IALE International regularly supports congresses in order to facilitate the international scientific communication and enable young scientists to present their research findings at larger IALE meetings.

The US-IALE Young Scientist Award was supported with 2000 Euros for participation at the 2014 US-IALE Annual Symposium which was held in May in Anchorage, Alaska.

In order to maintain this important IALE activity, we are looking for institutional and personal sponsors!

The following are testimonials from two of the awarded grants:

"I am currently a doctoral student in Ecology and Evolution at Federal University of Goiás, Brazil. My Ph.D. project is related to the effects of landscape characteristics in amphibian anuran assemblages in the Brazilian Cerrado. For this, I have collaborated with a large project, which is named “Brazilian Cerrado in pieces: multiple responses of biodiversity components to fragmentation and habitat loss”.

This project aims to evaluate the effects of Cerrado fragmentation in aquatic, semi-aquatic and terrestrial organisms.

In this year, I attended the 2014 US-IALE Annual Symposium, in Anchorage, Alaska. In this Conference, I had the opportunity to be introduced to various landscape ecologists that are international experts in this area. Moreover, I discussed important issues about my research, as ecological and methodological approaches. I presented part of my results during an oral presentation, in which I received important suggestions that gave me new ideas for future work."

by Luciana Signorelli Faria Lima, Brazil

"Land use changes and intensification have been amongst the major causes of the on-going biodiversity crisis. Dealing with this crisis requires not only political will but also a solid scientific basis to measure, monitor, and communicate biodiversity changes. Thus my research focuses on the development and the application of GIS based environmental indicators.

Together with my colleagues we developed indicators at regional and national level and applied it successfully in an inter- and trans-disciplinary context in two national projects.

Participating in the US-IALE Annual meeting 2014 in Anchorage was a perfect opportunity for me to present these approaches at an international level. After my presentation I had very interesting and fruitful discussion about our work with various American colleagues. I was repeatedly asked by colleagues 'If and how our indicators could be applied in another region or thematic context.' This caused me to come back to Austria with an enthusiastic feeling about the possibility of engaging in new working relationships and the application of our indicators in other countries. Finally this conference gave me the chance to visit at least a small part of the marvelous state of Alaska with its overwhelming landscapes and its wonderful wilderness!"

by Johannes Rüdisser, Austria
IALE EARLY CAREER SCIENTIST SUPPORT FOR THE IALE 2013 EUROPEAN CONGRESS

IALE International supported 21 early career scientists from around the world to attend the IALE 2013 European Congress held in September in Manchester, UK. The Congress has been supported with a 5000 Euro donation.

The following are testimonials from some of those awarded grants:

"As a third year PhD student I was delighted to attend the IALE 2013 European Congress, and to present a poster outlining my work. Based in Scotland, my research takes a landscape genetics approach to investigate landscape effects on the genetic structure and connectivity of a key riparian tree species, Alnus glutinosa. This was my first IALE conference and I found it to be very friendly. I was pleased to give a two minute flash presentation next to my poster which was useful for highlighting my key research findings and also helped to initiate conversation with other delegates.

For me the landscape genetics symposium was particularly relevant to my work and I found it valuable to hear about different analysis approaches, especially the successes and challenges posed (and that I experience)! In addition, I particularly enjoyed the field trip I joined - Socio-Ecology tour of Salford and Manchester; it was a varied trip and fascinating to discover more about the areas industrial heritage and more recent urban conservation and environmental projects, showcasing the broad disciplines encompassed within landscape ecology. I also enjoyed the Changing Urban Areas and Biocultural Landscape Conservation Symposium for their variety of talks encompassing academia, policy, and practice.

I am grateful for receiving a Student Conference Registration Fee Award which enabled me to attend the conference, present my work, make new contacts, and find out more how science, policy and practice can interact all of which will benefit my future research and work."

by Gillian Flint, University of Stirling, UK

"My name is Kremena Boyanova and I’m a second year PhD student at the National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. My research is in the field of geography and more precisely I’m interested in the methods for assessment and quantification of water-related ecosystem services.

Participation in the conference gave me the opportunity to share my work with an international audience and to receive valuable feedback. The condensed overview of the newest developments in science concerning landscape changes and possible future politics and the acquaintance with researchers from all over the world and their work, gave me a more critical and full view on my own work.

