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Respectful congratulations on the open publishing of the IJABE

Zeng Dechao

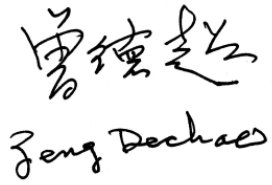
First, I would like extend my respectful congratulations on the open publication of the International Journal of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, founded jointly by CSAE and the US-based AOCABFE.

The founding and the development of the agricultural engineering discipline in China had involved many international experts, especially the US scholars; even including figures such as Dr. J.B. Davison, the founder of ASAE in 1908. Through the 20th century, USA had marvelously succeeded, through agricultural mechanization, practically alleviate human chore in all lines of farm work; thus have brought in a change in human life. One of the consequential impacts to the agricultural engineering departments in the US land grant universities however, has been a rather urgent need in a modification on the agricultural engineering(AE) training program, so that AE graduates can have a better chance to get their jobs after graduation. One of the ways out has been to develop a modified training program along the line of bio-systems engineering.

My first personal contact to this trial was through the very helpful meeting with Professor Norman Scott, then a vice President of Cornel University. His concrete description on the method in his rather well known paper is very interesting, but not so practical. I have gained very much along this line also from Professor J.K.Wang at Hawaii University. Prof. J. K. Wang came to visit the International Cooperation Office, Eastern Campus, China Agricultural University(CAU) and Academician Wang Maohua. He was also one of the very first US AE professors with Taiwan origin, visiting the CAU Eastern Campus right after the Pingpeng diplomacy. Their rather impressively successful work along this line, especially on the medical biological side, required very close or intimate cooperation between the engineers and the bio-molecular scientists. This is not an easy problem to tackle with, in the case of CAU Eastern Campus, or even some other campuses in China as well.

So, I heartedly hail and cheer for this initiative in the cooperation between CSAE and the US-based AOCABFE, to publish this International Journal, an excellent and indispensable way to provide relevant information and personal contacts for the incubation of agricultural and biological system engineering in China.

I sincerely wish this joint journal IJABE a great success!



Zeng Dechao
Senior Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering
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Congratulatory letter

Jiang Yiyuan

Please accept my warmest congratulations on the launch of the new journal entitled "International Journal of Agricultural and Biological Engineering(IJABE)" jointly published by AOCABFE and CSAE. This is a pioneering undertaking in the history of academic exchange and cooperation in the agricultural engineering field between China and the outside world. I hope it will be a budding beauty in the academic garden and ever increasingly prosperous in the Chinese agricultural & biological engineering circle.

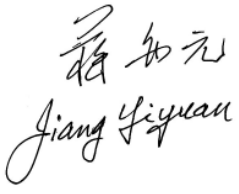
I heartily endorse the open access policy adopted by IJABE, which makes articles freely accessible online immediately upon publication, removes price barriers, and thus will greatly facilitate Chinese scientific professionals in a broader spectrum to participate in scientific exchanges with peers at home and the rest of the world.

The inadequate level of technical English language and unfamiliarity with the western peer-reviewing process make Chinese professionals reluctant to contribute their papers to the English language publications. IJABE is changing this situation. With the assistance of AOCABFE whose members are mostly bilingual, the communication between the Chinese contributors and the peer-reviewers will be far more convenient than ever before.

Nowadays, China is at the all-around developing stage. Food supply is a world wide issue and has been an eternal theme in the domestic economic development in China, a country with about 1.3 billion population and only about 800 m^2 of arable land per capita. To greatly increase the cereal output lies in enlarging the production scale and speeding up the farm mechanization. Obviously, the blooming spring of Chinese agricultural and biological engineering case has come. For instance, the central government planned to allocate 10 billion or so Chinese RMB Yuan to Heilongjiang Province's farm mechanization, aiming to increase 10 billion kg of cereal production in the period from 2008—2010. This is an unprecedented high investment in the farm mechanization sector for one province. Although the advanced agricultural equipment in the developed countries has reached an amazing high level, it is still improving, let alone China has quite different economic and social conditions for developing farm mechanization. Chinese agricultural engineers are facing unique challenges and opportunities to in make innovations and progress in agricultural and biological engineering.

