

ISPA Newsletter 11(5): 16th ICPA, Economics Community Update, ISPA Networking in Action

May 16, 2023



International Society of Precision Agriculture

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



ISPA Economics Community

Deputy Economics Community Leader



Professor Marius Michels from Humboldt University in Berlin (Germany) has successfully been elected un-opposed as the incoming ISPA Economics Community Deputy Leader.

Marius Michels, who grew up on an arable farm, pursued a bachelor's degree in agricultural sciences with a specialization in crop sciences at the Georg-August University of Göttingen, Germany in 2013. Subsequently, he commenced a master's program in economic and social sciences of agriculture at the same university, completing it in 2016. His PhD thesis centered on the utilization of smartphones for agricultural purposes.

At present, Marius Michels is a visiting professor at Humboldt University in Berlin, where he directs the department of quantitative agricultural economics. His primary research interest pertains to digitalization in agriculture, with a particular emphasis on analyzing farm-level decision-making. Additionally, he actively investigates risk management strategies for farms, the agricultural land market, agricultural policies, as well as behavioral and experimental economics. The ISPA Economics Community greatly appreciates Marius' commitment and support and look forward to his leadership.

ISPA Economics Community Event

During the 18th & 19th September 2023 the ISPA Economics Community will be hosting a special session at the 6th Symposium on Agri-Tech Economics for Sustainable Futures organised by Harper Adams University, UK. The session will be focused on the **Economics and Adoption of Precision Agriculture**. We are very excited to announce that the keynote speaker for the session is **Professor Jess (James) Lowenberg-DeBoer** (co-editor of the journal Precision Agriculture 2016-2022 and past president of the ISPA) who will be presenting on ***Lessons Learned in 30 years of Precision Agriculture Research***.

The session is part of an in-person symposium at Harper Adams University in the UK, with discounted on-campus accommodation available and a very sociable conference dinner. You are invited to showcase your work and discuss it among world leading peers and fellow Economics Community members. The call for papers is currently open and closes on the **10th July 2023** and we encourage

ISPA members to consider submitting their work. For more information go to: <https://www.agritechecon.co.uk/>

ISPA is Bridging Collaboration Gaps Among Their Members

One of the roles of ISPA is connecting members around the world to engage and collaborate on research, education, and extension. Last July, members of the African Association for Precision Agriculture (AAPA) attended the International Conference on Precision Agriculture in Minneapolis, USA. At the conference, they had numerous discussions around possibilities for collaboration and student exchange which were facilitated by ISPA board members. One of those interactions was between Dr. Kwame Agyei Frimpong, former president of AAPA and Associate Professor in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Cape Coast and Dr. Brenda Ortiz, current ISPA board secretary and Professor and Precision Agriculture Extension Specialist at Auburn University. This conversation included a discussion on the need for Precision Agriculture training among African students and professionals, as well as the possibility of joint projects. In the Fall of 2022 and after several



conversations between Dr. Ortiz and faculty from the University of Cape Coast, she decided to offer a fellowship of eight months to Emmanuel Hanyabui, one of Dr. Agyei Frimpong's graduate students.

Emmanuel Hanyabui is now a visiting scholar at Auburn University in the Precision Agriculture Program. Emmanuel will be involved in multiple projects this Summer and Fall, focusing on the evaluation of commercial tools for in-season nitrogen recommendation to support variable rate nitrogen application. During his stay in the USA, Emmanuel will have the opportunity to develop skills in the use of multiple Precision Agriculture technologies and methodologies. He will also interact with numerous Auburn University faculty and graduate students, Alabama farmers and crop consultants, and industry representatives.

16th ICPA Call for Abstracts



The 16th International Conference on Precision Agriculture is now accepting Abstracts

Submit your abstract for the 16th ICPA held in Manhattan, Kansas, USA from 21-24 July 2024.

Create your abstract [here](#).

Author instructions can be found [here](#).

The deadline to submit your abstract is **31 October 2023**. Abstract review notices will be released on 1 February 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact info@ispag.org

Country Representative - Mouna Mechri

**Dr. Mouna Mechri –
ISPA Tunisian Representative**

Dr. Mouna Mechri is the ISPA Country Representative for Tunisia. Projects include assessing the impacts of changing water availability on agricultural production in selected Arab countries, and changing water availability through the use of reliable climate forecasts and hydrological parameters at the regional and national levels.



Dr. Mouna Mechri
PhD Chief Engineer
Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition Program
National Institute of Field Crops (INGC)

ISPA ispag.org/Leadership/CountryRep #ISPAG

Country Representatives serve to help promote ISPA by championing the ISPA mission and purpose globally, in particular, in the country they represent. ISPA is growing internationally so Country Representatives remain an important position to help ISPA best serve people, groups, governments and others, globally connecting them to science and experts.

Please join us in thanking ISPA Country Representative from Tunisia, Mouna Mechri.

If you are interested in becoming a Country Representative, please email info@ispag.org with your bio highlighting your experience in precision agriculture and your CV. ISPA requires that all Country Representatives are current members of the society. To become a member, please complete the [membership form](#).

Upcoming Events

25-27 FEB 2025

GIS & Drone Applications in Agriculture Conference

29 JUN - 3 JUL 2025

15th European Conference on Precision Agriculture

Barcelona, Spain

ecpa2025.upc.edu/

22-31 AUG 2025

XXXII ISSCT Centennial Congress

Cali, Colombia

issctcennial.com/

14-16 OCT 2025

11th Asian-Australasian Conference on Precision Agriculture

Chiayi, Taiwan

ispag.org/Events/ACPA

2-4 FEB 2026

International Crop Modeling Symposium (iCROP2026)

Florence, Italy

Week of 13 JUL 2026

17th International Conference on Precision Agriculture and the 11th Brazilian Congress on Precision Agriculture

Porto Alegre, Brazil

ispag.org/icpa

[See the ISPA website for a complete list of events.](#)

Do you have an event that would be of interest to our members? [Send us an email to let us know.](#)

Jobs Listing

- [Postdoc in Digital Agronomy for Climate Resilient Perennial Agriculture](#)
- [Tenure Track Assistant Professor in soil spectroscopy at Department of Agroecology, Aarhus University](#)
- [Assistant or Associate Professor of Extension Soil Management - University of Kentucky - Department of Plant and Soil Sciences](#)
- [Precision Agriculture Technologies Extension Specialist - University of Tennessee - Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science](#)
- [Assistant Professor \(Extension\) - Mississippi State University - The Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering](#)
- [University of Georgia - Assistant Professor - Extension Specialist Precision Agriculture Systems](#)

☐ Do you have a job you would like to post to the ISPA website? Please send your job announcement, a short description, and cutoff deadline for applications to info@ispag.org

Contribute to the ISPA Newsletter

Do you have a precision ag event, project, or news article that our members would be interested in? Please let us know. We [post events](#), [job opportunities](#), and [news from members](#) from around the globe. Email info@ispag.org or use the handy [online form to submit your contribution](#).

Stay Up To Date with ISPA on Social Media!

Be sure to follow ISPA on Twitter and LinkedIn to remain up to date with what the society has to offer. If you're posting about precision agriculture and would like to reach our international community, please add #ispag to your post.



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