



International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

# CIGR

**Newsletter Quarterly**

**Newsletter No. 97  
December 2012**

*Since 1930  
82 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

Today we are living unprecedented times, never has technology been as sophisticated as it is today. Never has our scientific knowledge been as advanced in all areas of human endeavor. Yet, never have we had the absolute number of people living in poverty that we have today without appropriate food, shelter, medical care, education, and never have we faced the threats we ourselves created to our planet.



Prof. Fedro Zazueta

Agricultural and biosystems engineering (ABE) has an important role to play in resolution of these problems. Through research we must create the knowledge necessary, through education create the competent engineers that will put this knowledge to work, and finally we must ensure that ABE is at the table where the highest strategic decisions are made.

As we move into the XXIst Century, educating the new generations of agricultural and biosystems engineers requires that we abandon old paradigms of creating and disseminating knowledge. It is important that our collective knowledge be available to all to achieve maximum impact on the problems we face today as a human species.

For this purpose, CIGR is now redirecting its efforts in the preparation of technical materials. The traditional engineering handbooks have been digitized and put on the web at no cost to anyone wishing to utilize those materials. More importantly, the effort previously put into developing these materials will now be focused on developing electronic textbooks in different areas of ABE, which are to be translated into several languages and made available at no cost to any ABE student worldwide. A pilot will be initiated for this purpose.

It is venue like CIGR where our efforts as professionals come together towards the higher goal of contributing to all. Finally, as my term as CIGR President comes to an end, I want to extend my personal gratitude to all who have tirelessly worked to the Agricultural and Biosystems profession.

*Prof. Fedro Zazueta  
President of CIGR*

## Farewell Letter from the Past President

More than six years ago, I was appointed as Incoming President of CIGR in order to be president for the years 2009-2010. It means to become member of CIGR Presidium for a six-year term 2007-2012. Today I can look back on six very profitable years of CIGR's eighty-two years history, in which I have been active in CIGR over more than 37 years or nearly half of CIGR's lifetime.

My first duty was an appointment in 1976, to be member of a CIGR working group on Climatization of Animal Houses, belonging to CIGR Section II, in which we had our first meeting in Switzerland in 1977. The background for setting

up such a working group with one member of each of its 11 countries was that in the nineteen seventies each country had its own rule for making calculations on ventilation and heating equipment for animal houses. In spite of the fact that CIGR is an international organization, the working group consisted only of European members plus some few corresponding US members.



Prof. Søren Pedersen

CIGR was at that time not yet really worldwide in its scope. It was expected that the work should be finished in two years time, but it was a really hard job to come to an agreement about common CIGR rules. The first question to solve was the language. The first draft was made in Switzerland in German language, because the three German speaking countries Switzerland, Austria and Germany were members of the working group. Fortunately we agreed to translate the draft to English. It just tells that in the nineteen seventies it was not at all clear what should be the official CIGR language. (as late as the CIGR World Congress in Budapest 1984, you could make your presentations in Hungarian, Russian, German, English and French language, with simultaneous translation.) With a two-day working group meeting every year, the first working group report was ready in 1984. No computer was available, so all the time consuming calculations had to be done by simple manual calculators. For the participants it involved lots of homework. As time progressed, it turned out, that the Working Group was also a good social forum, where our spouses accompanied us. They visited interesting sites and we were often invited to dinner in member's private homes. Some of us have got lifelong social contacts and I really hope that present and future working group members will get the opportunity to experience CIGR, not just as an effective professional organization, but also to experience the feeling of being in a large big CIGR family.

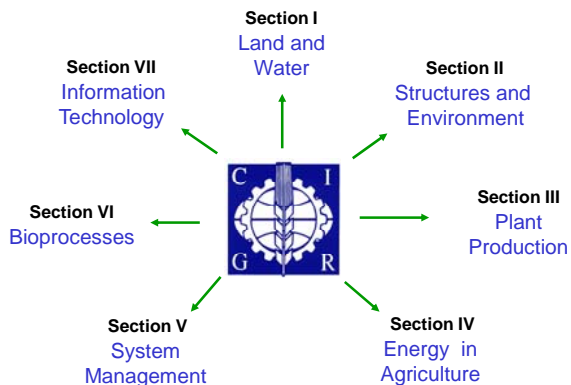
Over all my years in CIGR, my work has been related to Section II on Structures and Environment and here I was chairman of the section 2003-2006. Also here I have got friends for life.

### Some important developments over the latest years:

- Revision of CIGR Statutes has been under revision over a long time span and was finally approved during the second CIGR International Conference 2008 in Iguassu, Brazil.
- The CIGR Journal initiated by Prof. Bill Stout in the late nineties was changed from manual handling of the review procedure to an Open Journal System, today handled by Prof. Lanfang Zhang, Beijing China.
- The real core of CIGR is its seven sections, where the important work is done by the sections. Therefore the sections are also very concerned about the scope of the sections and also the section names. Many discussions have been carried out at section meetings on the optimal section names. I am very glad to experience that the presidium has been able to make a proposal of new short

CIGR section names, which has been negotiated by all sections and agreed, so it could be confirmed by the CIGR General Assembly at the CIGR World Congress in Quebec 2010. The main idea with the renaming has been to come up with short names easy to remember and wide in scope so they can last for years. In addition to the short names, a subtext of some few lines describe the state-of-the-art and it can be modified when proposed by the sections.

#### Engineering of:



- Roughly speaking, CIGR dealt from its start in 1930 mostly with technical questions, but today it often includes biological problems. Therefore it was decided to include "Biosystems" in the title, so the title today is International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, while the logo CIGR is kept as in the past. The change was approved at the CIGR Conference in Brazil in September 2008 and it was effective from 1 January 2009.
- While CIGR three decades ago were dominated by European members, it has fortunately changed to a much more worldwide composition where most of the world today is represented at all kind of CIGR activities.

#### Challenges:

Each decade has its new challenges and therefore themes unforeseen today will show up also in the future. The reasons can be many. Here is just an example from my own field. Over a long time period the goal was to work on an efficient pig production with fully slatted floors and no straw bedding for growing pigs and improved working environment. Technical well functioning systems were developed, but from an animal welfare point of view the public opinion in Europe forced to prohibit the system by law from 2013. This change will also affect very much the working environment in pig houses and the emission of green house gases. Also the ongoing discussion of the agricultural impact on climate changes will affect the scope of tasks. Similar examples could be highlighted for all sections.

My overall wish is that CIGR will continue to grow and adapt to the future challenges worldwide both technical and human.

*Søren Pedersen  
Past President of CIGR*

## Message from the Incoming President



Prof. Da-Wen Sun

It is a great honour and privilege for me to assume the role of the CIGR President.

CIGR plays a critical role in serving the needs of humanity by fostering mutual understanding, improvement and rationalisation of sustainable biological production systems while protecting nature and environment and managing

landscape through the advancement of engineering and allied sciences. Therefore as the President, I commit to provide the leadership that CIGR requires in order to achieve CIGR mission and objectives, I also commit to listen and respond to your needs as members and to work closely with CIGR Executive Board and CIGR Technical Boards.

CIGR was established in 1930 by a number of prominent scientists and researchers in agricultural engineering. Since then it has taken the lifelong dedication and hard work of many people to build this organisation. Today, CIGR consists of all the regional members and many country members, representing almost all the professional agricultural and biosystems engineers throughout the globe. CIGR nowadays is the biggest organisation of our profession in the World.

