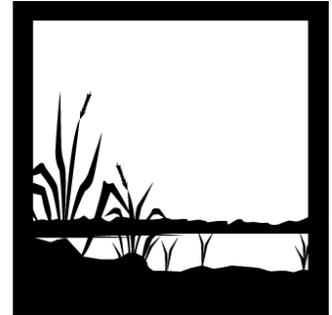


US-IALE Newsletter

Issue 18/3, June 2003



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

Compiled by Bob Keane and Janet Ohmann, present and past US-IALE Secretaries

Notes from the Chair *Eric Gustafson*

The 2003 Annual Symposium

In April, we gathered in Banff, Alberta for our 18th Annual Symposium to consider the theme of *Beyond Borders, Linking Landscapes*. This symposium was particularly noteworthy in that it was the first time the US Chapter has held a meeting outside of the US. The meeting strained our ability to generate superlatives! The scenery was spectacular, the venue was comfortable and convenient for our meetings, and the food was unsurpassed. **Marie-Josée Fortin, Bruce Milne** and their able assistants did an outstanding job of organizing the meeting, the program, the venue, the field trips, and social events. I'd like to thank them publicly again for their dedicated and highly organized service to our Society. They showed us a great time in Canada, eh?

The 19th Annual Symposium of US-IALE will be held March 30-April 2, 2004 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting is being organized around the theme *Transdisciplinary Challenges in Landscape Ecology* by **Bruce Jones** and **Nita**

Tallent-Halsell. This will be an excellent meeting in a great location. We will be hosted in a non-gaming hotel, but the location is not far from the heart of Vegas. The Symposium Website can be accessed through www.usiale.org. Start making your plans to attend!

The IALE World Congress in Darwin, Australia is next month. This quadrennial event brings together landscape ecologists from around the world. You'll find information about the World Congress at www.iale.ntu.edu.au on the World Wide Web.

Executive Committee Officers

US-IALE owes a debt of gratitude to the outgoing officers. **Janet Ohmann** finished her term as Secretary. She did an excellent job with the Newsletter and in recording the discussions and decisions of the Executive Committee. I personally valued her exceptional initiative and dedication to our Society. She is a model of an excellent Society officer! Thanks also to **Jingle Wu**, who served as Councilor-at-Large. He provided valuable contributions to our outreach

efforts. **Nita Tallent-Halsell** leaves as Student Representative, but continues her energetic and indispensable service to US-IALE as co-organizer of the 2004 Symposium. **Rebecca Kennedy** continues to manage our Web site (www.usiale.org), which you should note has dramatically improved content and appearance. Please join me in thanking these folks for their generous volunteer service to US-IALE.

I'd also like to welcome the officers who were elected at the Symposium. **Peter August** is Chair-elect. I look forward to handing the baton to him over the next year, and am excited about the vision that he brings to our Society. **Bob Keane** is our new Secretary, **Nancy McIntyre** is Councilor-at-Large, and **Ashton Drew** is the newest Student Representative. I am delighted by their enthusiasm and dedication. They join an equally dedicated cohort of continuing officers: **Mary Santelmann, Bruce Jones, Laura Musacchio and Jen Fraterrigo**. I look forward to working with each of them.

Speaking of elections, we have had very poor participation in elections for many years. In an attempt to improve participation, we are drafting an amendment to the by-laws to allow voting by electronic or postal means. This amendment will be sent to all members for a vote sometime this summer, because our by-laws allow amendments to be voted on by mail.

Progress Report

In the past year, I have focused the efforts of the Executive Committee on implementing the Strategic Plan that was developed in 1998. Here's some of what we accomplished:

Member services:

1. Web site enhancements include:
 - New, updated look
 - Free job postings for members (the jobs page already receives about 250 different visitors per month)
 - Links to software, landscape ecology research and academic programs, newsgroups and listservers
 - Link to the journal *Landscape Ecology*, including downloadable reprints
 - Links to past and future US-IALE meetings
 - Information about Society awards, officers, history (in the Executive Committee handbook), strategic plan
 - Downloadable brochures and promotional posters
 - New, easily remembered address: www.usiale.org
2. Implemented a new protocol for membership renewals, with several reminders
 3. Approved implementation of electronic membership renewal and credit card payment for 2004 membership cycle.
 4. Began annual publication of member directory – distributed to members only
 5. Worked with Kluwer to resolve problems in journal production and scheduling

Development of US-IALE:

1. A Financial committee report outlining principles for investing proceeds from Symposia to fund strategic Society initiatives.
2. Produced a promotional poster and brochures that can be downloaded from our Web site.
3. Promotion of US-IALE was done at meetings of other societies, including ESA.
4. Got one of our members nominated to the IALE Executive – **Louis Iverson**. If you attend the Congress at Darwin, you will have an opportunity to vote for him!

