

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

US-IALE Newsletter

June 2008
Issue 23/2

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Message from the Chair - Jianguo (Jack) Liu

As I assume the Chair of US-IALE, I would like to thank Past Chair Bob Gardner for his outstanding leadership in the past two years. I have learned a lot from Bob in the past year as Chair-elect and I am very grateful to him for his willingness to continue offering his insight, institutional memory, wisdom, and energy. Also, I am thankful to the retired officers and committee chairs and members for their outstanding service to US-IALE. They include Margaret Livingston (Treasurer 2006-2008), Sam Riffell (Councilor-at-Large 2006-2008), Lisa Schulte (Councilor-at-Large and Chair of Meeting Site Selection Committee 2006-2008), Deahn Donner-Wright (Student Representative 2006-2008), and Geoff Henebry (Chair of the Awards Committee 2007-2008). The time and effort of these and numerous others are greatly appreciated.

The 2008 annual conference in Madison was a great success! Phil Townsend and Monica Turner were absolutely wonderful



2008 US IALE Conference local hosts, Phil Townsend and Monica Turner and Program Chair, Sarah Goslee, with Jack Liu, US IALE Chair.

hosts. Monica has now hosted THREE US-IALE conferences. Deep appreciation also goes to Sarah Goslee (Program Chair) and Cindy Delaney (Meeting Planner) for their enormous amounts of time and effort in planning the scientific program and logistics. Many others (e.g., sponsors, volunteers, organizers of symposia and workshops, session chairs, presenters, attendees) also deserve recognition. The inspiring plenary speakers (Steve Carpenter, Jonathan Foley, Gary Lovett, and Kim With) provided insightful "food" for our brains, while the gorgeous Monona Terrace Convention Center offered us nutritious and tasty food and a lovely setting for our gathering.

Congratulations are extended to the award recipients. The list of awardees can be found on other sections of this Newsletter and on the US-IALE [web site](#). If you have any questions or suggestions for future awards, please email [Anita Morzillo](#) (Chair of the US-IALE Awards Committee and Co-Chair of the NASA-MSU Awards Committee).

Although the 2008 conference is over, John Bissonette and Tom Edwards at USGS and Utah State University have been working very hard organizing our next year's conference in Snowbird, Utah (April 12-16, 2009). They have already obtained \$5,000 from several local sponsors to support students' participation in the conference. The theme "Coupling Humans and Complex Ecological Landscapes" is timely and important. A sym-

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Message from the Chair - Jianguo (Jack) Liu



posium on complexity of coupled human and natural systems across landscapes is being planned at the conference, with support from the National Science Foundation. Please mark your calendar now if you have not already done so. We look forward to seeing you in Snowbird!

The new Executive Committee has been busy with a number of other items:

- A new Sponsorship Committee has been established to raise funds for the annual conferences since conference costs have been increasing rapidly and conference registration has become very expensive, especially for students. Bob Keane has agreed to serve as the Chair of the Committee. While the local hosts of annual conferences will mainly solicit funds from local sponsors, the Sponsorship Committee will help seek support from national and international sponsors, in addition to creating and maintaining a database of sponsors and potential sponsors. So far, USDA has expressed strong interest in supporting next year's conference. If you know of potential individuals and institutions who might be interested in supporting US-IALE conferences, please contact [Bob Keane](#).

- US-IALE is working to further enhance the excellent web site that Rebecca Kennedy and Matt Gregory have created and maintained for us. Sarah Gergel (Councillor-at-Large) has worked out a plan for the web enhancement together with Rebecca, Matt, Margaret Livingston, and the two student representatives (Martin Simard and Namrata Shrestha).

- Matt Baker (Councillor-at-Large) is now serving as Chair of the Meeting Site Selection Committee and is exploring the possible sites for our 2011 and 2012 conferences. If you or someone that you know would be interested in hosting either of the conferences, please email [Matt Baker](#).

US-IALE is expanding its efforts to address some important societal issues relevant to landscape ecology. US-IALE has been a part of the American Institute of

Biological Sciences (AIBS). Tom Crow (former US-IALE President) represents US-IALE on the AIBS Council. The Executive Committee of US-IALE has recently approved Tom's recommendation for US-IALE to join [COPUS](#) (Coalition on the Public Understanding of Science). "COPUS is a grassroots initiative to unite diverse scientific stakeholders in an effort to improve the general scientific literacy and engagement among the public." Many AIBS member societies and organizations are among COPUS' 222 active participants. It does not involve a fee but does demonstrate a commitment by US-IALE to become an active participant in this growing network. A major activity of COPUS is the Year of Science 2009.

The continued success of US-IALE depends on everyone's contribution and involvement. Any suggestions, comments, or questions related to US-IALE are always welcome and appreciated. If you have not renewed your membership, please [renew now](#). Also, please invite your interested colleagues, friends, and students to join US-IALE. If you have any questions about the membership, please email [Pat Zollner](#) (Chair of the Membership Committee).

