



Bulletin

International Association for Landscape Ecology

MY ROLE AND THE CONTRIBUTION OF SLOVAK LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF IALE. *By Milan Ruzicka*

In the beginning was vegetation and geobotany. But my interests went beyond merely knowing how to group plants into communities to include those areas such as soil ecology, microclimatology, ground water regime, prehistory and landforms, in order to understand the underlying conditions and regularities of plant communities. This systems approach became the basis of a project on the geobotanical mapping of potential natural vegetation of Slovakia. From these geobotanical maps it was not too far to an ecological approach to landscape research. In 1962 I founded the Department of Landscape Biology and Management and in 1965 transformed this into the Institute of Landscape Biology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. This was one of the first scientific institutes in Czechoslovakia to be based on an interdisciplinary and a systems approach. The Institute began with four scientists and rose to a staff of 100 in 1975. But during this time I felt my efforts to develop this new ecological direction in the biological sciences to be a very lonely one. We needed encouragement to defend ourselves against the misunderstanding and conservatism of other scientific branches and we needed cooperation on both methodological and theoretical problems. We found this cooperation through contacts with institutes in Germany and France. These contacts led to the idea of initiating international symposia on the problems of landscape ecological research. The first of these was organized in Bratislava and the High Tatras in 1967, and over the next three years in other locations in Slovakia. These symposia began to act as a bridge between the East and the West. So the recent, Eleventh Symposium on Problems of Landscape Ecological Research (1997), was an occasion to review activities of the last 30 years or more from the establishment of the Institute of Landscape Biology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in 1965 to the present and the influence this has had on IALE generally.

The First Symposium, held in 1967, concluded with the following priorities and recommendations:

The history of the International symposia on problems of landscape ecological research (Slovakia)

- I.** Theoretical problems of biological landscape research
(September 4th - 9th, 1967, Bratislava - Vychodná, Czechoslovakia)
- II.** The application of landscape ecology and practice
(September 21st - 24th, 1970, Smolenice, Czechoslovakia)
- III.** The content and objectives of complex landscape research in the protection and formation of the human environment
(November 28th - December 1st, 1973, Smolenice, Czechoslovakia)
- IV.** Ecological data for optimum landscape utilization
(November 22nd - 26th, 1976, Smolenice, Czechoslovakia)
- V.** Ecological stability, resistance, diversity, potential productivity, and the equilibrium of landscape
(November 19th - 23rd, 1979, Stará Lesná, Czechoslovakia)
- VI.** The ecosystem approach to (agricultural) landscapes
(October 25th - 30th, 1982, Pišťany, Czechoslovakia)

(The Foundation of IALE)

- VII.** Topical problems of landscape ecological research and planning
(October 21st - 26th, 1985 Pezinok, Czechoslovakia)
- VIII.** Spatial and functional relationships in landscape ecology
(October 3rd - 7th, Zemplínska Širava, Czechoslovakia)
- IX.** Theory and practice in landscape ecology
(October 14th - 19th, 1991, Dudince, Czechoslovakia)
- X.** The present state and new trends in landscape ecology
(November 21st - 24th, Smolenice, Slovakia)
- XI.** Systems approach to landscape research
(November 12th - 16th, 1997, Nitra, Slovakia)

Cont. on page 3

Foreign Scholar Travel Awards for the 5th World Congress of IALE

The United States Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE) has a program to support attendance at the annual meeting by landscape ecologists from foreign countries. Each recipient of a Foreign Scholar Travel Award (FTSA) will receive a grant of \$1,000 to permit attendance at the 5th World Congress in Colorado next summer.

