



SmartAg Visionary Session and Strategic Planning Workshop August 1st & 2nd 2018 Detroit, MI

With world population continuing to increase against a set of global sustainability challenges such as finite supplies of water and nutrients, there is an urgent need to expand the rate of agricultural technology innovation. Fortunately, scientific and technological breakthroughs in artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, big data and gene editing offer unprecedented opportunities for imagining and developing novel approaches for meeting the food, fiber, water and energy needs of the global community. Engineers will play an essential role in this evolving innovation ecology that will create new solutions and integrate them into sustainable agricultural production systems. Thus, the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE), the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and Michigan State University (MSU) are sponsoring this workshop with the goals of broadening our members' horizon for smart agriculture innovation, energizing participants through dialogue and engagement, and establishing the framework for a 2019 conference involving a network of individuals solving the food, fiber, water and energy challenges.

The workshop will take place the afternoon of August 1 – 3:00 pm – 7:30pm AND the morning of August 2 – 8:00am – 1:00pm. We have invited the following visionaries to kick-off the session:

- Dr. Robin Lougee , Research Scientist at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center (invited) – A vision for SmartAg
- John Reid, Director, Product Technology and Innovation, John Deere – Precision Agriculture
- Dr. Paul Zorner, President and CEO, Locus Agricultural Solutions – Smart Bio/Agricultural Biotechnology
- Andy Kennedy, Interim Director of IFT's Global Food Traceability Center – Social Need/Consumer Expectations

A reception will follow the visionaries' presentations and a question and answer session from 5:30pm – 7:30pm.

Activities on August 2nd will consist of the reporting of outcomes and recommendations from the SmartAg International Symposium held at Michigan State University last December, and a set of strategic planning breakout sessions designed to solicit feedback and insights from the attendees.

Topics for the breakout session are as follows:

- Soft Technology: Big Data, AI, Machine Learning, etc.
- Hard Technology: Sensors, Mechatronics, robotics, drones, autonomous vehicles etc.
- Biotechnology: Systems biology, metagenomics, gene editing etc.
- Systems integration: Urban agriculture, plant/animal-machine interface; value-chain etc

We hope you will join us and share your insights and perspective on the future of agricultural technology innovation. If you are not attending the ASABE Annual International Meeting, contact Jessica Bell at bell@asabe.org. Registration includes a reception, lunch, and coffee breaks. Cost: \$99