



KEEPING IN TOUCH

A newsletter for members of the International Association for Society and Natural Resources

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From the Desk of the Executive Director

The International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR) has experienced many changes over the last 24 months or so, including a transition to a new Executive Committee, new editors of our flagship journal *Society and Natural Resources (SNR)*, the offering of a reduced



A.E. Luloff

membership fee for student members (who forgo hard copies of the journal), an updated and more accessible website (www.iasnr.org), and the much anticipated movement to a twelve issue format for the journal. With these changes have come many new opportunities for greater involvement of members in a range of societal activities (including serving on a variety of formal and informal committees, as mentors, manuscript reviewers, and as active participants in our professional meetings), and I encourage everyone to become more involved in IASNR. Our organization is only as strong as our membership and I believe with full participation and commitment we have the capability of becoming the leading transdisciplinary organization devoted to furthering social science research that

addresses environmental and natural resource management issues.

I want to thank Rick Krannich for providing unparalleled service to IASNR. He served as both editor of our journal and as the previous Executive Director. Under his guidance, our organization grew remarkably – vastly exceeding our initial business plan projections in terms of members and, as importantly, in terms of stature associated with our journal. Our two former Executive Directors, Don Field and Rick, left large and indelible footprints and are very tough acts to follow.

I am honored, privileged, energized, and excited by the challenge of serving as the Executive Director of our organization. With the capable assistance of Jim Finley, our new Treasurer, Jerry Vaske, our new Secretary, Tom Beckley and Troy Hall, our current co-editors of *SNR* and Patricia Cohen, their extraordinarily diligent Assistant Editor, a vibrant and engaged Council, and with each of your contributions and participation, we are prepared to move IASNR forward.

Partly by design and partly by chance, this year's *Keeping in Touch* newsletter is being distributed

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Time to Renew Your IASNR Membership for 2010!

All current and past IASNR members are encouraged to renew their memberships for 2010 using our on-line membership renewal and membership management system. Just go to the IASNR web site, www.iasnr.org, and click on the "members" button at the top of the main page. This will take you to the membership management page where you can renew your membership (or establish a new membership) on-line. All on-line membership transactions are processed via credit

card payment through a secure PayPal account established by IASNR specifically for this purpose. Although we do still accept membership payments through the mail (an application form can be downloaded at the bottom of the website membership page), we strongly encourage use of the on-line system both because it is highly secure and because it will substantially speed the processing of your journal subscription and your access to

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2010 ISSRM — Corpus Christi, Texas USA

June 6—10



ISSRM 2010

16th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management
Tyranny of 'Or': Conservation or Development? Preservation or Utilization?

The 16th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) will be hosted by Sam Houston State University from June 6-10, 2010, in Corpus Christi, Texas. The theme of the 2010 ISSRM is the **"Tyranny of 'Or': Conservation or Development? Preservation or Utilization?"** This theme reflects the environmental, social, economic, and policy contexts inherent to a vast array of natural resource management issues worldwide. Traditionally, natural resource management policies have been

Abstracts for scientific papers and posters and proposals for coordinated sessions must be submitted online via the 2010 ISSRM website (www.issrm2010.iasnr.org). The due date for abstracts and proposals is **February 5, 2010**. Authors will be notified whether or not their abstract/proposal has been accepted no later than March 5, 2010.

As in previous years, a **pre-conference student forum** will be held on Sunday, June 6. Students are encouraged to attend this pre-symposium session where they can share research experiences, network with others, and focus on career development opportunities. Building on the strength of student involvement at prior ISSRM meetings, the "Quiz Bowl" competition will once again be featured at the 2010 symposium.

Omni Corpus Christi Hotel

The venue for the 2010 ISSRM is the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel. The Omni Corpus Christi is comprised of two towers – the Marina Tower (located on the left in the picture below) and the Bayfront Tower (located on the right in the picture below). Both towers, which are located just one block apart, will be utilized for the symposium.

Symposium participants – both professionals and students – are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the negotiated room rates at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel. Room rates for students include: single room 85 USD/night; double room 85 USD/night; triple room 115 USD/night; quad room 85 USD/night. Room rates for professionals include: single room 124 USD/night; double room 124 USD/night; triple room 134 USD/night; quad room 134 USD/night. In order to receive the negotiated room rates, symposium



Omni Corpus Christi Hotel

participants must reference the International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR) when making their reservations. **Reservations must be made on or before the cut off date of Saturday, May 15, 2010.**

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Sunset at Corpus Christi

dominated by offering extreme positions – the tyranny of *OR* condition (i.e., conservation *OR* development, preservation *OR* utilization). The selection of any natural resource management issue based on an *OR* scenario is problematic since no choice is made with impunity. All choices have costs. Efforts which seek to strike a balance between these extremes are necessary and will lead to the possibility of an *AND* situation. As a result, we may find greater acceptance of new efforts to implement sustainable natural resource management policies which draw on the best from a series of alternatives.

The 2010 ISSRM will serve as a venue to illuminate and discuss pertinent issues associated with conservation/preservation *AND* development/utilization of the environment and natural resources. The topics to be discussed will include a wide variety of national and international environmental and resource management issues. One timely and salient topic to be emphasized at the 2010 symposium in plenary and other organized forums will be 'energy exploration and production'.

2010 ISSRM Call for Papers - Best Student Paper Awards

ISSRM 2010 June 6—10, Corpus Christi, Texas

If you are a Ph.D., Master's, or undergraduate student, you are invited to submit a paper for consideration in the "Best Student Paper Awards" to be presented at the 16th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) in Corpus Christi, Texas, June 6th – 10th, 2010. The author of the best paper written by a Ph.D. student will win a \$300 cash award, an award plaque, and \$125 in gift certificates for Taylor and Francis Ltd. books/products. The author of the best paper written by a Master's or undergraduate student will win a \$200 cash award and \$125 in gift certificates. Taylor and Francis Ltd. have provided the funds for these awards.

How to win

Your paper must address issues pertaining to the social sciences of natural resources. Papers based on empirical studies and data are preferred, but review articles and thought pieces will be considered. If your paper is judged to be the best of the submissions, you will win for your respective category (Ph.D. or Master's/Undergraduate).

Papers will mainly be judged based on

1. Advancement of knowledge
2. Significance of the topic for society and natural resource management concerns
3. Quality and implementation of the research (if applicable)
4. Analysis and interpretation of the findings (if applicable)
5. Clarity and organization of the writing.

General Requirements

1. The student must attend and present the paper at the 16th ISSRM conference.
2. The student must be a member of the IASNR at the time the paper is submitted.
3. Papers may be co-authored with another student, but not a faculty member.

Paper Requirements

1. Papers cannot exceed 25 pages (inclusive of title, abstract, body of the text, list of references, tables and figures). Papers longer than the 25 page maximum will not be read (strictly enforced).
2. All pages must be double-spaced; 12-point font; and have 1 inch margins on all sides.
3. The paper can follow the Chicago or American Psychological Association or American Sociological Association formatting style.
4. Paper must not have been previously presented at a professional conference or published in a proceedings, book, or journal.

Submission Procedures and Deadlines

By the deadline stated on the conference website, submit an abstract for an oral presentation of a scientific paper. In addition, send via email a copy of your abstract and a letter of intent to submit a full paper to Dr. Jean Mangun at jmangun@siena.edu. When submitting the abstract and letter of intent, please include your name, institutional affiliation, mailing address, telephone number, and email. All submissions must be accompanied by a letter or email from a faculty advisor or department chair addressed to Dr. Mangun certifying your student status.

By **March 15, 2010**, a completed paper should be emailed as a pdf attachment to jmangun@siena.edu.

Award recipients will be notified by **May 3, 2010**.

Additional information about the 16th ISSRM conference can be found at www.issrm2010.iasnr.org. For information on the International Association for Society & Natural Resources (IASNR) and a membership application, please visit the IASNR website at <http://www.iasnr.org>.

University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU) hosts 2009 ISSRM

By Ulrike Probstl

For the second time, the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) took place in Europe. The theme of the 15th ISSRM held in Vienna, Austria, in July 2009, was "Meet Old and New Worlds in Research Planning and Management." The conference, which was organized by the BOKU University, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research, provided a unique opportunity to have a look at these old and new worlds with a focus on the social sciences and resource management. It aimed at enhancing the discussion of methodological traditions in contrast to pragmatic solutions and the exploration of cultural and political influences on planning and decision making processes in all parts of the world.

During this challenging period of global fiscal constraints that undoubtedly affects projects and travel opportunities at most research institutions worldwide, it is remarkable to welcome



*Overlooking Vienna and Danube River from Wienerwald
Photo by Cindy Longmire*

three post-conference trips to three different destinations in Austria. More than 95 participants used the opportunity to get further insights into resource management issues typical for Central Europe such as protected areas management in developed landscapes with centuries of traditional land uses. The first excursion visited the cross-border floodplains of the Danube and Morava Rivers. The trip highlighted the imperial history of the area at the Castle Schlosshof and offered presentations about site management and eco-tourism in the internationally important wetland of the Danube and Morava Rivers.

The second trip visited the breath-taking mountainous landscape of Gesäuse National Park. This national park is the home of the last unregulated and undammed stretches of the major alpine river Enns, providing unique settings for many nature experiences such as climbers, water sport enthusiasts, and ski-touring. Against this background visitor management and educational programmes have been discussed. The third excursion, the three day trip to the eastern foothills of the Alps straddling the Pannonian Plains, presented the concept of Nature Parks in peripheral landscapes and demonstrated successful concepts of regional development. The

history of this perpetual border region where the East truly meets the West was an impressive experience for the participants in this group.

We would like to thank the International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR) for their support and hope that the ISSRM will come back to Europe in the near future.



*Overlooking Vienna and vineyard from Wienerwald
Photo by Cindy Longmire*

nearly 400 delegates from 44 nations to the 15th ISSRM. This amazing international engagement shows the importance of finding attractive host institutions for regular meetings outside of North America in the future. We hope that the large number of new members will strengthen the association for years to come and facilitate the worldwide exchange of knowledge.

After three days of academic programming, we provided



*Liechtenstein Museum
Photo by Cindy Longmire*

University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU) hosts 2009 ISSRM

By Jim Finley

The 2009 ISSRM was an outstanding meeting in an impressive city. A quick glance at the conference program suggested attendees would get to know Austria Center, the venue for presentations, very well. A more careful review found that



Overlooking Vienna
Photo by Jim Finley

the hosts were going to introduce conferees to Vienna, which is an absolutely beautiful and intriguing city.

As we have come to expect, the formal ISSRM meeting was an excellent forum for renewing contacts and developing new and exciting potential collaborations. The mix of papers and presenters demonstrated the breadth of interest in addressing the challenges of working with people and natural resources – social scientists as well as resource managers could find value in the presentations. As well, whether you are a past ISSRM attendee or new to the annual event, the role of students is one to appreciate. It is invigorating to see students taking an active role in the program, presenting their work, leading discussions, and looking forward to expanding their role in the society and

creating the world where they will live and work. No matter where the ISSRM is held, the caliber of people and the challenges of embracing new ideas brings value to the experience.

While the professional program was exceptional, Vienna was its back drop. The opening reception hosted by the Mayor of Vienna in City Hall foreshadowed the special events to come. The gilded room in City Hall spoke to the grandeur of a time many of us have only witnessed in movies. It was an evening of food, music (jazz fit in well), and renewing friendships.

