

Bulletin

International Association for Landscape Ecology

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

John A. Wiens

At the Toulouse congress, and then again at the U.S. IALE meetings last March in Galveston, Texas, several people asked me "Why should I become a member of IALE?". My initial response was that landscape ecology is an important, dynamic discipline and that therefore one should support their primary professional organization. But I thought some more about it, and realized that, while this is true, IALE should offer its members more tangible benefits. While our dues are quite modest when measured against almost any other professional society, members should still feel that they are receiving something in return for their investment.

There are, indeed, a number of quite tangible benefits of IALE membership; reduced subscription rates to Landscape Ecology, discounted registration fees at Regional and World IALE meetings, receipt of the IALE Bulletin, to name just a few. But I think that there are broader and more important reasons for IALE membership. Landscape ecology is growing rapidly and commanding an increasing attention in a variety of circles – land managers, politicians, conservation biologists, ecologists, and the like. Its strength, as I have said before, is in its diversity. By providing a framework in which landscape ecologists of various sorts may communicate with one another, discuss critical issues, publish their ideas, and establish a regional identity, IALE can play a pivotal role in fostering the growth of landscape ecology, both as a professional activity and as a scientific and intellectual pursuit.

This is all well and good, but the critical step is to put such principles to practice. The IALE Executive Committee is actively pursuing several ideas to enhance the central role of IALE in the development of landscape ecology, and we will use these pages to keep you informed of our progress. We would also welcome your suggestions of how IALE can become more effective in promoting landscape ecology and serving its membership. Please communicate your ideas to any members of the Executive Committee; my e-mail address is jaws@lamar.colostate.edu.

MEETING OF THE IALE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Several members of the IALE Executive Committee met at Wageningen, the Netherlands, in early September, to discuss how the effectiveness of the organization could be improved. We focused on future activities, including:

 Developing closer ties with the journal Landscape Ecology and exploring the feasibility of further reductions in subscription rates for certain classes of members

 Enlarging the IALE Bulletin by, among others, including essays on topics of interest in landscape ecology and frequent reports of regional activities

 Enhancing IALE membership and making it easier for interested individuals to become IALE members (eg. credit card payments of fees)

 Developing a new and user-friendly membership list which may enhance contacts among individuals with shared interests

 Facilitating the formation of more Regional Chapters, especially in areas where interest in landscape ecology is growing rapidly

 Strengthening the role of landscape ecology and of IALE in the upcoming INTECOL meetings, to be held in Italy in 1998

 Developing an information brochure and a web site on the Internet, so that interested individuals can obtain more information about landscape ecology and about IALE

Please contact any of the Executive Committee members if you have comments or suggestions about IALE activities.

CONTENTS OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE IALE (UK) MEETING: The Spatial Dynamics of Biodiversity

Introduction

Gary Fry. A landscape perspective of biodiversity

Part 1. Spatial scale – where do the spatial processes lie?

Sandrine Petit, Francoise Burel and Ian Moffat. Landscape control on metapopulations: the case of forest carabids in hedgerow networks

Ian Gordon. Multiple-scale impacts of large herbivore grazing and biodiversity management in the uplands

Part 2. From pattern to process - beyond habitat mapping

Colin Barr, Bob Bunce, Rob Fuller, M.K. Gillespie and David Howard. The choice of species used with "Countryside Survey 1990" data to examine pattern in GB Richard Aspinall. Issues in mapping and measurement of diversity

Kevin Murphy. Functional analysis of biodiversity on Scottish agricultural land

Part 3. Principles to practice – biodiversity policy initiatives

SOAEFD. Biodiversity policy

Douglas Macmillan and David Harley. Economic analysis of biodiversity policies

Part 4. Landscape ecological approaches to biodiversity protection, case studies

Lowland farming

Jon Marshall, Jacques Baudry, George Thomas and C. Moonen. Field margin networks in lowland farmland. European perspectives and factors affecting floral biodiversity

Ancient woodland

Sallie Bailey, Roy Haines-Young and Chris Watkins. Landscape ecological approaches to biodiversity protection. Opportunities to protect the biodiversity of ancient woodland

Uplands

Peter Robertson. Grouse, heather and upland biodiversity

Mediterranean

Jala Makhzoumi. Spatial and biological diversity of the rural landscapes as a foundation for regional planning Freshwater ponds

John Boothby and Mary Swan. Biodiversity in dense pond landscapes: approaches and targets

Part 5. Contribution of landscape ecology to biodiversity protection

Ian Brotherton. Biodiversity, spatial extent and protectability

The proceedings can be ordered through Dr. John W. Dover, Hyerscough College, Bilsborough, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY, UK.

