



# Bulletin

## International Association for Landscape Ecology

### CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

by John A. Wiens

Landscape ecology is a diverse discipline: to some, it involves the applications of ecological principles, in combination with insights from economics and sociology, to problems of land-use planning. To others, it is a form of ecology that is practiced at broad spatial scales or is concerned with the effects of landscape-mosaic structure on ecological phenomena. Yet other approaches lie between these perspectives. This diversity is the strength of landscape ecology. The continued growth and development of landscape ecology as a discipline, and of the IALE as an organization representing that discipline, rest upon directing this diversity of viewpoints and approaches to the common theme of understanding landscape dynamics and their effects, and then relating this knowledge to a wide range of basic, applied, and policy problems.

The first challenge facing the IALE then, is to unify landscape ecology, so that landscape ecologists addressing different problems using different approaches will recognize their common foundation rather than debating their differences. The second challenge we face is to advance landscape ecology as a science. If we expect to have credibility in applying landscape ecology to policy formulation, to problems in conservation biology, or to elements of basic ecological theory, we must be certain that our conclusions have a firm scientific basis, founded on solid empirical information and sound principles. Meeting both these challenges requires the establishment of a firm conceptual core for landscape ecology, a core that can be a foundation for the wide range of biological or humanistic approaches to landscape questions. We can meet these challenges and develop this core by fostering greater interactions among the IALE membership through our meetings, publications, and electronic communications, drawing on the diversity of views and approaches that gives landscape ecology its validity and its promise.

### New IALE Executive Committee elected

The three "scrutineers" have the results of the election to the new IALE Executive Committee, elected at the IALE congress in Toulouse. Parida Kunepong (Thailand), Katherine Freemark (USA) and Françoise Burel (France) have pleasure in announcing the following:

The new Executive Committee will consist of:

President: John A. Wiens (USA)  
Past president (elected in 1991): Henri Decamps (France)  
Vice president: Almo Farina (Italy)  
Vice president (elected in 1991): Paul Opdam (The Netherlands)  
Vice president (elected in 1991): Joan Nassauer (USA)  
Secretary General: Michael R. Moss (Canada)  
Bulletin Editor and Deputy Secretary General: Jesper Brandt (Denmark)  
Treasurer: Rob H.G. Jongman (The Netherlands)

Of 187 voters among members in good standing or corresponding members, the following votes were given:

For President:	John A. Wiens: 118 (elected)
	Milan Ruzicka: 69
For Vice President:	Xiao Duning: 106 (elected)
	Majid Husain: 72
For Vice President:	Almo Farina: 107 (elected)
	Andrzej Richling: 59
	Ülo Mander: 16
For Secretary General:	Michael R. Moss: 175 (elected)
For Bulletin Editor:	Jesper Brandt: 176 (elected)
For Treasurer:	Rob H.G. Jongman: 109 (elected)
	Hubert Gulinck: 69

### IALE Membership fee for 1996

No, we have not forgotten it! Due to the election of the new IALE Executive Committee, payment of the IALE fee for 1996 has been postponed. At the E.C. meeting in Toulouse it was decided to hand over the membership registration and fee payment to the new Treasurer. Newly elected, Rob Jongman has to organize this and set up a bank account in The Netherlands. You will be hearing from him shortly!

For your information: the General Assembly of the IALE has decided to increase the fee to the equivalent of US\$ 20.00 per year for ordinary members.