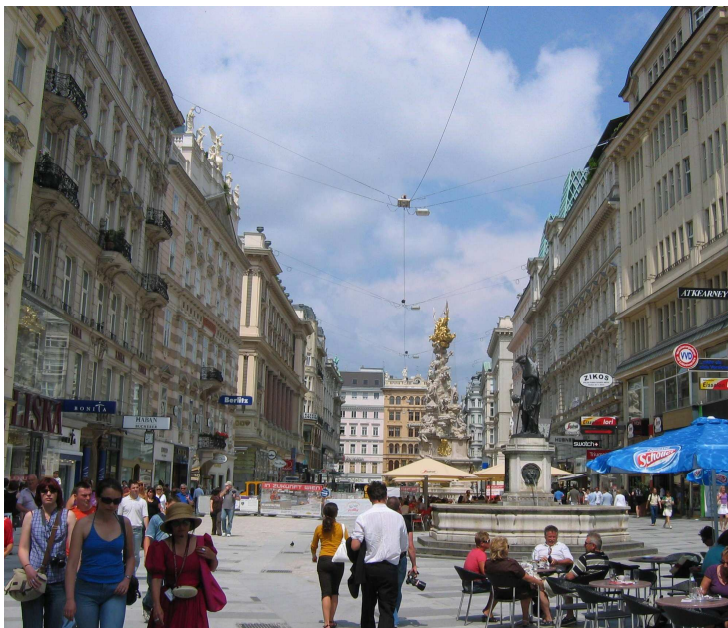
Our Vienna hosts arranged for each registrant to have a “pass” to the city’s impressive public transportation system. Because of this it was extremely easy to access the city, and despite the excellent selection of papers, it was always tempting to slip away to explore this ancient capital. Whether your interests were history, architecture, arts, music, theater, horses, beer, wine, food or people, there were myriad places to explore. Parks, buildings, and streets with

nooks and crannies were always beckoning. It would take years to really appreciate and see it all.

The closing dinner at the Liechtenstein Museum was in a word spectacular. The “black-tie” evening began with exclusive access to the Museum’s many galleries of “princely art.” The opportunity to view this collection of master works, spanning furniture to oils, was impressive. However, the dinner, which was held in the grand ballroom under frescos depicting the life of Hercules with background music from a string quartette playing waltzes, was simply over the top. Vienna was truly a remarkable experience for many of us.



Opening night Liechtenstein Museum
Photo by Jim Finley



Downtown Vienna
Photo by Jim Finley

University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU) hosts 2009 ISSRM

Student-related activities at the 2009 ISSRM were resounding successes. The Student Affairs Committee (SAC), with the help of on-site ISSRM planners, coordinated a one-day professional skills workshop and a Quiz Bowl trivia competition for student attendees. The Student Forum work-



Left to right: Richard Krannich, Zahra Ghelichpour, Sybille Chiari, Florian Braun, Keenan Adams, Munjurul Khan, Dan Slavik, and Prateep Nayak.



The students on the winning Quiz Bowl team are on the right of the picture from right to left: Munjurul Khan, Prateep Nayak, and Keenan Adams. Missing from photo is the fourth student team member, Dan Slavik.

shop was attended by 35 international students who engaged in conversations about professionalism in IASNR, opportunities at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), and challenges to international research. The Quiz Bowl involved 14 students who competed on the following regional-based teams: North America, BOKU University, Australia/New Zealand, Europe. The North American team came in first and Team BOKU was a close second. The Quiz Bowl was hosted by the former IASNR Executive Director, Dr. Richard Krannich, and coordinated by Cornell graduate student Nighthawk Evenson. For the second consecutive year, the Quiz Bowl was sponsored by Taylor and Francis Publishing Company.

2010 ISSRM continued from page 2 ...

Room rates will be offered three (3) days prior and three (3) days after the meeting dates, subject to availability of rooms at the time of reservation. Symposium participants may want to arrive early and/or extend their stay to visit the numerous historical sites and to take advantage of the many cultural and outdoor recreational opportunities in and around the Corpus Christi area.

For more information, please visit
www.issrm2010.iasnr.org.

We look forward to seeing you at the
2010 ISSRM!

Time to Renew continued from page 1 ...

other member benefits.

To minimize delays in receiving the initial 2010 issues for your subscription to **Society and Natural Resources**, please be sure to submit your membership renewal information right away if you have not done so previously. Although those who renew late (and whose membership classification includes a journal subscription) will still receive all ten issues of **SNR** as one of the benefits of IASNR membership. A delay in renewing or initiating your membership will inevitably lead to delays in subscription fulfillment. Also, since a current IASNR membership is required for participation in the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) conference to be held this June in Corpus Christi, Texas, USA, renewing your membership now will make it simpler to take care of conference registration.

The annual membership cost for professional members is \$100 per year. Membership dues for students who wish to receive a subscription to **Society and Natural Resources** are \$60 per year, while the "student- no journal" membership rate is \$35 per year.

Please feel free to contact the IASNR business office if you have any questions. We value your involvement with IASNR, and we look forward to hearing from you and processing your membership renewal!

2009 ISSRM Student Paper Award Winners!



Lisa Seales
University of Florida

The 2009 ISSRM conference in Vienna included recognition of two graduate students whose papers were selected for recognition in the ISSRM Best Student Papers Awards competition.

The Best Doctoral Student Paper award went to **Lisa Seales**, a PhD student in the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Florida. Lisa's paper was titled *"Linking Commercial Success to Conservation and Community Benefits: An Analysis of Costa Rican Tour Operators and Agencies."*

The Best MS Student Paper award recipient was **Roderick M. Valones**, a MS student at the Western Philippines University. Roderick's paper was titled *"Co-Management for Fish Conservation in Rural Philippines: An Effective Enough Arrangement in Managing the Marine Commons."*



Roderick Valones
Western Philippines University

CONGRATULATIONS LISA AND RODERICK ON JOBS WELL DONE!

Student Affairs Committee (SAC) Activities

The IASNR Student Affairs Committee (SAC) is a student-led organization aimed to build student involvement and understanding of the IASNR vision, enhance experiences at ISSRM, and provide opportunities for professional development. The two SAC co-chairs and eight student members, representing five nations, have enjoyed contributing to professional development activities over the last two years and are anticipating greater student involvement in 2010.

The SAC is committed to improving student experiences through three professional outlets, including the highly popular Student Forum workshop that precedes ISSRM, the Quiz Bowl trivia competition that takes place during the meeting, and the Student Involvement



Left to right: Mike Quartuch, Rachelle Haddock, Eick von Ruschkowski, Carena van Riper, Stephanie Malin. SAC members missing from photo are D.T. Nighthawk Evenson, Patrick J. Holladay, Prateep Kumar Nayak, Jamie McEvoy.

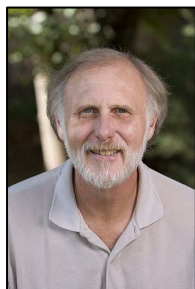
subcommittee dedicated to student outreach via the IASNR website and other electronic mediums. The SAC is also developing a survey of student IASNR members to understand the best practices for mobilizing student involvement and interest in the Society. The SAC is proud to be one of the newest foundations for the ongoing success of IASNR.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the SAC, please contact either co-chair: Stephanie Malin, the student representative to the IASNR Council, (stephanie.malin@aggiemail.usu.edu), or Carena van Riper, the 2008 Student Forum coordinator, (cvanripe@tamu.edu).



IASNR's New Secretary and Treasurer

Jerry Vaske, Secretary Colorado State University



Sometimes it is good to reflect a bit on history. I did my graduate studies in the mid-70s in social psychology with an emphasis on what is now referred to as the human dimensions of natural resources. At that time, there were relatively few outlets for presenting or publishing applied social psychology research. My guess is that this situation was true for my colleagues work-

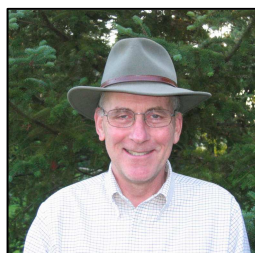
ing in other applied areas of traditional social science disciplines. Thankfully, that situation began to change in 1986 when the founding fathers of IASNR gave us the first ISSRM conference. With the introduction of *Society and Natural Resources* in 1988, we as a profession were given a quality scientific outlet for publishing applied social science work. In 2003, we became a more formal family with the creation of IASNR, complete with a constitution and bylaws, a conference, a journal, a newsletter, student chapters, and most recently an online membership directory. IASNR has given all of us tremendous opportunities to connect, interact, and collaborate on issues of importance to society.

As the IASNR secretary, I look forward to the opportunity of giving back to the organization that has helped to launch and sustain my career in human dimensions. We are now truly a professional family. As with all families we need to collectively think through problems when they arise and be creative in developing new projects that will make IASNR a stronger organization in the future. I welcome the chance to facilitate that process.

Contact Info:

Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources
Colorado State University
244 Forestry Building, 1480 Campus Delivery
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1480
phone: 970-491-2360
email: jerryv@cnr.colostate.edu

Jim Finley, Treasurer The Pennsylvania State University



As the IASNR treasurer, I look forward to helping with the annual ISSRM meetings, working with Taylor and Francis, publisher of SNR, assisting with committee tasks and duties, being accessible to the membership to answer questions or to address needs, and, in general, watching over the organizations fiduciary interests.

Forestry was my life calling; I never wanted to pursue any other career. However, while working for the US Forest Service, I had the opportunity to study private forest landowners, which created a fork in the road. As Pennsylvania's extension forester and a professor of forestry in Penn State's School of Forest Resources, I still work in forestry and even do some meaningful research on forest regeneration and forest sustainability: but, the need to understand human issues relating to natural resources dominates. Beyond my passion for forests, I enjoy woodworking, turning bowls, hunting, and helping others. My wife, Linda, and I own and manage a forest tract on the Allegheny Plateau, where we hope to spend more time in the future. My son Andy is on the faculty at Michigan State University working on spatial and statistical issues relating to natural resources. We have one granddaughter, who is a real joy.

Contact info:

School of Forest Resources
The Pennsylvania State University
332 Forest Resources Building
University Park, PA 16802
phone: 814-865-6275
email: fj4@psu.edu



Call for Council Nominations!

The nominations committee is soliciting nominations for four vacant IASNR council seats, one of which is for the student member.

The term of service is for four years with the exception of the student member whose term of office is two years.

Responsibilities of council members are outlined in the organization's constitution which is posted on the IASNR website, www.iasnr.org.

Candidates must be nominated by a member other than themselves.

Nominations can be sent to **Matt Carroll** (carroll@wsu.edu) or **Linda Kruger** (lkruiger@fs.fed.us).

Please reply by Friday, January 22, 2010!

From the desk continued from page 1 ...

around the holiday season. We have much to celebrate. Despite the gloomy economic climate, dangerous global situations, and troubling environmental issues confronting us all, some signs of steady and slow progress are apparent. For the most part, global warming has been accepted as a major threat to the planet and there has been wide recognition of the need to tackle this problem now. Similarly, increased attention has been rightfully given to addressing the ever increasing need for clean water in developed and developing nations. Many have suggested if we fail in these efforts, our work in so many other areas will be futile. And the role of social scientists, working collaboratively with our biophysical counterparts, has been recognized, and in many cases required by numerous funding agencies. In short, our roles in helping to find solutions to the numerous vexing issues facing the people and places of our planet have never been more central. It is a remarkable time to be doing such work.

This summer, slightly more than 400 of our members assembled in Vienna, Austria, where the Institute for Landscape Development, Recreation and Conservation Planning at BOKU - University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences served as hosts to a wonderful ISSRM conference. The venue was matched only by the weather, and our hosts did all they could to ensure we enjoyed a true Viennese experience. The sessions were well attended, particularly by international members, and addressed a variety of critical problems. On behalf of those who attended and all of our members, I want to extend a sincere and heartfelt **thank you** to Ulrike Probstl and her able and large staff headed by Alexandra Jiricka and Mia Landauer.