Fax: +44 (0)1995 640842

THE 2ND CHINA'S LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

The 2nd China's Landscape Ecology Symposium was held in Beijing on May 18-20. Attended by more than 80 delegates, including scientists, government officials, planners and designers, the symposium was jointly sponsored by ten institutions such as the Chinese Society of Ecology, Chinese Bureau of Environmental Protection, Beijing University, and the Shenyang Institute of Applied Ecology, to name but a few. The symposium focused on:

- 1. Landscape ecology and biodiversity conservation
- 2. The basic theories and methods in landscape ecology
- 3. Sustainable development and landscape ecology
- Landscape ecology application on agriculture and other fields
- Other macroecology issues

On the first day, important lectures were held, such as "Landscape ecology and biodiversity conservation in China" (Prof. Chen Changdu); "New progresses and perspectives in landscape ecology" (Prof. Xiao Duning); "Landscape diversity and landscape spatial pattern analysis" (Prof. Fu Bojie). On the second day, the meeting was divided into three groups, and three sub-topics were discussed: theories and methods of landscape ecology, tourism and urban landscape, and agricultural landscape and environmental pollution. On the third day, field investigation was arranged. The delegates visited an urban landscape, an agricultural landscape, and tourism landscape in the suburb of Beijing.

The IALE Bulletin is distributed six times a year to the members of the IALE. The IALE – International Association for Landscape Ecology—was founded in 1982 to promote communication between scientists, planners and interdisciplinary scientific research. IALE Executive Committee: President, John A. Wiens (USA), Fax: +1 870 491 0649, e-mail: jaws@lamar.colostate.edu; Past President, Henri Decamps (France); Vice-Presidents, Joan Iverson Nassauer (USA), Paul F.M. Opdam (The Netherlands), Almo Farina (Italy), Xiao Duning (China); Secretary General, Michael Mos, Faculty of Env. Science, Blackwood Hall, Trent Lane, University of Guelph, Ontario NIG 2W1, Canada, Tel: +1 519 824 4120, Fax: +1 519 763 4686, e-mail: mike@envsci.uoguelph.ca; Deputy Secretary General and Bulletin Editor, Jesper Brandt, Inst. of Geography & International Development Studies, Roskilde University, P.O. Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark, Tel: +45 46 757 781 ext. 2463, Fax: +45 46 753 970, e-mail: brandt@geo.ruc.dk; Treasurer, Rob Jongmann, WAU, Dept. of Physical Planning & Rural Development, Gen. Foulkesweg 13, NL-6703 Wageningen, The Netherlands, Tel: +31 317 483 713, Fax: +31 317 482 166, e-mail: rob.jongman@plano.rpv.wau.nl.

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The IALE China Branch was founded at the meeting, and the council was elected. Professor Chen Changdu from Beijing University was elected Honorary Chairman, Professor Xiao Duning from the Shenyang Institute of Applied Ecology, CAS, was elected Chairman, and Professor Fu Bojie from the Ecological and Environmental Center, CAS, was elected General Secretary. In all, 36 council members were elected.

by Li Tuansheng

LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY IN LATIN AMERICA

An invitation for contribution to the new non-profit electronic series for Landscape Ecology

All members are now invited to make contributions to the new electronic series for Landscape Ecology (see IALE Bulletin 14/4, August 1995), which will be freely distributed over the Internet, over e-mail by request, and on diskette by regular mail (postal expenses may be charged).

The first issue, edited by Eduardo Salinas Chavex, Facultad de Geografia, Universidad de La Habana, Cuba, and John Middleton, Environmental Policy Institute, Brock University, Canada, will have the title: Landscape Ecology as a tool for sustainable development in Latin America.

Table of Contents:

INTRODUCTION, (Gray Merriam, Past President, International Association for Landscape Ecology).

OVERVIEW, (the editors), What is Landscape Ecology? How does it relate to substainable development? What is the current state of Landscape Ecology in Latin America?

CASE STUDIES, Contributions will be included from across Latin America, from universities, governments, municipalities, NGOs, businesses, etc.

SUMMARY AND OVERVIEW, The editors will derive emergent lessons from the case studies.

MULTILINGUAL ABSTRACTS, Abstracts and short summaries of all chapters will be provided in at least both Spanish and English, and translation of abstracts or full papers into other languages (eg. Portuguese, French) will be encouraged to ensure that the results are accessible to practitioners throughout Latin America and beyond.

Criteria for acceptance of papers on case studies are described in detail at:

http://www.broeku.ca/epi/lebk.htm

Besides a list of technical, quality and outline requirements, a condition is included that the senior author for each paper should be a national resident in a Latin American country.

IALE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE Perspectives of rural landscapes in Europe Pärnu, Estonia, 20-23 June 1996

Reflections of a participant

"One day of talking, one day of walking ..."

The organising committee selected the theme "Landscape changes in Europe" for this conference. To think and discuss this problem, they found the right place (a nice quiet summer resort town in Southern Estonia), and the right time (midsummer, when the sun stands still for a moment, but not the Estonians!). The heavily loaded programme was packed into four days, from Thursday to Sunday, including one very useful and significant excursion in the middle, which continued in the social event of the celebration of the Jaaniohtu in midsummer. By the way, the IALE team won the contest. For those who had enough energy to continue, an excellent post-conference excursion permitted us to visit almost the whole of Estonia, which was also possible because the sun didn't "sleep" that much!

