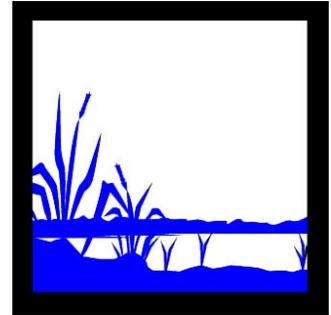


# US-IALE Newsletter

Issue 23/1, January 2008



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

Compiled by Colleen Hatfield, US-IALE Secretary

## Message from the Chair *Bob Gardner*

### *BEYOND THE STATUS QUO*

Is it really January 2008? Busy years seem to make time fly – don't you agree? And 2007 was a busy year for IALE! Many highlights come to mind, especially our US meeting in Tucson. The location, the climate, the plenary speakers, symposia, presentations and social events were outstanding. My "sneak peak" at the program for Madison in April 6-10 indicates that this meeting will be another outstanding event. Don't miss it! ([www.cof.orst.edu/org/usiale/madison2008/](http://www.cof.orst.edu/org/usiale/madison2008/)). Of course these events do not happen by accident, but require leadership and effort. Planning by Bob Keane and Don McKensie for Tucson made 2007 a success; Monica Turner, Phil Townsend and Sarah Goslee are working hard on Madison logistics for similar success in 2008.

A second meeting of note was the quadrennial World Congress, held in 2007 in Wageningen, The Netherlands. This meeting honored the beginnings of our society in Holland in 1981. There were over 800 scientists in attendance

from 27 different countries presenting a diversity of topics typical of our discipline. I was impressed with the rapid global development of landscape ecology: Methods once strange and new are now widely applied resulting in the global recognition of the extent and consequences of land use change.

Other news of note for US IALE is that careful attention to expenses over the past several years—thanks to Pete August for his fiscal leadership—has resulted in a very positive financial picture for our society (see Treasurer's report, this newsletter). Although we are small our improving fiscal picture has allowed us to increase stipends for foreign visitors, to enhance our web page, and to sponsor student social events at our annual meetings. If you have suggestions for "other opportunities" let your executive committee know.

Reflection on the past leads to questions about the future. What are the critical issues for US IALE? The first issue that comes to mind is that membership levels have declined over the past 3 years. Pat Zollner has developed a survey to identify reasons for this trend and recommend possible solutions (see <http://www.cof.orst.edu/org/usiale/membersurvey.htm>). I believe that one contributing factor is the nature of landscape ecology itself.

Landscape ecology is a broad topic area with roots in geography, the social and economic sciences as well as ecology itself. Each of these discipline areas might provide a “preferred home” for a budding landscape ecologist. For instance, the Ecological Society of America has explored the formation of a section for landscape ecology within this society.

But there may be a more fundamental reason for this decline—one that may be under our control. As noted in a recent editorial in *Landscape Ecology* (Gardner et al. 2008) IALE is hardly visible on the global stage where issues of land use change are being discussed. The public is relatively unaware of the science of landscape ecology and the press rarely published statements or findings produced by landscape ecologists. Should we assume a more positive, public role? A number of options come to mind. We could identify endangered landscapes across the U.S., define the services these ecosystems provide and communicate the essential reasons for preserving these critical resources. Or we could link different, idiosyncratic case studies in a consistent manner to define best management practices for our natural resource agencies. Or we could initiate a national effort to increase the awareness within financial sectors of the fundamental relationships between economics and landscape management. Our resources are limited, but the possibilities are large. What many of us do on a local scale must now be expanded to continental and global scales by US IALE if we are to remain relevant for the next 25 years. Let’s talk about it at Madison.

Reference:

Gardner, R. H., F. Jopp, G. F. Cary, and P. H. Verburg. 2008. World congress highlights need for action. *Landscape Ecology* 23:1-2.