One of the reasons that CIGR has grown so successfully is the strong leadership, and commitment and devotion of many CIGR members throughout the years. I began to get involved in CIGR activity as early as in 1997 when I served as the Secretary to CIGR Working Group 1 for harmonisation of agricultural engineering university curricula, and then in 1998, I became the Chairman of 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 as the Chair for 4 years. Since 2007, I have been working as CIGR WG Co-ordinator and member of CIGR Executive Board. Throughout the past long 15 years, I have witnessed that our past-presidents, members of executive board and technical boards have set a very high standard of commitment in serving CIGR to sustain its success and growth, and I will certainly do my best and hope to measure up to their examples.

I look forward to working with you all.

*Professor Da-Wen Sun  
Incoming President of CIGR*

## Summarized Report of Presidium Skype Meeting (16th November, 2012) and Introduction of CIGR Next Incoming President

Summary of Skype Meeting



The last Presidium Skype Meeting was held on 16th November, 2012. From this time, Next Incoming President of CIGR, Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski joined the Presidium meeting.

After acceptance of the last minutes and reviewing of the agenda for this meeting, we discussed following items.

- 1) Agreement between China and CIGR on the CIGR World Congress in 2014 reached almost final stage based on the discussions by Chinese Representatives and CIGR PM in Valencia and in Beijing. After modification of the levies payment system, the signed documents will be exchanged shortly.
- 2) Secretary General reported that registration of a domain name including CIGR has been completed in China and that a contract renewal of hosting CIGR.ORG will also be handled after the investigation of its current situation.
- 3) Presidium Members, Profs. Fedro Zazueta, Da-Wen Sun and Soeren Pedersen met the Editorial team of CIGR Journal in China and the very positive discussion was made by them. The minutes of the meeting are available in the last part of this newsletter.
- 4) The way to promote further awareness of Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering at high level was discussed. The outline of the discussion can be seen in the Message of the President in this newsletter.
- 5) Presidium Members confirmed the role and responsibility of Incoming President.
- 6) The SG proposed the tentative schedule of next CIGR Business Meetings to be held in Prague, Czech Republic from 3rd to 6th September, 2013. The schedule is available in this newsletter and on CIGR Website.

### Introduction of Next Incoming President

As I reported in the last General Assembly and in the Newsletter No.96, Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski (Poland) was elected as CIGR Next Incoming President. He starts his service as Incoming President from 1st January, 2013. All the Presidium Members greatly expect his strong leadership during his presidential term from 2013 to 2018, because of his long experience and contribution in CIGR as easily recognized in his CV.

### CV of Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski

- Born in 1951, a graduate of the University of Agricultural in Krakow (in 1975). Doctorate in 1981, habilitation in 1996.
- Professor in the Faculty of Production and Power Engineering at the University of Agriculture in Krakow (Poland) – Dean of the Faculty from 2008-2012. At present, he is the Director of the Institute of Machinery Management, Ergonomics and Production Processes.
- The President of CIOSTA from 1999-2001, Head of Section V of CIGR from 2002-2006.
- Participant in the CIOSTA-CIGR conferences since 1986 and a member of the Scientific Committees of these conferences since 1999. Participant and Chair of sessions during the CIGR congresses in Bonn and

Québec. Probably one of the few who still remembers Professors Gerhardt Preuchen, Giuseppe Pellizzi, Erkki H. Oksanen, Walter Maier, Jan Dealemans, Theo Bischoff, and other activists of CIOSTA and CIGR.

- The Chairman of the Committee on Ergonomics at the Polish Academy of Sciences, and a Member of the Committee on Agricultural Engineering at the Polish Academy of Sciences.
- A member of the Polish Society of Agricultural Engineering and of the Polish Society for Information Technology in Agriculture, Food and the Environment (POLSITA).
- Chief scientific interests: Ergonomics as applied in agricultural engineering and biofuels. Author or co-author of books: 'Rape-based biofuel', 'Heating with biomass', 'Signalling devices of tractors and farm machinery' (in Polish). Ca. 200 scientific papers published.
- Scientific traineeships at University of Freiburg, ETH in Zurich, FAT (Eidg. Forschungsanstalt fuer Agrarwirtschaft und Landtechnik, today: AGROSCOPE) Tänikon (Switzerland), the Ingenieurhochschule in Berlin – Wartenberg (Germany), the Styrian Chamber of Agriculture (Austria), and the University of British Columbia UBC (Canada).
- Married, 2 sons, 2 grandsons
- Hobbies: mountain tourism, reading literature (favourite books: 'The Master and Margarita', 'Love in the Time of Cholera'), and practicing kyokushin karate (recreationally).



Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski

*Prof. Toshinori Kimura  
Secretary General of CIGR*

## Tentative Schedule of 2013 CIGR Business Meetings during the 5th International Conference; Trends in Agricultural Engineering 2013 Prague, Czech Republic

- **3 September (Tue), 2013**  
13:00-15:30 CIGR Presidium meeting  
16:00-18:00 CIGR Executive Board meeting
- **4 September (Wed), 2013**  
19:00-21:00 CIGR Section Board I - VII meetings (depending on their request)
- **5 September (Thur), 2013**  
17:00-19:00 CIGR Technical Board meeting
- **On request** CIGR Working Groups meetings



## Executive Board Member List 2012

### Presidium

Prof. Fedro Zazueta (President\*) (Presidential term: 2009-2014)  
 Prof. Søren Pedersen (Past President\*) (Presidential term: 2007-2012)  
 Prof. Da-Wen Sun (Incoming President\*) (Presidential term: 2011-2016)  
 Prof. Toshinori Kimura (Secretary General\*) (Serving term: 2010-2013) \* as of 2012

Prof. John K. Schueller, ASABE  
 Prof. Shujun Li, AAAE & 2014 World Congress  
 Prof. Daniele De Wrachien, EurAgEng  
 Prof. Omar Ulloa, ALIA  
 Prof. Oleg Marchenko, EAAAE  
 Prof. Nicolay Mihailov, AAEESEE  
 Dr. Stephane Godbout, Canada  
 Mr. Emmanuel Hugo, France  
 Prof. Adolf Rybka, Czech  
 Prof. Jerzy Weres, Poland  
 Prof. Umezuruike Linus Opara, Technical Board (1,Nov,2012 - )  
 Prof. Thomas Banhazi, Coordinator of Working Groups (9,Jul,2012 - )

### Co-opted:

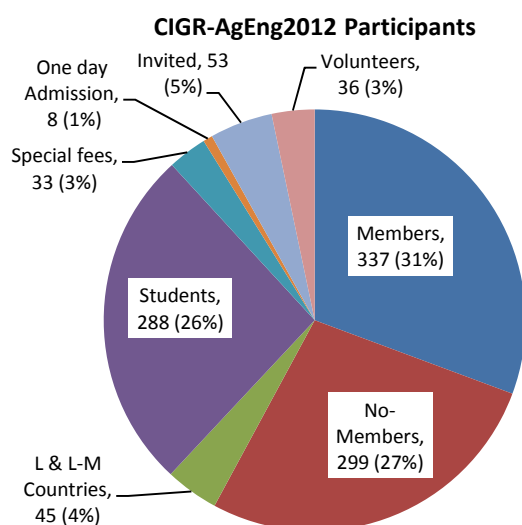
Mr. Yoshisuke Kishida, Asian Countries and Public Relations  
 Prof. Peter Schulze Lammers, Continuance of CIGR  
 Prof. Daniel Berckmans, Continuance of CIGR  
 Prof. Jose M. Tarjuelo, 2012 International Conference  
 Prof. Lanfang Zhang, CIGR Journal (1, Jan, 2012 - )

**Auditing** : Prof. Josse De Baerdemaeker, Prof. Vilas M. Salokhe, Prof. Taichi Maki

## Report of CIGR-AgEng2012, International Conference of Agricultural Engineering 8-12 July 2012, Valencia, Spain

### Geographical Origin

The Conference CIGR-AgEng2012 brought together over 1000 participants from 63 countries.



