



International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

CIGR

Newsletter Quarterly

Newsletter No. 108
December 2016

Since 1930
86 Years of CIGR

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Commission Internationale du Génie Rural (CIGR)
CIGR Website: <http://www.cigr.org/>

1. CIGR NEWS

Message from the President

The Presidium of CIGR (Incoming President, President and Past President) changes every two years: the Past President ends his/her term while the Incoming President begins the six-year term.

This year, Professor Da Wen Sun, who has led our association with great energy, ends his term in the Presidium. The formation of the International Academy of AABE

as well as organising the Congress in Beijing (2014) were his undoubted successes. His numerous visits to different countries and participation in scientific conferences contributed to the popularisation and promotion of CIGR. I would like to thank you warmly for your work and cooperation!

Our old friend and an active member of CIGR for many years, Professor Linus Opara begins now his work in the Presidium. I wish him still greater success – similar to so fine and important conference in Stellenbosch (October 2016) which he co-organised with ASABE.

In my cooperation with CIGR, first as the Chair of Technical Section V, and now as the President of CIGR, I had the honour to meet a number of extraordinary, magnificent Colleagues. I would like to mention some of them as my contacts with them are still so inspiring and important to my professional activities. These Colleagues include: Professor Bill Stout, Professor Axel Munack, Professor Soren Pedersen, Professor Fedro Zazueta, and – obviously – Professor Da Wen Sun. I have always noticed the pedantry and promptness in the work of Professor Peter Schulze Lammers, the long-term Secretary of CIGR, as well as the extraordinary friendliness of Toshinori Kimura. I also recall very nice contacts with Professor Irenilza Naas and Professor Luis Pereira.

All these Colleagues and Friends spontaneously, selflessly and enthusiastically devoted their time for the sake of our organisation. Mentioning them by name shows our recognition for the effort they put into the development of the agricultural and biosystem engineering throughout the world. I want to believe that they will continue to support our organisation even after they pass retirement age. As the current President of CIGR, I am proud of the opportunity to meet and cooperate with all of you.

Dear Friends all over the world: may this New Year 2017 be full of successes to You, Your Families, and to our Organisation.

*Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski
President of CIGR*



Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski

Farewell Message from CIGR Past President Da-Wen Sun

Dear CIGR Fellow Colleagues

It is my great honour and privilege to write this farewell message as the Past President of CIGR to our CIGR community. This will be the last time that I am communicating to you as a member of CIGR Presidium, as my CIGR Presidency will end in December this year.



Prof. Da-Wen Sun

When I look back how deeply and how much I have been involved in CIGR activities, I realised that it has been almost 20 years since my first involvement in CIGR in 1997. Then I served as the Secretary to the CIGR Working Group 1 for the harmonisation of agricultural engineering university curricula. In 1998, I became the Chairman of the CIGR Internet Service Working Group, leading to the development of early versions of our CIGR website. In 2002, I was elected Chair of CIGR Section VI on Postharvest Technology and Process Engineering, and served therein for 4 years. Since 2007, I have worked as CIGR WG Co-ordinator and member of the CIGR Executive Board. In 2010 in Quebec City at the 17th CIGR World Congress, I was elected as the CIGR Incoming President, and served as a member of the CIGR Presidium since 2011.

I am also delighted and very proud that my dedication and devotion to CIGR has been well recognised by the CIGR community. Together I have received three CIGR Merit Awards, one in 2000 in Japan, one in 2006 in Bonn, and a third one in 2016 in Aarhus. I was also presented with one CIGR recognition award in 2008, and the CIGR Fellow Award in 2010. I am happy to learn that many colleagues consider me as one of the best CIGR Presidents. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my dear CIGR colleagues for your kind support and guidance over the years. Without your support and guidance, I wouldn't be able to achieve so much.

Although my CIGR Presidency will end soon, my heart will always be with CIGR. From next year, I will focus my activities on our CIGR Academy, the International Academy of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (iAABE), which requires a lot of attention and care. I will certainly work hard to make it the most prominent and prestigious learned society in our field.

Once again thank you for your great support over the years. I will continue to serve you as the Founding President of iAABE now and in the future.

*Prof. Da-Wen Sun
Past President of CIGR*

Summarized Reports of CIGR Business held in Aarhus, Denmark, Stellenbosch, South Africa and other in 2016 from the Secretary General

Dear Colleagues

I am pleased to send you the CIGR Newsletter No.108 which is going to be published.

We had conducted the CIGR Business Meeting of Presidium (PM), Executive Board (EB) and Technical Board (TB) during the 4th CIGR International Conference - AgEng Conference-2016, Automation, Environment and Food Safety from 26 to 29 June 2016, Aarhus, Denmark. First of all, I congratulate everyone responsible for the great success of the conference. I was deeply impressed by the well-organized program and their hospitality. There were a lot of matters to be discussed in the business meetings in Aarhus. In addition, collaboration between CIGR and ASABE was discussed in Stellenbosch, South Africa. The Presidium members decided during a Skype meeting on 6 December 2016 that the XX CIGR World Congress 2022 will be held in Japan. The following are the highlights of the meeting:

Digested reports of CIGR Business Meetings at Aarhus University in Aarhus in June 2016

Presidium Meeting (PM): from 9:00 to 11:30 on 25 June, 2016

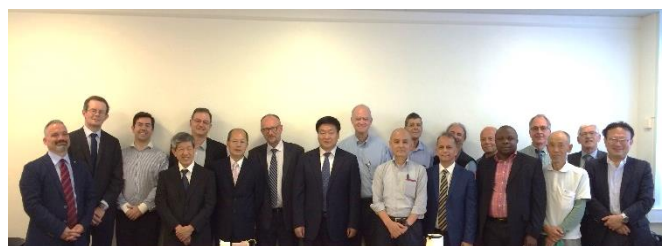
The 71st Executive Board (EB) meeting: from 15:00 to 18:00 on 25 June

Technical Board (TB) meeting: from 13:30 to 14:30 on 25 June

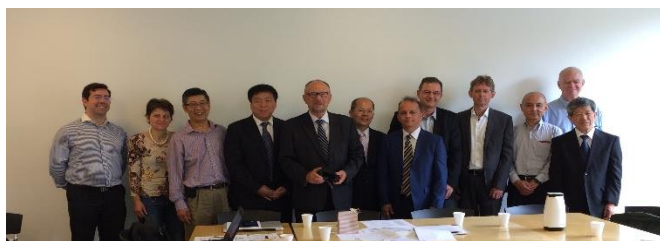
The 54th General assembly from 18:40 to 19:45 on 28 June
CIGR Award Ceremony: from 18:00 to 18:40 on 28 June



Prof. Mikio Umeda



71st Executive Board meeting



Technical Board meeting

CIGR Election 2016

The results of the CIGR election regarding the next Incoming President to serve from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2022 and the next Secretary General to serve from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2021 was reported by the Secretary General, Prof. Mikio Umeda in PM, EB and GA. The two candidates, Prof. Umezuruike Linus Opara (South Africa) for next Incoming President and Prof. Fedro S. Zazueta (USA) for next Secretary General were elected unanimously during the three meetings.

