesi.ie/index.htm
Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa	1961	http://www.aeasa.org.za/
Società Italiana di Economia Agraria	1964	http://ilo.unimol.it/sidea/
Sri Lanka Agricultural Economics Society	1965	http://www.slageconr.net/saea.html
Spanish Association of Agricultural Economics	1966	http://aeaa.webs.upv.es/aeaa/en/index.php
Asociacion Argentina de Economia Agraria	1970	http://aeaa.org.ar/
The International Farm Management Association	1971	http://www.ifmaonline.org/
Swiss Society for Ag. Economics and Rural Sociology	1972	http://www.sga-sse.ch/agrarwirtschaft
Iranian Agricultural Economics Society	1973	http://www.iraniaaes.com/
Caribbean Agro-Economic Society	1974	http://www.caestt.com/
European Association of Agricultural Economists	1975	http://www.eaae.org/eaae_site/
Greek Association of Agricultural Economists	1975	http://www.etagro.gr/
Associação Portuguesa de Economia Agrária	1987	http://www.apdea.pt/
African Association of Agricultural Economists	2003	http://www.aaae-africa.org/

Source: Compiled from EDIRC (<http://edirc.repec.org/>)

1.2.3 The legacy in South Africa

Behrmann (1964) traces the beginnings of agricultural economics research in South Africa to the creation of a Division of Economics and Markets in the Department of Agriculture in 1925 and the appointment of economists in that Division, although there had been publications on agricultural economic issues by officials prior to this date. In his review of agricultural economics research in South Africa up to 1940 he pointed out that a) most research was done by the Department, and very little at the Universities; b) little use was made of the marginal concept (i.e. these studies were more in the nature of farm accounting rather than economic research); and c) the emphasis was on the Cornell practice of surveying a large number of farms rather than trying to model a single enterprise using a case study approach.

Philip Spies (2011) reminded me of a typically South African twist to the rivalry between Black and Warren in the USA. Black and his followers were actively involved in the design of the interventionist American farm policy of the New Deal administration of Roosevelt (i.e. in American terms they were liberals), while Warren and the more conservative Cornell school favoured non-interventionism (see also Parker, 2005). In South Africa, by contrast, Warren's approach to agricultural economics research was used to support the Control Board system through the production cost surveys conducted to support fixed price schemes, while Black's approach was used to build indicative criteria to measure farm efficiency for modelling purposes (e.g. Spies, 1967)!

By the time that Agrekon was established in the early 1960s the focus of agricultural economics research had shifted somewhat. A rough count of the first five volumes of our Journal shows that only 13 of the almost 70 articles published focussed on farm management issues (i.e. less than 25%), with the rest



focussing on sector-wide issues. This review also confirms Behrmann's conclusion: only nine of these articles were published by University lecturers, with the other 60 contributions coming from Departmental staff as well as from the staff of the Control Boards and of other government agencies. This is in contrast with the more recent Volumes: in Volume 49(4), for example, 13 of the 16 authors of articles are University-based. Interestingly, most of the contributions from University staff were focussed on farm management issues. The first lecturer to publish in *Agrekon* was Prof Behrmann, in Volume 2(4), followed by Kassier in Volume 3(1) and 3(2) and then Groenewald in Volume 3(3) while both were still at the University of Natal. The first publication from Stellenbosch followed in Volume 4(2) (Dr Morkel) and from Pretoria in Volume 6(1) (Dirk Smith, JB de Swardt and CS Bignaut).

Philip Spies (2011)⁶ has remarked on the influence of the different schools of thought in the US on South African agricultural economists:

"Cornell had a strong influence over South African agricultural economists in the 1930s and 1940s... In the 1940s a lot of attention was given to farming systems research in South Africa, and the results published in the agro-economic map of South Africa. The Illinois agricultural economists, e.g. Faan van Wyk⁷ and Harry Hattingh⁸ focused on farm business management through their emphasis on record keeping and inter-farm comparisons. Iowa and Purdue⁹ in contrast, had more of a focus on applied economics, quantitative methods and the structural aspects of agriculture: in the end they also [like Harvard] became too grand and clever to confront the real needs of ordinary farmers..."

Both Spies (1989) and Groenewald (1990) commented on the state of agricultural economics as a discipline in South Africa at the time that the political changes in the country had not yet started. Spies (1989: 30) argued that:

"...the true value of agricultural economics lies in the effective balance it can attain between the study of economic choice and the study of managerial application in the field of agriculture."

Spies (1989) starts with a brief history of the profession in the USA and concludes these observations with the warning that being "fashionable" in science is easy, but it is just as easy for a profession to get trapped into doing research that gains academic distinction but has little practical value (pp31, 32). In his view that process was started by Earl Heady and others, and had resulted in the neglect of the farm management aspects of our mission. Glenn Johnson (1987) concurs as follows:

"Even before 1963, there were indications that the specialization of farm management on production economics was reducing the productivity of the former... This has since become so apparent that a reincarnation of traditional (pre-production economics) farm management has re-evolved that is now referred to as 'farming systems'. This reincarnation originated with the biological and physical agricultural sciences that earlier begat farm management..."

Groenewald (1990) also picked up on this theme, arguing that the main challenge facing agricultural economists at the beginning of the 1990s was to be effective (to do the right thing) rather than only be efficient (doing things right). He quotes Dent (1975) who identified four interrelated levels in agricultural systems: biochemical and physical systems, followed by plant and animal systems, farming systems and national and international systems, with agricultural economists focussing on the latter two. In this respect, Groenewald (1990: 244) argues that agricultural economists in South Africa failed to identify the causes of stagnation in the sector in the late 1980s (overuse of inputs such as fertiliser and feed), which affected the plant and animal systems and therefore also the farming systems. In his view, the greater failure was the inability to understand changes at the fourth level, which "...filtered through to errors on the third, second and first level." Of course, agricultural economists were not unique in South Africa in committing this particular error.

⁶Note that Prof Spies graduated with a PhD from Iowa State University, home of Prof Earl Heady

⁷A founder member of AEASA and at the time of writing the oldest living Honorary Member of our Association

⁸Later Director General of the Department of Agriculture during South Africa's political transition in the early 1990s

⁹Jan Groenewald, Professor Emeritus in Agricultural Economics, University of Pretoria, obtained his PhD at Purdue



1.2.4 What is the current status of the profession?

Perry (2010) provides an overview of what has been happening in the agricultural economics profession in the USA. Membership of the Association peaked at just less than 5000 in 1981, and stood at less than 2500 in 2007. The number of Departments named “Agricultural Economics” declined from 36 in 1956 to 9 in 2007 (Perry, 2010: 119) and 6 in 2011 (Purdue, Kansas State, Oklahoma State, Texas A&M, Mississippi, Nebraska) (<http://ideas.repec.org/top/top.agecon.html>), but this has not been replaced by any consistent naming convention. Table 2 shows the spread of names of what used to be Departments of Agricultural Economics globally. Departments with no mention of agriculture or agricultural economics in their names now outnumber those still called Agricultural Economics, while there are at least 6 alternative names. Of course, the subject had disappeared from Harvard by the early post-war years (Johnson, 1992) and from Oxford in 1986 (Colman, 2007)¹⁰ after having been established there in 1913 (Runge, 2011), and lives on now in the Land Grant Universities in the USA and a few other places in the world, but excluding the UK where undergraduate training has all but disappeared. In South Africa all eight Departments have retained the name Agricultural Economics, with some additions in the form of Extension, etc.

Table 2: New names for Agricultural Economics: the global list in 2011

Agricultural Economics	28
Any combination of Agriculture, Economics, and Business or Management	11
Any combination of Agriculture, Economics and Extension	9
Any combination of Agriculture, Resource Economics, and other	19
Agricultural Economics and any other suffix	7
Agricultural and Applied Economics	7
None	32
Total	117

Source: Compiled from the EDIRC database: <http://edirc.repec.org/agecon.html>

Table 3: The distribution of USA PhDs by subject matter, 1951-2005

AEA Code	Number of theses	%	Published (%)
1. Consumer demand	361	5	22
2. Production economics and supply	1168	15	28
3. Agricultural products: price analysis, subsector models, marketing, futures markets	1158	15	21
4. Agricultural inputs: land, labour, finance	966	12	17
5. Natural resources: energy, conservation, land use, water, forestry, fisheries	885	11	25
6. Environmental economics: pollution, regulation, non-market valuation	386	5	29
7. Agricultural and food policy: regulation, taxation, welfare	644	8	24
8. Economic development: developing economies, aid, regional, general equilibrium	1389	17	15
9. International economics: trade, integration	455	6	17
10. Industrial organisation and market structure	325	4	24
11. General: teaching, extension, methodology, professional development	141	2	16
12. Research methods: statistics, econometrics, mathematical programming	89	1	27
Total	7967	100	21

Note: Publication rate refers only to a single dissertation-spawned article in any of the leading journals and does not reflect all articles from a dissertation.

Source: Adapted from Boland and Crespi, 2010

¹⁰See also <http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/dept/scwmmss/wmss/online/1500-1900/agricinst/agricinst.html>



Table 3 shows the focus of PhD degrees in the USA in the period 1951-2005, as well as the proportion of those theses that have resulted in at least one publication in one of the recognised journals (see Boland and Crespi, 2010). What this Table shows is that only one in five PhDs in Agricultural Economics gets at least one article published from their dissertation – and only 13 percent in the AJAE. Note that between 1996 and 2002 two thirds of all PhDs in Agricultural Economics were given to non-US citizens (Boland and Crespi, 2010).

Table 3 also reflects the wide diversity of issues that are addressed by the profession in the modern era. As Runge (2011) has argued, the microeconomic focus of the subject during the first decades of the 20th century followed from the prominence of agriculture in the US economy. However, as agriculture occupied an ever smaller economic niche in the OECD countries, agricultural economists became increasingly drawn to the development problems of poor countries, to trade and the macroeconomic policy implications of agriculture in richer countries, and to issues in production, consumption, environmental and resource economics from the 1960s.

It is interesting to note that only one South African has succeeded in publishing in the American Journal of Agricultural Economics: Nieuwoudt (1976), ironically on an issue of importance to agriculture in the USA and not South Africa, and a year later (Bullock, Nieuwoudt and Pasour, 1977) in a more theoretical paper. Another notable publication was that of Schalk du Toit (Heady and Du Toit, 1954) in the Journal of Political Economy.

Table 4 shows the number of degrees awarded in Agricultural Economics in South Africa since the beginning of formal teaching in the subject, while Table 5 shows some trends in these data where they are available. The data are taken from Chapter 2 of this volume. Table 5 shows that undergraduate enrolments have stabilized at Stellenbosch and Pretoria over the past decade or so; there was a steep reported decline at UKZN and Free State (note that none of the other Universities provided this information for Chapter 2) and an increase in the rate of completion of postgraduate degrees. So our profession has not faced the same problems as those in other parts of the world and agricultural economists are in demand in many parts of the public, private and NGO sectors.

Table 4: Degrees awarded in Agricultural Economics in South Africa, 1927-2010

	BSc	Other B	Honours	Masters	PhD
Stellenbosch (from 1926)	647	759	252	111	17
Pretoria (from 1928)	434	180	417	209	78
KwaZulu-Natal (from 1951)	384	636	94	119	23
Free State (from 1955)	452	226	410	133	36
Fort Hare				28	5
North West (from 1988)	50		170	3	1
Limpopo					
Venda					
Total	1967	1801	1343	603	160

Table 5: Trends in degrees awarded in South Africa

	Stellenbosch (from 1926)	Pretoria (from 1928)	UKZN (from 1951)	UFS (from 1955)
	Average number of degrees awarded per year			
BSc degrees: to 2001	7.7	5.3	7.4	9.1
BSc degrees: 2001-2010	7.5	4.8	2.0	4.0
M and PhD degrees: to 2001	1.2	2.5	n/a	1.1
M and PhD degrees: 2001-2010	4.1	10.7	n/a	11.9



1.2.5 Conclusion

Agricultural economics was born of two parents: a) the interest taken by economists in the issues of agriculture, with a focus on sector-level problems; and b) the interest taken by agriculturalists (often horticulturalists and statisticians) and economists in the problems facing farmers. The official history of the profession in the USA (Barkley, 2010) argues that the latter was the 'real' parent but in the absence of proof of Immaculate Conception, it is safer to recognise the role of both. With the decline in the number of farmers in the rich countries the attention has widened to issues such as trade, economic development and environmental and resource issues, but there has clearly also been a narrowing of method in favour of standard neoclassical economics, mostly microeconomics. Has this resulted in a loss of 'usefulness' in Galbraith's phrase?

Of course it could be that Agricultural Economics Journals have taken to publishing only esoteric knowledge in Veblen's definition. Consider the typical offering in any agricultural economics Journal or conference: a problem is identified, and then a model of some sort, but invariably a neoclassical economics model, is deployed to describe the problem. In some cases the real-world implications are also addressed, but these are invariably aimed at allowing the market to work. The end result is research that describes, results that are foreordained by the model, and no practical advice to farmers or policy makers.

Until 2008 there was still some reason to believe (or pretend) that the market did actually work, even if we did not yet understand exactly how, but this pretence is no longer tenable. As a discipline, Agricultural Economics seems to be producing just a few more not very highly rated economics journals instead of something distinctively our own, and what we are producing does not seem to have any real world relevance. Is it any wonder then that we have started using Applied Economics to describe our profession?

Nieuwoudt (1986: 3) in the first published Presidential Address to the Association says that our three parent disciplines are economics, statistics and accounting. He argued that as an applied science the required mix of these would change over time, but we should not "withdraw from our parent disciplines, otherwise the result would be intellectual isolation." Furthermore, Runge (2011) has argued that the enlarged microeconomic, empirical and policy orientation of agricultural economics has distanced it from developments in "general equilibrium theory, macroeconomic modelling, game theory and axiomatic social choice, central concerns in many departments of economics in the late 20th century." Does this mean that we are not only becoming applied economists, but second rate applied economists?

Philip Spies (1989) argues:

"An applied discipline such as agricultural economics must be responsive to changes in its environment, but it first has to come to a deeper understanding of its purpose or reason for existence. To address this one has to look at the foundations of the discipline – has it become merely responsive to its environment, or has it been seduced into other paths as a result of its success in the development of analytical techniques?"

Academic disciplines are susceptible to seduction: success changes the rules of the game, and eventually the game itself, and good agricultural economists must strive to be the best among their peers if they are to deliver professionally in their chosen areas of expertise. Agricultural economists were fortunate because of the multidisciplinary nature of their training, a fact that allowed them to encroach on other disciplines as well. Yet it also resulted in a weakening of their focus. Together with the 'publish or perish' pressures of modern academia, this resulted in a shift in focus to method and technique rather than on the real world problems that agricultural economists are supposed to consider. Agricultural economists have become like a child with a hammer in his hand, to whom the world looks like a nail: they have become solutions looking for problems.

This is echoed by Groenewald (1990:245):

"Instead of choosing a real, important problem in real life and selecting and/or adapting appropriate research tools to handle this some... have chosen research methodologies or tools and sought problems to solve thereby."

Runge (2011) ends his contribution on an upbeat note:

“In the 21st century, the profession has continued to reach beyond the agricultural sector, expanding its scope through numerous applications of relevant economic theory. Meanwhile, the high level of abstraction in economics characteristic of the last half of the 20th century appears to have given way to new interest in empirical and experimental studies, suggesting that the distance between agricultural economics and its mother discipline may narrow in the years ahead.

But is this necessarily a good thing? Will it lead to the production of exoteric knowledge, or just to more and more esoteric knowledge? After all, how many more times must we read that older farmers are better at farming than their younger counterparts, or that people with a higher debt load have larger debt repayment obligations?

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CHAPTER TWO

The academic departments of Agricultural Economics

The formal training of agricultural economists locally went hand in hand with the formation of the Division of Economics and Marketing in the Department of Agriculture in 1925. As early as 1926 the first student in Agricultural Economics graduated at the University of Stellenbosch. At the University of Pretoria the first two students in Agricultural Economics graduated in 1933. The first agricultural economics departments at historically black universities were established at the University of Fort Hare (1970) and University of the North (1975). In this Chapter a brief history of each Department is provided, presented in the order in which they were established.

2.1 University of Stellenbosch

The Department was established in 1925, with Prof. JFW Grosskopf as first Chair. The first BSc graduates followed in 1926 and the first Masters graduates in 1930. Lecturing staff in the Department are reflected in chronological order of appointment in Table 6.

Professors Grosskopf and Tomlinson are, of course, well known to most agricultural economists in South Africa. Prof WJ Pretorius (1938-1943), who had an MSc from Cornell, became General Manager of KWV after leaving the Department, while Prof. Van der Merwe (1945-1952), PhD from Minnesota, took up a position at the then Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery. The link between the Department and the wine industry was well established in the early years. Prof. de Waal (MSc from Cornell) left the Department to farm in the Western Transvaal.

The well-known SP van Wyk (related to Prof. Andreas van Wyk, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Stellenbosch), lectured in the Department for some 30 years, and was also Chair during his tenure.

