

# US-IALE Newsletter

Issue 21/2, June 2006



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

Compiled by Bob Keane US-IALE Secretary

## Message from the Chair

*Bob Gardner*

The 2006 US IALE meeting in San Diego was a delightful experience. The meeting was well planned, the presentations were excellent and the interactions were even more collegial than ever. The location was also outstanding – who can forget having burritos on the roof-top watching a Pacific sunset? Many memories were “collected” at this meeting including symposia in the sternwheeler, a lively poster session, and the annual banquet sponsored by NASA and hosted by Jack Liu. But two of my best memories were the marvelous plenary talks. The first was by Hugh Possingham and the second by Exequiel Ezcurra. If you missed these, you missed a special occasion (some details can still be found at <http://www.cof.orst.edu/org/usiale/sandiego2006/keynote.htm>). I wish I had recordings of both sessions for viewing by my landscape ecology class this fall.

Thanks and acknowledgements were given to many folks at this meeting. But a special note of thanks is due to Janet Franklin, who was our San Diego host, to Sarah Goslee, the program chair, and to Cindy Delaney for all the details and logistics that insured that the complexities of this meeting went so smoothly.

Annual meetings are also an occasion for the IALE

baton (actually a gavel) to be handed from past to future officers. Pete August departs as President, leaving behind an organization that is running as smoothly as possible; Mary Santlemann retires as Treasure, passing a well-ordered set of books with numbers in the ‘black’ to Margaret Livingston, our new treasurer; two very active Councillors-at-large, Jack Liu and Kurt Riitters, are retiring but will continue to be very involved in US IALE; and Matt Luck, one of two student representatives, is being replaced on the Executive Board by Deahn Donner-Wright, a new student representative. Matt was very helpful and involved, and continues to contribute to special IALE committee assignments.

There is a certain luxury that IALE now enjoys – a degree of stability directly attributable to the leadership and hard work of these officers. Consequently, the Executive Board has turned its attention to three focus areas: The first is a “Journal Promotion Committee” lead by Sam Riffell, a new Councillor-at-large. As part of this committee, we have recently signed a MOU with Springer that insures the continued special subscription rates and identifies specific contacts for problem resolution. The second activity is a new focus on membership, with Pat Zollner as chair. This committee has begun to assemble membership records with the goal of assessing membership patterns. You’ll be hearing from Pat in the near future to get your input into ways that US IALE can better serve the diverse needs and desires of its members. And the

final focus area is the formalization of a process to identify locations for future meetings and the local hosts willing to make their facilities available. Lisa Shulte is chairing this committee with Matt Baker (Utah State University), Louis Iverson (USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station) and John Wiens (The Nature Conservancy) assisting. This committee is “in action” as I write, with the meeting in 2008 set for Madison, Wisconsin (Phil Townsend and Monica Turner, local hosts). Ideas for any of these activities are welcome!

## Student News and Notes

*Matt Luck*

*Deahn Donner-Wright*

*Kimberly Mattson*

This year’s annual meeting in San Diego had a large number of students participating. There were 82 students in attendance, including 31 non-USIALE members. Nearly 60% of the total student membership attended this year’s meeting. The beautiful surroundings and great weather prompted many outdoor discussions and camaraderie among the US and international contingencies.

We offered two student programs this year: the student social and the student-mentor lunch. Both were huge successes and we could not have done them without the active support and participation of senior members. The student-mentor lunch was well-attended and larger than last year’s affair, with 15 mentors and 32 students participating. The mentors were able to converse with 1-3 students each, and everyone seemed satisfied with the event.

This year’s student social was held a short walk from the conference center at a restaurant on the boardwalk. We changed the venue from a bar to a restaurant this year so that the atmosphere was inviting to all students. The 40 or so students who attended were able to meet new colleagues and discuss research topics with students from other universities.

Please welcome Deahn DonnerWright as a student representative for 2006-07. She was elected in San Diego to be one of US-IALE student representatives, and will be working with Kimberly Mattson this

coming year. We would also like to thank Matt Luck, who completed his term in office this past year, and who gave much time and effort in furthering the student subcommittee and working with the US-IALE Executive Committee.

The ad hoc Student Committee is now in its 3rd year, and has been actively involved in increasing student input and involvement in US-IALE activities. In past years, most of our activities involved planning events for the annual meetings. Two such events, a student feedback program and a career forum, were not held in San Diego. In past years, the student feedback program provided student presenters at the annual meetings with comments from the audience using a written form. This process has been effective only with much effort by other students to hand out and collect feedback forms. We have decided to halt the program until a better system is developed.

