Alison Burrell † 9-10-2018

It is with sad and deep feelings that we have to inform you that Alison passed away at the age of 75 in Sydney, Australia. During her education and work, she spent more than 50 years in Europe. After the Paris revolt of 1968, she became interested in social developments, economics and science. Always keen on the latest scientific and societal developments. That made herself an authoritative and international scientist with keen analytical abilities and special gifts as teacher and editor. Her communication with administrators and policy makers was outstanding, not putting herself too much in the front. In this way she served many of us, with both the ERAE and the EAAE as kernel activities. After her scientific career she picked up on a long-term passion: composing. This lasted only a few years.
Arie Oskam and Alfons Oude Lansink, Secretary General EAAE
(See here for an In Memoriam in relation to the EAAE)

Alison Burrell

Although from Australian origin, Alison Burrell has studied and spent her full career in Europe and speaks and understands more European languages than many of us. After finishing her Masters at the London School of Economics, she worked first in the UK (Wye College) and then in different European countries (among others: Eurostat, Wageningen University and ITPS Seville) and also in different types of jobs. Many of the students (but also professionals) who she taught consider her as an excellent teacher and an inspiring scientist. She based her applied economics and econometrics on a strong footing of microeconomic theory.

Besides a broad list of publications, illustrating her ability in modelling, econometric analyses, trade analysis and policy analysis she can be characterized as a person who combined theory and applications, not only in new research results, but also in policy relevant advices. Her ‘classic’ article on fertilizer demand and taxing, published in the Journal of Agricultural Economics, made a step forward by showing the difference between analyses based on programming studies and via econometric research and really bringing that to an applied level, useful for policy decisions in relation to the external effects of fertilizer application. Dairy modelling has been one of her consistent areas of research, first in relation to the introduction of the milk quota system and later to the opportunities to abolishing the quota system.

One of the main reasons for her fellowship, is her long-term contribution to the profession of agricultural economist in Europe via her (single) editorship of the European Review of Agricultural Economics (1995-2007) with a short period of joint editorship after that. During that period she not only run the Editorial process, but she contributed very much to the quality and reputation of the ERAE via her dedicated work. This editorship also made her for a long period an Ex-officio member of the Board of the EAAE.

As co-organiser of a series of international courses under the name ‘European Agricultural Policy in Transformation’ she contributed to the training of a number of persons in candidate and present member
states of the European Union over the period 1997-2002. This resulted also in a book 'Agricultural Policy and Enlargement of the European Union'.