**IALE Executive Committee  
Presentation of newly elected members**

**JOHN A. WIENS, President**

Department of Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523, USA

Born: 29 September 1939, Moscow, Idaho

Education: 1966. Ph.D. Thesis "An approach to the study of ecological relationships among grassland birds"; Major Professor: John T. Emlen, Minor Professor: Grant Cottam

**Academic appointments:**

1959–1961: Research assistant, Department of Zoology, University of Oklahoma

1961–1966: Teaching assistant and Museum Curator, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin

1966–1969: Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Oregon State University

1969–1975: Associate Professor, Department of Zoology, Oregon State University

1972 (summer): Visiting Professor, University of Oklahoma Biological Station

1973–1974: Visiting Research Associate, Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, Colorado State University

1975–1978: Professor, Department of Zoology, Oregon State University

1976–1978: Acting Chairman, Department of Zoology, Oregon State University

1978–1986: Distinguished Professor, Department of Biology, University of New Mexico

1984–1985: Visiting Professor, School of Biological Sciences, University of Sydney, Australia

1986: Professor of Ecology, Department of Biology, Colorado State University

1986: Senior Ecologist, Graduate Degree Program in Ecology, Colorado State University

1986: Adjunct Distinguished Professor of Biology, University of New Mexico

1986: Visiting Research Professor, University of Oslo, Norway

1993–1994: Visiting Professor, University of British Columbia, Vancouver

**Honors and Awards:**

Fulbright Senior Scholar Award for Studies in Australia, 1984–1985

Visiting Scientist Award, Norwegian National Science Foundation, 1989

Elliot Coues Award, American Ornithologists' Union, 1991

Best paper in the Discipline of Landscape Ecology, International Association for Landscape Ecology (US Regional Chapter), 1994

**Major research interests:**

Landscape-mosaic approaches to biological conservation and reserve design; effects of land use on biodiversity and community structure; behavioral ecology; structure of vertebrate communities in semiarid environments; effects of environmental patch dynamics on populations; spatial and temporal scaling in ecological systems; boundary dynamics in landscape ecosystems; plant-herbivore-predator linkages in desert ecosystems; ontogeny and adaptiveness of habitat responses in vertebrates; dynamics and trophic relationships of marine bird communities.

**DUNING XIAO, Vice-President**

Director of the Department of Landscape Ecology, Institute of Applied Ecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Senior scientist, Research Professor

Education: B.Sc. 1954–1958, Peking University, China  
Visiting scholar, 1983–1985, University of Minnesota, USA.

**Scientific background:**

Vice General Secretary of the China Soil Science Society  
Chair of Land Resource Committee of the China Nature Resources Science Society

Vice Chair of the Landscape Ecology Committee of the China Ecology Science Society

Regional contact of the IALE in China, 1987–1995

Member of the Evaluation Committee of China Forest Landscape

Committee member of the Wetland Research Center of the Chinese Academy of Sciences

Committee member of the Regional Development Research Center of the Chinese Academy of Sciences

Presided over the First National Congress of Landscape Ecology in China (1989, Shenyang)

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 and planners and interdisciplinary scientific research. IALE Executive Committee: President, Henri Décamps (France); Past-President, Gray Merriam (Canada); Vice-Presidents, Joan Iverson Nassauer (USA), Eduardo R. Fuentes (Chile), Paul F.M. Opdam (The Netherlands), Vaclav Mejstrik (Czech Republic). General Secretary, Almo Farina, Lunigiana Museum of Natural History, 54001 Aulla, Italy, Phone: (+39.187) 400 252, Fax: (+39.187) 420 727. Deputy General Secretary and Bulletin Editor, Jesper Brandt, Inst. Geography & International Development Studies, Roskilde University, P.O. Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark, Phone: (+46) 757 711, ext. 2463, Fax: (+46) 754 240, E-mail: brandt@ruc.dk. Treasurer, James F. Thorne, The Nature Conservancy, Pennsylvania Chapter, 1211 Chestnut Street, 12th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107 4122, USA, Phone: (+1.215) 963 1400.

