

IASNR Executive Officers:

Executive Director: Matt Carroll,
Washington State University,
carroll@wsu.edu

Treasurer: Gene Theodori,
Sam Houston State University,
gtheodori@shsu.edu

Secretary: Joan Brehm,
Illinois State University,
jmbrehm@ilstu.edu

IASNR Council Members:

Greg Brown,
University of Queensland,
greg.brown@uq.edu.au

Thomas E. Fish,
U.S. Department of the Interior/
National Park Service,
tom_fish@nps.gov

Courtney Flint,
Utah State University,
courtney.flint@usu.edu

Zhao Ma,
Purdue University,
zhaoma@purdue.edu

Neelam C. Poudyal,
University of Tennessee,
npoudyal@utk.edu

Eick von Ruschkowski,
Nature and Biodiversity
Conservation Union,
eick.vonruschkowski@nabu.de

Rebecca Schewe,
Syracuse University,
rlschewe@maxwell.syr.edu

Erin Seekamp,
North Carolina State University,
erin_seekamp@ncsu.edu

Dave White,
Arizona State University,
dave.white@asu.edu

Student Representative:

Rose Verbos,
University of Utah,
rose.verbos@utah.edu

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Notes From the Executive Director

It's hard to believe we are about 2 months out from what promises to be one of the best ISSRM's on record. Tom Fish and crew have put together an amazing program for us in Charleston along the theme of *Understanding and Adapting to Change*. The program features 9 workshops, a variety of plenary speakers addressing changes in cultural, ecological, urban and managerial conditions throughout the world and pre and post conference field trips highlighting the rich history, culture and incredible food of the region. With almost 600 abstracts and 90 poster proposals submitted, this promises to be a well attended, as well as high quality conference.

I would be remiss if I didn't also call you attention to the great things being done by our Council and committees some of which are highlighted in other articles in this issue. The Professional Development and Student Affairs committees have been particularly active with the former working on mentoring, teaching resources and a variety of other member services and the latter on the student forum and quiz bowl at ISSRM, new student chapter formation and a host of other activities. Look for



our students to have a particularly prominent presence in South Carolina in June. We also have a new social media policy thanks to the work of our Communications committee and the prospect to begin Rapid Response Policy Briefs and webinars thanks to our Policy committee.

As you know we will be (finally) voting on updates to the constitution and bylaws at our business meeting in Charleston. This has been a long process and the period for the membership to comment on the proposed changes is officially closed as of last week. We did get one very substantive comment from our student leadership on the elections and terms of student leaders. This prompted a lot of discussion which resulted in proposed changes in which students would elect their own Council representatives in the future and the individual elected would serve for one year in a kind of deputy role before assuming the full re-

sponsibility as Student Representative on Council. This really formalizes a pattern that the student leadership has been following already.

Let me also note that our new editorial team has hit the ground running, bringing on 5 new associate editors and working on one special issue inherited from the previous editors and initiating a new one on Water Governance and Institutions. As former editor who knows the workload, I can only again offer my profound thanks to our outgoing and incoming editorial teams. Thanks Dan, Jill, David and Peter!

Finally in addition to thanking our hardworking officers and Council members for all of the above and much more, let me offer my great thanks to Jessica and Paulus for all the day to day work they do to keep us moving forward. I just don't know what we would do without them.

And with this, let me just say how much I look forward to seeing you in Charleston in June!!



ISSRM 2015

UNDERSTANDING AND ADAPTING TO CHANGE

Registration for
ISSRM 2015 is now
OPEN!

Early Registration
ends May 1, 2015

Go to the
[ISSRM 2015
Website](http://www.issrm2015.iasnr.org/)
to complete your reg-
istration before it is
too late.

