

# US-IALE NEWSLETTER

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Issue 16/2

December 2000

**Appalachian Laboratory  
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science**

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## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

**Virginia Dale**

I am pleased to report that the field of landscape ecology is growing in importance. During the past few months as I have attended several meetings and read the diversity of email and snail mail announcements that have come across my desk, it is clear that issues pertinent to landscape ecology abound.

For example, at a recent meeting of the National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment, which was held at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., several issues pertinent to US-IALE were discussed. Most speakers mentioned the need to deal with scale. There was also much discussion about land-use change, interdisciplinary studies, and the need to communicate science to decision makers, which are all key elements of landscape ecology. Federal and state agencies as well as private companies and non-governmental agencies (NGOs) are seeking ways to better understand and manage natural resources.

Thus the issues and tools of landscape ecology are a key part of addressing and resolving most of today's environmental issues. This means there are great opportunities for US-IALE. Yet we are still a young and relatively small group. The size of the organization is ideal in that the meetings are just small

enough that we have a chance to discuss ideas with each other but large enough that the major topics of concern are addressed in the paper and poster sessions. Our 2001 Symposium in Tempe, Arizona, looks like another excellent opportunity to exchange ideas and to learn about new approaches. Recent changes to our journal, *Landscape Ecology*, make it an even better way to communicate.

However there is a gap in the way our expertise is being imparted to those people and organizations who are looking for a landscape approach to help in resolving their problems. Only rarely do the federal or state agencies, NGOs, or private resource managers think to turn to US-IALE or its members for ideas and support. Therefore, I think all members should consider themselves ambassadors for the field of landscape ecology and for our society. We certainly do not have all the answers to today's environmental problems, but the landscape approach provides a realistic way to incorporate the many pressures on natural resources and to improve our understanding and thus manage.

You can promote US-IALE in your exchanges with other scientists or decision makers or by volunteering to help the organization. For example, you can serve as a judge at the upcoming symposium or help with our strategic planning effort. If you are interested in

assisting US-IALE in any way, please contact a member of the Executive Committee.

In addition, please be aware that at the upcoming symposium in Tempe, elections will be held for Secretary, one Councilor-At-Large, and one Student Representative. Nominations are now open for all of these positions. Please contact me or any other member of the Executive Committee if you wish to make a nomination. These positions are critical to the growth and evolution of US-IALE.

The Executive Committee will soon be submitting to all US-IALE members a proposed change in the By Laws that would allow election of a President-Elect. If this change in our governing structure is approved we will be able to elect this position at this year's meeting as well. The Executive Committee will keep you informed about progress on this initiative.

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium of US-IALE will be held in Lincoln, Nebraska, and plans are well underway. Geoff Henebry is serving as the Program Chair, and Jim Merchant is the Local Host. They report that preparations are on track for the meeting.

We all look forward to an active year for the field of landscape ecology. Thank you all for your continuing support of US-IALE.

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## 2001 US-IALE SYMPOSIUM

The 16th Annual Symposium of the U.S. Regional Association of the International Association of Landscape Ecology promises to be an informative and exciting event this year for those interested in any aspect of landscape

ecology. Arizona State University, in Tempe, AZ, will host US-IALE 2001 from **April 25th to 29th, 2001**, with the theme of "**Pattern, Process, Scale, and Hierarchy: Interactions in Human-Dominated and Natural Landscapes**".

An outstanding slate of keynote speakers has been established for this year's symposium. These speakers include: Dr. **Orie Loucks**, Eminent Scholar of Ecosystem Ecology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio; Dr. **Steward T. A. Pickett**, Director of the Baltimore Ecosystem Study (BES-LTER) and Senior Scientist at the Institute of Ecosystem Studies; and Professor **Anne Whiston Spirn**, Professor of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, Schools of Architecture and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In addition to this lineup of speakers, the symposium will feature a dozen special sessions focusing on cutting-edge issues in the theory and applications of landscape ecology. Session topics include: Top 10 List for Landscape Ecology in the 21st Century, Scaling Issues in Landscape Ecology, The Promises and Problems with Spatial Analysis in Landscape Ecology, Landscape Ecology Comes to Town: Urban Ecology and Planning, Pattern And Process In Aquatic Ecosystems, and State of the Art in Land Cover and Land Use Modeling. At this time, about 250 abstracts for oral or poster presentations have been received, with contributions coming from the U.S., Canada, and several countries on other continents.

For more information on the 2001 US-IALE Symposium, please visit the conference web site which is found at [www.west.asu.edu/LEML/iale2001](http://www.west.asu.edu/LEML/iale2001). The early registration deadlines are fast approaching!