The selection criteria are:

1. Previous recipients of US-IALE Foreign Scholar Travel Awards are ineligible.
2. Applicants must not be U.S. citizens, or reside in the United States. Foreign students studying in the United States are ineligible to apply.
3. Recipients must give a paper or poster presentation at the Congress on their research in landscape ecology. We will favor applicants who demonstrate that their research (i) advances the scientific basis of landscape ecology, and or (ii) the application of landscape ecology for natural resource protection or management. New and established landscape ecologists are encouraged to apply.
4. Applications from citizens of G7 countries (France, US, Britain, Germany, Japan, Italy, Canada) will not be accepted.
5. Applicants must have demonstrated financial need and show that without FTSA support, they would not be able to attend the Congress.
6. Applicants must demonstrate that attending the 5th World Congress will represent a significant professional opportunity for developing their expertise in landscape ecology and establishing working relationships with landscape ecologists from other countries.

To apply the following information should be submitted by 15 April 1999: Name, institution, Email address, postal address, citizenship and Curriculum vitae.

Title, abstract, and 500 word summary (in English) of the paper or poster you will present at the 5th World Congress. Be sure to explain how your research extends the scientific basis or application of landscape ecology.

Statement on what you hope to gain from attending the 5th World Congress (no more than 500 words, in Eng-

lish). Explain why you need financial assistance to attend the conference.

Application materials may be submitted by email to USIALE-FSTA@edc.uri.edu, by fax to +1401 874-4561, or by post to Peter August, Dept. of Natural Resources Science, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881 USA. All application materials must be received by the deadline date of 15 April 1999. Other relevant deadlines include: abstracts for the World Congress must be submitted by 1 March and the deadline for early registration is 1 April.

Awards will be announced on or before 1 June, 1999.

For More Information:

www.edc.uri.edu/iale for information on *USIALE*
www.edc.uri.edu/USIALE-FSTA, for additional information on the *Foreign Scholars Travel Award*
<http://lamar.colostate.edu/~iale/Congress.htm> for information on the *5th World Congress*
 Other questions - email us at USIALE_FSTA@edc.uri.edu

Medals for Richard Forman

Richard T. T. Forman, PAES Professor of Landscape Ecology at Harvard University, received the Medal of the University of Florence (Universita degli Studi di Firenze) Faculty of Architecture in Florence, Italy in 1997. The presentation was in recognition of leadership in landscape ecology and its role in landscape architecture and planning. In 1994, 1997 and 1998 Forman presented seminar-workshops on landscape ecology in Florence for professionals and academics in planning, forestry, conservation, architecture, hydrology, engineering and ecology. Professor Forman was also awarded a Charles University 650th Anniversary Medal at a 1998 celebration of the oldest university of Central Europe. In an elegant ceremony at the historical Carolinum in Prague, the Vice Rector made the award "in appreciation of your scientific activity and its positive influence on the development of science in the Czech Republic." The event, which recognized the important work of landscape ecologists, was held in conjunction with the inaugural conference of the Czech Section of IALE focusing on nature and culture.

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: +1 970 491 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 Moss. Faculty of Env. Science, Blackwood Hall, Trent Lane, University of Guelph, Ontario N1G 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, Dept. of Geography and International Development Studies, Roskilde University, P.O. Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark, Tel: +45 46 74 24 63, Fax: +45 46 74 30 32, e-mail: brandt@ruc.dk; Treasurer. Rob Jongman, 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: robjongman@plano.rpv.wau.nl.

Deadline Bulletin volume 17 no 3 is April 10, 1999

Cont. from page 1

this information, and to support future co-operation.

2. To establish a journal of international scope with an international editorial board.

3. To use the model established by the First Symposium to organize future meetings, and to focus upon specific problems.

The Eleventh Symposium was therefore an opportunity to review the successful outcomes of these recommendations. The major achievements are:

1. At the time of the Sixth Symposium, held in Piest'any in 1982, IALE was founded.

2. In 1982 *Ekológia* (Bratislava) was established, and in 1987 *Landscape Ecology*, the international journal, was first published.

3. Over eleven international symposia and three World Congresses have been held together with other international seminars, workshops and scientific meetings.

