From the Executive Director

For me, we are fully into a new year when I see that ASABE’s Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference, or AETC, is coming up. This year’s AETC will happen on February 13–15, at the Seelbach Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. There is still time to register, but you’ll need to hustle to secure a hotel room. The planning committee has created another great program. If you’re interested in the field of ag equipment, you will want to attend.

A few years back, as part of the company’s 100th anniversary celebration, Claas provided major financial support to cover the costs for undergraduate students to attend AETC. Every year since, student support and attendance have grown. This year, CNH Industrial, John Deere, MacDon, and Kondex have added their support, allowing even more students to attend. Several of these no-cost student registrations are still available, and I would love to see them all used. Complete this form and return it to Jessica Bell by February 1.

One of my favorite parts of AETC is recognition of the AE50 Award winners. With the tagline “celebrating product innovations impacting food, water, energy, and the environment,” the AE50 Awards program this year marks its 31st anniversary. During the Tuesday luncheon, we will formally recognize the AE50 winners, and special sessions on Tuesday afternoon will showcase these leading-edge technologies. I hope to see you in Louisville!

Darrin J. Drollinger
Executive Director

AETC 2017 - Register Online until February 3

Is your work impacted by emerging...
Is your work impacted by emerging agricultural equipment technology? Are you responsible for developing agricultural equipment technology? Are you a student planning to enter the workforce?

If you can answer Yes to any of the above, you won’t want to miss AETC 2017, February 13-15, Seelbach Hilton, Louisville, Kentucky. This year we welcome Luke A. Chandler, Deputy Chief Economist of Deere & Co., as our keynote speaker, who will present an overview of current global agricultural economic conditions and the potential future impacts on the industry.

Online registration for this unique event will be available until Friday, February 3.

Be sure to check www.asabe.org/AETC2017 for registration and for an up-to-date listing of sessions.

STUDENTS! Thanks to generous corporate sponsorship, you can attend AETC 2017 free of charge! Meet your potential employer and coworkers and enjoy a waived registration fee. The number of free registrations is limited, so contact ASABE’s Jessica Bell immediately.

Resolution: Job Search

Whether you’re looking to move up the career ladder, start a new career, or make more money with a new position, there’s no time like the new year to make some job search resolutions.

So how do you prepare for the strong hiring period the first quarter of the year tends to bring? The answer is simple: by investing in yourself. Posting your resume on the ASABE Career Center will show employers that you are the most qualified candidate, as evidenced by your most up-to-date experience, skills, and abilities.

Kick off the new year the right way by visiting the ASABE Career Center and engage with some of the top employers in the industry.

AE50 Awards to Be Presented at AETC 2017

The recently announced AE50 Award winners will be recognized at the 2017 Agricultural Engineering Technology Conference next month, in Louisville. Each year AE50 awards honor companies offering the best engineered products for agricultural, food, biological, and related systems. These companies continue to push the envelope of new equipment design through innovation. Join us at the AE50 luncheon, February 14, at noon on the 10th floor in the Grand Ballroom.

Look for the AE50 showcases, which will follow in Medallion A/B. The AE50 products featured in these sessions were new to the marketplace in 2016, and all have the potential for a broad impact in their area of industry. This is an excellent opportunity to learn of new features incorporated into these products and share a portion of their journey to the marketplace. The session is open to all and will feature presentations on a sampling of those products receiving 2017 AE50 awards.

Renew Now to Avoid Service Interruption

Tie a string on your finger, set a pop-up reminder on your computer. Whatever it takes—don’t forget to renew! Even though the deadline for paying 2017 member dues has come and gone, it’s not too late.

You can pay in one of the following ways: online with a credit card by logging into the members-only page on the ASABE website and clicking the “Renew Now” link; on the phone by calling 800/371-2723 or 269/922-7005; by faxing your invoice to 269/429-3852; or by returning your invoice in the mail. Thank you! ASABE is made stronger by your continued membership.
Promote Ag Tech, Systems Management Programs in “Explore”

Students and job newcomers in the fields of ag tech or systems management with interesting backgrounds and resumes are featured in the “Explore” issue of Resource magazine, an every-three-years special issue. The next issue of “Explore” is planned for publication later this year, and stories and leads are most welcome. Please contact Sue Mitrovich with your suggestions for a student to feature or a fascinating story related to the fields. Your leads must be received by February 27, 2017.

Advertise your department by contacting Sandy Rutter, 269-932-7004. Departments will receive copies of the special-focus issue for recruiting students. Copies are distributed via Discover Engineering Family Day in Washington, DC, the FFA National Convention, ASABE staff travel, requests for career materials from individuals and teachers, and other outreach avenues. See www.asabe.org/Advertise for more details.

Interested? See the last issue www.asabe.org/Explore from 2014.

IPC Officers Conduct Retreat at ASABE Headquarters

The current slate of International Preprofessional Community (IPC) officers traveled to Society headquarters, in St. Joseph, Mich., earlier this month for their annual officers’ retreat. They spent time coordinating IPC activities, planning events for this year’s annual international meeting, and discussing ideas to better engage students in ASABE activities. They also enjoyed a staff chili cook-off that has become an officers-retreat tradition in recent years.

