

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

## ICABR 2025 in Saskatoon: A Resounding Success.

### Some quotes from our attendees:

“The conference was designed to maximize interaction between attendees”  
Y. Kusunose

“ (...) this is  
where science  
meets impact”  
B. Hailu

“I enjoy the topical focus and emphasis on interdisciplinary work, it seems to generate a more comprehensive perspective. One of the best things about this conference is the forward looking perspective, the conference is an active effort to solve current and potential problems.”  
J. Tillinghost

“(…) innovation happens when society is forced to do so”

“It was wonderful to have the ICABR conference in Saskatoon this year.

The Canadian experience with adoption of reduced tillage, direct seeding and adoption of hybrid and transgenic canola is unique in the world. Having the opportunity to hear stories and economic analysis from around the world as well as the unique Saskatchewan story, was intriguing and informative for all attendees. The exchange of ideas was highly beneficial and gives us all new opportunities for growth.”

Dale Heftwich, Saskoilseeds.

**ICABR 2025 in Saskatoon:** It was wonderful gathering the ICABR community in Canada!

The 29th Annual ICABR Conference in Saskatoon brought together global leaders to explore the theme Circular Bioeconomy and Systems of Sustainability. With keynote insights from Dr. Alison van Eenennaam, Dr. Kathleen Hefferon, and Dr. Kai Purnhagen, the event sparked dynamic discussions on sustainable innovation in food systems, climate resilience, and policy reform. Attendees from around the world contributed cutting-edge research and forged new collaborations to advance the bioeconomy. Special Issues tied to the 2025 conference remain open—ICABR participants are encouraged to submit their work and continue shaping the future of sustainable development.

## Insights from the 29<sup>th</sup> ICABR conference speakers

“We must have “*technology responsibility*”.

What farmers will do, like no-till, is not because the Government says:  
it has to benefit the producer.

If they don't see a benefit they won't adopt it.”

**Rob Stone**, farmer and agricultural leader from Davidson, Saskatchewan, a director for SaskWheat and owner of Stone Farms Inc.

Interview with **Paul Thiel**, Old's College, Thought Leader in Smart Agriculture.

## “We need more sociology in presenting new technology.”

“The agriculture industry is a science-driven sector. Science-driven organizations often present technologies to growers, but these are sometimes framed from a narrow perspective: “Is there a return on this investment?” That return is usually expected within a relatively short period of time.

However, there is an opportunity for a broader segment of society to understand why growers make the decisions they do. This is where social scientists play an important role. They can take complex, detailed scientific information and communicate it in a way that helps both the public and growers better understand the long-term benefits and outlook of these technologies.

We need a different skill set in the industry to do this, we have lots of science based people, we need more more social scientists embedded within agriculture to explain to a broader group of people what's going on.

“(…) one of the major objections to adopting **NO-TILL** farming was: “*My farm looks ugly.*” We failed to address that concern at the beginning. We assumed that if farmers saw improved soil moisture and better conservation of organic matter, they would naturally adopt the practice. But we overlooked the pride farmers take in the appearance of their operations and how others perceive their farms.

Similarly, with **GMOs**, we clearly explained the benefits to producers, but we didn't do enough to explain the benefits to society at large, in terms that resonated with broader public values. That gap in communication made it easier for people to push back. Beyond economic gains, GMOs also bring benefits such as cleaner fields and healthier crops, as well as the productivity advantages of hybrid seed—yet those messages weren't effectively conveyed.”

“(…) there is an opportunity for a larger part of society to understand why growers do what they do”

## Call for Papers



### ICABR 2025 Special Issues Open!

Following the success of the 29th ICABR Conference in Saskatoon, researchers are invited to submit manuscripts to two exciting Special Issues. The International Food and Agribusiness Management Review (IFAMR) is accepting papers on “Bioeconomy and Sustainability” with a submission deadline of October 31, 2025. A second opportunity is available through the Circular and Cleaner Bioeconomy journal, focusing on “Circular Bioeconomy and Systems of Sustainability,” with submissions due by November 30, 2025. Both issues welcome high-impact research exploring innovation, policy, and sustainability strategies within the bioeconomy. Don't miss your chance to contribute to these influential publications!