The conference significantly supplemented my further research. My participation in the "Ecosystem Services: building informed policies to orient landscape dynamics" symposium increased my awareness of different methodologies applied all over the world for ecosystem services analysis and gave me many new ideas for my work. I highly appreciate the chance to participate in the conference. It raised in me the ambition to make my work part of the sterling contribution of the participants in the conference in the search for a better future."

by Kremena Boyanova Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria

"When I arrived in Manchester, I was uncertain how to start my PhD, but after the conference, I could start to write my project, and I’ve been very successfully in doing so. I also could improve one chapter in a paper derived from my master’s thesis and it has been accepted. In this way, the IALE 2013 European Congress has helped me a lot to go further on Landscape Ecology research. During all of the congress, the most difficult issue was to choose which symposia I would like to attend. Every field was amazing, interesting and helpful to develop my research. I would advise for all Landscape Ecology beginners like me to attend the congress to learn more, to focus their own research, and to meet and listen to some of the best professors in the field."
...continued from page 2 (Early career scientist support)

The symposia that I attended and presented my poster in, 'From survey to monitoring of landscapes and biodiversity' had lectures that were extremely helpful, and I had the opportunity to talk with Gabriela Hofer and Wendy Fjellstad about my research... this was an exceptional experience. Their approach and the ecological indexes used in their work will make great improvement in my PhD methods.

To end, I would like to emphasize my complete satisfaction in attending the IALE 2013 European Congress, and I would like to congratulate and acknowledge the congress organization for all, especially for the Students Award provided.

by Ana Beatriz Pierri Daunt Federal University of São Carlos, Brazil

"I am in my final year of PhD studies in Human Geography at the University of Manchester. My research concerns how urban landscapes facilitate citizen engagement in enhancing resilience of social-ecological systems, particularly through contributions to developing and maintaining green infrastructure. I use concepts from landscape ecology and cultural geography to explore the complexity of people’s interactions with urban environments. As a geographer, I tend to spend more time with other geographers and I have found it difficult to fully immerse myself in current thinking within the field of landscape ecology. As a result, IALE 2013 was a wonderful opportunity for me to get a broad overview of the state of the discipline.

I was surprised by a statement in the opening plenary about there being 1000 landscape-scale initiatives in the UK: ‘landscapes for ants and elephants’. This gave a sense of the very broad range of applications of landscape ecology that were presented in the course of the conference. It also caused me to think more about the issue of scale within concepts of landscape. Landscape scales vary tremendously but landscape is always a scale at which a human being can begin to make sense of a complex ecological and socio-cultural system. This applies to researchers and it also applies to local actors who are trying to preserve and create landscapes that work well for nature and people. With respect to the latter, I particularly appreciated the opportunity to participate in the symposium on Community-based planning with landscape services where examples from various parts of the world were provided concerning how local communities were using landscape scale knowledge and action to make positive change in their environments.

I also particularly appreciated the focus on Manchester itself within the context of a European conference. I think that too often conferences miss the opportunities to learn from the place where they are held and share their knowledge with local actors. I very much enjoyed the Greater Manchester landscapes sessions because of the opportunities they offered for this sort of exchange and because they provided a good mix of perspectives from researchers and practitioners. I thank ialeUK and IALE for the opportunity to attend this conference!"

by Janice Astbury University of Manchester, UK

"The symposium Biocultural landscape conservation in the framework of landscape ecology: a European perspective, was organized by Prof. Gloria Pungetti and Prof. Oliver Rackham, of the Cambridge Centre for Landscape and People, University of Cambridge, UK. It had about 50 participants, nine presentations, a round table with about 25 participants and three short poster presentations. The symposium explored the ecological meaning of sacred places and groves with religious and spiritual connotation, in presentations related to Europe (Greece, UK, Italy) and also other parts of the world (Japan, and Ethiopia) and their significance for conservation and Landscape Ecology (Oliver Rackham, Kalliopi Stara, Fabrizio Frascaroli). One of the conclusions was that “sacred places support more diversity compared to other places”

Several cases of biocultural landscapes were presented, in Finland (Henrik Jansson) and in Lebanon (Jala Makhzoumi) that have taken to restoration in order to preserve their cultural and ecological functions. These presentations highlighted the multitude of values in biocultural landscapes, their natural and cultural heritage, with archeological, cultural, ethnic and biological character and the importance..."
of time scale studies in order to understand processes and develop new approaches to achieve sustainable development.