### Participants

The distribution of participants was on a percentage exceeding 68% of authors of papers and according to the

rules of Congress could only submit two papers in oral or poster.

On the number of registration requests and book has been a 16% percentage who could not attend the Conference due mainly to visa problems and funding the trip. In this case their papers have been eliminated from the program.

A summary of registered participants and their distribution is detailed in the graph below:

### Topics and special parallel conferences

Topics and Special Parallel Conferences Number

- AP: Animal Production 69
- ED: Education and Curricula 15
- EN: Energy, Biomass and Biological Residues 172
- ES: Ergonomics, Safety and Health 51
- IT: Information Technology, Automation and Precision Farming 140
- PF: Post Harvest, Food and Process Engineering 270
- PM: Power and Machinery 127
- RD: Rural Development 64
- SE: Structures and Environmental Technologies 89
- SW: Soil and Water Engineering 51
- SPC 01: Envirowater 2012 - 15th Inter Regional Envirowater: Soil Water and Environment Management 110
- SPC 02: First International Symposium on Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) Applications in Agriculture 63
- SPC 03: IV International Workshop on Computer Image Analysis in Agriculture 84
- SPC 04: 5th Automation Technology For Off-Road Equipment Conference 44
- SPC 05: The Ninth International Livestock Environment Symposium (ILEX IX) 123

SPC 06: Applications of Smart Sensors and Wireless Sensors Networks (WSN) in PLF (Precision Livestock Farming) and PA (Precision Agriculture) 17

SPC 07: Silos and Granular Materials (SIGMA) 28

SPC 08: Creating a Competitive Edge Through Agricultural Mechanization and Post-Harvest Technology in Developing Countries 21

## CIGR World Congresses and Internatinal Conferences, 2014–2016

### The XVIII CIGR World Congress 2014 Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering - Upgrading Our Quality of Life Beijing, China, 16-19 September 2014

The 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Commission of Agriculture and Biosystems Engineering (CIGR) will be held in Beijing, China on September 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Under the energetic guide of the General Assembly of CIGR, this Congress will remain faithful to the pattern established in past CIGR World Congresses, while incorporating innovative new elements to promote exchange and collaboration among agricultural engineers, and to offer a unique opportunity to present the results of research and to discuss important issues from a global perspective.

For global agricultural engineering scientists, engineers and other professionals seeking to expand their knowledge of the field and learn about the most up-to-date advancements and discoveries, the 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of CIGR cannot be missed. The special social and tour programs will also be arranged, it will give participants a wonderful taste of unique Chinese culture to entertain you and your family during and after the Congress. With tremendous support from CIGR, the Chinese Society for Agricultural Machinery (CSAM), the Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CSAE), and many local, regional and international associations, the Organizing Committee will deliver the most dynamic and invigorating Congress to all of you.

The preparation has started smoothly and the Organizing Committee hereby is pleased to invite you and your association to join in this big event as much as you could. It is sincerely hoped that the 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of CIGR in Beijing will bring all of participants together to share in the common goal of advancing and developing the field of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, and to provide a discussion forum on how to promote scientific and technological innovations in agricultural engineering into the new millennium.

#### SPONSORS

International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (CIGR)

Chinese Society for Agricultural Machinery (CSAM)

Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CSAE)

#### CO-SPONSORS

Asian Association for Agricultural Engineering (AAAE)

Agricultural Engineers Association (AEA) (England)

German Agricultural Society (Deutsche Landwirtschafts-Gesellschaft, DLG)

Association of Overseas Chinese Agricultural Biological Food Engineers (AOCABFE-AOC)

United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM)

Additional societies and institutions will be available through the website: [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org)

#### ORGANIZERS

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanization Sciences (CAAMS)

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Engineering (CAAE)

China Agricultural University (CAU)

#### Theme

Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering – Upgrading Our Quality of Life

#### Time

September 16<sup>th</sup> (Tue) – 19<sup>th</sup> (Fri), 2014

#### Venue

China National Convention Center

#### Congress Languages

English, Chinese

#### IMPORTANT DATES

|                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| On-line registration opens:         | Sep. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2013  |
| Abstract submission opens           | Sep. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2013  |
| Abstract submission deadline        | April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014 |
| Notification of abstract acceptance | Apr. 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2014 |
| Early bird registration             | May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2014  |
| Full paper submission               | Jun. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014  |
| Information to authors on website   | Jul. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014  |
| Hotel reservation and tour deposits | Aug. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014  |

#### PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

| Date                  | Morning                     |  | Mid-noon      | Afternoon                              |                  | Evening           |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------|--|------------------|-------------------|
| Sept.15 <sup>th</sup> | Registration                |  |               |  |                  |                   |
| Sept.16 <sup>th</sup> | Opening Ceremony            | Plenary Sessions with Invited Speakers | Working Lunch | Plenary Sessions with Invited Speakers |                  | Welcome Reception |
| Sept.17 <sup>th</sup> | Oral Session                |  | Working Lunch | Oral Session                           |                  |                   |
|                       | Poster Session / Exhibition |  |               | Poster Session / Exhibition            |                  |                   |
| Sept.18 <sup>th</sup> | Oral Session                |  | Working Lunch | Oral Session                           | Closing Ceremony | Banquet           |
|                       | Poster Session / Exhibition |  |               | Poster Session / Exhibition            |                  |                   |
| Sept.19 <sup>th</sup> | Technical Tour              |  |               |  |                  |                   |

## CALL FOR PAPERS

The Congress welcomes abstracts relevant to the preliminary topics. A person intending to give an oral presentation (15 - 20 minutes) or a poster at the Congress is requested to submit a one-page abstract (A4 size, approximately 500 words) to the Academic Committee no later than **April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014**. An abstract should be well written, clear and informative by describing the work with emphasis on objectives and factual results. An abstract should include key words related to the Congress Preliminary Topics. Notification of acceptance or rejection of abstract will be given by **Apr. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014**. Authors are invited to prepare a full-length paper after the acceptance. Abstracts and full papers should be submitted online using the templates provided.

### Preliminary Topics

Full list of the detailed main topics will be available at [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org)

1. Land and Water Systems Engineering
2. Machinery Engineering for Plant Production
3. Bioprocessing System Engineering
4. Information Systems and Precision Farming
5. Rural Electricity and Renewable Energy
6. Farming Buildings and Livestock Environmental Engineering
7. Management, Ergonomics and System Engineering

### Oral and Poster Presentation

In the registration system, authors are asked to indicate their preference for an oral presentation or a poster on the website. The Scientific Committee will try to satisfy each author's first choice. The final decision will come along with the notification of abstract acceptance.

