Welcome to the latest issue of the e-Bulletin. I very much hope that you will enjoy reading the articles and news items. I also hope that you will be stimulated to send in items for future issues. The Board is delighted with the way in which the Bulletin is developing under the excellent editorship of Dr. Sun-Kee Hong, but he does rely on a good flow of articles and news items from INTECOL members to maintain the frequency and quality of the issues.

I expect that many members might have watched much television coverage of the Olympics and Paralympics from Beijing. These provided both magnificent spectacles and sporting achievements, and were a great credit to the Chinese nation. As I watched the opening ceremony of the Olympics and saw teams from 205 nations walk into the Birdnest Stadium, it made me think that INTECOL has still got a considerable way to go to increase the geographical spread of our membership. We have individual members currently in only 97 countries, and although this is greater than any national ecological society, we still have a long way to go. Having said that the geographical spread of the membership is continuing to grow, the Board is trying to encourage this further. It is important that we do so because of course there are ecosystems and ecological issues of importance in all countries, and not just those covered by the current membership.

By the time this Bulletin appears we will be approaching the festive season and a new year. Looking back, 2008 has been a good year for INTECOL. The membership has continued to grow, the e-Bulletin has become firmly established and the International Wetlands meeting in Brazil attracted many members and was a great success. Looking forward we have the International Congress of Ecology in Australia next August. Planning is well advanced for this, and I attended a meeting of the organizing committee in December. The programme is very exciting, and the final preparations are excellent. The Board hopes to see many members in Brisbane in August. It remains for me on behalf of the Board to wish all members a happy festive season and a very good 2009 despite the current international financial concerns.

John A. Lee
President, INTECOL

A Happy New Year
Obituary Notice

Vol. 2 No. 4 31 December 2008

Professor George A. Knox

Members of INTECOL will have been saddened to learn the death of George A. Knox which occurred on 4th August 2008. He was 89 years old. George spent his whole academic career at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, but was very prominent in international science. He was appointed Assistant Lecturer in Zoology in Canterbury in 1949, retiring as Professor and Head of Department in 1984. He was best known for his studies of the Southern Ocean and Antarctic marine biology. He had a long involvement with the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Science (SCAR) as the New Zealand delegate initially, serving latterly as Secretary and then President.

George played a leading role in both the establishment and running of INTECOL. He was a founding Board Member when INTECOL was established in 1967 in Montreux, Switzerland at the XVI General Assembly of IUBS. He was both Secretary General (1974-1978) and President (1978-1982), and continued on the Board for a further eight years, the first four as Past President and from 1986-1990 as an elected Board Member. George attended all the International Congresses of Ecology up to and including the Montreal Congress in 2005 when he was elected as an Honorary Member of INTECOL.

Other honors he achieved in his long and distinguished career included Membership of the Order of the British Empire (1985), Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (2001), and the New Zealand Antarctic 50th Anniversary Award (2007) in recognition of his great contribution to Antarctic science.

He was a great friend and supporter of INTECOL. As well as being a distinguished scientist, George was a generous and kindly man who is sadly missed by his many INTECOL friends, not least by the Officers and Board.

Professor Rebecca R. Sharitz
(INTECOL Board Member)

Professor John A. Lee (President, INTECOL)

Photo 1. A picture of George Knox receiving the award of Honorary Member of INTECOL from President John Lee at the Ninth International Congress of Ecology in Montreal, in August 2005. Photo from Rebecca R. Sharitz, an INTECOL Board Member.
BRITISH ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

The BES Annual Meeting was held at Imperial College London in early September 2008. It attracted many ecologists from outside the U.K. as well as a good attendance from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. BES Presidents serve a two year term. Fortunately for them, they only have to give one Presidential Address. Professor Malcolm Press, an INTECOL member, gave his Address on the ecology of angiosperm parasites and their economic importance which was the highlight of the meeting. Another major highlight, the BES Lecture, was delivered by Thomas Rosswall, Director of the International Council for Science. Older INTECOL members will remember him as a plenary speaker at the International Congress of Ecology in Syracuse USA. During the meeting the UK Government’s Chief Scientist, Professor John Beddington FRS was elected to Honorary Membership of the Society, and Professor Valerie Brown, who has recently served the INTECOL Board with great distinction, was given the BES Award.

Sessions included the following thematic topics: The effects of climate change on biotic interactions and ecosystem services; Plant-soil interactions in the carbon cycle; rapid human-induced evolutionary change; multitrophic interactions - from genome to field; and Forest canopy arthropods - processes and interactions. Workshops included Ecological theories for population and community dynamics: requirements, tests and misconceptions, Introduction to environmental metabolomics, and Teaching Ecology - the need for some blue sky thinking.

