



IALE - NORTH AMERICA

Monthly Update: September 2025

Hello! from the President

I am delighted to celebrate the achievements of our community. Congratulations to our 2025 award recipients whose contributions continue to shape the field of landscape ecology! I look forward to meeting you at our 40th Anniversary Meeting in Athens, Georgia, in April 2026 - a milestone celebration you won't want to miss!

[Li An](#), President, IALE-North America | 2024-2026

Highlights

Congratulations to our [2025 Distinguished and Outstanding Paper award](#) recipients! Nominations for these awards are solicited annually from the membership.



Distinguished Landscape Ecologist: Dr. Helene Wagner, University of Toronto Mississauga
Recognizes individuals whose thinking, writing, leadership, and mentorship have helped to shape the field of landscape ecology.



Distinguished Landscape Practitioner: Dr. Fausto Sarmiento, University of Georgia
Recognizes application of landscape ecology principles to real-world problems.



Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Betty Kreakie, US Environmental Protection Agency
Honors individuals who have made significant contributions in terms of time, energy and dedication that advanced the mission of IALE-NA.

Outstanding Paper Award: Frans, V.F., and J. Liu. 2024. [Gaps and opportunities in modelling human influence on species distributions in the Anthropocene](#). *Nature Ecology & Evolution* 8(7):1365-1377.

The Awards Committee will send out a formal call for 2026 [award nominations](#) soon.

- There is a [new form](#) for submitting "Outstanding Paper" award nominations. Submissions may be made at any time, and will be reviewed by the Awards Committee in December-January.
- Nominations also can be submitted at any time by contacting [Emily Minor](#).

IALE-North America 40th Anniversary Meeting in Athens, Georgia! 26-30 April 2026

Join us for the 2026 IALE-North America annual meeting in Athens, Georgia, home of the first state-chartered university, and consistently ranked among the best college towns in the US. The meeting will be at the [Georgia Center](#) in downtown Athens, within walking distance of multiple music venues and restaurants. The theme is **Landscape Ecology at 40: Learning from the Past, Shaping Resilient Futures**, revisiting development of our discipline over the past 40 years, and exploring ideas for the future. A detailed website and call for organized sessions and workshops will be available later this month.



Photo: Athens Convention and Visitors Bureau

Find out more! Visit <https://www.ialena.org/> for more information and social media links. Contact us [here](#).