### Proceedings

The full proceedings of the Congress will be published in CD-ROM and provided to the delegates and students at the registration desk during the Congress.

Please visit the Congress Website at [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org) for detailed information regarding abstract guideline, submission instruction, presentation options and other related information.

### Accommodation

Participants who request hotel accommodation should register on the website at [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org), and submit the decision and pay the registration fee. A sufficient number of rooms will be provided at hotels near the Congress Venue. If your room request is unavailable, you will be assigned a room in another hotel as close as possible to your choice.

### Registration

On-line registration will open on **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013** at [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org) and ways of payment will be announced on the website later.

**Registration fee (in US Dollars)**

| Registration Type                          | Early Bird Registration by May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2014 | Regular Registration After Jun. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014 | Desk Rate                         |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Delegates except LIC & LMIC <sup>[1]</sup> | \$700.00 <sup>[2]</sup> /\$750.00                      | \$800.00 <sup>[2]</sup> /\$850.00                      | \$850.00 <sup>[2]</sup> /\$900.00 |
| Delegates from LIC & LMIC                  | \$500.00   | \$550.00   | \$600.00                          |
| Students <sup>[3]</sup>                    | \$400.00   | \$400.00   | \$450.00                          |
| Accompanying person                        | \$300.00   | \$300.00   | \$350.00                          |
| One-day admission <sup>[4]</sup>           |  |  | \$400.00                          |
| Banquet <sup>[5]</sup>                     | \$80.00  |  |                                   |

[1] LIC and LMIC: The list of low income and low-middle income countries is from the World Bank. [2] CIGR members. [3] Students: Please attach a copy of your student identification card to your registration form. [4] One-day admissions will only be sold the same day at the registration desk. [5] Banquet: A buffet style banquet will be held at 19:00 on Sep. 18th, 2014. The fee of the banquet is not included in the registration. Participants who wish to attend the banquet should make reservation (USD80/person) together with your registration.

### Additional information

Additional information on the Congress news, maps, and updates on our programs will be available through the website: [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org)

### Contact information

Address: Room B206, No. 31 Building, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanization Sciences (CAAMS), No. 1 Beishatan, Deshengmen Wai, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100083, China  
 Phone: 0086-10-64882358  
 Fax: 0086-10-64883508  
 Email: [cigrwc2014@yahoo.com](mailto:cigrwc2014@yahoo.com)  
 Website: [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org)

## The 4th CIGR International Conference - AgEng Conference-2016 Robotics, Environment and Food Safety 26-29 June 2016, Aarhus, Denmark

The Conference will be held at University of Aarhus 26-29 June 2016 as a joint event between CIGR (International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering) and EurAgEng (European Society of Agricultural Engineering) and cosponsored by NJF (Nordic Association of Agricultural Scientists) and Aarhus University.

Preparations for this event are progressing with the Organising Committee making the preliminary preparations.

Contact: Prof. Søren Pedersen  
 Email: [soeren.pedersen@agrsci.dk](mailto:soeren.pedersen@agrsci.dk)

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

In CIGR General Assembly which was 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.

Preparations for this event are progressing with the Organising Committee.

Contact: Prof. Can Ertekin

Email: ertekin@akdeniz.edu.tr

## 2. NEWS FROM REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SOCIETIES

### Report on the X CLIA 2012

The X Latin American and Caribbean Congress of Agricultural Engineering (CLIA) was held in Londrina, PR, Brazil, from 15 to 19 of July, 2012. The congress was organized by the Brazilian Society of Agricultural Engineering (SBEA) and the Latin American and Caribbean Association of Agricultural Engineering (ALIA).

The congress was attended by 123 professionals and 230 postgraduate students from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, USA and Venezuela. A total of 189 oral papers and 752 posters were presented. During the General Assembly, the new Board of Directors of ALIA 2012-2014 was elected, as follows: President: Wilson Esquivel (Chile), Vicepresident: Samuel Garcia (Mexico), Executive Director: Walter Molina (Brasil), Executive Director (S): Astrid Fernandez, Treasurer: Omar Ulloa (Chile), Treasurer (S): David Rosalen (Brasil), Executive Secretary: Eugenio Hernandez (Colombia), Executive

Secretary (S): Osvaldo Barbosa (Argentina), Vocal: Guillermo Vargas (Costa Rica). The auditors are: Elizabeth de la Pena (Mexico), Jose do Nascimento (Brasil) and Christian Correa (Chile).

The XI CLIA will be held in Cancun, Mexico from 6 to 10 of October, 2014. For more information, please contact Dr. Samuel Garcia, e-mail: samuelmx57@yahoo.com or visit: [www.chapingo.mx/dima/clia2014](http://www.chapingo.mx/dima/clia2014).

Everybody is cordially invited. Papers in Spanish, Portuguese and English will be accepted. The XII CLIA 2016 will be in Bogota, Colombia. For more information about ALIA, see: [www.aliaweb.org](http://www.aliaweb.org)

*Dr. Omar Ulloa*

*Treasurer and Past President*

*The Latin American and Caribbean Association of  
Agricultural Engineering (ALIA)*

*o-ulloa@earth.ac.cr*

## 3. NEWS FROM SECTIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

### CIGR Section I: Land and Water

#### Mission statement

The mission statement of CIGR Section I: Land and Water is:

“... to promote the advance of the engineering science in the area of land and water use in agriculture and in rural areas, giving special attention to the conservation of resources, the preservation and re-establishment of environmental balances, and the social and economic impacts of applications in order to realize sustainable development for both urban and rural societies ...”

#### Objectives

The mission statement of Section I implies a range of objectives that contribute to the promotion of engineering science in land and water use in agriculture. These are:

- Improving the knowledge on processes leading to or affecting the quality of land and water resources;
- Developing and applying technologies for land use planning, including forecasting land use changes, and assessing land use impacts;
- Improving the knowledge of hydrological processes as affected by land use and agricultural practices;
- Enhancing knowledge of water contamination by fertilizers and agro-chemicals, and other agricultural sources, as well as assessing control measures;
- Improving technologies for higher performances in irrigation and drainage;
- Assessing environmental impacts of land and water use in agriculture;

- Developing technologies, standards and monitoring systems for wastewater treatment and reuse, and use of low quality water in agriculture.

#### Scope

Considering the objectives defined as above, the scope of CIGR-Section I refers to the following main subject areas:

- Soil management and soil technologies;
- Soil and water conservation and soil erosion assessment;
- Agricultural and rural watershed hydrology;
- Land use planning and management;
- Rural roads and related supporting infrastructures;
- Irrigation scheduling and on-farm irrigation systems;
- Surface and sub-surface drainage systems;
- Irrigation water supply, conveyance and distribution systems;
- Non-point and point source contamination assessment and control;
- Integrated soil and water use planning;
- Integrated impact assessment of land and water development projects;
- Modern technologies in land and water engineering, including modelling, information systems, remote sensing, decision support and expert systems.

