ROBERT GARDNER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF
LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY

After 11 years, the initiator of the journal Landscape Ecology, Frank Golley has stepped down (see IALE Bulletin vol. 15 no. 1).
Since January 1997 Robert H. Gardner is the new Editor-in-Chief of Landscape Ecology. Gardner received his B.S. in Biology from Taylor University, an M.A. from William and Mary and his Ph.D. in Zoology from North Carolina State University. From 1974 to 1994 he was a scientist in the Environmental Sciences Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory where research activities included empirical and theoretical studies of landscape disturbance effects. Dr. Gardner has the distinction of being one of 12 authors to publish a paper in the first issue of Landscape Ecology in July of 1987. In 1994 he joined the faculty of the Appalachian Environmental Laboratory, of the University of Maryland System, where a new initiative is underway to link landscape and ecosystems studies to address ecological concerns within the drainage basin of the Chesapeake Bay.

The challenges of editing Landscape Ecology are easily apparent from the diversity of topics areas considered by the journal and the high standards established by the previous Editor-in-Chief, Frank Golley. Dr. Golley’s tenure as Editor-in-Chief began with the establishment of the journal in 1987. Thanks to his creativity, leadership, and concern for excellence the journal is now considered a leading publication of articles in landscape ecology. It is the intention of the new Editor-in-Chief to continue this fine tradition. Comments of readers and authors concerning editorial policies and procedures are encouraged, especially if submitted via e-mail to gardner@ael.umd.edu.

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR OF LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY
by Robert H. Gardner

At the beginning of this year Kluwer Academic Publishers purchased Landscape Ecology from Kugler Publica-

IALE Dues 1997

As you have read in IALE bulletin 15(1), of February 1997, the dues for 1997 are still US$10. Administration on payments is being set up in these months. It is going rather slow, due to obligations abroad and the unexpected amount of work in reordering the administration. That means, that I cannot send you personal payment requests. It would also not be possible for the US$10 fee for 1997.
I request all regular members to check if they have payed their dues for 1997. Those who payed US$20 in 1996 can consider their dues for 1997 been payed. Members in USA, Canada, Denmark UK and Italy are requested not to pay to the international IALE. They pay through their regions.

Please pay by credit card if possible. See the attached form. VISA, American Express and Diners have excepted IALE, Mastercard/Eurocard did not. You cannot pay with Mastercard/Eurocard.

Please do not send a cheque. The transfer costs of a check are more or less US$10. If you send me one, I will not return it and not cash it. I only would do that for the bank. If you cannot pay through credit card then

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and the society. Discussions are now underway to promote the growth and distribution of the journal, increase the number of pages published per volume, reduced subscription prices for IALE members, and develop special issues devoted to timely topics of general interest to landscape ecologists. What remains unchanged is the strong and mutually beneficial relationship between the journal and IALE, including reduced subscription rates to IALE members.

A few other changes in the journal have also occurred. Drs. W. Carter Johnson and George P. Malanson have recently been added to the editorial board, the new Editorial Office is now located at the Appalachian Laboratory in Frostburg (see mailing address below); Nancy Castro has been appointed as Editorial Assistant (email: ncastro@al.umces.edu); and a new set of “Instructions to Authors” clarifying the types of papers and format requirements for manuscript submission has been published in volume 12 (and can be downloaded from US-IALE’s WWW page: http://www.edc.uri.edu/iale/instruct2.htm).

Also available from US-IALE’s web page is information for membership application and subscription to Landscape Ecology (see: http://www.edc.uri.edu/iale/journal.htm).

Your opinions, ideas and suggestions for improvements to the journal are welcome. Suggestions concerning the journal may be directed to my e-mail address at: gardner@al.umces.edu. Please note that it is my policy to answer all electronic inquiries, although the volume of mail may result in delayed response. However, my response to voice mail and snail mail without the possibility of electronic reply is unpredictable.

Robert H. Gardner, Editor-in-Chief
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NEXT DEADLINE
September 10th!!
GEOSYSTEM CLASSIFICATION
Irkutsk 14-16 October, 1997

The classification of geographical systems is essential stage in cartographic substantiation of territorial nature-use optimization and environmental management. Unfortunately, modern landscape science hasn’t generally accepted principles and methods for classification of nature formations. Therefore landscape scientists need elaborating any common approaches to typesation and regionalization of geographical systems. It is possible to discuss there questions in frameworks of IALE Working Group "Landscape system analysis in environmental management".