I have only one suggestion in terms of the criteria for decision making on the selection of the paper to be published. I wish to pay more attention to such papers in which new principles and new constructions are used in solving unique problems rather than too much pure mathematic modeling without sufficient, strict experimental support. Surely, for the former the scientific experimental verification is also required.

In short, both the inductive and deductive inference (reasoning) approaches in scientific research should be equally emphasized, not stressing one at the cost of the other. But in some Chinese agricultural engineering journals theoretical analysis without substantial experimental justification is prevailing to a greater extent than ever before. I hope this new journal at the very beginning will present itself in a new fashion in front of the worldwide readers, which means it meets the international academic standards and at the same time reflects the realistc conditions in China.



Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering
Professor at Northeast Agricultural University

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Congratulations on the publishing of IJABE

Li Peicheng

The world has a large population to feed, which must rely on the sustainable development of agriculture. IJABE arises at this historic moment when the world food prices are rising rapidly. I sincerely hope that the journal will make a great contribution to promoting agricultural science and technology development, ensuring food security and safety, and maintaining world peace.

Congratulations!

Li Peicheng
Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering
Professor at Chang'an University

附中文稿：

全球人人都要吃饭，
世界农业必须发展，
“IJABE”应运而生！
我衷心祝愿它在推动农科技进步、
保证粮食安全、
维护世界和平事业中做出
更大的贡献！

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Congratulations on the launch of IJABE

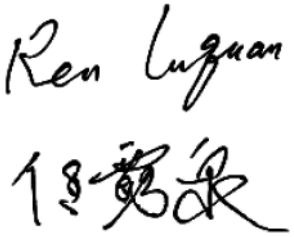
Ren Luquan

The launch of the International Journal of Agricultural & Biological Engineering (IJABE) is a historical event for agricultural and biological engineers in China and the world. I sincerely wish IJABE to bring domestic Chinese and overseas Chinese research community together to promote the advancement of research in agricultural and biological engineering.

In early years, the traditional concept of "agricultural engineering" may mainly mean the use of machinery and equipment in agricultural production. Nowadays, such a concept has been greatly expanded to include many areas, such as agricultural system engineering, agricultural energy management and utilization, agricultural product and food process engineering, bio-environmental engineering, agricultural land and water management, and so on. In the last few decades, we have seen the applications of almost all new technologies in agricultural production, such as electrical and electronics technologies, artificial intelligence, aviation and remote control, computer aided systems to name just a few. The applications of such new technologies have greatly increased agricultural output and significantly improved the quality of agricultural products.

China has less than 10% of the total farmland of the world, but produces agricultural products to feed one fifth of the world population. Scientific research in agriculture and agricultural engineering has made significant contributions to such a great achievement. As the trend of urbanization continues, further reduction of farmland is unavoidable. In the last few years, we have witnessed the global grain price rise. With the limited natural resources and increasing world population, human beings are facing huge challenges to produce enough food, but meanwhile to conserve our natural resources and protect our environment for the sustainable development of agriculture. The only solution to such great challenges has to be increased input to scientific research. Scientists and engineers in agricultural and biological engineering must bear the responsibility to develop new and innovative technologies for agricultural production.

I believe that IJABE will provide a great communication platform for scientists and engineers to present their latest research results concerning agricultural and biological engineering and the applications of new bio-agricultural engineering technologies in all areas of agriculture. I wish IJABE all the success.



Ren Luquan
Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences
Professor at Jilin University

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Congratulatory letter from AOC

Chenghai Yang

On behalf of the Association of the Overseas Chinese Agricultural, Biological and Food Engineers (AOCABFE or AOC), I would like to warmly and sincerely congratulate on the publishing of the first issue of the International Journal of Agricultural and Biological Engineering (IJABE). This represents another successful collaboration between AOC and the Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CSAE). This newly launched journal will provide the scientific community and interested readers with latest research accomplishments and applications in six broadly defined technical divisions of the agricultural and biological engineering field. This is a significant contribution to the agricultural and biological engineering profession both in China and in the world.