The most famous of the Department Heads after Prof. Grosskopf is, of course, Prof. Eckart Kassier, who is still active in South African agriculture. After his appointment in 1965 he was rapidly promoted to head the Department the following year, beginning a long career as an academic, a superb and well-remembered (and, some would say, short-fused!) teacher, and as an abiding influence on agricultural policy in South Africa.

By the time he was appointed to head the Committee of Inquiry into the Marketing Act in 1992, he had already established a reputation as one of the foremost agricultural economists in South Africa. Nowhere were his convictions more useful than in the work of the Committee. After the publication of its findings, there were some rearguard actions to try and salvage some 'control' out of the old control system, but the logic of Prof. Kassier's report was devastating, and the logic of the final dissolution of the old system inevitable.

Few would have guessed that Prof. Kassier would also be granted the opportunity to implement his own proposals when, after his retirement from the Department, he was asked by the new government to become the first Chairman of the new National Agricultural Marketing Council. It is in the nature of things that, if he had failed in this duty, or if he had engaged in showmanship (an art not entirely unfamiliar to him from earlier days!) the media would have reported it. Because he did his job well, however, success went largely unnoticed outside of the agricultural sector. In 1999 he was appointed as Professor Extraordinaire in the Department, together with Prof Philip Spies. In 2001 they were followed by Prof Ralph Christy of Cornell,

Table 6: Lecturing staff at Stellenbosch from 1925

	Junior Lecturer/ Lecturer	Senior Lecturer	Associate Professor	Professor	Professor Extraordinaire
JFW Grosskopf				1923-1935	
J.H. Botha	1925-				
L.I. Coertze	1925-				
SP van Wyk	1933-1942	1943-1963			
FR Tomlinson	1935				
WJ Pretorius				1938-1943	
WH van der Merwe				1945-1952	
PE de Waal				1954-1961	
PR Morkel	1962-1964	1965-1969			
WE Kassier		1965		1966-1992	1999-2009
JR Hudson	1966				
JB de Swardt	1970	1967			
BJ Bester	1969-1972	1973-1982			
PR Botha	1970-1974				
PH Spies		1970-1979			1999-2005
ZH Jacobs	1971-1974				
AS Myburgh	1974-1981	1982-2007			
J Laubscher	1975-1981	1982-1992	1993-2005		
LP Lombard	1981-1984	1985-			
CJ van Rooyen			1983-1984	2009-	2004-2009
TE Kleynhans	1985-1993	1994-1999	2000-		
JB Eckert				1993-1995	
N Vink				1996 -	
ASM Karaan	1997-2006	2006-2008	2008-		
TS Mkhabela	2004-2009				
W Hofmann	2007-				
L Ndibongo Traub	2009-				
C Punt	2010-				
RD Christy					2001-
L d'Haese					2009-
J Piesse					2001-
R Sandrey					2001-
CG Thirtle					2001-

Prof. Jenny Piesse of Birkbeck College and later King's College, and Prof Colin Thirtle of Imperial College, in 2004 by Prof. Johan van Rooyen, then CEO of the South African Wine and Brandy Council, in 2006 by Dr. Ron Sandrey of New Zealand, and in 2009 by Prof. Luc d'Haese, who holds a joint appointment at the Universities of Antwerp and Ghent.

Prof. Kassier's great innovation at Stellenbosch was the introduction of the BAgric Management degree, and its metamorphosis into the BAgricAdmin degree in 1978. The motivation for its introduction was based on the fact that the four-year BScAgric degree with agricultural economics and economics required that students had to take Physics I and Chemistry I in the common first year curriculum for a 4-year degree in agriculture. The argument was that this was not necessary and that a more applied course would suffice. As this could not be accommodated in the 4-year degree, it was decided to institute a 3-year degree with "Principles of Agricultural Science" in the first year as a prerequisite. The argument at the time was that if economists, business economists and transport economists could be adequately trained within three years, this could surely also apply to agricultural economists.



The admission requirements for BAgriAdmin and BScAgri were to be the same, and in keeping with most other 3-year degrees, the BAgriAdmin would have two major subjects, i.e. agricultural economics and business economics and the students for this degree would follow the same courses and write the same examinations in agricultural economics and business economics as did the 4-year BScAgri and BComm degrees, so that students could switch over from the 3 to the 4 year degree without losing a year.

A BComm degree, with the option of agricultural economics as one of the major subjects, was also introduced in the late 1970s. The motivation for its introduction was based on the argument that a meaningful number of BComm graduates were (and still are) finding employment in the agricultural/agribusiness sector.

The combination of agricultural economics and other agricultural disciplines [such as agronomy, horticulture, viticulture and animal science] as major subjects in the 4-year degree was introduced following requests from the bio-technical departments.

The number of agricultural economics graduates from the University of Stellenbosch is given in the Table below.

Table 7: Agricultural Economics graduates from Stellenbosch, 1926-2010

	BSc ¹	BSc ²	BAgriAdmin	BComm ³	Hons ⁴	Masters ^{***}	PhD
1926-1932	11					3	
1933-1950	40					4	
1951-1962	34					4	
1963-1971	128					20	1
1972-1982	128		226	7	37	12	2
1975-2001		133			157		
1983-2001	98		322	95		33	8
2001-2010 ⁵	75		109	?	58	35	6
Total	514	133	657	102	252	111	17

¹With Agricultural Economics and Economics as majors.

²With Agricultural Economics and a production subject (Agronomy, Animal Production, Horticulture, Viticulture, etc.) as majors.

³With the new programme structure, the University is no longer able to identify the major subjects of students!

⁴HonsBScAgri; HonsBAgriAdmin HonsBComm, and MScAgri, MAgriAdmin, MComm respectively

⁵With Agricultural Economics and all other majors

2.2 University of Pretoria

In as early as 1919, there was a recommendation by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Agriculture that Dr. J.E. Holloway should be appointed temporarily as lecturer in Agricultural Economics, even though he had not specialised in this field. In 1925 it was decided to request a chair for Agricultural Economics at the University. This was granted in 1928, and Prof. H.D. Leppan, head of the Agronomy Department at the time, was appointed as professor. In 1928 there were only two lecturers associated with the Department and ten under-graduate students registered in the Department. The staff that lectured in the Department over the years are listed in the Table 8.

Prof. Leppan resigned in 1938, when he accepted a position at the National Marketing Board. His departure was a great loss to the department. During 1934, the Agricultural Co-operatives created a part-time professorship. Prof. J.F.W. Grosskopf, from the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Stellenbosch, filled this post from the beginning of 1935, keeping his post as official at the Department of Agriculture throughout this time. Upon his retirement from the civil service in 1945 he also gave up his professorship at the Department.

Dr. F.R. Tomlinson of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Stellenbosch replaced Prof. Leppan in 1939 as the Head of Department. Dr. Tomlinson had completed his initial studies at the University of Stellenbosch, and then had furthered his studies at Cornell University where he completed his PhD in 1933. In 1937 he became the first person to obtain a DSc(Agric) degree in Agricultural Economics in South Africa at the University of Pretoria.

Table 8: Lecturing staff at Pretoria from 1930

Name	Jnr Lecturer	Lecturer	Senior Lecturer	Associate Professor	Professor
H.D. Leppan					1930 - 1938
Dawson		1932 - 1944			
J.W.F. Grosskopf				1936 - 1938	1939 - 1946
F.R. Tomlinson				1939 - 1946 and 1958 - 1973	1947 - 1957
Z.D. Van Der Merwe		1949 - 1950			
D.J.G. Smith			1957 - 1964		1965 - 1967
J.J. Gregory			1958 - 1966		
H.A. Kotze		1959 - 1960			
S.S. Brand		1963 - 1966		1985 - 1987	
C.S. Blignaut		1967			1999 -
J.P.F. Du Toit		1969 - 1972	1974 - 1983	1984	
J.A. Groenewald			1967 - 1968		1969 - 1994
J.A. Dockel			1971 - 1972		
S.J. Du Plessis				1974 - 1978	
A. Louw		1976 - 1978		2003 -	
D Langley		1980 - 1983			
J Van Zyl		1984	1985 - 1986	1987 - 1989	1989 -1991
W. F. Lubbe			1985 - 1993		
H.J Sartorius von Bach		1990 - 1992	1993 - 1995	1996	
J.F Kirsten		1992 - 1994	1994 - 1996	1997 - 1998	1999 -
H.D Van Schalkwyk		1993 - 1995	1996		
A. Jooste		1995 - 1996			
C. J Van Rooyen					1993 -2009
R. Townsend		1996 - 1999			
R Hassan				1997 - 1998	1999 -
O.T Doyer		1998 -2002	2003 - 2006		
A. Parker		1996-1998			
N Penzhorn	1999 - 2000				
G.K. Coetzee				1998 - 2001	
M.T Makhura		1997 - 2001			
F Meyer		2000 - 2005	2006 -		
R. Poonyth		1999 - 2001	2002		
C. Machethe					2001-
S. Ngqangweni		2000 -2002	2002 - 2005		
E. Mungatana			2007 -		
M Geysen			2001 - 2009		
PG Strauss		2004-2009			
M Kalaba		2009 -			
T Funke		2009 -2010			
A van der Vyver			2010 -		
M Labuschagne	2010 -				

Prof. Tomlinson was involved in a number of commissions of enquiry for the Government. He became especially well known as the Chairman of the 'Commission of Inquiry into the Socio-economic Development of the Bantustans in South Africa'. In 1956, Dr. D.J.G. Smith replaced him as Head of Department. Dr. Smith had been a student at the Department, and had been involved with the Department since 1949. Dr. Smith had obtained his MSc degree in 1953 at the Iowa State College. He then obtained his DSc at the University of Pretoria in 1963. He was promoted to professor in the same year. He resigned in 1967, and was succeeded by Prof. J.A. Groenewald.



There are some interesting facts about the relationships between Universities of Stellenbosch, Pretoria, Free State and KwaZulu-Natal that relates to the role of Prof Tomlinson. Prof Grosskopf was the teacher of Prof Tomlinson at Stellenbosch. Prof Tomlinson on the other hand was again the teacher of:

- Dirk Smith (MSc and DSc)
- Jan Groenewald (MSc)
- H.A. (Whitey) Kotze (MSc and DSc) first Head of Department of Agricultural Economics at University of the Free State
- H.I. Behrmann (MSc and PhD) first Head of Department of Agricultural Economics at Natal

Some other interesting milestones:

- Prof Grosskopf received the Hertzog prize for Afrikaans literature
- Prof Tomlinson received the Havenga price for Economics (1957)
- Prof Groenewald received the Stals prize for Economics

Prof. Groenewald obtained his BSc (Agric) degree in 1954, and his MSc (Agric) in 1958, both at the University of Pretoria. He then obtained his PhD at Purdue University in the USA in 1967. The Department of Economics and Markets initially employed him (1954 to 1957), after which he worked at the Letaba and Zebediela Estates (1957 to 1960). In 1961 he accepted an offer at the University of Natal as senior lecturer, a position he held until 1967, when he was appointed senior lecturer at the University of Pretoria, and Professor and Head of Department in 1968. Prof. Groenewald retired in 1994, and is still actively involved with the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of the Free State, and with the affairs of AEASA.

Agricultural Economics has, since 1987, also been offered as a major for BComm degrees, and therefore ,also for BComm (Hons), MComm and DComm. Courses in Agricultural Economics have also become electives in many other degrees in the Faculty.

In 1992, the department entered a new era through an amalgamation with the Department of Agrarian Extension, and the name was then changed to the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development. At the same time, the Post-graduate School for Agricultural Development was established, with the purpose of serving agricultural communities in Africa. A new postgraduate degree programme was established with a special focus on agricultural development.

In 1995, Prof. H.J. Sartorius von Bach succeeded Prof. Groenewald as Head of the Department. Prof. Sartorius von Bach obtained his BSc (Agric), BSc (Agric)(Hons), MSc(Agric) and PhD degrees at the University of Pretoria, the last being in 1993. Before his appointment, he was employed by the Namibian Department of Agriculture. Prof. Sartorius von Bach resigned from his post at the University of Pretoria at the end of 1995. A new head of the Department, Prof. J.F. Kirsten, a grandson of the late Prof. Tomlinson, was appointed in July 1996. Prof. Kirsten joined the Department as Lecturer in 1992 after spending 5 years in the Department of Agriculture as an agricultural economist.

Under the leadership of Prof Kirsten the Department entered a new era of consolidation and renewal. Recruitment of new staff members, improving the curriculum at post graduate and undergraduate level and defining the research focus of the Department were the main challenges and activities of the first 2-3 years of Prof Kirsten's tenure as Head of Department. Bringing in new staff members with good qualifications from US and European universities and recruiting young energetic South Africans helped to connect the activities of the Department to the centers of excellence in agricultural economics in the world. Five research focus or pillars (or sections) were established through core funding provided by international and local donors:

- *Agribusiness management*: (Since 1999 funded by ABSA – and known as the ABSA chair in Agribusiness Management)
- *Environmental Economics* (small funds initially but now multimillion dollar donor funds from e.g. World Bank and SIDA provide the basis for what is now known as the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy for Africa, CEEPA)
- *Agricultural and Rural Finance* (Various financial institutions including Standard Bank, Land Bank and recently Nedbank have supported this research program).
- *Agricultural and Food Policy*
- *Agricultural Extension*



*Dr Dirk Smith
– author of the first
historical account of
AEASA*



*Prof. Jan
Groenewald*

Today the main pillars of the activities in the Department while aspects relating to agricultural and rural development are largely managed by the Postgraduate School of Agricultural and Rural Development.

These new focus areas created a lot of energy and activity around the drivers of each separate programme. Substantial growth in terms of external funding, research projects and postgraduate students took place in environmental economics, agribusiness management and agricultural and rural finance.

The Food and Agricultural Policy programme generated a lot of activity and momentum especially since 2002. The development of some core modelling skills in junior staff members and the recruitment of contract researchers and post graduate students eventually led to the establishment of the 'Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy' (BFAP) in 2004 with the purpose of facilitating decision making in the South African agricultural sector as well as training of individuals in order to increase the amount of analytical and research skills available to the sector. BFAP is housed as an independent program within the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development at the University of Pretoria, the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Stellenbosch, and the Department of Agricultural Economics at the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Western Cape. BFAP is the first of its kind in South Africa and has become a valuable resource to government, agribusiness and farmers by providing analysis of future policy and market scenarios and measuring their impact on farm and firm profitability. Core (short term) funding for this initiative is provided by: ABSA, National Agricultural Marketing Council, THRIP programme of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), WineTech and Eskort.

In 2005 UP was accredited as one of the 6 partner universities in Eastern and Southern Africa to offer the Collaborative Masters Programme in Agricultural and Applied Economics (CMAAE). UP was also selected to be the shared facility where all students and lecturers from the different countries and universities convene every year between August and November. In 2011 the 6th cohort of students will be housed on the UP campus. The 76 students from the 6 other campuses plus the 14 UP students makes this the largest group thus far.

In 2008 the University of Pretoria celebrated its centenary and as part of the celebrations and also to celebrate its 80th year of existence, the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development hosted a centenary lecture (and at the same time the Tomlinson commemorative lecture) which was presented by Dr Johan van Zyl former Vice-Chancellor and Principal of UP and erstwhile member of the academic staff of this Department and currently the CEO of SANLAM.

The table below presents the number of graduates in agricultural economics over the 82 years of the Department's existence. The statistics show the strong post graduate focus of the training at UP and it is also important to note that the majority of recent graduates are non-South African students.

Table 9: Agricultural Economics graduates from Pretoria, 1928-2010

Graduates	1928 – 1975	1976 - 2001	2002 - 2010	Total
BSc Agric	154	232	48	434
BCom	-	109	71	180
Honours	-	313	104	417
Masters	40	99	70	209
PhD	13	28	37	78

2.3 University of KwaZulu-Natal

The Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Natal was established in 1947 with Dr AR Saunders as the founding Dean. Additional staff were appointed in 1948, with Ian Behrmann as Lecturer in Agricultural Economics. Pieter de Waal came as Senior Lecturer and Head of Department in the following year. The first two graduates in Agricultural Economics completed their BScAgric degrees in 1951, the same year in which de Waal was promoted to Professor.

Staff in the Faculty at that time were public servants in the Department of Agriculture, although academically under authority of the University. Agricultural Economics research was done in collaboration with economists of the Division of Economics and Markets of the Department of Agriculture. De Waal assisted with the agro-economic survey of South African farming, and Behrmann in economic and cost surveys of dairy farming in Natal.



In 1953 de Waal accepted an offer of the Chair at the University of Stellenbosch and difficulties arose in finding a replacement. Behrmann was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1956 but was alone in the Department, with some assistance from part-time lecturers, until 1957, when Louis Fourie was appointed as Lecturer. Fourie had a MCom from Stellenbosch and the Diploma in Agricultural Economics from Oxford. Eckart Kassier was the first candidate to complete the MScAgric degree, with his thesis on the economics of wattle farming submitted in 1959. Fourie was appointed to the newly established University College of Zululand where he became Professor of Economics. Behrmann, having completed the PhD degree with a thesis on the economics of sugar-cane production, was appointed Professor and Head of the Department in 1960. He chaired the Department until his retirement in 1982. Behrmann passed away in December 2006.

