

US-IALE Newsletter: Winter 2016

Winter 2016
Volume 31/1

US-IALE 2016 Annual Meeting **Landscape Change**

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Asheville, North Carolina, is a nationally known destination for arts and entertainment, outdoor recreation, and world-class food and beverages. In recent years, the city has landed on multiple “top ten” lists as a best place to live, play, and retire. With this recognition comes rapid change — a flourishing tourism industry and an influx of new residents leading to increased development and associated economic and ecological pressures in the city and surrounding areas. These shifting dynamics will provide a fitting backdrop when Asheville invites professionals and students to examine the theme of “Landscape Change” during US-

IALE’s 2016 Annual Meeting, organized by the U.S. Forest Service [Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center](#).

“We’re thrilled to organize the annual US-IALE meeting, which has not been held in the eastern United States since 2012,” says Bill Hargrove, a research ecologist with the Eastern Threat Center and co-chair of the meeting’s organizing committee. “With the simple theme of ‘Landscape Change,’ we’ll strive to capture the defining charac-

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President’s Message



Janet Franklin
US-IALE President

Notes from the President, Winter 2016

With the IALE World Congress behind us (and Rob Scheller on sabbatical trying to recover from it) I want to again especially thank Rob (Portland State University) Anita Morzillo (University of Connecticut), and Vi-

vek Shandas (Portland State University), and our meeting planners, Delaney Meeting and Events Management for organizing such a blockbuster international meeting. I also want to thank the leadership of our parent organization, especially Past President Felix Keinast, recently elected President Christine Fürst, and General Secretary Tom Edwards, for their support of broad international participation at the

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Nominations Needed for US-IALE Executive Committee

Please nominate yourself or a colleague for positions serving US-IALE. **The deadline for nominations is February 28th. Elections will be held from March 15 - April 1.**

The by-laws of the US-IALE provide for annual elections to fill positions on the Executive Committee on a rotating basis. Executive Committee members are expected to participate in regular conference calls and to attend the annual meeting. The following positions are up for election:

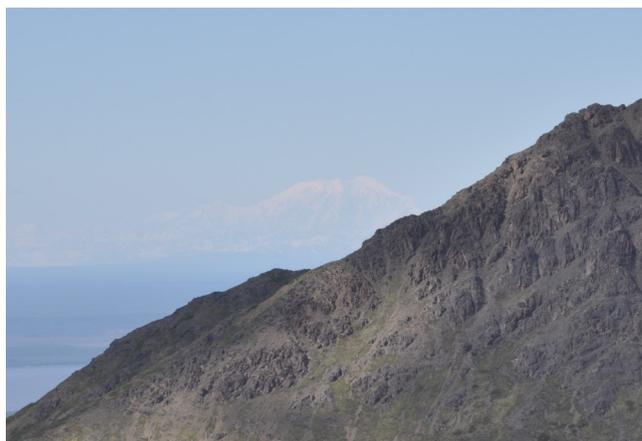
TREASURER: One position for a 2-year term. The Treasurer is responsible for handling the finances for the society. This position includes maintaining bank accounts, endowments and other funds for the society, and receiving/acknowledging membership dues. The outgoing Treasurer is Todd Hawbaker.

COUNCILLOR-AT-LARGE: Two positions each for a 2-year term. The Councillors-at-large (total of 3) shall perform duties as assigned by the Chair. The Councillor-at-large not up for election is Jen Freterigo. The outgoing Councillors are Helene Wagner and Yolanda Wiersma.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE: One position for a 2-year term. (Outgoing student rep is Whalen Dillon, see more details under *Student News and Notes*).

Thank you!

Rob Scheller
Chair, US-IALE Nominating Committee



Message from the Membership Liaison



Anita Morzillo, Membership Liaison

Matt Viehdorfer (USIALE “web guy”) and I continue to implement upgrades to provide better web-based recordkeeping and services for USIALE and its members. Members now have individual log-in ability to look up membership numbers, review membership payment history and status, and recall usernames and passwords. Members should have stated to see automatic email reminders in early December about annual membership expirations and renewals. Current members can now post position and other announcements on the USIALE website.

