The Institution of

Agricultural Engineers

Founded 1938 – Incorporated 1960

**The IAgrE President’s Award 2018**

## Dr Rob Simmons

## MIAgrE

Dr Rob Simmons is a successful mid-career agricultural engineer, specialising in soil / crop / water / machinery interactions. Throughout his career, Rob has continued to translate sound scientific research outcomes into practical, field-based solutions to address key soil management problems facing the land based sector.

Dr Simmons gained his Masters in Agricultural Engineering (Soil Conservation option) from Silsoe College, Cranfield University in 1992. He went on to gain a PhD from the University of Kent (Christ Church, Canterbury) on the use of polyacrylamide soil conditioners in 1998. Prior to taking up a Lectureship in Soil Erosion Control at Cranfield University in 2008, he held a number of overseas positions. His current post is Senior Lecturer in Sustainable Soil Systems at Cranfield University.

Rob is an excellent field scientist, working with farmers, agronomists, NGOs and government agencies. His work addresses some of the fundamental challenges facing UK agriculture today. Throughout his career, Dr Simmons has used his research to inform his teaching of agricultural and environmental engineers. He continues to inspire students with his brand of enthusiastic and practical ‘know-how’, underpinned by robust scientific evidence.

Over the years he has successfully supervised many MSc, MPhil and PhD students.

In summary, Dr Simmons has made outstanding progress in applying fundamental and applied soil science and management to many aspects of agricultural engineering. Dr Simmons is a worthy recipient of the award.