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# Report of the ICA President

## 2018

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**Marek S. Szyndel**



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# Celebrate ICA's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

- 1987 First established (as was Silva and Agrinatura)
- 1988 Registered in Brussels as Interfaculty Committee Agraria

1988 Bruno Ostergaard, Danske Andelsselskaber, Copenhagen

1990 Wouter H Douma, Wageningen University

- 1996 Re-launched at Conference in Ghent

1996 Rector Cees Karssen, Wageningen University

2003 Former Rector Leopold Maerz, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU),

2007 Professor Maurice Boland, College Principal, University College Dublin

2008 Dean Per Holten-Andersen, University of Copenhagen

2010 Philippe Choquet, President, Institut Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais,

2011 Dean Guido van Huylenbroeck, Ghent University, Belgium

2016 Professor Marek S Szyndel, Warsaw University of Life Sciences,

# Changing focus of ICA

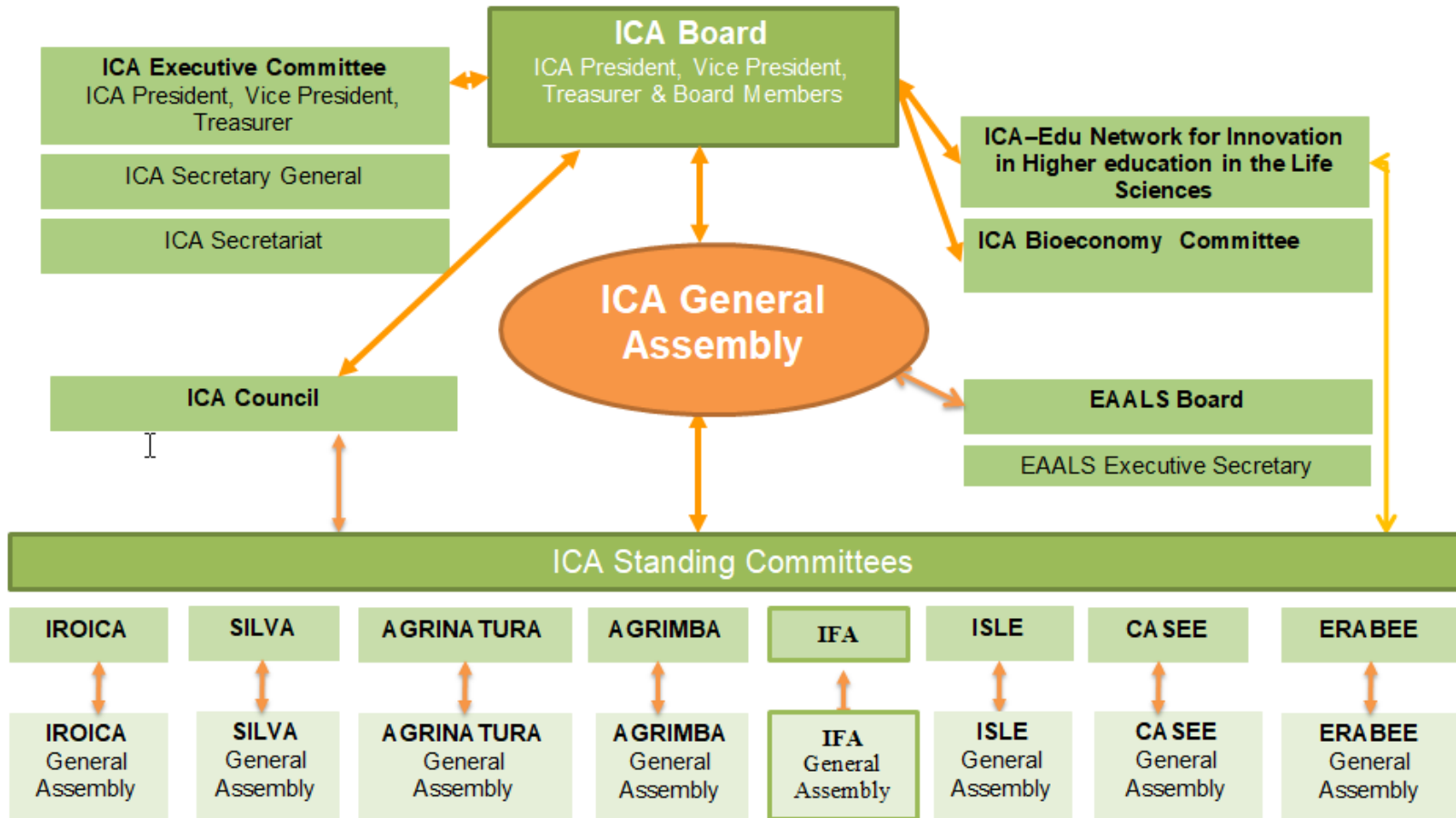
- 1989 – meeting the need for closer collaboration between agricultural and forestry (life science) universities and faculties through annual conferences
- 1996 – expansion of the EU eastwards and the opportunity to share experience
- 2000s > ICA's focus, through funded EU projects, has been on curriculum development, support of innovative teaching and learning, quality assurance, support for internationalisation through IROICA,
- 2015 > still a focus on education but now engagement at the European level through ICA-Bio



