



Agricultural Economics Society

Report of the Executive Committee to the Annual General Meeting of the Agricultural Economics Society 5th April 2016

Paul Caskie

Chair of the Executive

Coverage

- The Executive Committee
- Membership of the Society
- Conferences
- The Journal
- Euro Choices
- AES-EAAE MoU
- AES Travel Award Scheme



The Executive - Meetings and membership changes

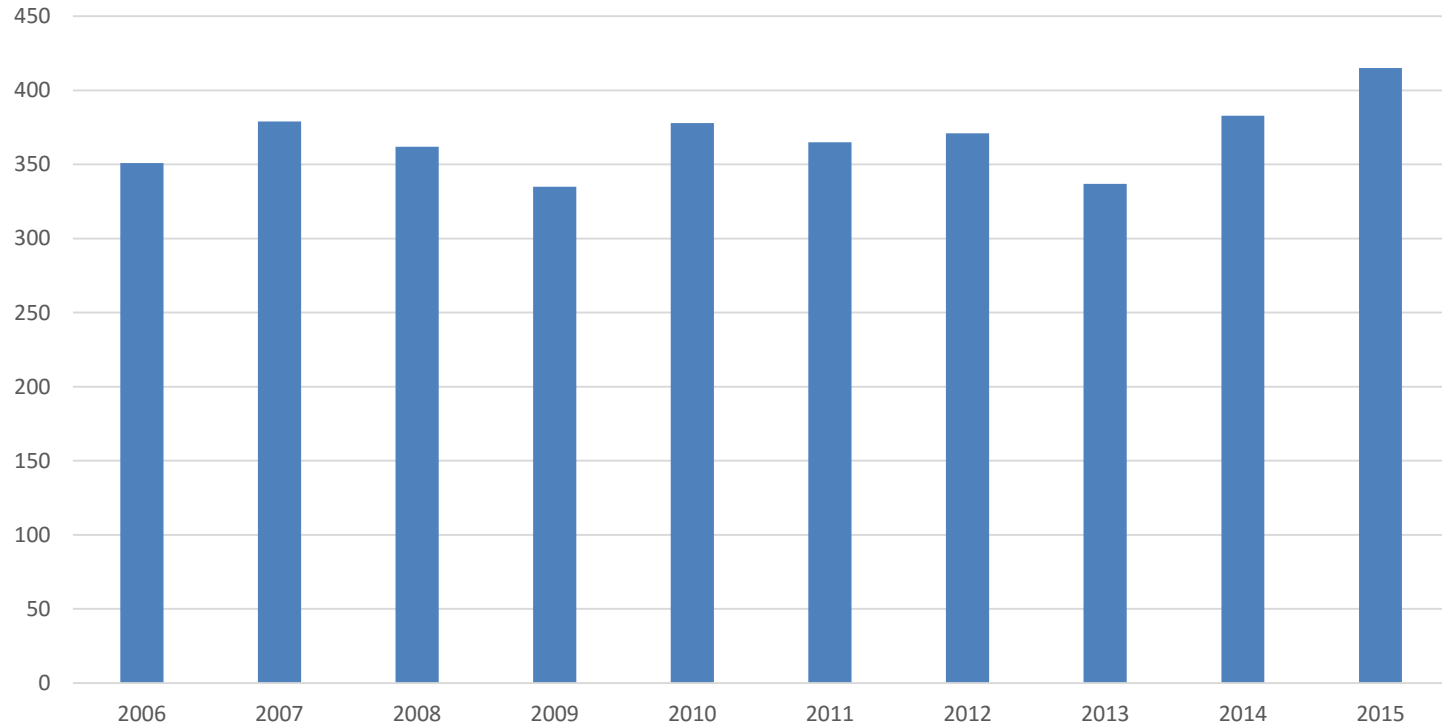
- Meetings since the last AGM
 - Wednesday 15th April 2015 Warwick
 - Friday 2nd October 2015 London
 - Sunday 3rd April 2016 Warwick
- Changes in membership
 - Joining the Exec in 2015 – Adelina Gschwandtner (Kent) and Vera Eory (SRUC, Programme Secretary)
 - Leaving the Exec in 2016 – Steve Wiggins, Richard Tranter, Jon Brooks and Stephen Ramsden.
 - Joining the Exec in 2016 – Peter Midmore (Aberystwyth) President Elect), Trevor Donnellan (Teagasc) and Dominic Moran (SRUC).