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Compiled a publication on *The Theory, Method and Application of Landscape Ecology*, Chinese Forestry Press, 1981

#### ALMO FARINA, Vice-President

Almo Farina is 45 years old, Doctor in Natural Sciences, Pisa University, 1974, Italy

##### Administrative related experience:

1980–1984: Delegate Director of the Lunigiana Museum of Natural History, Aulla

1984: Director of the Lunigiana Museum of Natural History, Aulla

1988: Director of the Laboratory of Landscape Ecology at the Lunigiana Museum of Natural History, Aulla

##### Teaching-related experience:

1976–1979: Field assistant to the Zoological Chair, Pisa University

1976–1984: Teacher of Biology, High Commercial School, Fivizzano

1992–1995: Professor of Landscape Ecology, Padova University, on annual contract

1992–1995: Visiting Professor at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute, Chania, Greece

1995–: Professor of Landscape Ecology, Parma University, on annual contract

##### Participation in international seminars and meetings:

Organizer of the First Congress of the Italian Society of Ornithology, 1981

Organizer of the First Conference on Birds Wintering in the Mediterranean Region, 1984

Coordinator of the International Symposium on Land Abandonment during the IALE World Congress in Ottawa, 1991

Organizer of the International Symposium on the Future of the Mediterranean Landscape, Montecatini, 1992

Co-organizer of the International Symposium on Landscape Ecology for Sustainable Land Use and Restoration of Biodiversity, XV International Botanical Congress, Tokyo, Japan

Coordinator of the Symposium on Education, IALE World Congress, Toulouse, 1995

Secretary General and Organizer of the VII INTECOL meeting in 1998

##### Major research activities:

Eco-ethology of vertebrates, landscape ecological studies, land abandonment of upland areas and effects on landscape and fauna.

##### Publications:

More than 130 reports, articles and books on zoology, eco-ethology, bird community ecology, landscape ecology, landscape changes, rural landscape modification.

#### JESPER BRANDT, Bulletin Editor

Jesper Brandt, born 1946. Geographer, Associate Professor at the Department of Geography and International Development Studies, Roskilde University, Denmark, since 1974.

Has been working with landscape ecology since the end of the seventies, especially with the structure and dynamics of semicultural habitats ('small biotopes') in agricultural landscape.

Coordinating and interdisciplinary research project, 1995–2000, on "Values, Landscape and Biodiversity", sponsored by four different Danish research councils.

1988–1991: General Secretary of the IALE. Since 1991, Editor of the IALE Bulletin. Member of the Editorial Board of the journal, *LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY*.

Organizer of the First International Seminar of the IALE in Roskilde, 1984, and the European IALE Seminar on 'Practical Landscape Ecology', Roskilde, 1991.

Goal within the IALE: To stimulate communication between the different scientific schools within landscape ecology, and between scientists, planners and other landscape practitioners.

#### ROB H.G. JONGMAN, Treasurer

Rob Jongman is 46 years old, is senior researcher at Wageningen Agricultural University (WAU) and at the European Center for Nature Conservation (ECNC), The Netherlands. He studied biology at the Catholic University in Nijmegen, specializing in vegetation science and landscape ecology. He did his PhD thesis at WAU on Landscape Ecology and Spatial Organization in River Systems.

The first years after his study he did several short research projects for consultancies. In 1976–1977 he worked for one year for Nature Conservation Authorities. From 1977–1982 he worked for the provincial government of Gelderland and was responsible for nature conservation in relation to regional planning purposes, and he initiated the development of a river floodplain policy.

In 1982 he joined the Department of Physical Planning at Wageningen Agricultural University. He became a member of staff working in the field of application of ecology in planning. His present field of research is "Ecological Networks in Europe", and for this project he has developed cooperation throughout Europe. Since September 1994 he has been seconded to the ECNC to coordinate landscape ecological research for Nature Conservation planning in Europe.

**MICHAEL R. MOSS, Secretary General**

Michael R. Moss: Currently Associate Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences and Professor of Geography at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Has ongoing research focusing on land system processes (particularly as applied to landscape classifications), forest dynamics within agroecosystems, and geomorphic/biotic process interaction and its relevance to planning and resource management on the Niagara Escarpment. Has worked extensively in Indonesia on matters of regional and rural development and on curriculum development within the university system there. He has also worked in Malaysia and has experience in France and New Zealand.