Many thanks. Hope you have a productive and relaxed summer.

NASA-MSU Workshop Featured in ESA Bulletin

In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the NASA-MSU Professional Enhancement Awards Program at the 2007 US-IALE meeting in Tucson, Arizona, a panel of seven newly minted landscape ecologists was assembled for a half-day workshop for graduate students titled, "Job hunting experiences of recent graduates." Almost all panel members are past recipients of the NASA-MSU awards themselves, and regular

(Continued on page 11)

#1 most viewed article
in the recent Ecological
Society Bulletin

2008 US-IALE Symposium in Madison, WI

The 23rd annual US-IALE landscape ecology symposium was held April 6-10, 2008 in Madison, Wisconsin, and was a resounding success. A total of 401 registrants attended, making this one of the larger meetings in recent years. The meeting theme, **Landscape Patterns and Ecosystem Processes**, reflected a current frontier in ecosystem and landscape ecology and provided a unifying umbrella for the plenary speakers, including Drs. Gary Lovett, Kim With, Steve Carpenter and Jon Foley. In addition to excellent keynote addresses, there were exciting workshops, field trips, symposia and contributed talks and posters that appealed to a broad spectrum of landscape ecologists. All participants appreciated the superb efforts of Sarah Goslee, Program Chair for the 2008 meeting.

The diversity of topics represented this year was a feature that elicited positive comments from many of the attendees. Symposia provided a vehicle for introducing US-IALE to many first-time attendees who found the meeting to be engaging and enjoyable. There was a total of 103 symposium presentations spread across 10 symposiums. A special symposium in honor of Ron Pulliam (page 4) was a huge success. Oral sessions (152) and posters (109) addressed many state-of-the-art topics, including the landscape ecology of infectious diseases, insect outbreaks and invasive species; challenges of modeling forest landscapes under climate change; complex socio-ecological systems; sustainable development and poverty alleviation in developing countries; and landscape genetics. As always, there was excellent participation by graduate students at the meeting (151 student registrants), which is a sure indicator of the vitality of the field.

Pre-meeting workshops were well attended. The US-IALE graduate student representatives, Martin Simard and Deahn Donner-Wright, organized a workshop on grant proposal writing that was attended by many students and postdocs. A panel of experienced senior scientists provided an insider's view of the many aspects of the

granting process. Other workshops focused a variety of current or emerging areas, including landscape genetics, ecosystem modeling, estimating resource selection functions and managing digital data.

Field trips introduced participants to the ecology of several local landscapes, despite the uncooperative weather. Springtime in the upper Midwest can be unpredictable, and this year was no exception. Although pleasant weather welcomed the participants, and Monona Terrace offered a front-row seat to the breakup of ice in Lake Monona, heavy rains developed for the half-day and full-day trips. Luckily, the enthusiasm of the field trip leaders and over 100 participants carried the day—see the report from the bike trip for some proof that landscape ecologists are a resilient bunch!

In addition, to learning more about the science and management of landscapes, meeting participants enjoyed an array of opportunities for networking and enjoying downtown Madison. There was an opening mixer at Monona Terrace, a graduate student social at a local microbrewery, the NASA-MSU banquet, the conference banquet and a brewery tour. The conference venue itself was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and finally built in the 1990s; it was ideal in terms of its size and location—right on the shores of Lake Monona—as well as for its architecture. In addition, the state capitol, several museums and many restaurants were just a short walk away from the convention center, permitting attendees to enjoy some of Madison's cultural and culinary offerings.

For more information on the 2008 symposium and to view the program and abstracts, please visit the US-IALE [web site](#). We sincerely thank the many people who contributed to the success of this year's meeting and look forward to future meetings. See you next year in Utah.

Monica Turner and Phil Townsend
University of Wisconsin
Local Co-hosts



Steve Carpenter delivers the banquet plenary address in Madison, WI during the 2008 Conference.

Retirement Symposium a Successful Experiment

In response to the call from the Executive Committee of US-IALE for more diverse symposia at annual conferences, we experimented with a symposium in honor of Dr. H. Ronald Pulliam on the occasion of his “retirement” (a transition from a formal job to more active writing). Dr. Pulliam is Regents Professor Emeritus in the Odum School of Ecology at the University of Georgia, former President of the Ecological Society of America, and recipient of many prestigious honors and awards including the Distinguished Landscape Ecologist Award from US-IALE. He was also a plenary speaker and banquet speaker at past US-IALE conferences. Dr. Pulliam has made seminal contributions to ecology, animal behavior, evolution, and sustainable management of natural resources.

The symposium was entitled “Sources, Sinks, and Sustainability across Landscapes.” It focused on research and applications inspired by one of Dr. Pulliam’s classic papers “Sources, sinks, and population regulation” (*American Naturalist*, 1988, 132 (5):652-661). The symposium attracted an excellent “cast of characters,” all of whom have been mentored by Dr. Pulliam or otherwise influenced by him professionally.