In the coming months, we will begin planning for the 2007 meeting in Tucson. Anyone who would like to be involved in planning activities is welcome. We also encourage student members to post messages on the Student Forum website (<http://www.usiale.org/students/>). The website was developed for discussions pertinent to landscape ecology topics, to provide feedback on the annual meetings, and offer suggestions and comments on student-related activities within US-IALE. This website may be used to discuss research methods, ethics, graduate programs, and broader ecological topics. There is no listserv serviced by the forum, so active participation is necessary. If you are interested in joining the dialogue or the subcommittee, please sign-up at <http://www.usiale.org/students/profile.php?mode=register> or contact the student representatives.

Lastly, we are very interested in student thoughts, and are developing a survey for all student members and those who attended this year’s meeting. Look for it in your inbox in the next few months. Please fill it out – we can’t represent the student members if we don’t know the issues. The student representatives are a liaison between student members and the Executive Committee. If you have any issues, comments, or questions, please email Kim ([mattsonh@vt.edu](mailto:mattsonh@vt.edu)) or Deahn ([ddonnerwright@fs.fed.us](mailto:ddonnerwright@fs.fed.us)).

Kimberly Mattson, Matt Luck, and Deahn Donner-Wright

## Treasurer's Report

*Mary Santelmann*

This will be my last contribution to the newsletter from the Treasurer's office. The office of Treasurer has now passed to the able hands of Dr. Margaret Livingston at the University of Arizona, School of Landscape Architecture, P.O. Box 210444, Room 104 A, Tucson AZ, 85721-0444.

The increase in member dues this year to \$45 for regular members and \$30 for student members (while still a bargain) has helped offset a slight decrease in members. We look forward to membership returning to previous levels once our members recognize that the increase was needed to help keep the organization running in the black.

Our operating expenses in 2004 and 2005 were about \$7000 and \$5000 more than the average for the previous two years, respectively, for the combination of electronic banking and credit card authorization fees, increased time investment from our webmaster and membership secretary, and use of a secure web site from our web host at the College of Forestry, Oregon State University. However, these costs were associated with improved services from the society, such as excellent web-based member services, and professional assistance in organizing the annual symposium. The assistance of professional services such as those provided this year by Delaney Meeting and Events Management in planning and conducting the annual symposium will make it feasible for our members who are considering becoming symposium hosts to say yes! I'll do it!

The annual symposium held in San Diego, CA was a great success in many ways, including financially, which will help provide funds to keep the organization's financial outlook bright.

Once again, I would like to express my personal gratitude to the Executive Committee members I have served with over the past four years, who have made this a great experience. I also want to thank all of the members who have hosted our annual symposium in the past few years, most recently in San Diego, because the income from these symposia

to the society kept us in good financial shape, as well as helping to promote our society's mission.

Cheers,

Mary Santelmann, Treasurer

## Site Selection Committee

*Lisa Schulte*

The US-IALE will be Madison bound in Spring 2008! Phil Townsend and Monica Turner, both of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will be co-hosting the 23rd Annual Symposium at that location. A final date has not yet been set, but plan on an early April visit to the upper Midwest.

The US-IALE governing board recently created a new Site Selection Committee to insure long-range planning for our annual meetings. The committee will line up future meeting hosts and locations on a five-year time horizon. It will also foster a long-term memory on meeting planning; i.e., what works, what doesn't work. Members include Lisa Schulte (chair, Iowa State University), Matt Baker (Utah State University), Louis Iverson (USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station), and John Wiens (The Nature Conservancy). We currently do not have hosts or locations lined up beyond 2008. Please contact us if you're interested!

Lisa A. Schulte, Assistant Professor of Landscape Ecology, Natural Resource Ecology and Management, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-3221, Phone: 515-294-7339  
<http://www.nrem.iastate.edu/landscape/lab/>

## Awards

*Jan Silbernagel*

The following 2006 Awards were announced at the annual banquet in San Diego last March.

### Outstanding Paper in Landscape Ecology (2004-05)

The committee looks for papers published within the

last two years that makes an outstanding contribution to the literature of the field of landscape ecology. This year we selected a paper authored by a team from Michigan State University:

**An, Li, Linderman, Marc, Qi, Jianguo, Shortridge, Ashton, and Jianguo Liu** (2005) – “Exploring Complexity in a Human-Environment System: An Agent-Based Spatial Model for Multidisciplinary and Multiscale Integration”. *Annals of American Association of Geographers* 95(1): 54–79.