Policy:

1. Worked with AIBS to get a US-IALE member (**Bruce Jones**) appointed to the AIBS Project on Infrastructure for Biology at Regional to Continental Scales (NEON observatory network).

I am honored to lead this Society for another year. I am pleased with the direction we are heading, and I think we have made some good progress. However, we cannot get there only by the efforts of the Executive Committee. Since the Banff meeting, I have received two unsolicited offers from our members to assist on any initiatives that need helpers. After I picked myself up off the floor, I thought, 'Why shouldn't our members defy all laws of human nature and volunteer to help? We have great people who see the value of coming together to advance our science and its application.' So, if you too would like to help, or have suggestions, please contact me at this email address (egustafson@fs.fed.us). After all, this is YOUR Society, and together we can make it more effective.

AWARDS **Patrick Zollner**

2003 US-IALE Awards

The awards committee of the US Chapter of the International Association of Landscape Ecologists is pleased announce the selection of **Dr. Simon Levin** as this year's recipient of the **Distinguished Landscape Ecologist Award**. This award is a prestigious honor given to recognize distinguished scientific contributions to the field of landscape ecology. We elected to recognize Dr. Levin as a creative scholar and a prolific author of numerous books and articles that have greatly influenced the direction of landscape ecology. It is worth noting that Dr. Levin participated in the landmark workshop

held at Allerton Park (Illinois) that initiated IALE activities in the U.S. and that he is a coauthor of two (1990, and 2001) articles that have received the honor of Outstanding Paper in Landscape Ecology from the U.S. chapter of IALE. Dr. Levin will join an impressive list of scientists whose work has helped to shape the field of landscape ecology.

The awards committee would also like to announce the selection of the **USGS GAP program** as this year's recipient of the **Distinguished Landscape Practitioner Award**. This award is a prestigious honor given to recognize contributions in the application of the principles of landscape ecology to real-world problems. The awards committee chose to recognize the GAP project for its effort to determine where conservation priorities should be focused by integrating large-scale habitat information with existing reserve units. This application of the principles of landscape ecology is crucial in establishing functional conservation networks. USGS GAP will join an impressive list of individuals and organizations that have been recognized by US IALE for their efforts to apply the principles of landscape ecology to solving real world problems.

This year's **Outstanding Paper in Landscape Ecology** was award to the recent paper (Tewksbury et al. 2002. Corridor affects plants, animals, and their interactions in fragmented landscapes. PNAS 99(20):12923-12926.). This award is a prestigious honor given annually to recognize the most outstanding contribution to the literature of the field of landscape ecology. Tewksbury et al.'s paper describes a large-scale experiment that created a replicated field study that the authors used to demonstrate that the presence of corridors effects ecological processes such as pollination, seed dispersal, and animal movement. This unique study of how landscape structure simultaneously influenced the pattern of both plant and animal distribution as well as vital ecological processes is truly deserving of this honor. This paper will join an impressive list of previous work that the US chapter of IALE has

recognized as best representing the field of landscape ecology.

All of these awards were presented at the upcoming US IALE annual meeting (http://www.zoo.utoronto.ca/US-IALE_2003/) in Banff Alberta at the banquet on Friday April 4th.

Foreign Scholar Travel Award

The **Foreign Scholar Travel Award Committee** selected 5 students from 17 applicants from 15 countries for foreign travel to attend the 2003 US-IALE Symposium at Banff Center, Alberta, Canada. Each applicant was reviewed by at least three committee members. The final score was the average of the reviews using a weighted scoring method with the following categories (weight in parentheses): scientific merit (0.5), Financial Need (0.2), career stage (0.2), and quality of written English (0.1). The top ranked applicants across the greatest diversity of countries were chosen for awards (www.cof.orst.edu/org/usiale/fstaward.htm). Each recipient received an award of \$1,000 and a free field trip. The funds used to grant travel awards were provided by donations from the USIALE membership and a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency for which we graciously thank Bruce Jones (EPA Las Vegas Lab), Mary-Josée Fortin, and Bruce Milne. Without their generosity, we would not have been able to fund multiple awards.