They presented work motivated by Dr. Pulliam’s ideas on sources, sinks, and sustainability (e.g., persistence of populations and species across heterogeneous landscapes). More information about the symposium is available at the [web site](#). A book based on this symposium is being edited for Cambridge University Press.

Because the experiment was such a great success, the Executive Committee of US-IALE encourages more symposia of this type to be organized at future annual conferences. Possible themes might again honor a retiree and/or reflect the latest progress in important topics with a goal to motivate young generations to advance landscape ecology, and attract leading scientists who might otherwise not attend US-IALE conferences.

Jianguo (Jack) Liu and Vanessa Hull
Michigan State University
Anita Morzillo
U.S. EPA
John Wiens
The Nature Conservancy

“Sources, Sinks, and Sustainability across Landscapes.”



Symposium participants with honored guest Ron Pulliam.

Foreign Scholar Travel Award

This year, the FSTA committee awarded \$1200 travel awards to two foreign scholars. Jian Peng, a post-doctoral researcher in the College of Urban & Environmental Studies at Peking University, presented research about the performance of landscape metrics. Simone Freitas, a post-doctoral fellow in the Ecology Department at the University of Sao Paulo, presented research on roads and land use dynamics in Brazil.

I also want to acknowledge the continued support of Springer Books, Island Press, ESRI and Clark Labs for their generous support of our annual silent auction. The FSTA program would not exist without the support of these donors and US-IALE membership. Please continue your support

of the FSTA by participating in the book auction and patronizing the booksellers and exhibitors next spring in Utah.

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.

Next year, leadership of the Foreign Scholar Travel Award committee will painlessly transition to Deahn Donner-Wright.

Sam Riffell

FSTA Committee Chair

Arboretum and Capital Springs Bike Field Trip

With rentals from Machinery Row Bicycles near the US-IALE meeting site at Monona Terrace, about 24 riders set off for a 21-mile loop through the UW Arboretum, then along the Capital City State Trail, which traverses beautiful marshland, creek bottoms, fens, prairie, and pine and oak-hickory forests. The field trip attracted an outstanding group of hearty riders, who maintained good spirits despite temperatures barely above freezing and a cold drizzle pelting us most of the way. Riders were rewarded with views of two of Madison's lakes (complete with ice floes!), glimpses of loons, wild turkeys, and white-tailed deer, and a very welcome hot chocolate stop near

the 18-mile mark. A few riders turned back after the Arboretum, others took a straight shot back from the half-way point, but at least a dozen continued around the loop. Whatever route chosen, all arrived back to the conference safe and sound, even if a bit wet and chilled.

Field trip was co-coordinated & led by Tom Albright and Janet Silbernagel. John Harrington and Patrick Culbert were volunteer guides and bike support on the trail. Tzu-fen (Belle) Li and Mark Wegner provided back up van support and hot cocoa.

Janet Silbernagel
Tom Albright

Ice floes, loons and hot chocolate—just a few highlights of the field trip.



2008 Award Winners

Big congratulations to the following 2008 Award winners, announced at the annual banquet held on April 8th in Madison.

Outstanding Paper in Landscape Ecology (2007)

The committee reviews nominations for papers published during the past year that make an outstanding contribution to the literature of the field of landscape ecology. This year we selected **Falk, D.A., C. Miller, D. McKenzie, and A.E. Black's** (2007) study on fire patterns in forests of western North America across spatial scales: Cross-Scale Analysis of Fire Regimes, *Ecosystems*, 10:809-823. Co-authors Carol Miller and Donald McKenzie were at the Awards banquet to receive the award.

Two papers received **Outstanding Paper in Landscape Ecology Honorable Mention Awards**:

Gobster, P.H., J.I. Nassauer, T.C. Daniel, and G. Fry. 2007. The shared landscape: what does aesthetics have to do with ecology? *Landscape Ecology* 22:959-972.

Koper, N., F.K.A. Schmiegelow, and E.H. Merrill. 2007. Residuals cannot distinguish between ecological effects of habitat amount and fragmentation: implications for the debate. *Landscape Ecology* 22:811-820.

Joan Nassauer was at the Awards banquet to receive the award on behalf of Gobster et al.

