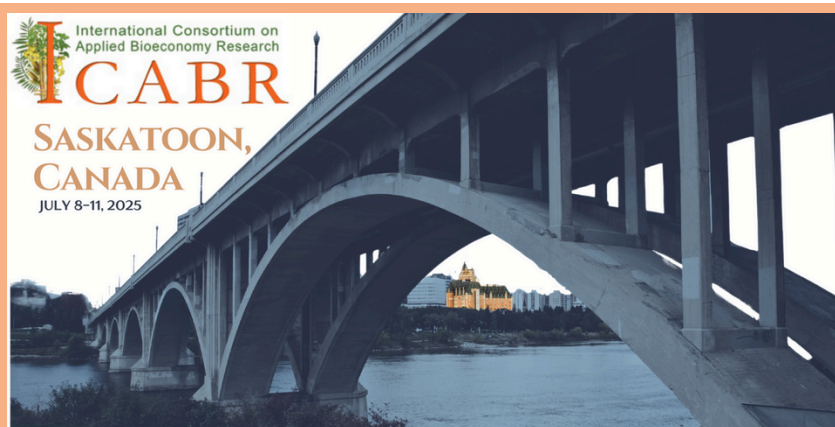


ICABR Conference is a global forum for scholars and practitioners to exchange knowledge on the technological, economic and policy factors that shape bioeconomy innovation.

"The emergence of agricultural biotechnology and the need to understand its economic impact and assess policies affecting it led to the establishment of ICABR. Over the years, the agenda has changed from concern about productivity and economic impact to issues of intellectual properties to understanding the effects of regulation and how new technologies like CRISPR will evolve. Over the years, however, we gradually realized that biotechnology is part of something bigger: the bioeconomy. The decision to emphasize bioeconomy expanded our range of issues and the likelihood of affecting the bigger picture. But this was also a risky decision. People care about biotech and GMOs, and the bioeconomy is almost abstract. I've been surprised by how interest in the bioeconomy has increased, and suddenly, it has become a major theme of government climate and resource policy and attracts much more policy research money than we have ever seen with biotech. Thus, this is our chance as perhaps the first international consortium dedicated to the bioeconomy to raise our profile and make a difference." David Zilberman

Upcoming from ICABR...



The **29th ICABR Annual Conference**

"Circular Bioeconomy and Systems of Sustainability"

July 8 - 11 in Saskatoon, Canada

Focus on:
The Role of Agriculture and Increased Productivity,
Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Food System Growth

Our ICABR Saskatoon 2025 Keynote Speakers



Kathleen Hefferon

Teaches in the Department of Microbiology at **Cornell University**. Kathleen is the Founder and CTO of Forte Protein, a biotech company that can generate any protein using plant (as well as other) production platforms.



Alison Van Eenennaam

Distinguished Professor of Cooperative Extension in the field of Animal Genomics and Biotechnology in the Department of Animal Science at the **University of California**.



Kai Purnhagen

Professor of Law, Chair of Food Law, **University of Bayreuth**, Campus Kulmbach and Faculty of Law and Economics. Director Research Center for Food law and Chair of the University's Ethical Committee. Broad expertise in EU law, international economic law and the interdisciplinary analysis of law.

The Venue:

The conference will be hosted Downtown at the historic Bessborough Hotel, located along the Riverbanks.



Sponsorship

Thank you to all our sponsors for their shared support and interest in the upcoming ICABR conference in Saskatoon.
ICABR 2025 Platinum and gold sponsors



Breaking News: Join the ICABR Call for Board and Executive Nominations

International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research **Call for Board and Executive Nominations**

The International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research (ICABR) is governed by a constitution, which requires that elections be held every two years for member of the executive and board of directors. The ICABR executive and board of directors are voluntary positions and are essential in organizing the annual conference. The executive and board members work together to secure keynote speakers, organize panel sessions and select academic papers to be presented. Additional work of the executive and board focus on communications, fundraising and organizing knowledge sharing events.

Each ICABR executive and board position requires a two-year time commitment and all nominations are self-nominations. Successful candidates will commence their position at the Annual General Meeting of the ICABR at the 2025 conference and will hold the position until the 2027 conference. Positions available for nominations on the executive include president-elect (vice-president), treasurer, and secretary general. All 10 board member positions are open for nominations, with existing board members having the opportunity to nominate themselves again.

If you are interested

in participating in the organization of the ICABR conference, you are encouraged to submit your nomination.

A nomination package will include:

- a recent photograph;
- short biography (up to 150 words);
- an outline of your objectives for wanting to join the ICABR board.

The deadline to submit your nomination package is: **April 30th, 2025**. Nominations should be emailed to:
conference.icabr@gmail.com.