Nepal Earthquake Appeal

- Nepal Earthquake struck on 25th April 2015
- A Nepalese delegation attended the AES Conference 10 days earlier.
- A JustGiving fundraising account was setup to support the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) efforts in Nepal
- The total donated was £2,231 including £890 from a charity event organised by Shailesh Shrestha at SRUC

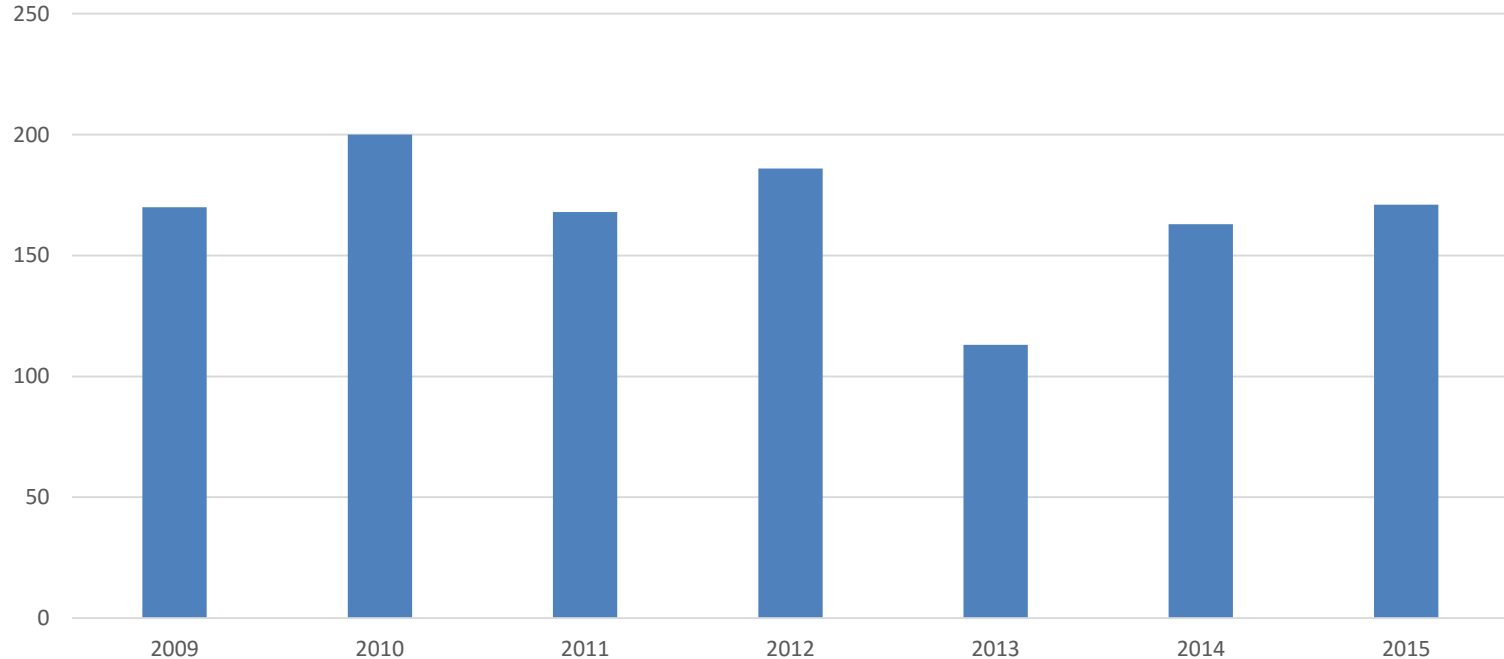
Membership of the Society

- Membership remains relatively stable reaching 415 in 2015.