2008 Student Presentation Award

This year 20 students registered to have their papers considered for this award and 40 judges evaluated the student presentations (at least 3 reviews per student) during the Annual Symposium in Madison. The Awards committee is pleased to announce two winners of the 2008 Best Student Presentation Award:

Bronwyn Rayfield, University of Toronto

Identifying potential movement pathways in fragmented landscapes: incorporating uncertainty in landscape resistance (oral presentation)

Sarah Olson, University of Wisconsin

Malaria patterns and hydrology in the Amazon - will land use and cover changes alter risk? (poster presentation)

Many thanks to all the student participants and especially to the judges who make the student award program possible: John Bradford, Kimberley Brososfske, Jiquan Chen, Kirsten de Beurs, Diane Debinski, Paula Dias, Thomas Dilts, Ashton Drew, James Forester, Urs Gimmi, Alessandro Gimona, Eric Gustafson, Geoff Henebry, Falk Huettmann, Margareta Ihse, Dan Kashian, Margot Kaye, Ed Laurent, Rachel Loehman, Todd Lookingbill, Anna Marburg, Don McKenzie, Brenden McNeil, Ross Meentemeyer, Carol Miller, Emily Minor, Anita Morzillo, Jian Peng, Bryan Pijanowski, Roy Plotnick, Kevin Potter, Anantha Prasad, Vanessa Quinn, Jeanine Rheumtulla, Sam Riffell, Sari Saunders, Brian Sturtevant, Mike Wimberly, Joy Wolf, and Pat Zollner.

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

Finally, we thank the outgoing members of the Awards Committee: Jack Ahern, Margaret Livingston, and Janet Silbernagel for their years of dedicated service! We thank Geoff Henebry for serving as transitional chair for this past year. Concurrently, we welcome Pete August (URI) and Jeff Hollister (US EPA) as new members.

The 2008 US-IALE Awards Committee

Anita Morzillo (Chair)

Pete August

Geoff Henebry

Jeff Hollister

Steven Walters

Falk, Miller, McKenzie and Black's *Ecosystems* article on forest fire patterns receives Outstanding Paper in Landscape Ecology (2007)

Rayfield and Olsen get the Best Student Presentation Awards

NASA-MSU Program



NASA-MSU Awardees with Bob Gardner (outgoing Chair) and Anita Morzillo (NASA-MSU co-chair) on the far left and Jack Liu (current Chair and co-chair NASA-MSU) on the far right.

2008 NASA-MSU Awardees

Christopher Barber	South Dakota State University
Jacqueline Bolli	Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Switzerland
Dawn Browning	University of Arizona
Amélie Davis	Purdue University
Vudipong Davivongs	University of Tokyo, Japan
Cerian Gibbes	University of Florida
Tabitha Graves	Northern Arizona University
Sarah Hinners	University of Colorado at Boulder
Patrick James	University of Toronto, Canada
Ranjeet John	University of Toledo
Page Klug	Kansas State University
Nan Lu	University of Toledo
Heather Lumpkin	Bethel College
Mariko Miyamoto	University of Tokyo, Japan
Theresa Nogeire	University of California at Santa Barbara
Bronwyn Rayfield	University of Toronto, Canada
Andre Sanfiorenzo	Tropical Agricultural Research & Higher Education Center, Costa Rico
Wenwu Tang	University of Iowa
Mao-Ning Tuanmu	Michigan State University
Molly VanAppledorn	Utah State University
Mary Williams	University of Minnesota
Benjamin Zuckerberg	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Global representation for
this years NASA-MSU
Awardees

[Link to NASA-MSU Program](#)

Student News and Notes

Applying for fellowships and grants: tips from the pros



Student Representatives:
Martin Simard
Namrata Shrestha (incoming student representative)

Student activities at the 2008 Annual Symposium in Madison were a huge success, with a total of more than 100 participants attending the student workshop, student social, and mentor lunch. This year, we offered a free workshop entitled *Applying for fellowships and grants: tips from the pros* to continue our series of professional development workshops. Special thanks to our invited speakers Jack Liu, Jiquan Chen, Rick Lindroth, Emily Stanley, and Michael Bowers, who took their Sunday morning to share their experience and perspective on this important topic. The workshop was free of charge thanks to a NASA-MSU sponsorship from Jack Liu.

The student social, conveniently close to the convention center this year, provided a nice opportunity for old/new students to meet and exchange. Food and drinks were again provided by the Society. The student-mentor lunch was attended by 92 students and 49 mentors, who were paired by mentor professional affiliation/student career goals. Although we tried to balance the student/mentor ratios at the tables, there were inevitably some tables that had fewer mentors than others because of the imbalance between students' demands and available mentors. But overall the lunch was again a success this year.

Our goal for the coming year, in addition to pursue the student activities for next

year's meeting, is to substantially increase US-IALE's website content for students and make it easier to navigate. We plan to create a whole new section containing materials from past workshops, structured information about student awards, etc. This effort is part of a broader effort to revamp the structure and content of the US-IALE website. If you have any suggestions about what the student section should contain, we'd like to hear from you!

Please welcome Namrata Shrestha as the new student representative for 2008-09. Namrata is currently pursuing her doctoral degree at the University of Toronto. Her research focus is on the ecological and conservation implications of exurban development on the landscape and its elements. We would like to thank Deahn Donner-Wright for her hard work and time over the last two years. She brought many ideas to the position and to the Executive Committee on behalf of student interests.

Please feel free to email [Martin Simard](#) or [Namrata Shrestha](#) with student questions or concerns. We would particularly like to hear from you if you have suggestions for the student-mentor lunch and the student section of the website. Have a good summer!

