



IMPORTANT:  
IALE NOMINATIONS  
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# Bulletin

## International Association for Landscape Ecology

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### FROM THE IALE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Any comment to the IALE EC, please get back to your Secretary General*

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#### Dear IALE members

The current Executive Committee (EC) of IALE is in its third year of this term and it's about time to report again on our activities. While we are very busy with the preparation for the next World Congress there are many other activities to report on.

Have you recently looked at the IALE homepage (<http://www.landscape-ecology.org>)? Besides updated news, overviews on the regions, and workings groups, we have also established a 6-tier publication system – one of them is the online “IALE Landscape Research and Management papers”. The Editor-in-chief is Dr. B.G.H. Bunce, with the Editorial Committee of: Dr. Emilio Padoa Schioppa, Dr. Geoff Griffith, Dr. Aat Barendregt. The first volume is available online. We would like to encourage our members to use this opportunity to share your own manuscripts with the wider IALE community.

One of our major tasks is to create more transparency of the EC work for its members, in this respect:

- We have created a process where we have an official call of interest for super regional meetings such as the European one. Therefore, the venue for these meetings will be decided with a democratic process and every region can apply. The call for the 2009 European meeting is now closed and it will be a joint organisation between three IALE regions (Germany, Slovakia and Switzerland).
- We are in the process of applying the same process to the 2011 World Congress. The call will be out later in the year. This may be perceived as a change since recent Congresses were linked to the president (or the president's residency); however the statutes do not dictate this linkage, and we thus are making the process of choosing the Congress site and president separate.
- We have formed a working group on teaching and education in Landscape Ecology (LE-Net). If you have not

heard of it – have a look on the IALE portal. Together with the Scientific Committee of the World Congress, the chair of the working group has created a “call for intensive courses” linked to the 2007 IALE World Congress in the Netherlands. We are especially pleased about the high number of expression of interests.

- We have created two volumes of a “IALE handbook”. Louis Iverson is developing and maintaining the draft document and we will present the outcome at the next World Congress in Wageningen July 2007.

#### There are more activities ...

- We have created and update regularly an **IALE flyer**. We would like to encourage each member to download it from the IALE portal and circulate it widely – take it to landscape and related conferences you participate in.
- We have reactivated the **IALE Council**. The chair of the Council – Jesper Brandt – will contact all regions directly later this summer.
- We have updated our **regions inventory** and are very pleased to see that IALE has 15 quite active regions all over the world.
- We have produced and circulated an update of its annual **directory**, thanks to Rob Jongman who has just finalised the 2006 version. Please remember that the directory can only be as updated as you provide us with any changes of your address and membership.
- We are very pleased that after negotiation with the journal Landscape Ecology IALE has now space to announce IALE related activities. Sandra Luque – in her role as vice president – has taken on the job to coordinate this **public relation**.
- The **IALE Bulletin** is currently very active. In this issue we announce the call for nominations for several positions in the IALE EC.

## CALL FOR NOMINATION OF POSITIONS FOR THE IALE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2007-2011

The IALE executive committee consists of a President (Bob Bunce), the Past-President (Richard Hobbs), four Vice-Presidents (Louis R. Iverson, Nobukazu Nakagoshi, Sandra Luque and Mária Kozová), a Secretary-General (Marion Potschin), a Treasurer (Rob Jongman) and a Bulletin Editor (Felix Kienast). The members are elected for a four-year term, with the last general election in July 2003. Two of the four Vice-Presidents are elected to a four-year term between the general elections. In the existing Executive Committee, Sandra Luque and Mária Kozová were elected as Vice-Presidents in 2005, and will thus continue after the next general election until 2009, when a new election of two Vice-Presidents for 2009-2013 will be launched.

According to the IALE statutes (G1) a request for nomination of candidates for the positions as President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary-General, Treasurer and Bulletin Editor are hereby distributed to the members.

Nominations shall be made by two members in Good Standing and shall be consented to in writing by the signature of the nominee. These nomination forms are due in the hands of the Secretary-General before 15. December 2006. The nomination form (download at [http://www.wsl.ch/land/iale/bulletins/nom\\_form.pdf &.doc](http://www.wsl.ch/land/iale/bulletins/nom_form.pdf &.doc)) may be used, but E-mails confirming the nomination and consent of the nominee will also be accepted, provided they are sent individually from these persons. The members proposing the nominations are asked to enclose a short description of motives and recommendations for the nominee. The nominee is asked to enclose a short biography and a position statement for the nomination (in all not more than 1000 letters), suitable for publication. This should be forwarded together with the nomination form.