Recipients

Tadesse Gole is a doctoral student at Center for Development Research (ZEF) of the University of Bonn, and is a citizen of Ethiopia. The goal of Tadesse's research is to conserve wild *Coffea arabica* genetic resources in Ethiopia.

Presentation Title: Forest reserve planning using GIS-based multicriteria decision method

Siarei Kaptsoih is a doctoral student in the Department of Zoology at the Belarusian State

Pedagogical University. Siarhei is investigating the effects of climate change on the spread of insects in Eastern Europe.

Presentation Title: Zoogeographical analysis of the effect of climate change on insects' distributions

Miriam E. Presutti is from the Universidad Nacional de La Plata in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Miriam is interested in using remotely-sensed data to monitor seasonal vegetation changes at regional scales in Argentina. Miriam uses MODIS imagery and NDVI indices monitor these changes.

Presentation Title: Monitoring phenological changes and seasonal response in vegetation pattern within Buenos Aires province landscape, Argentina

Severine Vuilleumier is a research assistant and doctoral student in the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology. Severine is developing movement models that incorporate cognitive ability of organisms. She is working to understand the relationships among connectivity, fragmentation and animal behavior

Presentation Title: A landscape model of animal movement and connectivity.

Silvio Ferraz is a doctoral student in the Forest Resources Program at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Silvio is studying the effects of landscape structure on water quality in the western Amazon.

Presentation Title: Incorporating temporal land use data in assessing deforestation impacts on water quality in Rondônia State, Brazil.

Elections

Eric Gutsafson

Several new officers were elected at the 2003 Banff Symposium. **Peter August** is the new Chair-elect, **Bob Keane** is our new Secretary, **Nancy McIntyre** is Councilor-at-Large, and **Ashton Drew** is the newest Student Representative. They join an equally dedicated cohort of continuing officers: **Mary Santelmann, Bruce Jones, Laura Musacchio and Jen Fraterrigo**.

Peter August is a Professor in the Department of Natural Resources Science at the University of Rhode Island and is the Director of the URI Coastal Institute. He received his B.S. degree (Biology) from the University of San Diego in 1974, his M.S. degree (Biology) from Texas Tech University in 1976, and his Ph.D. degree (Biology) from Boston University in 1981. Dr. August's research interests are landscape ecology, conservation biology, and GIS. He teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in environmental applications of GIS and various courses in applied ecology. He has published over 80 papers in journals, books, and conference proceedings. Some of his current projects include developing protocols to identify critical lands for conservation, examination of watershed condition and estuarine ecosystem health, biodiversity mapping, and developing Internet-based spatial data distribution systems. He has been a Councilor at Large for US-IALE, serves on the US-IALE Foreign Scholars Travel Award Committee, manages the US-IALE LISTSERV, is a Trustee for Rhode Island Field Office of the The Nature Conservancy, and serves of the Board of Directors for the Rhode Island Natural History Survey. As Chair of US-IALE, Pete would pay special attention to strengthening two important aspects of the organization: (1) fostering communication and exchange among the science, management, and planning dimensions of the Society, and (2)

strengthening programs to engage students in US-IALE activities.

Nancy McIntyre is an assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Texas Tech University, where she is conducting research on a variety of large-scale projects, including prairie restoration and the landscape epidemiology of hantavirus. Her M.S. work at the University of Georgia was on how birds respond to forest fragmentation, her Ph.D. work at Colorado State University was on how landscape structure affects animal movement patterns and habitat selection, and her postdoctoral work at Arizona State University was on urban landscape ecology. She has been a member of US-IALE for over 10 years and is a past winner of the society's Best Student Presentation Award. If elected to the Executive Committee, she would be particularly concerned with issues pertaining to member recruitment and retention, and the "visibility" and image of landscape ecology within ecology at large.