First author, Li An (now at UC-San Diego), was present to receive the award on behalf of his co-authors.

### **Distinguished Landscape Ecologist**

**Bruce T. Milne** – This award is a prestigious honor given to recognize distinguished scientific contributions to the field of landscape ecology. We elected to recognize Dr. Milne for his outstanding development in the theory of landscape ecology.

### **Distinguished Service to Landscape Ecology**

Exceptional service represents a contribution to US-IALE in terms of time, energy and dedication that advanced the mission of US-IALE in an extraordinary manner and thus deserves special recognition. A three-person team was selected to receive the Distinguished Service award this year. **Dr. Garik Gutman & Dr. William Taylor** were selected for their efforts and support to the NASA –MSU scholar program over the past 9 years. Dr. Gutman was there to receive the award, but Dr. Taylor could not attend. We surprised **Dr. Jack Liu** as the 3rd member of this service award for his crucial role in making this program happen every year.

### **Awards for Best Student Paper in 2005**

2005 Best Student Paper award went to **Yolanda Weirisma**, University of Guelph for her talk entitled, “Beta-diversity and reserve design in Canada.” Yolanda was present to receive her award in person at banquet.

2005 Student Paper Honorable Mention was given to Alicia Ellis, Dartmouth for her talk entitled, “Linking individual movement to population level processes in tree hole mosquito systems.” Alicia was not able to attend.

### **2006 Student Award**

This year 25 students registered to have their papers or posters considered for this award and 20 judges evaluated the student presentations (at least 3 reviews per student) during the Annual Symposium in San Diego. The Awards committee is pleased to announce the winner of the 2006 Best Student Paper Award as:

**James, Patrick** -- Simulating the effects of shifting harvest policies on long term spatial patterns of forest age structure. (Oral presentation).

Patrick, a Ph.D. student at University of Toronto, will receive a \$500 cash award for Best Student Presentation and will be formally recognized at the 2007 US-IALE symposium in Tuscon, AZ.

Many thanks to all the student participants and especially to the judges who make the student award program possible: Pete August, Tenley Conway, Ashton Drew, Sarah Goslee, Eric Gustafson, Geoff Henebry, Louis Iverson, Joshua Lawler, Todd Lookingbill, Nancy McIntyre, Roy Plotnick, Sam Riffel, Monique Rocca, Mary Santelman, Lisa Schulte, Janet Silbernagel, Yolanda Weirisma, Peter Weisberg, Kimberly With, and Pat Zollner.

Please be sure to send in your nominations for society awards when we issue the call for nominations later this year! Please consider serving as a judge for the student award program! Thanks!

2006 US-IALE Awards Committee -- Jack Ahern, Geoff Henebry, Margaret Livingston, Pat Zollner, & Janet Silbernagel (chair)

## **US-IALE Website**

*Rebecca Kennedy*

If you are looking for information about US-IALE activities, or for links to meetings related to landscape ecology, you may want to check on the US-IALE website. It is located at [www.usiale.org](http://www.usiale.org). In the event that you are seeking employment, or looking to hire, the US-IALE website has an ongoing list of job announcements (anyone can view, but only members can post). There is also information about

the journal *Landscape Ecology*, including access to early papers.

Current US-IALE members can also access the members only section and get information about various committees, such as the Awards, Student Programs, and Strategic Planning Committees. If you are interested in the history of the organization, you might wish to look at past newsletters, the strategic plan, or the bylaws—they are also accessible through the members only portal of the website. A .pdf version of the IALE membership directory is also available there.

These are just some of the things that are available for your use on the US-IALE website. If you have any ideas for website expansion or modification, you can contact me [rebecca.kennedy@oregonstate.edu](mailto:rebecca.kennedy@oregonstate.edu) or a member of the Executive Committee.

## 2006 Conference

*Sarah Goslee Program Chair*



The scientific program for the San Diego meeting was a great success, based on the comments I've received from attendees and presenters. The schedule was quite full, with nine symposia on subjects ranging from connectivity

to historical landscape ecology to exurban landscape change. There were 73 oral presentations as part of these symposia, and another 112 regular presentations



*Bahia Resort Hotel, Mission Bay*

by scientists from all over the world. There were also 43 poster presentations. No matter what your interest within the broad range of landscape ecology, there was something in San Diego for you.

The program committee members, Ken Pierce and Jeff Gonet, were very helpful, and I also received a great deal of assistance from the staff at Delaney Meeting and Event Management, and from our US-IALE web managers, Rebecca Kennedy and Matt Gregory. Putting together the scientific schedule for a meeting like this is a great deal of work, and all of their assistance made my role much easier.