The Secretary-General will deliver all valid nominations to the Chairs of the Nominating Committee. The nominating committee is chaired by the present Past-President (Richard Hobbs, Australia) and the present Chairman of the IALE Council (Jesper Brandt, Denmark). They will appoint three additional members to the Nominating Committee, in a manner intended to provide regional representation and valid information concerning the received nominations. Nominations may also be made by the Nominating Committee, with the consent of the nominee.

The Nominating Committee will develop a slate with (if possible) at least two eligible candidates for each of the positions, to be filled in the election. Candidates will be selected from the nominations received with reference to: considera-

tions of the Statutes of the Association, needs of each particular office, the international and regional nature of IALE, the interdisciplinary character of IALE, and other criteria likely to affect the vitality of IALE.

Before 1. February 2007 the Chair of the Nominating Committee will distribute a ballot to all members of IALE International currently in Good Standing, containing the slate of candidates for all positions to be filled in the election. Space for write-in candidates will be provided for each position, but such candidates must have agreed to serve if elected. The ballot will be a secret ballot. To be valid, ballots must be returned to the Chair of the Nominating Committee (Brandt) not later than 15. April 2007,

The election will be a web-based. The ballot will be distributed by E-mail, together with biography and position statements prepared by the candidates, to all members listed in a membership directory updated per 1. January 2007. Members without an E-mail-address will receive a ballot via mail. Ballots returned by postal mail must be in the hands of the Chair of the Nominating Committee before the end of the election on 15. April 2007.

Candidates for each position will be elected by a simple majority of valid ballots cast. In the event that there is only one candidate for a position, election of the single nominee by acclamation will be indicated by a simple majority of the votes cast.

The results of the election will be announced in the first IALE Bulletin after 15 April 2007.

Jesper Brandt and Richard Hobbs  
Chairs of the Nominating Committee

Download the nomination form:

[http://www.wsl.ch/land/iale/bulletins/nom\\_form.pdf](http://www.wsl.ch/land/iale/bulletins/nom_form.pdf)

or

[http://www.wsl.ch/land/iale/bulletins/nom\\_form.doc](http://www.wsl.ch/land/iale/bulletins/nom_form.doc)

*...continued from page 1 (From the IALE EC)*

The bulletin editor Felix Kienast is always grateful for any information you would like to share with all IALE members. He encourages original contributions on recent research findings from your research projects!

- We are working on changes in the statutes to create a smoother operating organisation.

The organisation for our renowned IALE World Congress is working hard to provide a tremendous experience in venue, program, and excursions. Have you recently visited the congress' homepage (<http://www.iale2007.com>)?

- The call for abstracts is now out. Send your 1/2 page long abstract now! The deadline for this first stage is September 1, 2006.
- While the call for symposia is closed, the call for workshops is still open until September 1, 2006. Use this opportunity to create a 1 or 2 hours space at the Congress where you can discuss recent issues in Landscape Ecology in an organised forum.
- Make use of the congress flyer and poster – download and print them off from the homepage and help us circulate the information.
- The registration for the Congress will be open from August 2006 on.
- A more elaborated programme will be available on the web from October 2006 after the Scientific Committee Meeting of 19 September.
- There will be a congress dinner with music, songs and dance; bring your own instrument or at least indicate if you wish to join in making music.

As one can see from the list of activities, it is quite some work. We have now extended our Executive Committee meetings to 1-2 days for the administration only. We meet bi-annually and rotate to the home places of the EC members. However to save our members money we concentrate on locations in Europe (shorter distances for most of us) and usually add a third day to the meeting for organised seminars where EC members can present their research and in return can get some travel expense from their home organisation or from other external sources. While it is a lot of work, we managed to get all EC members to the last EC meeting in Switzerland. The moral and spirit within the Executive Committee of IALE is high and we hope we can transfer some of this to our members. Please get in touch with us if you have ideas of what else "we should be doing". All of our names and addresses are listed in this bulletin.