Kassier joined the Department in 1962 after completing the DAgrar degree at Stuttgart-Hohenheim in Germany, followed by visits to Cambridge and Purdue University in the USA. In two years he made a significant contribution to the Department having started a farm management recording scheme with John Graham, a regional economist in the Natal Region. He proceeded to the University of Stellenbosch in 1964 where he became Professor after one year as a Senior Lecturer.

The Department started to make significant strides when Jan Groenewald and John Graham joined in 1964. Groenewald was well equipped, having done the course work for the PhD at Purdue University. He was given leave in 1966 to complete his PhD thesis and left in the following year to become Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria.

Lieb Nieuwoudt succeeded Groenewald as Senior Lecturer in 1967. In a short time the Department recognized that it had acquired a highly talented economist and a skilled econometrician who, in acquiring a MEcon degree at North Carolina State University, had completed statistics courses beyond the requirements for the PhD degree. In 1970 he was awarded the PhD degree with a thesis on the demand for resources and supply of output based on data from the agro-economic regions of South Africa. The study was awarded the Founders Medal and Prize of the Economic Society at South Africa, the same award having been made to Behrmann in 1960. In 1980 Nieuwoudt established the Agricultural Policy Research Unit in the Department with state (HSRC) funding. This Unit had a profound impact on the quality and quantity of postgraduate research as it provided the seed funding for about 12 to 15 full-time postgraduates annually. Mike Tarr, then a Senior Lecturer, left the Department in 1981 to pursue a career in politics. Nieuwoudt was promoted to Professor in 1982 and became Head of Department when Behrmann retired. When government's funding policy for units changed in the early 2000s, the APRU was closed with Nieuwoudt's retirement at the end of 2003.



Prof. Lieb Nieuwoudt

Gerald Ortman was appointed as a Lecturer in October 1979 after spending close to five years in the Division of Production Economics of the Department of Agriculture at Cedara and in the Western Cape as a Regional Economist. He was promoted to Professor in 1995 and is currently Head of Discipline. Mike Lyne was appointed as a Lecturer in 1982 after serving in the then KwaZulu Department of Agriculture as head economist. His experience and interest in rural development issues drove much of his research at the university. He was promoted to Professor in 1997 but resigned on 30 June 2007 to emigrate to New Zealand where he is now an Associate Professor in International Rural Development at Lincoln University. His PhD thesis, which he completed in 1984, also won the Founders Medal of the Economic Society of South Africa.

Mark Darroch joined the Department in 1984. He had graduated with a BScAgric (summa cum laude) and was the first student to have been awarded the Dux medal for the top student in the Faculty of Agriculture. He subsequently completed his MScAgric degree cum laude and was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1992. Stuart Ferrer joined the Department as a contract lecturer after completing his PhD in 2000 and was appointed as a Lecturer in 2004. However, he resigned at the end of 2008 to take up a Senior Lecturer position in the School of Economics and Management on the Westville Campus of UKZN in 2009. He was then appointed as a Research Economist at the SA Cane Growers' Association in 2010. In January 2009 Lloyd Baiyegunhi, who had completed his undergraduate and Master's degrees in Agricultural Economics

at the Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria, was appointed as a Lecturer and was awarded a PhD from the University of Fort Hare in May 2010. Edilegnaw Wale was appointed as a Senior Lecturer in February 2009. He completed his Bachelors degree at Alemeya University, Masters at Wageningen and PhD at the University of Bonn, all with cum laude. A record of staff appointments over the Department's history is summarised in Table 10.

Table 10: Lecturing staff at KwaZulu-Natal from 1948

Academic Staff	Lecturer	Senior Lecturer	Associate Professor	Professor
HI Behrmann	1948-1956	1957-1959		1960-1982
PE de Waal		1949-1951		1951-1953
LJ Fourie	1959			
WE Kassier	1962	1963		
JD Graham	1964-1971			
JA Groenewald		1964-1967		
WL Nieuwoudt	1967	1968-1976	1976-1982	1982-2003
MA Tarr	1972-1981			
GF Ortmann	1979-1984	1984-1988	1989-1994	1995-
MC Lyne	1982-1989	1990-1993	1994-1997	1997-2007
MAG Darroch	1984-1991	1992-		
SRD Ferrer	2004-2008			
L Baiyegunhi	2009-			
E Wale		2009-		

Staff expertise has been built up in several areas, notably small-scale farming, commercial agriculture, agricultural policy, agribusiness and resource economics. Staff members regularly visit overseas institutions on sabbaticals and present papers at national and international conferences. They have distinguished themselves with various awards, including best published paper awards, the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Travelling Fellowship and the BP Research Scholarships in Agriculture and Rural Development. The Department also benefited during the 1970s and 1980s from top former Rhodesian (Zimbabwean) students who studied in South Africa, and produced six Rhodes scholars and one Beit scholar between 1970 and 1985. In recent years some sources of funding for postgraduate research have included the USAID BASIS project, Ford Foundation, National Research Foundation, SA Cane Growers' Association, the National Agricultural Marketing Council and the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Rural Development.

In order to attract undergraduate students from more diverse interests, agribusiness options (co-majors with Animal Science, Crop Science, Food Processing, Horticultural Science and Wildlife Management Science) were initiated in 1998. Under the new School system launched in 1999, together with the amalgamation of the Faculties of Science and Agriculture, Agricultural Economics became part of the School of Agricultural Sciences and Agribusiness. A record of the total number of students who have graduated in the Department since its inception is given in the following Table.

Agricultural Economics is a growth area at UKZN. Identification of this area of specialisation as a scarce skill by government has recently led to an increase in bursaries and a consequent increase in student numbers and student interest in Agricultural Economics. In 2011 the Faculty of Science and Agriculture at UKZN allocated an additional post to Agricultural Economics in recognition of its increasing student numbers and the discipline's importance in agricultural training and research. This bodes well for the future of Agricultural Economics at UKZN. The Discipline will continue to serve not only commercial and smallholder agricultural businesses, but will also maintain its research profile in agricultural policy and rural development.



Table 11: Agricultural Economics graduates from KwaZulu-Natal, 1951-2010

Graduates	1951-1975	1976-2002	2003-2010	Total
PhD (Agric Economics)	3	15	5	23
MScAgric (Agric Economics)				79
MSc (Agric Economics)			3	3
MAgricMgt				37
MScAgric and MAgricMgt	19	71		
BScAgricHons (Agric Economics)		3		3
BScAgric (Agric Economics)	95	273	16	384
BScAgric (Agribusiness)				48
BAgricMgtHons		82	9	91
BAgricMgt		562	26	588

2.4 University of the Free State

The Department of Agricultural Economics in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at the University of the Free State had its origin in 1958. The growth and development of the department can be sub-divided into four distinct phases. The first of these phases stretched from 1958 to 1974, a period of 15 years when the Faculty of Agriculture was still incorporated into the State Department of Agriculture.

The second phase of 20 years demarcated the period subsequent to the incorporation of the Faculty of Agriculture into the University of the Free State and prior to the new constitutional dispensation, which commenced in 1994.

- The first ten years of the second phase were marked by a rapid accrual of curricula and efforts to become more relevant.
- Under the guidance of Prof. Whitey Kotze, the first departmental head (1960 – 1978) who also became dean of the faculty in 1978, the B.Agric and B.Sc. Agric degrees were presented with a more multi-disciplinary approach. Close co-operation with the agricultural sector was always encouraged.
- The chair of the Maize Board in Farm Management was established in 1984. Dr. Kobus Laubscher was the occupant of the chair for five years.
- Farm Management was housed in the Centre for Agricultural Management, within the Department till 2009. It fully became thereafter part of the Department with a new integrated approach.

In this time Prof. Kotze and Prof. Chris Blygnaut (Head of the Department between 1979 and 1985) were involved in the advancement of rural development on a broad basis in the Free State and Northern Cape. The Department of Agricultural Economics maintained strong ties with the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) with Prof. Kotze who was a founding member of ISER. This relationship was continued by his successors, Prof. Blygnaut and Prof. Viljoen. Numerous economic base studies were undertaken for towns such as Fouriesburg, Senekal, Ladybrand, Theunissen, etc.

During the next 10 years, under the rector Prof. Wynand Mouton, during which the emphasis fell on research with the necessary incentives. It was during this time that the Department of Agricultural Economics experienced strong growth through the conclusion of various research contracts. During this phase Prof. Giel Viljoen, headed the Department (1986 – 1997). Personnel numbers were tripled through the appointment of contract personnel. With the main focus on research, the department matured as the department with the highest research output in the faculty.



Prof. Giel Viljoen

The next phase commenced in 1994, and was characterised by the internationalisation of agriculture and decentralised tuition management at the university, resulting in enhanced growth and revitalisation. The internationalisation of agriculture resulted in a new approach within the agricultural sector, with prices of commodities determined in international markets while the implementation of resource policy (labour, land and water) has largely become a provincial responsibility. This led to the introduction of the Chair in International Agricultural Marketing and Development, with agricultural economic curricula reflecting these developments,



including co-operation with colleagues abroad. This new phase progressed in the department with the incorporation of the Centre for Agricultural Management, Agricultural Engineering and the Centre for Disaster Management (DIMTEC). DIMTEC evolved in a fully-fledged standalone Centre since 2007.

During this phase tuition and research excellence was promoted by the spirit of competition, which manifests amongst the five research groups in the department, namely the “Farmers”, the “Rapids”, “CIAMD”, “Watees”, “Agricultural Management” and “Agricultural Engineering” under the chairmanship of Prof. Herman van Schalkwyk (1998 – 2003). Prof Andre Jooste was chair of the department from 2004-2006 during which time the publication output of the Department increased.

The University and Faculty entered a new phase during 2008/09, with a new rector and new emphasis on social integration and academic excellence. Prof Johan Willemse became chairperson in 2008, with a new emphasis on coordination within the Department and renewed contact with agribusiness and commercial farming. The approach is more integrated tuition and research, which includes a new emphasis in the Honours degrees, on practical applications with case studies. Close cooperation with the Business School at the UFS resulted in a new approach to business planning and marketing. The Department is also involved with projects to train and establish new farmers, with government support. Student numbers continue to increase, with the largest Honours group in 2011, totalling 65 students. The Department has a number of bursary and cooperation projects with agribusiness and farming industries, giving the post graduate students valuable insight into the application of theory in agricultural economics. Prof Giel Viljoen, Prof Klopper Oosthuizen and Dr WT Nell retired after distinguished careers as agricultural economists, with a new team of young lecturers going forward.

Degrees awarded in the Department are presented in the Table below:

Table 12: Agricultural Economics graduates from Free State, 1955-2010

	1955-1976	1977-2001	2002-2010	Total
BAgric	4	184	38	226
BScAgric	63	358	31	452
BScAgricHons	10	72	83	165
BAgricHons	4	184	32	220
MScAgric	4	26	93	123
M Agric	-	3	3	6
Ph D (LEK)	3	11	19	33
Ph D (LBB)		1	2	3
B Com Hons (LEK)			25	
M Com (LEK)			4	

2.5 University of Fort Hare

The Department of Agricultural Economics was established in 1970. Mr PD Kempen was the first Agricultural Economist to be employed at the University of Fort Hare and fell under the Department of Pasture Science, Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Engineering. The Heads of Departments thus far include:

Table 13: Department Chairs at Fort Hare from 1967

1967 – 1970	P.D. Kempen
June 1970 – June 1980	S.J. de Swardt (Jnr)
July 1980 – Dec 1981	C.J. van Rooyen
Jan 1983 – June 1988	G.G. Antrobus (First Professor)
Oct 1988 – April 1998	B.J. Bester
May 1998 –March 2008	G.C.G. Fraser
April 2008 to date	N Monde

The Departments of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Extension and Rural Development amalgamated in 1998 to form



Fort Hare Agrekon.



Table 14: Lecturing staff at Fort Hare from 1967

Name	Junior Lecturer	Lecturer	Senior Lecturer	Associate Professor	Professor
PD Kempen			1967 - 69		
SJ de Swardt			1970 – 80		
CJ van Rooyen			1976 - 81		
GCG Fraser		1980 - 83	1983 - 00	2000 -	2002
C Machethe	1980	1981			
GG Antrobus					1983 – 88
A Muwonge		1984 - 85			
IRF Trollip	1985 - 87	1988 - 00			
BJ Bester					1988 -
M Maumbe			2004		
A Belete			1996 - 00	2000 -	2002
F Lategan			2006-2009	2010	
A Ajuruchukwu			2006-2010	2010	
N Monde			2006-2011		
A Mushunje		2005-2010	2011		

the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension. The staff of the Department over the years is reflected in Table 14.

Currently the department has six staff members (one professor, two associate professors, two senior lecturers and one lecturer). Five of the six staff members have PhDs making this department a stronger department than it was during the 80s.

The department offers two programmes at undergraduate level, namely, Bachelor of Agriculture (three year degree) either in Agricultural Economics or Agricultural Extension; and Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (Agricultural economics option only). The BSc degree was first offered in 1975 while the BAgric was offered almost 10 years later in 1984. At postgraduate level the department offers BAgric Honours (in both Agricultural Economics and Extension) and BSc Agric Honours (in Agricultural Economics only); MAgric in both disciplines and MSc Agric in Agricultural Economics and PhD in Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Extension.

The first MScAgric graduated in 1983, the first MAgric in 1997, and the first PhD in 2001. Since 2001, the Department has graduated 14 MSc Agric, 12 M Agric candidates and four Ph D candidates. This is one area of the Department that has grown significantly over the past four years with a healthy supply of candidates, at both Master’s and Doctoral level, now coming through the Department. Although the number of postgraduate students produced by the Department is relatively low, a significant number of graduates of the Department have managed to obtain higher degrees at other Universities, both locally and abroad.

The Agricultural Economics section of the School of Agriculture and Agribusiness within the Faculty of Science and Agriculture is by far the largest section, with highest registration figures over the past few years. In 2010 and this year (2011) the number of students enrolled in Agricultural Economics amounted to 50% of the agricultural student registrations (see Table below).

Table 15: Students enrolled at Fort Hare, 2010 and 2011

Degree offered	2010	2011
BAgric	139	145
BSc Agric	181	198
B Agric Hons	12	21
BSc Agric Hons	7	10
M Agric	15	17
MSc Agric	7	14
PhD Agric	13	17
Total – Agric Econ	374	422
Total - School	750	845

2.6 University of Limpopo

The Department of Agricultural Economics at the then University of the North is part of the School of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences in the Faculty of Health and Sciences. The Department, which was first established in 1975 under the leadership of Mr Tommy Fényes has grown over the years. Formal teaching in Agricultural Economics commenced in 1976, as part of the BComm curriculum, and as a major subject in the degree programme BComm (Agricultural Economics). In 1979 the sub-department became a fully-fledged department and Mr N Vink was appointed as a lecturer.

In 1980 the Department established two sub-departments, namely, Crop Science and Animal Science, headed by Mr M S (Tienie) Burgers and Dr P Morgan respectively. In 1981 the Sub-department of Soil Science was introduced. The lecturer appointed to head this Sub-department was Mr P Fouché. These sub-departments were formed into the new Faculty of Agriculture in 1982, with Prof. Burgers as the first Dean. In the same year the Faculty obtained an experimental farm and practical research was started to complement the steadily growing student population and research output by Faculty members.

During this time Mr C L Machethe was appointed lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Economics. He subsequently became the first recipient of the MSc (Agriculture) degree from Turfloop and later served as Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and acted as Vice Chancellor of the University. In 1982 Mr TI Fényes took sabbatical leave to do research on farm labour at the Department of Agriculture and subsequently took up the position of Professor and Head of Department of Economics at Vista University. Dr A de Villiers replaced him as Head of the Department in 1982. Since the establishment of the Department a number of notable Agricultural Economists in South Africa and beyond have worked in the Department.

The programmes offered are BSc in Agricultural Economics, B. Agric Admin Hons in Agricultural Economics, MSc in Agricultural Economics, M. Agric Admin Hons in Agricultural Economics and PhD in Agricultural Economics. Total student numbers in the Department have risen over the years and in 2011 the Department had 173 new and existing students.

Table 16: Lecturing staff at Limpopo from 1975

Name	Junior Lecturer	Lecturer	Senior Lecturer	Associate Professor	Professor
T.I. Fenyés			1975-1982		
N. Vink		1979-1981	1981-1985		
A. de Villiers			1984-85	1986	
C.L. Machethe			1982-1998	1998-1999	
M.A. Tshatsinde					
E.F. Kolajo			1992-1995		
F.D.K. Anim		1992-1997	1997-2000	2000-2007	
B. Moholwa	1995-2004	2004-2006			
M. Mekuria			1996-1997		
M. Ngqaleni			1994-1995		
N. Moletsane		1992-2001			
B. Morokolo	1993-1995				
B. Hedden-Dunkhorst			1995-2000		
P. Chaminuka		2003-			
J.J Hlongwane		2005-			
A. Belete					2004-
C. Muchopa		2010-			
MP Senyolo		2010-			
J Ledwaba	2011-				

The research focus of the Department includes land use modelling at the wildlife conservation/agriculture interface, choice modelling, risk in agricultural production, market access in the emerging farm sector, value chain analysis and , economics of agricultural research and new technology; farmers decision making,



and climatic variability and its impacts. The Department collaborates with international partners such as Wageningen University, Kansas State University, International Foundation for Science, the Animal Health for Environment and Development (AHEAD) Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area Programme and University of Zimbabwe in various programmes.