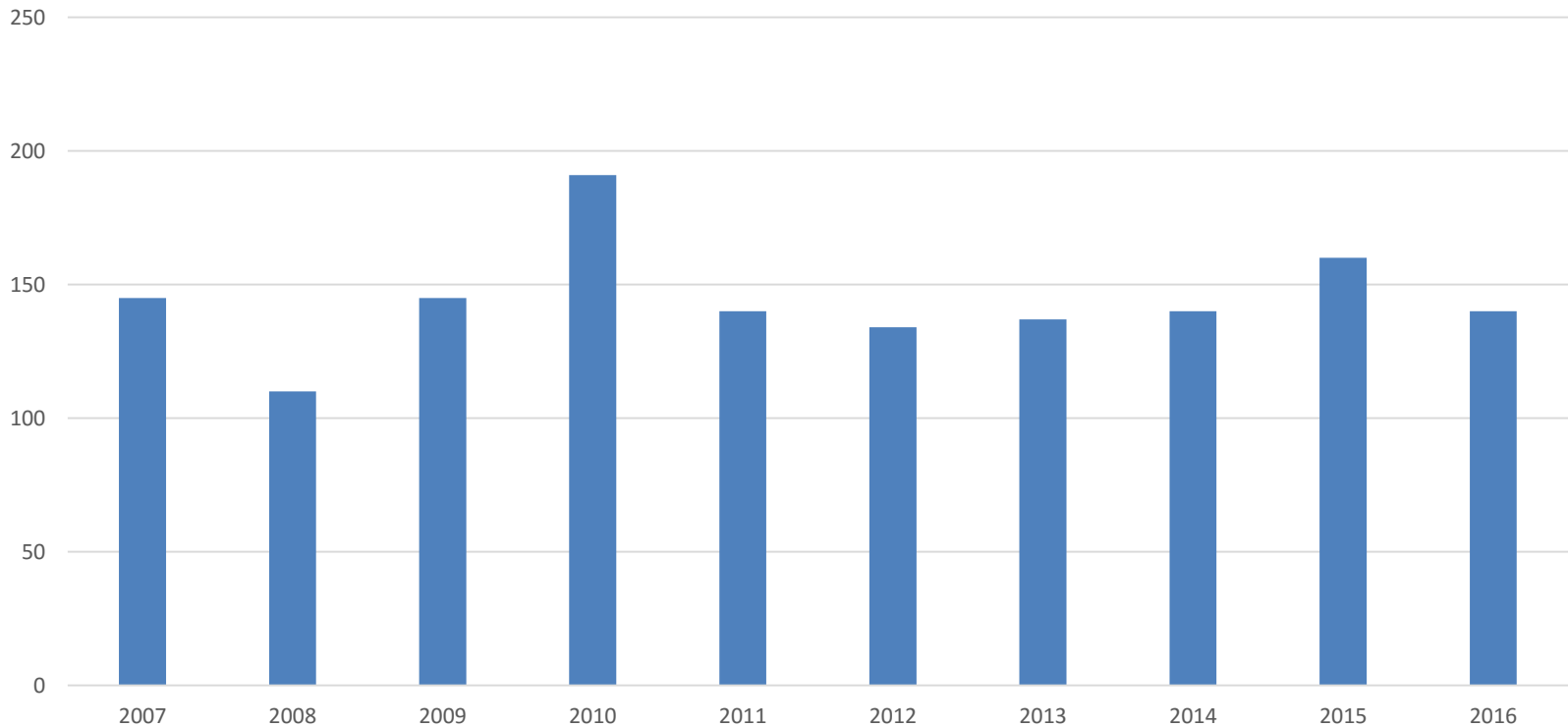
Membership of the Society

- Numbers of retained members (year on year) averages around 40-50 per cent.



Conference

- The Annual Conference attendance averages 140 per year



Future conferences

- The policy is that Warwick remains the default venue for the annual conference but the Executive and the members' survey supported the idea of using other venues intermittently.
- Next year's conference will be at the RDS in Dublin in partnership with Teagasc/AESI.
Dates: Mon 24th – Wed 26th April 2017

AES-Defra one day conference

- Nobel House 7th December 2015:
 - ‘Outlook for the UK Food and Farming Sector’
 - Welcome by George Eustice, Minister of State for Farming and Food,
 - 8 speakers on range of subjects,
 - 82 attendees (95 registered).
- Planning for 2016 event:
 - Nobel House in mid-December;
 - Encourage themes/topics (Grant Davies) and participation.



IAAE triennial conference

- Held in Milan, 8-14 August 2015
- New initiative to encourage AES member participation
- Supported the attendance of 10 researchers
- Grants with a total value of £6,500
- Recipients were presenting contributed or poster papers

The Journal – Editor's report

- Submissions continued strong increase observed in recent years and reached **415** in 2015.
- Initial rejection rate was **79%** slightly higher than the previous year
- Turn around time to first decision was less than 120 days for **>98%** of submissions
- Citation was 0.97 in 2013 and **1.3** in 2014
- Editors thank all those who acted as referees and gratefully acknowledge their contribution

Euro Choices – Editor's report

- Two special issues in 2015 on *Climate Change and Agriculture*, containing 18 articles;
Guest Editorial by Laimdota Straujuma, Prime Minister of Latvia and President of the EU Council
- Editor invited to inaugural scientific meeting for the Milan Expo to participate in debate on the Commission paper on *Global food and nutrition security and the role of research in the EU*
- Steering Group now includes representatives from OECD, DG AGRI and DG RTD

Euro Choices – Editor's report

- 39 submissions received from 92 authors in 20 countries in 2015
- Article downloads are up 25% at around 14,000
- Downloads (%) by country via Wiley Online Library: GB 15%, US 10%, D 7%, AUS 6%, NL 5%, IRL, CDN, CHN, I, F = 4%
- 2016 will see special issue on GM co-existence in Europe, Guest Edited by Justus Wesseler, Wageningen University and special section on Brexit, Guest Edited by Alan Swinback

AES-EAAE MoU

- Aims to encourage co-operation and improve information sharing
- Enhances existing arrangements for disseminating information on upcoming events
- Clarifies the process for the appointment of a Liaison Officer
- Sets out the duties of the Liaison Officer
- Does not give rise to legal obligations

Travel Grant Scheme

- Provides established members with financial assistance for travel that aids professional development
- Annual fund of £10K
- Open to all types of members
- Support to authors presenting at approved list of conferences
- Support to study visit of merit on relevant topic
- Eligibility and award conditions will apply
- Assessment panel
- Details to follow



Thanks

- Thanks to all Executive members but special thanks to:
 - Katy Thorne – Administrator
 - Wilfrid Legg – Hon. Secretary
 - Derek Shepherd – Hon. Treasurer
 - Vera Eory – Programme Secretary
 - David Harvey and John Davis (Editors JAE and EuroChoices)
 - Grant Davies (for organising the Defra/AES one-day conference)
 - Tim Lloyd (for liaison with EAAE and IAAE)
 - Retiring members of the Executive: Steven Wiggins, Richard Tranter and Jon Brooks.