As in previous newsletters, we have included a wide range of information on many topics. In particular, I urge you to pay close attention to the announcement of the ISSRM 2010 Conference, which will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas, from June 6-10, 2010. The theme of this year's meeting is the "*Tyranny of 'Or': Conservation or Development? Preservation or Utilization?*" and is being ably organized by Gene Theodori of Sam Houston State University. Members can now register for the meetings and submit their abstracts for

papers and posters online through the ISSRM 2010 website (www.issrm2010.iasnr.org). As he points out, this theme reflects the environmental, social, economic, and policy contexts inherent to a vast array of natural resource management issues worldwide. We have also included reports from several of our committees, minutes of our Business and Council Meetings held in Vienna, a call for papers for a special issue of the

Journal of Rural Social Sciences, which focuses on "Social Issues Associated with Unconventional Natural Gas Development," and items which should be of interest to most of us. As well, I urge you to submit nominations for our upcoming council elections. IASNR is a fluid organization, one purposely designed to reflect our membership. Matt Carroll and Linda Kruger's note to the organization reminds us of our responsibilities in helping identify and elect those willing and able to serve IASNR.

Finally, if you have not yet renewed your IASNR membership for 2010, please remember to do so soon! We value your involvement in our organization, and look forward to working over the coming year to make IASNR stronger and more effective in meeting your needs and those of all of our members. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, need any information about IASNR, have ideas or comments you would like to share, and/or would like to become more involved in any aspect of the association. You can reach me by email at aeluloff@psu.edu or by phone at 814-863-8643. We appreciate your continued interest in and support of IASNR and look forward to seeing you all at Corpus Christi.

On behalf of the Executive Committee and Council please accept our best wishes for a joyous, healthy, and happy holiday in this season of peace.

**Members can now register
for the meetings and submit
their abstracts for papers
and posters online ...**
www.issrm2010.iasnr.org

IASNR Membership Committee

The membership committee conducted another successful new members meeting at ISSRM 2009. It was attended by about 25 new members, as well as a number of IASNR Council members and officers and a Society and Natural Resources editor. This is always a great chance to welcome students and professionals new to IASNR and to give them a chance to ask questions about the society. We look forward to meeting even more new members at ISSRM 2010.

A membership directory was recently added to the IASNR website to assist members with finding each other and keeping in touch.

Additionally, the committee has been running the ongoing mentor program, which has matched about 15 students and young professionals with more experienced mentors. The committee is asking anyone willing to spend about one hour per month serving as a mentor to contact **Kathy Halvorsen at kehalvor@mtu.edu**. We have many more mentor requests than mentor volunteers.

If you are willing to volunteer to be a mentor, please fill out the form on this page and return it to Kathy Halvorsen via mail (address below) or complete and email the form to her at kehalvor@mtu.edu.

Kathy Halvorsen
209 AOB Social Sciences
1400 Townsend Drive
Michigan Technological University
Houghton MI 49931-1295

Contact Kathy via email or at (906) 487-2824 if you have any questions.

MENTOR VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Your contact information:

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

1) Would you prefer to mentor (please check one) a:

- ☐ student
- ☐ new professional
- ☐ no preference

2) What is your current job title? _____

3) If there is any information that you think would be helpful in matching you with an individual, please write it here:

The Membership Committee will contact you if we have a matching individual for you to mentor.

Thank you for your willingness to help!

From the Editors of Society and Natural Resources

Tom Beckley (University of New Brunswick, Canada) and Troy Hall (University of Idaho, USA) are nearly halfway through their term as co-editors of Society & Natural Resources. They report some interesting developments and likely future changes at the journal.

The transition to electronic submissions through Manuscript Central (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/usnr>) is complete and has been seamless. The ability to locate reviewers and conduct transactions electronically has expedited the review process – the average reviewer turnaround time for initial submissions is 26 days, and decisions are generally issued in less than three months. However, the editors have noted that many reviewers decline the invitation to comment on manuscripts, which tends to slow the process. They hope that IASNR members will update their reviewer profiles at Manuscript Central and be willing to serve as

reviewers – there is a special need for reviewers with expertise in regions of the world other than North America.

Another change at the journal is the dramatic increase in papers from developing countries. The previous editors identified a need to expand the geographical focus of the journal, and this shift is seen as a welcome expansion of SNR's scope.

Some of you have probably noticed the backlog at the journal. Given the near doubling of submissions over just a few years ago, accepted manuscripts don't appear in print for many months. The journal has dealt with this partly by going to 12 issues per year, beginning in 2010. We're also happy to report that we are in discussions with the publisher, Taylor & Francis, to shift to "I-first" publication, in which accepted articles would appear on-line (with a doi number) once they have been through the production process.

IASNR Council Meeting Minutes

IASNR Council Meeting Minutes July 7, 2009—Vienna, Austria

Council Members Attending: Stephanie Malin, Al Luloff, Rick Kranich, Kathy Halverson, Matt Carroll, Jim Asher, Tom Beckley, Linda Kruger

Others Attending: Tom Beckley, Gene Theodori, Jim Finley

Clarification on voting membership: Gene, Tom, and Jim are not voting members. Five Council members were not present.

Executive Director's Report: There was no printed report but Kranich took this time to structure the rest of the meeting and will cover the election results and announced the following leadership decisions: Executive Director – Al Luloff; Secretary – Jerry Vaske; and Treasurer, Jim Finley.

Business Office Report: Luloff reported currently 636 members, but expected some new members at this meeting. Attendance at the Vienna meeting currently about 390 and with walk-ins expects the final count will be about 420. He distributed the attached Secretary-Treasurer report. Membership fluctuates by meeting location. We get people back as the conference comes close to people. Having meetings at distant international venues repeatedly may contribute to declines in membership. Luloff emails folks who drop out. The organization is in strong financial shape, but not to the point that a fiscal loss for a meeting would allow it to survive. The budget statement shows the balance through 2008. Fifty dollars of each membership goes to Taylor and Francis to pay for the Journal.

Further discussion on membership and location ensued. The Vienna meeting has lower Asian participation. The Malaysia meeting will hopefully draw new members and encourage the return of Australians.

There was a question about meeting income and losses. We require organizers put \$10 per attendee into the meeting cost. If there is a meeting profit, 50% goes to IASNR and 50% stays with the host organization. Most people have been cautious about setting registrations too high; however, some meetings have been very successful (Vancouver and Burlington). This particular meeting (i.e., Vienna) has not had transparent books. PayPal works well in US; but, in Europe the payments have to move from Euros to Dollars and so forth. So, BOKU established accounts in their institution and we do not have an understanding of costs and income; we believe we will receive a clear accounting. Al suggested that all future meetings transact only through PayPal. He also asked about establishing a procedure for addressing meeting losses if they occurred. He wondered if the organization was willing to take a risk of underwriting costs for third world attendees. He suggested the committee consider moving the meeting to an international venue every third year, rather than biannually. Rick saw reason for shift-

ing the venue to less frequent international meetings. To avoid loss, every meeting is currently budgeted on 400 attendees to help ensure costs are covered. There was a suggestion the Council develop a policy for venue selection. Linda noted that USFS employees can not pay through PayPal. IASNR can take credit cards outside the PayPal system. Federal sponsorships for ISSRM are dropping off and to attain sponsorships, IASNR will have to become more innovative.

Journal Report: Tom noted he has been the Journal editor for one year. Patricia is working well with the process. Taylor and Francis provided a 21 page report. Impact factor has gone up. Submissions are increasing: 293 in 2008 and projections for 2009 are for over 300. International submissions are up, which was a goal for the organization. Finding good reviewers for international articles is difficult – sometimes require 10 or more requests. In 2010 there will be 12 issues for 1,200 pages. Currently accepted journal article publishing backlog mean it takes a year to get an article through the system. With Taylor and Francis's system, articles are scheduled by acceptance date and this makes it difficult to do thematic issues or to pair articles. They have invited Tom to visit their facility. Acceptance rate is dropping and it is about 30 to 35 percent. Even with 12 issues, acceptance rates will likely continue to drop. Tom and Troy will put a one-pager in the Journal relating to this issue addressed to reviewers and authors. Kathy asked about how they solicit reviewers – every manuscript is different. Rating system on reviewers in the electronic database is helpful; he has used Google to search for reviewers, paper bibliographies, and "Library" web-base. How do we add to the reviewer data-base? People have been asked to sign-up on the data-base. We could use the meeting registration list to solicit reviewers and have them register with keywords for subjects. There are issues with training and education of reviewers found this way. Tom almost always tries to have a "known" reviewer on each manuscript. There was further discussion about asking associate editors to identifying reviewers – this has not been done. Matt expressed concerns about editors (Tom and Troy) and their work load and the potential impact on graduate students with the falling acceptance rate.

ISSRM 2010: Gene announced the 2010 ISSRM will be June 6-10 in Corpus Christi, Texas. One sponsor gifted five-digits. Looking for outside fiscal support, he asked for sponsorship names and leads. One sub-theme is energy exploration and production and they will try to have at least one panel on energy – renewable and non-renewable. The host site is the Omni Hotel where there are 20 meeting rooms. He has to secure 80 percent of the rooms in the hotel to cover meeting room costs. Website is being developed and should be available soon. Registration fee currently set at \$305, but may be able to drop this with good sponsorship.

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IASNR Annual Meeting Minutes

IASNR Annual Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2009—Vienna, Austria

Attendance: 38 including Council Members.

Council Member Present: Matt Carroll, Kathy Halverson, Al Luloff, Rick Krannich, Maria Ninjik, Stephanie Malin, Linda Kruger

Suggestion made by Gaby Hoebart that we changed the name from Business Meeting to IASNR Annual Meeting.

Krannich began by introducing Council members present and provided an overview of Council membership and terms of service. The Council has 13 members with voting rights, which includes the Executive Director, Secretary, and Treasurer, who serve four-year terms. In spring 2010, IASNR will conduct Council elections for four members and one student member. He called for nominations and explained procedures for conducting the election. He encouraged self-nomination, and the nomination committee will strive to maintain balance by paying attention to academia and non-academia differences and member interests (e.g., disciplines) to have a broadly representative council. There is also an effort to find non-North American Council members; currently there is one such member.

Rick also explained that Al Luloff, Penn State, had previously held both the Secretary and Treasurer positions. Jerry Vaske, Colorado State, and Jim Finley, Penn State, will fill these positions respectively.

Luloff provided a membership report. There are 636 members in IASNR. The current known participation for the Vienna meeting is 393 and should come in at about 410 – about on the budgeted number. Financially, the organization is in good shape. For a nascent organization, the finances are solid. The balance sheet shared was for 2008. There was a question about distribution of members. In response, Luloff explained there will be an electronic directory available on line. The majority of the members are North American (NA) – the ratio of others is changing. Krannich added that membership ebbs and flows by conference location. The last three meetings have been in North America, and this changed the membership composition. Currently, the membership distribution is about 65% NA, and 35% from elsewhere. At this meeting, less than 100 attendees are from NA. Luloff then explained the budget process for ISSRM and IASNR.

Journal Operations: Tom Beckley – no major changes since he took over. The impact factor has gone up in 2008. The subscription rate is about 98% for this year. There are problems related to operating the Journal. One of these is the number of manuscripts submitted this year (300+); as a result, the Journal will move to 12 issues annually. The acceptance rate currently is about 33%, but will likely drop. The publication backlog is now about 14

months. All manuscripts are currently submitted through Manuscript Central electronically. He encouraged folks to sign-up to become a reviewer and complete the keyword process. He is looking for European reviewers. A member asked if a pdf of accepted papers could be sent to authors. This is not done right now. Another question related to provide some “pre-reviews” to authors.

Membership Committee: The New Members Meeting is a relatively new effort and was well-attended last evening. The other member service effort is the Mentor Program, which needs member participation. The recommended commitment as a mentor is a suggested one hour per month. We have about 15 mentors connected with students and currently looking for about seven additional mentors.

The on-line membership directory has been held back because of the need to have the capacity of members to “opt out” for having their names and materials on line.

Student Activities: Malin conveyed there was strong support for the very successful Student Forum with about 30 students attending. She thanked those who supported the Forum. The Student Affairs Committee will meet on Wednesday at noon at this meeting and invited new members to attend the session. There was a question about student membership fee. It is \$60 for membership and journal and \$35 without the journal. There was also a successful Quiz Bowl and Taylor and Francis provided \$300 to award students for their participation.