Bob Keane is a Research Ecologist with the USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station at The Fire Sciences Laboratory, Missoula, MT. Since 1985, Bob has conducted ecological research into fuel dynamics, ecosystem restoration, and spatial modeling for the Fire Effects project. His most recent research includes 1) ecological modeling for the exploring landscape, fire and climate dynamics, 2) mapping fuels for fire growth and fire effects evaluation, 3) predicting the direct consequences of a fire, 4) restoration of whitebark pine in the Northern Rocky Mountains, and 5) classification and simulation of successional communities on the landscape using GIS and satellite imagery. He received his B.S. degree in forest engineering from the University of Maine, Orono in 1978; his M.S. degree in forest ecology from the University of Montana, Missoula in 1985; and his Ph.D. degree in forest ecology from the University of Idaho, Moscow in 1994. Bob wants to engage the diverse fields of disturbance and ecosystem

science with landscape ecology so that processes are highly integrated across landscape studies.

C. Ashton Drew is interested in landscape ecology of benthic marine habitats (NCSU Marine, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences). Landscape ecological principles derived from terrestrial systems are being tested in marine systems with varying success. I am curious as to whether the assumptions and methods appropriate for modeling terrestrial systems are inappropriate for marine environments or if similar spatial patterns and processes simply occur at different scales. Through benthic remote sensing, organism dispersal models, and population survey data, the ultimate goal of my doctoral research is to determine whether benthic landscape mosaics may be combined with knowledge of local and regional dispersal patterns to predict recruitment success of marine species. I have a strong interest in serving students in general and promoting the science of landscape ecology specifically. I have experienced both the challenges of learning and teaching this subject. This past semester I helped develop and co-taught a new landscape ecology course for graduate students with Dr. George Hess. This semester I will be developing and teaching a landscape ecology component to his undergraduate Natural Resource Measurements class. I am an active mentor for middle school, high school, and undergraduate students interested in science. With another graduate student in my department, we have just designed and implemented a new department-wide mentorship program to link graduates and undergraduates for career planning, academic advice and friendship. I also designed and regularly maintain my departments Graduate Student Association website. Finally, I bring experience in event planning, having served on the executive committee of Coastal Zone Canada 2000 as a young professional representative. All of these skills would be at the disposal of the student members of US-IALE, to enact their vision of how the organization could better serve their interests and needs. I would like to continue current activities such as the mentor

lunch, student social, and career forum as these events specifically address the career and networking concerns of many graduates. I would also like to expand the number of student members, as I suspect that many students remain unaware of US-IALE, particularly students practicing landscape ecology within other disciplines (such as myself in a marine science program).

The US-IALE requests nominations for **Distinguished Landscape Ecologist** and **Distinguished Landscape Ecology Practitioner**. These awards are ordinarily given for distinguished contributions over a period of years. A description of these awards as well as a list of previous winners can be found on the US-IALE website (www.usiale.org). Please forward names and a brief description of the merits of the nominee(s).

Treasurer's Report

Mary Santelmann

General Overview

There are four developments of note from the treasurer's office this past year:

- 1) The office of treasurer has passed from Phil Townsend at the University of Maryland to Mary Santelmann at Oregon State University. Many thanks to Phil for his past years of service as treasurer, and for his help in bringing me up to speed with my new volunteer position.
- 2) A new account has been opened at US Bank that will allow us to transfer money electronically (helpful for transactions made internationally). This makes it simpler to pay dues to the international organization and potentially may be useful for payment of foreign travel awards. A debit card has been obtained on this account as well.
- 3) Checking accounts at Liberty Bank in Connecticut will no longer accrue interest after April 2003, nor will savings accounts, which

have balances of less than \$10,000 (this means that the main IALE General Fund checking account and three other accounts (Student Award Fund, General Savings, Foreign Travel Fund) would not earn any interest.

4). The awards we received from EPA for the last couple of years in support of our annual meetings have become more difficult to obtain, and no funds were granted to US IALE for this year. We may need to apply to other sources for symposium support in the near future.

Other than the changes listed above, the financial outlook for US-IALE continues to be similar to past years. Examining year-end our balances for 1995-present, our total endowment has increased from \$23.3K in 1995 to \$63.6K now. The majority of this increase is attributable to profits from the 1999 International Symposium in Snowmass, the 2000 U.S. meetings in Ft. Lauderdale (total \$21,848) and the 2002 U.S. meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska (\$10,000). The symposium profits in recent years are in part a result of gracious donations from EPA that offset expenses of the symposia in 2001 and 2002. Financial planning for investment of these funds continues, though it appears that we were fortunate to have held off on investing these funds in the late 90's. The organization was reimbursed \$4000 it had advanced to the 2001 Symposium held at Arizona State University but no profits from that symposium were transferred to IALE. One additional item to consider is that the student award CD is maturing on April 10th, and we need to decide what to do with it. We may also wish to consolidate the SAF and FTF accounts into CD's or into the general fund savings in order to obtain interest from these funds.