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**US-IALE AWARD NOMINATIONS**  
**Eric Gustafsen**

The U.S. Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology requests nominations for (1) **Distinguished Landscape Ecologist**, and (2) **Distinguished Landscape Ecology Practitioner**. These awards are given annually by US-IALE for distinguished contributions to landscape ecology over a period of years. Nominations for these awards should specify the nominees and provide a brief description of their achievements and merits.

Nominations are also requested for the **Best Paper** published in the field of landscape ecology. Nominated papers should be a significant contribution to the theory and practice of landscape ecology, and have been published between January 1999 and December 2000, inclusive. Papers need not be published in the journal *Landscape Ecology*. Please be sure to include a clean copy of the paper along with a brief statement of the merits of the paper.

All nominations should be sent to: Dr. Eric Gustafson, 5985 Highway K, Rhinelander, WI 54501; Fax: 715-362-1166; Email: [egustafson@fs.fed.us](mailto:egustafson@fs.fed.us).

The **deadline for all nominations is March 2, 2001**. Please include your name and a means to reach you (telephone or email) in case the Awards Committee requires clarification or more information. Thank you for your help in recognizing and rewarding significant contributions to the field of landscape ecology.

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**FOREIGN SCHOLAR TRAVEL**  
**AWARD APPLICATIONS - 2001**  
**Peter August**

The U.S. Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE) annually supports attendance at its annual symposium by landscape ecologists from foreign countries. This year we solicit applications to attend the 16th annual meeting of US-IALE, which will be held at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ, on April 25-29, 2001.

Recipients of US-IALE's Foreign Scholar Travel Awards (FSTA) will receive a personal check from US-IALE for \$US 1,000 at the annual meeting and a waiver of registration fees. It is the recipient's responsibility to cover all transportation and lodging costs associated with participating in the meeting.

**Selection criteria** for these awards include: (1) Previous recipients of US-IALE Foreign Scholar Travel Awards are ineligible. (2) Applicants must not be U.S. citizens or reside in the United States. Foreign students studying in the United States are ineligible to apply. (3) Recipients must give a paper or poster presentation at the annual meeting on their research in landscape ecology. We will favor applicants who demonstrate that their research (i) advances the scientific basis of landscape ecology, and/or (ii) the application of landscape ecology for natural resource protection or management. Both early-career and established landscape ecologists are encouraged to apply. (4) Applications from citizens of G7 countries (France, U.S., Britain, Germany, Japan, Italy, Canada) will not be accepted. (5)

Applicants must have demonstrated financial need and show that without FSTA support they would not be able to attend the Conference. (6) Applicants must demonstrate that attending the US-IALE Symposium will represent a significant professional opportunity for developing their expertise in landscape ecology and establishing working relationships with landscape ecologists from other countries.

**To apply**, the following information should be submitted by 1 February 2001: Name; Institution; Email address; Postal address; Citizenship; Curriculum vitae; Title, abstract, and 500 word summary (in English) of the paper or poster to be presented at the Symposium - be sure to explain how your research extends the scientific basis or application of landscape ecology; Statement of what you hope to gain from attending the US-IALE Symposium (no more than 500 words, in English), with explanation why you need financial assistance to attend the Symposium.

Application materials may be submitted by email to [USIALE-FSTA@edc.uri.edu](mailto:USIALE-FSTA@edc.uri.edu), by fax to (401) 874-4561, or by post to Peter August, Dept. of Natural Resources Science, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881 USA. **All application materials must be received by the deadline date of 1 February 2001.** Awards will be announced on or before 1 March 2001.

For information on US-IALE please see <http://www.usiale.org>. News about the 2001 US-IALE Symposium is at <http://www.west.asu.edu/leml/iale2001/>. For questions regarding FSTA please email [USIALE-FSTA@edc.uri.edu](mailto:USIALE-FSTA@edc.uri.edu).

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## **NASA-MSU PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT AWARDS**

The "NASA-MSU Professional Enhancement Awards" are available to students who are going to give oral or poster presentations at the 2001 Annual Symposium of the U.S. Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE 2001). These special awards are made possible by support from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Michigan State University (MSU). The selected students will have opportunities to meet with leading landscape ecologists at a special dinner gathering and to learn the latest developments in landscape ecology at the Symposium.

Approximately 20 awards (up to \$700 each) will be given awarded to selected students to cover expenses associated with attending the Symposium. Applications will be judged based on the merits of the applicants' abstracts, financial needs, and professional backgrounds and goals. Previous award recipients are not eligible to apply. **All applications must be received by January 31, 2001.** The selection will be made by the end of February 2001.