Upcoming Meetings: 2010 Corpus Christi, June 6-9 (Monday through Thursday). Icebreaker on Monday. Website will launch in the next couple of weeks. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help with the conference, Gene will accept any and all help. Gene asked for any leads on funding.

A question was asked about the possibility of webcasting sessions especially for those who might be unable to attend the physical site. The issue relates to funding support and obtaining travel visas. This would contribute to “greening” the conference. It would not have to be available for all the sessions, but at least a few and may allow the IASNR to collect some fees and membership. Beckley supported the idea of having something like a regional meeting “attached” to the international meeting. Another comment related to the loss of face to face interactions. There was further support because of the difficulty of obtaining visas especially for North American venues— people need to apply early.

Future Meetings:

2011 Malaysia
2012 North American location anticipated
2013 Possibly in South America

... continued on page 28

IASNR Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

July 2009

During the past year, our offices at PSU, which are very capably run by Ms. Susan Thompson, have accomplished the following things for both IASNR and ISSRM:

IASNR:

- Check emails in IASNR email account for member questions and problems with journals; provide instructions for problems with registering on website and other miscellaneous items; send announcements and employment ads for posting on website; set up and maintain IASNR listserv for use in emailing: yearly membership renewal announcement and reminders; surveys and reminders; elections; annual newsletter; and miscellaneous announcements;
- Monitor IASNR PayPal account; check PayPal records re payments if there are questions; transfer funds into IASNR checking account;
- Work with Pia Alperti, Taylor & Francis, to resolve missing journal issues; maintain contact Paulus Mau, website manager, with website problems; review website and let Paulus know of any changes or updates to be made; remind him to enter new registration information in August for the following year's membership registrations;
- Receive and handle checks for IASNR membership registrations; prepare checks for deposit; keep copies of check with registration records in file folder; enter payments into database; update mailing/contact information; email thank-yous for payment of membership; send official receipt if requested; develop and update thank you's and receipts for current year;
- In database: update member information; consolidate duplicate membership entries; obtain membership counts; obtain mailing lists for listserv; gather and send labels to Taylor & Francis for journal mailings; send catch-up labels to Taylor & Francis weekly; up date addresses from journals returned to Taylor & Francis;
- Design annual newsletter; type up meeting minutes; set up conference calls; print letters; compose routine correspondence.

ISSRM:

- Monitor ISSRM email account; check emails for questions about conference; transfer funds into ISSRM checking account;
- Work with conference coordinator prior to and during registration; help to resolve payment issues;
- Prepare certificate plaques for student paper awards at conference and other certificates if needed;
- Compose routine correspondence and draft letters.

Financial Status:

According to our accountant, Tim Ronan, principal in Stanton, Echard & Ronan LLC (Certified Public Accountants), a consolidated accounting of all IASNR-ISSRM accounts, as of 12/31/08, had \$287,241.56. During the period January through December 2008, the organization realized a net income of \$65,623.38.

As in 2008, we requested and received an extension for filing our 501-C-3 income taxes until later this month.

According to my records, as of 06/07/09, we had 564 members (on the same date in 08 we had 815 members). Mr. Paulus Mau, our webmaster, indicated there were others to be added as a result of the Vienna meetings, but we would not have that accounting until later this month. Given previous membership totals (08 849 members; 07 815 members; 06 967 members), I believe our final membership for the year will be in the mid-600s. We did not have as many renewals this year as last. This may reflect the combined effects of our modest increase in membership costs (to \$100) and the poor economy. Our office is examining the data to see what patterns emerge and will report on the result during a council meeting later this year.

As of 06/03/08, we had the following resources in our IASNR and ISSRM accounts (we bank at Citizens Bank, South Atherton Office, State College, PA):

IASNR

(a) Business Checking Account	\$ 79,299
(b) Money Market	\$ 19,574
(c) CDs	\$ 18,410
(d) PayPal	\$ 1,800
(e) Annuity	<u>\$100,000</u>
TOTAL	\$219,083

ISSRM

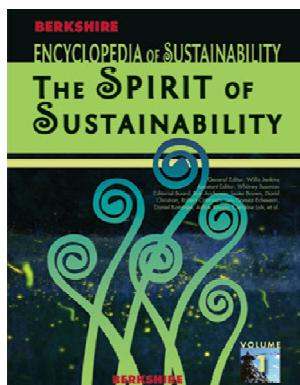
(a) Business Checking Account	\$ 9,081
(b) Money Market	\$ 44,284
(d) PayPal	<u>\$ 4,896</u>
TOTAL	\$ 58,261
Grand Total	\$277,344

This total does not include the costs of the 2009 Vienna ISSRM meetings, both direct and indirect. We will finalize all bills with BOKU-University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Austria, after the meetings are concluded.

IASNR Announcements

Free Employment Listings and Announcements on IASNR Website

As a service to its members and the professional community, IASNR provides free listings of professional employment openings, graduate assistantships and fellowships, conference announcements, and other professional opportunities on the IASNR website (www.iasnr.org). These items are contained in two website pages that can be accessed via the buttons at the top of the main page – one labeled “Professional Opportunities” and one labeled “Announcements.” If you have material that you wish to have considered for listing, please contact the IASNR business office (IASNR@psu.edu).



BERKSHIRE PUBLISHING GROUP

Advance Information The Berkshire Encyclopedia of Sustainability

Berkshire Publishing is seeking contributors to Volume 4 of the Encyclopedia of Sustainability. Information on the content focus of Volume 4, as well as all other volumes in this series, appears below (click on link). For information or to inquire about possible participation as an author or advisor to the volume, contact:

Bill Siever

Project Coordinator, Berkshire Publishing

+1 413 528 0206 | Skype: billsiever

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Website: www.berkshirepublishing.com

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/karenchristenze](https://twitter.com/karenchristenze)

[AI Berkshire Encyclopedia of Sustainability \(2\).pdf](#)



NOAA Graduate Fellowships and Internships Available

NOAA has a number of graduate fellowships and internships available through the National Sea Grant University System. Social science graduates are encouraged to apply! Information on all studentships, fellowships and internships can be found at <http://www.education.noaa.gov/>

This announcement from the California Sea Grant University program is shown as an example:

National Marine Fisheries Service–Sea Grant Joint Graduate Fellowship Program in Marine Resource Economics

The Graduate Fellowship Program generally awards two new Ph.D. fellowships each year to students who are interested in careers related to the development and implementation of quantitative methods for assessing the economics of the conservation and management of living marine resources. Fellows will work on thesis problems of public interest and relevance to NMFS under the guidance of NMFS mentors at participating NMFS Science Centers and Laboratories.

* Applications are due 5 p.m. PST, January 12, 2010

* Information and application:

www.csgc.ucsd.edu/EDUCATION/NMFS_MRE/MarResEcon_current.html



Environmental and Natural Resource Sociology Books and Journals

Rabel Burdge is ending his professional career and desires to give (free of charge) his collection of books and journals on environmental and natural resource sociology to a department, library, educational, or not-for-profit institution for the cost of shipment to the recipient organization. Included is a complete set of *Society and Natural Resources* from Volume 1, No. 1 through Volume 22, 2009.

For the list of titles, contact Rabel at

burdge@comcast.net.

IASNR Announcements, continued

Call for Papers

Journal of Rural Social Sciences

Special Issue:

"Social Issues Associated with Unconventional Natural Gas Development"

The *Journal of Rural Social Sciences*, the official journal of the Southern Rural Sociological Association, announces a call for papers for a special issue on "Social Issues Associated with Unconventional Natural Gas Development."

The exploration and production of natural gas in unconventional reservoirs (i.e., tight gas sands, coalbed methane resources, and gas shales) has greatly increased over the last several decades and is projected to continue increasing in the foreseeable future. According to the Energy Information Administration, the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Energy, of the 18.6 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of natural gas produced in the U.S. in 2006, roughly 43 percent (8.5 tcf) was from unconventional sources. Latest EIA projections suggest onshore production of unconventional natural gas will increase to 13.3 tcf in the year 2030. In short, unconventional natural gas will constitute over half (56%) of the projected 23.6 tcf total natural gas production in approximately twenty years.

Presently, tight sand formations account for the largest share of unconventional gas production in the United States. Natural gas produced in gas shale formations is, however, the fastest-growing source. As exploration and production activities quickly commence in gas shale basins in the U.S. (e.g., Fayetteville Shale, Haynesville Shale, Marcellus Shale, New Albany Shale, etc.) and across the globe, engineers and geologists are continuously calculating the amounts of known, undeveloped, and technically recoverable natural gas in these reservoirs. Economists are evaluating the potential economic impacts of these shale plays. Rural sociologists, sociologists, and other social scientists are assessing the vast array of social issues associated with unconventional energy development occurring in rural areas, as well as in and around rural, suburban, and urban communities.

This special issue of the *Journal of Rural Social Sciences* will reflect the most current research on the social issues associated with unconventional natural gas development. Scholars from various social scientific disciplines are invited to submit an abstract for consideration by February 1, 2010. Invitations for full manuscript submissions will be sent by March 1, 2010. Completed manuscripts will be due on or before May 1, 2010. The issue will be published in 2011.

Please send abstracts to Gene L. Theodori, Co-Editor, *Journal of Rural Social Sciences*, at jrss@shsu.edu.



Journal of Tourism and Leisure Studies

Special Issue: *Issues Confronting the Management of the World's National Parks: Commentaries from Scholars across the Globe*

Guest Editors: YiâChung Hsu, National Doong Hwa University; Gerard Kyle, Texas A&M University

Issues confronting the management of the world's national parks are as many as they are diverse. This special issue is aimed at providing a snapshot of this complexity by inviting scholars and managers from around the globe to contribute on the broad theme of issues confronting the management of the world's national parks. The special issues focus would be on salient human dimensions related themes that have potential to impact: (a) the integrity of the resource, (b) visitor experiences, (c) indigenous populations, and (d) communities that lie adjacent to these areas. While the world's national parks often share the goal of natural and cultural heritage preservation, the challenges faced by managers of these resources are complicated by a broad range of issues; some of which transcend parks and national borders and others unique to each of these settings. Given the breadth and complexity of these issues, both researchers and managers have had to be creative in their attempt to study these issues and develop/implement resource management policy. For researchers, this has required: (a) collaboration among scholars with diverse disciplinary training, (b) embracing innovative research designs, and (c) the implementation of new and emerging technologies. For park managers, the complexity has required them to rethink their relationships with the public and more actively engage stakeholders, both traditional and nontraditional, in park planning and management. Both scholars and managers from across the world are invited to submit original pieces that are based on their empirical observations, case studies, or commentaries related to policy and management within national parks across the globe.

Potential submissions could include (but not limited to):

- Documentation of founding legislation and its implications for contemporary park management
- Policy and institutional issues
- Protected lands and indigenous communities
- Global warming and the future of parks
- Visitor use and experience
- Parks and community

Timeline:

- May 1st, submission of 300 word abstracts outlining authors proposed submission
- December 31st, 2009 – Submission deadline



IASNR Announcements, continued

International Workshop

Social-Ecological Resilience of Cultural Landscapes

June 15-16, 2010, Berlin, Germany

The workshop, organized by the Ecosystem Services Research Group at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, aims at enhancing theoretical insights into the social-ecological resilience of cultural landscapes through coming to terms with - and challenging - existing concepts of "driving forces", "thresholds", "adaptive cycles" and "adaptive management". The basis of the workshop will be empirical studies focusing on cultural landscapes as social-ecological systems.

Keynote speakers: Mauro Agnoletti, University of Florence (Italy); Carole Crumley, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (USA) / Stockholm Resilience Centre (Sweden); Lesley Head, University of Wollongong (Australia); Ann Kinzig, Arizona State University (USA); Mats Widgren, Stockholm University (Sweden).