## 2008 Conference Madison WI *Phil Townsend*

Mark your calendars to attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual US-IALE Symposium at the scenic Monona Terrace



Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin. This year’s theme is “Landscape Patterns and Ecosystem Processes,” and we will feature plenary speakers and symposia that focus on one of the current frontiers in landscape ecology: understanding the patterns, causes, and consequences of spatial heterogeneity for ecosystem function. Plenary speakers this year include Gary Lovett (Institute of Ecosystem Studies), Kimberly With (Kansas State) and Jonathan Foley (University of Wisconsin – Madison), with the banquet talk given by Stephen Carpenter from the UW-Madison Center for Limnology. We are looking forward to a banner conference this year: the conference program is entirely full, with nearly twice as many oral presentations and three times as many posters as recent years! In addition, the program includes three half-day field trips looking at remnant and restored prairies, as well as a bike ride on Madison’s extensive bike trail system. One full-day field trip will explore the Baraboo Hills/Driftless Area and the “Landscape that Shaped Leopold.” As always, the program also includes a series of activities for student participants (see the notice from the student representatives), as well as a number of full-day and half-day workshops on the Sunday, April 6 that should appeal to a wide array of landscape ecologists. And while you are at the conference, be sure to enjoy Madison’s lively State Street and Downtown, with plenty of culinary and cultural activities to sample.

For more information about the conference program and activities, venue and to register, go to <http://www.usiale.org/madison2008/>. On-line registration is available! Please register by **March 8** to avoid late fees.



For further questions about the 2008 Symposium, please contact Symposium co-hosts:

Phil Townsend ([ptownsend@wisc.edu](mailto:ptownsend@wisc.edu)) or  
Monica Turner ([turnermg@wisc.edu](mailto:turnermg@wisc.edu)).

### ***Exercise your vote!***

Elections for 2 Councillors-at-Large, 1 Treasurer, and 1 Student Representative will be held at the April meeting in Madison.

## **Student News and Notes *Deahn Donner-Wright***

The student representatives have been planning student events for the upcoming 2008 annual symposium in Madison, WI. A workshop entitled *Applying for Fellowships and Grants: Tips from the Pros* will be offered to provide additional professional development to our student members. Speakers will talk about their experience with the grant writing process, and also about their perspective as reviewers of fellowship and grant applications. We invite graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, early career faculty, and other interested individuals to participate.

The student social event will be held at The Great Dane Pub & Brewing Company. Appetizers and limited bar services will be offered. The event will be held in the pool hall area where a band will be performing that evening. Directions will be posted at the welcoming reception.

The student/mentor lunch will again be offered during the conference. We will be matching students with mentors based on the students' desired future occupation (e.g., teaching faculty, research faculty, government, non-profit organization).

We encourage all students to take advantage of these FREE events. These events are supported by the larger USIALE community to facilitate informal interactions between students and landscape ecology professionals attending the conference. Please see more detailed information under the student activities section (<http://www.usiale.org/madison2008>). Signup for these events are on the meeting registration page.

We will be organizing a buddy system as we get closer to the annual conference. The annual conference can be difficult for our international students, or students attending the conference by themselves. The buddy system helps match these students with volunteers that are willing to help make the conference a great experience for them.

We are still taking nominees for the student representative position. If you are interested, or have additional questions, please contact either Deahn DonnerWright ([ddonnerwright@fs.fed.us](mailto:ddonnerwright@fs.fed.us)) or Martin Simard ([simard@wisc.edu](mailto:simard@wisc.edu))

## **Treasurer's Report *Margaret Livingston***

I am pleased to report that our finances continue to be relatively stable and our net worth has increased from approximately \$76,000 at the end of 2006 to over \$92,000 at the end of 2007. Last year's annual symposium in Tucson, AZ was a great financial success with over \$20,000 in income. The book auction at the symposium resulted in over \$1400 for the FSTA fund. We generally had expenses similar to 2006 for 2007, with a few increases in particular services such as our web support. Unfortunately, we still have a

continued decline in membership compared to the last two years. Additional details about our income and expenses for 2007 will be provided at the 2008 meeting in Madison, WI.

## Site Selection Committee *Lisa Schulte*



The 24th Annual Meeting of US-IALE will be held April 13-18, 2009 in Snowbird, Utah. Snowbird is located 29 miles east of the Salt Lake City International Airport, in the heart of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Snowbird is known for its terrific skiing, which can extend into mid-May. The region averages 500 inches of snow per year, and the resort has been ranked best in the country by SKIING magazine for the last five years. More information on the venue can be found at <http://www.snowbird.com/>. John Bissonette of the USGS Utah Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit is hosting this meeting.