The 21st International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) will be held at the [College of Charleston](http://www.collegeofcharleston.edu/) in [Charleston, South Carolina](http://www.charleston-sc.gov/), U.S.A. – selected this year for the fourth consecutive time by *Condé Nast Traveler* readers as the #1 destination city in the U.S. Celebrated for its history and culture, Charleston is also widely known for its outstanding public spaces, outdoor recreation, award-winning cuisine, and centuries of live theater, music, and fine arts. As the official host institution, the College of Charleston is located in the heart of downtown, nestled between spectacular historic buildings and grand oaks and the inner workings of a cosmopolitan coastal city. The 2015 ISSRM will be the first held in the southeastern U.S. and will offer excellent opportunities to engage a diverse community of scholars, practitioners, and decision-makers and experience “lowcountry” heritage firsthand. Along with the typical complement of activities – e.g., student forum, quiz bowl, poster and organized sessions – the 2015 ISSRM will foster creativity and disciplinary integration through a number of stimulating plenaries, media presentations, social events, field excursions, and innovative information exchange formats.



The theme for the 2015 ISSRM centers on **understanding and adapting to change**. Drivers of and responses to change can take many forms and be observed and measured in many contexts – whether social, behavioral, economic, political, or technological; changes to natural or built environments; or changes to culture or tradition. Change can also be gauged in various ways in terms of scale – from local to regional to national – and rate of change – from episodic to gradual to rapid to continuous.

With over 600 submissions for papers, posters, and organized sessions, this year’s ISSRM meeting is certain to be full of exciting research, discussions, and engagement among social scientists and decision-makers from around the globe. We look forward to seeing you all in Charleston, SC June 13-18, 2015.

<http://www.issrm2015.iasnr.org/>

Site Selection Committee

Submitted by Gene Theodori, Chair

Members of the ISSRM Site Selection Committee are currently reviewing submitted proposals to host the 2017 ISSRM. An announcement regarding the 2017 symposium site will be made at the 2015 ISSRM in Charleston, SC.

The Site Selection Committee is actively seeking host institutions for future symposia. For further information or to request the call for proposals, please contact an ISSRM Site Selection Committee Co-Chair, Naomi Krogman (Naomi.krogman@ualberta.ca) Ph: 780-492-4178 or Gene Theodori (glt002@shsu.edu) Ph: 936-294-4143.



ISSRM 2016
Michigan Technological University,
Houghton, MI USA

Professional Development Committee

Submitted by Courtney Flint, Chair

The new committee for professional development has been busy developing new services for IASNR members.

A new **mentoring opportunity** will take place at the ISSRM in South Carolina in June and future mentoring opportunities are being planned, including mentoring resources to be available through the IASNR website. We have already heard from about 50 people! If you are interested in being a mentor or a mentee for the upcoming mentorship opportunity at ISSRM, there is still time to complete the short online survey before April 20, 2015 – go to: [IASNR Mentoring Survey](#)

We will soon be posting “**Tips for Good Presentations**” on the IASNR website in hopes that they will be helpful for those presenting for the first time at ISSRM.

We have also been supporting the Student Affairs

Committee’s efforts to include professional development issues in the Student Forum at the 2015 ISSRM.

New member services related to professional development yet to come in the next year include online teaching resources and webinars on various topics of interest.

If you are interested in serving on the IASNR Professional Development committee, please contact Courtney Flint at courtney.flint@usu.edu.

IASNR Professional Development Committee members include: Courtney Flint (Utah State Univ.), Becky Schewe (Syracuse Univ.), Eick Von Rushkowski (NABU- Germany), Brian Eisenhauer (Plymouth State Univ.), Toddi Steelman (Univ of Saskatchewan), Ken Caine (Univ of Alberta), and student representative Shawn Olsen (Utah State Univ.).

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on Facebook**



Join the IASNR

List-serve!

[Register here](#)



Communications Committee

Submitted by Joan Brehm, Chair

The Communications Committee continues to collaborate on new communication tools for the re-designed website. We anticipate going public with the new website shortly after the ISSRM meetings in Charleston.

The Assessment data indicated that vectors such as the newsletter, email, and the list-serve remain as the most preferred mechanisms for communication. The Committee continues to maintain the IASNR Facebook

page as to help elevate the work of IASNR and its members to the broader public via social media. The committee drafted a Social Media Strategy that Council approved at our meeting in April 2015. This will help to guide any social media presence in terms of content and objectives. As always, if anyone has any comments or suggestions for the communications committee, please contact Joan Brehm at jmbrehm@ilstu.edu.