Introduction of the Next Incoming CIGR President

Prof. Umezuruike Linus Opara was elected as the Next Incoming CIGR President. He will start his tenure on 1 January, 2017. The Presidium Members expect him to exercise a strong leadership during his term, because of his long experiences and contributions at CIGR as shown in his Curriculum Vitae.



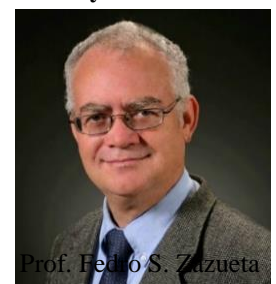
Prof. Umezuruike Linus Opara

Curriculum Vitae of Prof. Umezuruike Linus Opara

- He is currently Professor and the DST-NRF South African Research Chair in Postharvest Technology at Stellenbosch University, South Africa.
- He received his Doctorate Degree from Massey University, New Zealand.
- He received his Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (BEng, First Class Honours; MEng, *cum laude*)
- During the past 29 years, his career in agricultural and biosystems engineering has enabled him to hold various leadership positions in education, research and technology transfer in Africa, Australasia, Europe and the Middle East.
- He has been actively involved with the CIGR during the past 13 years, during which he has served as Secretary of CIGR Section VI, Chair of Section VI, a member of the CIGR Technical Board, Associate Editor of CIGR Journal, the convener of the 7th CIGR Section VI International Technical Symposium held in Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- He is the recipient of the CIGR Merit Award, CIGR Honorary Vice President, and CIGR Presidential Citation for outstanding contribution in promoting the ideals of CIGR in Africa.

Introduction of the Next CIGR Secretary General

Prof. Fedro S. Zazueta was elected as the Next CIGR Secretary General. He will start his tenure on 1 January, 2018. The Presidium Members expect him to exercise a strong leadership during his term from 2018 to 2021 because of his long experiences and contributions at CIGR as shown in his Curriculum Vitae.



Prof. Fedro S. Zazueta

Curriculum Vitae of Prof. Fedro S. Zazueta

- He is currently Professor of University of Florida, USA.
- He received his degree Ph.D. Agricultural Engineering from Colorado State University in 1982.
- He received his degrees M.S. Water Use and Conservation from Instituto Tecnológico y de Est. Sup. de Monterrey (ITESM) in 1977.
- He received his degrees B.S. Civil Engineering from ITESM in 1974.
- He is former President of CIGR (2011-2012) and Chair of CIGR Technical Section VII Information System. He has supported Editing CIGR Journal for long period.

2) Financial report for the year 2015 and budget for the year 2017

The positive result of CIGR finances was reported by the SG on behalf of CIGR Auditors which showed that the account processes in the financial report were done clearly and properly. The financial report was accepted in EB and GA. The budget for 2016 amounting to 27,000 EUR including a contingency fund amounting to 7,000 EUR was proposed by the SG. The budget proposal was also accepted in EB and GA.

3) CIGR Awards and Prizes for the year 2016

The Incoming President, Prof. Shujun Li who is the chair of CIGR Award Committee reported the results of nomination. Based on these results, 35 recipients in total received certificates or plaques during the Award Ceremony. Three recipients of the Armand Blanc Prize also received prize money amounting to 200 EUR each from CIGR. The recipient list is available in this Newsletter.

4) Establishment of New Working Groups

The establishments of two Working Groups, "Functional/Wellness Foods & Nutrition (FWFN)" and "Plant Factory and Intelligent Greenhouse (PFIG)" were reported in GA. It was approved unanimously.

5) Revision of CIGR Statutes

According to establishment of iAABE, Past President Prof. Da-Wen Sun (Chair of iAABE) proposed the revision of CIGR Statutes. New Article 17 "Affiliated body: The International Academy of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (iAABE)" will be added from 1 January 2017.

6) CIGR Bodies

The AAESEE (Association of Agricultural Engineers in South Eastern Europe) was dissolved and the AOC (the Association of Overseas Chinese Agricultural and Food Engineers) was withdrawn. The withdrawal of both associations are reported in EB and GA. It was approved unanimously.



Networking in the Cicus tent at 4th CIGR International Conference at Aarhus University



After Conference Tour at AU FOULUM Centre for Research in Food and Agriculture at Aarhus University

7) CIGR Technical Board Meeting

Report by section chairs

Section I: Main activity was the conference held in Uruguay with 550 participants. Conference attracted international attention. Main activity will be to organize the 4th conference in Cancun, Mexico in April.

Section II: Presented by the vice chair. The current chair and the vice chair will exchange positions. A glossary of definitions will be published. Will report on activity in the CIGR journal. Having issues with the number of reviewers. Will attempt to recruit reviewers.

Section III: Focused on reinforcing connections amongst professionals worldwide. Developed Next World Leaders document. Seeking to add new young members to the section.

Section IV: Supported three conferences. Organizing conference for next year. Seeking funds for a project supported by the EU.

Section V: Prof. Quendler representing Berruto. Organized CIOSTA conference in St Petersburg with 150 participants. The next conference will be held in Italy in June. Proceedings database are encouraged. Proposal for joint elearning development.

Section VI: Rosenthal. Main activity is organization of a symposium. This year a congress will be held in Brasil in October with 1500 participants expected. After Brasil meeting in Canada, Section has three very active working groups and has proposed a fourth one.

Section VII Collaborated with the EFITA meeting/WCCA. Started new work group. Discussion of the role of IT, as it is used by every section specifically on Section VII-, application and linkage to other sections. AFITA/WCCA 2016 was also a venue for collaboration.

The president thanked each member of the section for their contributions to the organization. *Requested a short written report from each section for future inclusion in the newsletter.*

Working Groups report

Prof. Zazueta reported on behalf of Dr. Banhazi, whose report will be sent via email by the SG. *Asked for each section to request at their meeting today feedback on mechanisms to facilitate a collaboration platform amongst CIGR professionals and supports emerging professionals, uses the Academy to influence high level decision makers.*

New Working Groups

Functional/Wellness Foods & Nutrition and Plant Factory and Intelligent Greenhouses were approved by the Presidium.

Digested reports of the ASABE and CIGR Meeting on 24 October 2016 at Spier Wine Estate and Hotel in Stellenbosch, South Africa

in attendance: **ASABE**, Maynard M. Herron (President 2016-2017), Mary L. Wolfe (2015-2016), Stephan W. Searcy (2017-2018), Lalit R. Verma (2013-2014) and Darrin J. Drollinger (Executive Director),

CIGR, Tadeusz Juliszewski (President 2015-2016), Mikio Umeda (Secretary General), Umezurike L. Opara (Next Incoming President), Yoshisuke Kisida and Gajendra Singh



ASABE and CIGR Meeting in Stellenbosch

1) Promotion of the Global Initiative by CIGR web and Newsletter

2) Contact with Technical Sections of the CIGR for collaboration

3) Establishing the Working Group for collaboration between CIGR and ASABE - subject: Global Initiative

4) Common (CIGR & ASABE) Workshops

To identify the problems and issues with common interest, and work out the implementation measures, such as set up a working group to do the research project.