### Open positions:

#### Agriculture Production Instructor, Part-Time Adjunct Pool

Kern Community College District  
Porterville, CA

#### Agriculture Business Instructor, Early College - One Year Full-Time Temp (2025-26)

Kern Community College District  
Bakersfield, CA

#### Part-Time Lecturer(s) Pool in Agricultural Economics

California State University, Stanislaus  
Turlock, CA

#### Part-Time Adjunct Instructor

Penn State  
University Park, PA

#### Assistant Professor - Agricultural Business

Stephen F. Austin State University  
Nacogdoches, TX

#### Asst Professor/Extension Specialist, Regional Economics/Community Development - Agricultural & Applied Economics

University of Wyoming  
Laramie, WY  
86000-92000

#### Assistant Professor Data Science for Agricultural and Ecosystem Sustainability (# 369695)

University of Minnesota  
Twin Cities, MN

#### Research Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics

Central State University  
Wilberforce, OH

#### Assistant or Associate Professor - Agricultural Business Management (# 369823)

University of Minnesota  
Twin Cities, MN

#### College of Agriculture Teaching/Research/Extension Faculty

Virginia State University  
Chesterfield, VA

#### Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics - Consumer Marketing and Experimental Economics

University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Knoxville, TN

#### Visiting College Assistant Professor

New Mexico State University  
Online/Remote

## The Board of ICABR

Welcome to old and new members of the board and council!

### Executive Members



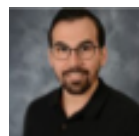
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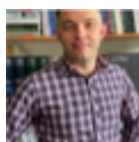
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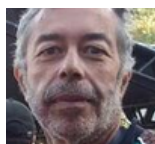


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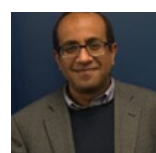
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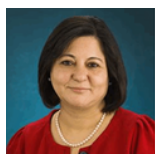
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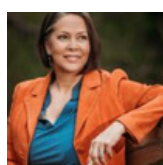
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Sustainability (CCRS)



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Rutgers University



**Lorenza Lorenzetti**  
University of Trento



## News from the bio world

### Handbook on the bioeconomy

The Handbook on the bioeconomy, recently published by **Edward Elgar** and edited by **Davide Viaggi** provides a comprehensive account of the latest research and thinking on the economics of using renewable biological resources to produce bio-based materials, food, energy and more. The handbook brings together 16 chapters by 51 expert authors, including several contributions by well-known ICABR members. It analyses the evolving concept of the bioeconomy and its potential as a solution to major global societal and sustainability challenges, including food security, ecosystem management, the limits to growth and combating climate change and pollution and elaborates this into a reflection on the future economic research concerning the bioeconomy. Link here for more information: <https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/gbp/handbook-on-the-bioeconomy-9781800373488.html>

### Cattle flatulence doesn't stink with biotechnology

The agriculture industry is researching new technologies to help feed the growing population. But feeding the world without harming air quality is a challenge. new article in Animal Frontiers, biotechnologies increase food production and reduce harmful gas output from cattle.

### Upscaling and Modernizing the Macroalgae Sector

The macroalgae sector must be viewed within the context of the bioeconomy– a transformative concept integrating biotechnology and natural resources to address critical global challenges such as climate change, food security, and sustainable development. The macroalgae sector is referred to as the blue bioeconomy, which is underutilized.

[Read more](#)

### In Appreciation of **Richard Just**

Richard was arguably the leading Ag economist in the world in last quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> to early 21<sup>st</sup> century until his retirement. He was my dissertation advisor, and a life-long friend and collaborator. On July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, several of his students and colleagues assembled with Richard and his family to celebrate his career. It was an emotional event, [Read more](#)



## We are working at the 30th ICABR Conference:



### ***“The Bioeconomy Transformation in Transition: Past Successes, Current Challenges, and Future Prospects”***

Back to the breathtaking town of **Ravello, Italy**. Celebrating three decades of pioneering research and global dialogue, the 30th International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research (ICABR) conference brings together leading minds to explore innovation, policy, and progress in biotechnology and agricultural development. Join us in **Ravello, July 6-10, 2026**.



**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. Our objectives:

**(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;**

**(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**

**(c) develop and encourage cooperation between university level teaching institutions and research**

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**For more information:  
Please visit the ICABR website at  
<https://icabr.net/>  
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information**