



International  
Association for  
Society and  
Natural  
Resources

# Keeping in Touch

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

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2014

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## Notes From the Executive Director

This newsletter is appearing at a very exciting time for our organization. The biggest and most immediate news of course, is that we are eagerly anticipating an amazing ISSRM in Hannover Germany this June. Our colleague Eick and his able conference manager Angelika Lischka and their crew have been hard at work pulling things together for this year's meetings and we will have quite the program. As Eick notes in his article on pg. 2, they have received more than 450 abstracts and 65 poster submissions so this promises to be a meeting with plenty of high quality content to match the interests of our ever-diversifying membership. He has also received an almost unprecedented number of student paper entries which is a great indicator not only for good student participation at the meeting but also of the bright future that lies ahead for our organization. Also check our website:

[www.issrm2014.iasnr.org](http://www.issrm2014.iasnr.org). for some announcements about our keynoters this year.



I am also excited about the work our new assessment and communication committees are doing. Their work is all about the future of our organization and Courtney and Joan are exercising excellent leadership in moving us forward on these respective fronts. Please respond to the online survey and participate in the discussion forums when they are announced. Also please be on the lookout for upcoming announcements about council elections and proposed changes in our by-laws (including broadening the base for who is eligible to run for officer positions).

Another group that has done an incredible amount of work and made great progress this year is our

Student Affairs Committee under the leadership of Amanda Bentley Brown and Chad Kooistra. They are working with our Assessment and Communications committees and recruiting student members, working with student chapters, contributing to our website and the list goes on and on. I think it's fair to say that student involvement has never been higher in the history of IASNR and I couldn't be more pleased. Kudos to Amanda, Chad and all the students!

In closing let me remind folks that there is still time to renew your annual membership and still get your journals and that registration is now open for Hannover!!!

I look forward to seeing you in Hannover or somewhere down the trail!!



# ISSRM 2014 - Hanover, Germany

ISSRM 2014  
June 8-13, 2014  
Hanover, Germany



Greetings from the organizing committee in Hannover, Germany! We are happy to say that we have received more than 450 abstract and 65 poster submissions for the 20th International Symposium on Society and Natural Resources (ISSRM). You will be notified about your submissions within the next couple of days. In case of any questions, please contact us at [issrm2014@umwelt.uni-hannover.de](mailto:issrm2014@umwelt.uni-hannover.de) or visit the web site at <http://www.issrm2014.iasnr.org>.

In order to provide a smooth conference experience, we are looking for your volunteer support in a few things:

1. If you are willing to chair a session during the conference, please let us know and we will try to find you a session that also fits into your field of expertise. You will always be assisted by a student assistant, so you won't have to worry about the projectors and laptops.

2. The student forum will take place the day before the conference main sessions start. If you are a graduate or undergraduate student attending the conference, please do register for the student forum! We are still seeking senior faculty members to volunteer during the student forum as contact persons during the "World Café" format. We are specifically looking for people who have experience in these fields:

- academic mobility (e.g. the capacity to survive in countries/cultures other than y o u r o w n ) ,
- innovative methods of teaching,
- publishing in international journals,
- and soft skill training for junior academics.

Your task would be to be present during the student forum on June 9 (full day) and act as the discussion chair at different tables focusing on the topics mentioned above. You will be rewarded with interesting discussions, food and some German beer afterwards.

3. We have received an overwhelming response to the student paper competition with 57 entries in total. Our committee thus might want some additional helpers to review the papers. There's one reward for an undergraduate and for a graduate paper each, sponsored by Taylor and Francis.

If any of these tasks sound appealing to you, please contact our conference manager Angelika Lischka at [issrm2014@umwelt.uni-hannover.de](mailto:issrm2014@umwelt.uni-hannover.de).

Thank you very much and see you in Hannover in June!

Eick von Ruschkowski, ISSRM 2014  
Conference Organizer  
Angelika Lischka, ISSRM 2014  
Conference Manager

**Registration is  
now open for  
ISSRM 2014:  
Have YOU  
registered yet?**

# SNR Editor News

IASNR is delighted to announce that our selection process for a new editorial team for Society and Natural Resources has reached a successful conclusion and that the team of David Sonnenfeld (SUNY) and Peter Taylor (Colorado State) will be our new editors!!

