

## President's Message



My term as President of the AICF comes to a close on the eve of the AICF's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012. I look forward to celebrating this important milestone with those who have supported the Foundation's past achievements and with new champions who will advance

AICF's commitment to providing Canadians with information, programs and activities that support a thriving agricultural sector.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to AICF's supporters, donors and sponsors whose generous contributions sustain and advance the Foundation's initiatives. Through your dedication, Canadians are gaining a better understanding of the role of agriculture in today's world and a new generation of skilled professionals is supported in their pursuit of agricultural knowledge.

Over the past 25 years, the Foundation has been honoured to maintain the legacies of successful professional agrologists through the administration of scholarships, grants and lectures. Legacies of individuals such as Dr. Karl C. Ivarson, Dr. Donald J. Blackburn, Dr. Douglas McRorie, and the founder of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, Dr. Leonard S. Klinck, connect Canada's remarkable agricultural history with a robust future.

One of these eminent individuals, Dr. Karl C. Ivarson, first funded a scholarship program with AICF in 2006. On his passing in 2010, Dr. Ivarson very generously bequeathed a significant portion of his estate to the AICF for a new scholarship fund. AICF is now developing a worthy legacy program in recognition of this substantial gift to the field of agriculture.

Fundraising continues as a focus area for AICF. Led by Past-President, Corrina Dawe, a dynamic Priority Planning and Fundraising Committee is exploring avenues of increasing revenue for the Foundation with special attention to our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In 2011, the AICF renewed its relationship with AIC for management services to the Foundation. This relationship has also provided opportunities for combined efforts on fundraising initiatives.

The AICF Board of Directors, all volunteers, includes leaders in the profession from across Canada. They hold diverse expertise but have a common commitment to the Foundation's work. This past year presented a significant challenge in the task of replacing four long-serving and dedicated Governors: Derrick Jamieson (Past President), Jim Pietryk (Treasurer), Bryan Harvey (Chair, Education and Scholarship Committee) and William Anderson. The Foundation was very fortunate in gaining three talented and capable in-coming Governors: Yvan Jacques (member, Fundraising and Priority Planning Committee), Dennis McKnight (Chair, Education and Scholarship Committee) and Myles Frosst. Regrettably, Myles was unable to continue his term into 2012 but an experienced new member, Brian Little, has joined us.

In the upcoming year, I look forward to the special endeavours to mark AICF's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to the participation of ongoing and new supporters to help us celebrate past achievements and continue to inspire a vibrant future for Canadian agriculture.

*Eveline Wolterson, PAg*

President

Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation 2011/2012

## The 2011-2012 AICF Board of Governors

**President:** Eveline Wolterson, PAg, British Columbia

**Past President & Vice President:** Corrina Dawe, PAg, Newfoundland & Labrador

**Governors:**

Myles Frosst, Ontario (to December 2011)

Yvan Jacques, Ontario

Brian Little, PAg, Ontario (from June 2012)

Dennis McKnight, Ontario

David Noshad, PhD, PAg, British Columbia

**Ex Officio:** Frances Rodenburg, Treasurer and Manager

## Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship Recipients for 2011

The Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship provides financial support to students entering second or subsequent year of post-graduate studies in soil science (in the areas of agriculture, environment, geology, agro-ecology or other related disciplines). Melissa Arcand and Gregory Piorkowski were the recipients of the 2011 Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship. Each received a \$3,000 award.



**Melissa Arcand** is working on her PhD in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Saskatchewan. Through her research, Ms. Arcand explores fundamental principles in soil science in order to understand the influence of agricultural management practices on the environment. She is part of a research group that is

examining the effects on soil N cycling of including pulse crops in crop rotations common to the Canadian prairies. Pulse crops can play an integral role in reducing the environmental impacts of traditional cereal-based crop rotations in the prairies by reducing the reliance on N fertilizers. Ms. Arcand sees a future as a research scientist working on questions related to soil nutrient cycling and plant-soil-microbial interactions within an agricultural context.

**Gregory Piorkowski** is a PhD student in Biological Engineering at Dalhousie University.

His research addresses the adequacy of E. coli as a fecal pathogen indicator in agricultural watersheds given recent evidence that this species is capable of adapting to, and growing naturally within, soil and sediment environments. Incorporating a microbial source tracking design, he has been genetically classifying E. coli strains into source libraries from primary (septic systems and livestock manure storage) and environmental (streambed sediment, agricultural soil and tile drains) sources and comparing waterborne E. coli strains against these libraries to determine their most likely origin. His secondary hypotheses are focused on the influence of soil type and manure loading rate on the naturalization potential, differential survival and transport of manure-borne E. coli strains, both benign and pathogenic, within the study watershed. Mr. Piorkowski looks forward to a research career in environmental microbiology.