A website for mapping sacred sites was also presented, as well as the Sacred Sites Research newsletter (Fabrizio Frascaroli), revealing the importance of information technologies in scientific research. Several of the presentations highlighted the importance of the link between the scientific community and policy makers, in order to adjust landscape planning and management of the requirements addressed by the presenters. Prof. Gloria Pungetti made a remarkable presentation on the state of the art of Biocultural Landscapes, concepts and applications.

The round table had quite an interesting debate on cultural versus biocultural landscapes and sacred places. In Jerusalem all is sacred (Linda Olsvig-Whittaker). One of the questions in this round table was “Should sacred sites from the past be functional for the future?” (Marc Antrop). Other questions about present and future of sacred sites were also debated. The IALE Europe Working Group on Biocultural Landscapes coordinated by CCLP was set up under IALE Europe, aiming to report its results at the IALE World Congress in 2005, in the USA."

by Teresa Batista University of Évora; ICAAM, Portugal

"I am a PhD student at the University of Ostrava, Czech Republic, researching mainly about rainfall-runoff modelling, flood risk assessment and hydraulic modelling. In the IALE 2013 Congress I attended the Symposium 'Climate change adaptation and landscape planning'. My contribution to this symposium included a poster with the topic: Comparison of methodologies for creating flood hazard and flood risk map in Czech Republic, Slovakia and Scotland. In my work, I compared different methodologies for accessing flood risk according to European Union legacy primarily with interest in climate change.

As a hydrologist I am primarily focused on the water cycle and as such I am looking at different problems from a hydrological point of view. But it was very interesting to meet with other scientists within different disciplines, and hear other talks where authors were researching non-hydrological problems, but still related to hydrology. It brought new ideas to my research and widened my horizons. Interdisciplinarity is very important in science and this symposium definitely highlighted it. I liked the talk: A landscape approach to ‘Keeping Rivers Cool’, which was closely related to my subject. I appreciated the possibility to have a short talk about my work in front of my poster."

by Stanislav Ruman University of Ostrava, Czech Republic

"The last three years I have worked for the Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BiK-F), the Senckenberg Research Institute and the Natural History Museum of Frankfurt and was mainly involved in the project: Land Use and Water Resources Management under Changing Environmental Conditions in the Poyang Lake area, China. Here we adapted species distribution models to freshwater ecosystems by linking them with hydrological models and by including subcatchment specific predictors. Moreover, the models are fitted to freshwater ecosystems by limiting them to watersheds and by building them with high resolution predictors to provide more accurate results. This involves a thorough analysis of the surface within the boundaries of the watershed.

Until recently, my approach was exclusively ecological. This was probably the reason I had a hard time finding assistance while writing short scripts to analyze the landscape properties of our study catchment: most of my colleagues are rigorous ecologists. Although we consistently use the word 'landscape' in our research, we describe it with our models and we discuss it in our publications, it had never crossed my mind that we might be working – unknowingly - in the field of landscape ecology. Recently an acquaintance recommended joining the IALE Congress, as our research would fit quite well in one of the symposia. It was a pleasant surprise to realize that there is much research going on elsewhere with probably similar challenges and difficulties as I have faced during the development of my work. I very much appreciated taking part in the IALE 2013 Congress as I got a good
...continued from page 4 (Early career scientist support)

insight into the field of landscape ecology and heard how other scientists analyze the landscape, cope with the technical difficulties and interpret their results to reduce the anthropogenic pressure on the natural environment. I enjoyed presenting and discussing my results, gaining insight into how to improve my modeling techniques and how to produce information which may be useful to landscape planners and conservation practitioners. I am a last-stage PhD student who intends to follow a scientific career. It is uncertain to me if my future lies in the more theoretical or the more applied environmental sciences. Participating in the IALE Congress certainly provided the applied ecology perspective I have been largely missing. In addition, I established valuable new contacts to pursue cooperation in the future or simply lead to inspiring conversations. I have great expectations: one meeting with a Professor has already been arranged!

