

### Message from the President



AIC believes that advancing and applying innovative scientific knowledge on the sustainable use of agricultural resources can address many societal challenges, including human and

animal health, food security, climate change, energy demand and biodiversity.

To that end, a focus of our work in the last year was on development of AIC as the unifying voice on behalf of the science communities and agro-industries, a voice that will provide advice to the public and government and facilitate the exchange of ideas between industry and the scientific community.

AIC representatives participated in Science Day in Canada, a symposium organized by the Public Policy Forum to review the state of science in Canada and the role of science in contributing to Canada's economic recovery and global impact. AIC reinforced the many contributions made by research and development efforts in agricultural-related sectors and the need for multidisciplinary and intersectoral cross-fertilization of ideas.

In October Ag-West Bio and Genome Prairie hosted a working dinner of potential supporters for AIC's unifying voice project, attended by 19 leaders from the university and business community. The announcement of AIC's Unifying Voice Advisory Committee also generated media interest.

Another exciting development during the year was expansion of our accreditation program to the international level. AIC undertook a review of the agricultural degree programs at the United Arab Emirates University, and subsequently granted seven programs "substantial equivalency." AIC has signed a contract for review of the agricultural programs at King Saud University in Saudi Arabia in 2010.

AIC's international program continues to grow and prosper, thanks in large part to our member volunteers. The International Twinning Partnership program encompasses six projects in five countries – Ghana, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. A new project, with the Sustainable Agriculture Development Program in Nepal, is being developed in cooperation with the Canadian Society of Agronomy.

AIC's scientific journals continue to be the backbone of our success. In 2009 the journals were moved to a new web platform and scanning of all back issues was completed. We appreciate the opportunity the journals give us to work in cooperation with the scientific societies.

Finally, our gender equality mainstreaming program made substantive progress on a number of fronts, furthering our commitment that men and women will share equally in the power, decision making, work and benefits of AIC and its programs.

It was a pleasure to serve as AIC President and I am grateful to the Board of Directors for their support and commitment to AIC's growth and success going forward.

*Susan Simpson, MBA, PAg  
President 2008-2009*

## Scientific Journals

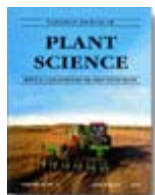
AIC publishes three scientific journals - the *Canadian Journal of Animal Science*, the *Canadian Journal of Plant Science*, and the *Canadian Journal of Soil Science*. In 2009, enhancement of the web presence and functionality of the website for the journals, and improved access to back issues, were the major areas of attention.



AIC completed its project to scan the back issues of the journals. All issues since 1957, the first year the journals were published under their current names, are now available on their individual websites in searchable PDF format. Tables of contents and abstracts are available in HTML. The back issues from 1957 to 2003 are available to all readers at no charge; current volumes are available by subscription.



At the recommendation of the Scientific Journals Committee, page charges for members of the scientific societies have been reduced by almost two thirds and are now \$30. It is anticipated the resulting reduction of income will be offset by an increase in subscription rates instituted for 2010.



The journals published a combined total of 2,420 pages in 2009. They are read in more than 100 countries and have close to 2,000 subscribers.

The scientific journals are published in cooperation with:

- Canadian Society of Agronomy
- Canadian Society of Animal Science
- Canadian Society for Horticultural Science
- Canadian Society of Soil Science
- Canadian Weed Science Society

### Scientific Journals Committee

#### Frank J. Larney, Chair

David Clements	Chantal Farmer
Gary Kachanoski	Shahrokh Khanizadeh
Tim McAllister	Daniel Ouellet
Vaino Poysa	Dan Reynolds
Joann Whalen	

## Retiring Associate Editors

### *Canadian Journal of Animal Science*

Nigel Cook	Jim House
Daniel Ouellet	José Santos
Abid Shah	

### *Canadian Journal of Plant Science*

David Clements	Stephen Darbyshire
David Ehret	Eric Johnson
Shahrokh Khanizadeh	Alan Moulin
Vaino Poysa (Editor)	Philippe Seguin
Suzanne Warwick	

### *Canadian Journal of Soil Science*

Eric Blanchart	Yin Chan
Gary Kachanoski (Editor)	Frank Larney
Sean McGinn	Guy Richard
Margaret Schmidt	

## International Agricultural Development Program (IADP)

This was another innovative and productive year for AIC's International Program. As the International Twinning Partnership Program (ITPP) entered the fourth year of its current 5-year agreement with CIDA, projects were achieving results formulated during the initial planning stages and envisioning ways to build for the future on these accomplishments.