Please take special note that starting in 2016 annual symposium, we will be tracking current memberships and registrations at the member-based rates. Those who register as members but do not have current memberships will be invoiced for the difference between member- and non-member conference rates. This change will help the society maintain the revenue expected when reviewing budgets for the annual symposium, and is common practice for many other professional societies. Please do not hesitate to contact me at membership@usiale.org if you have questions.

**—Anita Morzillo
US-IALE Membership Liaison**

US-IALE Winter 2016 Awards Update

The Awards Committee is looking forward to announcing winners for some or all of the following awards at the 2016 annual banquet in Asheville, North Carolina. Further information about each award and a complete list of past award recipients can be found at <http://usiale.org/awards>

Outstanding Paper in Landscape Ecology

The Awards Committee reviews nominations for papers published during the past two years that make an outstanding contribution to the field of landscape ecology. In 2014, the outstanding paper award was presented to Forrest Hoffman, Jitendra Kumar, Richard Mills, and William Hargrove for their publication "Representativeness-based sampling network design for the State of Alaska" in *Landscape Ecology* (26:851-864).

Distinguished Landscape Ecologist

The intent of this award is to recognize unique individuals whose long-term scientific contribution have helped to define the field of landscape ecology, and is the

most prestigious award presented by our Chapter. Recent recipients include Dean Urban (2014), Virginia Dale (2013), Marie-Josée Fortin (2013), David Mladenoff (2012), and Lenore Fahrig (2011).

Distinguished Landscape Practitioner

The intent of this award is to recognize outstanding applications of the principles of landscape ecology to real-world problems. Recent recipients include the Andrew Fall (2014), K. Bruce Jones (2013), and the United States National Park Service's Inventory and Monitoring Program (2012).

Distinguished Service Award

The intent of this award is to recognize individuals who have contributed exceptionally in terms of time, energy, and dedication to advance the mission of US-IALE. Recent recipients include Peter August (2014), Jingle Wu (2012) and Monica Turner (2010).

Best Student Presentation

The intent of this award is to recognize the best presentation (oral or poster) given by a student at

the previous annual meeting. The award includes a \$300 cash award and a waiver of one future meeting registration fee. The winners from the 2015 meeting will be acknowledged at the 2016 meeting banquet in Asheville. Students may indicate their interest in participating in the 2016 competition during the registration process.

US-IALE Sponsored Student Travel Awards

US-IALE is once again able to fund a limited number of student travel awards to the annual meeting. Twelve awardees of up to \$500 each have been selected to support attendance at the 2016 meeting in Asheville.

---The 2015-2016 US-IALE Awards

Committee: Todd Lookingbill (chair), Pete August, Jeff Hollister, Steven Walters, Betty Kreakie, & Jingle Wu

Further information about each award and a complete list of past award recipients can be found at <http://www.usiale.org/awards>



Foreign Scholar Travel Award (FSTA) Update

The purpose of the FSTA is to provide support for landscape ecologists from foreign countries to attend the annual US-IALE symposium and to foster international exchange about advances in landscape ecology. Winners are selected based primarily on high quality scientific endeavors that advance landscape ecology, but early career scientists with demonstrated financial need also receive high priority. If you missed the application deadline for this year's symposium, please consider applying for the award next year. More details on eligibility and the selection criteria can be found on the US-IALE website (<http://usiale.org/fst-award>).

We received 22 applications this year representing 18 countries: Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, Ecuador, India, Iran, Madagascar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, South Korea, Taiwan, Togo, and Ukraine. Special thanks to Robert Corry (Univ.

of Guelph), Tammy Wilson (National Park Service), and Anne Kuhn (U.S. EPA) of the FSTA Committee, along with insight from IALE Africa (Henry Bulley), for taking the time to carefully review and rank the applications. Winners will be announced at the symposium. Please be sure to give them a warm US-IALE welcome!

During the symposium, we will also be holding the annual Silent Book and Software Auction. Please remember to donate any books you may have on your shelves...old and new are greatly appreciated. There will be tables at registration for you to drop off your goodies. Also, don't forget to bid early and often on the great items that will be available at the auction. All proceeds from sales directly fund the FSTA scholarships.

Submitted by Chair: Kathy Vigness-Raposa

Student News and Notes



Whalen Dillon (left) and Rose Graves (right), student representatives.