It was a pleasure to participate at the 2013 IALE Congress!

by Mathias Kuemmerlen Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BIK-F), Senckenberg Research Institute and the Natural History Museum of Frankfurt, Germany

"I am a 4th year PhD student researching the role of landcover composition and landscape structure on biodiversity in British woodland-agricultural landscapes. This is the third IALE conference that I have attended and every meeting has provided me with invaluable knowledge and the opportunity to discuss my research with like-minded people.

At the European Congress in September, I presented in the Ecological Networks in Real Landscapes symposia. It was a fantastic experience with presentations followed by interactive discussion sessions allowing people to voice their ideas, opinions and seek answers to questions. As a student, the opportunity to hear what other researchers, policy makers and practitioners thought of my research was very welcome and encouraging. As well as the Ecological Networks symposia I attended numerous other sessions over the 3 days. I particularly enjoyed the Freshwater Ecosystems session as it allowed me the chance to engage in an aspect of landscape ecology with which I am not familiar. The wide-ranging variety of topics covered at the Congress was reflective of the diverse theme which is 'landscape ecology'. Because of this, I would encourage anyone who is interested in any aspect of landscape ecology to attend IALE conferences and events in the future - they are always sociable, interactive and full-of-knowledge. For students particularly, it's a great opportunity to meet with other early-career researchers.

Thank you to ialeUK for their generous support which allowed me to attend the Congress and I look forward to the next event."

Jess Neumann University of Reading, UK

"I am currently working towards a PhD through the South African National Biodiversity Institute, as part of the Global Pollination Project and through the University of Cape Town. My research focuses on understanding the landscape requirements of managed honeybees in South Africa. I recently attended the IALE 2013 European Congress which was held in Manchester from the 9-12th of September 2013.

Overall, it was a very interesting and diverse programme. I found the landscape genetics symposium of particular interest and enjoyed the talk given by Tonya Lander on pollinator travel paths and land-use resistance in heterogeneous landscapes. Other symposia I enjoyed were the application of agent based models of landscape scale socio-ecological systems. I presented a poster on my methodological approach of collecting and modelling baseline socio-ecological and resource use data in order to better understand the links between South African deciduous fruit farmers, beekeepers and different landscape resource elements supporting pollination services. I attended the Forest of Bowland fieldtrip which provided an opportunity to explore the Lancashire countryside and gave our multi-cultural group a chance to chat and exchange ideas and experiences. There were also many opportunities to further network at the range of social events arranged by the conference organisers, which allowed everyone time to relax and gave further opportunity to socialise on an informal basis."
I would like to thank ialeUK and IALE for awarding me the conference fee award. The conference exposed me to a range of new and interesting fields of research and allowed me to connect with and learn from researchers investigating similar research questions to my own."

by Annalie Melin University of Cape Town, South Africa

Registration is now open for the Annual Conference of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (UK) to be held in London, UK, 1-3 September 2014. Hosted by King’s College London, the theme of this year’s conference is ‘Urban landscape ecology: science, policy and practice’.

Meeting at the heart a global city of culture, business and ideas will provide the perfect location from which to consider the pivotal role landscape ecology has to play in identifying sustainable solutions to challenges faced by urban landscapes and those connected beyond.

The conference will have three days of presentations, networking events and field excursions. Sessions will be on the themes of:

- Mapping and Modelling Urban Landscapes
- Managing Urban Landscapes
- Urban Patches and Heterogeneity
- Urban Rivers and Water

Keynote presentations will be given by Prof. John Handley of University of Manchester and Prof. Ingo Kowarik of Technical University Berlin. The call for abstracts for oral presentations is now closed but we continue to welcome abstracts for poster presentations.

Excursions will be to The Shard to view London’s spatial pattern connectivity from western Europe’s tallest building, The Thames Barrier to tour London’s vital flood defence, and Queen Elizabeth II Olympic Park to explore the ecological legacy of the 2012 Olympic Games.