Expenses

Our primary expenses are dues to the International Association, which over the past five years has accounted for 64% of the dues paid to us by our members. An additional 23% has been paid to the membership secretary for maintaining the membership database and

processing dues payments. Dues to the international organization were lower in 2002 than in previous years owing to the adjustments that needed to be made because we had actually been overpaying dues for the previous 2-3 years. It is apparent US-IALE is not covering its basic expenses from dues alone. The differences (and slight profits) have been made up from donations and interest income. General expenses have declined in recent years because much business is conducted electronically (e.g., renewals and newsletters). However, given the need for maintenance of an active web site and possibly a move to web-based membership dues payment, we will need to increase our income to cover these added expenses.

2002-2003 Overview

We are back on track with the processing of member dues, donations, and subscriptions to Landscape Ecology, thanks mostly to the efficiency of Nancy Castro in making the deposits and in reminding the treasurer to pay those student subscriptions on time! All profits from the book sales to support foreign travel awards were deposited this year (thanks to Dr. Sam Riffel for conducting this once again!). We have paid our dues to the international organization for 2002, and will be paying our dues for 2003 to the international organization in May, once the main activity in membership is complete.

Student (SAF) and Foreign Scholar Travel (FTF) Award Funds

These funds have remained fairly stable. The SAF generates donations and interest income sufficient to cover 1-2 awards of \$500 per year. The NASA/MSU awards have supplemented this award nicely. The FTF has experienced an increase in base funds due to the fact that EPA has covered this award for the last two years, however, this will not be possible in 2003 and it is uncertain when (if at all) EPA will be able to continue their support of the annual meeting. The FTF fund is slowly increasing in value, but really

can only sustain one \$1000 award per year, depending on book sales.

Taxes

Phil Townsend filed tax non-profit returns (Form 990-EZ) for US-IALE for 2000 and 2001 (attached). I will be filing for 2003 in early May. Note that Form 990/990-EZ is not required of a 501(c)(3) organization if our gross receipts average less than \$25,000 per year. Our receipts are generally less than this amount, but because of periodic large donations, I agree with Phil (last year's Treasurer's Report) that it is wise for us to continue to file. This year we paid Matt Gregory more than \$600 for his work on the web site, which meant that a form 1099-MISC needs to be filed for him to report these earnings.

General Business

Minutes

Janet Ohmann

Meeting called to order by Chair Eric Gustafson. Those attending were welcomed by Chair.

Candidates for US-IALE officer slots who were present were introduced by Eric Gustafson, which included only Nancy McIntyre (Councilor-At-Large). Louis Iverson also was introduced, who is running for Vice President of IALE. Elections will be held at the World Congress in Darwin, Australia, in July 2003.

A brief report on the 2004 meeting in Las Vegas was presented by meeting host Bruce Jones (Councilor-At-Large and Meeting Host). Meeting dates are March 30 - April 4, 2004. A meeting theme has been identified. Printed brochures are being distributed at this year's meeting and will be posted to the US-IALE website. The meeting venue is a non-gaming hotel. Activities will include a landscape modeling and software swap meet. The meeting

will be marketed to county planners organizations, federal land management agencies, software development companies, job websites, vendors, etc. A call for special sessions will be issued with a September 30 deadline.

Eric Gustafson summarized the status of planning for the 2005 and 2006 meetings. The 2005 meeting will be held at the State University of New York in Syracuse, NY, and hosted by Jim Palmer. The meeting likely will have a landscape architecture flavor. A Program Chair may still be needed for the 2005 meeting. Janet Franklin, University of California San Diego, is strongly considering hosting the 2006 meeting.

Mary Santelmann (Treasurer) presented highlights from the Treasurer's Report (see previous section) and discussions at the Executive Committee meeting. A written report is available.