The ITPP features six projects in five countries –



Ghana, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Sri Lanka and Vietnam - with a seventh project and sixth country, Nepal, in progress. Whether through the adoption of better land management and soil conservation methods, the introduction of new crops, the integration of crop and livestock production or by education and extension

activities, these projects share the goals of improving agricultural production, food security, and human health in poor, rural regions, while reducing the environmental risks posed by and encountered in farming.

In April, Dinah Ceplis was hired as the International Program Gender Equality Officer to assist with the planning process for mainstreaming gender equality in AIC, liaison with the Gender Equality Mainstreaming working group, communications and meeting support. Through her work, Dinah has generated an increased vitality and direction to the gender equality mainstreaming efforts in both developmental and institutional areas.



The summer held a highlight event with the very successful 2009 International Partners' Meeting (IPM) held in Sri Lanka and hosted by the Soil Science Society of Sri Lanka and the SRICANSOL II project. Delegates representing all projects participated in a week of sharing, exchanging and

learning. IPM sessions identified approaches to ensure viable and strong professional organizations for the future, presented tools for measuring results in such areas as poverty alleviation and food security, and advanced the development of goals and objectives for the next ITPP. A particularly helpful session offered by Nihal Atapattu, CIDA Development Officer in Sri Lanka, coached delegates in how to frame future work to meet the goals of development agencies, partner states, and international agreements. Threaded throughout the IPM sessions was discussion of the continuing need to promote gender equality and engage youth for the future. Another theme given serious attention was the integration of agricultural adaptation to climate change into programming goals.

In response to the IPM discussions, and based on the successful task team approach to gender equality, the ITPP looked to the broad and deep range of expertise of ITPP participants for its approach to integrating effective program responses to climate change. An international call for volunteers interested in participating on an AIC Climate Change Task Team (ACT2) resulted in the establishment of an able and eager group to lead these initiatives.

Throughout the year, several professional exchanges occurred between partner organizations. In the spring, Bob Eilers and Dr. Tee Boon Goh from the Canadian Society of Soil Science reviewed SRICANSOL II project endeavours in Sri Lanka. Later in the year, Dr. Samuel Gameda and Bob Eilers met with their Ethiopia Society of Soil Science counterparts. In July, the Vice-President of the Ghana Society for Animal Production, Dr. Frederick Obese, presented a paper to the Canadian Society of Animal Science-American Society of Animal Science and American Dairy Science Association joint meeting in Montreal, paid a working visit to the vaccine and infectious disease organization in Saskatoon, and met with his colleagues from the Canadian Society of Animal Science.

In December, Dr. Derek Lynch representing the Canadian Society of Agronomy (CSA), with Dinah Ceplis, representing the Canadian Society for Horticultural Science (CSHS), and Tom Beach representing AIC, visited the Sustainable Agriculture Development Program in Nepal to view their activities, meet their partners and project beneficiaries and discuss the potential of a project with them. Following this assessment visit, the CSA officially approved the organization's participation as a Canadian partner to the emerging project, and CSHS will encourage its members to participate. All partners will work together to develop a longer-term project proposal to be submitted for consideration as part of the ITPP 2011 program submission to CIDA.



Whether in their roles as project coordinators, contributors to working groups and task teams, or as presenters of public engagement activities in Canada, volunteerism from all partners – Canadian and international – is the driving force of the ITPP. Many of these individuals began their involvement with the ITPP as proficient professionals in their scientific fields, some with international connections and international development experience, and all with a desire to contribute their skills. During their involvement with the ITPP, all

have expanded their knowledge, understanding and capacity to contribute to development endeavours.