The Section co-operates with three Working Groups:

- the Working Group on “Sustainable Land Use and Landscape Planning”, chaired by Gerrit J. Carsjens;
- the Working Group on “Water Management and Information Systems”, chaired by José Fernando Ortega;



- the Working Group on “Earth Observation for Land and Water Engineering”, chaired by Guido D’Urso.

### Activities

To achieve the objectives, several activities shall be developed by CIGR-Section I. These comprise:

- Organisation, sponsoring and co-sponsoring of seminars, workshops and conferences oriented to the objectives and scope of CIGR-Section I;
- Co-organisation of thematic special sessions, workshops or seminars on occasions of CIGR congresses;
- Collaboration in scientific committees of general themes of CIGR Congresses;
- Contributing to the e-journal of CIGR, both with papers and paper reviews, as well as to other publications of CIGR;
- Supporting the specialised working groups of CIGR of which themes fall in the domain of the Section, the respective Chair Persons becoming members of the Section Board;
- Establishing special relationships with other international societies of which field is common to that of Section I, namely the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage and the European Society for Soil Conservation, of which representatives are ex-office members of the Board of Section I;
- Developing relations with the regional Agricultural Engineering Societies for implementing common actions; at present one Vice-President of EurAgEng is ex-office member of the Board of Section I;
- Implementing inter-sections activities;
- Promoting exchanges of scientific information with professionals, such as through the FAO Agricultural Engineering sites.

All activities referred above require improved effectiveness from contributions of the Board members but some need particular inputs from the CIGR Bureau. This is the case for:

- Better clarification of relationships between Congress organizing and scientific committees and the CIGR-Section Boards for more effectively achieving common objectives and improving the quality of Congress papers and publications;
- Re-examining the contributions of CIGR Sections to the E-journal of CIGR, probably considering specialized editorial boards relative to each Section domain, such as for the Transactions of ASABE;
- Providing better information and diffusion of the e-journal of CIGR to increase its circulation and its recognition by the scientific and engineering community;
- Promoting the links of the regional Agricultural Engineering Societies with the CIGR Sections; a representative of each of these societies should become either member or ex-office member of each Section Board for improved co-operation;

*Prof. Dr. Guanhua Huang*  
*Chair of Section I*  
*Dr. Gerrit J. Carsjens*  
*Secretary of Section I*

## CIGR Section I

### First announcement of the 1st CIGR Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges

The first Inter-Regional conference on Land and Water Challenges will be held in Bari, Italy, from 10-14 September 2013. This new conference series is an initiative of CIGR Section I. The conference in Bari is supported by CIGR.

The aim of the Bari conference is to present and discuss the latest achievements in the field of sustainable use of natural resources at different scales and to promote a better development of agriculture in the future. The preliminary themes of the conference are:

1. Water use performance and water productivity
2. Conservation agriculture and water saving
3. Sustainability of groundwater exploitation for agriculture
4. Decision support systems and modelling tools
5. Innovative data-acquisition and information and communication technologies
6. Irrigation technologies and management practices for environmental upgrading
7. Use of treated and low quality water in agriculture
8. Climate change: adaptation and mitigation
9. Drought risk management
10. Socio-economic aspects of land and water management
11. Policies, governance and institutional development

The deadline for submission of abstracts is March 31, 2013. For more information please visit the website of the conference: <http://www.landandwater2013.iamb.it/>

*Dr. Gerrit J. Carsjens*  
*Secretary of Section I*

## The 34th International Symposium of the Section IV of CIGR “Bio-energy and Other Renewable Energy Technologies and Systems” and Board Meeting, Krakow, Poland, September 16- 18, 2013.

This conference is organized by Faculty of Power Engineering and Energetic at University of Agriculture in Krakow (Poland). This edition will continue successful exchange of information and experience in bio-energy and renewable technologies from the past symposiums. The new challenges and opportunities make this conference an ideal place to share new ideas and solutions for renewable energy.

The following problems and topics will be covered:

- Bio-energy and climate change (environment, emission control),
- Biomass processing (drying, compaction, agglomeration, torrefaction)

- Thermal conversion of biomass (forestry, agriculture waste) as: combustion, co-combustion, pyrolysis, gasification, biofuels and biogas technologies,
- Techniques and energy efficiency in renewable technologies: solar thermal and photovoltaic systems, wind power, Combined Heat Power (CHP) systems, heat storage systems,

- Bio-energy in a sustainable society (environment, emission control, ash recycling),
- Bio-energy market and economic aspects of use of the renewable sources.

Detail information will be available on the conference website: [www.cigr2013.wipie.ur.krakow.pl](http://www.cigr2013.wipie.ur.krakow.pl)

## 4. CIGR SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

### Report on the 3rd International Conference on Flood Recovery, Innovation and Response FRIAR 2012

The occurrence of floods is the most frequent amongst all natural disasters. These hazards involve tragic loss of life, damage to buildings and natural environments and massive disruption to the lives of the affected population in the short term. One-third of the annual natural disasters and economic losses, and more than half of the respective victims are flood-related.

Flood risk is seen to be increasing worldwide due to the effects of climate change, rapid urbanization and land subsidence. In practical terms the chance of flooding can never be eliminated entirely, however the consequences of these events can be mitigated by appropriate behavior and actions. New methods and measures are needed to cope with these hazards and to achieve a harmonious balance between economy and ecology.

An International Conference on the above-mentioned themes took place in Dubrovnik from 30th May and 1st June 2012.

The Meeting was co-chaired by D. De Wrachien, Past President of EurAgEng and member of the CIGR Executive Board, C. Brebbia, Director of the Wessex Institute of Technology (WIT), UK, D. Proverbs of the University of the West of England, Bristol, UK, and S. Mambretti of the Politecnico of Milano, Italy, and co-sponsored by EurAgEng, CIGR and ICID.

This successful series of Conferences first started in the New Forest (2008) and in Milano (2010).

The Conference was attended by participants from 16 countries. It consisted of an Opening Session, five Topic Sessions (Flood risk management, Flood risk vulnerability, Emergency preparedness and response, Flood forecasting and Flood case studies), and a Special Session on Responses to reduce vulnerability to flooding, organized by J. Lamond of the University of the West of England.

Prof. C. Brebbia opened the Conference underlining the importance of the Meeting as part of a framework of WIT which aims to disseminate knowledge at an international level. Following Brebbia's remarks, D. De Wrachien welcomed the participants on behalf of EurAgEng, CIGR, ICID and of the State University of Milano, S. Mambretti brought the greetings of the Politecnico of Milano and D. Proverbs closed the Opening Session featuring a new approach for participatory assessment of vulnerability of commercial property values to flooding.

Next, a number of lectures were held, among which is worth mentioning :

- "Ontology for flood management: a proposal" presented by D. De Wrachien
- "A multivariate model for flood forecasting of lake levels" delivered by M. Mohssen of the Department of Environmental Management of Lincoln University, New Zealand
- "Impacts and preventative measures against flooding and coastal erosion in Thailand" held by S. Pongpiachan of the National Institute of Development Administration, Thailand.

At the end of the Conference Prof. Hashimoto showed a video of the Great East Japanese Earthquake which caused unprecedented damage.

The Conference provided a forum for engineers, scientists and managers from across the globe to discuss the latest scientific advances in the field of technical, social and economic issues related to the broad theme of flood recovery, innovation and exposure.

The success of the Meeting will ensure that the Conference can be reconvened in 2014 at a location and on a date to be shortly announced.