## MEETING REPORT

### FOREST LANDSCAPE MODELING WORKSHOP, CHINA

The National Natural Science Foundation of China and International Association for Landscape Ecology recently sponsored a comprehensive workshop on Forest Landscape Models (<http://www.usiale.org>) in Beijing, China from June 20 to June 24, 2006. This workshop, hosted by Hong He of the University of Missouri and researchers from the Institute of Applied Ecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, was attended by over 70 scientists and students. Officers and members of China-IALE gave an extensive tour of the Landscape Ecology program at the Chinese Academy of Sciences to Louis Iverson, IALE vice-president, Bob Keane, Secretary, US-IALE, and Hong He, organizer of the workshop. The Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences and the Key Laboratory of Systems Ecology perform extensive studies using landscape ecology and spatial modeling. The Chinese Chapter of IALE has over 200 members and conferences are held every two years with the Chinese Ecological Society. The tour highlighted the impressive array of landscape ecology research in the fields of pollution management, landscape biodiversity, bio-economics, and systems ecology.



*Front Row From Left to Right: Bob Keane, Louis Iverson, Boje Fu, and Hong He*

*Back Row from Left to Right: Liding Chen, Guohua Liu, Yuanman Hu, Yu Chang, Rencang Bu, Yehui Li, and Keming Ma*

## BOOK REVIEW

Jianguo Wu, Bruce Jones, Habin Li, and Oriët Loucks (Editors)  
 2006: *Scaling and Uncertainty Analysis in Ecology. Methods and Applications*, Springer, Dordrecht

The terms “scale”, “scaling” and “uncertainty” are a “must” in landscape ecological studies and are thus found in nearly every (landscape) ecological publication. Numerous publications deal directly with these three topics, each using its own philosophy and terminology. The biggest merit of this book is that it brings some order into the resulting confusion, using a consistent terminology.

The first chapters, which give an overview of scale, scaling and uncertainty concepts and approaches, are well suited “appetizers”. They have just the right amount of detail for the interested reader without drowning her or him in formulae or cloudy abstract concepts.

A lot of emphasis is given to up-scaling, i.e. (1) the descriptive similarity-based up-scaling and (2) the process-based model up-scaling. Upscaling is treated more comprehensively than in comparable publications. However many readers would definitely appreciate more information on commonly used advanced methods, e.g. scale separation or moment equations. Unfortunately no information is available on how to deal with anisotropic, dynamically varying variability. Downscaling, i.e. generating detailed information from coarse sources, is briefly discussed within the framework of climate downscaling. The section on uncertainty analysis should be standard literature for ecological modelers. It is a comprehensive overview of the various uncertainties contained within ecological models. The readers can then understand better approaches to solve their own problems arising with uncertainty of models.

The case study sections provide ideas how the scaling problems are tackled in specific studies. They cover a wide range of scaling and uncertainty issues in different landscape ecological fields, ranging from biodiversity studies, carbon and nitrogen flux studies, to nutrient transport in rivers. The case studies provide, as examples, (1) a method to derive abundance from large-scale presence/absence data based on occupancy theory, (2) a combination of different up-scaling approaches in a heterogeneous landscape, and (3) avenues and problems of using remote sensing data for up-scaling.

The synthesis tries to amalgamate the case studies within the general framework elucidated in the introduction. The authors concentrate on four issues that arise from the case studies, namely (1) the characteristic scale of ecological processes, (2) the effects of observational, experimental and model scales on the results obtained, (3) up- and downscaling approaches, and (4) approaches dealing with uncertainty.

Besides the four main principles, several general rules how scaling should be done are derived, e.g. combining bottom-up and top-down approaches. The synthesis tries hard to merge the small bits and pieces of scaling described in the case studies with the broader view of the introduction. Unfortunately this mission is not completely successful and there remains a discrepancy between the clear, general descriptions in the introduction and the heterogeneous picture of scaling in the case studies. Nevertheless this book has the potential to be a valuable companion for all landscape ecologists that are interested in scaling issues, particularly for those dealing with theoretical landscape ecology and ecological modeling.