Policy Committee

Submitted by Dave White, Chair

The IASNR Policy Committee, established at the 2014 IASNR Council Retreat, will be led by Dave White, Zhao Ma, and student representative Rose Verbos. The committee will provide IASNR members with professional development opportunities, timely and impartial policy analysis on natural resource issues, and an IASNR speakers' bureau to connect our members with media to comment on pressing topics related to their areas of expertise. The goals of the policy committee are to enhance the connections between science and decision-making and to mentor the next generation of scholars skilled at linking knowledge to action for sustainability. The IASNR Policy Committee will work in collaboration with the Council and Membership to focus on the following activities in the coming years:

- Develop a series of Science-Policy Professional Development activities

including webinars and ISSRM conference workshops on topics such as speaking with the media; engaging decision-makers across government, private, and nonprofit sectors; and communicating scientific knowledge to the public;

- Publish a series of IASNR Policy Briefs analyzing contemporary natural resource policy issues drawing upon scientific knowledge and written in concise and accessible language; and
- Organize an IASNR Speakers Bureau to facilitate non-partisan conversations between IASNR members and media to promote informed public and professional discourse on natural resource management.

Please contact Dave White at dave.white@asu.edu if you are interested in assisting with the work of the Policy Committee.

Student Affairs Committee

Submitted by Rose Verbos

The IASNR Student Affairs Committee has been busy getting ready for ISSRM 2015, updating the student sections of the website, and reinvigorating student chapters. The Student Affairs Committee has three working sub-committee and here is an update from each Chair.

Professional Development – Chaired by Shawn Olsen, Utah State University

This committee is currently working on two exciting projects. First, we are assisting in the coordination of ISSRM 2015 Student Forum held on Sunday June 14th. Our goal this year is to engage participants in a two-fold experience that facilitates discussion around specific themes chosen by students while exploring these themes within the context of natural resource issues. Student participants can expect to attend sessions on academic publishing, non-academic career paths, and a CV/resume workshop. Be sure to sign-up by checking the "ISSRM Student Forum" box on your ISSRM Registration Form. Registration is capped and will close once filled.

Second, the committee is working with the Council Professional Development Committee to develop a mentor program with an anticipated launch at ISSRM 2015. Interested students, post-docs, and new faculty will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with a mentor in their field for one hour, with the opportunity of continuing the mentoring relationship after the meeting. In the future, we will continue to develop and implement the mentoring program in partnership with the Council Professional Development Committee.

Communications – Chaired by Emily Silver, University of Maine

This committee has been updating the student sections of the IASNR website to reflect current Student Affairs Committee members as well as content from other sub-committees as it becomes available. We are also working on advertising and communicating events and opportunities for students at this year's ISSRM. Finally, we have put together an 'advice' section of the newsletter for students on best practices for networking at conferences from IASNR affiliates.

Collaboration – Chaired by Allie McCreary, North Carolina State University

This spring, the Collaboration Committee is updating information for student chapters. The sub-committee envisions a clear, updated process to apply for and maintain active student chapter status. This effort is spurred by our desire to increase the number of student chapters and enhance long-term professional IASNR membership. New information to be provided will include templates for chapter constitutions and by-laws, as well as suggested funding mechanisms, activities and events. Benefits of forming a student chapter are being renegotiated and will also be updated. This information will be posted to the IASNR website and shared at the Student Forum of the 2015 ISSRM. SAC members along with members of the newest IASNR student chapter at NC State University will lead this portion of the forum.

Get ready for another great **ISSRM Student QUIZ BOWL!!!**

The IASNR Student Affairs Committee and ISSRM coordinators are hoping you will join us for this year's ISSRM Quiz Bowl in Charleston, S.C. on June 17 from 5:30-6:30pm (right before the ISSRM banquet). The Quiz Bowl is always a fun event where students compete with each other in a Jeopardy-style format answering theoretical and methodological knowledge questions.

Teams will consist of four students (undergrad and/or graduate students). Universities can form their own teams but we also encourage multi-university and international teams. Students can sign up as a team or as an individual (we will assign individuals to teams). We are currently working to provide incentives for participants (prizes) and audience members (free beverages)!

In the next few months, we will send more details and reminders via the IASNR listserv and ISSRM registration lists. In the meantime, please email chad.kooistra@oregonstate.edu with any inquiries or to sign up as an individual or team. Hope to see you there!