Aiming for the specific hot issues to hold a symposium and invite the researchers and engineers to discuss and exchange the research results and work out the solutions together.

Skype Presidium meeting on 6 December 2016

1) All Presidium Members voted for the Organisation of the CIGR World Congress 2022 for Japan.

2) Presidium Members were informed that Fedro Zazueta (ASABE) and Linus Opara (CIGR) are responsible for the cooperation between ASABE and CIGR at the Global Initiative of ASABE.

With best regards,

Prof. Mikio Umeda
Secretary General of CIGR

CIGR Awarding 2016

Conducted on 28 June, 2016 at 4th CIGR International Conference in Aarhus, Denmark

Award	Person	Reason
CIGR Honorary President	Prof. Da-Wen Sun	for his distinguished services during the period 2011-2016 as President of the International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (CIGR)
CIGR Merit Award	Prof. Da-Wen Sun	for his outstanding leadership in food engineering and his successful establishment of the International Academy of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (iAABE)
	Prof. Irenilza de Nääs	for her outstanding leadership in livestock housing and the significant impact of her career in the profession of agricultural engineering.
	Prof. Mikio Umeda	for his significant contributions throughout his life for the development of agricultural engineering in the world and his services as the Secretary General of CIGR
	Prof. Peter Schulze Lammers	for his long time support of CIGR activities and his contributions to the successful organisation of the 18th World Congress of CIGR
CIGR National/Regional Awards	Dr. Xiwen Luo	for his great contributions to the development and progression of China's agricultural engineering during his terms as the President of CSAM and the Vice-President of CSAE
CIGR Recognition	Prof. Agnieszka Wierzbicka	for her successful organisation of the 2nd CIGR Section VI Symposium in Poland in 2006
	Prof. Jose Blasco-Ivars	for his significant contributions to the CIGR Working Group on Image Analysis for Agricultural Products and Processes
	Dr. Dongxiao Sun Waterhouse	for her successful organisation of the 9th CIGR Section VI Symposium in New Zealand in 2015
	Prof. Vladimir Popov	for his successful organisation of the XXXVI CIOSTA and CIGR Section V Conference in Russia in 2015

	Dr. Majeed Safa	in recognition of his outstanding contributions as a Section Editor of CIGR Journal
	Dr. Gabor Zsivanovits	in recognition of his outstanding contributions as a Section Editor of CIGR Journal
	Dr. Fedro S. Zazueta Ranahan	for his long time guidance and support to the CIGR Journal
	Dr. Gerhard Schiefer	for his outstanding contributions to the development and in the areas of information systems and technology and agro-food supply chains
	Dr. Rhuano Soranz Ferrarezi	in recognition of his outstanding contributions as a Section Editor of CIGR Journal
	Dr. Álvaro Ramírez-Gómez	in recognition of his outstanding contributions as a Section Editor of CIGR Journal
	Dr. Samy Badr Khadr	in recognition of his outstanding contributions as a Section Editor of CIGR Journal
	Dr. Roberto Deboli	in recognition of his outstanding contributions as a Section Editor of CIGR Journal
CIGR Journal Prize 1st Prize	Arivazhagan, S., Shebiah, R.N., Ananthi, S., Vishnu Varthini, S.	For his contribution in the detection of unhealthy region of plant leaves and classification of plant leaf diseases using texture features Agricultural Engineering International: CIGR Journal 15 (1), pp. 211-217
CIGR Journal 2nd Prize	Mönch-Tegeder, M., Lemmer, A., Oechsner, H., Jungbluth, T.	Investigation of the methane potential of horse manure featured in Agricultural Engineering International: CIGR Journal 15 (2), pp. 161-172
CIGR Journal Prize 3rd Prize	Fadavi, A., Hassan-Beygi, S.R., Karimi, F.	Moisture dependent physical and mechanical properties of Syrjan region wild pistachio nut featured in Agricultural Engineering International: CIGR Journal 15 (2), pp. 221-230
	Mirzabe, A.H., Khazaei, J., Chegini, G.R., Gholami, O.	Some physical properties of almond nut and kernel and modeling dimensional properties featured in Agricultural Engineering International: CIGR Journal 15 (2), pp. 256-265
CIGR Armand Blanc Prize	Antonio Miranda-Fuentes	Development of airblast sprayers to improve pesticide applications in traditional olive canopies
	Teresa-Maria Schinabeck	Particle moisture distribution during drying and storage of grain analyzed by TD-NMR spectroscopy
	Jacob Høxbroe Jeppesen	Towards Data-Driven Precision Agriculture using Open Data and Open Source Software

iAABE News

iAABE Council Elected

The International Academy of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (iAABE) is pleased to announce the results of the election of the academy council as follows:

President:
Prof. Da-Wen Sun



President Elect:
Prof. Fedro Zazueta



Executive Councillor:

:Prof. Axel Munack, Prof. Bill Stout, Prof. U Linus Opara



Executive Secretary

The detail members list of iAABE is available in CIGR Website.

CIGR World Congresses and Internatinal Conferences, 2018–2022

The XIX CIGR World Congress 22-26 April 2018, Antalya, Turkey

During the CIGR General Assembly held in Valencia, Spain on 9 July 2012, Turkey was approved to host the XIX CIGR World Congress.

The Congress will be held on 22-26 April, 2018 in Antalya, Turkey.

The Organizing Committee is already preparing for the conduct of the said event.

For queries, you may send an email to Prof. Can Ertekin of Akdeniz University through email address ertekin@akdeniz.edu.tr.

The 5th CIGR International Conference 2020

Integrating Agriculture and Society through Engineering 14-17 June 2020, Quebec, Canada

During the CIGR General Assembly in Beijing, China on 17 September 2014, Quebec was approved to host the 5th CIGR International Conference.

The Conference will be held on 14-17 June, 2020 in Quebec, Canada.

Program overview

14 June (Sun): Registration and welcome reception

15 June (Mon): Opening ceremony, Technical sessions and Cruise on the St.-Lawrence River

16 June (Tue): Plenary session, Technical sessions and CIGR Awards Ceremony

17 June (Wed): Technical sessions and closing ceremony

Congress venue: The Quebec Convention Centre

For queries, you may send an email to the Organizer and/or Local Committee Chair at the following email addresses: stephane.godbout@irda.qc.ca

The XX CIGR World Congress 2022

During the 4th CIGR International Conference in Aarhus, Denmark, the Executive Board meeting on 25 June 2016 was suspended to decide in the host country and trust Presidium. At Skype Presidium meeting on 6 December 2016, Japan was approved to host the XX CIGR World Congress 2022.

