It is a complete honor to become the president of AACC International. However, it is even more exciting to take the helm of the association during its current rejuvenation. Activities, events, and member comments have all pointed to the recent successes of the association, and I am thrilled to continue this trend and “advance grain science worldwide” as I proceed through my presidency.

First, I must acknowledge the incredible work of the more than 400 volunteers who contribute to this organization. Member volunteers create the high-quality research and meetings we have come to expect, as well as identify areas where the association can better serve the industry. Your hard work and insights are indispensable and your fortitude plays a necessary role as we continue the rejuvenation of the association. With an association the size of AACC Intl., there is no end to the opportunities to volunteer, and you will find a role in which to volunteer that is of interest to you. I also intend to work toward implementing programs that recognize the spirit of volunteerism.

Also, I have to reflect upon the 2010 Annual Meeting—and you can do so too by visiting pages 311–328. This year’s meeting was a success by many measures. The new, innovative session formats were popular, drawing attendees and speakers into conversations and facilitated discussions that were relevant to industry, academia, and government. In addition, the sold-out exhibit floor housed companies from around the globe, and became a place for lively conversations and business opportunities. Nearly 1,200 attendees and guests from 37 countries attended this incredible meeting. These individuals represented 74 universities and 328 companies worldwide. The exchanges of research and ideas were impressive.

This year’s annual meeting was based on the Seven Key Scientific Initiatives. During my term as president, I will work to further integrate these throughout the association. We have had much success weaving these key initiatives into the annual meeting and other areas of the association, and hope to broaden their influence to affect all areas of the association.

Of course, I will not be undertaking these initiatives alone. The 2010–2011 AACC Intl. Board consists of Chair of the Board Khalil Kahn, President-Elect Debi Rogers, Treasurer Laura Hansen, and Directors Art Bettge, Rodney Booth, Gerard Downey, Bruce Hamaker, Craig Morris, and Lydia Tooker Midness.

The board and I have aggressive plans for the coming year. Primarily, we must continue to provide the highest quality of science and information on cereal grains and their products. We will work to identify emerging issues on a local and global scale, and increase the dialogue among members worldwide to address those issues. We will improve the current information products we have, including Cereal Foods World, Cereal Chemistry, and more, to best suit the needs of our members around the world. In addition, we will explore new mechanisms for exchanging information among members in our global organization. We must offer high-quality professional development opportunities. Leadership will also look to our young members for guidance on what they require for their development. Finally, we must ensure a vital organization.

Many of these efforts will culminate during the 2011 Annual Meeting in Palm Springs, CA, U.S.A. I invite you to mark your calendars for October 16–19, and plan to join me, and a thousand of my colleagues, as we continue to advance grain science worldwide.

As this issue was sent to the printer, I learned that my dear friend and fellow AACC Intl. member Peter Wood passed away. Peter’s work contributed to the recognition that soluble oat fiber can reduce cholesterol and have other health benefits. In addition to his work at the Guelph Food Research Centre, Peter continually made contributions to our association, including being an editor on the just-released Oats: Chemistry and Technology, Second Edition. At the 2010 Annual Meeting I had many of you sign a card that I sent to him. I received note that he greatly appreciated the card and well wishes from so many friends. Peter will be greatly missed.