Martin Simard
Namrata Shrestha



New Committee Members: Lisa Schulte, Matt Baker and Sarah Gergel
(Top left clockwise)

Welcome New Executive Committee Members

The following candidates were elected to positions on the US-IALE Executive Committee on 8 April 2008:

Treasurer: Lisa Schulte

Councillors-at-Large: Matthew Baker & Sarah Gergel

Student Representative: Namrata Shrestha

Online voting began on March 1 and concluded the day before the banquet (Apr. 7). Because only 3 votes had been cast as of Apr. 6 and since the only uncontested position was that of the Student Rep, paper bal-

lots were distributed at the Student Social on Apr. 6. Thirty paper ballots were tallied. Election results were announced at the banquet (Apr. 8).

Thanks to the Nominating Committee (Sam Riffell, Lisa Schulte, and Pat Zollner), the Student Reps (Deahn Donner-Wright and Martin Simard), online voting webmaster Matt Gregory, and to all of the nominees for agreeing to run.

Nancy McIntyre,
Committee Chair

Message from Outgoing Chair - Bob Gardner

The 2006 annual meeting in San Diego was the beginning of my term as chair-elect of US IALE; the annual meeting this year in Madison concluded my 2-year term as chair. This “tour of duty” proved to be very enjoyable and productive! The teamwork and collaboration among the executive committee was exceptional, and, I’m sure you’ll agree, together with a host of volunteers, they successfully planned and executed a wonderful series of annual meetings in San Diego, Tucson and Madison.

I wish to thank all of these people for filling the last three years with memorable experiences and rewarding interactions among our colleagues engaged in landscape studies. On several occasions I’ve heard people remark that the science of Landscape Ecology in the United States has grown and matured over the last 25 years, largely due to leadership role provided by US IALE and its members who teach and advise students, serve on scientific and editorial boards, and advance our science through research and publication.

Considerable credit is due to all the past officers of US IALE for their dedication and vision. I would like to particularly thank Pete August whose example and mentorship provided a smooth transition between “administrations.” I’m also pleased that our new chair, Jack Liu, along with the current executive board, are interested, engaged and very capable of continuing to make US IALE grow and flourish in its role of advancing landscape ecology.

Reflecting on the growth of US IALE—especially as we approach our 25th anniversary celebration in 2010—leads to consideration of new challenges and prospects. I would like to suggest that US IALE consider a more active role in advancing landscape ecology beyond the borders of the United States. Perhaps we should be more active in promoting interaction with our neighbors in North and South America?

A special opportunity has presented itself: The first IALE Conference to be

held in Latin America is being planned for October 4-7, 2009, in [Campos do Jordão, Brazil](#). Meeting success will require considerable external support. I have been communicating with Jean Paul Metzger, president of the Brazilian chapter of IALE, who has taken the lead in planning this meeting. Together with interested colleagues we have obtained commitments to date of \$1000 for scholarships support for Latin American students to attend this meeting. Perhaps you would also like to participate in this effort? Or perhaps you would like to attend this meeting? If so, please watch for additional announcements on our US IALE [web page](#).

Although my official duties as an officer of US IALE have ended, I have assumed a new role as Chairman of the Council of IALE. The Council attempts to coordinate the activities of IALE chapters around the globe. Following last year’s successful World Congress in Wageningen, Bruce Jones, the president of IALE, and the IALE executive committee are updating the goals and objectives for IALE and will shortly unveil a new web page that will be content oriented. Remember, news items regarding IALE activities around the globe can be found [online](#).

IALE is a volunteer organization. Your input and ideas for both the US and for international IALE are welcome. Please let me know how you would like to be involved!

Bob Gardner
Outgoing US IALE Chair



Bob Gardner, outgoing US IALE Chair (2006-2008) on left with Jingle Wu, Editor Landscape Ecology Journal, and Bruce Jones, current IALE President at 2007 [IALE World Congress](#)

Conference Site Selection

2009 Snowbird, Utah
2010 Athens, Georgia

The Site Selection Committee helps identify locations and hosts for the US-IALE annual meeting. In addition, the committee works to facilitate and support communication between meeting planners and the broader society. Under the direction of Lisa Schulte, the committee recently completed an update of the planning guide for the US-IALE annual meetings. The planning guide provides suggestions, timelines, checklists and a record of lessons-learned from past US-IALE meetings. The update benefited greatly from helpful suggestions as well as the accumulated insight and experience of many past hosts, program chairs, and US-IALE officers.

A primary objective of this process was to streamline the document to more accurately reflect changes in the way current meetings are organized, and to include the relatively new role of the professional meeting planning services provided over the past few years by Delaney Meeting and Event Management. The support from Delaney

Meeting and Event Management is intended to reduce the organizational demands on the local meeting host and program chair, making it easier, more efficient, and more fun to host an annual meeting.