2.7 University of Venda

The Department was formed in 1985 following the establishment of the University of Venda in 1982 as a branch of the University of the North (now University of Limpopo). By that time the department, like other departments in the School of Agriculture, fell under the Faculty of Natural Science. It was managed by Mr. S.L Hartmann, the only person in the department at that time. Its main purpose was to service other departments. In 1995, the department produced its first ever BSc (Agric) graduate, and two years later two more students graduated. Presently, the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness is one of nine (9) departments and a centre constituting the School of Agriculture. The four year Bachelor of Agribusiness programme was initiated in 2003 in response to increased demand for agribusiness managers in the region. The programme started with 5 students (1 female and 4 males). Mr Harman was joined by Professor SA Oni and Mr R Matsila in 1999. Dr PK Chauke and Mr EN Raidimi joined the department in January 2002 while Mr J. Bashi joined in 2003. He subsequently left the service of the University in 2006. In March 2009 Mr TK Pfumayaramba joined the department as lecturer. The table below reflects the staff turnover in the Department from its inception in 1995.

Table 17: Lecturing staff at Venda from 1985

	Junior Lecturer	Lecturer	Senior Lecturer	Professor	Professor Emeritus
Mr. S.L. Hartmann		1985 -2000			
Prof. SA Oni				1999 - 2008	2009 -
Mr. R Matsila	1999	- 2002			
Dr. PK Chauke		2002 -2007	2008 -		
Mr. NE Raidimi		2002 -			
Mr. J Bashi		2003 -2006			
Mr. TK Pfumayaramba		2009 -			

Mr Hartmann headed the department from its inception until 1999 when he handed over the reins to Professor Oni. Upon his resumption of the Emeritus Professorship position (the first in the history of the university) in January 2009, Dr PK Chauke was requested to take over the leadership of the department. Student enrolment in the department over the past 4 years is summarised in the following table (reflecting significant increases in student numbers over the years except for a major downturn in 2010).

Table 18: Students enrolled at Venda, 2007-2010

PROGRAMME	LEVEL	NUMBER OF STUDENTS			
		2007	2008	2009	2010
BSc Agric	First Year	16	16	16	7
	Second Year	13	23	15	22
	Third Year	4	6	16	7
	Fourth Year	9	6	11	16
	Total	42	51	58	52
BAGBM	First Year	24	13	13	0
	Second Year	34	44	21	11
	Third Year	10	15	33	18
	Fourth Year	3	8	17	26
	Total	71	80	84	55
MSc AEC	6	7	8	7	
PhD	1	1	1	1	



2.8 North-West University

The Department of Agricultural Economics at the North-West University, Mafikeng Campus was established in 1988. It operated mainly as a service department for crops and animal science departments between 1988 and the year 2000. During this period, the Agricultural Economics programme was offered only at the Postgraduate Diploma Level. The undergraduate programme, B.Sc. Agricultural Economics was established in 2001. The B.Sc. Agric economics, Honours Agric Economics, M.Sc. Agric (Agric Economics) and PhD Agric (Agric Economics) programmes of the department started functioning in 2001. The Heads of Departments over the period include:

Table 19: Heads of Department at North-West from 1988

1988 – 1997	Dr. L.M.H. Malambo
1997 – 1999	K.Y. Asuamah
2000 – 2001	D.M. Motiang
2002 – 2008	M.A. Antwi
2009 – 2010	Prof. L.M.H. Malambo
April 2010 – 28 February 2011	L.K. Mabe
March 2011 to date	Prof. O.I. Oladele

The staff of the Department over the years is presented in the Table below.

Table 20: Lecturing staff at North-West from 1988

	Jnr Lecturer	Lecturer	Senior	Associate Lecturer	Professor Professor
Dr. L.M.H. Malambo			1988 - 1997	2009 - 2010	
K.Y. Asuamah			1988 – 2010		
D.M. Motiang			2000 - 2001		
M.A. Antwi		2000 - 2006	2007 to date		
Prof. P.N. Ewang					2004 - 2005
L.K. Mabe		2000 - 2007			
Prof. O.I. Oladele				2010-	
S.S. Tekana	2005 to date				

The programme has produced about 50 B.Sc. Agric Economics and over 100 B.Sc. Honours Agric Economics graduates since its establishment. The first M.Sc. Agric (Agric Economics) (3) and PhD graduates (1) from the programme were in 2005 and 2011 respectively. Some of the graduates from the department have managed to obtain higher degrees at other Universities, both locally and internationally. The present staff compliment of the department is four.

Table 21: Agricultural Economics graduates from North-West, 1988-2010

Graduates	2001-2010
PhD Agric (Agric Economics)	1
M.Sc. Agric (Agric Economics)	3
B.Sc. Honours Agric Economics	100
PGD Agric Economics	70
B.Sc. Agric Economics	50



CHAPTER THREE

Presidents of AEASA and dates of conferences, 1962-2011

In the 40th Anniversary history the Editor, Mr Faan van Wyk, recalled that he took the Chair at the commencement of the proceedings. Then, following a vote to form AEASA, Prof F.R. Tomlinson was unanimously voted as President, thus he chaired the rest of the Conference. Prof. Tomlinson held office for five years, followed by Mr Haveman for two years. Dr Moraka Makhura was the first black president (2005 - 2007) of the Association. After 1980 Presidents have served for two years. Our current President, Ronald Ramabulana, is the 22nd person to hold this position.



Dr Moraka Nakedi Makhura

Table 22: Presidents, vice-presidents and guest speakers at AEASA conferences

Conferences	Year	President and vice-president	Guests
Founding	1961	S.P. van Wyk (F.R. Tomlinson)	S.J. de Swardt
1st	1962	F.R. Tomlinson S.P. van Wyk	Dr C.H. Neveling (Open)
2nd	1963	F.R. Tomlinson S.P. van Wyk	Dr M.D. Marais (Open) Min. Paul Sauer
3rd	1964	F.R. Tomlinson S.P. van Wyk	Dr Anton Rupert (Open) Dr D.H. Steyn and Ministers Le Roux and Uys Guest Speaker: Sir De Villiers Graaff
4th	1965	F.R. Tomlinson J.J. Gregory	Dr F.J. van Biljon (Open) Dr P.W. Vorster, Prof Tinley (Australia)
5th	1966	F.R. Tomlinson J.J. Gregory	
6th	1967	A.R. Haveman S.P. van Wyk	Prof J.H. Moolman (Open)
7th	1968	A.R. Haveman S.P. van Wyk	Dr P.S. Rautenbach (Open)
8th	1969	S.P. van Wyk H.A. Kotze	Prof O.F.P. Horwood (Open)
9th	1970	S.P. van Wyk W.E. Kassier	Prof John Philips (Open) Prof A.G. Mueller, University of Illinois

Table 22: Presidents, vice-presidents and guest speakers at AEASA conferences (continued)

Conferences	Year	President and vice-president	Guests
10th	1971	S.P. van Wyk W.E. Kassier	Prof J.L. Dillon, University of New England
11th	1972	A.P. Scholtz W.E. Kassier	Prof Jan Lombard Prof A.G. Mueller, University van Illinois
12th	1973	A.P. Scholtz D.J.G. Smith	
13th	1974	A.P. Scholtz D.J.G. Smith	
14th	1975	H.S. Hattingh S.D. Parsons	Prof E.O. Heady, Iowa State
	1976	H.S. Hattingh P.H. Spies	Prof P. de V. Booysen, University of Natal
15th	1977	H.I. Behrmann P.H. Spies	
16th	1978	H.I. Behrmann P.H. Spies	Prof J.L. Dillon, University of New England
17th	1979	H.I. Behrmann J.R. Hudson	Mr Chris Cilliers
18th	1980	Dr C.F. le Clus J.R. Hudson D.J.G. Smith	
19th	1981	J.R. Hudson D.J.G. Smith	Prof B. Hardaker, University of New England Prof Lowell Hill, Iowa State
20th	1982	D.J.G. Smith J. van Niekerk	
21st	1983	D.J.G. Smith J. van Niekerk	
22nd	1984	J. van Niekerk B.J. van Wyk	
23rd	1985	J. van Niekerk B.J. van Wyk	Dr Robert Thompson, Council of Economic Advisors
24th	1986	W.L. Nieuwoudt C.J. van Rooyen	Prof L.G. Tweeten, Oklahoma State
25th	1987	W.L. Nieuwoudt C.J. van Rooyen	Prof Glenn Johnson, Michigan State Dr Conrad Strauss, Standard Bank
26th	1988	C.J. van Rooyen J. van Zyl	Prof Adolf Weber, University of Kiel Prof Simon Williams, Colorado
27th	1989	C.J. van Rooyen J. van Zyl	Prof Vernon Eidman, University of Maryland
28th	1990	J.M. Laubscher N. Vink	Prof. E.C. Pasour, North Carolina State
29th	1991	J.M. Laubscher N. Vink	Prof Jerry B Eckert, Colorado State
30th	1992	N. Vink C.L. Machethe	Prof Bruce Johnston, Stanford
31st	1993	Nick Vink Charles Machethe	Dr Robert Thompson, Winrock International
32nd	1994	Johan van Zyl Wiehahn Viviers	Dr Hans Binswanger, World Bank



Table 22: Presidents, vice-presidents and guest speakers at AEASA conferences (continued)

Conferences	Year	President and vice-president	Guests
33rd	1995	Johan van Zyl Wiehahn Viviers	Prof Douglas Graham, Ohio State
34th	1996	Gerhard Backeberg Thomas Naledzani	Prof G. Schmitt, University of Göttingen Dr Jock Anderson, World Bank
35th	1997	Gerhard Backeberg Thomas Naledzani	Prof Gavin Maasdorp, University of Natal
36th	1998	Klopper Oosthuizen J. Botes	Dr. Douglas Hedley, Canada and President: IAAE
37th	1999	Klopper Oosthuizen J. Botes	Dr. Alex Duncan, Oxford Policy Management
38th	2000	Gerald Ortmann Diana Callear	Prof David Kohl, Virginia Technical Prof Michael Cook, Missouri-Colombia
39th	2001	Gerald Ortmann Diana Callear	Dr Conrad Strauss, Standard Bank Prof Ralph Christy, Cornell Dr Andrew Fearne, Wye College
40th	2002	Johann Kirsten P Simms/Andre Louw	Prof Ed Schuh, Minnesota
41st	2003	Johann Kirsten Andre Louw	Prof Oliver Williamson, Berkeley
42nd	2004	Giel Viljoen Moraka Makhura	Prof Jo Swinnen, KU Leuven Prof C Thirtle, Imperial College
43rd	2005	Giel Viljoen Moraka Makhura	Dr Were Omamo, IFPRI Dr Akin Adesina, AGRA
44th	2006	Moraka Makhura Gavin Fraser	Dr Eleni Gabre-Madhin, IFPRI
45th	2007	Moraka Makhura Gavin Fraser	Prof Kym Anderson, Adelaide Prof Pat Westhoff, Missouri Prof Phil Pardey, Minnesota Dr Bruno Lösch, World Bank
46th	2008	Mohammad Karaan Johan Willemse	Dr Carlos Da Silva, FAO
47th	2009	Mohammad Karaan Johan Willemse	Prof C Parliament, Minnesota Dr Ousmane Badiane, IFPRI
48th	2010 ¹¹	Ronald Ramabulana Sheryl Hendriks	Prof Karl Storchmann, NYU Prof Francis Idachaba, Nigeria
49th	2011	Ronald Ramabulana Sheryl Hendriks	Prof Colin Thirtle, Imperial College, London

Presidents of AEASA and dates of conferences, 1962-2011

¹¹Note that, as this was a joint conference with the African Association, there were many guests – only the Memorial Addressees are listed here.



Past Presidents at the 2010 conference in Cape Town. From left to right: Prof Johann Kirsten, Dr Gerhard Backeberg, Prof Nick Vink, Dr Ronald Ramabulana, Prof Johan van Rooyen, Prof Mohammad Karaan, Prof Gerald Ortmann and Dr Moraka Makhura.



AEASA Management Committee, 1996. Front row (left to right): Herman van Schalkwyk, Gerhard Backeberg, Gunter Schmitt (Simon Brand Memorial Lecturer), Johan van Zyl, Jan Groenewald. Back row (left to right): Hans Janse van Rensburg, Gavin Fraser, Mark Darroch, Rolf Otto.



The day Pretoria came to visit Stellenbosch: vlnr: Johan van Zyl, Johan van Rooyen, Eckardt Kassier, Nick Vink, Phillip Spies and Johann Kirsten.



CHAPTER FOUR

Themes of conferences held 1962-2011

History has a way of confusing even the most careful of archivists. The originators of the Association called the 1961 Conference the Founding Conference, and the 1962 gathering the First Annual Conference. If they had started with the more usual naming convention of the 1st Annual Conference in 1961, then 2011 would actually have been the 50th Annual Conference. There was no conference in 1976 – instead, eleven different agricultural professional societies, including AEASA, participated in an historical Joint Conference in early January 1977 with the theme “Production for a growing population”, while the 1977 AEASA conference went ahead as usual. Note also that the 40th Anniversary book erroneously had the 15th Conference as having been held in Stellenbosch in 1977, while that conference was in fact the 16th, and was held in 1978.

Table 23: Conference venues and conference themes

Conference	Year	Venue	Theme
Founding	1961	Pretoria	The task of the agricultural economist
1st	1962	Pretoria	Evaluation of agricultural economic research since the beginning of the 1920s
2nd	1963	Pretoria	The provision of credit in agriculture
3rd	1964	Pretoria	Marketing problems in agriculture
4th	1965	Pretoria	The challenge to South African agriculture
5th	1966	Pretoria	Planning of agricultural development
6th	1967	Pretoria	The agricultural exports trade
7th	1968	Pretoria	Rural development in South Africa
8th	1969	Pretoria	The economic development of agriculture in less-developed areas
9th	1970	Pretoria	Planning an adaptation of agriculture in the seventies
10th	1971	Pretoria	Perspective in management and agriculture in a dynamic environment
11th	1972	Pretoria	Research in agricultural economics
12th	1973	Allemanskraal Dam	The Commission of Enquiry into agriculture: An evaluation
13th	1974	Pretoria	The economics of resource development in South African agriculture
14th	1975	Durban	The competitive position of the agricultural sector in South Africa
No Conference	1976	No conference held	
15th	1977	Pretoria	Agricultural Economics education
16th	1978	Stellenbosch	Farm management
17th	1979	Pietermaritzburg	Agricultural policy and marketing: Challenges for the agricultural economist

Table 23: Conference venues and conference themes (continued)

Conference	Year	Venue	Theme
18th	1980	Pretoria	Enterprise forms, structure and performance
19th	1981	Bloemfontein	Risk and uncertainty in agriculture
20st	1982	Pretoria	The computer as aid in agricultural development
21st	1983	Pretoria	Future directions in agriculture
22nd	1984	Cape Town	The role and function of the agricultural economist in South African agriculture.
23rd	1985	Bloemfontein	Alternative agricultural food policies, and the white paper on agricultural policy in South Africa
24th	1986	Durban	Changes in agriculture
25th	1987	Johannesburg	Agriculture in Southern Africa – shaping the future
26th	1988	Stellenbosch	Management in agriculture
27th	1989	Bloemfontein	Risk in agriculture
28th	1990	Durban	Efficiency in agriculture
29th	1991	Port Elizabeth	The task and role of the agricultural economist in a normalised agriculture.
30st	1992	Mt Aux Sources, Drakensberg	Agriculture and structural change – are there historic reasons for South African agriculture?
31st	1993	Cape Town	Entrepreneurs and the political economy of reform in South African agriculture.
32nd	1994	Pretoria	Institutional restructuring: Regions, organisations and legislation
33rd	1995	Bloemfontein	The role of the agricultural- economist in the restructuring process
34th	1996	Midrand	Transformation, productivity growth and fulfilment in South African agriculture
35th	1997	East London	Markets, the environment and agriculture
36th	1998	Swakopmund	Agriculture's economic role in Southern Africa in the new millennium
37th	1999	Mykonos, Langebaan	Agricultural economics, farm management and agribusiness: Combining strengths and stretching the frontiers
38th	2000	Sun City, Northwest Province	South African agriculture into the new millennium: Institutions and organisations in practice
39th	2001	Champagne Sports Resort, Drakensberg	Agricultural supply chains: Opportunities and challenges
40th	2002	Bloemfontein	Rural development and competitiveness: Rethinking strategies in a global environment
41st	2003	Pretoria	Agribusiness, profits, ethics
42nd	2004	Somerset West	Agriculture in a democratic society, 1994-2004
43rd	2005	Polokwane	Bridging the economic divide in South African agriculture
44th	2006	Grahamstown	The changing face of agriculture
45th	2007	Fourways, Johannesburg	From policy reform to implementation and delivery in South African agriculture
46th	2008	Windhoek	Rethinking agriculture and rural development in Southern Africa
47th	2009	Durban	Promoting the competitiveness of South African agriculture in a weakened global economy
48th	2010	Cape Town ¹²	Food and financial crisis: the way forward.
49th	2011	Pretoria	AEASA 1961-2011: a foundation for the next 50 years

¹²This Conference was held jointly with the African Association of Agricultural Economists



Dr Gerhard Backeberg and Prof Johan van Rooyen at the 2010 Annual Conference, Cape Town.