In photo, from left: 2nd Vice President, Parker Williams, University of Wisconsin - Madison; Secretary, Connor West, Iowa State University; President, Christian Ley, Oklahoma State University; 1st Vice President, Michael McGowan, University of Florida; Treasurer, Ravi Kiran Tadapaneni, Washington State University.

ASABE Technical Library - One of Your Most Valuable Member Benefits!

What’s new with your ASABE Technical Library? Glad you asked.

- Resource magazine is using new viewer software for the online edition. To zoom, simply double-click on the page.
- Check out www.asabe.org/TechnicalLibraryHelp on how to use Google to search the technical library.
- Member credits for the Technical Library are being restocked for 2017. Your annual membership in ASABE provides you with 100 download credits and 5 standards for the ASABE Technical Library located at https://elibrary.asabe.org.
- Starting with 2017, the unique digital object identifier (DOI) for journal articles will no longer have the journal volume as part of the number. The DOI number is the best way to link to an article in our library. If ASABE changes servers for library vendors, the DOI will continue to point to the new location. For example, if the DOI number is 10.13031/trans.59.11347, the URL http://dx.doi.org/10.13031/trans.59.11347 will redirect users to the current location.

2017 Student Awards and Competitions Entry Dates

ASABE hosts a variety of student competitions for a wide range of interests. Please see the link following each competition or award for eligibility details and entry forms.

February 1

- G. B. Gunlogson Environmental Fountain Wars Design Competition – Intent to participate due to coordinator -

June 15

- Agricultural Robotics Student Design Competition - Deadline for intent to participate

March 15

- Boyd-Scott Graduate Research Award

May 15

- K. K. Barnes Student Paper Competition
G.B. Gunlogson Environmental Open Design Competition

April 20  Student Honor Award
April 27  AGCO National Student Design Competition
May 1   AEM Trophy Competition
June 5   Undergraduate Projects Poster Competition

2017 Undergraduate Scholarships

March 15 is the deadline for applying for these ASABE scholarships. Follow each link for details on eligibility information and entry forms. Contact Sarah Cook with questions.

William J. Adams, Jr. and Marijane E. Adams Scholarship - $1,200
ASABE Foundation Engineering Scholarship - $1,200

Engineers Without Borders Looking for Ag/Bio Engineering Expertise

ASABE offers support to Engineers Without Borders - USA (EWB-USA) by helping communicate their needs with members who can assist with relevant engineering projects. EWB-USA is in need of two individuals to provide expertise on USAID-funded projects in Kosovo, one involving development of a fertilizer facility and another involving dairy and produce processing. Click on the links to learn more about these opportunities.

New Position at Zhejiang University for Ting

ASABE Fellow Kuan Chong (K.C.) Ting started 2017 with a new position as Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and Strategy at Zhejiang University International Campus in China. Ting continues his association with the ABE department at the University of Illinois, and he plans to make periodic trips back to Champaign. He is a 36-year member of ASABE.

Chaubey Accepts New Role at Purdue

Purdue University Agriculture recently announced that Indrajeet Chaubey, currently head of the Purdue Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences will become the next Associate Dean and Director of International Programs in Agriculture. He will assume the position on a half time basis May 15, and will transition to full time on January 1, 2018. Chaubey was a full professor in Purdue’s Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering before taking the department head position in the College of Science which he now holds. He brings a long track record of international activity and an outstanding scholarly record to this role. He is a proven leader and collaborator, he has established his ability to build and lead strong and productive teams, and has a true passion to help us take Purdue’s international programs to even higher levels of excellence.

In Memoriam - Darrell G. Watts


Darrell received his BS in agricultural engineering from Oklahoma State in 1960, his masters degree in irrigation engineering from the University of California-Davis in 1962, and his PhD in agricultural engineering from Utah State in 1965.
1975. He was a professor in teaching, research, and extension at Oregon State University, Haile Sellassie University in Ethiopia, and the University of Nebraska.

He lead numerous short term consulting trips on water management in Colombia, Chile, Russia, Morocco, Niger, Zaire, Brazil, and Argentina. Watts received the Distinguished Service Award from UNL in 1988; honorary professor from the University of Concepcion in Chile in 1997; USDA group honor award for excellence, MSEA project in 1997; ASABE Nebraska Section Engineer of the Year in 1997; research team award from UNL in 1998; and was inducted into the Biological Systems Engineering Hall of Fame in 2009.

Survivors include his wife Lois Watts, of Lincoln; daughter and son-in-law, Sylvia and Danny Kelly, of Lincoln; and a son, Joel Watts, of Lincoln. Also surviving are his brother and sister-in-law, Robert B. and Alva Watts, of Eolia, Missouri. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorials in his honor may be made to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation, UNL Foundation, or Region V services for the handicapped.

He was a 54-year ASABE member.

Recent Standards Activities

Proposed Projects
- X568.1, Installation of Electric Fence Controllers
- X455WD, Environmental Considerations in Development of Mobile Agricultural Electrical/Electronic Components

New Revision
- S623.1 JAN2017 Determining Landscape Plant Water Demands

Standard Withdrawn
- ANSI/ASABE S599 NOV2010 (R2015), Standardized Deployment Performance of an Automatically Deployable ROPS for Turf & Landscape Equipment

Press Releases
- January 9, 2017, ASABE Withdraws Two Turf and Landscape Equipment Standards

For a complete listing of ASABE Standards project activities, including recent press releases, click here.