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From the Executive Director

My deepest appreciation to our colleagues and friends with the Nigerian Institution of Agricultural Engineers (NIAE) for hosting me at their successful 20th International Conference and 40th Annual General Meeting recently in Omu-Aran, Nigeria. Nigerian native and active ASABE member Folarin Alonge looked after both Indra Mani, president of the Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers, and me as we participated in the conference and had a chance to experience Nigeria for the first time. The conference was held at Landmark University, which is an eight-year-old private institution already making a major name for itself in the fields of agriculture and ag engineering education. NIAE Chairman Shu’Aibu Musa and the conference organizing chairman, Landmark University’s vice chancellor, Adeniyi Olayanju, brought a level of energy that made our stay positively unforgettable.

The conference theme was “Innovations and Technologies for Sustainable Mechanization and Livestock Transformation for Economic Growth.” Both are critical to Nigeria as it looks to feed a nation on track to grow from 200 million today to 400 million people in 2050. I was told that much of the country’s livestock is raised in a nomadic fashion. This presents huge challenges for centralized processing, packaging, and distribution. All are important aspects for a livestock transformation. However, in my opinion, the largest opportunity is with agricultural mechanization. The thought of mechanizing Nigeria’s agriculture is not new, and various ideas have been tried over the years with little sustained success. There are many reasons for this, and perhaps the biggest obstacle is that most farmers...
operate five or less acres of land. The mechanization that is going to work in the long run needs to be scale appropriate and socially acceptable. Not easy things to do.

Spending one week in Nigeria makes me an expert on nothing to meaningfully suggest for transforming their agriculture. What I did see, however, was the energy, drive, and world-class thinking exhibited by those working in the ABE field! They are difference makers, and as ABEs globally we have the capacity to work together for the benefit of the people all over the world. Thank you, NIAE, for inviting me to take part in your conference.

On a separate note, while writing this column, I was saddened to learn of the passing of John Solie, ASABE Fellow and McCormick-Case gold medal winner. John made significant contributions to the profession and to the Society, as well as to Oklahoma State University, and we'll include a memorial write-up in next month's newsletter. In the meantime, an online obituary can be found here.

Darrin J. Drollinger
Executive Director

Financial Incentives Offered for April 2020 Ag/Bio PE Exam

Have you ever pondered taking the agricultural and biological engineering PE exam? Would an incentive help influence your decision? ASABE's Professional Engineering Institute, the Dale Wm. Zimmerman PE Fund, and the ASABE Board of Trustees have committed funding for two incentives aimed at encouraging members to take our exam. See the exam specifications here.

First-time Takers: We'll pay your exam application/test fees, up to $300, for 30 first-time takers of the exam. We'll also give you $150 to be used any way you see fit. All just for sitting for the ag & bio engineering PE exam. This offer is only open to ASABE members who are first-time candidates. A first-time exam taker is defined as someone who has not attempted to take a professional engineering exam in any discipline prior to the April 2020 administration.

Repeat Takers: Members who wish to take our PE exam, regardless of any previous exam attempts, in any discipline, will be reimbursed $150. This offer is available to 30 members on a first-come, first-served basis.

See complete details of both programs online. Deadline for sign-up is January 1, 2020.

Have You Snapped a Great Photo This Year? Submit It to VisualChallenge9

It's last call for entries for VisualChallenge9: Submit your images by October 4, 2019. The best images will be selected by ASABE staff and published in the January/February 2020 issue of Resource magazine.

Here is your chance to convey and celebrate the beauty of your work, your research, or your technical community. Submit as many entries as you want. All entries should be original work, and the image resolution must be 300 dpi or greater.

E-mail your entries, as attachments to Melissa Miller. Write VisualChallenge9 in the subject line, and include a title and brief description for each image. If necessary, include a name for crediting the image and written assurance that permission has been granted to submit and publish the image.

To see the winning entries from previous Visual Challenges, visit www.asabe.org/VisualChallenge.

Previous VisualChallenge entry (above) courtesy of ASABE member Brian McLaughlin.

Journal Article Indexing

How can you be sure your ASABE article is reaching the widest-possible audience?
Our journals are indexed for search engines by various discovery services. We also send our journal metadata to CrossRef and register a DOI number for each article, which makes the articles easy to find and cite. In addition to the indexers, others obtain our metadata directly from CrossRef, further expanding the exposure your article receives.

Read more at [www.asabe.org/DiscoveryServices](http://www.asabe.org/DiscoveryServices).

### New for Journals: Double-Blind Peer Review

The author names for new journal manuscripts undergoing peer review will now be removed from manuscripts and unavailable to the reviewers assigned. The associate and community editors will continue to have access to that information.