2. NEWS FROM REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SOCIETIES

Summary Notes on Group 4: Agricultural Engineering in Africa: Past, present and future

Reported by Prof Jeff Smithers and Prof Linus Opara

Prof Linus Opara introduced the Pan African Society for Agricultural Engineering (PASAE) which was recently launched, with the acronym AfroAgEng.

AfroAgEng will be an umbrella society of professionals interested in the promotion and advancement of Agricultural Engineering in the African continent.

The objective of this forum was to learn from the experience and operations of continental and regional professional organizations.

Presentations on various professional societies in Africa, India, Asia and the USA were made.

The need for partnership, collaboration and networking in the African continent was noted and supported.

From the discussion, the following points were noted:

The need to create a viable financial base to launch AfroAgEng was emphasized and it was suggested that fees

generated from foundation members could be used to launch AfroAgEng.

It was also suggested that the involvement of national and regional societies would be gained by first involving individual members.

The discord between jobs and training on the African continent was raised and the need to involve youth in the AfroAgEng initiative was emphasized.

The need to identify potential members and direct marketing of AfroAgEng to these was recommended.

The need to ensure that AfroAgEng was a sustainable society was noted.

A web site for AfroAgEng has been created by President Opara.

A draft constitution and a membership application form for PASAE were distributed and input from delegates on the draft constitution was requested.

The need for a Pan African Society for Agricultural Engineering was supported and endorsed by delegates.

The meeting resolved to:

Request the South African Society of Agricultural Engineers (SAIAE) to provide administrative support and a secretariat for PASAE.

Arrange an inaugural conference for AfroAgEng in Nairobi, Kenya in 2017.

3. NEWS FROM SECTIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

Section I: Land and Water Environment

Activities in 2016

In 2016, the key activity of Section I was the involvement in the organization of the session on land, soil and water engineering of the CIGR International Conference in Aarhus, Denmark, 26-29 June 2016. The chairman of Section I, Gerrit J. Carsjens, was a member of the scientific committee of the conference. Several other board members were engaged as reviewers or chaired one of the oral sessions of the conference. The session on land, soil and water engineering included 18 oral presentations organized in three sub-sections, and 18 poster presentations. Furthermore, on 26 October 2016, the secretary of Section I, José Manuel Gonçalves, was invited to present an overview of Section I related research at the international seminar "Water harvesting and valorization systems" in Rabat, Morocco, at the invitation of the local organizer, ANAFIDE (Moroccan National Committee of CIGR).

The main upcoming event of Section I in 2017 is the 4th Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges in Cancun, Mexico, to be held from 22 to 25 May 2017. This conference is organized under the auspices of CIGR Section I, by the Mexican Graduate College (COLPOS), the Autonomous University of Chapingo (UACH), the National Institute of Forestry, Agriculture and Livestock (INIFAP), the Mexican Institute of Water Technology (IMTA), the National Water Commission (CONAGUA), the Mexican College on Natural Resources (COLMERN) and the National Association of Irrigation Engineers (ANEI). The main topic of the conference is sustainable innovation, taking into account the increasing globalization and the development of new and innovative technologies. Scientists from around the world are invited to participate and discuss the progress in sustainability and innovation that has been achieved to date to improve land productivity and irrigation efficiency. The conference is expected to attract 300-400 participants, especially from Latin-American countries. The call for abstracts is open from September 1, 2016. For more information please visit the conference website www.cigr-mexico.org.



Dr Gerrit J. Carsjens
Chair of CIGR Section I

*Dr Gerrit J. Carsjens
Chair of CIGR Section I*

Section II: Structures and Environment

Activities in 2016

CIGR Section II is a worldwide information platform and task force dealing with issues related to "Engineering for Structures and Environment". It provides and distribute information, organize, coordinate and co-organize activities,

such as working groups, conferences, etc. with strong emphasis of encouraging the involvement of young scientists. The working groups "Animal housing in hot climates" and "Cattle housing" are coordinated in Section II. The idea to launch a new working group on sensors arose in the last meeting in Aarhus (Denmark) to be developed in collaboration with other CIGR Technical Sections. A workshop of the CIGR Section II working group on "Animal housing in hot climates" will be included within the program of the 8th European Conference on Precision Livestock Farming (EC-PLF) which will be held in Nantes (France) from 12 to 14 September 2017. The next annual meeting of the CIGR-Section II will be held there. The outcome of several years of work of the members of the working group "Cattle housing" can be found in the report "The design of Dairy Cow and Replacement Heifer Housing", available through the CIGR website (http://www.cigr.org/News-And-Events/announcements-arc_hive.php). It combines many scientific data and expertise of the members of this working group in many aspects of cattle housing.



Álvaro Ramírez-Gómez
Chair of CIGR Section II

*Álvaro Ramírez-Gómez
Chair of CIGR Section II*

Section III: Plant Production

Activities in 2016

Section III had 5 technical sessions at the 2016 Aarhus conference.

Those sessions are

- 1) Automation technology for plant production equipment
- 2) Horticultural structures microclimate and design
- 3) Plant protection and use of chemicals
- 4) Mechanical spillage of agricultural product during growth and harvesting
- 5) Plant production systems that minimize emissions and leaching

There are already too many similar conferences with overlapping topics that Section III normally covers. It is very difficult to draw enough participants for any additional subject-specific conferences sponsored by the Section. It is strongly suggested that CIGR establish a standard procedure to co-sponsor subject-specific conferences with other non-traditional agricultural and biological engineering organizations, such as IFAC, IEEE and SAE. Our Section Board would like to put a request to the Secretary-General Office for improved internal



Prof. Qin Zhang
Chair of Section III

communication, and giving more reasonable advance notice to allow enough time for Section Boards in all upcoming activities. For example, the communication between the CIGR headquarters, the organization committee of 2016 international conference and the Section Technical Boards was not at a well-managed organization level (other than at individual levels with selected people, without the Section Board's involvement) on the planning process for the coming conference. Another example was that it was impossible for any of the board members to get approval from their institutes and obtain visas to attend the CIGR technical board meeting because the meeting notices were officially sent out less than one month from the meeting date. Also, it is very difficult for Section Technical Board to collect sufficient information from its members to present a comprehensive report to the CIGR headquarters.

Prof. Qin Zhang
Chair of Section III

Section IV: Energy in Agriculture

Activities in 2015-2016

CIGR Section IV was very active in 2015 and 2016. We supported the important Conferences related to Energy in Agriculture.

The Board Meetings in 2015 were held during "Sixth International Conference on Energy Efficiency and Agricultural Engineering" on 12 November 2015 in Ruse

Bulgaria, and during "Synergy International Conferences-Engineering, Agriculture and Green Industry Innovation" on 13 October 2015 in Gödöllő, Hungary.