Their combined years of productive scholarship and yeoman service as associate editors for SNR make them ideally suited to take the helm of the journal that means so much to so many of us in IASNR. Congratulations and thank you David and Peter for taking this on!

We also want to thank the search committee chaired by Angela Mertig with help from Steve Selin and Tom Fish for a job well done!



## Assessment Committee

### Members:

Courtney Flint (Chair)

Greg Brown

Steve Selin

Amanda Boyd

Paige Fischer

Gina Depper

(Amanda Bentley Brymer & Chad Kooistra - ex officio as student representatives)

This committee is charged with delineating and implementing a strategy for assessing the status and desired future of IASNR, particularly from the perspective of members. Three phases or elements of this assessment are underway or planned, including a summary of available secondary indicators (membership numbers, journal related measures, etc.), an online survey of members to date, and discussion forums.

The committee has accumulated membership numbers to date and will continue to characterize the state of the organization based on available data. An online survey is in devel-

opment and will be administered this spring. The committee hopes to present preliminary findings at the ISSRM business meeting in June. Virtual discussion forums will be held in the summer and fall of 2014. A report will be provided to council and the membership once the assessment is complete.

**We look forward to your participation and input to help guide IASNRs future!**





## Communications Committee



Find IASNR on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/IASNR2](http://www.facebook.com/IASNR2)



Members:  
Joan Brehm (Chair)  
Carla Koons Trentelman  
Becky Schewe  
Neelam Poudyal  
Theresa Groth

The Communications Committee is tasked with improving opportunities for the sharing of information both from Council to the membership and also among the membership itself. One of our first efforts is the revival of the Keeping In Touch Newsletter that you are reading at this moment! We plan to send two issues of this newsletter each year, Spring and Fall. In the future we hope to have opportunities to highlight the exciting work of our membership (research, books, innovative teaching, etc...). But for the first issue we wanted to focus

on sharing all the activities of the IASNR Council Committees, as they all have been very busy.

The next effort to improve communications and to help promote IASNR to a broader audience is the new Facebook page. Check out IASNR on Facebook and "Like" our page for current updates and other topical information of interest to our members and share this page with others to help spread the word to potential new members!

[www.facebook.com/IASNR2](http://www.facebook.com/IASNR2)

The third effort was the creation of an IASNR Listserve to help facilitate quick and timely dialog among those members who chose to subscribe. To subscribe to the Listserve, go to:

<https://listserv.ilstu.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=IASNRDISCUSSION-L&A=1>

and follow the instructions to subscribe.

Finally, we continue to look for ways to improve the IASNR website so it provides more timely and relevant information for our members. We welcome any input or feedback on different vectors of communication or the types of information that would be of benefit for members.

Check out the IASNR website: [www.iasnr.org](http://www.iasnr.org) and share any suggestions with one of the committee members.

## Site Selection Committee



Members:  
Naomi Krogman (Chair)  
Erin Seekamp  
Rick Krannich  
Gene Theodori  
Amanda Bently Brymer

The ISSRM Site Selection Committee is excited to announce that the 21st ISSRM will be held in Charleston, South Caro-

lina in June, 2015. The committee is also reviewing two proposals for ISSRM 2016.

ISSRM 2015: June 15-18, 2015 in Charleston, SC at the College of Charleston. The tentative theme next summer for the conference will be Assessing, Informing, Planning,

Managing, and Adapting to CHANGE:

Climate | Health | Adaptation | Natural Capital | Growth | Energy

Charleston is a beautiful southern city, rich with cultural history, abundant natural surroundings, great food, and its own distinctive architecture. Mark it in your calendars today!

# Elections Committee

## Members:

Tom Fish (Chair)  
Jim Abscher

IASNR strives for the organizational leadership to be “broadly representative of the membership reflecting a balance of: (1) disciplinary orientations in the social sciences; (2) natural resource management fields; and (3) professional practice” (e.g., academic and agency scientists; resource managers; domestic and international scholars; mid-career and seasoned professionals). Service

on the IASNR Council affords members the opportunity to contribute substantially to current operations and future directions of the organization. For additional information, visit the “Governance” tab on the IASNR website ([www.iasnr.org](http://www.iasnr.org)).