#### *International Program Photos:*

Women examine rice crop at a project site in Vietnam.

Photo courtesy of S. Gameda, CSSS

TSAEE representative, Applonia Magere, lights a ceremonial lamp at the opening of the 2009 International Partners' Meeting in Sri Lanka. Photo courtesy of E. Gregorich, CSSS

Dinah Ceplis, Derek Lynch and Tom Beach with their Nepali hosts. Photo courtesy of SADP.

### **Accreditation Program**

AIC expanded its accreditation program to the international level in 2009, with a review of the College of Agriculture and Food of the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU). The College's administrators requested the review as part of their vision to become the premier institution for higher learning in the region, while seeking to benchmark their programs against the best in the world.

The AIC review team found numerous points of comparison, and some distinctions, with universities in Canada. As in this country, the UAEU offers high-quality programs that provide the region with well-qualified marketable graduates in the fields of agriculture, food science, agribusiness, human nutrition and health.



A cultural distinction at the UAEU is that undergraduate students are segregated by gender, thus requiring separate classrooms for men and women. The site review team found that interaction between the students and faculty, regardless of gender, was excellent, and faculty members indicated no restrictions on their ability to

express opinions on academic matters and encourage their students to do the same.

Following the extensive review process, the college's seven agricultural degree programs were granted substantial equivalency. This means that the university's programs are of comparable quality to those offered in Canada. The designation has already had an impact as enrolment at the College has increased substantially.

AIC will undertake an accreditation review of King Saud University in Saudi Arabia in 2010. It is anticipated that international interest will continue to grow as AIC's accreditation program is unique in the world.

Thanks to the members of the UAEU Accreditation Review Team:

Bryan Harvey

George Jones

Gaston St-Laurent

John Vanderstoep

Myles Frosst

### **Gender Equality Program**

AIC as an organization is committed to gender equality: men and women sharing equally in the power, decision making, work and benefits of the organization and its programs.

Gender equality has long been a foundation of AIC's international program, but work to mainstream it throughout AIC's operations is a more recent focus. Groundwork laid in the past two years resulted in the establishment of a Gender Equality Mainstreaming (GEM) working group in early 2009. Participants include AIC individual members and representatives of committees, partner organizations, the AIC Board and staff members Tom Beach and Dinah Ceplis.

To assist in ensuring AIC met its mainstreaming objectives for the year, in April Dinah Ceplis was hired as International Program Gender Equality Officer. With considerable experience in the field, Dinah was instrumental in leading activities, including liaison with the GEM working group, communications and meeting coordination.

An orientation session on gender equality in the context of agriculture and AIC, led by gender consultant Catherine Hill, was organized for GEM members from Canada and two AIC Board members in early May. The same month, the CEO approved an operational policy outlining the objectives and strategy for mainstreaming gender equality in AIC. The gender equality process was integrated into the new organizational strategic planning framework, thereby institutionalizing gender equality objectives.

The AIC Honours and Awards program was identified as the first AIC program to be reviewed from a gender equality perspective. GEM representatives and the AIC Honours and Awards Committee met for a workshop in June, again led by Catherine Hill, and began a review of AIC's awards.

The exercise was beneficial in leading the Committee to revitalize all aspects of AIC's awards and selection processes. After several months' work, the Committee finalized new guidelines, nominating forms, and criteria for assessing nominations for the AIC Fellowship and International Recognition awards, and a new Sustainable Futures award.



In November, Dinah Ceplis organized a roundtable discussion of women working in agriculture/science in Brandon to explore views from a broad cross-section of disciplines. It is hoped that similar events can be organized in other regions, with an objective of forming networks of professional women in the sector.

AIC requested gender disaggregated data on enrolment from nine universities and colleges and analysis of the information received is ongoing in 2010. A case study of AIC's gender equality mainstreaming process was also in preparation by gender consultants at the year-end. The focus of program review with a gender lens has now moved to AIC's scientific journals, with participation from representatives of the Scientific Journals Committee.