The Proceedings of FRIAR III, 284pp (Print ISBN: 978-1-84564-588-5; eISBN: 978-1-84564-589-2) are available from WIT Press.

For more information see the web site:

[www.wessex.ac.uk/12-conferences/friar-2012.html](http://www.wessex.ac.uk/12-conferences/friar-2012.html)

*Prof. Daniele de Wrachien  
EurAgEng Past President  
Member Executive Board of CIGR  
Member of the WIT Team of Directors*

*Prof. Carlos Brebbia  
Director of WIT*

### 2013 Society for Engineering in Agriculture (SEAg) Conference: Innovative Agricultural Technologies for a Sustainable Future Call for Abstracts - Closes 15th January 2013

Australia is a country of great diversity with extreme agricultural challenges. Innovation has been a prerequisite for the agricultural sector. This conference provides a unique forum for local and international delegates to network and share ideas on how we can provide innovative solutions for sustainable food and fibre production in the future.

We invite you to join us and participate in the 2013 Conference of the Australian Society for Engineering in

Agriculture which has its theme 'Innovative Agricultural Technologies for a Sustainable Future'.

The theme deals with the challenges faced by the agricultural sector related to a range of economic, environmental and social factors and where research, development and adoption of new agricultural technologies provide real opportunities to provide innovative solutions for sustainable agricultural production systems of the future.

This international conference will focus on contemporary issues in Agriculture including:

- Irrigation, water and environmental management
- Post-harvest technologies and processing
- Structures, equipment and environment
- Power and machinery

- Precision agriculture and livestock management
- Plant production and handling
- Information management

click here to view information for presenters to submit an abstract

For more details visit

<https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/2013-society-engineering-agriculture-conference> or follow us on twitter #seag2013

*Glen Riethmuller  
Chair, Organising Committee*

## 5. OTHER ACTIVITIES

### **Participation Report on the Hundred and Forty-third Session of the FAO Council Rome, Italy, 28 November - 2 December 2011**

It was my great pleasure to have the opportunity to participate to the 143rd Session of the FAO Council as CIGR representative.

During the five days of the Council (Rome, Italy, 28 November - 2 December 2011), I participate to the works having the possibility to acquire very important information and working methodologies of this fundamental Organization for the human being advance and the fight against hungry and poverty in all the world.

The following is a very synthetic summary. For more detailed information, all the documents are freely available at the web url <http://www.fao.org/bodies/council/cl143/en/>

The agenda of the 143th Session of the FAO Council included the following steps: i) Procedure of the Session (adoption and election of three Vice-Chairpersons, and Designation of the Chairperson and Members of the Drafting Committee); ii) Programme and Finance Committees (Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2012-13, reports of 107th - 109th Sessions of the Programme Committee and reports of 139th - 142nd Sessions of the Finance Committee); iii) Committee on World Food Security (CFS37); iv) constitutional and Legal Matters and v) Governance and other Matters.

One of the most important argument for CIGR potential involvement, regarded the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) with the Report of the 37th Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS37; 17-22 October 2011). In its second Session since reform, the CFS addressed nine agenda items corresponding to the roles of the Committee and to further implement its reform. As starting point, the Committee considered a presentation by Mr Hafez Ghanem, Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Development Department (ESD), FAO on the State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI) 2011, focused on the very important question: How does international price volatility affect domestic economies and food security?

The presentation focused on the following six key messages: i) The impact of the price shocks and swings on food security is not uniform, with poorer countries being hardest hit; ii) The level and volatility of domestic food prices rose in most countries; iii) High and volatile food prices are likely to continue in the future; iv) Short-term price shocks can have long term negative impacts on production, nutrition and livelihoods; v) High prices have potential benefits for farmers especially if accompanied by appropriate policies and programmes for smallholder agriculture; and vi) Policy measures are needed at the national and global levels to reduce volatility and to protect vulnerable groups from its effects.

Following these information and other discussion about related aspects, different actions were suggested such as: i) mandated the CFS-Bureau to call for an additional negotiation session with the intent of finalising the Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Land Tenure, Fisheries and Forests as soon as possible; ii) approved the proposal to organize a High-Level Expert Forum on Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises with a view to inter alia elaborating an "Agenda for Action for Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises"; iii) requested the High Level Panel of Experts to include in its plans for future work, taking into account available resources, a comparative study of constraints to smallholder investment in agriculture in different contexts with policy options to address these constraints; iv) requested the CFS-Bureau to propose options on the meaning and different uses, if any, of the terms "Food Security", "Food Security and Nutrition", "Food and Nutrition Security" and "Nutrition Security"; v) requested the Secretariat to continue facilitating the process of developing and implementing country level mapping of actions for food security and nutrition.

More in general the Conference would like to strengthen the CFS actions in terms of: i) facilitating support for country-led efforts to achieve food security and nutrition; ii) promoting accountability and sharing best practices at all levels; iii) developing innovative mechanisms to monitor progress in achieving food security and nutrition objectives; iv) providing a forum for mutual information, discussion and coordination of major food security and

nutrition initiatives; and v) operationalizing linkages with regional initiatives.

*Dr. Paolo Menesatti  
CIGR Section VI Board member*

## **Participation Report on the 31st FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC)**

From 12th to 16th March 2012, Prof. Shujun Li, the president of AAE attended the 31st Session of FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific in Hanoi, the capital of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. Over 200 ministers and senior government officials from 38 countries and regions participated in this conference. Representatives from international non-governmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations organizations, civil societies and media also attended as observers.

The main topics of the 31st FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific Conference are food security and food price. The issues of sustainable intensification and diversification of crops and agriculture towards food and

nutrition security, value chain development and post-harvest loss reduction for smallholder farmers were discussed by the officials and scientists during the Conference.

On behalf of the International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (CIGR), Prof. Shujun Li had in-depth discussions on a range of issues central to food security and rural poverty alleviation in Asia-Pacific countries with other senior government officers during the first three days. Following the discussions, on Friday March 16th, Prof. Shujun Li joined round table meeting on policies to address food price volatility. Besides the major program of this conference, he also participated in the side event on demonstration of mapping tools for country level actions and associated discussions. He took this opportunity to meet and exchange opinions regarding important issues related to food security with a wide range of key civil society organizations, representing farmers, cooperatives, NGOs and other organizations from Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society and introduced the CIGR to them during the Conference.

*Prof. Shujun Li  
CIGR Executive Board member*

## **6. PUBLICATIONS**

**The CIGR Journal**  
**Agricultural Engineering International**  
**Prof. Lanfang Zhang, Editor-in-Chief**  
**ISSN 1682-1130**  
**Submit manuscripts for peer review to**  
**[www.CIGRjournal.org](http://www.CIGRjournal.org)**

Since the implementation of Open Journal System (OJS) by the CIGR Journal, the numbers of manuscript submissions and registered users continues to increase. The table below shows the statistics for the CIGR Journal from July 1st to October 31st, 2012 using OJS. With the increasing number of submissions, improving the quality of the papers to be published should be the primary goal of the Journal. Authors, reviewers and Section Editors are the key to upgrading the quality of CIGR 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.