Gary Barrett of the University of Georgia will host the 25th anniversary meeting of US-IALE in 2010. The 1st meeting of our organization was held in Athens in 1986 (co-hosted by Monica Turner and Frank Golley); it seems appropriate for the organization to return to its Georgia roots for its silver anniversary. The meeting planning committee expects to maintain a 3-4 year window of meeting hosts and locations into the future. Such forethought provides for improved meeting planning and allows the organization to negotiate cheaper rates with conference facilities. We are currently working on a host and location for our 2011 meeting. If you have ideas, please share! US-IALE also continues to work with Delany Meeting and Event Management to ensure a seamless meeting at a reasonable cost.

## Foreign Scholar Travel Award Program *Sam Riffell*

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.

This year, we are pleased to grant \$1200 travel awards to two scholars.

*Jian Peng* from Peking University will present research about the performance of landscape metrics. *Simone Freitas* from the University of Sao Paulo will present research about the effects of roads on land use dynamics in Brazil.

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. The competition is stiff, and the review committee's decisions are not always easy.

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 Tucson meeting last year. Please continue your support of the FSTA by participating in the book auction and patronizing the booksellers and exhibitors at the Tucson meeting.

Submitted on behalf of my excellent review committee: Richard Corry, Sarah Gergel, Nancy McIntyre, Martin Simard, and Jingle Wu.

## Awards Committee

**Janet Sibernagel and Geoff Henebry**

Geoff Henebry, South Dakota State University, has agreed to chair the US-IALE Awards Committee for 2008. While Janet Silbernagel has stepped down as chair while she serves as a US-IALE councilor-at-large, she remains on the committee along with Margaret Livingston and Anita Morzillo. The Awards Committee also welcomes this year Steve Walters, Research Associate at the Urban Ecology Research Laboratory, University of Washington. We extend our thanks to Jack Ahern for his many years of service on the Committee.

**IMPORTANT!** The US-IALE Awards Committee invites nominations for the 2008 Society Awards, including:

- Distinguished Landscape Ecologist;
- Distinguished Landscape Ecology Practitioner;
- Distinguished Service to US-IALE; and
- Outstanding Paper in the field of landscape ecology, published in any peer-reviewed journal within the last two years (2006-07).

The Awards Committee reviews annually the nominations (both new and prior) for all three categories of Distinguished Awards. Awardees will be recognized at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Madison.

The Committee seeks nominations that describe specific accomplishments and contributions to US-IALE and landscape ecology in general. Simply identifying the nominee as worthy of recognition is not sufficient: build a persuasive case with data.

If you are nominating an outstanding paper published in 2006-7, please send along the pdf file, if possible, or least a link to the journal page and full citation.

Please email nomination materials and/or questions to our current Awards Committee Chair at [Geoffrey.Henebry@sdstate.edu](mailto:Geoffrey.Henebry@sdstate.edu).

A listing of past recipients in each category is available on our website: <http://www.usiale.org/awards.htm>. Please consider submitting a nomination or two soon! More guidelines are also available at the above website.

**STUDENTS!** If you are presenting your research at the 2008 US-IALE Symposium in Madison, please consider entering the Best Student Presentation competition. US-IALE annually presents an award to a student for the strongest oral or poster presentation at the Society's annual meeting. The winner of the award will receive a check for \$500 to use toward travel expenses to the next US-IALE annual meeting, and will receive a plaque commemorating the award. You can sign up online until Feb 28, 2008 at:

<http://wwwdata.forestry.oregonstate.edu/usiale/sap2/>

**JUDGES!** We are always in need of judges for the Student Award Program. If you will be attending the annual meeting in Madison, then this is a great way to contribute to the development of students in landscape ecology. Volunteer judges will be assigned 2-3 student posters or presentations to evaluate using a standard form. If you can do this, please click the link for judges at:

<http://wwwdata.forestry.oregonstate.edu/usiale/sap2/>

and fill out the simple online form. We will use this information to best match judges with student papers.

Thanks in advance for your nominations & your service in judging!

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please feel free to drop a note to Janet or Geoff.