As always, feel free to contact us with any questions! We hope to see you at ISSRM 2015.

Your Student Affairs Committee Co-Chairs,
Rose Verbos, Chair, IASNR Student Affairs Committee, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, University of Utah rose.verbos@utah.edu
Chad Kooistra, Vice Chair, IASNR Student Affairs Committee, Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society, Oregon State University, chad.kooistra@oregonstate.edu

Student Talk...

Q & A CORNER: NETWORKING

By: Theresa Groth and Emily Silver

Two faculty members (Dr. Jessica Leahy from the University of Maine and Dr. Christine Vogt from Michigan State University) were approached to provide some insight into making the most out of networking opportunities with faculty at the upcoming ISSRM conference. Below are the responses to some questions that we've posed to them.

Question: What networking strategies worked for you when you were a student?

"I relied a lot on my advisors to point out good people to interact with. Our grad cohort was composed of students who knew people from their prior institutions, so I could network that way. I also reached out to other students after seeing them present so I could talk about their presentation and have something easy to talk about."

"I'm pretty shy, but I just sucked it up and said hello to people over breaks. It helps to remember that we're all in the same boat, usually. Even "big shot" scientists can be shy and worry about what to do during the networking opportunities. Remembering that allows me to approach new people with compassion."

"Use the social time to meet at least 5 new people. Try to find time one-on-one with faculty, rather than hanging out in "gangs" of other students."

Question: Are there particular ISSRM events or sessions you think are most helpful for students?

Scientific/technical sessions, poster sessions, evening social events, the Student Forum, and coffee breaks were all selected as opportunities to connect.

Question: Do you have any advice for students on making a lasting impression on a faculty member?

"Be sure to introduce yourself and make eye contact. Try to find a common connection whether it is research interests, past schools, or people you both know. Don't hide your passion for your thesis research. Share what it is about you as a person that motivates your research interests. For me, it was growing up in Alaska and facing public land management issues as a rural community resident. That still shows up today in my research. It's not research; it's 'me-search.'"

"Show your passion for the field you are going into."

Question: How do you prefer a student approach you at a conference?

"Definitely not dressed in a clown costume. Clowns scare me! But, seriously, I recommend my students study the program and abstracts ahead of time. They can mark the abstracts that seem interesting and then do a little research on the faculty ahead of time to see what other work they do. Then my students are better prepared to approach and chat with that person. You obviously can't research everyone you're going to meet, so my other piece of advice is to be nice and friendly to everyone. You never know what connection will lead to something fruitful! That's good advice for life, not just conferences."

"Email me ahead of time and schedule a coffee time. Or try to sit next to me at a meal function."

Question: What are the biggest mistakes you view graduate students or early career researchers making when networking?

"I may have paid too much attention to what others thought about various researchers, rather than keeping an open mind and making up my own mind about whether someone's research was rigorous, meaningful, theoretical enough, etc. At some point, your research interests diverge from your advisor's and you should network with the people who excite your creativity and will lead to neat, new research ideas. That may be a different set of people than your advisor's group of people. So, be your own person a little bit!"

Students:

What other topics are you interested in getting the inside scoop on? Please email Emily Silver [emily.j.silver@maine.edu] or Theresa Groth [tgroth@csu.edu.au] with suggestions for the next 'Q & A Corner.'

Student Talk...



NC State IASNR Student Chapter at Lake Raleigh clean-up.

New North Carolina State IASNR Student Chapter

By: Theresa Groth and Allie McCreary

North Carolina State boasts one of the newest student chapters within the IASNR organization. The NC State Student Chapter of IASNR was formed out of a meeting that occurred on Sept. 29, 2014 when a small group of interested students prepared flyers and posted information to multiple listservs in several university departments (e.g. sociology, forestry, parks, recreation & tourism) to have students with an interest in human dimensions/natural resources/outdoor recreation/environmental science, communication, etc. come together for a meeting. That meeting resulted in the decision to prepare an IASNR Student Chapter Constitution, By-Laws, Mission Statement, vote officers into position, and apply to be a recognized student group by both the IASNR council and NC State University.