Most of the credit, though, is due to the people who prepared the outstanding scientific presentations given at this meeting. Thank you all! And just think – how many meetings have you been to where oral presentations were held in a boat?

## 2007 Conference

*Bob Keane  
Don McKenzie  
John Dibari*



### US-IALE 2007

Annual Conference  
in Tucson, Arizona  
April 9 - 14, 2007  
at the DoubleTree Hotel  
and Resort.



### *Disturbances across gradients: From desert seas to mountain islands*

The U.S. Chapter of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE) is hosting its 22nd Annual Conference on April 9 to 14, 2007 in Tucson, Arizona, USA. The conference this year will feature landscape disturbance and its effect on landscape ecology. The first day of the conference will consist of workshops and there will also be a field trip day.

The conference will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel Tucson at Reid Park. This hotel is located just across from the beautiful Reid Park with ready access to golf, tennis, baseball, and jogging trails. This venue is just minutes from the airport and downtown Tucson.

The deadline for submitting a proposal for a special session or symposium is September 1, 2006 and the deadline for submitting an abstract for oral/poster presentations is November 15, 2006. Instructions for symposium, abstract submission, registration forms, and a tentative schedule will be available after June 1st, 2006 on the symposium web site. Please visit the US-IALE web site (<http://www.usiale.org>) after June 1st for more details or call Bob Keane, 406-329-4846 ([rkeane@fs.fed.us](mailto:rkeane@fs.fed.us)).



## Foreign Scholar Travel Award Program

*Sam Riffel*

Through the Foreign Scholar Travel program, the United States Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE) annually provides travel funds to landscape ecologists from foreign countries to present their research at the annual meeting. The FSTA program is not only an outreach effort, but also a mechanism that fosters international exchange about advances in landscape ecology and helps build collaborative relationships.

Foreign Scholars are selected based on several criteria: original and outstanding research in landscape ecology, financial need, and the contribution the award

would make to their professional development.

This year, we were pleased to grant a \$1000 travel award to a promising landscape ecologist, Solomon Gebeyehu. Dr. Gebeyehu is a post-doctoral fellow at the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute at the University of Pretoria (South Africa). Dr. Gebeyehu's research focuses on the interactions among insects, grazing and landuse in South Africa the implications of these interactions for managing biodiversity. Unforeseen circumstances at the last minute prevented Dr. Gebeyehu from attending the San Diego Meeting.

The FSTA program would not exist without the support of the US-IALE membership through donations from individuals and proceeds from the annual book auction. We want to express our deepest appreciation for the donations from ESRI and the book sellers at the San Diego meeting. Thanks to these donations and the enthusiastic participation of meeting attendees, this past year was one of the most successful book auctions in recent history. Thus, the FSTA program is in good shape for next year.

Please continue your support of the FSTA by participating in the book auction and patronizing the booksellers and exhibitors. The FSTA committee for 2006 consisted of Sam Riffell (Committee Chair, Mississippi State University), John Bissonette (Utah State University), Sarah Gergel (University of British Columbia), Elena Lioubimtseva (Grand Valley State University), and Jianguo Wu (Arizona State University). Ex officio members: Pete August (US-IALE President), Mary V. Santelmann (US-IALE Treasurer).

## Membership Committee Report

*Pat Zollnar and Matt Luck*

Following this year's annual meeting Matt Luck and I formed this new committee within US IALE. This committee's goal is to investigate patterns in US IALE membership. Hopefully, an improved understanding of mechanisms underlying membership can help us improve recruitment and retention of members by better providing service that our membership values.

Towards this end during the next year we intend to implement two web based surveys that we will ask members to participate in.

The first survey will ask current members about what aspects of US IALE they value most (e.g. annual meetings, listserver, web page, etc...). This survey will also inquire about how recent fee increases have impacted the value members get out of belonging to US IALE. The second survey will focus on future services US IALE might provide members such as a forum for the exchange of resources related to teaching landscape ecology. This survey will aim to decipher how many members would use resources such as a landscape image library, a listing of readings used by others in teaching landscape ecology, etc...