The committee has also expanded its timeline for meeting planning to a 4 year time-horizon. Thus, with Snowbird, Utah in 2009 hosted by John Bissonette and Tom Edwards of the USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Utah State University, and Athens, Georgia in 2010 hosted by Gary and Terry Barrett of the University of Georgia, the committee is currently considering sites for 2011 as well as entertaining suggestions for 2012 and beyond, including potential sites that encourage broader participation by colleagues in Canada and Mexico. Any and all suggestions are welcome!!! Please email [Matt Baker](mailto:Matt.Baker@usgs.gov).

Matt Baker, Chair
 Site Selection Committee



Athens Georgia, site of the 25th Anniversary US IALE Annual Symposium in 2010 (visitusa.com)

2009 US IALE Symposium - Snowbird, Utah

“Coupling Humans and Complex Ecological Landscapes” is the theme for the US IALE Conference April 12-16 in Snowbird. Local hosts are John Bissonette and Tom Edwards and local sponsors are US Geological Survey, and the College of Natural Sciences and the Ecology Center both at Utah State University. Note: Deadline for workshops and symposia is September 15th, 2008!

Snowbird is a world renowned winter skiing and summer destination. The conference will be held at the Snowbird Conference Center, a place frequented by ecological conferences. In addition to the meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to practice their skiing or snowshoeing techniques

as well as enjoy spring hiking.

John and Tom are also busy planning field trips to explore Utah’s amazing landscape. Tentative trips include Utah’s Red Rock country, the Great Salt Lake ecosystem, shrubbe/steppe restoration and urban-wildland interface. They have also successfully recruited local funding to help defray conference expenses for students.

The conference link will soon become ‘live’ on the US IALE website. In the event you would like additional information, email conference organizers at iale2009info@cnr.usu.edu.

John Bissonette and Tom Edwards
 Conference and Program Chairs



Snowbird, the location for the 2009 US IALE Symposium

Editor's Report on Landscape Ecology

Free Access to Recent Editorials

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the journal, *Landscape Ecology*, a series of editorials by leading landscape ecologists has recently been published to reflect on the past, present and future of the field. All these editorials are now freely accessible [online](#).

- [Past, present and future of landscape ecology.](#) [Jianguo Wu](#)
- [Landscape ecology and sustainability.](#) [Zev Naveh](#)
- [Reflecting upon 25 years of landscape ecology.](#) [Marc Antrop](#)
- [Deconstructing and reassembling the landscape system.](#) [Paul Opdam](#)
- [World congress highlights need for action.](#) [Robert H. Gardner](#), [Fred Jopp](#), [Geoff J. Cary](#) and [Peter H. Verburg](#)
- [Allerton Park 1983: the beginnings of a paradigm for landscape ecology?](#) [John A. Wiens](#)

- [The urban region: natural systems in our place, our nourishment, our home range, our future.](#) [Richard T. T. Forman](#)
- [Expanding the bridging capability of landscape ecology.](#) [Bojie Fu](#), [Yihe Lü](#) and [Liding Chen](#)
- [Landscape ecology: perspectives based on the 2007 IALE world congress.](#) [Jean Paul Metzger](#)

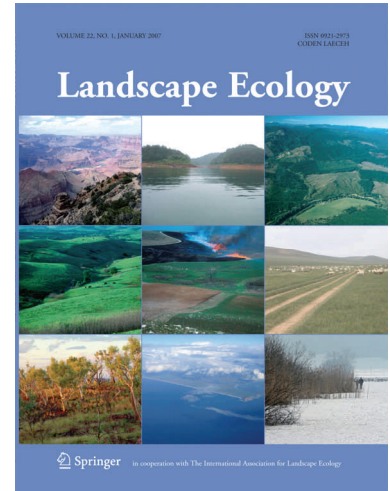
Note: Articles and Editorial PLUS authors above are hot-linked!

EndNote and RTF Available for All Papers Published in Landscape Ecology

A complete list of all papers published in *Landscape Ecology* since 1987 can be downloaded [here](#) in two formats: Word (RTF) and EndNote. These files will be updated periodically.

Jianguo (Jingle) Wu

Editor-in-Chief, *Landscape Ecology*



NASA-MSU Workshop Article

(Continued from page 2)

attendees of the US-IALE conference. The first part of the workshop involved a panel discussion, during which panel members discussed their individual career paths and career-related decisions. The panel discussion was followed by an opportunity for workshop participants to ask panelists questions about careers, career choices, personal decisions affecting career choices, and advice for graduate students about planning ahead for future career-related decisions.

Following the conference, the seven panel members compiled topics covered during and feedback from the workshop into a paper published recently in the [Bulletin](#) of the Ecological Society of America (i.e., ESA Bulletin). The topics covered in the manu-

script, “A young scientist’s guide to gainful employment: recent graduates’ experiences and successful strategies,” are broadly applicable across ecological disciplines, and are arranged into four topic areas: 1) self promotion, 2) personal considerations, 3) the application process, and 4) keeping it all in perspective.