Geoff: [Geoffrey.Henebry@sdstate.edu](mailto:Geoffrey.Henebry@sdstate.edu)

Janet: [jmsilber@wisc.edu](mailto:jmsilber@wisc.edu)

---the 2008 US-IALE Awards Committee

## **IALE Meeting - 2007**

**Louis Iverson**



Twenty-five years!  
That's when the  
International  
Association for  
Landscape Ecology was  
formed back in 1982 in

Piestany, Czechoslovakia. The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and much, much more was held July 8-12, 2007 at the IALE World Congress of 2007 in Wageningen, The Netherlands. There were an estimated 749 registered participants at the Congress, with 73 coming from the United States, 114 from Netherlands, 54 from the United Kingdom, 50 from Germany, and 42 from Italy. Sixty-two countries were represented at the Congress. Two volumes of extended abstracts were produced from the hundreds of presentations. It was a very good Congress indeed, and we look forward to the next one in four years (2011) in Beijing!

At the Congress, we also had the changeover in the Executive Committee, as voted by the membership earlier in the year. I had my final meetings as a Vice President, and Bruce Jones took over as the new President of the organization. We congratulate Bruce and wish him well in his 4-year term. Please give him all the support you can and let him know of any ideas to better the functionality of IALE.

Louis Iverson  
former IALE Vice President  
(Photo courtesy of Nancy McIntyre)

## **NASA-MSU Program**

**Jack Liu**

The NASA-MSU Professional Enhancement Awards are once again offered for the 11th consecutive year to students who are presenting at the 2008 Annual Symposium of the U.S. Regional Association of the

International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE2008), held in Madison, Wisconsin from April 6 through April 10, 2008. Approximately 20 awards will be given for the selected students to cover expenses associated with attending the symposium.

These special awards are made possible by the support from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Michigan State University (MSU). The selected students will have opportunities to meet with some leading landscape ecologists at a special dinner gathering, to learn the latest developments in landscape ecology at the symposium, and to build professional networks with other symposium attendees.

Jianguo (Jack) Liu

## **Report on the Journal: Landscape Ecology**

**Jianguo (Jingle) Wu**

### **State of the Journal**

*Landscape Ecology* is the flagship journal in the rapidly developing fields of ecology and sustainability science of landscapes. The journal focuses on highly inter- and transdisciplinary studies to explore the relationship between spatial pattern and ecological processes on different scales in natural and human-dominated landscapes, and to provide guidance and solutions to help develop and maintain sustainable landscapes.

During the past 20 years, the journal has flourished with a steady increase in the scope, depth, quantity, and quality of published articles. The total number of pages published each volume has increased exponentially from about 250 pages in the late 1980s to more than 1300 pages in 2006. The impact factor and ranking of *Landscape Ecology* among all journals in ecological and geographical

sciences also have increased steadily (Table 1).

**Editorials to Celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The year of 2007 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the journal, *Landscape Ecology*. To celebrate this important milestone, we intend to publish a series of editorials to reflect on the past, present and future of landscape ecology. The first four editorials by Marc Antrop, Zev Naveh, Paul Opdam, and Jianguo Wu have already been published in Vol. 22, No. 10.

**All Papers Published in Landscape Ecology and EndNote File**

A complete list of all papers published in *Landscape Ecology* since 1987 can be downloaded at <http://LEML.asu.edu/LE-journal/> in two formats: Word (RTF) and EndNote. These files will be updated periodically.

**Great Time to Publish in Landscape Ecology**

Thanks to the great efforts by the publisher (Springer) and the Editorial Board in the past few years, the journal has been successfully eliminated the backlog, and the average turnaround time from submission to online publication now is about 6 to 7 months. For Reports, Perspectives, and Reviews, the turnaround time can be as short as less than 3 months. Since 2007 *Landscape Ecology* has increased the total number of issues per year from 8 to 10. Now it is a great time to submit your best papers to *Landscape Ecology*.

**Attendees:** First row (right to left): Jim Wickham, Thorsten Wiegand, Helene Wagner, Jianguo (Jingle) Wu, Tanya Muller (Springer), Catherine Cotton (Springer), John Ludwig, Jacques Baudry, Rob Jongman, Jean Paul Metzger. Second row (right to left): Jochen Jaeger, Kurt Riitters, Marc Antrop, Jack Ahern, Almo Farina, Jari Niemela, Jurgen Breuste, Ulo Mander, Felix Kienast, Paul Opdam.

Table 1. Impact factor and rank of *Landscape Ecology* among all journals in the Ecology and Geography categories in ISI Journal Report (<http://portal.isiknowledge.com/>).