The Board of ICABR

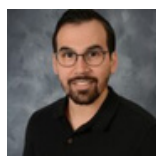
Executive Members



President
Justus Wesseler
Wageningen University



Vice President
Stuart Smyth
University of
Saskatchewan

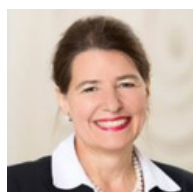


Secretary-General
Diego M. Macall
ICTA-UAB

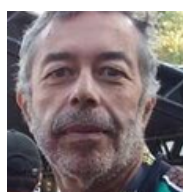


Treasurer
Dušan Drabik
Wageningen University

Council Members at large



Regina Birner
University of
Hohenheim in
Stuttgart, Germany



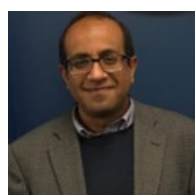
José Maria Ferreira
Jardim da Silveira
Escola Superior de
Agricultura Luiz de
Queiroz. – USP



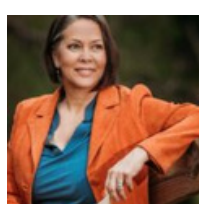
Hans De Steur
Assistant Professor at the
Division of Agri-food
Marketing & Chain
Management, Department
of Agricultural Economics,
Ghent University



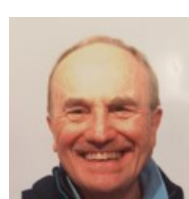
Jose Falck-Zepeda
IFPRI



Anwar Naseem
Associate Professor of
Economics at the University
of Central Asia (Tajikistan
and Kyrgyzstan)



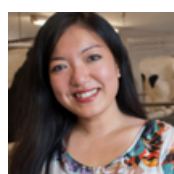
Cami Ryan
Bayer Science Fellow Social
and Behavioral Sciences
Lead, Regulatory Scientific
Affairs



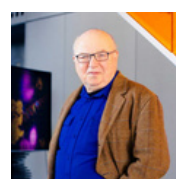
Pasquale Lucio Scandizzo
University of Rome "Tor
Vergata".



Sandra Elizabeth Sharry
PhD in Natural Sciences
(National University of La
Plata- Argentina)- Full
Professor (La Plata
University-Rio Negro
University, Argentina)



Felicia Wu
Michigan State University



David Zilberman
University of California,
Berkeley

News from the bio world



Energy & Biosciences Institute

energybiosciencesinstitute.org



Smart Regulation – A Key to A Thriving Bioeconomy- Innovations and technological development are economic activities. Costly and uncertain regulation tends to reduce investment in research and may disincentivize scientists to pursue new promising avenues that result in technologies likely to face a heavy regulatory burden. The development of the bioeconomy depends on the ability to utilize modern biological tools, and we need regulatory reform that would allow the use of modern capabilities efficiently and safely. The importance of smart regulation that allows taking minimal risks to pursue progress and meet our challenges is especially important as we introduce the bioeconomy, which will expand the utilization of natural resources to meet our food needs to sequester carbon and produce minerals, fuels, and other materials in a renewable manner. The bioeconomy development requires modern biotechnologies, including genetic engineering, gene editing, and other technologies that modern biological research will yield.

The Opportunities at the Richmond Field Station – Anchoring the Bioeconomy in Berkeley The bioeconomy applies modern biotechnology and other advanced biosciences with natural resources to produce a wide range of products, including chemicals, fuels, pharmaceuticals, and traditional food and fiber. It provides employment opportunities in the rural sector, including the Central Valley, and addresses food security challenges, biodiversity loss, and resilience to climate shocks. Berkeley should be a global center of bioeconomy research and policy. It is a land-grant university with excellence in natural sciences, engineering, information science, and policy disciplines, making it unrivaled for this task. The Berkeley bioeconomy program will benefit from the tradition of multidisciplinary collaboration, the capacity to assume responsibility for major social challenges, and a substantial cooperative extension and outreach program.



Change-up project

led by the University of Parma (www.changeupproject.com), the project aims to test agroecological innovations, including evolutionary populations and mixtures, to increase resilience to climate change. These heterogeneous varieties have been studied for a long time, showing benefits in yield and yield stability, disease control, and adaptation to local growing conditions. Farmers' practice indicates that in the case of cereals, they also control weeds better than uniform varieties; thus, not being dependent on pesticides makes organic farming easier.



Coming up...



'Cali, Colombia – The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concluded its impactful participation in the 2024 UN Biodiversity Conference (CBD COP16) in Cali, Colombia, where its central message—agrifood systems play a critical role in achieving biodiversity goals—reverberated throughout the two-week event.

The conference, themed "Peace with Nature", marked a pivotal moment in the global endeavor to safeguard biodiversity and address the interconnected challenges of biodiversity loss, climate change, and sustainable development



Associazione Italiana di Economia Agraria

e Applicata 14th Conference of the Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics 18-20 June 2025, Pisa, Italy



Grants, Jobs & Calls for Papers...