And throughout engagement with the ICA Standing Committees



## Association for European Life Science Universities (ICA)



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# ICA Board members

- **Marek S. Szyndel**, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, ICA President
- **Alex Evans**, University College Dublin, ICA Vice-President
- **Yvan Larondelle**, Catholic University of Louvain, ICA Treasurer
- **Michal Lostak**, Czech University of Life Sciences, Secretary to the Board
- **Josef Glössl**, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), & Chair of ICA-Bioeconomy Committee
- **Barbara Hinterstoisser** University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Chair of ICA-Edu Committee
- **Astrid Ballesta**, University of Lleida
- **Peter Bielik**, Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra
- **Philippe Choquet** co-opted as ICA Board Representative on the GCHERA GA.
- **Antanas Maziliauskas**, Aleksandras Stulginskis University
- **Arthur Mol**, Wageningen University and Research
- **Matt Tips**, Catholic University Leuven, President of IROICA
- **Vadym Tkachuk**, National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine

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# ICA Board Committees

- **ICA-Edu** – ICA Network for Innovation in Life Sciences Higher Education



- **ICA-Bio** – ICA Network for the Bioeconomy



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# ICA Board meetings in 2018:

- ICA Board hosted by Aleksandras Stulginskis University on February 9<sup>th</sup> at Vilnius University, Lithuania
- Two ICA Board meetings by Video Conferences:  
May 9<sup>th</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup> 2018
- & ICA Board meeting here today

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## ICA Rectors and Deans Forums

*This annual Forum aims to provide university decision makers with the opportunity to meet, discuss current issues in life science universities and exchange views on these issues with our stakeholders in industry, government and NGOs*

- **7<sup>th</sup> Forum: Challenge for Life Science Universities to deliver impact in addressing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2017.** Alex Evans summarised the key issues for Rectors and Deans to address
- **8<sup>th</sup> Forum: High Tech to Feed the World Sustainably: Innovation from Spade to Fork 2018**



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# ICA-Bio Board Committee

- Aims to contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy for the bioeconomy in education, research and innovation by seeking synergies among ICA members and other EU and international institutions, industries, and networks

# ICA-Bio Activities in 2018



Led a Workshop: **International Cooperation in Education and Training for the Bioeconomy**

at the Berlin



GLOBAL  
BIOECONOMY  
SUMMIT 2018

Partner in two EU project applications:

Cost Action project: **Education on Bioeconomy**

H2020 /BBI: **'Skills4Bio'** - current and future **Skills development for a sustainable European Bioeconomy**

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# ICA Challenged

Maurice Boland:

- ICA should be a conduit for discussions between industry and third level institutions as to how they can work together in future for the benefit of mankind

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# ICA-Edu Board Committee

- aims to provide the opportunity to discuss, evaluate and deliver innovative approaches in teaching and learning in higher education in the life sciences

# ICA-Edu Activities 2018



- **ICA-Edu Colloquium** planned “Let the entrepreneurial genie out of the bottle! how will we stimulate the nascent entrepreneurial skills of our students?” will run in 2019
- ICA-Edu received funding under Erasmus + for a Strategic partnership project to support ***Innovative education for sustainable entrepreneurship in life sciences - INTRINSIC***
- Partner in Erasmus + project ***Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development - SUSDEV***

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# ICA Challenged

Maurice Boland:

- More and more effort needs to be directed towards developing better innovative/entrepreneurial skills in young professionals. More active learning is required.

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# ICA Challenged

Guido Van Huylbroeck:

- ICA-Edu can play a more prominent role in reinforcing the spread of modern teaching methods and techniques among our professors and teachers as there remains a huge gap in international contacts and peer learning in this field

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# ICA Challenged

Guido Van Huylenbroeck:

- my dream is to receive from ICA an invitation to a large professionalisation conference expecting over 1000 professors teaching life sciences in Europe.

Impossible?

Remember then the words of the late Mandela:  
'Everything is impossible, until it is realised' !

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# ICA works with European and Global Networks:

- APLU Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities in the US
- CFAVM Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine
- CEDIA European Federation of Agronomist Associations
- GCHERA Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for the Agricultural and Life Sciences
  
- **International Student Associations:**
- IAAS International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences
- IFSA International Forestry Students' Association

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# 20th Anniversary of GCHERA

**10th GCHERA World Conference “Leadership of Agricultural and Life Science Universities for a sustainable world”**

to be held from **24th to 26th of April 2019** at the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine (USAMV) in București, Romania.

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# ICA-APLU-ACFAVM conference

- ICA joint conference with APLU and ACFAVM, planned for 2018 in Ghent, had to be postponed to 2020
- There will be a small meeting with ICA Board and APLU and ACFAVM representatives to plan the ICA-APLU-ACFAVM conference for 2020 in Bucharest at April 24<sup>th</sup> 2019

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# ICA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

- Anniversary Dinner – October 25<sup>th</sup> 2018
- ICA Board invited Dr. **Christian Patermann** to challenge us in an after dinner celebratory speech:

“Challenges for European life science universities in the next 10 years or so” and “the opportunities for ICA in supporting our members address those challenges”

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# Dr h.c. Christian Patermann

- is an international bioeconomy expert and advisor. Over the years, he has held numerous top positions in the international science and technology policy world. He was:
- Director of Biotechnology, Agriculture and Food Research and the Director for Environment and Sustainable Development at the European Commission's Research Directorate-General.
- Deputy Director-General at the German Federal Ministry for Research and Education.
- He worked at the European Space Agency and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory.

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# Thank you for your attention

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