The Board Meetings in 2016 were held during 3rd International Conference of Renewable Energy Sources held in Krynica, Poland in May 2016, and during the 4th CIGR International Conference on 26 June 2016, at Aarhus University in Aarhus, Denmark.

The Board Meetings in 2017 will be planned during the 3rd International Conference of Renewable Energy Sources in Krynica, Poland in May 2017, during the 37th International Congress on Mechanization and Energy in Agriculture", in İzmir-Turkey in May 2017, and during Synergy International Conferences in Gödöllő, Hungary, in October 2017.

Also, workshops on biogas or biomass pellet production techniques will be held in İzmir, Turkey at the beginning of 2017.

CIGR Section IV conducted the 2nd International Conference "Energy in Agriculture" on 4 and 6 July, 2016 at University of Warmia and Mzury in Olsztyn, Poland, and the Section IV board meeting was held on 5 July 2016.

Prof. R. Cengiz Akdeniz
Chair of Section IV

Section V: System Management

Activities in 2016

This report summarized the minutes of the meeting of section V of CIGR meeting on 26 June 2016 at Aarhus University, Denmark

Participant Members: R. Berruto, D. Bochtis, T. Juliszewski, E. Quendler, C.G. Sørensen, S. Shirokov,

CIGR proceeding database: the proceedings will be stored as one PDF of the volume of

each Dr. Remigio Berruto

CIOSTA-CIGR V congress papers, putting all the papers together to publish them on the database, one volume per conference. Additionally, it is necessary to make papers for the journal. Logistic working group: The WG was installed in 2012, in 2014 the group applied for a cost proposal, the idea was to get funding for this working group for traveling. An activity should be started in this group, details are discussed in the working group meeting. Joint e-learning material: the joint e-learning platform cannot be used out of charge as initially proposed. We must find a new common platform where we could put common material. Secretary: Need for a new Secretary, E. Quendler fulfill the 2 periods. If nobody takes it, she will finish it at least within the presidency of R. Berruto.

CIGR Journal: One solution would be to do special issues with some papers. The quality of some papers from developing countries is very low, expressed R. Berruto, so rejection rate is very high. But it will improve with the Thompson participation. Science direct can be another way, mentioned by D. Bochtis. At the moment CIGR Journal papers are in Scopus, even without impact factor, but citations and the quality of the paper are very important. To improve citation quota of journal papers, a group of people is needed that will have a dedicated strategy push to the journal to achieve high citations and paper quality.

XXXVIII CIOSTA-CIGR Section V Conference, 2019

E.D. Bochtis proposes Greece for CIOSTA 2019. It could be held in an island or in a big city. Islands are very beautiful, but the internet connection is not so good. Greece is not expensive which helps for getting participants. Moscow is also interested, mentioned by E. Quendler; it could be held there in 2021, since it was previously held in St. Petersburg in 2015.

Dr. Remigio Berruto
Chair of CIGR Se

Section VI: Bioprocesses

Activities in 2016

The CIGR Section VI has organized since 2004 its International Symposiums that have been hold in different countries of all continents, including China, Poland, Italy, Brazil, Germany, France, South Africa. The Symposium is already well known by the Agricultural and Food Engineering community worldwide and has achieved successful outcomes in the quality of the papers presented and number of participants. The Symposium used to be



Chair of CIGR
Section V



Prof. R. Cengiz Akdeniz
Chair of Section IV

organized every two years but in view of the great success and demand from different countries, it has more recently been organized once every year. Last year the event entitled "Creating Value from Bioresources through Novel Technologies" was organized in New Zealand at Massey University in Auckland and convened by Dr Dongxiao Sun Waterhouse from Auckland University. It attracted the presence of The Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of New Zealand, Dr Paul Goldsmith and Dr Steve Maharey (the Vice Chancellor of Massey University) in the opening ceremony. Over 125 abstracts from 16 countries were presented in the Symposium in New Zealand. This year the X CIGR Section VI Symposium is being organized in Brazil (24th to 27th October) together with the XXV Brazilian Congress of Food Science and Technology, the main event in the area in Brazil. About 1,500 participants are expected for the joint Congress in Brazil which will have the theme "Food: the Tree that Sustains Life" with the objective of promoting debates and new ideas for a more sustainable food production. Next year the Symposium will be held in August 2017 in Winnipeg, Canada, together with the Canadian Society for Bioengineering 2017 Annual General Meeting and Conference. Since its first editions a special issue with the best selected papers of the Symposium has been published in Food and Bioprocess Technology Journal, edited by Professor Da-Wen Sun, the former President of CIGR and current member of the CIGR Presidium. Some active members of the Section VI include Dr Shujun Li, the incoming President of CIGR, and Professor Linus Opara, the next incoming President who was recently elected. Some new members have just joined the Technical Board including Dr Dr. Akindele Alonge from Nigeria, Dr Eva Hernando from Spain and Dr. Franco Pedreschi from Chile. Regarding the contribution to the CIGR publications, according to the balance reported by the editor Dr Lanfang Zhang, the Section VI has been one of the top contributors to the CIGR Journal. Three CIGR Working Groups originated from Section VI that are very much related to its activities, including the Image Analysis Working Group, the Food Safety Working Group, and the recent approved the Functional/Wellness Foods & Nutrition Working Group.



Section VI Technical Board lunch time meeting during the 4th International Conference 2016 in Aarhus: Dr. Rosenthal, 3rd from left

*Dr Amauri ROSENTHAL
Chair of Section VI*

Summary of CIGR Working Group Activities in 2016

The CIGR Working Groups are important building blocks of the CIGR organisation. In order to further enhance the important role of CIGR, These are encouraged to:

- Increase their visibility and functionality in CIGR;
- Establish more close links with CIGR Sections;
- Sponsor or co-organiser relevant CIGR Section Symposiums;
- Organise WG national or international workshops;
- Publish CIGR Booklets/Handbook on WG area of interests;
- Organise Special Issues in their WG area for CIGR Journal;
- Conduct actively other relevant activities.



A/Prof. Thomas Banhazi
CIGR Working Group
Coordinator

Currently, there are 13 Working Groups in CIGR including 2 new WGs from 2016 and their activities are summarised below. It has to be recognised that a number of Working Groups are currently inactive. This inactivity should not be seen as something negative but should prompt the CIGR management team to **re-consider the need for some of these Working Groups.**

Earth Observation for Land and Water Engineering Working Group

An official email was received from the WG leadership informing me that the CIGR Working Group on Earth Observation for land and water management has not been active during the last 18 months.

Animal Housing in Hot Climate Working Group

No formal report has been received, but it is known that this group participated and managed a special session during the CIGR conference in Aarhus.