The manuscript template will no longer include the authors' names, and the names will be taken from the ScholarOne data fields. Authors will need to carefully check the author listing after the manuscript has been accepted and layout edited.

### ASABE Major Awards: Deadline October 31

Planning to submit a nomination for an ASABE major award? Mark your calendar for the deadline, October 31.

Find more details and a complete list of ASABE major awards [here](http://www.asabe.org/). 

### Call for Abstracts: Irrigation and Soil Erosion Symposia, AIM2020

Did you know, there are currently two upcoming conferences with open calls for abstracts? The 6th Decennial National Irrigation Symposium and the 2021 Soil Erosion Research Symposium are both seeking quality abstracts for presentations.

- **October 18, 2019, is the deadline for the 6th Decennial National Irrigation Symposium.** This event will be held in San Antonio, Texas, November 30–December 4, 2020, during the 2020 Irrigation Show.

- **The 2021 Soil Erosion Research Symposium will be held in Puerto Rico January 10-15, 2021.** February 15, 2020, will be the last day to submit your 400- to 600-word abstract.

The 2020 Annual International Meeting’s call for abstracts will be opening soon as well. Don’t wait until the last minute to submit your abstract for this meeting! The deadline for abstract submission will be January 5, 2020. Please watch [www.asabemeetings.org](http://www.asabemeetings.org) or your email for notification on when the submission portal will open.

### 2020 Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference

ASABE's Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference is quickly approaching its 24th year. We’re heading to the Hyatt Regency in downtown Louisville this coming February.

Watch for registration, program information, and sponsorship opportunities [here](http://www.asabemeetings.org).

Thanks to Our Journal Editors and Associate Editors
We would like to thank the members of the editorial review team within each technical community. The sustained excellence of ASABE journals depends on the dedicated, volunteered contributions of these highly qualified editors and associate editors working together with many volunteer reviewers.

For the list of editors, see [www.asabe.org/JournalEditors](http://www.asabe.org/JournalEditors).

Madramootoo Earns World Prize in Irrigation and Drainage

ASABE Fellow Chandra Madramootoo is the recipient of the 2019 World Irrigation and Drainage Prize. He was honored for his sustained, long-standing, and highly committed work in the irrigation and drainage sector worldwide through education, research, planning, and international project implementation. The award was presented earlier this month at the opening ceremony of the World Irrigation Forum, in Bali.

Madramootoo, standing at right in the accompanying photo, is a 42-year member of ASABE.

In Memoriam - Landis Boyd

ASABE Fellow Landis "Lannie" Lee Boyd died April 28 of this year. He was 95 years old.

Raised in Adair County, Iowa, Boyd studied agricultural engineering at Iowa State University receiving his BSAE 1947, his MSAE in 1948, and his PhD in August 1959.

Lannie taught at Cornell from 1948 until 1964. He was head of the agricultural engineering department at the University of Minnesota from 1964 to 1972 and assistant director of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station from 1972 until 1978. From 1976 to 1985 he was director of the Washington State Ag Research Station, and from 1985 until his retirement in 1993 he served as executive director of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Stations, based out of Colorado State University.

Landis helped establish ASABE's Boyd-Scott Graduate Research award, which annually recognizes excellence “in the conduct and presentation of research to build the knowledge base needed by engineers who design equipment, facilities, and processes for the sustainable operation of a biological system.” He was elected an ASABE Fellow in 1973.

Boyd's education was interrupted by World War II, when he enlisted in the United States Navy, on December 7, 1942. He received his Ensign commission and his aviator wings in December 1944.

One of Boyd's passions was computers, and another was Rotary. Having joined Rotary in Ithaca, N.Y. in January 1959, he maintained his Rotary membership for the rest of his life. While in one of the Fort Collins Clubs, he combined his two passions, creating a member database, as well as the first web pages for a Colorado Rotary club. He also served as the Club photographer and produced the Club's member directory for many years.

He is survived by children, Susan (James) Harrington, Barbara Page, Shirley Boyd (John Estall), Carl (Dana) Boyd, Philip Boyd, along with 14 grandchildren, and 30 great grandchildren. His wife, Lila Mae, preceded him in death in 2012, after more than 65 years of marriage.

Memorials may be made to the Boyd-Scott Research award fund, as well as to Rotary International or The Alzheimer's Association.

Boyd was a 62-year member of ASABE.

Recent Standards Activities

Proposed Projects

- X572.3, Spray Nozzle Classification by Droplet Spectra

New Revisions
Press Releases

- August 28, 2019, ASABE Revises Post Hole Digger Standard

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