Janet Ohmann (Secretary) presented membership summaries prepared by Nancy Castro (Membership Secretary). (1) Total membership numbers are holding steady but higher than the average since record-keeping began in 1996, at 336 total members as of 3/24/03. (2) Numbers of student members are down slightly and regular members are up slightly. (3) There is a slight increase this year in international members, probably Canadians who joined in conjunction with the annual meeting being held in Banff. (4) The membership renewal process has been made more rigorous over the past year. (5) Janet has researched information about online membership functions and dues payment by credit card, which potentially will lead to increases in membership. We will implement new procedures for the 2004 membership renewal without a dues increase. (6) An electronic membership directory was distributed to all members this year.

David Mladenoff, Editor-in-Chief, reported on the journal *Landscape Ecology*. A detailed written report for the last three years is available. Highlights are as follows: (1) Submissions increased steadily since 1999, when his tenure as

Editor-in-Chief began. Submissions were especially high in early 2002. This may be attributed to an increase in poor manuscripts from developing countries, and possibly from some European countries with limited experience publishing in English, which were rejected without review. (2) The acceptance rate of about 35% is slightly higher than other, more competitive journals. (3) The length of time to reach an accept/reject decision is decreasing. The time from submission to publication is around 18 months, and he'd like to get it down to 15 (comparable to other journals). (4) The number of pages published has increased, based on including the first supplemental issue. Article page length is increasing slightly. He observed that it's difficult to keep landscape papers short due to the nature of the field, with studies often involving complex methods. (5) Visits and online downloads are increasing. (6) The citation ranking is improving markedly. *LE* is gaining on *J. of Ecology and Ecosystems*. (7) Several changes in the Editorial Board have been made. Ten members departed and six new members were added, for a total of 20.

Bruce Jones (Councilor-At-Large) reported on his representation of US-IALE on the Working Group of the Infrastructure for Biology at Regional to Continental Scales (IBRCS) project of the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS). The current focus of the IBRCS project is the proposed National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), which is a major National Science Foundation initiative that would establish a national platform for integrated studies and monitoring of natural processes at all spatial scales, time scales, and levels of biological organization.

Rebecca Kennedy (Website Coordinator) presented highlights of US-IALE website development. (1) The website is now officially 'www.usiale.org' and other sites have been or will be decommissioned, which will streamline web searches and direct hits to www.usiale.org. (2) Several new features were added in 2002-2003: a job posting section (must be a member to

post); back issues of US-IALE Newsletters; updated Executive Committee Handbook; promotional poster and brochure; past US-IALE award winners and award descriptions; Foreign Scholar Award winners, award description, and application procedure; NASA/MSU award information; links to research programs, software, related meetings, etc. (3) We're ranked 10th in the Google search category science/biology/ecology/associations. (4) Visitors to the site are most frequently linking to links for annual meetings, *Landscape Ecology*, and job announcements (despite few job postings). (5) Online voting is probably possible for the 2004 meeting but will require startup time and a Bylaws amendment. Issues related to one person-one vote and anonymity need to be addressed. (6) Online membership renewal and dues payment are being researched and we hope added to the website for 2004 membership.

There was a discussion of the proposed revision to the Bylaws that would institute annual officer elections by mail, rather than by ballot at the annual meeting. The revision would be worded for flexibility, i.e. to emphasize voting by mail but not specifying whether by electronic or hardcopy surface mail means. Voting by mail would increase voter turnout and allow members not present at the meeting to vote. A potential concern is it would attract votes of those who are not interested or informed about the Society. It was moved and approved to proceed with the Bylaws revision to vote by mail. A committee will be formed to write the revision and circulate to the membership for vote. The elections would be timed such that winners would continue to be announced at the banquet at the annual meeting.

Eric Gustafson reported that much progress has been made on implementation of the current strategic plan, and that we are moving ahead with developing a strategic plan for the next five years. An attendee recommended that the new planning effort begin by explicitly reviewing accomplishments related to the existing plan, and that this review and summary be published in the Newsletter. Eric requested ideas from attendees

on activities that US-IALE could pursue in the future, which generated the following:

-Set up local chapters of US-IALE, including possibly student chapters. This idea was supported conceptually, but with the caveat that we develop guidelines on how this would be done. Guidelines could be posted on the website.

-Rather than chapters (it was questioned whether US-IALE has enough members to support them), form working groups around topics or sub-disciplines that would provide a forum for members to network and interact.

-Write and publish issue papers on topics relevant to landscape ecology, similar to those published by the Ecological Society of America.

-Find more ways to link with managers for applying landscape ecology research results.

-Run US-IALE workshop, perhaps organized around issues.