Rural Development and the Preservation of Cultural Heritages Working Group

This WG was quite active in 2016. We are still planning to develop a questionnaire on improving rural development and preservation of cultural heritage within south eastern European countries including Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Serbia and Turkey. Inquiry would be carried out in collaboration with farmers and extension service experts. The meeting of this WG was organized in 2016 during 44th symposium ATAE and we have had some interesting presentations like "Green energy and rural development-role of high education" delivered by Prof. Dr Milan Martinov from Serbia "Machinery induced compaction of agricultural soil and mitigation strategies in Danube region" presented by dr. sc. Gerhard Moitzi from Austria, Off-grid slaughterhouses: services and use of renewable energy in inner areas by M.E. Menconi and S. Dell' Anna from Italy, The katuns-rural buildings as a perspective of seasonal mountain settlements in Montenegro by I. Lakovic, S. Petkovic, D. Statuto and P. Picuno from Montenegro and "Biomass valorisation for energy uses and

Central European Initiative instruments to promote regional cooperation” by project manager Peter Canciani from Italy. At the Closing Session, the Convenor, dr.sc. Igor Kovacev, emphasized the role of EurAgEng and CIGR in the ecologically sustainable development of agriculture and in the preservation of the rural cultural heritage within the East-European countries.

Our plan for 2017 is to:

1. promote the idea of preservation of cultural heritages via rural development especially during an open debate as part of the 45th symposium of ATAE;
2. finalize the Enquiry Forms and disseminate it to executives of CIGR with idea to be approved for further activities; and
3. find candidates for new staff of the WG RDPCH.

Cattle Housing Working Group

Group meetings since 2007 (each time 3 days in July):

2007 –Switzerland (hosted by AgroScope)

2008 - United Kingdom (hosted by Harper Adams university college)

2009 – France (hosted by ISA Lille)

2010 – Canada (hosted by Laval University)

2011 – Austria (hosted by Raumberg Gumpenstein)

2012 – USA (hosted by Penn State University)

2013 – Italy (hosted by Bologna University)

2014 – Ireland (hosted by Teagasc)

2015 – Sweden (hosted by SLU – university)

2016 – meeting cancelled

Work plan 2017

Article: The group started writing a review article on “compost barns”. The objective is to finish the paper in early 2017.

Participation in congress: Members of the WG will participate at the “Livestock housing for the future” congress organized from February 22 to 24, 2017 in Lille (France). Four members will give talks (T. Norton, A. Herlin, M. Ventorp, J. Lensink).

Annual meeting: The annual meeting of the WG will take place in July 2017 in Gent (Belgium), organized by Suzy van Gansbeke, member of the group. We will be hosted by Flemish ministry of agriculture and will work on different documents, as well as visit farms and the ILVO research station.

Water Management and Information Systems Working Group

No formal report has been received

Agricultural Engineering University Curricula Harmonization Working Group

Not active in 2016

Rural Landscape Protection and Valorisation Working Group

No formal report has been received

Image Analysis for Agricultural Processes and Products Working Group

Activities in 2016

A new website has been developed that can be visited at <http://cigr-imageanalysis.com>. All information about the working group, including past and future events organized

by the working group and others closely related to our activities are listed. In addition, the articles presented in the workshops that have been organized by the working group from the past to the present are available for download in pdf format. Also, software and image databases are available for free download. The website is still under construction, but it is expected to be ready by the end of the year.

The major event organized by the WG in 2016 was the 6th International Workshop on Computer Image Analysis and Spectroscopy in Agriculture, held in Aarhus (Denmark), chaired by Dr Jose Blasco (Spain) as Special Parallel Conference under the International Conference on Agricultural Engineering CIGR-AgEng 2016. The workshop was a great success with one of its topics that had the highest attendance throughout the conference. We receive more than 70 submissions from over 25 countries and five continents.

The members of the governing board attending the workshop (Dr. Naoshi Kondo, Japan, Dr. Bosoon Park, USA, Dr. Victor Alchanatis, Israel, and Dr. José Blasco, Spain) met to decide the activities and policy for future workshops. We received offers that are now under study to celebrate the upcoming events in Korea, Colombia, Turkey, and as a joint event along with the next CIGR Section VI Technical Meeting. We agree to continue celebrating the workshop together with the next CIGR events and also promote our activities as CIGR WG in other regions of Latin America or Asia. We agreed with Dr. Kondo Noshi decision to move the workshop to Japan under his presidency from 2017 to 2019.

Food Safety Working Group

Food safety is a major public health and economic issue both for foods consumed within a country and those that are exported. The consumer’s response to food safety issues is of paramount importance to the competitiveness of international industry. Any evidence, or indeed belief, of a potential risk from food has the potential to result in severe health outbreaks and marketing disruption as well as loss of sales. High standards of food safety will, therefore, remain important and determinant for the consuming and producer countries. Technologies and processes that enable the production of safe products as well as appropriate management and analytical procedures are essential to meet the demands of a globalised and competitive world market.

Activities 2016

On the 28th October 2016, the FSWG has organized its third Workshop just after the 10th CIGR Section VI Symposium, which was organized together with the XXV Brazilian Congress of Food Science and Technology. The Workshop was organized together with the Food Safety Portfolio of Embrapa (Brazilian Corporation for Agriculture Research). The event gathered several researchers and professionals from the academe, institutes and companies to discuss the scenarios and trends related to food safety and to present research proposals to meet such demands and opportunities.

Logistics Working Group

There is a need to distribute agricultural products further in the chain to incorporate additional income in agricultural activities. This requires improved skills on logistics for farmers, both as new research or as a technology/knowledge transfer from other domains. Logistics plays an important

role in today's agriculture, in facing new challenges and opportunities. Some logistics techniques are available from the industry domain, but there is a need for adaptation (handling and storage of perishable produce, seasonal production and demand, timeliness constraints, food safety constraints on transportation) and some methodologies should be implemented *ex-novo*. Still, only a few researchers within CIGR work on this topic and there is a need to share information on methodologies and applications.

Activities (2016-2018) decided after Aarhus meeting

To organize within CIGR specific workshops on the topic for the next CIGR Congress in 2018. This will be made in the Flipped Classroom format.

To share knowledge and research done by members at the regional, national and international level related to logistics fields and topics. This platform is still under construction and will be available by the end of 2016. It will be made in Drupal.

To apply for an EU call to make training material on Agriculture and Agri-food logistics for researchers who want to start research in this field. (Done by end of 2018).

New Working Group from 2016

Functional/Wellness Foods and Nutrition (FWFN) Working Group.

Introduction:

Growing and aging global populations, increasing healthcare costs, global food security challenges, increasing consumer awareness of the relationship between diet and health, and consumer preference stimulate the transformation of traditional everyday foods into new category foods that promote nutritional well-being and reduce the effects of stress and disease. Terms such as "Functional Foods", "Wellness Foods", "Medical Foods" and "Health Foods" are now widely used to describe natural whole foods or processed foods that can provide additional and validated health-promoting, performance-enhancing or disease-preventing effects beyond the basic nutritional functions of the component nutrients upon consumption at efficacious levels as part of a regular diet.