We are looking forward to those student members who can make it to the US-IALE meeting in Asheville. There are several student activities planned including: a walking tour of Asheville Sunday, student/mentor lunch Monday, "We'll pick up the tab social" Tuesday before the banquet, the student social (on Wednesday night due to the Final-four scheduled on Monday night), and

A free (to students) half-day workshop: [W08. Student Workshop: Spatial and Temporal Data Visualization](#). Description: Presenting complex spatial and temporal data sets in visually appealing, understandable graphics is a critical skill for emerging landscape ecologists. Participants in this data visualization workshop, led by Ned Gardiner (data visualization expert for NOAA), will learn tools and techniques for creating clear, meaningful depictions of complex data. This half-day workshop will focus on providing an overview of the importance of good data visualizations, examples of data visualization possibilities, and hands-on experience creating visualizations out of provided data sets.

In other news, in addition to the Treasurer and Coucillor-at-Large Executive Committee positions we are also seeking nominations for: STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE: One position for a 2-year term. (Outgoing student rep is Whalen Dillon).

If you enjoyed student activities in past meetings (mentor lunch, student social, professional development workshops), here is your chance to give back to US-IALE and its student community!

US-IALE's student activities are coordinated by two student representatives who have overlapping two-year terms, with 1 position replaced each year. This is an elected position, and results are announced at the annual US-IALE. The student representatives are voting members of the executive committee, which meets 1-3 times during the annual meeting and meets via conference call another 2-4 times per year, typically about the annual meeting. The duties of the student representatives are:

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President's Message (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

2015 IALE World Congress.

Now, on a very compressed schedule, we are all busy preparing for our annual chapter meeting in Asheville, NC (3-7 April, 2016), only a couple of months away! Bill Hargrove (USDA Forest Service) is leading a strong group of local organizers, and this US-IALE meeting may break records in terms of attendance! Please read more about the upcoming meeting and strategies for getting the most out of it elsewhere in the newsletter. Asheville will be a fantastic place for the meeting, field trips, workshops and informal networking! I suggest that you do not delay in registering and making hotel reservations.

We have a site selected for our 2017 meeting – Baltimore's Inner Harbor. The local organizing committee is lead by Matthew Baker, Chair, and Todd Lookingbill, Program Committee Chair, and also includes Andrew Elmore and Sara Goslee – another strong team! It will take place the second week of April 8-14, 2017. We also now have identified a likely site for 2018 Chicago! You will hear more about that in Asheville. We have some strong possibilities identified for 2019 and 2020, but we are always interested in proposals from enthusiastic local hosts! If you are interested in organizing a future meeting, please contact the current Chair of the Site Selection Committee, Helene Wagner.

Thank you for voting in 2015 to amend our bylaws to create a Communications Committee. The goal is to improve communication of our chapter goals by en-

hancing content of the web site, and by greater use of social media and other outlets. Please share your ideas or volunteer to help – the committee Chair is Sara Gagne and the Committee is currently doing strategic planning for the coming year.

Please check out the new features of our web site for members. If you did not receive an email with a link to this newsletter, but rather are reading over your colleagues shoulder, it may be that you have forgotten to review your membership for 2016. You can do that on the web site! You will want to be a member in good standing so you can vote in the upcoming election!

Finally, this is my last column as President of US-IALE. I will pass the gavel to President-elect Ross Meentemeyer (North Carolina State University) in Asheville, who will become President of the chapter (2016-2018). I am sure he has some fresh ideas for our chapter, and would also value your input.

Get involved! If you have ideas about how US-IALE could better serve its members, or would like to serve on one of our standing committees (see <http://usiale.org/programs-and-committees> for a list), please contact president@usiale.org.

—Janet Franklin, President US-IALE (2014-2016)



**Join us on FACEBOOK for
up-to-date information**

<http://www.facebook.com/usiale>



US-IALE Annual Meeting (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

teristic and the inherent nature of our modern world. We'll discuss the challenges of many aspects of landscape change, and we expect to discover new opportunities for studying these challenges and collaborations to address them."