The faculty adviser, Dr. Erin Seekamp, an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Tourism Management, is an active member of IASNR and has been very supportive of the Student Chapter at NC State. There are currently 40 members on the Chapter mailing list and about half attend any given meeting or event. The Chapter is composed primarily of graduate students with a few undergrads intermingled in addition to the post-docs and faculty members who attend meetings/events from time-to-time. One future effort is to recruit more undergrads to the club.

The vision statement of the NC State IASNR Student Chapter is to be an organization committed to the open discussion of local and global environmental and natural resource issues,

bringing people and solutions together for healthy communities and enduring ecosystems. The mission statement emphasises the dedication to:

- balancing the needs of society with the sustainable use of natural resources, promoting solutions that foster healthy communities and enduring ecosystems,
- providing an interdisciplinary forum for the open discussion of environmental, social, and natural resource issues,
- promoting events and projects that enhance ecological literacy and stewardship,
- providing service to the community,
- offering a forum for individuals to present research,
- facilitating networking between professionals, the community, and students, and
- enhancing the university curriculum with practical experiences for university students.

This Chapter has already accomplished plenty within its infancy. Many events and activities have already been planned and implemented. As part of a "Sustainable Cinema" series, two environmental documentaries ('Plastic Paradise' and 'Shored Up') were screened this past April. These screenings were free to the campus and greater Raleigh community with the intention to raise awareness of environmental issues, increase environmental literacy and attract new members. Lake Raleigh, a lake located on the university campus, has been "adopted", and the IASNR Student Chapter is now a steward for the lake. Members have started removing trash around the lake; they hope to serve on the lake's advisory/management board and take part in initiatives to remove

invasive species from the area.

The Chapter has already held their first fundraising activity - a plant sale. Members gathered seeds, soil, and plant starters and had a "planting party" in late March with the resulting vegetable and flower seedlings being sold in April; the money was earmarked to supplement grant funds for future events.

The NC State IASNR Student Chapter would like to reach out to other students/student chapters at the 2015 ISSRM in Charleston to share ideas on how to establish more student chapters and enhance collaboration between them throughout the year. There will be information on starting a Student Chapter of IASNR during the 'Student Forum' in June. If you plan to attend, be sure to check the "ISSRM Student Forum" box on your ISSRM Registration Form - it's FREE for students. Registration for the Student Forum is capped at 90 students - so register early to learn more about forming a student chapter and other excellent workshops for graduate students.

Check out the following for more information: http://www.issrm2015.iasnr.org/?page_id=1517. More information about ISSRM and the Student Forum can be found at: <http://www.issrm2015.iasnr.org/>. For additional details about student chapters, please email Allie McCreary [amccrea@ncsu.edu] for more information.



NC State IASNR Student Chapter signing their Constitution



International Association for Society and Natural Resources

International Association for Society
& Natural Resources
Sam Houston State University
Sociology Department
CHSS 270

Jessica Burk,
IASNR Administrative Assistant
info@iasnr.org



www.iasnr.org

We look forward to seeing everyone at ISSRM 2015!

Although ISSRM 2015 officially begins with the welcome reception on Sunday evening, there are many opportunities for pre-conference activities that are sure to be worth arriving a bit earlier. [Check out the training and workshop descriptions](#) and then register for your favorites before the May 1 early registration deadline. If you prefer a field trip to learn more about the local culture and natural environment of the region before the conference officially begins, [check out these exciting options!](#)

The goal of the International Association of Society and Natural Resources (IASNR) is to promote learning and discussion at the interface of social issues, natural resource management, and policy. Since its inception in 1986, the conference has always had a broad focus that encompasses a wide variety of international resource management issues, environmental justice, collaborative stakeholder processes, and the social impacts of natural resource management. The conference has always been at the cutting edge of emerging topics with a



focus on integrated approaches in both research and practice. The ISSRM is the premier scientific meeting for academic and government researchers, students, land managers and NGO representatives who are broadly interested in the human dimensions of natural resources and the environment. The 21st International Symposium on Society and Resource Management is poised to carry on this tradition with yet another outstanding opportunity for engagement and dialogue among scientists and policy makers from around the globe, and we look forward to seeing everyone in June!

