Dear members and colleagues,

It is with deep regret that we, the members of the EAAE Board, have to inform you that Giovanni Anania, President of the EAAE, died on July 15th, 2015 at the age of 58. His death comes as a shock to all of us. Giovanni was a very warm, and passionate, colleague and friend who served the EAAE for many years. As president he was dedicated to making the EAAE a strong and leading organisation for the benefit of all agricultural economists across Europe. His presence, inspiration and dedication will be missed by all within the EAAE. We want to express our sincere condolences to his wife Margherita, family, friends, and colleagues at the University of Calabria.

On half of the EAAE Board,
Chantal Le Mouël
Vice President

Giovanni Anania was in the first place an excellent agricultural economist. He studied first economics at the University of Calabria (It) in 1978 and he did post-graduate studies at the University of Naples in 1981. He then moved to Essex (UK) and obtained there an MA in social data analysis in 1985. He continued his studies at the University of California, Davis (US) where he obtained a master of Science degree in 1987 and a PhD degree in 1988 in agricultural economics. His professional career unfolded completely at the University of Calabria where he was successively lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor and, since 1999, professor in the department of economics and statistics; his speciality was EU agricultural policy. He published numerous articles and other publications, among which 25 in high impact refereed journals. Besides his functions in the EAAE board, he also served in several other important positions within the agricultural economics profession both nationally and internationally (for a complete CV see http://www.ecostat.unical.it/anania/varie%20main/CVEPB1.15.pdf)

Giovanni joined the EAAE Board in 2002, and remained as a member for two terms until 2008. He initiated the fellows and the publication award programs within the EAAE, which have been well received by the membership. He was nominated and elected as president-elect for the period 2011-2014. He took his position and responsibilities very seriously and was elected with acclamation as President of EAAE in 2014.

Giovanni was active in addressing and securing the financial situation of EAAE. He believed strongly in the importance of the regular seminars and worked hard to maintain and improve their scientific quality. He also worked to strengthen the ties with national associations and liaison officers. He was a strong supporter of the PhD workshops and gave well-remembered advice to participants. Giovanni was very involved in setting up co-operation with other associations which recently resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding on co-operation with the Australian Agriculture & Resource Economics Society (AARES). Most recently he was very active in setting up organised sessions for the upcoming AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting, July 27, San Francisco (USA), and the 29th ICAE conference, August 12, Milan (Italy).

Giovanni was a colleague of the utmost integrity in his personal and professional relationships. We will remember him for his trademark sweaters and for his multi-coloured slide presentations, of course, but above all for his dedication to encouraging first-class research and communication among European agricultural economists and for his contribution over many years to helping to realise this goal.