



2004

## Fellows Award Biographies

**Dr. Michael Boehlje** is a Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and the Center for Food and Agricultural Business (CAB) at Purdue University. He previously held faculty and administrative positions at Iowa State University, University of Minnesota and Oklahoma State University. Boehlje has devoted his career to helping firm managers and policy makers understand the pragmatic economic and financial consequences of their decisions. The fundamental focus of his work has been to integrate concepts of economics, finance, and strategy to solve problems of farm and agribusiness managers. A major theme of Professor Boehlje's research, writing and lecturing for the past 10 years has been the importance of strategic planning and thinking, and positioning the firm for long-term viability and success. His work has attempted to extend and apply modern management concepts of systems analysis, process control, transactions cost, strategic positioning, real options and supply/value chain management to the food production, processing and distribution system. Dr Boehlje is the author or co-author of four books, and over 450 articles and other publications. He is also Senior Associate of Centrec Consulting. He is a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association.

**Dr. Jan van Roekel** became member of IAMA in 1995 and was appointed as boardmember in 1999. He was member of many program planning committees and co-chair of the IAMA Forum & Symposium 2002 in Noordwijk, The Netherlands and 2004 in Montreux, Switzerland. Jan van Roekel studied at Wageningen Agricultural University in The Netherlands where he graduated with distinction in 1972 in Business Administration, Marketing and Food Technology. He then held a variety of managers posts at Sara Lee, International Flavors & Fragrances, Hero and Nehem Consulting Group. In 1994 Jan van Roekel set up Agri Chain Competence Center which was followed by other knowledge and innovation centers in the agri-food sector, culminating in the establishment of COKON. Today Jan van Roekel is CEO of COKON.

**Mr. William Whipple** is an Executive Vice President with Harris Nesbitt's Food Group headquartered in Chicago, Illinois with branch offices in Atlanta, Denver and San Francisco. Harris Nesbitt is the premier supplier of ideas-of-value to the food chain plus Capital Market solutions, multi-dimensional operating services and wealth management activities. Prior to his existing position, Mr. Whipple was Executive Vice President of Harris Trust & Savings Bank. He is immediate past President of the International Food & Agribusiness Management Association. He currently serves on several industry boards and industry-related activities and is founder of *foodceo.com*. Mr. Whipple holds a Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Illinois and an MBA from the University of Hartford.