Prior to developing either of these surveys we intend to extract as much inference as we can from the data we have on membership. Thus, we intend to take the existing database of who has been a member of US IALE over the past 13 years and look for correlates in lapsed memberships. Specifically, we are interested in examining how meeting attendance and location relate to continued membership. Thus over the last few months I have pestered past hosts of US IALE meetings to see if they could provide me with records of who attended those meetings. I have now accumulated electronic lists of participants in all meetings back through the 2000 meeting in Ft. Lauderdale Fl. However, I am still looking for copies of meeting participant lists for the following meetings (1986, University of Georgia, Athens, GA; 1987, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA; 1989, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO; 1990, Miami University, Oxford, OH; 1991, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON; 1992, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR; 1993, Oak Ridge, TN; 1994, Tucson, AZ; 1995, Minneapolis, MN; 1996, Galveston, TX; 1997, Duke University, Durham, NC; 1998, Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI; 1999, Snowmass, CO). So if any members attended any of these meetings and still have a hard copy of a participants list that you would be willing to share. I would greatly appreciate it if you could email me and let me know (pzollner@fs.fed.us soon pzollner@purdue.edu). Again this list will not be used for any distribution it will simply be used to analyze patterns of lapsed memberships. I also want to make clear that I am not interested in copies of

meeting programs. What I want is a list of people who attended the meeting not simply those who gave presentations. Finally, given that Matt and I are currently a committee of two there is room for other motivated US IALE members to join us and help us accomplish these objectives. We would be particularly interested in members who might be willing to contribute skills such as; data entry, data base management, survey design and survey analysis. Thanks so much for your interest and support.

Pat Zollner & Matt Luck

## Upcomming Conferences

*Bob Keane*

### **International Fire Ecology & Management Congress**

November 13-17, 2006  
Town & Country Resort & Convention Center  
San Diego, CA

### **Patterns and Processes in Forest Landscapes**

September 26-29, 2006, Bari, Italy

### **14th International Symposium "On Problems of Landscape-Ecological Research"**

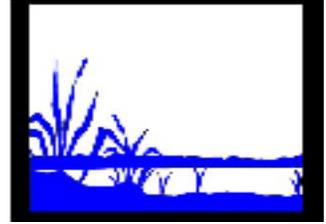
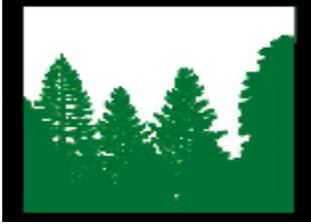
October 4-7, 2006, Stara Lesna - High Tatras,  
Slovakia

### **2007 IALE World Congress**

July 8-12, 2007, Wageningen, Netherlands

### **91st ESA Annual Meeting**

August 6 - 11, 2006 • Memphis, Tennessee



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US-IALE  
United States Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology  
2006 Membership Application and Membership Renewal Form

US-IALE was formed with the purposes of: fostering the science of landscape ecology in the U.S.; linking U.S. landscape ecologists with the international community of landscape ecologists; and promoting interdisciplinary research and communication among landscape scientists and professionals, such as planners, who apply principles of landscape ecology. Benefits of membership in US-IALE include: membership in the umbrella international organization, the International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE); discounts to our journal *Landscape Ecology*; Annual Meeting with discounted registration fee, subscriptions to the US-IALE Newsletter and IALE Bulletin, copy of the membership directory, and the US-IALE website. Please renew your membership or join US-IALE by filling out this form and submitting it to the Membership Secretary (see address below). Submit by January 31, 2006, to ensure there is no lapse in your membership benefits.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Website Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a new member, please indicate how you learned about US-IALE:

\_\_colleague \_\_Landscape Ecology \_\_web \_\_meeting announcement \_\_other (describe)

Interest Keywords: (e.g., spatial analysis, urban planning, conservation biology, etc.)

DUES:

2006 Regular Member (\$45.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2006 Student Member (\$30.00; Please include copy of student ID) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONATIONS:

Student Award Fund (To support Best Student Presentation Award) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Travel Award (Aids int'l attendance at US-IALE meetings) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

General Fund (General financial support of US-IALE) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SUBSCRIPTION\*

Landscape Ecology (STUDENTS ONLY) (\$60.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIPTS will be sent out via e-mail (if available) unless checked here: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form with a check (U.S. \$ on a U.S. bank only), purchase order, or money order (payable to US-IALE) for the total amount to: Nancy Castro, US-IALE Membership Secretary, Appalachian Laboratory 301 Braddock Rd. Frostburg MD 21532.

***It is NOW possible to join/renew online at <http://www.usiale.org/membership.htm>***

\*US-IALE only processes subscriptions to *Landscape Ecology* for student members. Regular members can subscribe through the Kluwer Publishing homepage for *Landscape Ecology* ([www.wkap.nl/journalhome.htm](http://www.wkap.nl/journalhome.htm)). You must be a member of IALE to receive member subscription rates from Springer.