Registration is via the conference website (details below) and ialeUK member discount rates are available. ialeUK is pleased to offer 10 Student Conference Registration Fee Awards. Applications for the awards are open to all ialeUK registered students who are attending the conference. Details of how to apply are at the conference website.

For more information visit: http://iale.org.uk/conference2014
email: conference2014@iale.org.uk
or via social media: #ialeUK2014

We look forward to welcoming you to London!

by James Millington, Department of Geography, King's College London

PhD Program on Interdisciplinary Landscape Management

The PhD course on Interdisciplinary Landscape Management is a joint Program involving the University of Évora, the University of Lisbon and the University of the Azores. It combines a group of Portuguese lecturers and researchers in the fields of Landscape Ecology, Agricultural Economics, Environmental Economy and Nature, Forestry Management and Regional Science, and with a strong emphasis on international collaboration and networking.

The aim of the PhD on Interdisciplinary Landscape Management is to develop methodologies and scientific capabilities to support the design and evaluation of public policies and the creation of management tools that can help meet the growing demands of society
for the multiple goods and services provided by rural landscapes. The tradeoffs and complementarities between these goods and services demands for interdisciplinary developments that are able to integrate different scientific fields such as ecology, agronomy, economy, sociology, geography, political science, and ethics among others. This level of complementarity already exists disciplines such as landscape ecology, conservation biology, eco-economics and regional science, but there is still a need for more integrating work of these different approaches to pursue common conceptual basis and implementing integrated solutions.

With the conclusion of the course in Interdisciplinary Landscape Management, students will be qualified to developed integration methodologies of disciplinary paradigms in which the central research topic is the interaction between man and the environment.

Students should be able to learn, adapt and develop methodologies to:
1. evaluate the goods and services supported by the landscape;
2. be able to design and evaluate land use policy/politics;
3. develop and propose decision support instruments such as multiple criteria analysis, social-ecological systems modeling and participatory approaches;
4. understand the social practices and perceptions related to different types of land use and management; and
5. develop spatial models that integrate the environment, technological developments, social and economic drivers and policy and planning regulations.

To further internationalize the PhD on Interdisciplinary Landscape Management, classes in English will be provided to improve the student’s pool of social and cultural backgrounds. The PhD on Interdisciplinary Landscape Management aims for students to be able to interact creatively between scientific established paradigms and to be highly interested in addressing the scientific and policy challenges that the landscape level presents.

At the same time the University of Évora is starting next September an MsC in Landscape Ecology, the first one of its kind in Portugal presenting new opportunities for students and practitioners to follow a professional and scientific career in Landscape Ecology.

See all the information at: http://www.icaam.uevora.pt/Ensino/Programas-de-Doutoramento/Programa-de-Doutoramento-em-Gestao-Interdisciplinar-da-Paisagem-Inter-University-PhD-Program-Interdisciplinary-Landscape-Management2/Inter-University-PhD-Program-Interdisciplinary-Landscape-Management

by Teresa Pinto Correira

REGIORESOURCES 21
Katowice (Poland), September 15-17, 2014.

RegioResources 21 started in 2011 to establish a permanent cross-disciplinary dialogue on sustainability features in planning, decision and policy making at multiple scale levels.

The conference series intends (i) to provide an overview on the most recent questions and innovative solutions and (ii) to facilitate the intellectual exchange and methodological transfer between different disciplines involved in regional resource management, planning, decision making and policy support. The 2014 conference will be organized jointly by Global Land Project and the European Land-use Institute as European Nodal Office of the GLP together with the Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP), working group 9, Application of Ecosystem Services in Planning, Management and Restoration, IALE and IUFRO WG Landscape Ecology.
...continued from page 7 (RegioResources 21)

The conference RegioResources 21-2014 picks up the questions:

- What are suitable tools for supporting an integrated land and water management that enhances sustainable regional development?
- How to moderate between economic interests and ecological concerns? Is the ecosystem services concept ready for planning support and policy consulting?
- Which requests arise for governance / planning schemes that ensure also active involvement of local citizens, their needs and their concerns?
- How to deal with “Technotopes” – a new understanding of human-designed habitats and a challenge for expanding eco-societal wisdom in metropolitan context?