Interested students should submit four (including one original) hardcopies of: (1) cover letter (stating interest in the award and professional goals); (2) completed application form (the application form is available at [http://www.west.asu.edu/leml/iale2001/NASA-MSU\\_awards.html](http://www.west.asu.edu/leml/iale2001/NASA-MSU_awards.html)); (3) resume; and (4) abstract for US-IALE 2001. All application materials must be mailed to: Dr. Jianguo (Jack) Liu, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, 13 Natural Resources Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824,

USA; Telephone: 517-355-4478; Email: [jliu@panda.msu.edu](mailto:jliu@panda.msu.edu).

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## REQUEST FOR JUDGES

Each year US-IALE presents an award **for best oral or poster presentation made by a student** at the previous year's meeting. Thus at the 2001 meeting we will be judging student presentations for the award to be given at the 2002 meeting. This award will provide travel expenses and a waiver of registration fees for the 2002 US-IALE Symposium. In order to recognize outstanding contributions by students to our meetings we need volunteers to help judge the competition. Each judge typically evaluates 2-3 presentations. US-IALE feels strongly that this award is an important means to encourage the development of young scientists and their participation in US-IALE.

Any person willing to evaluate student presentations can register at [www.ncrs.fs.fed.us/4153/iale/judges.html](http://www.ncrs.fs.fed.us/4153/iale/judges.html), or by contacting Pat Zollner (Dr. Patrick Zollner, 5985 Highway K, Rhinelander, WI 54501; Telephone: (715) 362-1150; Fax: (715) 362-1166; Email: [pzollner@fs.fed.us](mailto:pzollner@fs.fed.us)).

Please assist the Awards Committee by registering to judge student presentations as soon as possible.

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## STUDENT NEWS

### Marlene Cole and Rebecca Hess

We have exciting news about our new website. We have both been working with Matt Luck at Arizona State University who has undertaken the programming of a new website. In

addition to a brand new look and lots of information about the field of landscape ecology, the site contains job postings, a discussion board, and links to other sites and landscape ecology labs. We hope to make migrate all US-IALE information to this new site soon, so keep checking [www.usiale.org](http://www.usiale.org). This is our collective site and we encourage people to send comments and links!

Plan to join us at the annual meeting April 25-29 at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ. In addition to the student social and some informal gatherings, we again intend to hold our very own **"Lunch With A Mentor"** in which small groups of students have lunch at a designated time with a respected member of the landscape ecology community. If you are a student interested in attending "Lunch With A Mentor," please (1) register for the meeting, and (2) email the following information by April 1, 2001 to Rebecca Hess ([Rebecca.Hess@orst.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Hess@orst.edu)): name, email, university, current membership status, 4-6 keywords describing your interests, a mentor you would especially like to dine with (this is optional and not guaranteed). **Potential mentors can help by signing up before Marlene and Rebecca come asking!**

To update you on our other US-IALE activities, Marlene has been working with a handful of other folks to revamp the Strategic Plan and the Bylaws, with particular attention to enhancing the organization for students. She has also continued her efforts in US-IALE outreach. Rebecca has been working to update US-IALE outreach and membership documents, and has attended other meetings and informed attendees about US-IALE and its benefits. Along those lines, we ask **if you are planning to attend a meeting**

or gathering at which US-IALE outreach would be appropriate, please contact us and we will arrange to get outreach materials to you. And while you are reaching out for more potential members, please don't forget to **renew your own membership**. US-IALE provides an excellent forum for making and maintaining contacts in the field of landscape ecology. We need you!

We are soliciting **nominations for a new student representative**. Each student rep serves a two-year term that is staggered with that of the other student representative. Serving as a student representative provides excellent opportunities to meet students (future colleagues), interact with senior members of the US-IALE Executive Committee, and influence the future direction of US-IALE. It also looks great on your resume! If you are interested, please contact one of the current student representatives: Marlene Cole (mbcole@crssa.rutgers.edu) or Rebecca Hess (Rebecca.Hess@orst.edu), and we will answer any questions.

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## US-IALE OFFICER NOMINATIONS

In April, at its 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium in Tempe, AZ, US-IALE will be holding elections for three members of its Executive Committee: Councilor-At-Large, Secretary, and Student Representative. Please submit nominations for any of these positions to a current member of the US-IALE Executive Committee. Information on how to contact current Committee members can be found in a separate article in this Newsletter.

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## SUBSCRIPTIONS TO *LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY*

Over the past couple of years, there have been some changes in the way that US-IALE members subscribe to the journal *Landscape Ecology*. To make certain that your subscriptions can be filled quickly and rapidly, please note the following information.

All members of US-IALE receive a very significant discount in their subscription price. Currently, these member subscription rates are \$80 for regular members and \$60 for students.

Subscriptions for students are handled through US-IALE in order to obtain the student discount. Students wishing to subscribe to *Landscape Ecology* should do so when renewing membership in US-IALE. Subscription information, payment, and verification of student status will be passed on to Kluwer Academic Publishing, publisher of *Landscape Ecology*.