Full citation: Morzillo, A.T., J.W. Hollister, C. A. Drew, M.E. Rocca, M.E. Baker, J.M. Bossenbroek, and C.A. Mazzarella. 2008. A young scientist’s guide to gainful employment: recent graduates’ experiences and successful strategies. *Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America* 89(2):193-203. ([pdf](#))

Anita Morzillo
Jeff Hollister

US IALE Membership Survey Results

The membership committee of US IALE is charged with investigating a worrisome pattern of declining enrollment and then to develop a plan to reverse this trend. Towards this end during the past year the membership committee of US IALE developed an online survey that was distributed to the membership and to attendees from many past meetings. This survey was designed to elucidate correlates with membership patterns so we could understand mechanisms underlying declining membership. The survey was deployed on survey monkey with the invaluable assistance of Matt Gregory.

We received responses from 166 people including 120 current members and 19 former members and 27 people who had never been members of US IALE. Matt Luck then analyzed the responses of the respondents to reveal the following general trends. Respondents considered the dues structure of US IALE reasonable and did not generally perceive that as a barrier to membership. Respondents felt strongly that attendance of the annual meeting of US IALE was the most valuable benefit of membership and greatly appreciated the relatively small size of the annual meeting as making our annual meeting even more valuable. However, most members can only afford to attend a single meeting each year and dropped memberships generally corresponded to people who do not attend the US IALE meeting for several years in a row.

The other challenge to retaining members is related to the continued involvement of student members following their completion of their respective program of study. Some student members discontinue their involvement because landscape ecology as a discipline is not relevant to the employment they find following graduate. However other recent graduates continue to identify landscape ecology as valuable to their work but many of them invest their limited energy in other professional societies as their primary academic home following graduation.

So the challenge we face is to recruit these students as landscape ecologists first

and foremost rather than as academics who perceive landscape ecology as complimentary to the other relevant disciplines in which they work.

The multi disciplinary nature of landscape ecology was identified as a real strength of US IALE by many respondents but this analysis suggests that this strength is also a weakness in terms of retaining the investment by academics that have other natural homes for their work. Additionally, responses to the survey suggest that practitioners of landscape ecology and other employed in positions of applied ecology are an underserved population that would be potentially interested in more actively participating in US IALE if it offered programs that more directly addressed their needs. The size of this committee has now been greatly expanded and during the next year this larger group will collectively brain storm specific actions that US IALE might undertake to improve both recruitment and retention of members in order to reverse the downward trend in membership.

We will report plans for such specific steps to the executive committee as we develop them. Feedback on any of these ideas from the general membership is welcome and can be [emailed](#) directly to the Membership Committee chair.

Pat Zollner, Chair
Membership Committee

Want to joins US-IALE?

Want to renew your membership?

Not sure of the status of your membership?

[US IALE MEMBERSHIP](#)

Click above for answers to all of your membership questions

Treasurers Report

I am pleased to report that our finances continue to be relatively stable and our net worth has increased. Our total expenses in 2007 increased to approximately \$44,000 a year due to a change in accounting for symposium expenses and income for the event. Our operating expenses were just slightly higher than 2006, about \$8700, and this was largely due to a need for additional web services. Last year's annual symposium

in Tucson, AZ showed a fantastic profit of about \$22,500 (income and FSTA book auction sales). In summary, our income for the year was approximately \$24,000. Subsequently, we have increased funding for student and foreign travel awards

Let me know if you have any questions.

Margaret Livingston
Treasurer

Healthy financial situation helps student and foreign travel awards.

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Matt Baker

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Have a question for US-IALE? — contact any member of the Executive Committee

New US-IALE Sponsorship Committee

Conference costs are skyrocketing and conference registration is becoming prohibitively expensive, especially for students. A possible way to lower the registration fees is to increase revenue for the annual conference by obtaining sponsorship from a wide variety of organizations such as government agencies, companies, and educational institutions that support landscape ecology.

The purpose of this new committee is to contact and recruit possible sponsors for the annual US-IALE conferences, and develop and maintain a database of possible sponsors.

This committee will contact government agencies, educational institutions, private companies, non-governmental organizations, and other entities to determine if they would be interested in sponsoring the annual conference. All interested and non-interested organizations will be entered in a database that will be maintained by this committee. This database will be shared with conference organizers, local hosts, meeting planner, US-IALE President and Treasurer, and others who may be helpful to obtain support. Local hosts can also provide the committee with sponsor contact information.

The committee will also write proposals to potential sponsors as needed. The sponsorship committee is responsible for soliciting funding from national and international sponsors, while the local conference organization committee and local hosts are responsible for soliciting funding from local sponsors. The efforts of soliciting funding will be assisted by the US-IALE Executive Committee (especially President and Treasurer), meeting planner, other US-IALE members and friends.