We welcome especially highly interdisciplinary contributions, case studies that put emphasis on lessons learned and recommendations from practice and input or discussion notes that demonstrate innovative ideas how to respond to the questions. The presentations given at the conference will be invited to participate in a special issue (journal still in discussion) and / or to submit a contribution to CASES (Change and Adaptation in Socio-Ecological Systems, http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/cass).

For more information and registration, please have a look on http://regioresources21.eli-web.com/
or contact Christine Fürst (cfuerst@uni-bonn.de).

by Christine Fürst

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR A PROPOSAL OF A SPECIAL ISSUE IN LANDSCAPE AND URBAN PLANNING
Sustainable Planning Tools and Approaches for New Urban Peripheries

Guest Editors: Daniele La Rosa, Davide Geneletti, Marcin Spyra, Christine Furst, Christian Albert, Carsten Lorz

Theme and objective of the Special Issue: Urban systems keep growing worldwide with different intensity and characters. As a direct consequence, urban peripheries increase both in terms of number and - particularly - typologies. New urban peripheries are highly dependent on territorial and local socio-economic characteristics and result in very differentiated forms of urban expansion.

At the same time, research about sustainable planning tools has reached an unprecedented level of development and maturity. Approaches and tools to sustainable planning (i.e. Ecosystem Service, Adaptive and evidence based planning, Geodesign, Green Infrastructure, Participatory planning) appear to be promising ways for planning at different contexts and scale, although their complete effectiveness has still to be totally proven in real planning processes. An exploration of how these planning approaches and tools can successfully address the different issues (mainly environmental and socio-economical) raised by high complex context such as the new urban peripheries is relevant and timely for the urban planning agenda. This Special Issue of Landscape and Urban Planning aims at understanding if, how and to what extent, contemporary sustainable planning approaches and tools can be used in planning processes of new urban peripheries. Particular attention also is given to potential trade-offs that can emerge when decisions on land-use are based on these contexts and their effectiveness in reaching measurable goals of sustainability.

Articles in the SI will try to investigate and answer the following questions:
- Which are the characters and specificities of new urban peripheries worldwide?
Which current planning approaches might be more suitable for new urban peripheries?

Does local urban specificities call for a particular approach or a combination of approaches and tools?

In which direction should existing planning approaches be updated or reformulated to deal with new urban peripheries?

Are sustainable planning approaches really actionable in complex contexts of new urban peripheries? Which uncertainties/limitations about the application/effectiveness of these approaches can be highlighted?

Which trade-offs can be raised and/or managed by sustainable planning approaches in the contexts of new urban peripheries?

Types of papers/deadline for abstracts submission:
According to the journal Special Issue policy, different types of papers are encouraged, such as reviews about new forms of urban peripheries and relative planning approaches, research articles/case studies on real planning experiences, perspective essays.

Abstracts to be included in the SI proposal must be sent to: dilarosa@darc.unict.it

CALL FOR PAPERS: SPECIAL ISSUE OF LAND ON ‘AGENT-BASED MODELLING AND LANDSCAPE CHANGE’

The use of agent-based models (ABMs) and modelling for understanding landscape change and dynamics continues to grow. One reason for the popularity of ABMs is that they provide a framework to represent multiple, discrete, multi-faceted, heterogeneous actors (human or otherwise) and their relationships and interactions between one another and their environment, through time and across space.

This special issue of the journal Land seeks to showcase innovative uses of ABMs for investigating and explaining landscape change and dynamics and to explore and identify how researchers in different disciplines can learn from one another to further innovate. Thus, we seek contributions from researchers using ABM in innovative ways to understand landscape change from across a range of disciplines including landscape ecology, hydrology, land change science, economics, alternative histories, archaeology, sociology, psychology and others. Innovation may come in the form of computational, conceptual, analytical, participatory or epistemological advances in the use of ABM for a range of aims and motivations associated with landscape change and dynamics. Modelling advances may include new ways of representing agent decisions and/or interactions, establishing and evaluating model structures and rules, presenting and visualising change, multi-scale analysis, comparative techniques, narrative methods and more.

