



Agricultural Economics Society
Centenary Conference
23rd – 25th March 2026

Speaker bios

David Blandford (Pennsylvania State University)

David Blandford is a Professor Emeritus of Agricultural and Environmental Economics at Penn State University, specializing in agricultural/food policy, international trade, and food systems, with a PhD in agricultural economics from the University of Manchester, known for work on trade impacts, risk, and emerging food system challenges. He held leadership roles, including Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, and contributes research on food security and trade.

Andrew Barnes (SRUC)

Andrew Barnes is a Professor in Rural Resource Economics at SRUC, specialising in the uptake of sustainable technologies in food and farming, and metrics of sustainable growth within agricultural production systems. He has a PhD in Agricultural Economics from the University of Glasgow. He is currently the Head of the School for Natural and Social Sciences, and contributes to debates around farming and greenhouse gases, as well as agricultural policy.

Alan Matthews (University of Dublin Trinity College, Ireland)

Alan Matthews is Professor Emeritus of European Agricultural Policy at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. His research interests include agricultural policy, trade policy, and trade and development issues. He is a Fellow and former President of the European Association of Agricultural Economists, and President of the Agricultural Economics Society during its centenary year 2026. Among his public policy contributions, he has been a member of several WTO dispute settlement and arbitration panels and is a former member of Ireland's Climate Change Advisory Council. He is a regular contributor to the blog *capreform.eu* on issues relating to the EU's Common Agricultural Policy.

Michael Plummer (Johns Hopkins University)

Michael Plummer is currently the Eni Professor of International Economics at the European campus of the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS Europe) at Johns Hopkins University based in Bologna, Italy. His research focuses on international economic integration, particularly trade integration in the Asia-Pacific region. He was Director of SAIS Europe from 2014 to 2023 and Head of the Development Division of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris from 2010 to 2012, as well as a member of the Trade Policy Modelling Review Expert Panel for the UK government (2020-22). His PhD is in economics from Michigan State University.

Here's my bio

Steve Wiggins (ODI Global)

Steve Wiggins is a Senior Research Associate in ODI's Climate & Sustainability team. An agricultural economist, he has worked on agricultural and rural development since 1972, as planner, teacher and researcher; initially in Latin America, subsequently focusing on sub-Saharan Africa. He joined ODI in 2002. A former President of AES, his interests centre on rural livelihoods, agricultural development, and food and nutrition security.

Imre Fertő (ELTE Centre for Economic and Regional Studies)

Imre Fertő is a general director at the ELTE Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungary and serves as a Professor at the Corvinus University of Budapest and the Czech University of Life Sciences. Holding PhD degrees from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, his research focuses on price transmission, local food systems, technical efficiency, international trade and agri-environmental policy. His contributions have earned him multiple prestigious honours, including the Prize of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (2022) and the Award for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement in Research (Agricultural Economics Society, 2023).

Thomas Hertel (Center for Global Trade Analysis)

Thomas Hertel is Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Research Professor at Purdue University. Prof. Hertel's research and teaching focuses on international trade, food and environmental security. He is a 2022 recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Research Prize and is a Fellow, and Past-President of the AAEA, Fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science as well as the Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society, and Honorary Life Member of the International Association of Agricultural Economists.

Jill J. McCluskey (Washington State University)

Jill J. McCluskey is Regents Professor and Director of the School of Economic Sciences at Washington State University, product quality and reputation, retail food markets and food access, nutrition, and economics of new technology. She received her Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of California, Berkeley. She is the President Elect of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE) and past President of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA). She chairs the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine.

Paul Wilson (University of Nottingham)

Paul Wilson is Professor of Agricultural Economics and Director of the Centre for Food Policy and Foresight at the University of Nottingham, recognised for his expertise in the analysis of farm business performance, he led the contract for DEFRA's English Farm Business Survey (FBS) from 2006-2022 and regularly contributes to Government policy focused conferences and industry presentations. He is the 2025/26 Agricultural Economics Society President, and, following extensive experience in academic school leadership roles, he is currently an ESRC Research Fellow estimating farm household incomes from the Administrative Data | Agricultural Research Collection.