The organizing committee received an overwhelming response from individuals across the United States and abroad during the abstract submission period. To date, the program includes 22 [special symposia](#), 32 sessions of [contributed oral](#) presentations, and 57 [poster](#) presentations. An exciting lineup of [plenary speakers](#) will kick off the morning presentations and round out the awards banquet, half- and full-day [workshops](#) will provide hands-on training from peer experts, and half- and full-day [scientific excursions](#) will offer unique ways to explore issues associated with landscape change in

and around Asheville.

The program will also include a workshop and [other activities](#) designed just for students — an essential component of US-IALE membership. "US-IALE recognizes the importance of the next generation and puts them front and center," says Eastern Threat Center research ecologist and meeting co-chair Kurt Riitters, who also served as the president of US-IALE from 2012 to 2014. "The US-IALE annual meeting is an ideal opportunity to broaden one's perspective and make new connections — to deliver on the promise of ecology as an interdisciplinary science," says Riitters.

Because of the expected large attendance at the meeting, activities will be held at the [Renaissance Asheville Hotel](#) as well as the [Four Points Sheraton Hotel](#) located directly across Woodfin

Street, necessitating some important [meeting logistics](#). The organizing committee and local volunteers appreciate your patience and understanding as we accommodate an unusually large attendance at the meeting!

Make plans now to attend!

"Early bird" [registration](#) for conference attendees and presenters is due **February 15**. [Overnight accommodations](#) at the Renaissance Asheville Hotel are available for a discounted group rate through **March 11**. For more information and the latest program updates, visit the [meeting website](#) or contact the organizing committee at usialeprogram-chair@geobabble.org. For assistance with registration and logistics, contact Delaney Meeting & Event Management at info@delaneymeetingevent.com.

"Looking for a roommate for the meeting?" <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/usiale2016-room>

"Looking to share a ride?" <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/usiale-2016-rideshare>



Student News (cont.)

(Continued from page 4)

- coordinate the social gathering of students at the annual US-IALE meeting
- coordinate the student-mentor lunch
- attend executive committee meetings and represent student concerns

Your US-IALE student representatives,

Rose Graves (2015-2017), [ragraves <at> wisc.edu](mailto:ragraves@wisc.edu)

Whalen Dillon (2014-2016), [wwdillon <at> ncsu.edu](mailto:wwdillon@ncsu.edu)

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Have a question for US-IALE? — contact any member of the Executive Committee

U.S. Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology

US-IALE's purpose is to:

- **foster landscape ecology in the United States**
- **provide a link among practitioners in landscape ecology within the United States as well as the international community**
- **promote interdisciplinary research and communication among scientists, planners, and other professionals concerned with landscape ecology**

Who Would Benefit from US-IALE Membership?

Landscape Architects
Land and Nature Managers
Land Use Planners
GIS Specialists
Wildlife Biologists

Ecologists
Conservation Biologists
Biogeographers
Spatial Statisticians
Ecosystem Modelers

Benefits of Membership

Membership offers discounts to annual meetings and subscriptions to the journal *Landscape Ecology*.

Our annual meetings continue to expand and offer state-of-the-science access for meeting participants. We also have a very active student group who strives to engage the next generation of landscape ecologists. The [US-IALE website](#) and [FACEBOOK](#) are focal venues for students and all members to keep in touch.

The bi-annual newsletter keeps you up to date with the organization's current happenings, new efforts in which the organization is engaged, and timely articles with a landscape ecology focus. The Newsletter will continue to expand to include important news for members as well as job announcements, meeting announcements, etc. As a

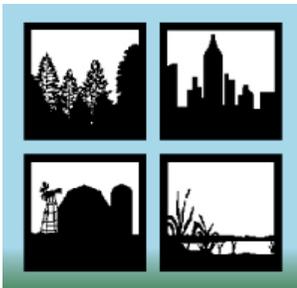
member, if you have an article you would like to see in the Newsletter, contact the US-IALE Secretary.

Our website is a ready resource for landscape ecologists. Have you checked it out lately? We (the Executive Board) would like to encourage you to promote the organization and its resources to your colleagues, friends, and students.

This is a great organization—consider getting involved. Please contact one of the members of the Executive Committee for more information.

Joining is easy. Check us out at:

[**US-IALE Membership Information**](#)



[*US IALE on the Web*](#)

Is there something you'd like to see in the next newsletter?

Send your suggestions to jhepinst@uga.edu

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