The traditions established by the early international symposium (see Table 1) played an important role in developing the role of landscape ecological research in many European countries. This same tradition was followed by landscape ecologists in the Netherlands who established their, still active Society for Landscape Ecology (WLO). In 1981 this group organized the first international congress on landscape ecology at Veldhoven, the Netherlands. This meeting was a critical step in enhancing international contacts.

The first working principles for the foundation of IALE were accepted at Veldhoven in the presence of 300 participants from 24 countries. A Preparatory Committee was established, consisting of members of the Dutch Society (WLO) led by Drs. S.M. ten Houte de Lange, with the recommendation that at the Sixth International Symposium to be held in Czechoslovakia in 1982, IALE should be established. This proposal was based on the fact that the Czechoslovak symposia had already established the type of co-operation envisaged by the Veldhoven congress participants. Therefore, at the Sixth International Symposium on Problems of Landscape Ecological Research, held at Piest'any, Slovakia, from October 25th to 30th, 1982, in the presence of 114 scientists from 15 countries, IALE was born. The fact that IALE was established in Czechoslovakia was seen as an honour to Slovak science and research in laying the foundations of international co-operation in the field.

This 35 year tradition of international co-operation and development of landscape ecology culminated at the Eleventh International Symposium from November 12th to 16th, 1997, in Nitra, Slovakia. The Eleventh Symposium was attended by 70 participants from 11 countries (Austria, Belgium, Belarussia, China, Czech Republic, Germany, Japan, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Slovak Republic). The opening speech was given by Ing. Julius Oszlányi,

CSc., Director of the Institute of Landscape Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences. Two introductory speeches were devoted to the contribution of Slovak landscape ecology to the origin and development the IALE (M. Ruzicka), and to landscape system analysis in environmental management (A. Richling, Poland).

The main papers of the Symposium were devoted to the topic of the systems approach to landscape research. And in the scientific part of the meeting the IALE Working Group, 'Landscape System Analysis in Environmental Management', was present and held its own meetings as part of the Symposium. Forty-eight papers and 37 posters were presented, some containing theoretical and methodical approaches. Case studies were included from European and Asian regions. Many papers were directed toward solving practical environmental problems. In particular mention should be made of new theoretical approaches and methods for the evaluation of vulnerable and contaminated areas, the evaluation of the quality of the environment and human influence, and of landscape process modelling. A good deal of attention was devoted to techniques, especially GIS, integrated environmental information systems, distance/space research, and multimedia methods.

The papers presented at the Symposium, and accepted for publication, have been organized into five topics. Papers on the topic, Micro- and Macrostructure of Landscape and Ecosystem Research in Landscape Ecology, are published in *Ekológia* (Bratislava), Vol 17, No. 3. A Supplement (1/98) of *Ekológia* (Bratislava) contains the other 4 topics: Landscape System Analysis and Application in Environmental Management, Landscape Structure and Processes in Changing Environments, Landscape Perception and Aesthetic Values, and Approaches and Trends in Teaching Landscape Ecology.

Please send all articles to:

Jesper Brandt

Dept. of Geography and International Development Studies

Roskilde University

P.O.Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark

Tel.: +45 46 74 24 63

Fax: +45 46 75 30 32

e-mail: brandt@ruc.dk

Diary

1999

March 25-26

Landscape development and evolution from a historical perspective: relevance to understanding current conditions: a workshop of the IALE working group is to be held in Kostelec nad Cernými lesy, Czech Republic. Contact Dr. Zdenek Lipsky, Institute of Applied Ecology, Czech Agricultural University of Prague, 281 63 Kostelec nad Cernými lesy, Czech Republic. Tel.: 00420 203 697 521, Fax: 00420 203 697 500, E-mail: lipsky@kostelec.czu.cz

April 12-16

ITC, Enschede, The Netherlands. Short course Environmental Modelling with GIS and Remote Sensing. Contact: J. Looijen, ITC, P.O.Box 2, 7500 AA Enschede, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 (0) 53 4874265; Fax: +31 (0) 53 4874399; E-mail: Looijen@itc.nl. Or use the Website: <http://www.itc.nl/ha2/ace/shortcourse/flyer>.

