

# President's Report

It is my pleasure to present my report on my 2nd Term as President of the NZ Agricultural and Resource Economics Society. It has been a successful year for the society. I am pleased to see the active involvement of economists addressing issues relating to agriculture, agribusiness, natural resources and the environment. I draw to your attention the following matters:

1. The **committee** has met on 6 occasions – three times by telephone and three times in person when members were together for other business. Members have made valuable contributions and I thank them all.
2. The **annual conference** has had a change in venue and timing. We hope the changes have been worthwhile and the committee would value your feedback in preparation for 2006. Thanks to Professor Ross Cullen for taking the heaviest load as primary conference organiser.
3. The society's **graduate awards** have been reinstated and awards will be presented at this conference.
4. Megan Wilcox from Waikato University won the **NZ undergraduate award** which was presented at Coffs Harbour in February.
5. The recipient of the award for the **best Masters thesis** in 2004 was Peter Tait, for his thesis entitled "Unit-Pricing: Minimising Christchurch Domestic Waste", submitted by Lincoln University.
6. The Society hosted the successful Frontier in Resource management **Symposium** in Auckland in September 2004. My special thanks to Dr Pam Kaval.
7. A significant numbers of members participated in the **AARES conference** in Coffs Harbour in February 2005.
8. NZARES has agreed to host the **2007 AARES conference** in New Zealand
9. Members should be aware of:
  - a. **AARES Water Symposium and Workshop**, hosted by the West Australian AARES Branch. 22nd and 23rd September, Perth.
  - b. **E-CReW 2005**: Environment and Resource Economics Early-Career Researcher Workshop aimed at doctoral and masters students and early career researchers involved in environmental and economics research. The workshop will be held at Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, NSW, 27-28th October 2005.
  - c. The **AARES 2006 annual conference** will be held in Sydney early in February.
  - d. The 26th Conference of the **International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE)** is being held from the 12th to 18th of August 2006 on the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. I am on the organising committee.

10. I have served as a **Federal Councillor** of AARES for 2 years and been involved in nominations committees and the Masters Prize Committee.
11. The Committee has recommendations for changing the **committee** structure of NZARES. Whether or not the AGM support a proposed resolution it is important that the society pay adequate attention to continuity.
12. Dr Geoff Kerr under took a **membership survey** to help us determine how the committee best serve the membership.
13. Strategic Research Services has continued to provide **secretarial services**. It is important that expectations are sharpened so that better results are achieved.
14. The society continues to run tight **budgets** but has some reserves. The treasurer will recommend some modest adjustment to **fees** for next year.
15. I believe in 2006 it will probably be inappropriate for us to publish a hard copy of our **proceedings** because we will have been able to produce a reliable electronic version on the web. The committee will do further work before a decision is made.
16. The society is working with AARES to provide funding each year for one AARES member resident in Australia to obtain a **travelling award** to the NZARES conference and for one NZ member of AARES to attend the AARES conference.
17. It is important members **identify speakers and themes** they would like addressed at future conferences. Please contact Ross Cullen with your suggestions.
18. It is clear the society has to upgrade its web page.
19. Members should be aware of opportunities to read AARES journals and publish in them. These include **Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Agribusiness Connections: Farm, Food and Resource Issues, Australasian Agribusiness Review** and **Australasian Agribusiness Perspectives**.
20. I believe in future it should be the responsibility of the **president elect** to update a file of policies and procedures and the **immediate past president** to update the historical records of the society.
21. Thank you to the Presidents of AARES (Jeff Bennet and Deb Petersen) I have served with and to Waikato University for its support of my role.
22. Thank you for the privilege in serving as your President.

**Professor Frank Scrimgoeur**  
**President**  
**NZ Agricultural and Resource Economics Society**  
**26 August 2005**

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<http://www.nzares.org.nz/>