From July 1st to October 31st of the year 2012, 78 manuscripts have been submitted, which is consistent with the submission rate of about 20 manuscripts per month. The average time to complete the review process and publish a manuscript is more than 90 days. It is notable that 16.7% new submissions have been peer reviewed and 38.5% manuscripts are in the review process with some reviewers' comments, which is a lot more compared to 8% and 11% respectively in the first half of 2012. This is due to the hardworking of Section Editors and reviewers. Also, fewer new submissions were accepted by the Section Editors accounting for 6.4% of the total submissions. This is because many manuscripts are in the review process and

will be published before the end of the year. According to the current trend, about 100 manuscripts in total will be published in the four issues of Vol. 14 by the CIGR Journal. We will continue our endeavor of maintaining the manuscript statistics and prompt communications with Section Editors to speed up the review process.

By November 19th, 2012, the total number of registered users in CIGR Journal through OJS reached 8046 with 156 new users compared to the statistics accounted at the end of July, 2012. Registered readers were 7344 with 106 new and 1393 were registered as reviewers with 79 new compared to the database at the end of July 2012. Also, owing to the incomplete registration information, particularly without clearly indicating the interview interest areas of the reviewers, it is hard for the Section Editors to select proper reviewers according to their expertise. The CIGR Journal warmly welcomes the participation of its members as well as the scientists and engineers engaged in agricultural and biosystems engineering worldwide in the Journal work and appreciates your support. If you have not registered in CIGR Journal, please do so by going to the website and registering as an author and reviewer.

Right now, there are 172 manuscripts submitted to CIGR Journal in all, with 30 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*

2012 Statistics for the CIGR Journal (July –October)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Issues (Vol.14, No.3, No.4, 2012) | Published 1 (No. 3; No.4 in publishing) |
|-----------------------------------|---|

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Items (Research papers)                 | Published 30 in No.3 |
| Total new submissions                   | 78                   |
| Peer reviewed                           | 13 (16.7%)           |
| Held by Section Editors                 | 21 (26.9%)           |
| In review with some review comments     | 30 (38.5%)           |
| In review without review comments       | 23 (29.5%)           |
| Accepted as new submissions             | 5 (6.4%)             |
| Declined as new submissions             | 20 (25.6 %)          |
| Resubmitted                             | 0 (0%)               |
| Days from submission to complete review | Over 60              |
| Days from submission to publication     | Over 90              |

### CIGR Journal Meetings in 2012

#### CIGR Journal Meeting at CIGR-AgEng 2012 in July in Valencia, Spain

On July 8th, 2012, the CIGR Journal Meeting was held at Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain during the CIGR-AgEng 2012. Nearly 40 experts of CIGR Presidium members, Executive Board members, Section Chairs, CIGR Journal Section Editors, and Reviewers attended the meeting.

The Editor-in-Chief of the CIGR Journal, Prof. Lanfang Zhang chaired the meeting. She suggested the agenda of the working meeting:

1. Work report by EiC on the work of the Editorial Office of the Journal in the first half of 2012
2. Main issues to be addressed and discussed
  - (1) Problems in current CIGR Journal work
    - Inactive of reviewers, make the SE job harder
    - Inactive of the SE
    - Slow response of the authors, even no feedback to the SE
  - (2) Reasons for the existed problems
    - Quality of the papers and quality of the Journal
  - (3) Ways to solve the problems
    - The mechanism of the journal managing,
    - Responsibilities of EiC, SE, Reviewers and Editorial Office
    - Present management—Editor-in-Chief with the CIGR President, Prof. Fedro Zazueta —one month one working meeting;
3. Future plan for the coming 1 or 2 years

- (1) Try to get more manuscripts submissions from the developed countries and upgrade the academic and technical level of the papers;
- (2) Build a good team with active SE reviewers to guarantee the smooth running of the journal at high level;
- (3) Make the journal be cited by ISI, SCI
4. Discuss the detailed steps to implement the future plan

During the 2-hour meeting, the participants actively discussed issues and measures to improve the quality of papers, speed up the editorial process and expand the influence of the Journal. Coordinated by CIGR Section Chairs, some experts were added to work as Section Editors. Besides, two hundred hard copies of the CIGR Journal Vol. 14, No.1&2 were distributed at the CIGR-AgEng 2012 and received high praises. Prof. Zhang Lanfang was awarded the Merit Award for her devotion and contributions for the CIGR Journal at the CIGR-AgEng 2012.

#### CIGR Journal Working Meeting in November in Beijing, China

On Nov. 1st, 2012, the CIGR Presidents Prof. Fedro Zazueta, Prof. Da-Wen Sun and Prof. Søren Pederson visited the Editorial Office of CIGR Journal, which is located in Chinese Agricultural Academy of Mechanization Sciences (CAAMS), Beijing, China. During their short stay in China, the three Presidents and the staff of the Editorial Office held a working meeting on the CIGR Journal (please see the minutes of the meeting). At the meeting, Prof. Zhang Lanfang made a thorough report on CIGR Journal work, including the standardized working mechanism of the Journal, detailed statistics of papers and some issues that need to be resolved. The three Presidents highly praised the efforts and achievements made by the Editorial Office, and made some proposals to improve the quality of papers. Based on the Presidents' suggestions, the Editorial Office will spare no efforts in improving the CIGR Journal in the future.

### Minutes of Working Meeting of CIGR Journal

Time: 9:30-11:30 November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012

Venue: No. 2 Meeting Room, Building #31, CAAMS, Beijing China

Main Topics: Report on CIGR Journal by EiC, and some related discussions

#### Attendees

|   |                |   |
|---|----------------|---|
| 1 | Fedro Zazueta  | President of CIGR<br>Associate Chief Information Officer, Office of Academic Technology, University of Florida (UF)   |
| 2 | Da-Wen Sun     | Incoming President of CIGR<br>Member of Royal Irish Academy<br>Member of Academia Europaea<br>Professor of Agriculture & Food Science Centre, University College Dublin (UCD) |
| 3 | Søren Pedersen | Former President of CIGR (2009-2010)<br>Professor of Agricultural Sciences, University of Aarhus, Denmark   |



|   |               |  |
|---|---------------|--|
| 4 | Zhao Xiaopeng | Assistant President of CAAMS<br>Director of International Cooperation Department, CAAMS              |
| 5 | Zhang Lanfang | Editor-in-Chief of CIGR Journal<br>Deputy Director of International Cooperation Department, CAAMS    |
| 6 | Ma Teng       | Copy Editor of the CIGR Journal<br>Director Assistant of International Cooperation Department, CAAMS |
| 7 | Wang Jin      | Copy Editor of CIGR Journal<br>International Cooperation Department, CAAMS                           |
| 8 | Zhou Rong     | Copy Editor of CIGR Journal<br>International Cooperation Department, CAAMS                           |
| 9 | Lu Ningning   | Copy Editor of CIGR Journal<br>International Cooperation Department, CAAMS                           |

Chaired by : Mr. Zhao Xiaopeng, Assistant President of CAAMS

## Main contents

### 1. Mr. Zhao Xiaopeng first made an opening remark

When Prof. Zhang Lanfang was appointed as the EiC of CIGR Journal in January, 2012, the CIGR Editorial Office met with many problems, but all staff worked hard and made many improvements. The editorial work has been carried out regularly under the leadership of Prof. Zhang Lanfang.