Dr. Ivarson passed away in Calgary, Alberta in 2010 and bequeathed the assets from the sale of his farm to the AIC Foundation. Dr. Ivarson was passionate about his commitment towards supporting the future of agricultural development and through his generosity this commitment will be carried forward for many years to come. Future scholarships in his name are now being developed by the AICF. Further information, application forms and deadlines will be posted on the website, [http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation\\_initiatives.cfm](http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation_initiatives.cfm). Photos courtesy of the award recipients.

## 2011 IUNS Travel Award Recipients

Through the generous contribution of funds from the International Union of Nutritional sciences (IUNS), the AIC Foundation is pleased to have provided travel grants to graduate and doctoral students from agricultural colleges of Canadian academic institutions so that they could participate in scientific conferences, within the purview of the IUNS, and present their research. The mission of the IUNS is: To promote advancement in nutrition science, research and development through international cooperation at the global level; and to encourage communication and collaboration among nutrition scientists as well as to disseminate information in nutritional sciences through modern communication technology. Twenty-nine IUNS Travel Awards for the Nutritional Sciences were granted to the following recipients in 2011 bringing this fund to a close. Written reports about the conferences they attended and the value that they and their institutions received as a result of their participation are on the AICF website, [http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation\\_initiatives.cfm](http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation_initiatives.cfm) along with posters and presentation abstracts.

**McGill University:** Juliana Antunes, Abeer Bader, Melissa Fernandez, Venu Garg, Hussein Hassan, Nikhil Hiremath, Phani Narayanapurapu, Andre Piccolomini, Navneet Rattan, Ajaypal Singh, Prabhjot Singh, Negar Tabatabaei, Yetenayet Tola, Derek Wray, Liang Yu

**University of Guelph:** Simarata Dhillon, Igor Guzar, Zhutuan Miao, Komeine Nantanga, Matthew Rietberg,

Negin Sharafbafi, Azadeh Vatandoust, Renuka Waduge, Hua Zhang

**University of Saskatchewan:** Jennifer Adolphe, Janelle Fouhse

**University of Alberta:** Yanhong Chen, Mahsa Jessri, Julie Yu

## Excellence in Extension – The Blackburn Fund 2011 Awards

*This fund, created by a gift from the former Canadian Society of Extension (CSE), supports the expenses of current, credible speakers at national and regional events on topics supporting the principles of extension and development. The fund honours Dr. Donald J. Blackburn for his many contributions to the field of extension and his generous support of the CSE. The 2011 recipients are:*

**The Invasive Species Council of Manitoba** for the **19<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Weed Management Association Conference** held in Winnipeg, Manitoba in September 2011.

The **Chinook Applied Research Association** for the **Capturing Feed Grain and Forage Opportunities Conference: Feeding is a Changing Game** held in Strathmore, Alberta in November 2011.

## Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, which is made available through the support of the **RBC Foundation**, was established by the AIC Foundation in 1990 to honour past-president and agri-finance innovator Douglas McRorie, PAg, FAIC. No scholarships were awarded in 2011, however the RBC Foundation generously renewed its funding for scholarships to be awarded in 2012.

## Tribute Circle

The AICF Tribute Circle was created as a means to honour loved ones and to celebrate special occasions or achievements. Donors to the Tribute Circle receive a receipt for income purposes and a letter is sent to the family or person being honoured to acknowledge the gift. To make a Tribute Circle donation, contact the AICF office.

## Klinck Lectures

The AICF also manages the Klinck Lecture series, but there were no lectures in 2011.

## Donors

The AIC Foundation is a registered charity and all donations made to it are tax creditable. The AIC Foundation sincerely appreciates the support of the following individuals and organizations who contributed in 2011:

Divakar Ambrose	Dr. Derek M. Anderson
Pierre Baril	Dr. Marcos Colazo
Dr. Nigel Firth	Dr. Robb S. Gowe
Rodrigue Grégoire	Dr. John Harvey
Dr. Nick Hussar	Yvan Jacques
Robert George Klemmer	Dr. Ronald Marquardt
John A. Newman	Dr. Gaston Raggio
Prof. Claude Robert	Dr. Allan L. Schaefer
Dr. Paul Sharpe	Dr. Karen Schwartzkopf-
Dr. Julie Small	Genswein

Donations also were gratefully received from the Ontario Institute of Agrologists, Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists, Prince Edward Island Institute of Agrologists and the Newfoundland and Labrador Institute of Agrologists. The RBC Foundation is recognized for its generous support of the Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship.

## Newsletter

The AICF *Connections* Newsletter was published as a Summer edition in 2011. The newsletter is distributed by mail and email and is on line at: [www.aic.ca/about/foundation.cfm](http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation.cfm). To add your name to the mailing list to receive the newsletter, send a request to the AICF office including your full name, email and mailing address.

## Contact Us

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