-Develop links and associations with other organizations that hold meetings.

The Wildlife Society 10th Annual Conference
6-10 September 2003, Burlington, Vermont
For more information, <http://www.wildlife.org/>

Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture
Conference 2003
Charleston, SC
24-27 September 2003
Hosted by The Faculty of Landscape
Architecture, Clemson University
For more information,
<http://www.clemson.edu/caah/pla/cela2003/>

American Society of Landscape Architects
(ASLA) Annual Meeting & EXPO
New Orleans, Louisiana
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
October 30-November 3, 2003
For more information,
<http://www.asla.org/nonmembers/meetings.html>

4th North American Forest Ecology Workshop
June 16-20, 2003
CH2M Hill Alumni Center
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR
For further information, see
<http://outreach.cof.orst.edu/nafew/>

Other Meetings

Laura Musacchio

Society for Conservation Biology 17th
Annual Meeting
28 June-2 July 2003; Duluth, Minnesota, USA
For more information,
<http://www.d.umn.edu/cc/conferences/scb2003/>

88th Ecological Society of America Annual
Meeting
3-8 August 2003, Savannah, Georgia
Savannah International Trade and Convention
Center
For more information,
<http://www.esa.org/savannah/>

Student News and Notes

Jennifer Fraterrigo,
Nita Tallent-Halsell
C. Ashton Drew

Students continue to be an active and integral part of US-IALE. At this year's annual symposium, 43% of the registrants were students, and an impressive 74 of the 117 student attendees were members. Furthermore, they contributed a total of 90 oral and poster presentations, demonstrating the high caliber of research being conducted by students with an interest in landscape ecology. Congratulations and thanks to all of you who enriched the

meeting by presenting your work. We look forward to seeing you next year in Las Vegas!

In an effort to enhance the benefits for students attending the meeting, we organized several programs aimed at increasing student visibility and educating students about professional opportunities in landscape ecology. The Mentor Lunch and Student Social were generously sponsored by US-IALE and provided chances for students to meet one another and to interact with professionals in the discipline. We are grateful for the help of Marie-Josée Fortin, Bruce Milne and their wonderful assistants in planning these events. Special thanks also go to the mentors for their willingness to share their time with students to make the event a success.

The Career Forum and Student Feedback Program were new programs featured at this year's meeting. Tom Crow, Mary Lammert Khoury, Margaret Livingston, Ric Lopez and Dave Theobald kindly accepted invitations to serve on a panel during the Forum and spent a morning answering questions about their professional backgrounds and current jobs. We sincerely appreciate the panelists whose enthusiasm and candor made for a lively and interesting discussion. The Student Feedback Program was developed and implemented by Pat Zollner and us with the expectation that it would reduce the number of participants in the Best Student Presentation Competition and consequently relieve the pressure to enlist a large number of judges. Although we had hoped that the Student Feedback Program would provide an outlet for students to obtain the same type of valuable comments they received from judges in the formal competition, only one-third of those who requested feedback received evaluations. Thus, our plan is to strengthen the Feedback

Program in future years by increasing awareness among potential evaluators and session moderators. Please consider signing up for the Student Feedback Program if you plan to present in Las Vegas, and as always, contact us (jmfrater@iastate.edu or cadrew@unity.ncsu.edu) with your suggestions for improvement.

Student members who attended the meeting in Banff elected a new representative and expressed gratitude for the outstanding efforts of another. We welcome C. Ashton Drew, a student at the University of North Carolina working with Dr. David Eggleston, as the 2003-2005 Student Representative. More information about Ashton's background is available in the Election Results section. Nita Tallent-Halsell took leave of the post following two years of exceptional service to the society and to students in particular. She will be greatly missed, but will continue her involvement with US-IALE, most notably as co-chair of the 2004 symposium in Las Vegas, NV.

Over the next year, Jen and Ashton will work to fulfill the mission of US-IALE and meet the objectives of the organization for its student members. We anticipate a busy year preparing for the activities that will be offered at the Las Vegas meeting and responding to the needs and requests presented to us by the students of US-IALE. We encourage you to continue your membership with the society and promote US-IALE among your colleagues so that students may remain a vital component of the organization. Above all, we appreciate your support and welcome your suggestions for making US-IALE even better!



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US-IALE

United States Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology 2003 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, 2003, to ensure there is no lapse in your membership benefits.

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