The workshop aims to provide an interdisciplinary forum for scholars from all fields of landscape research. The deadline for submission of abstracts is February 28, 2010. Details on the workshop can be found at: http://www.oekosystemleistungen.de/dateien/workshop_resilience_berlin.pdf



University of Idaho Northern Rockies Team

PhD Assistantship Announcements

Interdisciplinary PhD Research Assistantships in Forest Landscape Dynamics and Ecosystem Resilience

Up to five Ph.D. research assistantships will be available to join a collaborative team working to evaluate the resiliency of social and ecological systems in the complex forested landscapes of the US northern Rockies. Forest ecosystems here are experiencing climate-induced increases in size and severity of wildfires and insect outbreaks, altered snowmelt and streamflow, and drought in concert with ongoing, rapid socioeconomic changes. We will examine the interaction among climate, land use, topography, vegetation and disturbances across the steep social and biophysical gradients. Also, we seek to understand how perceptions of ecosystem change and attitudes about land management policies are shaped by emerging scientific information about predicted forest change in response to climate change and human actions. We will use models with existing and new data to be collected as part of the project to analyze the implications of future landscape dynamics for diversity, function and ecosystem services. Students with linked dissertation projects will work in the context of predicted changes in forest ecosystems in the US northern Rocky Mountains in the coming decades. With funding from the National Science Foundation's Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program (IGERT), the individual fellows will pursue disciplinary research important for the overall theme and work together to identify and address interdisciplinary issues critical for development of effective planning and policy. The team will interact with members of five other IGERT-sponsored student/faculty

teams pursuing similar objectives in other ecosystems in which sustainability and conservation in the face of changing conditions and pressures are desired.

PhD Assistantship in Landscape Disturbances and Climate Change.

We seek a highly motivated and qualified student to contribute to our understanding of resiliency in forest ecosystems of the US northern Rockies. Research will focus on: (1) Identifying thresholds of resilience (or lack thereof) to changes in climate, land use and disturbance regimes; (2) Examining the drivers of and interactions among climate change, wildfires, bark beetle outbreaks, vegetation change, and land use change over past decades, centuries and millennia; and (3) Modeling landscape dynamics in the context of future climate and land-use change. The student will also conduct collaborative, interdisciplinary research to examine the implications of past and future landscape change for resilience of human and biophysical components of forest ecosystems in the US northern Rockies. The student will work with team members in fields including landscape ecology, forest ecology, disturbance ecology, fire ecology, paleoecology, social psychology, and natural resource policy. Contact Penny Morgan (pmorgan@uidaho.edu), Philip Higuera (phiguera@uidaho.edu) and Jeff Hicke (jhicke@uidaho.edu).

PhD Assistantship in Ecosystem Response to Disturbance. We seek a highly motivated and qualified student to conduct research focusing on the nature, magnitude, and distinguishing attributes of large, severe ecosystem disturbances and the associated biophysical recovery processes. Work will include assessing both near-term and long-term impacts of disturbances and landscape change, and understanding how the resistance, resilience, cumulative productivity, and recovery vary under different physical, political, and social contexts. The student will also conduct collaborative, interdisciplinary research to examine the implications of past and future landscape change for resilience of human and biophysical components of forest ecosystems in the US northern Rockies. The student will work with team members in fields including landscape ecology, forest ecology, disturbance ecology, fire ecology, paleoecology, social psychology, and natural resource policy. Contact Alistair Smith (alistair@uidaho.edu) and Eva Strand (evas@uidaho.edu).

PhD Assistantship in Social Perceptions of Disturbance, Landscape Change, and Management Policies. We seek a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue the study of risk perceptions and landscape change and the associated policy implications. Research will focus on: (1) How and why human actions to mitigate the impacts of disturbances succeed or fail, including the role that adaptive capacity, stakeholder knowledge, and sense of place play in effectively responding to climate change, wildfires, bark beetle outbreaks and other disturbances; (2) How citizens' and land managers' perceptions and attitudes of ecosystem change and management are shaped by emerging scientific information, personal values, and prior experiences; and (3) The effect that social perceptions have on natural resource management policy. The student will also conduct collaborative, interdisciplinary research to examine the implications of past and future landscape change for resilience of human and biophysical components of forest ecosystems in the US northern Rockies. The

IASNR Announcements, continued

student will work with team members in fields including landscape ecology, forest ecology, disturbance ecology, fire ecology, paleoecology, social psychology, and natural resource policy. Contact Troy Hall (troyh@uidaho.edu) and Jo Ellen Force (joellen@uidaho.edu).

PhD Assistantship in Ecohydrology. We seek a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue research focused on the ecohydrological impacts of climate change. Research will focus on modeling the cascading effects of climate change on ecosystem processes, including changes in the distribution and abundance of plant species. The student will also conduct collaborative, interdisciplinary research to examine the implications of past and future landscape change for resilience of human and biophysical components of forest ecosystems in the US northern Rockies. The student will work with team members in fields including landscape ecology, forest ecology, disturbance ecology, fire ecology, paleoecology, social psychology, and natural resource policy. Contact Katy Kavanagh (katyk@uidaho.edu), Tim Link (tlink@uidaho.edu) and Jodi Johnson Maynard (jmaynard@uidaho.edu).

PhD Assistantship in Plant-Soil-Disturbance Interactions with a Focus on Carbon. We seek a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue research on how plant-soil interactions vary with fire severity across a range of spatial and temporal scales, and the associated implications for soil carbon dynamics. The student will also conduct collaborative, interdisciplinary research to examine the implications of past and future landscape change for resilience of human and biophysical components of forest ecosystems in the US northern Rockies. The student will work with team members in fields including landscape ecology, forest ecology, disturbance ecology, fire ecology, paleoecology, social psychology, and natural resource policy. Contact Jodi Johnson-Maynard (jmaynard@uidaho.edu), Katy Kavanagh (katyk@uidaho.edu) and Alistair Smith (alistair@uidaho.edu). This unique graduate education program will provide students:

- Team-based interdisciplinary education
- International perspective
- Broad geographic and ecological exposure
- Participation in integrated interdisciplinary teams
- Cross-cultural experience

Requirements: Applicants must be American citizens or permanent residents of the USA, have a research-based M.S. degree in a relevant discipline, and demonstrate interest and/or experience in team-based projects. Students will join the program to begin course work in late July 2010.

Application deadline: December 1st, 2009 (earlier applications are encouraged). Interviews of top applicants will be conducted at the University of Idaho campus in March 2010. For application information visit the web page: <http://www.students.uidaho.edu/gradadmissions/IGERT>. For information on our previous IGERT project go to: <http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/igert>. For information on the University of Idaho College of Graduate Studies go to: <http://www.uidaho.edu/cogs>.



University of Idaho Palouse Team

PhD Assistantship Announcements Interdisciplinary PhD Research Assistantships in Conservation Biology

Sustainable Production and Resilience of the Palouse Prairie Ecosystem

Up to five Ph.D. research assistantships will be available to join a collaborative team working on aspects of conservation of the endangered Palouse Prairie ecosystem in the context of bioregional planning in southeastern Washington State and Northern Idaho. The linked dissertation projects will work in the context of expected exurban development and sustainable agricultural production in the region. With funding from the National Science Foundation's Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program (IGERT), the individual fellows will pursue disciplinary research important for the overall theme, and work together to identify and address interdisciplinary issues critical for development of effective planning and policy. The team will interact with members of five other IGERT-sponsored student/faculty teams pursuing similar objectives in other ecosystems in which sustainability and conservation in the face of changing conditions and pressures is desired.

PhD Assistantship in Soil Biogeochemistry. Seeking a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue the study of soil-plant relations and feedbacks in the endangered Palouse Prairie. The student will contribute to our understanding of resiliency in this unique ecosystem that is increasingly threatened by invasive weed species and urban sprawl. Research will focus on: 1) the importance of soil and site properties in determining the likelihood of invasion, and 2) the impact of invasive species on processes that control carbon storage and nutrient availability. In addition, the student will conduct collaborative research to examine interdisciplinary aspects of conservation of Palouse Prairie within a dynamic, human dominated landscape with team members in fields such as entomology, conservation/restoration plant ecology, virus ecology, and rural and community economics. Contact Jodi Johnson-Maynard (jmaynard@uidaho.edu).

PhD Assistantship in Entomology and Landscape Genetics. Seeking a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue the study of populations of native insects linked to the ecological communities specific to the Palouse Prairie, now existing exclusively as widely distributed small remnants. Target populations will be key pollinators, specialist herbivores affecting predominant plant species and other indicator species. Research will focus on: 1) determining the genetic diversity and structure of arthropod populations, 2) examining how behavioral and ecological correlates of genetic structure influence level of landscape connectivity, and 3) assessing elements required to sustain connectivity as part of conservation plans. In addition, the student will conduct collaborative research to examine interdisciplinary aspects of conservation of Palouse Prairie within a dynamic, human dominated landscape with team members in fields such as soil science, conservation/restoration plant ecology, virus ecology, and rural and community economics. Contact Sanford D. Eigenbrode (sanford@uidaho.edu) and Lisette Waits

IASNR Announcements, continued

(lwaits@uidaho.edu).

PhD Assistantship in Conservation/Restoration Plant Ecology. Seeking a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue restoration ecology research within the Palouse Prairie and related canyon grassland systems of Northern Idaho. The field research will develop restoration methods appropriate for a range of plant communities at various stages of secondary succession to enhance resilience of those plant communities. The outcome of the research will include development of a decision tool to assist those actively involved in restoration. Research may include: 1) sequence of introduction of native species, 2) seeding techniques, 3) invasive plant management, 3) species selection for seed mixes that may incorporate native annuals, and 4) feasibility of establishment of biological soil crust. In addition, the student will conduct collaborative research to examine interdisciplinary aspects of conservation of Palouse Prairie within a dynamic, human dominated landscape with team members in fields such as soil science, entomology, virus ecology, and rural and community economics. The student must have a strong desire for collaboration with other students within or attached to the IGERT program. Contact Tim Prather (tprather@uidaho.edu).

PhD Assistantship in Rural and Community Economics. Seeking a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue the study of rural community economics and social dynamics found in the Palouse Prairie region, including both patterns of decline and revitalization. The student will contribute to our understanding of patterns and perceptions affecting rural community opportunities and constraints related to the surrounding environment. Research will focus on: 1) determining the economic and social factors that contribute to forming vibrant communities, 2) examining the economic relationships embedded in community-based uses and values attached to natural resources and natural amenities, and 3) assessing social networks and forms of capitals needed to ensure community vitality and well-being. Methods that may be employed include regional general equilibrium economic modeling, social accounts modeling, capitals framework analysis, non-market valuation, and behavioral modeling. In addition, the student will conduct collaborative research to examine interdisciplinary aspects of conservation of Palouse Prairie within a dynamic, human dominated landscape with team members in fields such as soil science, entomology, virus ecology, and conservation/restoration plant ecology. Contact Philip Watson (pwatson@uidaho.edu) and J.D. Wulforst (jd@uidaho.edu).

PhD Assistantship in Virus Ecology and Virology. Seeking a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue the study of plant viruses and virus ecology in the endangered Palouse Prairie and surrounding agricultural landscape. Research will focus on studies to: 1) reveal the breadth of viruses in native plants and invasive species in the Palouse Prairie, 2) assess vector transmission and virus spread and their role on dynamics of virus populations in the landscape, and 3) examine the role of viruses on plant and vector fitness. The student will use a variety of sequencing and bioinformatics methods applied to field-collected material, and conduct controlled field and greenhouse experiments. In addition, the student will conduct collaborative research to examine interdisciplinary aspects of conservation of Palouse Prairie

within a dynamic, human dominated landscape with team members in fields such as soil science, entomology, conservation/restoration plant ecology, and rural and community economics. Contact Nilsa Bosque-Pérez (nbosque@uidaho.edu) and Alexander Karasev (akarasev@uidaho.edu).