For further details, including how to submit papers, visit: http://www.mdpi.com/journal/land/special_issues/abm_landscape

Guest Editors: James Millington, King’s College London (james.millington@kcl.ac.uk) and John Wainwright, Durham University (john.wainwright@durham.ac.uk)

NEW INTERNATIONAL MASTERS OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN AREAS (EMMA)

Joint program of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (Italy) and University of Innsbruck (Austria)

The sustainable development of mountain regions has to consider economic, ecological and social aspects. There is a common understanding that environmental problems should be solved by an international and interdisciplinary cooperation. Consequently, the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (Northern Italy) and the University of Innsbruck (Austria), both located in the Alps, have developed the international Masters program ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN AREAS (EMMA) which focuses on sustainable landscape development and ecosystem as well as land-use management in mountain regions.

The cooperation between these universities combines in an integrative way the ecological, technological as well as the socio-economic perspective of ecology...
and management of mountain landscapes. This Masters program differs from similar study programs in laying a particular focus on interdisciplinary approaches on the sustainable development of mountain agriculture and environment. Within the courses, an intensive cooperation with the stakeholders in the mountain environment and in particular farmers and agricultural organizations will be realized. The course language is English with the option to increase the language knowledge also in German and Italian.

For further information, please contact the directors of the study program Stefan Zerbe (Bozen) or Ulrike Tappeiner (Austria) or our website: https://www.unibz.it/en/sciencetechnology/progs/master/environmental_management/default.html

5TH INTERNATIONAL MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON HYDROLOGY AND ECOLOGY
Advances in Monitoring, Predicting and Managing Hydroecological Processes

Vienna, Austria, 13-16 April 2015

The Conference is organized by the Universität für Bodenkultur Wien (BOKU), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, and is convened by BOKU, the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS) and Charles University, Prague.

The aims of HydroEco2015 conference are:
1. to present new findings and approaches on interactions between hydrology and ecology,
2. to promote interdisciplinary interactions on water related issues between hydrology, hydrogeology, biogeochemistry, microbial ecology and ecology,
3. to explore advances in monitoring, modelling and predicting dynamics of hydroecological processes, and
4. to discuss management approaches and applications to tackle environmental issues, including engineering measures for ecosystem preservation and restoration of ecologically valuable environments.

To address the relevant issues, the conference aims to bring together experts from different disciplines such as hydrologists (groundwater, surface water), ecologists, biologists, subsurface microbiologists, environmental biogeochemists, eco-technologists, geomorphologists, hydraulic engineers, forest managers, nature reserve managers, regional and landscape planners, as well as experts from governmental institutions. The unifying theme is the interaction between groundwater and (or) surface water and ecological systems. A typical example is the hyporheic zone in riparian areas, where the ecological system interacts with water and chemical flows between surface water, groundwater and unsaturated soil zone.

Planned conference themes are:
1. Interactions between surface water, hyporheic zone, groundwater and unsaturated soil zone
2. Interaction between plants, surface- and groundwater
3. The role of evapotranspiration in the water cycle - how to better link SVAT and hydrological models?
4. Modelling interactions between hydrological and biological processes
5. Hydroecological tools for the assessment of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem functions
6. Transferring hydroecological process knowledge across spatial and temporal scales
7. Ecosystem services: What do we know and what do we need? A cross-cutting theme for engineers, hydrologists, ecologists, land managers and economists

...continued from page 9 (MSc Environmental Management of Mountain Areas)
8. Novel monitoring techniques and analytical approaches in hydroecology (including benefits from remote sensing and isotope analysis)
9. Modelling and forecasting ecosystem responses to global change (land use changes, climate change)
10. Hydroecological processes in mountain ecosystems
11. Hydroecological processes and nutrient flows in wetlands (bogs, fens, mires, swamps, flood plains, etc.)
12. Engineering measures for ecosystem preservation and restoration
13. Urban hydroecology: objectives, tools and experiences
14. Hydroecological processes in semi-arid regions

Abstracts are due by 4 September 2014

For information and abstract submission go to: http://web.natur.cuni.cz/hydroeco2015/

For further information, please contact the Organizing Committee:
Hans-Peter Nachtnebel, Universität für Bodenkultur Wien (BOKU), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria, email: hans_peter.nachtnebel@boku.ac.at or Karel Kovar, PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, email: karel.kovar@pbl.nl