To launch a joint academic journal has been one of the main goals of AOC since it was founded in 2001. All five AOC Past Presidents (Dr. Naiqian Zhang, Dr. Qiang Zhang, Dr. Juming Tang, Dr. Ruihong Zhang, and Dr. Xiusheng Yang) and six Executive Boards have worked hard on this effort. Although it was not an easy process, both AOC and CSAE wanted to see this come to fruition after several years of preparations. Therefore, to make this a reality has been the most important goal during my term as AOC President. In late 2007, both AOC and CSAE reached a tentative agreement to jointly launch the journal. Since then, tremendous efforts have been put forth by AOC and CSAE to work out the details under the leadership of Prof. Maohua Wang and Dr. Yingkuan Wang from CSAE and Prof. Roger Ruan and Dr. Paul Chen from AOC. I have had the pleasure and privilege to work with this fine group of people on this important task.

It is not a small task to launch such a comprehensive journal. It takes many people from both AOC and CSAE working together to accomplish this. For example, we now take the journal's title for granted, but it was a difficult process for us to select from more than a dozen proposed titles. It took us several weeks to come to agree on the current title after intensive discussion among the AOC Executive Board members and many CSAE members. Similar efforts were devoted to determining the names and scopes of the six technical divisions. Another more difficult process has been to establish the editorial board. Although we have tentatively put together the editorial board, it is by no means complete and more editorial members from different countries will be invited. More importantly, we need a large number of reviewers to review the manuscripts to ensure the technical quality of the journal. I am very glad to see six of our AOC members assume the responsibility as division editors and many more as associate editors.

Although there are many challenges ahead of us, this has been a significant step forward. On behalf of AOC, I would like to express our appreciations to Profs. Maohua Wang and Roger Ruan, Editors-in-Chief, and Drs. Yingkuan Wang and Paul Chen, Managing Editors, for a job well done. I would like also to thank the AOC members who have been involved in the process and encourage all our members to actively contribute to the journal and serve as reviewers.

Again, congratulations on the launch of IJABE and best wishes for the success of the journal.

Chenghai Yang, Ph.D.
AOC President for 2007-2008
Agricultural Engineer
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Research Service
Weslaco, Texas, USA

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING
COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE DU GENIE RURAL
INTERNATIONALE KOMMISSION FÜR AGRARTECHNIK

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Congratulatory letter from CIGR

Dr. B. A. Stout
Coordinator
Agricultural Engineering International:
The CIGR Ejournal

August 11, 2008

Dr. Wang Yingkuan
Managing Editor of International Journal of Agricultural
& Biological Engineering(IJABE)
No 41, Maizidian Street, Chaoyang District
Beijing 100125, China

Dear Dr Wang,

Congratulations for the inauguration of the new technical journal, IJABE. I wish you the greatest success in this new venture.

The profession of Agricultural and Biological Engineering is at the forefront of many of the key issues facing the humans today-energy, maintaining environmental quality, feeding a growing world population, and so on. Our profession deals with these key issues by applying engineering principles and analysis to a wide spectrum of technologies, adding value and preserving food quality, managing ever tightening supplies of fresh water, developing and applying appropriate mechanization, applying systems science and IT to look at the big picture and to process the ever increasing mountain of data collected in our laboratory and field experiments. The bottom line is that Agricultural and Biological Engineers are working successfully to make the world a better place for all humans.

We live in an information age. Exchange of technical engineering information is more important today than ever before. Our profession has several excellent professional journals and yours will add significantly to those already operating.

I look forward to assisting you in any way I can. Best regards.

Sincerely,

B A Stout

B.A. Stout
Honorary President, CIGR and
Professor Emeritus
Texas A&M University