This unique graduate education program will provide students:

- Team-based interdisciplinary education
- International perspective
- Broad geographic and ecological exposure
- Participation in integrated interdisciplinary teams
- Cross-cultural experience

Requirements: Applicants must be American citizens or permanent residents of the USA. Successful applicants must have obtained a research-based M.S. degree in a discipline of relevance to the project, and demonstrate interest and/or experience in team-based projects. Students will join the program to begin course work at the end of July 2010.

Application deadline: December 1st, 2009 (earlier applications are encouraged). Interviews of top applicants will be conducted at the University of Idaho campus in Spring 2010. For application information visit the web page: <http://www.students.uidaho.edu/gradadmissions/IGERT>. For information on our previous IGERT project go to: <http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/igert/>. For information on the University of Idaho College of Graduate Studies see: <http://www.uidaho.edu/cogs/>.

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IASNR Announcements, continued

IASNR responded to this notice in the Federal Register. We are providing OMB's information and a copy of our response letter.

Federal Register: October 27, 2009 (Volume 74, Number 206), Page 55269-55272

From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov](http://www.access.gpo.gov)
DOCID: fr27oc09-104

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Improving Implementation of the Paperwork Reduction Act

AGENCY: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) oversees agency information collection activities under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). While information collection is critical to evidence-based decisions and informed government operations, unnecessary paperwork requirements can impose serious burdens on the public, especially small entities. The PRA requires Federal agencies to minimize the burden on the public resulting from their information collections, and to maximize the practical utility of the information collected. OMB is committed to working with agencies and the public to promote compliance with the PRA and to reduce unnecessary paperwork and improve PRA guidance and implementation. To that end, OMB is inviting comments from the public on how to strengthen and improve implementation of the PRA. Specifically, OMB seeks comments on reducing current paperwork burdens, especially on small entities; increasing the practical utility of information collected by the Federal Government; ensuring accurate burden estimates; and preventing unintended adverse consequences.

DATES: To ensure consideration, responses must be written and received by December 28, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments by one of the following methods:

Web site: www.regulations.gov

E-mail: oira_submission@omb.eop.gov

Fax: (202) 395-7245

Comments submitted in response to this notice may be made available to the public through relevant Web sites. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information or proprietary information. If you send an e-mail comment, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. Please note that responses to this public comment request containing any routine notice about the confidentiality of the communication will be treated as public comments that may be made available to the public notwithstanding the inclusion of the routine notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mabel Echols, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Records Management Center, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, NEOB, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Telephone: (202) 395-6880.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In this Federal Register notice, OMB seeks public comments on possible initiatives to improve the implemen-

tation of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA)--and in particular, to reduce the paperwork burden on the public, especially on small entities; to maximize the utility of the information collected; to ensure accurate burden estimates; to improve the process of OMB review; and to prevent unintended adverse consequences. OMB plans to use the comments it receives in response to this notice to inform its preparation of the 2010 Information Collection Budget (ICB), which is a report that will be provided to Congress on the Federal Government's effectiveness in implementing the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OMB will also use these comments to inform its practices for evaluating information collections submitted to OMB by agencies.

Improving Paperwork Burden Estimates

Agencies estimate PRA paperwork burden in terms of the time and financial resources the public devotes annually to responding to information collections. The term 'burden' means the 'time, effort, or financial resources' the public expends to provide information to or for a Federal agency, or otherwise fulfill statutory or regulatory requirements. 44 U.S.C. 3502(2); 5 CFR 1320.3(b). 'Burden' therefore includes:

- Reviewing instructions;
- Using technology to collect, process, and disclose information;
- Adjusting existing practices to comply with requirements;
- Searching data sources;
- Completing and reviewing the response; and
- Transmitting or disclosing information.

Currently, agencies estimate and report the burden of these activities in terms of the time, or burden hours, and the financial costs that the public devotes to reporting, recordkeeping, and disclosure requirements. In estimating the time and resources devoted to information collections, agency Chief Information Officer offices typically consult agency program staff, who are responsible for managing the information and thus possess the substantive knowledge that is essential to estimating the number of respondents to an information request relating to that program. The agency then uses its knowledge of the program to consider how much time a respondent would need to respond to the information request. Multiplying the amount of time per respondent by the number of respondents and the number of times the information is submitted each year produces the total annual burden hours imposed by a given collection.

After agencies produce a preliminary burden estimate, several reviews of its accuracy take place. First, agencies solicit public feedback on the accuracy of their estimates in Federal Register notices that provide for an initial 60-day public comment period. Any comments received by the agency are used to refine the estimate that is submitted for OMB review. Second, OMB analysts who review agency information collection requests (ICRs) can provide comments on the agency's estimate. Finally, OMB review is accompanied by a second, 30-day public comment period (initiated with a second Federal Register notice), during which the public can again submit comments on the burden estimates.

IASNR Announcements, continued

Agencies have worked hard to improve their burden estimates, and several agencies have undergone extensive studies to do so. For example, the Internal Revenue Service accounts for a large share (over 76 percent) of the Federal Government's total paperwork burden. In light of this fact, the IRS has devoted considerable resources to measuring the burden it imposes on taxpayers so that policymakers and the public can better understand the cost to society of tax collection and compliance with the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS has made efforts to improve the accuracy and transparency of taxpayer burden estimates. Starting in FY 2006, the IRS began using a new methodology based on a statistical model--the Individual Taxpayer Burden Model (ITBM)--to estimate the reporting burden imposed on individual taxpayers. The ITBM's approach to measuring burden focuses on the characteristics and activities of individual taxpayers rather than the forms they ultimately use.

Despite public input and certain common methodological techniques, agency estimation methodologies can sometimes produce imprecise and inconsistent burden estimates. Some agencies have relied on program analysts to generate burden estimates based on their individual consideration of, for example, the number and types of questions asked, what records will need to be created and maintained, how long it will take people to complete these and other tasks, and how many people will be performing the tasks. These officials are often experts in their areas of responsibility and are usually familiar with the public's experience with responding to information collections they oversee. In some cases, however, it is not clear that their estimates are based on sufficiently rigorous or internally consistent methodologies. This is a particular concern in the case of large collections, the burden of which may be measured in millions of hours or tens of millions of dollars. (For more information on how agencies estimate their paperwork burden, please refer to pages 29-39 of the Information Collection Budget of the United States Government, FY 1999, Office of Management and Budget, which can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/omb/inforeg/icb-fy99.pdf>.)

In addition, OMB is aware of the possibility that information collections may impose significant burdens on small businesses. Because of economies of scale, a collection may be more burdensome for a small entity than for a large one. However, currently there is no uniform method for agencies to account for situations in which a collection may have a disproportionate impact on a particular type of respondent, such as a small entity.

In summary, there is some variation across individual agencies in the methodologies used for estimating the time and financial burden associated with their collections. This variation makes it difficult to ensure accurate assessment on the part of all individual agencies and to upgrade government-wide performance in implementing the PRA. **OMB Seeks Comment on How To Improve the Current Situation, Including:**

- Examples of substantially inaccurate burden estimates for information collections, including an analysis of the inaccuracy and, if possible, the collection's OMB Control Number.
- New or improved practices for estimating burden, such as new burden estimation methodologies and recommendations about how to use technology and social media applications to seek comments from those most informed about a collection's burden.

- Possible distinctions, in burden estimates, between mandatory and voluntary information collections.
- Examples of information collections (if possible, including the OMB Control Number) that inaccurately estimate the impact of burden upon small entities.
- Whether the creation of a separate burden estimate for small entities is necessary and, if so, the best methodology by which to estimate burden.
- Whether and how burden hours should be monetized. If so, should a single valuation of time (as represented, for example, by a respondent's wage rate or the fee paid to a contractor) be used for all collections, or should it be derived separately for different types of collections? Also, should a single valuation be used for all respondents to a particular collection, or should valuations differ according to respondent characteristics?
- Whether OMB should establish a means for reporting annual burden estimates rather than the three-year average burden estimates that are commonly reported today.

In submitting comments to this notice, please provide supporting evidence where feasible--with data, specific examples of information collections, and, if possible, the collections' OMB Control Numbers--along with concrete recommendations.

Reducing Paperwork Burden and Maximizing the Utility of Information Collected by the Federal Government

Over the years, the number of hours that the public has spent responding to Federal Government information collections has been steadily increasing. In FY 2000, the public spent an estimated 7.4 billion hours responding to information collections subject to the PRA. In FY 2007, the number of hours grew to an estimated 9.64 billion, an increase of more than 30 percent. Much of this increase is attributed to factors that make it difficult for agencies to control their paperwork burden, such as new statutory requirements and demographic and economic changes. A much smaller portion is a result of discretionary decisions made by agencies that increase burden.

While the overall trend in paperwork burden has been rising, several agencies have dramatically reduced the burden of their collections, and in some cases improved the utility of a collection in the process. The following are examples of successful initiatives by agencies to reduce burden on the public:

- The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) expanded electronic reporting options for its National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), which allows the Department to analyze fire incident data at the Federal, State, and local levels. The revised system continues to help DHS identify common fire trends on a national scale, but in a more efficient manner. The revisions to the system resulted in a reduction of 1.28 million burden hours and \$17.545 million in costs to respondents.
- Within the Department of Health and Human Services, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) managed a work group to examine some of its forms for possible duplication or redundancy with currently approved Standard Forms. The group found that the health professions programs could operate with the Standard Forms, allowing HRSA to discontinue one of its program-specific forms, the Competing Grant Training Application. As a result, burden was reduced by 101,531 hours.
- The Social Security Administration (SSA) reduced the amount of time

IASNR Announcements, continued

necessary to complete the initial online filing for Social Security retirement and disability benefits by enabling respondents to sign the application electronically, rather than in hard copy. This portion of the SSA's Signature Proxy Initiative resulted in an annual reduction of 32,401 hours. (See page 5 of the Information Collection Budget of the United States Government, FY 2007, Office of Management and Budget, which can be found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/omb/inforeg/icb/fy_2007_icb_final.pdf. Agencies also often undertake efforts to improve the utility of information that they collect through relatively small increases in burden. For example, statistical agencies routinely pretest new surveys or new items for existing surveys to ensure that respondents understand the question being asked, have the information to be able to respond, and are able to convey their response in accordance with the options provided by the agency. Similarly, agencies conducting program evaluations or research studies often engage in small-scale formative or exploratory research to inform larger-scale investigations. With increasing use of the Internet to collect and disseminate information, more agencies are also engaging in usability testing to improve their Web sites and electronic forms and questionnaires.

OMB is committed to helping agencies build on these initiatives and to ensuring that the PRA is implemented in a way that suits current conditions. OMB is also aware that concerns have been expressed about unintended consequences of the administration of the Act, including delays in the conduct of surveys and research in contexts in which citizens are asked, but not required, to respond to information collection requests by the Federal Government.

In this notice, OMB is seeking public comment to provide new ideas for reducing paperwork burden and ensuring practical utility. As part of its efforts to improve this situation, OMB invites comments from the public on all issues relating to improvement of the implementation of the PRA, including but not limited to the following topic areas:

- How can OMB improve the PRA review process in a way that increases efficiency and timeliness for agencies while ensuring practical utility and minimizing burden on the public?
- Under the PRA, what are the relevant differences among collections that are mandatory, mandatory to receive a benefit, and voluntary, and what practices could OMB implement in its review processes to recognize these differences? In addition, how would such practices achieve the PRA goals of reducing current paperwork burdens and increasing the practical utility of information collected by the Federal Government?
- Should OMB encourage agencies to adopt 'one-stop' information collection techniques, which consolidate multiple forms via a single electronic form to reduce the burden on the public? How should OMB encourage agencies to take advantage of online tools to simplify the completion of already-approved surveys or mobile technology to deliver a survey by alternative means?
- What practices could OMB implement under the PRA to facilitate the use of new technologies, such as social media, as well as future technologies, while supporting the Federal Government's responsibilities for Information Resource Management?
- What new steps, if any, might be taken under the PRA to eliminate any redundant or excessive mandatory information collections, espe-

cially in connection with programs that now impose the most significant burdens, including tax, health, and transportation programs?