Year	Impact Factor	Rank in "Ecology"	Rank in "Geosciences, Multidisciplinary"	Rank in "Geography"
1998	0.746	53 (of 88)	50 (of 111)	9 (of 19)
1999	1.396	32 (of 90)	29 (of 112)	3 (of 22)
2000	1.408	45 (of 145)	27 (of 117)	3 (of 23)
2001	1.863	33 (of 152)	18 (of 117)	2 (of 24)
2002	1.675	45 (of 160)	20 (of 121)	18 (of 31)
2003	1.080	80 (of 165)	50 (of 128)	16 (of 31)
2004	2.090	33 (of 107)	17 (of 128)	4 (of 29)
2005	2.170	37 (of 112)	16 (of 129)	6 (of 30)
2006	2.558	29 (of 114)	11 (of 131)	4 (of 30)

**Thanks to Our Dedicated Editorial Board!**



## Upcoming Meetings

*Colleen Hatfield*

February 7 & 8, 2008  
UCGIS Winter Meeting 2008  
GIScience and Cyberinfrastructure: Making Connections  
Washington DC 20005  
<http://www.ucgis.org/winter2008/>

March 24-26, 2008  
[Southern Forestry GIS 2008](http://www.southernforestrygis.org/2008/)  
Orlando, Florida  
<http://soforgis.net/2008/>

April 5-6, 2008  
Biodiversity Informatics and Climate Change Impacts on Life  
University of Aarhus, Denmark  
<http://www.danbif.dk/conference2008/>

April 15-19, 2008  
American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting  
Boston, MA  
<http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2008/index.htm>

April 18-19 2008  
United States Society for Ecological Economics (USSEE)  
Economic De-growth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity  
Paris, France  
<http://www.int-evry.fr/degrowthconference/en/>

April 28 – May 2, 2008  
2008 NASA Carbon Cycle and Ecosystems Joint Science Workshop  
Adelphi, MD  
[http://cce.nasa.gov/meeting\\_2008/index.htm](http://cce.nasa.gov/meeting_2008/index.htm)

May 13-15, 2008  
[Ecosystem Services: Solutions for problems or a problem that needs a solution](http://www.ecology.uni-kiel.de/salzau2008/)  
Kiel, Germany  
<http://www.ecology.uni-kiel.de/salzau2008/>

May 25-30, 2008  
North American Benthologic Society  
56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
<http://www.benthos.org/Meeting/index.htm>

Visit International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) for information on workshops, symposiums and meetings:  
<http://www.isprs.org/calendar.html>

July 6-11, 2008  
2008 IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium  
Boston Massachusetts  
<http://www.igarss08.org/>



**Robert H. Gardner,**  
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#### **Councillors-at-Large:**

**Janet Silbernagel**  
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**Samuel K. Riffell, 2006-08**  
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**Lisa A. Schulte, 2006-08**  
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**US-IALE**  
**United States Regional Chapter of the International Association for Landscape Ecology**  
**2008 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; copies of the IALE membership directories; and access to the members only section of the US-IALE website. **You can renew your membership or join US-IALE on-line at <http://www.usiale.org>** or by filling out this form and submitting it to the Membership Secretary (see address below). Please submit by January 31, 2008 to ensure there is no lapse in your membership benefits. Membership dues received after September 30 will be applied to the upcoming year.

**Name:**<sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Website URL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**DUES**

2008 Regular Member (\$45.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2008 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) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR STUDENTS ONLY<sup>b</sup>**

*Landscape Ecology* (\$60.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Print Version \_\_\_\_\_

On Line Version \_\_\_\_\_ (Students need to register on [www.springerlink.com](http://www.springerlink.com) as an individual user and receive a MetaPress ID.

Report this ID number here: \_\_\_\_\_

**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:**

**US-IALE Membership Secretary**  
**Appalachian Laboratory, 301 Braddock Rd., Frostburg, MD 21532**

<sup>a</sup> Please provide your work address. If we receive your membership information by 1 May, you will be included in the annual IALE directory of members.

<sup>b</sup> US-IALE only processes subscriptions to *Landscape Ecology* for student members. Regular members can subscribe through the Springer Publishing homepage for the journal (<http://www.springeronline.com/sgw/cda/frontpage/0,11855,4-40109-70-35541277-0,00.html>) - use the "Special Rate for IALE Members" link located under "Additional Information." Subscription price for US IALE members is \$80.00).