AIC's commitment to gender equality mainstreaming has been communicated through a dedicated page on its website, which includes the organization's policy, activities in the international program, and an extensive resources page. The AIC monthly newsletter regularly includes an article or item on gender equality.



In 2009, profiles of AIC's three female Fellows – Dr. Mary MacArthur (1952), Dr. Ruby Larson (1977) and Dr. Anna Storgaard (1992) - were featured.

The *GEM of the Month* newsletter, edited by Dinah Ceplis, was inaugurated in December. It contains information and articles on gender equality mainstreaming within organizations, gender and climate change, and gender equality and agricultural/rural development. It is available under the resources tab of the gender equality web page.

The significant progress made in gender equality mainstreaming in 2009 was made possible by the leadership and financial resources provided by AIC's International Twinning Partnership Program, funded by CIDA.

*Gender Equality Program Photos:*  
Members of the AIC Honours and Awards Committee and GEM representatives  
Dr. Mary MacArthur, FAIC, 1952  
Dr. Ruby Larson, FAIC, 1977; photo courtesy Entomological Society of Alberta  
Dr. Anna Storgaard, FAIC, 1992; photo courtesy of Dawn Harris

## Food and Fuel from Agri-Resources Workshop

AIC organized a workshop, *Food and Fuel from Agri-Resources*, in Calgary on December 4, 2009.

Participants included AIC members, city planners, engineers, pesticide specialists, beef producers, and university faculty. The workshop was chaired by AIC member Dr. John Kennelly, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences at the University of Alberta.

Topics discussed at the workshop included:

- demand and sources of supply for bio-fuels and food, globally and within Canada
- the relationship between food prices, growth in demand for biofuels and global capacity to increase feedstock yields sustainably
- the competitive and environmental advantages of the use of waste generated on the farm for energy production
- the effects of telecommunications, peak oil, nanotechnology, the "technopoly effect" (it takes 10 years to integrate technology change into our values) and conflicting demands for water rights on agriculture's prospects to meet food and fuel demands
- strategies for advancing the profitable and sustainable production of food and fuel from agri-resources

Thanks to our speakers:

Kelly Maher, Assistant Director, Biorefining

Conversions Network, University of Alberta

Don O'Connor, President, (S&T)<sup>2</sup> Consultants

Bern Kotelko, President, Highland Feeders Ltd.

Terry G. Tyler, Chief Technology Officer, Enmax Corporation

Ron Pidskalny, AIC member and President, Strategic Vision Consulting

A full report on the workshop can be read on the AIC website.

## Honours and Awards

Two individuals received recognition for their contributions to the Agricultural Institute of Canada in 2009.



**Tom Beach** (at left in photo) received AIC's highest honour, Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada. He was nominated for the award by six individual AIC members, and is

the 400<sup>th</sup> person named an AIC Fellow. The award was presented by Dr. David Chanasyk, an AIC Past President, at a luncheon in Ottawa on June 27, 2009.

Tom is AIC's International Program Coordinator and an AIC member. He has served twice as the Executive Director of AIC, and played an important role in helping to steer the organization through a challenging membership restructuring and transition to a new form of governance. He was instrumental in the resurrection of AIC's discussion papers in 2005 and in building the accreditation program. However, his most significant contributions have been in developing AIC's international program to the point that it was cited by CIDA as one of the most effective voluntary sector programs promoting food security.

**Tim Fenton**, Head of AIC Journal Publications, received the Institute Recognition Award, which acknowledges a person who has given "truly outstanding service to the Institute."

He was nominated for the award by the Canadian Societies of Agronomy, Animal Science, Horticultural Science and Soil Science, as represented by current and immediate past Editors of AIC's three Scientific Journals: the Canadian Journals of Animal, Plant and Soil Science.

The award recognizes Tim's outstanding and long term contributions to the production of the AIC Scientific Journals during a period of great change in publishing technology.

## Honours & Awards Committee

**Kevin Sanderson, Chair**

David Chanasyk

John Proctor

Kim Shukla

## Communications

AIC publishes *AIC Notes*, a weekly summary of information on agricultural issues in the news and legislative updates.