Dr Moraka Makhura and Prof Gerald Ortmann at the 2010 Annual Conference, Cape Town.

CHAPTER FIVE

Awards of AEASA

One of our Association's main objectives is to promote excellence in research, scientific reporting and communication. The Association has introduced a number of awards over the years to reward excellence in these different fields. These awards have become part of AEASA tradition and every year at the annual conference banquet evening the awards are presented to the various winners. Each year a Committee is appointed by the Management Committee to adjudicate each award according to an approved set of criteria, which are available on the AEASA website. The prizes for each Award are also sponsored and the Association is, as always, most grateful to these sponsors. The award for the Best Masters Thesis (sponsored by ABSA Bank) has been given since 1965; the SJJ de Swardt Prize (sponsored by the SJJ de Swardt Trust) since 1972; the Best Published work by a member of AEASA other than in *Agrekon* (sponsored by Standard Bank) since 1987; the Best Contributed Paper at the Annual Conference (also sponsored by ABSA) since 1988; and the Best Poster presentation at the Annual Conference and the Best Student Essay (both sponsored by the Association) since 2002. The Association also provides an award to the best final year undergraduate student at each of the Universities.

5.1 Best published article in a professional journal or book

Sponsor: The Standard Bank of South Africa Limited

This prize was introduced for the first time in 1987 to separate the articles published in *Agrekon* from those published in other journals or in different form, such as books and book chapters.

Table 24: Recipients of the prize for Best Published Work

Year	Recipient(s)	Article
1987	G.F. Ortmann (joint award)	Regional development effects of a free market for sugar in South Africa. <i>Development Southern Africa</i> , 3(3), 1986
	J.A. Groenewald and van Zyl (joint award)	Effect of variable water supply and quality on desirable crop production patterns. <i>Agrekon</i> , 25(3), 1986.
1988	J. van Zyl, N. Vink and T.I. Fényes	Labour-related structural trends in South African agriculture. <i>Agricultural Economics</i> , 1(2), 1987.
1989	J. van Zyl and J. Groenewald	The effect of protection on South African commercial agriculture. (<i>The Journal of Agricultural Economics</i> , 39(3), 1988).
1990	W.L. Nieuwoudt and N. Vink	The effects of increased earnings from traditional agriculture in Southern Africa, <i>South African Journal of Economics</i> , 57 (3)
1991	M.C. Lyne, G.F. Ortmann and N. Vink	Food security in KwaZulu: Results of a household-based programming model. <i>Journal of Agricultural Economics</i> , 42(1) 1991



Table 24: Recipients of the prize for Best Published Work (continued)

Year	Recipient(s)	Article
1992	C.D. Fairlamb and W.L. Nieuwoudt	Economic factors affecting human fertility in the developing areas of Southern Africa. <i>Agricultural Economics</i> , 6, 1991.
1993	J. Eckert and L. Kritzinger-Van Niekerk	The horns of a dilemma: Economic discipline and economic development in South Africa. <i>Development Southern Africa</i> , 10(1), 1993.
1994	C. Thirtle, H.J. Sartorius von Bach and J. van Zyl	Total Factor Productivity in South African Agriculture: 147-1991 <i>Development Southern Africa Vol. 10(3)</i> , 1993.
1995	M.C. Lyne	Ownership and control of Maori land: Some lessons for South Africa. <i>Development Southern Africa Vol. 11(4)</i> , 1994.
1996	J.H.F Botes, D.J. Bosch and L.K. Oosthuizen	The value of irrigation information for decision-makers with neutral and non-neutral risk preferences under conditions of unlimited and limited water supply. <i>Water SA</i> , 21(3), 1995
1997	R.M. Hassan	Planting strategies of maize farmers in Kenya: a simultaneous equations analysis in the presence of discrete variables. <i>Agricultural Economics</i> , 15, 1996
1998	R. Townsend and S. McDonald	Biased policies, Agriculture and Income Distribution in South Africa: A Social Accounting Matrix Approach. <i>Studies in Economics and Econometrics</i> , 22(2)
1999	R. Townsend, J.F. Kirsten and N. Vink	Farm size, productivity and returns to scale in agriculture: A case study of wine producers in South Africa. <i>Agricultural Economics</i> , 19(1 and 2), 1998.
2000	M.E. Kuhn and M.A.G. Darroch	Factors affecting rural medium-term loan repayment: Evidence from a South African development finance institution.
2001	C.R. Turner, G.F. Ortmann and M.C. Lyne	Adoption of ISO 9000 Quality Assurance Standards by South African Agribusiness Firms. <i>Agribusiness</i> , 16(13)
2002	R. Townsend and C. Thirtle	Is livestock research unproductive? Separating health maintenance from improvement research. <i>Agricultural Economics</i> 25 (2001)
2003	MC Lyne and M Darroch	Improving access to land markets: evidence from emerging farmers in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. In Zeller, M and Meyer, R L (2002) (eds.), <i>The triangle of micro-finance: financial sustainability, outreach and impact</i> . The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, USA:117-131
2004	L. Nieuwoudt and J. Groenewald (Eds).	<i>The Challenge of Change: Agriculture, Land and the South African Economy</i> , University of Natal Press, Pietermaritzburg, 2003
2005	Jenifer Piesse, Tobias Doyer, Colin Thirtle, Nick Vink	The changing role of grain cooperatives in the transition to competitive markets in South Africa. <i>Journal of Comparative Economics</i> 33 (2005) 197-218
2006	Michaela Cutts and Johann Kirsten	Asymmetric price transmission and market concentration: an investigation into four South African agro-food industries. <i>South African Journal of Economics</i> , 74(2): 323-333
2007	Sartorius K. and Kirsten, J.F.	A framework to facilitate institutional arrangements for smallholder supply in developing countries: An agribusiness perspective. <i>Food Policy</i> 32 (2007) 640-655

Table 24: Recipients of the prize for Best Published Work (continued)

Year	Recipient(s)	Article
2008	First prize: Ron Sandrey, Mohammad Karaan and Nick Vink	Is there policy space to protect South African agriculture? (South African Journal of Economics, Vol. 76:1, March 2008)
	Second prize: James Benhin and Rashid Hassan	A dynamic analysis of trade and biodiversity loss in semi-arid Southern Africa: the role of grazing activities (International Journal of Ecological Economics & Statistics) - Vol. 11, No. S08 pp 31 - 48)
2009	First prize: Beatrice Conradie, Jenifer Piesse & Colin Thirtle	District-level Total Factor Productivity in agriculture: Western Cape Province, South Africa, 1952-2002 (2009). Agricultural Economics 40:265-280
	Second prize: MR Mokoena, Jooste A & Alemu ZG	Impacts of the EU-SA TDCA's reciprocal preferential tariff quotas on market access for cheese and wines. Quarterly Journal of International Agriculture 47(4):343-364
2010	First prize: J Piesse, C Thirtle	Agricultural R&D, technology and productivity. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London Series B – Biological Sciences, 2010, 365: 3035-3047
	Second prize: C. Yirga and R.M. Hassan	Social cost and incentives for optimal control of soil nutrient depletion in Central High Plains of Ethiopia. Agricultural Systems 103(3): 153-160

5.2 Best article published in Agrekon

Sponsor: The SJJ de Swardt/Agrekon Trust

The late Mr S.J.J. de Swardt former Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing was responsible for the introduction of this prize. In the early 1970s he donated a substantial sum of money to the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing to honour valuable original contributions in Agrekon, and the prize was awarded for the first time in 1972. The editor of Agrekon, in consultation with Mr de Swardt, introduced the SJJ de Swardt Agrekon debutant prize in 1984 to honour the best article by young researchers. After his death these two prizes were combined into the SJJ de Swardt Agrekon prize for the best article in Agrekon.

Unfortunately the list in the 40th anniversary book contains many inaccuracies (no less the fact that it lists prize-winners for almost a decade before the prize was instituted!) This current list is as accurate as is possible pending further research in the AEASA archives that are held at the University of the Free State.

Table 25: Recipients of the SJJ de Swardt Prize

Year	Recipient(s)	Article
1972	C.S. Blignaut	A few thoughts on agricultural policy in the light of changed conditions. Agrekon, 11(2)
1973	J.A. Groenewald	A review of the quality of management in South African agriculture. Agrekon, 12(2)
1974	J.S.G. Joubert and P Viljoen	Production costs of crops in the North-Western Free State and the factors which influence these costs. Agrekon, 13 (3)
1975	C.S. Blignaut	Thoughts on rural reform and factors which influence the location decisions of farmers. Agrekon 14(3)
1976	M.D. Nel and J.A. Groenewald	Optimal production scheduling in pig production. Agrekon 15(4)
1977	A. Louw, J.A. Groenewald, J.F.W. Grosskopf	Beef production systems in the North Western Transvaal Sweet Bushveld: a simulation model (Agrekon, 16(4), 1977)



Table 25: Recipients of the SJJ de Swardt Prize (continued)

Year	Recipient(s)	Article
1978	D.F. Coetzee	Some recommendations and guidelines which may lead to more successful agricultural development in Lebowa and other Black homelands (Part 1) and Part 2, Agrekon, 17(4) and 18(1)
1979	W.L. Nieuwoudt, H.O. Gevers	Demand for improved quality protein maize in monogastric animal rations Agrekon, 18(4,1979)
1980	J.A. Groenewald	Nutritional and dietetic requirements of the individual and society: an agricultural economic perspective. Agrekon, 19(4)
1981	A. Louw	Business growth in agriculture: Parts 1-5. Agrekon, 19(4), 20(1-4)
1982	J.A. Groenewald	Changes in the parity position of South African agriculture Agrekon 21(2)
1983	W.L. Nieuwoudt and G.K. Chadwick	Plant sizes and locations in the South African sugar industry. Agrekon 22 (2)
1984	W.L. Nieuwoudt and H.P. Veenstra	Farm-retail price spreads for beef in South Africa. Agrekon, Vol 23(1)
	Debutant prize BDt Janse van Rensburg	Land prices in South Africa: 1960-1979 Agrekon 23(2)
1985	W.L. Nieuwoudt (joint award) J.A . Groenewald (joint award)	An economic analysis of demand and polices in the beef industry. Agrekon, 24(3). South African agriculture and inflation phenomena; Agrekon, 24(1)
	Debutant prize: no award	
1986	J. van Zyl and J.A. Groenewald	A comparison between certain risk decision making techniques: An empirical investigation into the selection of maize cultivars, Agrekon 25(1)
	Debutant prize A.S. Myburgh, J.P. Lombard and N. Sinclair	Supply limitation according to product quality. Agrekon 25(1)
1987	W.L. Nieuwoudt (joint award) J. van Zyl, A van der Vyver, J.A. Groenewald (joint award)	Taxing Agricultural Land, Agrekon, 26(2), June 1987 The influence of drought and general economic effects on agriculture: A macro-analysis; Agrekon, 26 (1) Feb 1987
	Debutant prize: no award	
1988	P.A. Donovan and W.L. Nieuwoudt (joint award) J. van Zyl, H.J.G. Nel and J.A. Groenewald (joint award)	A model for agricultural commodity R&D. Agrekon, 27(1) Agriculture's contribution to the South African economy. Agrekon, 27(2)
	Debutant prize: no award	
1989	J. van Zyl and C.W. Mostert	The evaluation of single strategies to assist farmers with serious liquidity problems; Agrekon 28(3)
1990 ¹		
1991	J.F. Kirsten and J. van Zyl	The economic impact of irrigation agriculture in the Southwest Free State: an application of regional input-output models, Agrekon, 29(3)

¹Note: We currently have no record for the 1990 award. It is possible that this was the year in which we swapped over from announcing the prize at the end of a calendar year to the announcement at the Conference, i.e. the best article had to be published between September and June edition rather than in a calendar year.

Table 25: Recipients of the SJJ de Swardt Prize (continued)

Year	Recipient(s)	Article
1992	M. Elliot and J. van Zyl	Scanner data analysis with specific reference to the South African carbohydrate market. <i>Agrekon</i> 30(2), 1991.
1993	H.D. van Schalkwyk and J.A. Groenewald	Regional analysis of South African agricultural resource use and productivity. <i>Agrekon</i> 31(3), 1992.
1994	G.S. Kille and M.C. Lyne	Investment on free hold and trust farms: Theory with some evidence from KwaZulu. <i>Agrekon</i> , 32(3), 1993.
1995	J. Botes, D. Bosch and L.K. Oosthuizen	Elicitation of risk preferences for irrigation farmers in the Winterton area: wealth risk versus annual income risk. <i>Agrekon</i> 33(1)
1996	P.J.D Steenkamp, H.J. Sartorius von Bach, L. Vivier and S. Millard	Marketing margin analysis of South African potatoes, <i>Agrekon</i> 34(3)
1997	M.C. Lyne, D.N. Thomson and G.F. Ortmann	Institutional change to promote land rental markets in the developing regions of Southern Africa. (<i>Agrekon</i> , 35(1), 1996).
1998	R. Townsend	Economic methodology 1: The role of theory and observation in agricultural economics research, <i>Agrekon</i> , 36(3)
1999	L.J. Fenwick and M.C. Lyne	Factors influencing internal and external credit rationing among small-scale farm households in KwaZulu-Natal, <i>Agrekon</i> , 37(4)
2000	J. Wiseman, M. Darroch and G. Ortmann	Testing the efficiency of SA futures market for white maize <i>Agrekon</i> , 38(3)
2001	M.C. Breitenbach, and N.G. Meyer	Modelling fertilizer use in the grain crop and oilseed sector of South Africa. (<i>Agrekon</i> , 39(3)
2002	N. Vink	Small farmer research in SA: A Survey. <i>Agrekon</i> 40(2)
2003	K Sartorius and JF Kirsten	Can small-scale farmers be linked to agribusiness? The timber experience. <i>Agrekon</i> , 41(4)
2004	W.L. Nieuwoudt, G.R. Backeberg and H.M. du Plessis	The value of water in the South African economy: some implications. <i>Agrekon</i> , 43(2)
2005	P.R. Taljaard, Z.G. Alemu and H.D. van Schalkwyk	The demand for meat in South Africa: An Almost Ideal Estimation. <i>Agrekon</i> 43(4)
2006	C.G. Gillitt, W.L. Nieuwoudt and G.R. Backeberg	Water markets in the lower Orange River catchment of South Africa. <i>Agrekon</i> 44(3)
2007	First prize: Meyer, F. Westhoff, P. Binfield, J. and Kirsten, JF	Model closure and price formation under switching grain market regimes in South Africa. <i>Agrekon</i> , 45(4): 369-380
	Second prize: Van Rooyen, C.J. & Esterhuizen, D.	An enquiry into factors impacting on the competitiveness of the South African wine industry. <i>Agrekon</i> 45(4).
2008	First prize: McDonald, S., Punt, C., Rantho, L and Van Schoor, M.	Cost and benefit of higher tariffs on wheat imports to SA, <i>Agrekon</i> , 47(1)
	Second prize: Dengu, T and Lyne, MC	Secure land rental contracts and agricultural investment in two communal Areas of KwaZulu-Natal. <i>Agrekon</i> , 46 (3)



Table 25: Recipients of the SJJ de Swardt Prize (continued)

Year	Recipient(s)	Article
2009	First prize: B Conradie, J Piesse and C Thirtle	What is the appropriate level of aggregation for productivity indices? Comparing district, regional and national measures. <i>Agrekon</i> 48(1)
	Second prize: B Nyhodo, C Punt and N Vink	The potential impact of the Doha Development Agenda on the South African economy: liberalising OECD agriculture and food trade. <i>Agrekon</i> 48(1)
2010	First prize: T Mkhabela, J Piesse, C Thirtle, N Vink	Modelling efficiency with farm-produced inputs: dairying in KwaZulu-Natal. <i>Agrekon</i> 49 (1), March 2010
	Second prize: C von Doderer, T Kleynhans	Financial viability of agro-forestry for bio-electricity generation on various farms types in the Western Cape, South Africa. <i>Agrekon</i> 49 (2), June 2010.

5.3 Best Master’s thesis award

Sponsor: ABSA Bank

This award is made for the best Master’s thesis in the field of Agricultural Economics accepted and passed by a University in South Africa in the period after the previous Conference. This is intended to include both those submitted to Departments of Agricultural Economics and cognate departments such as Economics and Business Economics.