Institute of Geography of SD RAS organized the International Scientific Conference “Geosystem classification” by financial support of Russian Foundation of Fundamental Research (project code 97-05-74018). It is to be held in Irkutsk from October 14 to 16, 1997.

The Conference program includes the following questions:
- theoretical and methodical problems of geosystem classification;
- principles of geosystem typesation and classification;
- geosystem classification and aims of landscape regionalization;
- geosystem dynamics and classification;
- geosystem classification, problems of landscape stability and load standartization;
- geosystem classification and legends for thematic maps;
- automatic methods of identification for geographical objects of various ranks by data of terrestrial research and distance sounding;
- geosystem classification and landscape planning.

Further information by
Prof. Yu. M. Semenov, Institute of Geography
Siberian Department of Russian Academy of Sciences
Ulanbatorskaya St. 1, 664033 Irkutsk, Russia
Tel.: +7 395 246 2693, Fax: +7 395 246 7717
E-mail: root@irigs.su

TRANSFORMATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES - INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO FUTURE MANAGEMENT.
Roskilde, Denmark, 30-31 October 1997

The conference will focus on different aspects of the ongoing transformation of our countryside. A general trend is related to urbanisation of agricultural landscapes. This is not just a question of a growing mass of urban sprawl in the countryside, but also a more 'hidden' process of transforming rural environments into primarily urban functions.

The consequences of these changes for biodiversity and landscape heterogeneity is therefore another important issue of agricultural landscapes these years, not only for ecological reasons, but also concerning the potential for multiple use.

Finally the problems of valuing agricultural landscapes will be a main future issue: How are we going to manage the integration of different goals and strategies? Like the two first issues, this too can only be handled through the use of interdisciplinary approaches.

Main themes (A-C) and parallel sessions (1-6):

A. Urbanisation in agricultural landscapes
1. Managing urban demands in agricultural landscapes
2. Impact of urbanisation on ecology of landscape

B. Diversity in agricultural landscapes
3. Biodiversity in agricultural landscapes
4. Heterogeneity of agricultural landscapes

C. Valuing agricultural landscapes
5. Agricultural landscapes: Intrinsic vs. instrumental value
6. Valuation in management and regulation

Plenary lectures by Henri Décamps (France), Marc Antrop (Belgium), Joan Nassauer (USA), Paul Opdam (The Netherlands), John O’Neill (UK) and Michael Moss (Canada).

Further information by
Landscape research Centre, Building 19.1
Roskilde University, P.O.Box 260
DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark
Phone: +45 46 74 26 01, Fax: +45 46 74 30 32
E-mail: vlb@geo.ruc.dk

LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY AND THE DYNAMICS OF AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES
International Ph.D. Course, Denmark 2-9 November 1997.

The course will be a basic introduction to landscape ecology. A special emphasis will be laid on contemporary trends in agricultural landscapes and how landscape ecology can contribute to solution of problems related to these trends.

The following landscape ecologists will serve as teachers at the course:
Peder Agger (Denmark), Marc Antrop (Belgium), Jesper Brandt (Denmark), Henri Decamps (France), Xiaodun (China), Almo Farina (Italy), Robert Gardner (USA), Michael Moss (Canada), Joan Nassauer (USA), Paul Opdam (The Netherland) and Jørgen Primdahl (Denmark).

More information about and application for the course can be obtained at http://www.geo.ruc.dk/PhD/landscape or by contacting Landscape Research Center, building 19.1, Roskilde University, P.O. Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark, phone: +45 46 74 26 01, fax: +45 46 74 30 32 e-mail: vlb@geo.ruc.dk

Applications should be sent not later than 1 September 1997
The application must contain
• address (private as well as university, phone, fax and/or e-mail),
• a CV including a short plan for the Ph.D.-thesis (max 1 page),
• 2 pages abstract of a paper to be presented and discussed at the course. The paper could deal with a subject relevant for the Ph.D. study, but other subjects relevant for the Ph.D course will be accepted.

If the application is accepted by the Selection Committee, a paper (max 10 pages) should be send to the address above not later than 14 October 1997.