All regular members of US-IALE must subscribe to *Landscape Ecology* through Kluwer's website for the journal: [www.wkap.nl/journalhome.htm/0921-2973](http://www.wkap.nl/journalhome.htm/0921-2973). US-IALE will confirm with Kluwer each subscriber's membership status in US-IALE, thus enabling US-IALE members to receive the journal for \$80.

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## US-IALE 2002 SYMPOSIUM

The United States Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE) will convene its 2002 annual meeting at the **Cornhusker Hotel and Burnham Yates Conference Center** ([www.thecornhusker.com](http://www.thecornhusker.com)) in **Lincoln, Nebraska** from **April 23-27, 2002**.

The Symposium planning committee, comprised of scientists representing the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and other institutions throughout the central Great Plains, is structuring an excellent program of invited and contributed papers, symposia, workshops, and field trips emphasizing innovations in basic and applied research, analytical tools for landscape ecology and the integration of policy and ecosystem management. Special attention will be given to topics such as: Agroecology, agroforestry, and the landscape ecology of grasslands; Recent innovations in geospatial information technologies as applied in landscape ecology; Landscape ecology in an era of intensive Earth observing; Historical and contemporary landscape ecology of the Great Plains; Landscape ecology and biodiversity; Lakes, rivers, and wetlands in the landscapes of central North America; Landscape ecology and natural disturbances (e.g., severe storms, hail, fire); and Landscape ecology and natural history museums.

Anyone wishing to assist in program planning and/or persons wishing to contribute suggestions for program development are invited to contact either: Dr. James W. Merchant, Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 113 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588; Telephone: (402) 472-7531; Email: [jmerchant1@unl.edu](mailto:jmerchant1@unl.edu) or Dr. Geoffrey M. Henebry, Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 113 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588; Telephone: (402) 472-6158; Email: [ghenebry@calmit.unl.edu](mailto:ghenebry@calmit.unl.edu).

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

In October of 2000, all US-IALE members should have received by email and/or postal service a request for renewal of membership for 2001. US-IALE thanks all of you who have already renewed your membership for 2001. If you have misplaced your membership renewal form, or if you inadvertently did not receive a notice, there is a copy of the renewal form attached to the back of this Newsletter. If you have not already done so, please renew today for 2001!

Also, if you know that your email address has changed since your last renewal, please send an update to the US-IALE Membership Secretary: Amy Hall, US-IALE Membership Secretary, UMCES Chesapeake Biological Lab., P.O. Box 38, Solomons, MD 20688; Email: [ahall@cbl.umces.edu](mailto:ahall@cbl.umces.edu).

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## NEW MEMBERS

Anyone with interests in any facet of landscape ecology is welcome to join US-IALE. By joining US-IALE you automatically become a member of our parent international organization. Benefits of membership include our bi-annual Newsletter that reports on US-IALE activities and meetings, the International IALE Bulletin that is issued several times annually, reduced registration rates for our annual symposium, and discounts on subscriptions to *Landscape Ecology*. A membership form is attached to this Newsletter or can be obtained from US-IALE Membership Secretary Amy Hall at: [ahall@cbl.umces.edu](mailto:ahall@cbl.umces.edu).

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## CURRENT US-IALE OFFICERS

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## IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR US-IALE MEMBERS

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**See The Following Page For A  
2001 Membership Application and Membership  
Renewal Form**

## US-IALE

United States Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology

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**2001 Membership Application and Membership Renewal Form**

US-IALE was formed with the purposes of: fostering the science of landscape ecology in the United States; linking U.S. landscape ecologists with the international community of landscape ecologists; and promoting interdisciplinary research/communication among landscape scientists and professionals, such as planners, who apply principles of landscape ecology. Membership in US-IALE automatically includes membership in our umbrella international organization, the International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE). Please renew your membership or join US-IALE by filling out the following form and submitting it to the Membership Secretary.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

### DUES

2001 Regular Member (\$30.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
2001 Student Member (\$20.00; 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) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2001 SUBSCRIPTION** to *Landscape Ecology* (STUDENTS ONLY) (\$60.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

**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: Amy Hall, US-IALE Membership Secretary, UMCES Chesapeake Biological Lab, P.O. Box 38, Solomons, MD 20688.**

**RECEIPTS** will be sent out via email (if available) unless checked here: \_\_\_\_\_

### REGULAR MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS TO *LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY*

US-IALE does not process subscriptions to *Landscape Ecology* for its regular members. Regular members are encouraged to subscribe, and can do so through the Kluwer Publishing homepage for *Landscape Ecology* ([www.wkap.nl/journalhome.htm/0921-2973](http://www.wkap.nl/journalhome.htm/0921-2973)). You must be a member of IALE to receive member subscription rates from Kluwer.