Table 26: Recipients of the Best Master’s Degree Award

Year	Recipient(s)
1965	L.P. McCrystal (University of Natal)
1966	J.D. Graham (University of Natal)
1967	P.H. Spies (University van Stellenbosch)
1968	J.P.F. du Toit (University van Pretoria)
1969	P.J.M. von Maltitz (University of Stellenbosch)
1970	G.H. Swanepoel (University van Pretoria)
1971	H.P. Hancke (University van Pretoria)
1972	F.J. van Eden (University van Pretoria)
1973	J. Jamneck (University van Pretoria)
1974	C.J. van Rooyen (University van Pretoria)
1975	P.J.R. Comrie (University of Natal)
1976	M.A. Tarr (University of Natal)
	A. Louw (University van Pretoria)
1977	No award
1978	No award
1979	T.F. Nienaber (University van Pretoria)
1980	P.J. Marais (University of the Free State)
1981	W.F. Lubbe (University van Pretoria)
1982	M.C. Lyne (University of Natal)
1983	G.K. Chadwick (University of Natal)
1984	
1985	W.M. Dubiansky (University of Natal) and G.R. Backeberg (University of Pretoria)
1986	B.D.T. Janse van Rensburg (University of Pretoria)

Table 26: Recipients of the Best Masters Degree Award (continued)

Year	Recipient(s)
1987	M.B. Elliott (University of Natal)
1988	M.A.G. Darroch (University of Natal)
1989	C.W. Mostert (University of Pretoria)
1990	P. Bowmaker (University of Natal)
1991	J.H.F. Botes (University of the Free State)
1992	R.A.A. Baber (University of Natal)
1993	E.J. Goedecke (University of Natal)
1994	H.M. Symington (University of the Free State)
1995	G.R. Barlow (University of Natal)
1996	W.J. F. Vigne (University of Natal)
1997	D.B. Louw (University of Stellenbosch). Die ontwikkeling van 'n dinamiese LP geheelplaasboerdery model vir die kleingraan-weidingsgebiede van die Suidkaap
1998	E. van Reenen (University of Pretoria). Economic analysis of beef supply in Southern Africa
1999	C. Berning (University of the Free State). Ex post and ex ante estimation of the economic implications of flood damage in the Mfolozi floodplain
2000	A.N. Bown (University of Natal). Factors influencing farmers' choice amongst various marketing alternatives for maize in South Africa
2001	C. du Toit (University of Stellenbosch). Nasionale mededingende voordeel: die Suid-Afrikaanse appelbedryf (National comparative advantage: the South African apple industry). University of Stellenbosch
2002	TJ Crooks (University of Natal): Sustaining a rental market for arable land in the communal areas of KwaZulu-Natal RJ Armour (University of the Free State)
2003	E.T.Y. Gakpo (University of the Free State)
2004	P.R. Taljaard (University of the Free State). Econometric estimation of the demand for meat in South Africa
2005	First prize: H. Vermeulen (University of Pretoria). Genetically modified white maize in South Africa: consumer perceptions and market segmentation Second prize: A.J. Jordaan (University of the Free State). An analysis of the production and marketing practices of the wool industry in Lesotho
2006	First prize: O. Oyewumi (University of the Free State). Modelling tariff rate quotas in the South African livestock industry Second prize:
2007	First prize: H. Jordaan (University of Free State) Second prize: G.N. Sparrow (University of KwaZulu-Natal)
2008	First prize: Mr. Richard Mac Nicol (University of KwaZulu-Natal). Sources and management of risk in large-scale sugarcane farming in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa Second prize: Ms. Phillipa Kanyoka (University of Refra). Water value and demand for multiple uses in the rural areas of South Africa: The case of Ga-Sekororo
2009	First prize: LN Gray (University of KwaZulu-Natal). KwaNALU commercial farmers' perceptions of management responses to the HIV/AIDS pandemic Second prize: Elvis Nakana (University of Stellenbosch). Analysis of capital sources, owner objectives and determinants of performance of wine farms in the Western Cape
2010	First prize: Dirk Strydom (University of the Free State). The economic impact of maize-based ethanol production on the South African animal feed industry Second prize: W Floyd (University of KwaZulu-Natal). Economic analysis of the factors that affect the success of new free-hold growers in the South African sugar industry



5.4 Best contributed paper at the Annual Conference

Sponsor: ABSA Agribusiness.

The Management Committee of AEASA decided on 9th June 1988 to award a prize for the best contributed paper presented at the Annual Conference. The initial prize was R200 provided by the Management of AEASA. In later years Volkskas Bank (now ABSA) sponsored the prize.

Table 27: Recipients of the Best Contributed Paper Award

Year	Recipient(s)
1988	J.H. Davidson and G.D. Stacey
1989	M.C. Lyne, G.F. Ortmann and N. Vink
1990	V. Dusmanitch and M. Darroch; C Fairlamb
1991	R.C.G. Cleasby; M. Darroch and V. Duschmanitch
1992	A. Myburgh
1993	B. Bester and S. Kelembe
1994	W.E. Helm and J. van Zyl
1995	D.N. Thompson and M.C. Lyne
1996	J.F. Kirsten, C.J. van Rooyen, S. Ngqangweni
1997	J.B. Eckert, G.F. Liebenberg and D.P. Troskie
1998	W.T. Nell
1999	A.W. Graham and M.C. Lyne
2000	M.F. Viljoen, N.J. Dudley & E. Gakpo
2001	F.W. Agbola
2002	P.A. Hardman, M.A.G. Darroch and G.F. Ortmann, Evaluating potential investment in the pink lady apple variety under uncertainty and irreversibility.
2003	Adrian T Wynne, Collective action and institutional efficiency: a survey of poultry producers in KwaZulu-Natal
2004	SRD Ferrer and AK Semalulu, The impact of the LRAD programme on farmland redistribution in KwaZulu-Natal
2005	First prize: A. Mushunje, G. Fraser and A. Belete, Relative technical efficiency of cotton farmers in Manicaland Province of Zimbabwe.
	Second prize: T. Mushayanyama, Improving supply chain relationships for organic smallholder farmers: evidence from Ezemvelo farmers' organisation (EFO), Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa.
	Third prize: T. Fannin, S. Ferrer and P. Ndluvo, Tourists' preferences for Terrestrial Wildlife Photo-Tourism Product Attributes in South Africa
2006	First prize: D. Esterhuizen and C.J. van Rooyen Esterhuizen, D., Van Rooyen, C.J. & D'Haese, L., A framework for analysing the competitiveness of the South African agribusiness sector in a dynamic world.
	Second prize: Spies, D., Jooste, A., Kirsten, J.F., Gouse, M. and Vojtech, V. (2006). Calculation of the producer support estimate, consumer support estimate and total support estimate for South African agriculture.
2007	First prize: Michela Cutts, Sanri Reynolds, Ferdi Meyer and Nick Vink. Modelling long-term commodities: the development of a simulation model for the South African wine industry within a partial equilibrium framework
	Second prize: Darroch, MAG, Lee, RB and Ortmann, GF (2007). The economic impact of a rural land tax on selected commercial farms in KwaZulu-Natal.
	Third prize: Jordaan, H. and Grové, B. (2007). Factors affecting forward pricing behaviour: Implications of alternative regression model specifications. 45th Annual Conference of the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa, Johannesburg, 26–28 September 2007.

Table 27: Recipients of the Best Contributed Paper Award (continued)

Year	Recipient(s)
2008	First prize: E Mabaya, D Jordaan and Maletle, Attribute Preference and Willingness to Pay for Fortified Cereal Foods in Botswana
	Second prize: H Vermeulen, L Traub, F Meyer and H Schonfeldt, Implications of projected food price inflation on household food security
	Third prize: T Funke, PG Strauss and F Meyer, Modelling the impacts of the industrial biofuels strategy on the South African agricultural and biofuel subsector
2009	First prize: WN Floyd and MAG Darroch, Factors affecting the mortgage loan repayment status of new freehold growers in the KwaZulu-Natal sugar industry, South Africa
	Second prize: P Nganwa, M Lyne & S Ferrer, What will South Africa's new Cooperatives Act do for small producers? An analysis of three case studies in KwaZulu-Natal
	Third prize: ZG Alemu & AA Ogundeji, Price transmission in the South African food markets
2010	First prize: L. Traub, W. Myers, T. Jayne, F. Meyer, Measuring integration and efficiency in maize grain markets: the case of South Africa and Mozambique
	Second prize: J. Ricker-Gilbert, T. Jayne, What are the dynamic effects of fertilizer subsidies on household well-being? evidence from Malawi
	Third prize: M.W. Kamau, L. Mose, R. Fort, R. Ruben, The impact of certification on smallholder coffee farmers in Kenya: the case of UTZ certification program

5.5 Best Poster Paper at AEASA conference

This award is made for the best poster in the field of Agricultural Economics submitted to the Contributed Poster Session of the Annual Conference.

Table 28: Recipients of the Best Poster Award

Year	Recipient(s)
2002	T Tefera, JF Kirsten & S Perret, A case study on expansion of chat production as a cash crop in the Eastern Ethiopia highlands
2003	No award
2004	W. van Heerden and J. Kirsten, The possible impact of a property tax (land tax) on farm profitability in the Eastern Cape.
2005	First prize: A. Louw, J. Kirsten & H. Madevu, Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development, Securing small producer participation in a restructured agri-food system in South Africa
	Second prize: T.S. Mkhabela & J.K. Musango, Determinants of the choice of grape cultivars in the wine regions of South Africa
2006	First prize: Cecilia Punt: The impact of an increase in wine industry exports on the SA economy
	Second prize: N.H. Mabanda, Viljoen, M.F., Kundhlande, G. & Baiphethi M.N, Towards improving marketing efficiency for resource poor farmers applying the Infield rainwater harvesting technique (IRWH) in Thaba Nchu.
2007	First prize: Strydom, D.B. Taljaard P.R. and Willemse, B.J.
	Second prize: Bienabe, E. Kirsten, J.F. and Troskie, D.P.
2008	First prize: L. Musemwa, A. Mushunje and M. Chimanyo, Cattle marketing constraints and opportunities faced by beneficiaries of Nguni Cattle Improvement Programme in the Communal areas of Eastern Cape Province
	Second prize: A. A Ogundeji, Mbai, S. & H. D. van Schalkwyk, Impact of policy intervention on the Commercial Dorper sheep industry of Mariental district in Southern Namibia



Table 28: Recipients of the Best Poster Award (continued)

Year	Recipient(s)
2009	First prize: C Haankuku & J Kirsten, Improving agricultural competitiveness through priority setting of crop research investments: lessons from Zambia
	Second prize: RM Mamphiswana, SF Phaldadi, The role of mentorship towards promoting the sustainability & competitiveness of emerging farmers: a case study
2010	First prize: K Nhundu, A Mushunje, Analysis of irrigation development post fast-track land reform programme: A case study of Goromonzi District, Mashonaland East province, Zimbabwe
	Second prize: BK Langat, Household food security in commercialized subsistence economies: factors influencing dietary diversity of smallholder tea farmers in Nandi South, Kenya

5.6 Best student essay

The purpose of this award is to recognise and profile the work of outstanding young professionals where this contributes to the advancement of debate or empirical understanding of any of the areas of agricultural economics.

This award is made to any undergraduate, honours or other first year postgraduate student doing coursework in Agricultural Economics at any South African University entering the competition in the year of enrolment or the subsequent year.

Table 29: Recipients of the Best Student Essay Award

Year	Recipient(s)
2002	M Wright, Tariff determination of South African game reserves using the hedonic pricing model. University of KwaZulu-Natal
2003	GRL Finnemore, Estimating Beta Coefficients and the required rate of return for selected agribusiness shares in South Africa, 1997 – 2001. University of KwaZulu-Natal
2004	C. Machingura, Effects of globalization on agriculture in developing countries. University of Fort Hare
2005	First prize: Machingura C, The arguments in favour and against Genetically Modified Organisms with special reference to the effects on South Africa. University of Fort Hare
	Second prize: Van Wyk, D, The economical impact of foetal programming in small ruminants. University of the Free State
2006	First prize: T Dengu
	Second prize: D. Van Wyk
2007	First prize: Browne, M.
	Second prize: Musemwa, L.
2008	FA Marais, Soil fertility: Can smallholders improve it economically with poultry manure? University of the Free State



CHAPTER SIX

International Association of Agricultural Economists

6.1 Origin of IAAE

The International Association of Agricultural Economists grew out of a conference hosted by Leonard Elmhirst at his home in Dartington Hall, Devon, England in late August and early September 1929. Fifty agricultural economists from 11 countries attended. There were representatives from Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Trinidad, the United Kingdom and the United States. One of the delegates from the USA was George Wallace, later Secretary of Agriculture, Vice-President of the USA and the founder of Pioneer Seeds. Those present felt they had gained so much in improved understanding of both the differences and commonalities in the problems they faced in research and teaching that they resolved to find ways to increase their contacts and promote greater understanding among themselves and their colleagues.

6.2 Objectives

The objectives of the IAAE are to:

- Foster the application of agricultural economics to improve rural economic and social conditions;
- Advance knowledge of agriculture’s economic organisation;
- Facilitate communication and information exchange among those concerned with rural welfare.

6.3 Achievements

The premier event in the IAAE Calendar is the tri-annual conference. The IAAE has been able to foster and promote contact from professionals from different countries and this is probably its biggest achievement. More is often gained from private discussions with colleagues than from attending sessions.

6.4 South African participation

Decades before the launching of AEASA, several South Africans attended conferences or were members of the IAAE, as listed below:

Year	Conference	Venue	Attendance	South Africa
1929	1st	Totnes, Devon, UK	50	A.J. Beyleveld W.J. Lamont
1930	2nd	Ithaca, New York, USA	300	F.E. Geldenhuys H.S. Stoker
1934	3rd	Bad Eilsen, Germany	170	None
1936	4th	St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland, UK	219	Unknown



Table 30: South African attendance at IAAE Conferences (continued)

Year	Conference	Venue	Attendance	South Africa
1938	5th	St. Anne de Bellevue, Canada	510	H.D. Leppan A.P. van der Post A.J. Beyleveld F.E. Geldenhuys J.P.W. Groskopf H.M. Stoker
* 1939-1945 Second World War				
1947	6th	Totnes, Devon, UK	82	A.J. Beyleveld F.E. Geldenhuys
1949	7th	Stresa, Italy	271	None
1952	8th	Michigan State College, East Lansing, USA	340	E de Vries
1955	9th	Helsinki, Finland	364	I.J. Craib
1958	10th	Mysore, India	350	J.M. Quirion
1961	11th	Cuernavaca, Mexico	485	None
1964	12th	Lyon, France	562	S.J.J. de Swardt J.C. Strydom
1967	13th	Sydney, Australia	501	W.E. Kassier D.J.G. Smith
1970	14th	Minsk, USSR	685	None. AEASA nominated F.R. Tomlinson, S.P. van Wyk and H.I. Behrmann to attend but visas were refused by the USSR.
1973	15th	São Paulo, Brazil	695	H.I. Behrmann N.H. Freaan J.R. Hudson J.A. Groenewald
1976	16th	Nairobi, Kenya	656	None
1979	17th	Banff, Canada	795	G.C. Antrobus T.I. Fényes J.R. Hudson R.F. Bates W.L. Nieuwoudt H.I. Behrmann
1982	18th	Jakarta, Indonesia	480	SA visas were refused. Contributed papers by H.I. Behrmann and W.L. Nieuwoudt were accepted. Behrmann's paper was read by J.B. Eckert.
1985	19th	Málaga, Spain	823	J.A. Groenewald T.I. Fényes C.J. van Rooyen W.L. Nieuwoudt H.I. Behrmann D. Joubert



Table 30: South African attendance at IAAE Conferences (continued)

Year	Conference	Venue	Attendance	South Africa
1988	20th	Buenos Aires, Argentina	759	Gavin Fraser Jacques Basson Ian Behrmann Tim Bembridge Tommy Fényes Nick Vink Nick Christodoulou Luther Sibisi M. Lyster Johan van Rooyen Johan van Zyl Richard Bates Thys van Reenen Deon Joubert John Erskine
1991	21st	Tokyo, Japan	908	J.A. Groenewald J. van Zyl C.J. van Rooyen T.I. Fényes A van der Vyver W.L. Nieuwoudt J. Erskine C. McKenzie M. Lyster
1994	22nd	Harare, Zimbabwe	573	Attended by 32 AEASA members
1997	23rd	Sacramento, California, USA	781	Attended by 11 AEASA members
2000	24th	Berlin, Germany	951	Attended by 16 AEASA members
2003	25th	Durban, South Africa	809	Attended by 118 AEASA members
2006	26th	Gold Coast, Australia	987	Attended by 32 AEASA members
2009	27th	Beijing, P.R. China	903	Attended by 14 AEASA members

Prof Tommy Fényes attended all IAAE conferences between the meeting in Banff, Canada, in 1979 and the meeting in Durban in 2003, with the exception of the 1982 conference in Jakarta.