During the last election, three new Executive Officers, five new Council members, and one new Student Representative were selected. This year we will conduct elections for four open Council positions and a new Student Representative to the Council. Thank you to those who have submitted

nominations for an excellent cadre of candidates. Stay tuned for notification of elections later this spring. We look forward to high participation from IASNR members in the election later this spring. Inquiries regarding nominations and elections should be directed to the IASNR Elections Committee, c/o Tom Fish ([Tom.Fish@nps.gov](mailto:Tom.Fish@nps.gov)).



# Student Affairs Committee

## Members:

Amanda Bentley Brymer, Co-Chair, (Student Representative to Council), University of Idaho  
Chad Kooistra, Co-Chair, University of Idaho  
David Adams, Auburn University  
Jen Bond, Hue University of Agriculture and Forestry  
Donna Curtis, University of New Brunswick  
Gina Depper (Student Member Assessment Subcommittee Chair), Clemson University  
Mallory Dolan, Utah State University  
Helene Draux, University of Copenhagen  
Darrick Evensen, Cornell University  
Theresa Groth (Student Chapters Subcommittee Chair), Charles Sturt University

## University

Joseph Hamm, University of Nebraska  
Shawn Olson (Professional Development Subcommittee Chair), Utah State University  
Emily Silver (Online Forum / Webinar Subcommittee Chair), University of Maine  
Brandi Smith, Clemson University  
Tanja Straka, University of Melbourne  
Jenn Thomsen, Clemson University  
Carena van Riper, Texas A&M University  
Kenny Wallen, Texas A&M University  
Adam Wilke, Iowa State University

Student Affairs Committee (SAC) co-chairs Chad Kooistra and Amanda Bentley Brymer began the new term by

recruiting new student members and requesting applications for chaired positions on various subcommittees. There was an excellent response and interest among students to get involved in the SAC, and several projects are now underway:

## Student Membership Assessment Subcommittee:

- Collaborating with each SAC subcommittee and with the Council’s Membership Assessment Committee to include an inquiry of students’ needs
- Assisting with final assessment analysis and report.

## Student Chapters Subcommittee:

(Continued on page 6)



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Sam Houston State University  
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Assistant  
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[www.iasnr.org](http://www.iasnr.org)

## Student Affairs Committee Cont.

- Identifying and contacting currently active IASNR student chapters
- Designing purpose and guidelines for students interested in starting a new chapter.

Please contact Theresa Groth ([tgroth@csu.edu.au](mailto:tgroth@csu.edu.au)) with information on active or inactive Student Chapters at your institution.

### Online Forum / Webinar Subcommittee:

- Developing content for the IASNR website – particularly resources for students
  - Designing potential webinar for students to meet, collaborate and develop professional skills.
- If you have updates for the student section of the IASNR website, please contact Emily Silver ([emily.j.silver@maine.edu](mailto:emily.j.silver@maine.edu)).

### Professional Development Subcommittee:

- Assessing the structure of the IASNR Mentor Program
- Developing ethics resources for IASNR website; working to enhance student involvement in SNR.

Please contact Shawn Olson ([shawnkeatingolson@gmail.com](mailto:shawnkeatingolson@gmail.com)) if you would like to learn more about the Mentor Program or other professional development opportunities for student members of IASNR.

### IASNR Council Student Member Representative:

- Advocating for increased organizational support for students – particularly funding for travel to ISSRM
- Collaborating with Council members and SAC members to improve opportunities for student involvement and leadership in IASNR

activities.

If you have any questions or concerns about resources and support for students' within IASNR in general, please contact Amanda Bentley Brymer ([bent0864@vandals.uidaho.edu](mailto:bent0864@vandals.uidaho.edu)).

We are excited to continue these projects and many more to come. If you are interested in learning more about the Student Affairs Committee, please contact co-chair Chad Koostira ([chadk@uidaho.edu](mailto:chadk@uidaho.edu)).