The main theme of the symposium deals with the perspectives for the next century. It is hoped that the 21st century will be green and that society will search for a balance between economy and ecology. Before such a state can be reached many degradations of the past have to be reversed. The congress aims at presenting an overview of the state-of-the-art of restoration ecology, ranging from experiences with the introduction of individual species in local sites to the effects of climatic change on landscape development. Apart from an exchange of ideas and knowledge a major task will be to explore gaps in our knowledge. Do we know enough to judge restoration strategies on their effectiveness? If not, which themes should be developed further?

Topics:
(1) Reclamation of highly degraded sites.
(2) Renaturalization of natural areas.
(3) Urban restoration and conservation.
(4) Increasing biodiversity in rural areas.
(5) Restoration and global climatic change.

Deadlines
Preliminary registration closes at 30 September 1997. All persons who have registered will receive the second circular including the final registration form. All abstracts of papers and posters must be submitted before 31 January 1998.

Further information
is available at the symposium secretariat: Restoration Ecology Symposium Secretariat, Laboratory of Plant Ecology University of Groningen, P.O.Box 14, 9750 AA Haren, The Netherlands, Fax +31 50 3632273, E-mail: RE.symposium@biol.rug.nl or at Internet (http://www.biol.rug.nl/ploe/restecol)

PRESENT AND HISTORICAL NATURE-CULTURE INTERACTIONS IN LANDSCAPES (EXPERIENCES FOR THE 3RD MILLENNIUM) Prague, Czech Republic, 6-13 September 1998.

The conference will be held in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, between September 6-13, 1998. Excursions will be an integral part of the conference, and will take participants through places serving as examples of both sustainable and nonsustainable management of landscapes during the long interaction of nature and culture in Central Europe.

Each session of the conference will begin with a keynote presentation by an invited speaker and contributed talks on the same theme will follow. Poster sessions will be organized around the same issues.

Main program topics included in the conference:
• Cultural elements in natural space - finding scales.
(What historical visions are appropriate for modern responsibilities to landscapes?)
• Ecological knowledge and conservation biology.
(How can relevant data, techniques and experts be efficiently used for nature protection?)
• Heterogeneity of biodiversity in land mosaics.
(What are the proper spatial and functional relationships of a landscape complex for optimum life diversity?)
• Biocorridors - a universally or specifically applicable concept?
(Do positive or negative effects of biocorridor constructions prevail?)
• Long-term ecological investigations and time-series of land use surveys - the best tools to understand landscape dynamics.
(Is there enough support?)
• Running waters in steady lands - an unrepeatable interaction.
  (When is a fluvial process treated in an optimum way?)

• Restoration ecology: contributions to landscape ecology.
  (Why is this field so efficient in transferring scientific knowledge into direct use to enhance the quality of life?)

• Structural and functional landscape models - a tool for spatial and temporal development.
  (Do they offer an appropriate theoretical background for evaluation and planning activities?)

• Landscape and regional planning for cultural landscapes of tomorrow.
  (Are we able to use technical tools for data transformation even more efficiently?)

• The most practical role of land use - prevention of landscape problems.
  (How can technologies be used and developed to meet the needs of cultural landscape heritage protection?)

• Environmental conflicts in landscapes of tropical regions.
  (Is comparative ecology able to exchange an appropriate research experience between the climatic zones?)

We believe that all the themes mentioned above could be treated within the context of both tropical and extratropical regions.

Further information at
Czech IALE (Regional) Conference
Faculty of Sciences
CHARLES UNIVERSITY
Benátská 2
128 01 Praha 2
Czech Republic
fax: +420-2-21953125, +420-2-24914803
E-mail: cle98@prfdec.natur.cuni.cz
home page: http://www.natur.cuni.cz/confer.htm

Announcement

Announcement of the international postgraduate course: Ecologically sound banks along fairways

The Road and Hydraulic Engineering Division (RHED) of Rijkswaterstaat organizes, in cooperation with the Delft University of Technology, a course on the subject of "Ecologically sound banks along fairways". The course is in particular of interest for young professionals in the field of the ecology of the "wet infrastructure".

Rijkswaterstaat has gathered a lot of experience with ecologically sound banks. Experts in hydraulic engineering and ecology, active in the project group Banks of the RHED will pass on their knowledge to the course participants. They are accompanied by experts from other countries who also have been active in the field of ecologically sound banks. After the course, the participants are acquainted with the concept of ecologically sound banks and with a practical, systematic approach to the management of multi-functional banks.