6.5 South African representation on IAAE

None of the pioneer participants in the IAAE from its inception in 1929 until the formation of AEASA is alive today. We honour them for their foresight and efforts to foster the development of agricultural economics in South Africa. Several of them occupied senior positions in academic and professional leadership of South African agriculture.

The achievements of the IAAE must be seen in the light of its three objectives. In the objectives the words FOSTER, ADVANCE and FACILITATE are used and the IAAE clearly sees itself not as a lobby group but to promote contact amongst members of different countries. South Africans served in the following capacities on the IAAE:



Country representatives from South Africa

H.I. Behrmann 1975 - 1986

T.I Fényes 1986 – 2000

G. Backeberg: 2000 - 2009

IAAE Editorial Advisory Board of 'Agricultural Economics'

H.I. Behrmann 1985-1991

J. van Zyl 1991 - 1994

W.L. Nieuwoudt 1994 - 2000



South African participants in the IAAE conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1988. Kneeling from left to right: Tommy Fényes, Richard Bates, Nick Vink. Standing from left to right: Mark Lyster, Johan van Rooyen, Gavin Fraser, Luther Sibisi, John Erskine, Jacques Basson, Thys van Reenen, Ian Behrmann, Deon Joubert, Johan van Zyl.

During the Berlin conference in 2000 Johan van Zyl was elected to the Executive Committee of IAAE and Lieb Nieuwoudt was awarded Honorary Life membership.

Since the conference in Harare in 1994 South Africa had enough paid-up members of IAAE to ensure that South Africa had the maximum number of votes/representation (namely 4) on the council of IAAE. Together with the other countries on the African continent South Africa was an important force in the voting on the council.

Another important dimension of South African representation on IAAE was the election of Johann Kirsten to the position of Vice-president of IAAE at the conference in Australia in 2006. He served in this capacity between 2006 -2009 and was responsible for the conference programme for the 27th conference in Beijing, China in August 2009. The hosting of the conference in China was an historic milestone for IAAE in that it was the first time the conference was hosted in China after several past efforts.

Johann Kirsten proposed "The New Landscape of Global Agriculture" as the conference theme which provided an ideal opportunity for members of the IAAE to deal with the smorgasbord of challenges, new realities and dimensions of world agriculture. In an effort to renew the format of the conference the programme was designed to help facilitating breaking down the barriers that prevent inter-disciplinary work which is needed to deal with these more complex issues. With this in mind it was decided to depart from standard practice by inviting a number of keynote speakers outside the discipline of agricultural economics to speak at our conference. Of particular value to delegates was the opportunity to attend the plenary session in which Elinor Ostrom, who went on to jointly receive the Nobel Prize for Economics in October 2009, presented a paper on "Collective Action and the Commons".



South African participants at the IAAE Conference in Harare, 1994.

Based on past experiences the vice-president normally goes on to become the President of IAAE. However, at the 2009 meeting the constitution of IAAE was amended by doing away with the position of Vice-President (programme) and allocating the conference programme role to the President-elect. To facilitate this change and not to have the burden to organise yet another conference Johann Kirsten decided not to stand for the position of President-elect and this provided the opportunity for Jo Swinnen from University of Leuven in Belgium to be elected to that position. He will now develop the conference programme for the 2012 conference in Brazil and will become the President of IAAE in the 2012 – 2015 conference period.

6.6 The hosting of the 25th IAAE conference in South Africa

As is evident from the table above South Africa's involvement in the International Association of Agricultural Economists stretches back to the early years of the IAAE and South Africans attended most conferences since the very beginning, apart from the USSR in 1970 and Indonesia in 1982 where visas were refused during the apartheid years. The enthusiasm with which South Africans engaged in many of the IAAE meetings eventually led to the submission of a proposal to the IAAE council at the 1997 conference in Sacramento to stage the 2003 conference in South Africa. People like Johan van Rooyen, Johan van Zyl, Gerhard Backeberg and Tommy Fényes played an important role in convincing the IAAE that South Africa will be a good destination for the triennial meeting of IAAE. This idea was also well-supported by the agricultural economists in other African countries.

The dream of the Agricultural Economics fraternity of South Africa to host the IAAE conference on South African soil was then finally realized when the 25th conference was hosted in Durban between 16 and 22 August 2003. The choice of Durban was the result of the fact that by 2001 Durban was the only city in South Africa that had a big enough conference venue that could host the conference. The conference was made possible through the great effort of a number of people, such as Bongzi Njobe chair of the national steering committee and the co-chairs of the local organising committee, Johann Kirsten and Gerhard Coetzee. The generous support by the National Department of Agriculture, ABSA and the Land Bank ensured a successful and memorable conference.

AEASA also took an important initiative by publishing a book on South African agriculture, "The Challenge of Change" which was distributed to all delegates as a memento of the South African IAAE conference but at the same time it served as an overview of South African agriculture and its economic realities and policy challenges. This book was a collective effort by leading researchers in the Agricultural Economics profession in South Africa under the leadership of Lieb Nieuwoudt and Jan Groenewald. They did a tremendous job in lining up the authors and getting the copy proofread and edited in time for publication. Apart from serving as a memento for the conference this book also served as an important benchmark as it reviews policy and challenges in the agricultural sector.



CHAPTER SEVEN

The African Association of Agricultural Economists

The African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE) was established at its inaugural symposium on 6-8 December 2004 in Nairobi, Kenya and registered in Kenya on September 19, 2005. The Association was born out of a meeting among agricultural economists from the continent that was held in Durban in 2003, during the IAAE Conference that took place there. Willis Oluoch-Kosura was the main driver of this initiative, and he was rewarded by being elected the first President of the Association at the Nairobi symposium. The meeting brought together over 80 representatives of African universities, research and development institutions, business and the public sector from 24 countries in Africa and the rest of the world. The association has over 450 registered members working in over 100 subjects in agricultural and resource economics as well as in other social sciences, spread in over 24 African countries and the diaspora. Membership is open to all interested social scientists.

The key objectives of the AAAE are:

1. To improve liaison between agricultural economists with an interest in African issues at the regional and international levels;
2. To promote training, research, policy dialogue and interest in Agricultural Economics on the continent of Africa as envisaged in Article 3.
3. To contribute to broad-based rural development, poverty reduction, food security and sustainable use of natural resources in the continent of Africa.

The Association has hosted three conferences thus far:

1. The International Conference of the African Association of Agricultural Economists - Inaugural Symposium 6-8 December 2004, Nairobi – Kenya
2. 2nd International Conference of the African Association of Agricultural Economists, 20-22 August, 2007, Accra – Ghana
3. 3rd International Conference of the African Association of Agricultural Economists, 19-23 September 2010, Cape Town- South Africa

The Inaugural Symposium was held at the Grand Regency Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya, during 6-8 December 2004. Over 120 abstract submissions were received and the meeting was attended by over 90 representatives from African universities, research and development institutions, business and the public sector in 24 countries of Europe and Africa. The objective of the symposium was to mobilize agricultural economists and other social scientists throughout the continent by increasing their knowledge of other nations' challenges, promote mutual understanding and goodwill. Several scientists made presentations on six themes of interest to the association. The theme of the symposium was "Shaping the Future of African Agriculture for Development: The Role of Social Scientists". The symposium was conducted through plenary, panel and group presentations and discussions. A number of organizations also exhibited several scientific publications during the meeting. The meeting provided a convenient opportunity for exchange of ideas on improving the productivity of African agriculture.

The conference facilitated the official launching of the African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE). The association registered 83 new members who participated in the inaugural Annual General Meeting that elected a new Management Board as follows: Willis Oluoch-Kosura (President), Akin Adesina (Vice-President), Board Members: Isaac Minde (East and Central Africa), Egnonto Koffi-Tessio (West Africa), Johann Kirsten (Southern Africa), and Mohammed Moussaoui (North Africa).

The Third Conference, which was held jointly with AEASA, was also attended by the Executive of the International Association. The office-bearers of the three Associations, and the organising committee for this conference, which turned out to be the biggest AEASA conference ever, were as follows:

AAAE Executive 2007-2010

President:	Dr Akinwumi Adesina - President
Vice President	Prof Egnonto Koffi-Tessio
Past President	Prof Willis Oluoch-Kosura
Chief Editor, AfJARE	Prof Rashid Hassan
East & Central Africa	Dr Rose Nyikal
Western Africa	Prof Kwadwo Asenso-Okyere
Southern Africa	Dr Julius Mangishoni
Northern Africa	Dr Lassaad Lachaal

The Executive Committee of the IAAE

President:	Keijiro Otsuka
President-Elect:	Johan Swinnen
Past-President:	David R. Colman
Secretary-Treasurer:	Walter J. Armbruster
Member at Large:	Simeon Ehui
Member at Large:	Shenggen Fan
Member at Large:	Elisabeth Sadoulet
Editor-in-Chief:	Gerald Shively

The Management Committee of AEASA

President:	Ronald Ramabulana
Vice president:	Sheryl Hendriks
Past president:	Mohammad ASM Karaan
Secretary:	Thulasizwe Mkhabela
Additional member	Litha Magingxa,
Additional member	Dirk Troskie
Additional member	Niel Whitehead
Agrekon editor:	Prof N Vink
Newsletter editor:	Prof A Jooste

The Local Organising Committee:

Dirk Troskie (Western Cape Department of Agriculture - Convenor)
 Nick Vink (Stellenbosch University – Convenor: Academic Programme)
 Biyi Daramola (Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria – Academic Programme).
 Augustine Langyintuo (Agra-alliance – Academic Programme).
 Cecilia Punt (Stellenbosch University – Treasurer)
 Bongiswa Matoti (Western Cape Department of Agriculture – Intergovernmental liaison)
 Adri Esterhuyse (ABSA – Sponsors)
 Daneel Rossouw (Standard Bank – Sponsors)
 Porchia Adams (Agri Western Cape – Media liaison)
 Thandiswa Koyingana (Western Cape Department of Agriculture – Secretary)
 Caa-Nitah Anter (Western Cape Department of Agriculture – Secretary)



Presidents of the African (Dr Akin Adesina) and South African (Ronald Ramabulana) Associations at the 2010 Conference in Cape Town.



Ms Bongiswa Matoti

This conference was also attended by a delegation from the government of the People’s Republic of China, including Mr. Wang Guoliang, Deputy Director of the State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development, Mr. Fan Zengyu, Director General of the Foreign Capital Project Management Center under the State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development, Dr. Huang Chengwei, Deputy Director General of the International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC) as well as Deputy Director and Researcher for the Office of Post-disaster Reconstruction in Poor Villages, State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development (LGOP), China, and Mr. Liu Wenkui, Deputy Executive Director of the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation. This delegation arrived in Cape Town in the evening of 21 September, just in time for their plenary session the next morning. At the end of the session, they were whisked back to the airport for their return flight after having been in the country for less than 24 hours!

The new Executive of the AAAE, for the period 2010-2013 is provided in the Table below. Of course, the AAAE is proud that its second President, Dr Akin Adesina, was appointed Minister of Agriculture in the federal government of Nigeria in July 2011.

Table 31: The Executive of the AAAE

New AAAE Executive Committee Members: Cape Town, 2010			
Name	Title	Email	Telephone
1 Prof. Nick Vink	President	nv@sun.ac.za	+27-21-8084899
2 Dr. Akinwumi Adesina	Past President	AAdesina@agra-alliance.org	+254-734-699997 20-3750627
3 Dr. Juliana Rwelamira	Vice President	JRwelamira@vip.cgnet.com	+251-91-151 2555 11-647 7670
4 Dr. Rose Nyikal	Secretary/Treasurer	ranyikal@uonbi.ac.ke	+254 722 248405
5 Prof. Adebisi Daramola	Chief Editor – AfJARE	bijidaramola@futa.edu.ng	+234-803-333 0057 803 805 181 0060
6 Dr. Philip Nyangweso	East & Central Africa	Philoe2000@yahoo.com	+254-723-682487
7 Prof. Gbolagade Ayoola	West Africa	gbayoola@yahoo.com	+234-805-5211560
8 Dr. Moraka Makhura	Southern Africa	makhuram@yahoo.com	+27-82-2943835
9 Dr. Mustapha Joulli	North Africa	mjoulli@yahoo.fr	



CHAPTER EIGHT

The Simon Brand Memorial Address

Dr Simon Streicher Brand received the degrees BScAgric and DScAgric at the University of Pretoria, and his MA from Stanford University. In his academic career he was a lecturer in Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria, a senior lecturer in Economics at the University of South Africa, Professor and head of the Department of Economics, Rand Afrikaans University, 1970/73, and professor, School of Business Leadership, University of South Africa, 1984. In government service he was deputy director for economic planning to the economic adviser of the Prime Minister and deputy economic adviser to the Prime Minister, 1973/78, then economic adviser and later chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, 1978/80, and 1982/85. In 1983 he was appointed chief executive and chair of the Board of the Development Bank of Southern Africa. Dr Brand was an Honorary Member of AEASA. He had been instrumental, through sponsorship by DBSA, in affording the Association the opportunity to invite an overseas speaker to a number of conferences during the 1980s. These included well-known agricultural economists such as Prof. Glenn L Johnson, Prof. Luther Tweeten and Prof E Pasour. On 19 February 1992, shortly after his death, the Management Committee of AEASA decided that the principle address to the Annual Conference would be named after him in recognition of the major contribution that he had made to the discipline and to the Association.



Prof Simon Brand

Table 32: The Simon Brand Memorial Lecturers, 1992 - 2011

1992	Prof Bruce Johnston, Stanford University, USA	Agriculture and structural change: are there historical lessons for South Africa?
1993	Prof Robert Thompson, Purdue University, USA	
1994	Dr Hans Binswanger, World Bank	Agricultural and rural development: painful lessons
1995	Prof Doug Graham, Ohio State University, USA	Sustainable financial services for the rural poor: a challenge for the agricultural economics profession
1996	Prof Günter Schmitt, University of Göttingen, Germany	The transition of Eastern Europe agriculture: The challenge for agricultural economists
1997	Prof Gavin Maasdorp, University of Natal, South Africa	The impact of regional integration on South African agriculture
1998	Dr Doug Hedley, AGRI CANADA and President of the IAAE	Global challenges: local issues



Table 32: The Simon Brand Memorial Lecturers, 1992 - 2011 (continued)

1999	Dr Alex Duncan, Oxford Policy Management, UK	Throwing light on cats in the dark: Agricultural economists and the policy agenda in South Africa
2000	Prof D.M. Kohl, Virginia Tech, USA	Global trends, changes, and implications to South African Finance
2001	Dr Conrad Strauss, Chair Standard Bank Group, South Africa	The changing world of agriculture: Domestic and international challenges
2002	Prof G Edward Schuh, University of Minnesota, USA	Can lagging countries catch up?
2003	Prof Oliver Williamson, UC Berkeley, USA	Transaction cost economics and agriculture: an excursion
2004	Prof Jo Swinnen, KU Leuven, Belgium	Agricultural transformation: lessons from experience
2005	Dr S Were Omamo, IFPRI	Institutional economics as a theoretical framework for transformation in agriculture
2006	Dr Eleni Gabre-Madhin, IFPRI	
2007	Prof Kym Anderson, University of Adelaide and World Bank	Distortions in farmer prices since the 1950s: South Africa in international perspective
2008	Dr. Carlos da Silva, FAO	Enabling environments for agribusiness and agro-industries development in Southern Africa
2009	Prof Claudia Parliament, University of Minnesota, USA	Economic education: path to a vibrant future
2010	Prof Karl Storchmann, Whitman College, USA	Wine Economics: the emergence of a new discipline?
2011	Prof Colin Thirtle, Imperial College, London	Theory, Measurement, Policy and Politics in Agricultural Production Economics

07/28/92

CONTACT: Stanford University News Service (415) 723-2558
Johnston to give inaugural Brand address

STANFORD -- Bruce F. Johnston, professor emeritus at Stanford University's Food Research Institute, has been invited to deliver the first Simon Brand Memorial Address at the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa's annual conference. The conference is scheduled for Sept. 17 at the Mount Aux Source Hotel, Drakensberg Natal Mountains. Johnston's address, "Agriculture and Structural Change: Are There Historical Lessons for South Africa?" compares agricultural strategies in the United States, Japan, Taiwan and Mexico.

Brand, an eminent South African economist and chief executive and chairman of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, died in Pretoria on Jan. 23, 1992. He earned a master's degree at Stanford's Food Research Institute in 1962 and a doctorate in agricultural science at the University of Pretoria in 1969. A longtime opponent of apartheid, Brand worked within the system to change it, commanding respect across the political spectrum. He was economic adviser to three government administrations and also worked with the African National Congress. While in remission from the cancer he battled for two years, Brand represented South Africa at the annual meeting of the World Bank in Thailand. Brand visited Stanford last fall with his wife, Carolina, presenting a seminar sponsored by the Food Research Institute and the African Studies Association.

Johnston has been with the Food Research Institute since 1954. He has been author or co-author of books including *Agricultural Change in Tropical Africa* and *Redesigning Rural Development*. He was selected as a fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association in 1985.