About 95 participants from twelve different countries attended the conference. It was most enjoyable and encouraging to see that many of them were young and very enthusiastic. About a dozen Ph.D students participated very actively. Clearly, small regional IALE meetings proved once again to be fruitful. The regional aspect cannot be given enough thought. Most participants came from the Scandinavian countries (including Iceland) and Baltic countries, the North Sea countries, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany (ie. North-Western Europe minus the UK), and some from the Czech Republic, Belarus, Ukraine (but not Poland, Slovakia, Russia, etc.). Distance, language and venue, seem to be important factors to be considered in the planning of European IALE activites.

The conference started with some keynote papers which gave an overview of some important factors to be considered when dealing with landscape change. Immediately it was very clear that all landscape ecological issues were very closely linked to the ones of sustainable land use (in ecological and economical sense), planning and human behaviour, landscape restoration and European policy making. A new "tradition" was spontaneously created by many speakers to offer a "landscape product", typical of their homeland as a symbolic gift to the conference chair. This stressed that landscapes also represent symbolic values and are greatly the result of human perception and behaviour, combining knowledge, feeling, aesthetics and economics.

The contributed papers and posters gave very striking examples of the great variety of problems dealing the landscape change, and stimulated continuous discussion about these topics during breaks and in the evenings. Many contributions pointed out, independently, that similar processes in landscape change are going in dif-

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6-8 January

International Conference on Land Management, London, UK. Contact Richard K Bullard, School of Surveying, University of East London, Longbridge Road, Dagenham, Essex RM82 AS, UK, tel: +44 191 590 7722, fax: +44 181 849 3618, e-mail: Bullard@uel. ac.uk

16-19 March

U.S. IALE: 'The Pace and Pattern of Landscape Change', Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, USA. Contact Dean Urban School of the Environment, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708, USA, e-mail: deanu@pinus.env.duke.edu/iale97

29-31 May

"Biodiversity in Managed Forests - Concepts and

Solution", Uppsala, Sweden, contact SkogForsk, Glunten, S-751 83 Uppsala, Sweden, fax: +46 18 188600, e-mail: carl-henrik.palmer@skogforsk.se

9-11 September

IALE (UK) conference: "Species dispersal and land use processes" University of Ulster, Coleraine. Contact Dr Alan Cooper, School of Environmental Studies, University of Ulster, Coleraine BT51 1SA. County Londonderry. Northern Ireland, tel: +44 1265 324 401, fax: +44 1265 324 911, e-mail: geo@fgeo.uh.cu

17-22 November

Universidad de la Habana: "II Taller Internacional sobre Ordenaniento Geoecologico de los Paiges", contact Eduardo Salinas Chavez, Facultad de Geografia, Universidad de la Habana, Zona 6, Alamar, CP 12500, La Habana, Cuba, tel: +537 651304/5105/652221, fax: +537 652221, e-mail: geo@fgeo.uh.cu

ferent parts of Europe. Most striking are the changes taking place in agriculture. The importance of spatial and functional interaction between nature, agriculture and urban development was stressed many times. Also, the importance of policy making, in particular the one followed by the European Union, returned many times in the presentation and discussion, and is clearly still a very confusing issue which stimulated a lot of debate. Other key problems which were presented dealt with the need and difficulty in searching for new functions for rural landscapes; who will take care of them, who will pay for their maintenance, what values can be assigned. Many questions were put forward, still waiting for answers. Another key topic was available space, which of course is related to the population density. The striking contrast between the Western areas of Europe with an extremely high population density, and the wide, almost empty spaces in Northern and Eastern Europe, give completely different sets of problems and solutions concerning sustainability and future development. This contrast was very clearly demonstrated during the conference excursion. Speaking about landscape IN the landscape is still better than the creation of indoor landscape imagination.

On the last day, thanks to some unexpected free time, a very intensive workshop discussion was improvised. It proved to be very important, as many small differences in definitions and interpretations can often lead to misunderstandings. It proved to be vital to reinforce harmony in the landscape ecological thinking, and resulted in the formulation of some very clear conclusions and statements during the closing session. All participants could agree with the following conclusions:

- Small regional IALE meetings proved to be very

efficient, in particular when it involves active participation of new and young participants;

 Almost all issues on landscape changes which were presented in papers, posters and discussions, were placed in a framework (or under an umbrella) of global economic and planning context;

 Also clear was the importance of emphasizing issues dealing with scale and hierarchy more explicitly in the future. Maybe a theme for a future IALE meet-

ing?

 Regional identity and diversity cannot be separated from regional identity and diversity of people living in these landscapes. Society, culture and history are important factors for effective planning of future landscapes;

 Many problems which were presented showed a whole series of intimately related but polarised items,

such as:

intensification versus extensification and marginalisation

- * economy versus ecology
- * urban versus nature
- * individual versus society

The post conference excursion managed the "tour of Estonia" in three days, and ended on the fourth day with a visit to Tallin for the survivors. All of the approx. 40 participants will agree that Estonia shows an astonishing variety of landscape and people. Thanks to the most competent guides, which no fatigue could stop, the "emptiness" of the wide spaces was heavily filled with history, nature, culture and friendship.

Many thanks for all this to our Estonian friends...

Marc Antrop