- Examples of successful paperwork burden reduction practices implemented by an agency that could be implemented by other agencies. Please provide recommendations, and if possible, OMB control numbers.

Cass R. Sunstein.

Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

FR Doc. E9-25757 Filed 10-26-09; 8:45 am

BILLING CODE 3110-01-P

Our Reply →

IASNR Announcements, continued



International Association for Society & Natural Resources

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December 7, 2009

Ms. Mabel Echols
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Records Management Center
Office of Management and Budget
Room 10102, NEOB
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Echols:

I am writing in response to the notice in the Federal Register (Volume 74, Number 206, October 27, 2009) entitled "OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, Improving Implementation of the Paperwork Reduction Act." I am the Executive Director of the International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR), a professional organization dedicated to advancing the application of social science to natural resource management. IASNR represents hundreds of scientists who conduct research on issues related to the care for and use of our nation's natural resources. Many of these scientists and professionals conduct surveys relating to national parks, forests and wildlife, residents of communities dependent on public lands and resources, and other stakeholders. The information collected in these surveys advances our collective knowledge of public uses of the nations' natural resource endowments. In the process, these surveys inform planners and managers about how to more effectively address our nation's needs today and into the future. All of this work requires approval of the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Over the past few years, it has become increasingly more difficult and time consuming to obtain OMB approval for such surveys. As a consequence, many surveys and other social science related research *requested* by resource managers has been substantially delayed or cancelled. This is having important negative consequences for sustaining resources and meeting the needs of those who use or depend on them. Simply said, these managers do

IASNR Announcements, continued

Mabel Echols

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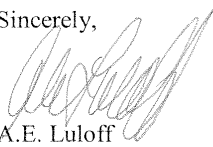
December 7, 2009

not have the information they need to plan for and manage resources or to make appropriate and informed decisions, scientists cannot plan and conduct a program of research in an efficient and effective way, and the public is denied an opportunity to have their voices heard regarding important matters affecting their natural resources.

I am writing to ask you to consider these problems as you revise and improve procedures for implementing the Paperwork Reduction Act. Surveys conducted to address human dimensions of natural resources comprise a very small percentage of the public "burden" the Paperwork Reduction Act was originally designed to address. Moreover, stakeholders want their voices heard regarding matters addressing resource management and this is manifested in the typically high response rates obtained in these voluntary surveys. It is my understanding that provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act allow (or could allow through revision) for delegation of approval authority by OMB to affected agencies such as the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These agencies have strong science administration programs that can manage the survey approval process in a professional, effective, and efficient manner. I strongly urge you to consider using such administrative programs and, as a result, continue to allow survey research focusing on issues related to our nation's parks, forests, monuments, and other public lands.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



A.E. Luloff
Professor of Rural Sociology
Executive Director, International Association for
Society and Natural Resources
(O): 814- 863-8643
(F): 814-865-3746

IASNR Position Announcements

University of Maine Sustainability Solutions Initiative Postdoctoral Fellows Program

The University of Maine is launching a national search for Postdoctoral Sustainability Science Fellows. The successful candidates will join a new Sustainability Solutions Initiative (SSI) funded by a 5-year, \$20 million NSF EPSCoR grant. SSI includes a team of 30 faculty from a range of disciplines and multiple academic institutions statewide. SSI's transformative research program integrates coupled natural and human systems modeling, stakeholder engagement, and solutions-oriented research activities. Organized under a theme of landscape change, SSI supports multiple research projects focused on urbanization, forest ecosystem management, and climate change. Collectively, these projects speak to various sustainability science challenges and present a unique opportunity to advance the field of sustainability science. A major thrust of SSI is to produce a new generation of scientists who are equipped to work across disciplinary boundaries and adept at collaborative, problem-solving work that spans research and practice. SSI is recruiting a cohort of 4 Postdoctoral Fellows with tentative start dates ranging from February 2010 to April 2010. These initial appointments will be for a one-year duration with an opportunity for renewal. Concurrent SSI recruitment initiatives are seeking applications for 20 to 25 Doctoral Fellows and 4 faculty positions.

Responsibilities: As a cohort, the 4 Postdoctoral Fellows will serve an integrative function to the overall SSI. We seek postdoctoral fellows who can align themselves with one or more ongoing research teams and are willing to assume broader, integrative research responsibilities. The postdoctoral fellows will be expected to participate in ongoing team projects and SSI-wide research activities, such as statewide sustainability problem assessments within the areas of urbanization, forest ecosystem management, climate change, and stakeholder engagement. Core research responsibilities will include planning and completion of research projects, preparation of manuscripts for publication in collaboration with SSI researchers, and presentation of research findings at public and professional meetings. The cohort will also have the opportunity to contribute to the development and implementation of SSI curricula and mentoring programs for graduate and undergraduate students.

Qualifications: A Ph.D. with specialization in biological or earth sciences, communication, engineering, mathematics, natural resource management, public policy, social sciences or a closely related technical or scientific discipline is required by the time of appointment. Preference will be given to candidates with experience working on interdisciplinary research teams.

Applications: Candidates must demonstrate the capacity to support their research programs, produce high-quality scholarship and publications, and advance the SSI research program. Applications must include all of the following materials for consideration: (1) a written statement (2-3 pages) that summarizes both the candidate's research goals and interests in sustainability science and the candidate's capacity and plan for completing the Fellowship responsibilities; (2) curriculum vitae; (3) undergraduate and graduate transcripts; (4) a sample of research (e.g.,

peer-reviewed publication); and (5) names and contact information of three professional references. Please send materials in PDF form to hallsworth@maine.edu or in hard copy form to Ruth Hallsworth, Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research, 5710 Norman Smith Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469. Review of applications will begin December 18, 2009.

For more details on SSI, visit the project website at: <http://www.umaine.edu/sustainabilitysolutions/>

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer committed to maintaining an intellectually and culturally diverse faculty and staff.



University of Maine Assistant/Associate Professor of Social-Ecological Systems Modeling

The School of Economics (SOE) and the Senator George J. Mitchell Center at the University of Maine invite applications from social scientists for a tenure-track faculty position in SOE at the assistant or associate professor level. The successful candidate will join a new Sustainability Solutions Initiative (SSI) funded by a 5-year, \$20 million NSF EPSCoR grant. The position is one of four new hires supported by SSI, an innovative program in sustainability science. The successful candidate will participate in interdisciplinary research to develop and implement models of coupled natural-human systems. Information about SOE may be obtained at <http://www.umaine.edu/soe/> and about SSI at <http://www.umaine.edu/sustainabilitysolutions/about/index.htm>.

Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will tackle pioneering research problems associated with modeling of coupled natural-human systems, develop innovative courses, and meet service expectations through involvement in the efforts of the SSI and SOE. This faculty member will be expected to develop an active, nationally and internationally recognized, and externally funded research program. The successful candidate will be expected to teach a modeling course to support the SSI, develop/teach additional courses to support SOE academic programs, and serve as an advisor to graduate and undergraduate students.

Qualifications:

A Ph.D. with specialization in social science modeling or related area is required by the time of appointment. Expertise in one or more of the following modeling approaches is preferred: empirical quantitative modeling, simulation-based modeling, agent-based modeling/multi-agent systems, complexity science, neural networks, social network analysis, visualization or spatial social science. Preference will also be given to candidates with experience in empirical modeling of land use/land cover, forest management, or climate change; expertise in geographic information systems; experience completing interdisciplinary research and working on interdisciplinary teams; and ability to obtain external funding, publish in leading peer-reviewed journals, and provide excellent classroom instruction.

Applications:

IASNR Position Announcements, continued

Candidates must demonstrate the ability to obtain external funding to support their research program and to produce high-quality scholarship and publications. Candidates must also demonstrate the capacity for excellent teaching and mentoring. Candidates at the associate professor rank must have a proven track record in these areas. Candidates at the assistant professor level must show promise of significant scholarship and teaching ability.

Applications must include all of the following materials for consideration: (1) a cover letter that explicitly describes your qualifications and demonstrates your capacity to complete the position's responsibilities; (2) curriculum vitae; (3) names and contact information of three professional references; (4) graduate transcript; and (5) a sample of research. Please send materials in PDF form to tammy.crosby@maine.edu or in hard copy to Tammy Crosby, School of Economics, Attn: SSI Professor Search Committee, 5782 Winslow Hall, Room 206, University of Maine, Orono, Maine 04469-5782. Review of applications will begin Dec. 15, 2009. The expected start date is September of 2010, with a possibility of an earlier start date if it is mutually agreeable and funding is available.

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer committed to maintaining an intellectually and culturally diverse faculty.



University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Assistant Professor of Natural Resources/Land Use Planning

This is a joint appointment with the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources (CNR) and the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Service (CES) in the Community, Natural Resources, and Economic Development Program (CNRED).

As a faculty member in Human Dimensions of Resource Management within the CNR and *Center for Land Use Education* (CLUE) (<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/landcenter/>), the successful candidate will have dual responsibilities for Extension outreach education (25%) and for undergraduate teaching (75%). The faculty member will be responsible for planning and administering natural resource courses totaling 9 credits per semester, which could include, but are not limited to, "Introduction to Planning," planning analysis, planning implementation tools, and a workshop course, integrated resource management and public relations. Opportunities exist for teaching and advising graduate level students.

The successful candidate will provide outreach to organizations and the Wisconsin public 25% of the time. The successful candidate would be a part of CLUE, operating in a team atmosphere to provide land use, natural resource and planning-related education to Wisconsin's local governments, businesses and the public. One of the primary responsibilities will be to create and implement an extension program that can include training for plan commissioners, zoning boards of adjustment, planning professionals and zoning technicians. It is critical that the successful candidate be visible and accessible to various client audiences as described above, including County extension faculty.

UWEX CNRED, the natural resources arm of the cooperative extension program in Wisconsin, extends university resources to the citizens and

communities of the state working principally through county based Extension faculty. CNR faculty members report directly to the Dean of the College and are expected to demonstrate scholarly activity and provide service to the College and community.

Department/University Description: The College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point is a leading undergraduate natural resources college with approximately 1500 undergraduate majors, 120 graduate students, and over 80 faculty and staff (www.uwsp.edu/cnr/). The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point is a comprehensive regional university with 8,400 undergraduate and 400 graduate students. Located in the central part of the state, Stevens Point has a population of about 25,000 in a metropolitan area of nearly 60,000 and offers a wide range of cultural and outdoor recreational opportunities.

Qualifications: A Ph.D. or J.D. at or close to completion at the time of hire is required. A graduate degree in land use or natural resource planning or a closely related field is required. Preference will be given to candidates that show concise and engaging writing and presentation skills.

Appointment Date: July 1, 2010, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Terms of Employment: Assistant Professor, tenure track, full-time, annual appointment (12 month). Salary is commensurate with experience.

Application Procedure: Send hard copies (no e-mail) of an application letter, resume, transcripts, two letters of reference and the names, addresses and phone numbers of three additional references to: Anna Haines, *Center for Land Use Education*, College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481. Phone: 715 346-2386

Deadline: Screening of applications will begin on February 15, 2010, and will continue until a suitable candidate is found.



University of Idaho

Dean, College of Natural Resources, Moscow, Idaho

The University of Idaho, a leading research institution and land-grant university, seeks as its next dean of the College of Natural Resources, an experienced executive and research professional who will provide strategic and operational leadership. The university recently has implemented a strategic action plan to guide its ongoing renewal and expansion for the future and is poised to develop the next phase of strategic innovation (<http://www.uidaho.edu/provost/strategicactionplan.aspx>).

