The Institution of

Agricultural Engineers

Founded 1938 – Incorporated 1960

**Recognition of the contribution that Prof Bill Day and Dr Steve Parkin have made to the Institution through their work with the journal “Biosystems Engineering”**

Prof Bill Day and Dr Steve Parkin working as the editorial team for “Biosystems Engineering” in the period 2007 to 2023 have made a tremendous contribution to the activity and reputation of The Institution. When Silsoe Research Institute closed in 2006, The Institution became owners of the journal “Biosystems Engineering”, and Bill was appointed Editor-in Chief with Steve as Managing Editor. This was a time of major and important change as the journal moved to a fully electronic submission and publishing system. Under Bill and Steve’s management, the journal grew substantially, and its international profile rose significantly with an enhanced reputation for scientific quality. This development can be seen from the statistics – the citation index (an internally accepted measure of the impact of the published research) increased from 1.3 in 2014 to 5.1 in 2023 and with the number of submitted papers rising from 700 to over 1700 in the same period.

In 2021, Bill retired from the role as Editor-in Chief and Steve took over that role and with Bill continuing to provide valuable guidance and support to the journal as Editor Emeritus.

In 2023 a new editorial team were appointed by The Institution (with Steve continuing as an Associate Editor) to continue to work with the journal and build further on the foundations so well established by Bill and Steve.

Biosystems Engineering, owned by The Institution and published by Elsevier, is a very important asset to The Institution providing an established and well recognised platform for publishing original research contributions. It is very well recognised internationally, is ranked in the upper quartile of listed journals in the discipline and provides a major component of the academic and technical capital of The Institution. It also provides an important source of income and a key component in the annual budget for The Institution.

Given the importance of “Biosystems Engineering” to The Institution and the huge contribution that Bill and Steve have made to guiding the journal to where it is today, it is entirely appropriate that this contribution is recognised at this awards presentation and we wish them both well for the future.