Tasks:

- **Develop sponsorship guidelines.** Prepare a document that contains the specifics involved in sponsorship including the following:
- **Levels of sponsorship.** The Sponsorship level would be tied to commensurate cost and benefit specifications. For example, there might be five sponsorship levels with the lowest set at \$250 and that would sponsor a conference session, while another might be \$1000 and that would sponsor a key-note presentation
- **Financial guidelines.** Details on how the sponsor would give the funds to US-IALE
- **Benefits of sponsorship.** Details on what the sponsorship gives to the sponsor.
- **Create a sponsor database.** Develop a database with the contact information of all past, current, and future sponsors, and those interested in sponsoring.
- **Contact sponsors.** Start the development of the database by contacting possible sponsors.

Committee Membership (2008-2010):

Members of the committee will serve a two-year rotation while maintaining continuity.

Bob Keane (Chair), US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, rkeane@fs.fed.us

Paul Hessburg, US Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station,

Brian R. Sturtevant, US Forest Service, Northern Research Station, bsturtevant@fs.fed.us

Jerry A. Griffith, University of Southern Mississippi, griffith@usm.edu

Laura R. Musacchio, University of Minnesota, musac003@umn.edu

Kathryn Lindsay, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Kathryn.Lindsay@ec.gc.ca

Become a Sponsor of a US-IALE Conference

Why sponsor the US-IALE Annual conference?

To represent your organization in the rapidly growing field of landscape ecology

To publicize your organization to world-class landscape ecologists, students, and scientists, and practitioners.

To advertise your organization and its products to landscape ecology professionals and develop new markets

To attract potential employees, collaborators, and graduate students.

What does sponsorship entail?

Conference sponsorship can take many forms. Organizations can pay for standard conference costs such as audio visual, coffee services, and internet fees. Organizations can also provide funds at several levels and each level represents a different level of acknowledgement for your organizations.

What else do I get for my sponsorship?

Your sponsorship will be acknowledged in the Conference Program Book. Sponsors will also be acknowledged on our web site (with links to sponsors' web sites depending on level of sponsorship) and newsletters. Your representative(s) attending our conferences will be given name tags with color ribbons as sponsors.

How do I sponsor the US-IALE conference?

Provide your contact information to the current [treasurer of US-IALE](#) and he/she will provide you detailed instructions on how to sponsor a conference including how to provide payment. Government sponsors will be provided with the information to successfully send funds to the conference organizers.

Global Level -- \$5,000 and above

Opening Reception and Poster Reception Sponsorship

Company banner at the event clearly visible for all attendees to see

Company sign at sponsored event

Free exhibition booth (\$600 value)

Two free conference registrations (\$600 value)

Verbal recognition at general sessions

Full page ad/acknowledgement in the program (\$500 value)

Announcement at the banquet

Listing in the final conference program

Web link from the US-IALE web site to your web site

Continental Level -- \$2,000 to \$5,000

Banquet Sponsorship

Company banner at event clearly visible for all attendees to see

Company sign at sponsored event

Free exhibition booth (\$600 value)

One free conference registrations (\$300 value)

Verbal recognition at general sessions

Half page ad and acknowledgement in the conference program (\$250 value)

Announcement at the banquet

Listing in the final conference program

Web link from the US-IALE web site to your web site

Regional Level -- \$1,000

Lunch Sponsorship (There are two lunches)

Sponsor lunch on one of the days

Company sign at sponsored event

Acknowledgement in the final program

Keynote Sponsorships (There are usually two keynotes)

Sponsor a keynote presentation

Company sign at sponsored event

Company recognized for sponsorship in introduction

Acknowledgement in the final program

Ecosystem Level -- \$500

Continental Breakfast Sponsorships (There are three breakfasts)

Sponsor breakfast on one of the days

Company sign at sponsored event

Acknowledgement in the final program

Symposium and Oral Session Sponsorships (There are many sessions)

Sponsor any symposium during the conference

Company sign at sponsored symposium

Acknowledgement in the final program

Patch Level -- \$250

Coffee break Sponsorships (There are usually six breaks)

Sponsor a coffee break during the conference

Company sign at sponsored break

Acknowledgement in the final program

Ads in the Conference Program

All ads need to be black & white, camera ready or will not be included

Full Page ad (8.0" x 11") - \$500.00

Half page ad (8.0" x 5.5") - \$250.00

Conference Exhibitor - \$600

Conference booth space

Registration reduction for one attendee

Listing in the final program

US-IALE's purpose is to

- foster landscape ecology in the United States
- provide a link among practitioners in landscape ecology within the United States as well as the international community
- promote interdisciplinary research and communication among scientists, planners, and other professionals concerned with landscape ecology

Who Would Benefit from US-LALE Membership?

*Landscape Architects
Land and Nature Managers
Land Use Planners
GIS Specialists
Wildlife Biologists*

*Ecologists
Conservation Biologists
Biogeographers
Spatial Statisticians
Ecosystem Modelers*



[US LALE on the Web](#)



[IALE on the Web](#)