JOB OPENINGS:

- *Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Modeling for Economic Analysis of Forest Ecosystem Service Markets - UTK (1249)*
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Knoxville, TN, US
- *Assistant or Associate Professor in Regional and Agricultural Economics*
Penn State University Park, PA, US
Post Doc Research Associate Agricultural Economics
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN, US
- *Lecturer in Sustainable Agriculture and Community Food Systems*
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY, US
- *Postdoctoral Associate, Applied Economics and Policy area,*
Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell SC Johnson College of Business
Ithaca, NY, US
- *Two PhD / PostDoc positions in Environmental Economics*
Faculty of Business and Economics
University of Basel, CH
- *Microeconomics and/or Environmental Economics: Assistant, Associate or Full Professor*
IESEG School of Management, Paris, F
- *Research Agricultural Economist/Research Agriculturist, Agricultural Research Service, Department of Agriculture*
Pendleton, Oregon, Soil & Water Conservationist Research Unit [arscareers.usajobs.gov](https://www.arscareers.usajobs.gov)
- *Interdisciplinary Research Scientist Agricultural Research Service, Department of Agriculture, Las Cruces, New Mexico, Range Management*
Research Unit [arscareers.usajobs.gov](https://www.arscareers.usajobs.gov)

GRANTS:

Union sustainable agriculture and animal welfare
AGRIP-SIMPLE-2025-IM-SUSTAINABLE | Call for proposal
Opening date: 22 January 2025 | Deadline date: 23 April 2025
Scope: The objective is to highlight the sustainability of Union agriculture, stressing its beneficial role for the climate, the environment and animal welfare.
Integrated peri-urban areas in the transition towards climate neutrality
HORIZON-MISS-2024-CIT-01-04 | Call for proposal
Opening date: 17 September 2024 | Deadline date: 11 February 2025 | Single-stage
Open For Submission
Type of action: HORIZON Innovation Actions
Support to the activities of the SET Plan Key Action area Renewable fuels and bioenergy
HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-13

CFAs: Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Economics Trade Fellow Programs (US) The 2025 fellowship is focused on the bioeconomy and related fields of applied economic research. The 2025 Agricultural Economics Fellowship will provide an opportunity for an agricultural economist with expertise in the bioeconomy field to connect with researchers in the USDA and other agencies, publish their research, network across the industry, and attend conferences and events. [Farmfoundation.org](https://farmfoundation.org)
2024 Seeding Solutions Request for Applications - *Seeding Solutions encourages the development of unique partnerships that support innovative and transformative research focused on one of our Research Priority Areas.* Foundationfar.org
The **Anthony Grano Special Purpose Fund** provides scholarships for academically successful, highly motivated students in agricultural economics or a closely related discipline with an interest in agricultural policy and the policy formation process. The scholarships will allow selected students the opportunity to observe the role agricultural economics plays in the agricultural policy formation process by introducing them to decision-makers in the legislative and executive branches of the federal government. aaea.org



About ICABR:

The Consortium was established to bring together international scholars in the field of bioeconomy studies – its partners come from across the globe and include leaders in agricultural and economic development, natural resources management, environmental policy, risk communication and other fields.

Aims of the ICABR include:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>(a) contribute to the advancement of knowledge and understanding of nature and human behavior in the field of economics and biological sciences with special regard to natural resources, agriculture and the bioeconomy;</p> | <p>(b) encourage and improve communication between teachers, researchers and students in the advancement of knowledge and understanding of nature and human behavior in the field of economics and biological sciences with special regard to natural resources, agriculture and bioeconomy; and</p> | <p>(c) develop and encourage cooperation between university level teaching institutions and research institutions.</p> |
|--|--|--|

*“Wherever I went, in the U.S., China, and Europe, I noticed concerns about climate change, the aging population, inequality, effective governance, and world peace. Our research should address some of these concerns. I try to contribute by introducing the idea of the **bioeconomy**, where **modern technology and natural resources** can replace non-renewable inputs like fossil fuels, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and provide new sources to regional communities. This concept got a lot of traction this year. The National Science Foundation invested in new bioeconomy centers, and we will have one in Berkeley dedicated to the Blue Bioeconomy, mainly seaweed. Seaweed can be used to produce protein, sugars, and other chemicals and as a vehicle for carbon sequestration. There are thousands of species of seaweed, and we utilize around 12. Both production and processing technologies are in their infancy, and there is a need to develop efficient supply chains. So, we have a significant scientific challenge. We are not alone; there are several international partners, and this will be an exciting direction. I would also like to work on other aspects of the bioeconomy (recycling waste, biomanufacturing, agricultural biotechnology, biomedicine), and I am developing a graduate program in this area. Despite the significant uncertainties and disappointing recent developments,*

I am optimistic about 2025 and the future– we must be. Happy New Year, and I hope to see many of you in the near future.”

Courtesy of David Zilberman blog.



ICABR Quarterly, the newsletter of the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research (ICABR), was established in 2021 with support from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) grant no. 2020-67023-30854 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

For more information:

Please visit the ICABR website at <https://icabr.net/>
Or contact icabr2024@conftool.com for more information