The College of Natural Resources houses a comprehensive set of undergraduate and graduate science programs that attract distinguished faculty and diverse students from around the world. Along with a doctoral degree program, and two masters degree programs, the college offers eight bachelors degree programs including ecology and conservation biology, fire ecology and management, fishery resources, forest products, forest resources, rangeland ecology and management, resource recreation and tourism, and wildlife resources

IASNR Position Announcements, continued

(www.uidaho.edu/cnr/deansearch).

The college is home to a wide range of multidisciplinary research units, more than 10,300 acres of experimental forest and two of Idaho's gems, the Taylor Wilderness Research Station and the McCall Outdoor Science School, which all provide opportunities for students to gain hands-on, integrated learning experiences. The college is passionate about benefiting global societies through innovative knowledge creation, technology and leadership. CNR's 58 faculty members work collaboratively in an interdisciplinary setting to provide leadership in sustaining natural resources and help position our 575 undergraduates and 157 graduate students to be the next generation of leaders at the regional, national and global levels for sustainability and environmental stewardship.

The dean is the chief administrative officer of the college and reports to the provost and executive vice president. The dean has authority and responsibility for all aspects of curriculum planning and development, faculty and staff evaluation and development, budget and facilities. The dean plays a leadership role in fund raising, creating and sustaining an energized community, recruiting and retaining a diverse body of students and faculty, representing the college to the external community, and facilitating interdisciplinary collaborations with other colleges, universities, Native American Tribes, industry, and state and federal agencies.

Minimum Qualifications: This is an outstanding opportunity for a visionary leader with administrative experience. The candidate must possess an earned doctorate/terminal degree from an accredited institution and credentials to hold a tenured professorship; outstanding record of scholarly activities; outstanding communication skills; broad knowledge of the college's diverse disciplines; and a record of leadership of and advocacy for interdisciplinary programs as dean and/or chair of an academic department or equivalent position.

Preferred Qualifications: Facilitative leadership abilities, vision and experience to successfully address the changes and challenges faced in defining the future course of the college and its collaborations with other colleges and universities; record of commitment to student-centered education, intellectual and social diversity; a keen appreciation for a proper balance for applied and fundamental research, as well as among research, outreach, undergraduate and graduate education that is consistent with the University of Idaho's strategic objectives and the mission of land grant universities.

Founded in 1889, the University of Idaho is the state's flagship institution of higher-education and its principal graduate education and research university, bringing insight and innovation to the state, the nation and the world. University researchers attract nearly \$100 million in research grants and contracts each year. The University of Idaho is the only institution in the state to earn the prestigious Carnegie Foundation classification for high research activity. The university's student population includes first-generation college students and ethnically diverse scholars. Offering more than 130 degree options in 10 colleges, the university has the combined strength of a large university with the intimacy of small learning communities. For information, visit www.uidaho.edu.

As Idaho's land grant and flagship research university, the university is an integral part of the fabric of the state and plays a key role in economic development. The President has recently announced six priorities for the university involving significant increases in: 1) entrepreneurship; 2) engagement; 3) sustainability; 4) diversity; 5) global connectivity; 6) interdisciplinarity. The university is also committed to investing in the emerging areas of 1) the transition from wilderness to urbanization; 2) the nexus of energy, agriculture, and the environment; 3) natural and induced modifications of living systems; 4) the development of a comprehensive science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education initiative.

Outstanding programs, people and locations make the University of Idaho a dynamic research university with international renown. The Moscow residential campus and the university network of instructional, outreach, and research activities around the state and region enrich the social and economic health of the state.

The University of Idaho is home to over 11,700 undergraduate, graduates and professional students from all 50 states; international students from 76 countries comprise five percent of the student body. The university enrolls 65 National Merit Scholars, with almost 50 percent of the incoming freshmen in the top quartile of their graduating class. The University of Idaho is ranked among the most wired and wireless public universities in the West, adding an anytime-anywhere dimension to the setting of the picturesque rolling hills of the Palouse. Rich academic partnership opportunities are afforded with other universities and colleges in Idaho, the Idaho National Laboratory, Washington State University, only eight miles away, and other universities in the region. The University of Idaho has an institution-wide commitment to diversity, multiculturalism, and community, and actively engages in recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce and student body.

Completed applications should include a letter of interest and qualifications relative to the position description, statements on the visions for education and research appropriate for the college of a land grant university, vitae, and contact information for five references (including names, title, address, phone number and email address). Nominations are welcome. All applications will be given full consideration. Review of applications will begin February 1, 2010 and the search process will continue until an appointment is made. Search Chairperson is Dean Scott Wood, University of Idaho, College of Science, P.O. Box 443025, Moscow, Idaho 83844-3025. Electronic online application: <http://www.hr.uidaho.edu>.

To enrich education through diversity, the University of Idaho is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and Educational Institution.



University of Washington School of Marine Affairs, College of the Environment Tenure Track Assistant Professor

The School of Marine Affairs (SMA) at the University of Washington (UW) seeks applications for a full-time, 9-month, tenure-eligible appointment as an Assistant Professor.

IASNR Position Announcements, continued

SMA (<http://www.sma.washington.edu/>) serves as a center of expertise in human dimensions of marine and environmental policy within UW's new College of the Environment (<http://coenv.washington.edu/>). Specialists in coastal management and marine living resources management are especially sought, but individuals with human dimensions specialties in fields relevant to marine and environmental policy are also strongly encouraged to apply. Understanding institutional dimensions of environmental change (social and natural) is an area of growing importance at SMA, and work addressing ecosystem based- and spatial area planning and management from such perspectives is highly relevant. Within the context of the new College, SMA is broadening its mission and is open to applicants with varied specialties with strong prospects for significant accomplishment in the area of science-policy integration. SMA provides leadership and training to address contemporary and emerging issues in marine systems. Its professional masters' curriculum emphasizes human dimensions of global change and globalization in the marine environment.

The appointee will possess strong analytical and research skills and is expected to: 1) teach graduate classes in the School's core curriculum in his/her area of expertise, and at the undergraduate level; 2) advise and support graduate students; 3) develop a nationally recognized research program in his/her area of specialization; and 4) develop collaborative funded programs with relevant faculty, practitioners and organizations. University of Washington faculty engage in teaching, research, and service.

Required Qualifications: The disciplinary focus is open, but candidates must possess a Ph.D. (or equivalent terminal degree) in *social and behavioral sciences, law, communications or interdisciplinary studies*. The appointment is anticipated to begin no later than September 16, 2010.

To Apply: Applicants should submit: 1) a letter of application that includes a statement of teaching experience and research interests as they relate to the above; 2) evidence of collaborative capabilities; 3) a detailed CV; and 4) the names of three references. Electronic submissions are highly encouraged and should be sent to: smafac@u.washington.edu. Review of applications will begin in late January 2010 and continue until the position is filled.

Questions should be directed to Prof. Thomas M. Leschine, Director, School of Marine Affairs, tml@uw.edu, 206-543-7004.

The University of Washington is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. The University is building a culturally diverse faculty and staff and strongly encourages applications from women, minorities, individuals with disabilities and covered veterans.

University of Washington Search #AA2456



University of Wisconsin-Madison Bioenergy Tenure-Track Faculty Positions

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is committed to improving our energy future through renewable energy research and discovery. To facilitate that commitment, UW-Madison's College of Agricultural and

Life Sciences (CALS) formed the Wisconsin Bioenergy Initiative (WBI) to grow bioenergy expertise among UW-Madison, UW-System and Wisconsin stakeholders. In order to advance these goals, **UW-Madison is seeking individuals to grow bioenergy expertise in established departments** with focus areas including, but not limited to:

Life Sciences

- Cell wall chemistry and deconstruction methods to enable methods of providing accessibility to the separate biopolymer fractions.
- Biomass feedstock production to identify strategies to lower needs for fertilizer, high energy or high environmental cost agricultural chemicals.
- Plant synthetic biology to understand and alter plant polymer/cell wall chemistry, biochemistry, cell biology and circuitry that controls the synthesis and deposition of these polymers.
- Systems or synthetic biology to understand, computationally model, identify or improve microbial processes for conversion of plant biomass or other renewable resources into fuels.

Engineering

- Catalytic conversion methods to create fuels utilizing routes of gasification, pyrolysis, liquification, upgrading and reforming.
- Advanced batteries or other energy storage technologies, including the use of fundamental electrochemistry, new materials and integration of nanotechnology to enhance storage capacity, increase energy density and improve opportunities for implementation at large scales.
- Biomass processing, aggregation and transport to connect the production of energy dense, highly consistent, readily convertible feedstocks with delivery to biorefineries and power plants.
- Engineering expertise in current bioenergy processing methods, including dry and wet anaerobic digesters, gasification, pyrolysis and fluidized bed reactors for biopower.

Sustainability Sciences – **View and apply for open positions**

- Behavior change, public attitudes and social marketing, particularly in the energy sector.
- Applied ethics and public policy to support the understanding of the social impacts of new energy technologies.
- Ecological modeling which may include time series analysis, spatial statistics, hierarchical models and Bayesian statistics that can be applied to natural resource management, including assessment of bioenergy potential and impacts.
- Community and regional development, with an emphasis on the economic and physical infrastructure needed for bioenergy development, and the analysis of social, cultural and land use impacts of bioenergy production, distribution and use.

Applications, nominations, and inquiries are all invited. Review of applications will commence on 12/1/09, and continue through 1/31/10, or until successful candidates are identified. Please visit the links above for full position descriptions and details. UW-Madison is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Unless confidentiality is requested in writing, information regarding applicants must be released upon request. Finalists cannot be guaranteed confidentiality.



Annual meeting minutes continued from page 11 ...

Open Forum:

1. Is it necessary to have printed version of the Journal, could it go electronic? The Journal is held by Taylor and Francis and it is their decision. The institutional subscriptions are the real supporter of the Journal and they need libraries to support the process.

2. Could IASNR create a process for providing invitations to meetings through a website? This would facilitate obtaining visas to attend meetings.

The meeting closed with Krannich passing the "official" pen to Luloff as the incoming Executive Director.



*Closing night Liechtenstein Museum
Photo by Jim Finley*

Council meeting minutes continued from page 12 ...

Student Award Committee: Gene has chaired this for five years and is going to step down after this year. It is a worthwhile and rewarding experience. Submissions were down this year. He has in the past selected his own committee using international representatives each time. Need to find someone to fill this role. Al will send an email to all council members looking for a committee chair.

ISSRM 2011: Planning is moving forward. It may be the highest risk meeting to date. Have a proposal for the 2012 meeting in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Al and Rick could continue to work with the Edmondson group or pick a site review committee. Linda volunteered to work on the site committee. Al and Jim will look at the proposal and then reach out to the council. There is an offer from Brazill to host the 2013 ISSRM.

Student Chapter: Not staying active. Maybe the Student Affairs Committee can follow up and consider this. A proposal was advanced (attached) to do a longitudinal study on student membership and their experiences. The committee wanted to share it at this time and to get some input. Kathy offered to help. The Council would retain control of the mailing and handling of the student survey. The critical question for the survey is how to retain student members.

Student Forum: A bit over 30 students. They appreciated the opportunity and the student rate. They expressed concerns about the paucity of SE Asian and Malaysian student participation.

Nominations: Need to appoint a committee and the Newsletter drafting committee. Need to consider the Life Membership Committee. There are other needs: A committee on constitution and bylaws and filling positions; procedure for conducting membership at-large elections. Al indicated he will try to have two conferences calls annually (March and October) to conduct some of the Council's business. Need to act on the Electronic membership list.

Adjourned at approximately 1:20 p.m.

International Association for Society and Natural Resources

The International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR) was established in 2001. The purposes of IASNR are to foster the interdisciplinary social scientific understanding of the relationships between humans and natural resources, further the application of social science information in natural resource decision making and provide a mechanism whereby social scientists, resource managers, practitioners, agency personnel, and decision makers can generate dialogue and useful exchange.

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