Doris Läpple (University of Göttingen)

Doris Läpple is Professor of Economics of Sustainable Agri-Food Systems at the University of Göttingen, Germany. Her research focuses on climate change mitigation in agriculture, farmer decision-making, information provision, and agricultural policy, with a recent focus on farmers' protests and their implications for environmental policy design. She holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Galway and has previously held academic positions at the

University of Galway and University College Dublin, as well as visiting appointments at the Technical University of Munich and the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She serves as Co-Editor of the *Journal of Agricultural Economics* and is a Board Member of the *European Association of Agricultural Economists*. Her work has been published in leading field journals, including the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Food Policy*, the *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, and the *European Review of Agricultural Economics*.

Paul Brassley

Dr Paul Brassley has an Honorary Fellowship in the Centre for Rural Policy Research at the University of Exeter. From 2009 he worked there on a project to investigate the process of technical change in English agriculture after the Second World War. He and his colleagues published the results in *The Real Agricultural Revolution: the transformation of English farming 1939-1985* (Boydell, 2021). He has been Chair and President of the British Agricultural History Society.

Rob Ackrill

Rob Ackrill is Professor Emeritus in Economics and Policy at Nottingham Trent University. He has degrees in Economics and Agricultural Economics from the Universities of Nottingham and Reading. He has longstanding interests in policy-oriented research, with publications analysing issues ranging from global agricultural trade policy, through EU policy, to local on-farm renewable energy policy. Chairing the Panel celebrating 25 years of EuroChoices, Rob served for many years on the journal's Advisory Board. He has recently been appointed as Editor-in-Chief of EuroChoices, with effect from 1 July 2026.

Shenggen Fan (China Agricultural University)

Shenggen Fan is Chair Professor at China Agricultural University and Dean of the Academy of Global Food Economics and Policy (AGFEP), specializing in public investment, food and nutrition security, agricultural and rural development, poverty reduction, and agri-food system transformation. He previously served as Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (2009–2019) and is known for his policy research in supporting rural road investment in India and advisory work for governments in China, Vietnam, and African countries. He serves on multiple international boards and advisory bodies and is a Fellow of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) and an Honorary Life Member of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE)

David Stead (University College Dublin)

David Stead is a lecturer in the School of Agriculture and Food Science, University College Dublin. He was educated at the universities of Cambridge and Oxford and is a past president of the Agricultural Economics Society of Ireland.

Laure Kuhfuss

Laure Kuhfuss holds, as Junior Professor, the chair on Policy Instruments for a Greener CAP at INRAE (UMR SMART, Rennes) since December 2024. Her research aims to improve the understanding of farmers' behaviour and preferences to inform the design and evaluation of agri-environmental policies. She is an active member of the Research Network on Economic Experiments for the Common Agricultural Policy (REECAP).

Lucie Maruejols

Lucie Maruejols has been Junior Professor for Computational Analytics and Modelling in Agricultural Policy at the Institute of Agricultural Economics at Kiel University since June 2023. She previously worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Göttingen

in the Department of Agricultural Economics in Developing and Emerging Countries. In her research, she investigates how machine learning can be used in Agricultural Economics. In particular, she is interested in agricultural and trade policy issues, analysing food security and the interface between agriculture and energy. This includes the introduction of renewable energy systems in the agricultural sector in Germany and energy poverty in Asia.

Jutta Roosen

Professor Roosen's research focuses on consumer behaviour and demand analysis. Her main interest is on cognitive aspects of perception and cultural influences on behaviour. Her work often deals with questions of food quality and safety, nutrition and health behaviour as well as sustainable consumption of energy and food. Professor Roosen studied in Bonn, Washington and Iowa and earned her PhD (1999) in economics from Iowa State University, USA. She later served as assistant professor at the Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium (1999-2002). Prior to her appointment as Chair of Marketing and Consumer Research at TUM in 2008, she was a professor at Kiel University.