*Reviewer: Heike Lischke, Land use dynamics/Ecological process modeling, Swiss Federal Research Institute (WSL), [lischke@wsl.ch](mailto:lischke@wsl.ch)*

The IALE Bulletin is distributed six times a year to the members of the IALE. The IALE - International Association for LandscapeEcology - was founded in 1982 to promote communication between scientists, planners and interdisciplinary scientific research. IALE Executive Committee:  
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IALE on the Internet: IALE International: [www.landscape-ecology.org](http://www.landscape-ecology.org)

## MEETINGS

October 4-7, 2006

**Implementation of Landscape Ecology in the new and changing conditions.** 14. Int. Symposium on Problems of Landscape Ecological Research. Slovak Academy of Sciences, Stara Lesna, High Tatra Mts., Slovakia

More information: <http://www.uke.sav.sk/>

December 4 - 7, 2006

**Regional Perspectives, Policy Responses and Sustainable Development in the Arab Region - Challenges and Opportunities.** International Symposium on Drylands Ecology and Human Security. Dubai

The symposium will be based on an interdisciplinary approach, since especially sustainable development of drylands is a political, ethical, social issue as much as it is a technical concern. Therefore it is now an accepted aspect of the discourse that a special emphasis should be put on the 'soft' sciences - concerning norms, cultural values, political processes, and 'institutions' in the wider sense of the word. Interdisciplinary environmental research in the field of drylands research is of utmost importance, since it will provide the information and understanding needed to enhance development pathways that provide alternatives to economically costly and socially detrimental environmental degradation.

Deadline for Abstracts: September 15, 2006

More information: <http://www.isdehs.com>

February 19-21, 2007

**Riparian Management in Headwater Catchments: Translating Science into Management.** University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

More information: <http://faculty.forestry.ubc.ca/richardson/RiparianManagementConference.htm>

June 15-17, 2007

**Landscape Classification - theory and practice.** Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies, Warsaw University and Polish Association of Landscape Ecology. Warsaw, Poland

The primary aim of the conference will be to discuss methods of landscape classifying and possibilities of its use for practical purposes. The following problems are to be touched:

- theoretical foundations of landscapes' classifications
- landscapes structure and it's classification
- landscapes functioning and it's classification
- visual aspects of landscapes and it's classification
- landscape classification as a tool of quantifying and qualifying of landscapes
- classification and management of landscapes.

Deadlines:

30th of October 2006 – sending up the application form

30th of December 2006 – sending up paper's or poster's abstract

More information: [landscape.wgsr@uw.edu.pl](mailto:landscape.wgsr@uw.edu.pl)

July 8-12, 2007

**25 years Landscape Ecology: Scientific Principles in Practice - IALE World Congress.** Wageningen, The Netherlands

The congress will bring together 25 years of achievements in Landscape Ecology and will focus on the scientific principles and their practical applications to conservation planning, land and water management, and land-use planning both now and in the future. The discussions will show the increasing importance of remote sensing and geographic information systems, spatial statistics and modelling at the present day. The congress will also demonstrate how landscape ecology is playing an increasingly important role in spatial planning in terms of landscape and biodiversity.

More information: <http://www.iale2007.com>

September 3-6, 2007

**Monitoring the Effectiveness of Nature Conservation Programmes.** Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Birmensdorf, Switzerland

Nature protection measures are implemented all over the world in different ways and in different legal contexts. But how well does nature protection work and what exactly do we get from it?

The conference addresses scientists, managers and policy makers active in the fields of nature conservation, environmental impact assessment and landscape planning. Along with the presentation of technological and biological conservation know-how, the conference aims to provide goaled-oriented results and to prove their implementation in nature management.

The conference provides an opportunity to critically assess the achievements of nature protection in general and the scientific methods that are currently used internationally. It aims to determine to what extent the many different nature conservation activities for maintaining the quality of protected ecosystems are successful.

So far monitoring research has been mainly concentrating on determining useful indicators of habitat quality. Now there is a growing demand for monitoring the effectiveness of protection measures as more international money is spent on nature conservation programs. The conference will provide the stakeholders with scientific arguments to justify funds for a sustainable development.

More information: [http://www.wsl.ch/event\\_07/monitoring/](http://www.wsl.ch/event_07/monitoring/)

### Bulletin Deadlines

Vol. 24 no.5: October 31, 2006

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Vol. 25 no.2: April 30, 2007