



International Food and Agribusiness Management Review
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EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the third quarterly issue of IFAMR for 2015. This is our yearly post conference edition, and I want to draw your attention to a very interesting article submitted to IFAMA's Best Paper Competition. The paper is "*Food Movements in Germany: Slow Food, Food Sharing and Dumpster Diving*," by Meike Rombach and Vera Bitsch. The authors bring new social movement theory to the table to help us better understand the nuance of food movements. New theory is always welcomed at the IFAMR.

Authors participating in the Best Paper Competition receive many benefits that include both a simultaneous submission to the IFAMA's Research Symposium and a fast-track, double-blind peer review from the IFAMR to help them strengthen their conference presentation. In most cases, the complete submission-to-publication review process occurs in under 270 days. Articles published in our open access journal receive immediate email dissemination directly to 12k readers, and indirectly on the web through multiple cataloging services. Nice!

While attending the 2015 IFAMA World Conference in St. Paul, I was asked to give a plenary talk, briefly sharing the vision and strategy of the IFAMR with the audience. So what follows is the talk I gave this past June.

"I appreciate the opportunity to speak for a couple of minutes about the International Food and Agribusiness Management Review, the journal of IFAMA. When I think about IFAMA, I see an organization, since its founding in 1990 has had a core mission to impact the global food and agribusiness system. It has fulfilled this mission well through its numerous programs centered on talent and human resources, its wonderful annual conferences, and the subject of my comments—the IFAMR. But is the journal also making an impact on behalf of the association? Maybe that question sounds rather...academic...so ivory tower, right? Not quite. Eighteen Managing Editors, eight Guest Editors, and 280 reviewers from around the world log more than 3000 volunteer hours every year to make the IFAMR the top journal in the field of food and agribusiness management. The IFAMR team has established a platform so that authors: scholars, managers, policy makers, and students—the members and stakeholders of IFAMA may have an impact. Here are four gauges used to measure the value of the IFAMR platform.

- 1) The IFAMR is the most cited on google scholar, # 1 among its 18 peers. That means other scholars use the work of IFAMR authors, many of you sitting here in this room, to advance the science and practice of food and agribusiness management, which is the mission of IFAMA. Scholars from around the globe acknowledge IFAMA's contribution by citing the article, by name in their published work.
- 2) Those volunteer hours have paid off as researchers, managers, and policymakers from around the world download over 12k articles every month, ranking # 2 among our peers. That is 17 articles every hour influencing the food and agribusiness system. What an amazing return on investment from our editors and reviewers.
- 3) The gold standard for journal impact is Thomson Reuters ISI®. It is known worldwide, hard to get, and hard to be successful. We received ours in 2012, only two of the 19 food and agribusiness management journals have an Impact Factor. Who wins? Our authors, our members and our stakeholders, because the greater the impact of the journal, the greater the prestige of their scholarly work, the greater respect they have among peers and the faster their careers advance through the promotion and tenure process. Ultimately, advancing the important issues influencing the global food and agribusiness system. Achieving high impact is like sales to a salesman, and the IFAMR has impact. Our prestige and impact then drive submissions and demand for the IFAMR and IFAMA. Submissions are up 500% since 2008.
- 4) Finally, scholars use the IFAMR platform as a pulpit to produce and distribute special issues of the journal that raise awareness and allow active discourse on highly relevant topics. Why do Guest editor teams want to use the IFAMR and IFAMA to produce special issues? Because they want to have voice. They want access to 12k global readers and influencers, they want the legitimacy of the leading scholarly journal in the field, they want to build their brand, and they want their efforts actively downloaded and referenced on Google. The IFAMR gives our members and stakeholders a voice; it is a legitimizing voice as IFAMA and IFAMR are honest brokers. Recently industry and academics came together to spearhead a special issue on African entrepreneurship—think about that, when or where have you read about such an important topic? We've also published special issues on the obesity epidemic, the global poultry trade and raised global awareness concerning the talent and human resource gap occurring in the food and agribusiness sector. Upcoming special issues of the IFAMR have industry and academics discussing smallholder inclusion in African value chains; dairy markets and policy; and tangible applications of Big Data in agriculture.

IFAMA and the team at the IFAMR have a platform standing ready for you to make a difference as an author, guest editor, reviewer, managing editor, sponsor, and advertiser. We are electronic, open access, and actively present in the fast-growing, emerging markets. The leading journal in terms of impact; downloaded over 12k times every month,

distributed to over 12k readers six times per year, with global readership across six continents.

Come join us and use the platform IFAMA has created to effect the direction of the global food and agribusiness system.”

Enjoy the issue.

Peter Goldsmith, Executive Editor, IFAMR