<http://news.stanford.edu/pr/92/920728Arc2130.html>

CHAPTER NINE

The F R Tomlinson Commemorative Lecture

During the 1980s members of AEASA such as Johan van Rooyen and Gerhard Backeberg and others took the bold step to initiate an annual memorial lecture in the name of the first president of AEASA and doyen of the agricultural economics establishment in South Africa, Prof. F.R. Tomlinson. Theo Potgieter obtained a sponsorship from Standard Bank for a set of 10 commemorative medals, which was repeated in later years.

Frederick Rothman Tomlinson was born on 21 October 1908 in Swellendam where he also attended his first 10 years at school. He completed his high school career in Stellenbosch and then enrolled for a BScAgric degree at the University of Stellenbosch. He obtained the MScAgric degree with specialisation in agricultural economics in 1929 – the first time such a degree was awarded at a South African university. In 1933 he obtained the PhD degree in agricultural economics at Cornell University under George Warren. Later, in 1937, he also obtained the DSc (Agric) at the University of Pretoria. The honorary degrees DSc(Agric) (honores causa) were conferred upon him by the Universities of Pretoria, Orange Free State and Stellenbosch in 1975, 1984 and 1986 respectively. In 1957, the South African Academy of Science and Arts awarded him the Havenga Prize for Economics, and in 1968 the University of Stellenbosch awarded him with an Address “in acknowledgement of the outstanding contributions to the advancement of the agricultural industry in general and higher agricultural education and research in particular”. The Fertiliser Society of South Africa awarded him a gold medal in 1972. Honorary membership of the South African Society for Agricultural Extension (1972) and the Agricultural Economics Association of Southern Africa (1978) followed. The most important, however, was the Decoration for Meritorious Service awarded to him by the State President in 1985.

His career took him from a lecturer at Stellenbosch University to an economist at the Division of Economics and Markets in the Department of Agriculture until end 1938. Between 1938 and 1973 he was professor, and later associate professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria. Between 1955 and 1973 he simultaneously filled the posts, first of Assistant Director and later, Director of the Transvaal Region of the Department of Agricultural Technical Services. Professor Tomlinson was also member or chairman of at least twelve Commissions or Committees of Inquiry. The most important of these were the Commission of Inquiry into Socio-economic Development of the Bantu Areas within the Union of South Africa (the so-called Tomlinson Commission) (1955), the Commission on Smallholdings (1957) and the Interdepartmental Study Committee on the Use of Agricultural Land (1968). Many important recommendations contained in the report of the Tomlinson Commission were not implemented by the government of the time. Prof Tomlinson emphasised the need for agricultural development and argued that agriculture should play an important role in the development process. He also clashed with Dr Verwoerd, because the latter refused to allow “white” capital investment in the “homelands”. In a sense the work of this commission also introduced agricultural economics in South Africa to the important task of agricultural development.

Professor Tomlinson was also author and co-author of 15 scientific bulletins, 32 scientific journal articles, 5 chapters in books and 12 popular scientific articles. He delivered numerous scientific conference papers,



Prof FR Tomlinson



The Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa



and was promoter or co-promoter for 23 doctoral, and supervisor or co-supervisor for 18 masters' degree graduates. He served on the Council of the University of Pretoria for 6 years.

Prof Tomlinson was like a father to many agricultural economists. His enthusiasm for agricultural economics as a discipline knew no bounds. His influence stretched through the whole of the agricultural sector and he was recognised for his hard work and innovative ideas. Professor Tomlinson was a driving force in the foundation of the AEASA in 1961, acted as chairman of the association for the first 6 years and as honorary president for the next two years. It is rather fitting that since 1986 the AEASA has offered an annual F.R. Tomlinson Commemorative lecture as a special prestige event, during which the lecturer receives the F.R. Tomlinson Commemorative Medal. Professor Tomlinson himself delivered the first commemorative lecture on 31 October 1986 in Pretoria. His lecture was preceded by presentations by 5 of his former post graduate students namely Dr D.J. Agenbach, Prof D.J.G. Smith; Mr S.P. van Wyk, Prof J.A. Groenewald and Dr S.S. Brand. This was also a unique occasion since three generations of Tomlinsons who had qualified as agricultural economists were present:

- Prof F.R. Tomlinson (1st degree in agricultural economics in 1929 at University of Stellenbosch)
- Mr F.R. Tomlinson – son (1st degree in agricultural economics in 1960 at University of Pretoria)
- Johann Kirsten – grandson of Prof Tomlinson and nephew of Mr Tomlinson (1st degree in agricultural economics in 1983 at University of Stellenbosch) – 54 years later!

Johann later followed in his grandfather's footsteps when he became Professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria in 1997. Prof Tomlinson died in 1991 and the AEASA is privileged and honoured to continue this tradition of honouring one of the fathers of agricultural economics in South Africa.

Table 33: List of F.R. Tomlinson Commemorative Lectures since 1986

1986	F.R. Tomlinson	
1987	H.S. Hattingh	
1988	S.P. van Wyk	
1989	W.E. Kassier	The agricultural economy of South Africa: quo vadis?
1990	J.A. Groenewald	Agricultural economics in search of relevance
1991	S.S. Brand	The agricultural economic legacy of FR Tomlinson
1993	W.L. Nieuwoudt	South African land reform: A policy evaluation
1995	T.I. Fényes	South Africa, Africa and the world: A political economy perspective
1996	D.J.G. Smith	F.R. Tomlinson : Mens en wetenskaplike
1997	A. Louw	The role of the agricultural economist in the finance sector - a challenge for the profession
1998	C.S. Blignaut	Die vak landbou ekonomie, landbou-ekonomiese navorsing, internasionale konsensies en plantgene bronne
1999	R. Hudson	The role of agricultural economics in agribusiness management
2000	C.J. van Rooyen	The dilemma of a contemporary agricultural economist: Will the real Professor Tomlinson please step forward!
2001	N. Vink	Small farmer research in South Africa: a survey
2002	M.F. Viljoen	Too much or too little water: research dedication and lessons for new generation agricultural economists
2003	G. Antrobus	Minimum farm wages
2004	G.R. Backeberg	Research management of water economics in agriculture – an open agenda
2005	G.F. Ortmann	Promoting the competitiveness of South African agriculture in a dynamic economic and political environment
2006	A.S.M.K. Karaan	Re-imagining a future for South African agriculture
2007	L.K. Oosthuizen	Economics education: aspirations and responsibilities of the profession
2008	J. van Zyl	On agricultural economics and the economics of agriculture – perspectives from a distance
2009	G. Fraser	How the leopard has changed its spots: past dynamics and future opportunities
2010	J.F. Kirsten	Agricultural economics scholarship in South Africa at the crossroads: is it time for a National Institute of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics?

CHAPTER TEN

Agrekon

Agrekon has been the mouthpiece of agricultural economists in South Africa since its inception in 1962. Agrekon was one of the pet projects of Mr S.J.J. de Swardt, Head of the Division of Economics and Markets in the Department of Agriculture for many years. He was a pioneer in agricultural economics research and education, and it was under his guidance that many a young graduate was sent overseas for post-graduate study, training and research.

The history of the journal's first twenty five years is expertly summarised by Wissing and Groenewald (1987) in their article: Agrekon: the first quarter-century. The first issue of Agrekon appeared in January 1962 with an editorial and an article by Mr S.J.J. de Swardt. According to De Swardt the aim of Agrekon was to spread information about the policy and actions of the Department, Control Boards and other organisations and also to act as an organ to publish research results to stimulate scientific debate. Wissing and Groenewald (1987) came to the conclusion that after 25 years Agrekon had achieved the status of a scientific publication. A contributory factor to the achievement of this status was the establishment of the SJJ de Swardt Agrekon Prize in 1972 to reward the author of the best article published in Agrekon.

In the first editorial, mention was made of the formation, in 1961, of AEASA. Ties between the association and Agrekon became stronger over time. Papers presented at conferences of AEASA were published in Agrekon from 1969 to 2002. Also, as AEASA did not have an official publication, Agrekon developed into one of the most important publication mediums for South African agricultural economists. At present, Agrekon can largely be regarded as a major barometer of the state of research and practice of agricultural economics in Southern Africa.

AEASA periodically looked into the possibilities of an own publication, but mainly due to the existence of Agrekon, this was not deemed financially feasible over the longer term. There was also a feeling among members that Agrekon was fulfilling an important function. However, the need for an independent publication increased as the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing's role in the general practice of agricultural economics in South Africa decreased. When the Department announced in 1989 that they were considering the privatisation of Agrekon, AEASA jumped at the opportunity. Here was a journal, already established as an important medium and barometer of the state of research and practice of agricultural economics in Southern Africa, with an international distribution and citation in a major abstract series (World Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Abstracts) that could be taken over with minimal teething and financial problems. By mutual agreement, Volume 28 of Agrekon was the last issue published by the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing. Starting from 1990 (Volume 29), Agrekon was officially published by the AEASA. This issue thus represented the beginning of a new era for Agrekon.

In their editorial the new editors (Van Zyl and Vink, 1990) wrote that the name Agrekon was Mr S.J.J. de Swardt's personal brainchild, and that it satisfied three considerations, namely it was brief, it described the content of the Journal and it was bilingual.

In taking over Agrekon at a time that professionals desks were already piled high with specialist and generalist literature, basic concepts of purpose, audience and content had to be clearly in evidence. In



general, Agrekon would from that time on be designed to serve the breadth of needs faced by the members of the Agricultural Economics Association of Southern Africa.

In attempting to serve this audience, the policy statement of Agrekon indicated three general areas of coverage to define the scope of interest of the members of AEASA, a statement of intent that still serves to guide the Editors of the Journal. First, Agrekon would cover disciplinary topics in economics applied to problems in the agricultural and food sector. Second, Agrekon would cover multi-disciplinary or subject matter topics that bring together relevant evidence and information about the food and agricultural sector. Third, Agrekon would publish articles dealing with problem solving in all aspects of the sector, including farm management, agricultural extension, marketing and market development and decision-making in farming, government, private enterprises and research institutions.

This last area of problem-solving research has always been a particular difficult one from which to obtain well-documented research and endeavour since many professionals involved in this work, even though they may have considerable training in agricultural economics, have little encouragement to publish. Often the results of their work are of a confidential nature or are thought by some to be less than 'scientific', but in most cases they have brought to bear the full range of skills they possess from several disciplines on problems with which their colleagues in other parts of Southern Africa are also struggling.

Agrekon thus actively sought, and still seeks, articles in all these areas to provide the readership, and especially the members of AEASA, with a balance across all regions of Southern African and across the three general areas of interest.

Numerous Editors have served Agrekon during its four decades of existence. In the first period, when the Journal was published by the Department, there was an Editorial Committee. In the Table below, the names of the Chair of this Committee as well as of the Editor are provided. It is also interesting to note that Prof JA Groenewald started his service on the Editorial Committee with Volume 9 Number 2, i.e. in 1970, a position he held until the 'privatisation' of Agrekon. It is not known whether this coincided with the date on which he acquired the sartorial habit of the bow tie. Another interesting name is that of Ms AW Visagie, to date the only woman who has taken responsibility for Agrekon thus far.



*Prof Nick Vink
– Agrekon Editor
from 2002 – 2010
and President of the
African Association,
2010-2013.*

Table 34: Agrekon editors

	Chair	Editor	Period
1(1) – 4(3)	C van der Merwe	HJ van Rensburg and O.E. Burger	1962-65
4(4) – 9(1)	AJ du Plessis	AJ Beyleveld	1965-70
9(2) – 11(4)	AJ du Plessis	GJ Wissing	
12(1) – 14(3)	SAD van Schalkwyk	GJ Wissing	
14(4) – 16(2)	SJ van N du Toit	GJ Wissing	
16(3) – 16(4)	WJ Treurnicht	GJ Wissing	
17(1) – 20(3)	IS Geldenhuys	GJ Wissing	
21(1) – 25(3)	HS Hattingh	GJ Wissing	
26(1) – 26(3)	CS Blignaut	AW Visagie	
27(1) – 28(3)	JSG Joubert	AW Visagie	
29(1) – 32(4)		J van Zyl and N Vink	1990-91
33(1) – 36(4)		JA Groenewald	1992-97
37(1) – 40(4)		TI Fényes	1998-01
41(1) – 49(4)		N Vink	2002 -2010
50(1)-		A Jooste	2011-



In 2010 Agrekon entered yet another new era. While the Journal was already incorporated on the IBSS list, it also gained inclusion on the extended list of the ISI in that year, and later in the year responsibility for publication was taken over by Taylor and Francis, the publishing house founded in 1798, and now a subsidiary of Routledge. While T&F are based in the UK, they have entered into a partnership with Unisa Press, thus giving the Journal the global reach that AEASA seeks. Although there have been teething problems, the new Editor has taken up the challenge of raising the profile of Agrekon, especially on the African continent.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

The Prof BD (Bax) Nomvete Bursary Trust Fund*

A new flagship project of AEASA is the Prof BD Nomvete Bursary Trust Fund. Professor Bax D. Nomvete was an internationally recognised economist, diplomat and policy-maker. His contribution to African development included appointment to the United Nations Economic Mission for Africa (UNECA) where his responsibilities included the promotion of multinational negotiations for the establishment of African sub-regional groupings, and supervision of the Economic Commission for Africa Directors in the North, West, Central, East and Southern Africa sub-regions. Prior to his retirement at the end of 1990, Prof. Nomvete served a seven-year term as Secretary General of the Preferential Trade Area of Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) now the Common Market for Eastern and Southern African States (COMESA).



Prof. BD Nomvete

After his retirement, Prof. Nomvete established the Africa Institute for Policy Analysis and Economic Integration, and served as its Executive Director. He was also a member of the Economic Policy Study Group (EPSG), Facilitator/Secretary of the Forum for Historically Disadvantaged Universities (HDU's) and Historically Disadvantaged Technikons (HDT's), Chairman of the Black Business Development Forum for the Western Cape and Chair of an Economic think-tank of the Black Business Caucus.

He was widely acknowledged for these roles through a number of awards and appointments including:

- September 1981 - Gold Mercury Medal International Award for outstanding contribution to the promotion of African economic co-operation.
- April 1983 - ECA Silver Jubilee Anniversary Service Award for Valuable Service.
- February 1986 - Order of Merit from the President of Gabon for his contribution to the establishment of the Economic Community of Central African States.
- May 1991 - Order of Merit of Distinguished Service, First Division, by the President of Zambia and Chairman of the Front-line States, in recognition of the successful establishment of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) and for the promotion and creation of a sub-regional Common Market and an Economic Community in the sub-region.
- April 1992 - Degree of Doctor of Economics (Honoris Causa), University of Natal, South Africa.
- December 1993 - Appointed Professor Extraordinaire (Economics), University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Around the time that Prof Nomvete passed away in 2000, a decision was made to terminate the annual agricultural outlook conference known as AGROCON (LANVOKON), of which AEASA was a partner. AEASA was eligible for share of liquidation funds. Professors Jan Groenewald and Giel Viljoen submitted a

*Prof Giel Viljoen and Dr Moraka Makhwa are thanked for their valuable contributions to this chapter.

proposal to AEASA in 2001/2002 to establish a Bursary Trust Fund with the funds and to name the Fund in honour of Prof Nomvete's role in South African and African agricultural economics and policy making. A proposal for the Fund was actively discussed at AGMs and Management Committee Meetings until a proposal for the establishment of the the Fund was drafted. Naming the Fund in honour of Prof Nomvete was proposed for three reasons. First, Professor Nomvete worked extensively with agricultural economists in South Africa in developing an understanding of democratisation of South African agriculture. Secondly, AEASA's two memorial lectures are named in honour of South Africans (FR Tomlinson and Simon Brand) who made significant contributions to earlier South African national policy. Changes in the demographic profile of AEASA members raised the importance of recognising an African Agricultural Economist. Thirdly, Prof Nomevete was a South African scholar respected internationally for his role in African economic development.

Under the Presidency of Professor Giel Viljoen, the Management Committee was tasked to define the purpose and objectives of the Fund, administration system, funding and fund raising, marketing and partnerships, target groups etc. The University of Free State Legal Services supported this process. ABSA Trusts was identified as Trust Administrator and helped draft the Trust Deed. The Bursary Fund was launched at the 2005 Annual Conference of AEASA at The Ranch, Polokwane. The launch was attended by Professor BD Nomvete's family and the MEC for Agriculture in Limpopo Province. The Trust Deed with Absa Trust was approved by the AGM at the 2006 Annual Conference. The first BD Nomvete Bursary Committee was appointed at the 2007 AEASA Annual Conference and consists of Prof. Giel Viljoen (Chair), Prof. Charles Machethe, Prof. Gerald Ortmann, Prof. Johan van Rooyen and Dr. Moraka Makhura. Prof. Giel Viljoen and Dr. Moraka Makhura were added as Trustees in 2009.

The Fund was established with surplus funds from the LANVOKON Conference (approximately R130 000) and boosted through surplus conference funds and a generous donation by the NAMC. The objective of the Bursary Fund is to provide bursaries towards completion of PhD degrees in Agricultural Economics or in an approved alternative related discipline. The first award/s will be made at the 2011 Annual Conference.