AIC's *Monthly Report* to members highlights progress on major program activities within AIC.

The AIC website is updated regularly and in 2009 a new section on gender equality was added.

## Membership

AIC's membership includes agronomists, scientists and other professionals as individual members; and scientific societies, and associations representing commodity groups as association and corporate members. AIC welcomed the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) as a new reciprocal member in 2009.

## Finances

AIC's scientific journals and International Twinning Partnership Program each represented 42% of our revenues in 2010. The International Program is supported by a contribution agreement with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Management services for associations contributed 10% of revenue and 6% came from membership fees.

## Governance

Changes to the AIC by-laws approved by members at the Annual General Meeting in November 2008 were approved by the Minister of Industry Canada in early 2009. The changes largely relate to the composition and functioning of the Board of Directors. The Past President position was eliminated and the President is now elected by the Board of Directors at their first meeting following the AGM.

## In Memoriam

AIC remembers the following honoured members who passed away in 2009:

**Allen T. Knight, PhD, PAg, FAIC** (1987); agricultural missionary to Africa; supervisor, Seeds for Africa program (March 2009)

**Kenneth G. Proudfoot, FAIC** (1993)  
Research scientist specializing in development of wart resistant potatoes, now widely planted throughout Newfoundland. (April 2009)

**Charles W. Gibbings, PhD, FAIC** (1967), Chairman of the Canadian Wheat Board Advisory Committee and Commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board (August 2009)

**George Atkins, FAIC (1980)**, recipient, AIC International Recognition Award (1993)  
Retired CBC farm broadcaster and founder of Farm Radio International (November 2009)

**Douglas Knott, PhD, FAIC** (1979); former Head of the Crop Science Department and Associate Dean of Research, University of Saskatchewan (June 2009)

## 2008–09 Board of Directors

The 2008–09 board served from November 2008 to December 2009. They were:

Susan Simpson, MBA, PAg	President
Douglas Yungblut, PhD, PAg	Vice President
Graham Gilchrist, PAg	Past President

Glenn Dickson, PAg  
Digvir Jayas, PEng, PAg, FAIC  
Ross Purdy, PAg  
John Stewart, LLB, PAg



## 2009–10 Board of Directors

### **President**

Douglas Yungblut, PhD, PAg

### **Vice President**

Dale Kelly, PAg

### **Directors**

Glenn Dickson, PAg  
Digvir Jayas, PEng, PAg, FAIC  
Georgina Knitel, MBA, PAg  
Ross Purdy, MBA, PAg  
John Stewart, LLB, PAg

## Individual Membership

AIC had 354 individual members in 2009.

## Association and Corporate Members

BIOTECanada\*  
Boissevain Select Seeds Ltd.  
British Columbia Institute of Agrologists  
Canadian 4-H Council\*  
Canadian Agricultural Economics Society  
Canadian Consulting Agrologists Association  
Canadian Farm Business Management Council\*  
Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology\*  
Canadian Society for Bioengineering  
Canadian Society for Horticultural Science  
Canadian Society of Agronomy  
Canadian Society of Animal Science  
Canadian Society of Soil Science  
Council for Agricultural Science and Technology\*  
Dairy Farmers of Canada  
New Brunswick Institute of Agrologists  
Newfoundland & Labrador Institute of Agrologists  
Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists  
Ontario Institute of Agrologists  
Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada  
Prince Edward Island Institute of Agrologists

\*by reciprocal agreement

## AIC Staff

### **CEO**

Myles Frosst (to February 2010)

### **International Program Coordinator**

Tom Beach, PAg, CAE

### **International Program Gender Equality Officer**

Dinah Ceplis

### **Head, Journals Publications**

Tim Fenton

### **Membership and Subscription Coordinator**

Ellen McWeeny

### **International Development Program Officer**

Brenda Millar

### **Communications Coordinator**

Frances Rodenburg

### **Publishing Assistant**

Laurie Scott

### **Manager of Finance**

Joan Champagne (to May 2009)  
Chris Van Lierop (from May 2009)

### **Accounting Assistant**

Carrie Whipple