He was a founding member of the Canadian Society for

Landscape Ecology and Management, its first President, and Editor of the first two volumes in its publication series. He was Vice-Chair of the Landscape Synthesis/Environmental Management Working Group of the IALE. He served on the scientific committee for the Ottawa IALE Congress, 1991, and organized a major session at the Toulouse IALE Congress, 1995.

As General Secretary Michael Moss will endeavour to strengthen the work of the IALE, particularly through more involvement of the membership in ongoing research and transfer of ideas, and by quick(er) distribution of research reports, etc. He is also particularly interested in encouraging the development of landscape ecology in the "Third World" in the fields of resource management, land planning and education.

**DIARY**

- 24–27 March. Disseminating Biodiversity Information, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Information: Conference Office, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Spui 21, 1012 WX Amsterdam, The Netherlands
  - 24–29 March. EMBRAPA: 1st International Symposium on Tropical Savannas, Brasilia, Brazil. Information: L.M. Andrade, EMBRAPA-CPAC, Caixa Postal 08.223, Planaltina, DF 73301-970, Brazil
  - 27–29 March. Restoration Ecology for Sustainable Development, Zürich, Switzerland. Information: Geobotanical Institute SFIT Zürich, Secretary, Zürichbergstrasse 38, CH-8044 Zürich, Switzerland
  - 2–3 April. 3rd Remote Sensing Society Conference: Terra 3; Understanding the Terrestrial Environment, Chester, UK. Information: Prof. Paul Mather, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD, UK
  - 29 April–4 May. Carbon and Nutrient Dynamics in Natural and Agricultural Tropical Ecosystems, Harare, Zimbabwe. Information: B. Campbell, Institute of Environmental Studies, University of Zimbabwe, Box MP 167, Harare, Zimbabwe
  - 6–8 May. International Symposium on Transact Studies on Global Change and Biodiversity, Beijing, China. Information: DIWPA Workshop Secretary, c/o Prof. Goh Chong Jin, National University of Singapore, Lower Kent Ridge Road, Singapore 0511
  - 20–23 June. IALE International Conference on Perspectives of Rural Landscapes in Europe, Pärnu, Estonia. Information: Prof. Ülo Mander, University of Landscape Ecology and Management, its first President, and Editor of the first two volumes in its publication series. He was Vice-Chair of the Landscape Synthesis/Environmental Management Working Group of the IALE. He served on the scientific committee for the Ottawa IALE Congress, 1991, and organized a major session at the Toulouse IALE Congress, 1995.
- Tartu, 46 Vanemuise St., EE-2400 Tartu, Estonia
- 30 June–4 July. 6th International Conference "Preservation of our world in the wake of change", Jerusalem, Israel. Information: Ortra Ltd., 2 Kaufmann St., P.O. Box 50432, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel
  - 9–19 July. XVII ISPRS Congress, International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, Vienna, Austria. Information: Mondial Congress, Faulmannsgasse 4, A-1040, Vienna, Austria, +43-1-58804, E-mail: congress@mondial.via.at., Reg. form through WWW Homepage: <http://www.via.at/mondial>
  - 2–6 September. World Heritage Tropical Forests: Science for Better Conservation Management Conference, Cairns, Australia. Information: Conference Secretariat, Fax: +61-7-369-0477
  - 10–16 September. 39th Symposium of the International Association of Vegetation Science: Vegetation Science and Landscape Ecology, Lancaster, UK. Information: Unit of Vegetation Science, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YQ, UK
  - 16–20 September. International Conference on European Lowland Wet Grasslands Management and Restoration for Biodiversity, České Budejovicé, Czech Republic. Information: Gill Giles, tel: +44 1509 223030
  - 22–26 September. 5th Intecol International Wetlands Conference, Perth, Australia. Information: Dr Jenny Davis, School of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Murdoch University, Murdoch, WA 6150, Australia