April 22-23

IALE-France: "Functional role of edges and ecotones" will be held in Besançon (France). Specific workshops will be organized including one on "tools and methods for landscape mapping". Informations: Patrick Giraudoux, Laboratoire de Biologie et Ecophysiologie, Place Leclerc, 25030 Besançon cedex (France), fax:+33 (0)381 665 698, Patrick. Giraudoux@univ-fcomte.fr

June 24-26

The human dimensions of global environmental change research community. Shonan Village, Kanagawa 240-0115, Japan. Contact the IGES Web Site (<http://www.iges.or.jp/>), e-mail: hdgec@iges.or.jp, Fax: +81 468 55 3709 to Mr. Yasushi Itoh, IGES, Shonan Village Center

July 21

Hedgerow Conservation - policy, Protection and Evaluation, Nene University College, Northampton. Contact Convenor Dr. Duncan McCollin, Nene - University College, Northampton, Park Campus, Northampton, NN2 7AL. Tel.: 01604 735500, e-mail: duncan.mccollin@nene.ac.uk

July 29-August 3

1999 IALE World Congress, Snowmass Village, Colorado. Contact IALE President John A. Wiens, Fax: +1 970 491 0649, e-mail: jaws@lamar.colostate.edu
NB! Look at the web site for the IALE Congress: <http://lamar.colostate.edu/-iale/Congress.htm>

August 25-27

Ecology and Management of Ungulates: Intergrating across spatial scales, British Columbia. Contact Dr. Evelyn Merrill, College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, WI 54481; 715/346-4112; e-mail:

emerrill@uwsp.edu. For further details on abstract submission visit our website (<http://wildlife1.uwsp.edu/ungul99>)

September 6-10

Management of Biodiversity from a Landscape Ecological Perspective - PhD Course. Roskilde University, Roskilde, Denmark. Contact Professor Peder Agger, Hus 11.2, RUC, P.Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark, e-mail pa@ruc.dk

September 7-8

Heterogeneity in Landscape Ecology: Pattern and Scale-Long Ashton Research Station, Bristol, UK. Contact Dr. Martin Maudsley or Dr. Jon Marshall, IACR - Long Ashton Research Station, Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Bristol, Long Ashton, Bristol, BS41 9AF. Tel.: 01275 392181, Fax: 01275 394007, E-mail:martin.maudsley@bbsrc.ac.uk or jon.marshall@bbsrc.ac.uk

September 20-22

Field Margins and Buffer Zones Conference, University of Leicester, Oadby, Leicester. Contact Mrs, Carol Millman, AAB Office, c/o HRI Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF, UK. Tel.: +44 (0)1789 470382, ext. 191, Fax: +44 (0)1789 470234, E-mail: carol.aab@hri.ac.uk
For further details visit our website (<http://www.hri.ac.uk/aab/>)

October 5 - 10

Landscape System Analysis in Environmental Management. Poland - IALE: a conference is to be held in surroundings of Warsaw, Poland. Contact Conference Secretary Jerzy Lechnio M.Sc. Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies, University of Warsaw, 00-927, Warsaw, Krakowskie Przedmiescie 30, (IALE Conference), Tel.: (48 22) 620 03 81 ext. 631, 633, (48 22) 826 98 71, Fax: (48 22) 826 19 65, E-mail: jlechnio@wgsr.uw.edu.pl

October 21-23

Cultural Landscapes: Material Reality or Social Constructions?: The V. International Conference is to be held in Banska Stiavnica, Slovakia. Contact Dr. Ladislav Miklos, UNESCO-Chair, Academica 13, 969 00 Banska Stiavnica, Slovakia. Tel./Fax:+42 1 859 621 065. E-mail: unchair@zv.sanet.sk

**DEADLINE FOR THE
NEXT BULLETIN IS
APRIL 10, 1999**