

ISD 2016

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC DAYS
NITRA, THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
MAY 19 - 20, 2016

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



John Westra is a professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness at Louisiana State University and the LSU AgCenter, where he has worked since 2002.

He conducts research and delivers extension (outreach) programs on agriculture and environmental policy impacts on farm management decisions. Current research is designed to increase our understanding of the linkages of coupled human and natural systems in agricultural landscapes and ecosystem services like water quality, soil quality, wildlife habitat, and greenhouse gas mitigation. He is currently involved in research projects such as the Chippewa 10% Project in west-central Minnesota

(<http://landstewardshipproject.org/stewardshipfood/chippewa10>) and the STRIPS project in Iowa (<https://www.nrem.iastate.edu/research/STRIPs/>) – both efforts to increase provision of ecosystem services in agricultural landscapes.

Extension or outreach efforts include serving as Project Director for the annual Louisiana Summary (<http://www.lsuagcenter.com/agsummary/>). He also serves as Project Director for the Louisiana MarketMaker Program (<https://la.foodmarketmaker.com/>) – a nationally award-winning initiative that gives consumers better access to fresh, local foods and farmers more opportunities for profitability through multiple marketing channels. Additionally, he teaches graduate and undergraduate classes in finance and mathematical methods in economics.

He received a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota (2001), an M.S. in Agricultural Economics at the University of Maine (1991), and a B.A. in Psychology at Grinnell College in Grinnell Iowa (1984) – all in the United States.