### 2. Prof. Zhang Lanfang, the EiC of CIGR Journal, made a thorough report of CIGR Journal work

(1) The members of CIGR Editorial Office introduced themselves, including the editors who are doing the first and second copy editing of the papers. The other staff members that were not present were introduced by Prof. Zhang.

(2) Prof. Zhang explained the standardized working mechanism of the editorial process of CIGR Journal from manuscript submission to publishing:

a. The responsibilities of EiC: The EiC filters the papers upon submission. In general, EiC will check the new submission and return, reject, decline and accept the papers due to the following reasons:

Return to authors: The language of the paper is too poor to meet the Journal requirement; the paper format is not in line with the author guide, the paper will be returned to authors for improving for re-submission;

Reject: The content of paper is not within the seven sections of the CIGR;

Decline: The paper was published in other journals.

Accept: If the paper has not the above-mentioned points, then EiC will accept and it will be assigned to the corresponding Section Editor within 3 days.

b. The SE assigns papers to at least 2 reviewers within 10 days and takes care of the whole peer reviewing process. The reviewers are required to review the papers within 30 days. After the paper is peer reviewed, the SE will make a decision of

accept/revision required/resubmit/reject. To ensure the smooth process of peer reviewing, the SE has the responsibility of urging reviewers to upload review comments, assigning additional reviewers if necessary, urging authors to submit the final revised version and make the decision of accepting or 2<sup>nd</sup> round of review. Only when the paper is accepted can it be sent to the EiC for her to assign the paper to the copy editors for editing.

c. The EiC takes charge of the editing of accepted papers. One copy editor majored in English does the first round of editing by checking the language for one week, and another copy editor majored in agricultural engineering does the second round on technical contents for another week. Then the EiC sends the copy edited paper to the corresponding author for final proofreading. The author should confirm the corrections made by copy editors and declare that the paper has not been published anywhere else within 10 days, and send back the final proofread version. Then the paper can be sent for layout editing. After layout editing, the paper is ready for publishing.

d. The whole editorial process for one manuscript from submission to publishing lasts about 90 to 108 days. The major role of EiC is inspection and coordination. The EiC needs to assign papers to SE, to inspect the process of peer reviewing and to manage the editing process of manuscripts, and solve any unexpected incidents. SE mainly takes care of the peer reviewing process. Within 10 months of practice and improvement after Prof. Zhang took office as the EiC, a standardized working mechanism for the CIGR Journal was formed. So far, all the roles involved, including the EiC, the SE, the reviewers, the authors, the copy editors and layout editors have been working collaboratively. Besides, Prof. Zhang Lanfang and CIGR President, Prof. Fedro Zazueta held monthly business meetings on the work of the Journal through Skype a total of six times up until October, 2012.

- (3) The EiC showed some statistics of the work of the Editorial Office of the CIGR Journal in 2012.
- a. Since January 2012, the Editorial Office has published four issues with 78 papers, namely, Vol. 13. No. 4 (8 papers), Vol. 14. No. 1 (20 papers), Vol. 14. No. 2 (20 papers) and Vol. 14. No. 3 (30 papers), 30 papers in editing at the end of October, 2012. Besides, one paper version with 30 papers was published with 300 printed copies and distributed at the 2012 CIGR AgEng in Valencia, Spain.
  - b. The Editorial Office of CIGR Journal received 184 new submissions, and handled 382 papers. The EiC analyzed the distribution of submission in the seven Sections and in different countries; archived papers and published papers in the seven Sections, etc.
- (4) Prof. Zhang also addressed some problems that the Editorial Office of CIGR Journal is facing. Due to the inactivity of some SE, reviewers, and authors, the editorial process is difficult to push forward. The SE of Section IV has not been active and many papers were delayed in that Section. The authors of most submissions are from developing countries, some with lower technical levels.

### 3. Evaluations and suggestions by the CIGR Presidents

After hearing the report by Prof. Zhang, the CIGR presidents were all satisfied with the work of the Editorial Office of the CIGR Journal. They said that the Editorial Office had done an enormous pile of work voluntarily, which has enabled the CIGR Journal take on a brand-new image. The presidents also made the following evaluations and suggestions:

- (1) Prof. Søren Pedersen said that the SE should shoulder more responsibilities as per the technical contents of the papers. He explained that the editorial mode is quite different from the situation before 2000. When assigning papers to reviewers, the Section Editors should check if the paper has already been published, if the subject of the paper is within the scope of the CIGR Journal, and check the format of the paper.
- (2) Prof. Da-Wen Sun made suggestions from the perspective of the working mechanism of the Editorial Office. He stressed that the authors should take the responsibility for the quality of the paper. He added that if the paper does not meet the standards of the CIGR Journal, the paper should be returned to the authors directly for revision. In this way the Editorial Office can save the time and resources. He provided a method from his journal that if 5 mistakes are found or the references cited are too old, the manuscript is probably not useful and should be rejected immediately.
- (3) Prof. Fedro Zazueta also emphasized that great

efforts of CIGR Journal have been made since Prof. Zhang Lanfang was appointed as be the EiC. He suggested that after ensuring the number of papers already published, the main function of the work of the Editorial Office is to ensure the quality of scientific contribution of the papers. Everything else should be flexible but the firm commitment of the Editorial Office is improving the quality of papers as high quality is essential for the reputation of CIGR Journal.

- (4) Based on the quality of the papers, after thorough discussion, the following suggestions were made to improve the CIGR Journal:
  - a. The EiC first filters the submissions by checking language and plagiarism; Section Editors and reviewers take the responsibility of scientific merits of the submissions, the language will be taken care of by the Editorial Office.
  - b. The Editorial Office should prepare a document indicating in details the roles of Section Editors and reviewers. Especially every Section Editor should know the editorial process and his/her responsibilities. What the Section Editors and reviewers should do is to check the technical content of the papers. If a paper with poor quality is accepted by the Section Editor, the EiC should discuss with the Section Editor and find a solution.
  - c. As for the submissions from developing countries, as long as the paper is unique and suggests innovative solution, the paper can be accepted, even though it is not at the highest technical level.
  - d. Section Editors should not necessarily be the Executive Board Members of CIGR; they can be any experts with good qualification and enthusiasm working for the Journal. The Section Editor can also recommend other reviewers. Authors who have already published in the CIGR Journal can be excellent reviewers.
  - e. The list of the Section Editors can be updated frequently. If some Section Editors are not active, the EiC has the authority of delete them from the name list and select additional Section Editors.
  - f. The Editorial Office should put emphasis on recognition of reviewers, as the motivation of reviewers is essential to the Journal. The Editorial Office should make a standard certificate in recognition of reviewers.

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| <b>CIGR Section Boards</b> (for 2011 )               |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Section I:</b> <i>Land and Water</i>              | (Chair: Guanhua Huang [China])          |
| <b>Section II:</b> <i>Structures and Environment</i> | (Chair: Thomas Banhazi [Australia])     |
| <b>Section III:</b> <i>Plant Production</i>          | (Chair: John K. Schueller [USA])        |
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| <b>Section V:</b> <i>System Management</i>           | (Chair: Claus Gron Soerensen [Denmark]) |
| <b>Section VI:</b> <i>Bioprocesses</i>               | (Chair: Linus Opara [South Africa])     |
| <b>Section VII:</b> <i>Information Technology</i>    | (Chair: Seishi Ninomiya [Japan])        |

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