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## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our third issue of 2012. At this time of year we celebrate and publish the best papers presented during IFAMA's annual World Symposium. IFAMA and the IFAMR work together in a unique way to produce the *Best Paper Award*. Scholars enter the competition by submitting a complete manuscript to the conference organizers in January. The IFAMR then manages a blind review process of the article. Scholars receive the reviewer's comments back in time to improve the paper and presentation prior to the conference in June. At the June conference, two judges attend the top finalists' presentations and submit their evaluation of the research. A committee of peers then reads the manuscript, the reviewers' comments, the response to the reviewers by the author, and the presentation evaluations. From this information they select the winners of the best papers for the conference. The authors receive a nice award, recognition during the conference, and a publication in the IFAMR Special Conference Edition. The two winners this year were Tepic et al. who received the *2012 Best Paper Award* for their writing about farmer networks in the Dutch pork sector, and Masuda and Goldsmith, received the *Conference Theme Award* for their paper on soybean meal demand in China.

So if you're interested in participating in the 2013 Best Paper Competition in Atlanta, USA, I encourage you to submit your full manuscript to the IFAMR on or before **February 4, 2013**.

There are six other super manuscripts in this issue, including a great piece written by the late Daniel Conforte. Kudos to the team at Massey University that stepped in to complete the revisions and make Daniel's hard work a reality.

You will notice something new in this issue, advertising. The IFAMR is funded by its authors. The mission of the IFAMR is to give its authors as much impact as possible. That is why the IFAMR is open access, electronic, registered with every major cataloguing service, has an impact factor, receives 12k article downloads a month, and is distributed to a proprietary mail list of 10k scholars, managers, and policymakers. The journal is growing rapidly and more revenue is needed to continue to elevate the impact of its scholars. With advertising we open a fourth revenue source for the IFAMR in addition to our sponsored issues, publication fees, and IFAMA membership. Please think about advertising your undergraduate or graduate program, business, or consultancy. For more information email **[ifamr@ifama.org](mailto:ifamr@ifama.org)** subject line: "advertising".

I would also like to introduce our newest Managing Editor, Alessio Cavicchi from the University of Macerata, Italy. The journal cannot run without the tireless work of our twelve editors. Managing Editors serve as the journal's face in a particular region. Submissions have risen dramatically in South America, Africa, and Asia so we would love to keep pace with additional Managing Editors in these regions. Interested scholars with a track record of publication and high quality reviews should contact me.

**Peter Goldsmith, Executive Editor, IFAMR**