Mission statements:

Promoting nutritional well-being through incorporating "functional/wellness foods" into a balanced diet and lifestyle is imperative to all populations. However, translating relevant scientific advances into real consumer products in the form of "functional/wellness foods" is highly challenging. Our vision is to establish a global Functional/Wellness Food & Nutrition platform, in which academic and industry professionals as well as consumers will have access to our scientific publications, information, products, services and activities related to functional/wellness food R&D and regulation. This requires us to engage in the following activities:

- Increase understanding of the specific role of individual bioactive components for their health-promoting, performance-improving or disease/illness-preventing function, as well as relevant metabolic kinetics, ethical or toxicological issues.
- Promote interactions among the dietary constituents in a single functional/wellness food, and the ultimate

contribution of such interactions to the overall efficacy of the whole diet.

- Support of consumer acceptance and biological availability of the physiologically active components in various functional/wellness foods based on individual physiological, metabolic, psychological, cultural and social differences.

- Raise awareness on the nutritional requirements for the modern populations who differ in age, physical state, behavior, lifestyle and genetics, and how functional/wellness foods satisfy the requirements of different populations.

Activities in 2016

Global Biotechnology Congress, 22-25 August 2016, Boston, USA (Conference President was Nobel Laureate Prof. Ferid Murad with Plenary Speakers including 4 Nobel Laureates). Dr. Dongxiao Sun-Waterhouse was an Invited Speaker and Track Chair of the "Pharmaceutical Biotechnology" Track (covering Biopharmaceuticals Discovery (CNS, cancer, cardiovascular, endocrine, immune, systems biology); Vaccines; Antibodies; Protein Engineering; Bioinformatics; Clinical Research/Clinical trials). Dr. Dongxiao Sun-Waterhouse's Invited Lecture topic was: "Achieving wellness through biotechnology solutions: The balance of efficacy and palatability". The Session Lectures presented by the FWFN WG members included: Dr. Teodoro Espinosa-Solares (topic "Evolution of antioxidants in capulin fruits during pre-harvest and harvest and the development of antioxidant microcapsule"), Dr. Yukiharu Ogawa (topic "Impact of biological grain attributes on *in vitro* digestibility of cooked rice"), and Dr. Margaret Barth (topic "Phytonutrient and bioactivity analysis of traditionally-used native American edible plants").

The 10th CIGR Section VI Symposium & the XXV Brazilian Congress on Food Science and Technology, 24-27 October 2016, Gramado, Brazil. Dr. Dongxiao Sun-Waterhouse officially introduced the FWFN WG during her one-hour Keynote Speech on "Functional foods for human well-being: Optimizing the interplay between individual bioactives and delivery matrices" and her 30-minute Panel Speech on "Functional Ingredients". The Vice Chair of FWFN WG Dr. Jozef Grochowicz also presented a Session Oral Presentation on "Current Status of Research on Functional Food in the Context of the Promotion of a Healthy Lifestyle in Poland and Europe".

Contact

Chair: Dr. Dongxiao Sun-Waterhouse (New Zealand and China; Email address: dxsun72@hotmail.com).

Vice-Chair: Dr. Jozef Grochowicz (Poland; Email address: jozef@jozefgrochowicz.com).

New Working Group from 2016

Plant Factory and Intelligent Greenhouse (PFIG) Working Group

Introduction:

To feed the growing world population, a dramatic improvement of land productivity and securing of stable food supply are strongly required. At the same time, demand for high value-added foods is also increasing. To respond to these demands, the importance of "plant factory and intelligent greenhouse" is being stressed. The plant

factory is a facility achieving an extremely steady plant production under fully controlled environmental condition without sunlight. The intelligent greenhouse is also equipped with an automated environmental control system and conducts year-round plant production under the sun. Currently, the computerized plant production based on the concept of Speaking Plant Approach (SPA), the optimization of cultivation conditions based on the plant biological and physiological status, attracts much attention -Plant Factory Conference 2017-” at Ehime University in Japan during 6-7th September 2017. All the information would be provided through the WG’s website.

Contact:

Chair: Dr. Hirokazu Fukuda (Associate Professor of Osaka Prefecture University, Japan)

E-mail: fukuda@bioinfo.osakafu-u.ac.jp

Vice-chair: Dr. Esteban José Baeza Romero (Wageningen UR, The Netherlands)

as an implementable key technology to achieve significant productivity improvement.

Activities in 2016-2017:

This WG was newly established in 2016. The website explaining our mission, objectives/aims, work plan, expected outcomes, and how to join this WG would be issued in November 2016. We are preparing to hold the world workshop entitled “Innovative but feasible technologies for plant factory and intelligent greenhouse Website:<https://www.wur.nl/nl/Personen/Esteban-EJ-Esteban-Baeza-Romero-PhD.htm>

Secretary: Dr. Kotaro Takayama (Associate Professor of Ehime University, Japan)

E-mail: takayama.kotaro.mk@ehime-u.ac.jp

Vice-secretary Dr. Noriko Takahashi (Senior Assistant Professor of Ehime University, Japan)

E-mail: takahashi.noriko.mm@ehime-u.ac.jp

*A/Prof. Thomas Banhazi
CIGR Working Group Coordinator*

4. CIGR SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

XXXVII CIOSTA & CIGR Section V Conference 2017

**Research and Innovation for the Sustainable
and Safe Management of Agricultural and
Forestry Systems**

13-15 June, 2017, Palermo, Italy

<http://www.aidic.it/ciosta2017/contacts.html>

The conference will be held at the Department of Agricultural and Forest Science of the University of Palermo and aims at promoting the exchange of knowledge on "Research and Innovation for the Sustainable and Safe management of agricultural and Forestry Systems", to improve the quality of human life.

For inquiries, you may send an email to the following heads of the Committee:

Prof. Pietro Catania, President: pietro.catania@unipa.it

Dr. Mariangela Vallone, Coordinator:

mariangela.vallone@unipa.it
Manuela Licciardello, Secretariat: ciosta2017@aidic.it

AIIA Biosystems Engineering addressing the Human Challenges of the 21st Century

5-8 July 2017, Bari, Italy

<http://www.cicsud.it/Public/Congressi/File/3announ.pdf>

The Italian Society of Agricultural Engineering (AIIA) invites you to participate to the 11th AIIA2017 Conference.

For inquiries, you may send an email to the following heads of the Committee:

Francesco Santoro, Organizer: francesco.santoro@uniba.it

Giacomo Scarascia Mugnozza, Chair of organizing

committee: giacomo.scarasciamugnozza@uniba.it

5. PUBLICATIONS

Agricultural Engineering International The CIGR Journal

**Prof. ZHANG Lanfang, Editor-in-Chief
ISSN 1682-1130**

**Submit manuscripts for peer review to
www.CIGRjournal.org**

From the June 11th to October 16th, 2016, the Editorial Office of CIGR Journal has continually been working hard and

achieved progresses under the guidance of CIGR Presidium, with strong support of Prof. Fedro Zazuita, the instruction of Prof. Zhang Lanfang, the Editor-in-Chief of CIGR Journal, the active volunteering work of all the Associate Editors (AE), the enthusiastic support and



Prof. Lanfang Zhang

efforts of the reviewers and the authors. The numbers of manuscript submissions and registered users continues to increase. The table below shows the statistics of the CIGR Journal from June 11th to October 16th, 2016 using Open Journal System (OJS).