The course will be held at the Delft University of Technology, at the faculty of Civil Engineering. Course dates are 4, 5 and 6 September 1998. The course consists of two days of lectures and presentations of case-studies and a one-day excursion.

The costs of the course amount to DFL 550,- (300 USD) and include lunches, transportation and course proceedings. The fee for participants from developing countries will be DFL 350,- (200 USD).

For more information or a Pre-Registration form you are requested to complete and return the Information form. Please return this form to:

Rijkswaterstaat, Hydraulic Engineering Division
Att. Ir. R. Boeters (course leader)
P.O. Box 5044, 2600 GA DELFT
The Netherlands
Tel. +31-15-2699111, Fax +31-15-2611361
E-mail R.E.A.M.Boeters@dww.rws.minvenw.nl

INFORMATION FORM

I am interested in participating in the course "Ecologically sound banks along fairways".

Full name: ...........................................

Profession: ...........................................

Business/Organization: ...........................

Full Mailing Address: ...............................

Country: ............................................

Telephone: ........................................ Fax: ........................................

E-Mail: ............................................

Date: ........................................ Signature: ........................................
1997

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, BT52 1SA, County Londonderry, Northern Ireland, tel: +44 1265 324692, fax: +44 1265 324911, e-mail: a.cooper@ulst.ac.uk

6-10 October

14-16 October
International Scientific Conference on "Geosystem classification". Contact Prof. Yu. M. Semenov, Institute of Geography, Siberian Division of Russian Academy of Sciences, Ulanbatorskaya St. 1, 664035 Irkutsk, Russia, Tel.: +7 395 246 2693, Fax: +7 395 246 7717, E-mail: root@irigs.su

23-25 October
"Evaluation and Perception of landscape Patterns", III: International conference on "Culture and Environment", Banská Štiavnica. Contact UNESCO-chair for Ecological Awareness, Akademická 13, 969 00 Banská Štiavnica, Slovak Republic, tel: +421 859 621 065, fax: +421 859 621 065, e-mail: unchair@zv.sanet.sk

26-29 October

30-31 October
Transformation of Agricultural Landscapes - Interdisciplinary Approaches. Roskilde University, Contact Jesper Brandt, Landscape Research Center, Building 19.1, P.O.Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark, Tel.: +45 46 74 27 76, Fax: +45 46 74 30 32, E-mail: vlb@geo.ruc.dk, http://www.geo.ruc.dk/PhD/landscape

2-9 November
Landscape Ecology and Dynamics of Agricultural Landscapes. Ph.D. course. Contact Landscape Research Center,

Please send all articles to:
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12-16 November
System approach to the Landscape Research. The 11th international Landscape Ecology Symposium.
IALE (SK) Working group Conference on "Landscape Analysis in Environmental management", Nitra, Slovak Republic. Contact Juraj Hresko, Csc. Ústav krajinnej ekologii SAV, Akademická 2, P. O. Box 23/B, 949 01 Nitra, Slovak Republic, tel: +421 87 35604, fax: +421 87 35608

17-22 November
Universidad de la Habana: "II Taller Internacional sobre Ordenamiento Geoeconomico de los Países", contact Eduardo Salinas Chavez, Facultad de Geografía, Universidad de la Habana, Zona 6, Alamar, CP 12500, La Habana, Cuba, tel: +537 651304/5105/652221, fax: +537 652221, e-mail: fgeo.uh.cu

1998

25-30 August
Second International Conference on Restoration Ecology in the 21st century, Groningen, The Netherlands. Contact Restoration Ecology Symposium Secretariat, Laboratory of Plant Ecology, University of Groningen, P.O.Box 14, 9750 AA Haren, The Netherlands, Fax: +31 50 3632273, E-mail: RE.symposium@biol.rug.nl or at Internet (http://www.biol.rug.nl/ploe/restecol)

6-13 September
Czech IALE Conference on Present and Historical Nature-Culture Interactions in Landscapes", Contact Czech IALE (Regional) Conference Faculty of Sciences, Charles University, Benátská 2, 128 01 Praha 2, Czech Republic, Fax: +420-2-21953125, +420-2-24914803, E-mail: ele98@prfdec.natur.cuni.cz, home page: http://www.natur.cuni.cz/confer.htm