As CIGR Journal already set up its goal to enter Thomson Reuters' citation in 2-year time, improving both the technical level and paper quality has been the primary task of the Editorial Office of CIGR Journal. Authors, reviewers, Associate Editors, Editor-in-Chief and CIGR Presidium members are the keys to ensure upgrading the quality of CIGR Journal. Here I want to particularly express my sincere thanks to the Associate Editors of Dr. Andre Aarnink, Dr. Roberto Deboli, Dr. Ruanito Soranz Ferrarezi, Prof. José Manuel Monteiro Gonçalves, Dr. Samy Badr Khadr, Dr. Ferenc Kiss, Dr. Gabriella Kun-Farkas, Dr. Safa Majeed, Dr. Sunil K Mathanker, Dr. Panagiotis Panagakis, Dr. Álvaro Ramírez-Gómez, Dr. Fedro S. Zazueta Ranahan and Dr. Gabor Zsivanovits. The numbers of papers they finished handling are from 31 to 155 for CIGR Journal. As the Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Zhang Lanfang handled 224 papers. That is the reason for many Associate Editors of CIGR Journal to receive the great honors at CIGR International Conference in June 2016 in Denmark. The winners of CIGR Recognitions for the Associated Editors are: Dr. Majeed Safa from New Zealand, Dr. Gabor Zsivanovits from Bulgaria, Dr. Fedro S. Zazueta from USA, Dr. Ruanito Soranz Ferrarezi from USA, Dr. Álvaro Ramírez-Gómez from Spain, Dr. Samy Badr Khadr from Egypt, Dr. Roberto Deboli from Italy. Because of their great contributions, can CIGR professional Journal develop in a sustainable way, better and better.

The total number of Associate Editors of CIGR Journal is 22. They are from 14 countries of the Netherlands, Spain, Egypt, Iran, Turkey, China, the United States, Italy, Portugal, Serbia, Hungary, New Zealand, Greece and Bulgaria. CIGR Journal lost a very active Associate Editor, Prof. Samy Badr Khadr from Egypt. He served for CIGR Journal for 4 years and he was still doing the job when he suddenly passed away in June 2016. CIGR will always remember his contribution to the Journal.

Note: Percentages for peer-reviewed submissions sometimes may not add up to 100% as items resubmitted are either accepted, declined or still in the process of review.

The number of total submitted papers from June 11th to October 16th, 2016 is 132, 33% submissions per month on average. The average time to complete the review process, editorial process to publish a manuscript is more than 90

days. Among the 132 new submissions, 12 (9%) have been peer reviewed and are in editing, among the 32 manuscripts in editing, 20 of them were submitted before June 11th 2016. Of newly submitted 132 papers, 80 are in the review process and 28 (21%) are with reviewers' comments. Some Associate Editors need to assign the manuscripts to more reviewers since the selected reviewers did not accept the reviewing invitation sent by the Associate Editors in order to speed up the review process. It is also notable that 21 (16%) of newly submitted manuscripts were archived by the Editor-in-Chief before assigning to the Associate Editors because of their incompatibility with the author's guideline, not in scope of the CIGR Journal and poor English level. It is the responsibility of Editor-in-Chief to filter unqualified manuscripts, sustain and improve the quality of our Journal. During the 4 months, two issues of CIGR Journal, Vol. 18, No. 2 and No.3 with 80 manuscripts and total pages of 813 were published on time. Vol. 18, No. 4 will be published at the end of December 2016 with about 40 manuscripts. The Editorial Office of CIGR Journal will continue its endeavor of maintaining the manuscript statistics and prompt communications with all the Associate Editors.

By October 16, 2016, the total number of registered users in CIGR Journal through OJS reached 10045 with 173 new users compared to the statistics accounted last time on June 24th, 2016. The number of registered readers is 8513 with 101 new compared to the database of June 24th, 2016. Also, owing to the incomplete registration information, particularly without clearly indicating the review areas of the reviewers, it is hard for the Associate Editors to select proper reviewers according to their expertise. Some reviewers have little interest in reviewing the papers and that prolonged the time of peer-review process. The CIGR Journal warmly welcomes the participation of its members as well as the scientists and engineers engaged in agricultural and biosystems engineering worldwide. We appreciate your journal work and your support. If you have not registered in CIGR Journal, please do so by visiting the Journal website of <http://www.cigrjournal.org/index.php/Ejournal/index>, and registering as an author, reader and reviewer.

Right now, there are 188 manuscripts in total, with 32 papers accepted and in editing, the rest are still in process--under review or revision.

Thank you!

*Prof. Zhang Lanfang
Editor-in-Chief of CIGR Journal*

2016 Statistics for the CIGR Journal (June 11th, 2016–October 16th, 2016)

Issues (Vol.18, No. 2 and 3)	Published 2 (Vol.18, No. 2 and 3)
Items (Research papers)	42 in Vol.18, No.2 38 in Vol.18, No.3
Total new submissions	132
Peer reviewed	65 (49%)
In review with some review comments	28 (21%)
In review without review comments	37 (28%)
Papers were held by Associate Editors	15 (11%)
Accepted as new submissions, including published and in editing	15 (12%)
Declined as new submissions	37 (28%)
Total manuscript in handling(including the ones submitted before)	188
Days from submission to complete review	Over 60
Days from submission to publication	Over 90

CIGR Section Boards (2015-2018)		
Section I:	<i>Land and Water</i>	Chair: Gerrit J. Carsjens (Netherland)
Section II:	<i>Structures and Environment</i>	Chair: Álvaro Ramírez-Gómez (Spain)
Section III:	<i>Plant Production</i>	Chair: Qin Zhang (USA)
Section IV:	<i>Energy in Agriculture</i>	Chair: R.Cengiz Akdeniz (Turkey)
Section V:	<i>System Management</i>	Chair: Remigio Berruto (Italy)
Section VI:	<i>Bioprocesses</i>	Chair: Amauri Rosenthal (Brasil)
Section VII:	<i>Information Technology</i>	Chair: Seishi Ninomiya (Japan)

Correciton:

Chair of Section II is Álvaro Ramírez-Gómez (Spain), but it was written as Eberhard Hartung (Germany).

All correspondence and information on forthcoming activities should be sent to:

CIGR GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Professor emeritus Dr. Mikio Umeda, Secretary General

Professor emeritus Dr. Makoto Hoki, Assistant to Secretary General

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