During the meeting BES members were saddened to learn of the recent deaths of two distinguished British ecologists. Professor Tony Bradshaw FRS, a former President of the BES died on 21st August. Tony was a pioneer of restoration ecology, but made his name as an evolutionary ecologist studying the evolution of tolerance to heavy metals in plants growing in contaminated soils. He took the Chair in Botany at the University of Liverpool in 1968, and quickly developed his interests in land restoration on difficult substrates such as coal spoils, slates, metal wastes and china clay mines. His book, co-authored with Professor M.C. Chadwick, The Restoration of Land became the standard text in the field. He was an inspirational teacher and research student supervisor. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management in the UK and was its first President. He was also responsible for establishing links between British ecologists and those in China. Shortly before he died he was made Liverpool's first citizen of honour.

Professor Ian Rorison, a former Vice-president of the BES died on 31st August. He did pioneering work as a research student on the calcicole-calcifuge problem at the University of Oxford. Most of his career was spent at the University of Sheffield first as Director of the Nature Conservancy’s Grassland unit, and then as Director of the Natural Environment Research Council's Unit of Comparative Ecology. Ian and his colleagues Professor Phil Grime, Professor Rod Hunt, Dr John Hodgson and Dr Ken Thompson and others developed a world famous research programme which has had a major influence on the development of plant ecology. Ian’s special interest was in plant mineral nutrition, and he organized and edited two major symposia in this field for the BES. The first of these, Ecological Aspects of the Mineral Nutrition of Plants had a major influence on the development of the subject, and was far sighted in bringing a multidisciplinary approach to the subject. The symposium volume was amongst the most successful in this distinguished series. Both Ian and Tony had done much for the BES over many years, often in unsung roles, and they will be sadly missed by Society members both old and new, and by many other ecologists around the World.

John A. Lee, President of INTECOL
1. The 10th International Congress of Ecology, 16 - 21 August 2009

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia
www.intecol10.org

We warmly invite you to attend the 10th International Congress of Ecology 2009. The Congress will be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, from 16 - 21 August 2009 and will bring together the knowledge and resources of the Ecological Society of Australia, New Zealand Ecological Society and INTECOL. Be sure to take advantage of the special early-bird registration rate for INTECOL members!

Register online via www.intecol10.org and have your INTECOL membership details ready. Students are eligible for a further discounted rate.

The Congress central theme is Ecology in a Changing Climate, Two Hemispheres - One Globe, and will feature speakers from all over the world. Symposia will represent all scales of ecology from individual organisms to landscapes, and report on a diversity of ecosystems from marine to freshwater, arid to rainforest, and polar to tropical.

A range of public scientific events will be held throughout the Congress, including a BYO Science event hosted by the ABC's Bernie Hobbs.

A selection of South East Queensland tours are on offer as well as field trips that explore a range of unique ecosystem types throughout Australia and New Zealand.

An exciting program of professional development workshops form an optional part of the congress, covering broad areas of ecological assessment, restoration, modelling and management tools and techniques, science communication and media training as well as a student focused workshop.

For further information on the congress, including registration, the scientific program, accommodation options, field trips and social events, please visit www.intecol10.org or contact the Congress Managers intecol10@tourhosts.com.au

Authors are now invited to submit abstracts for spoken OR poster presentation for consideration by the scientific program committee. Please visit the Abstracts page on the Congress website and follow the detailed instructions for abstract submission.

Important dates:
Abstract submission close: 4 March 2009
Early bird registration close: 16 May 2009

We look forward to seeing you in Brisbane!
2. SER Summer School

RESTORATION ECOLOGY 2009

Species introduction and management of biodiversity in restoration projects

University of Münster - Germany
29th of June - 3rd of July 2009

General Information

In summer 2009, a 5-day summer school programme on “Species introduction and management of biodiversity in restoration projects” will be held at the University of Münster under the auspices of the Society of Ecological Restoration Europe (SER Europe). This course is primarily intended for PhD students who work in restoration ecology and related fields. The programme includes lectures of specialists to provide theoretical background, field work and excursions to train practical research skills and learn about restoration projects on-site, as well as short presentations of research projects by the participants. Thus, the course will provide students with a general overview on restoration ecology as well as detailed information on projects, techniques and skills. It will also give a frame for intensive exchange between participants and lecturers.

Thematic Framework

Traditionally, abiotic factors such as raised nutrient levels and changes in hydrology were thought to be the major constraints to the restoration of endangered communities and ecosystems. The experience of the past decade taught us that factors such as habitat fragmentation, seed bank depletion, dispersal, seed- and microsite limitation are of similar or even higher importance. Besides these natural constraints the wise and sustainable management of semi-natural habitats is often a major challenge after successful restoration. The course will provide contributions to all these aspects including abiotic site conditions, seed bank persistence and dispersal, recruitment, population genetics, techniques for the re-establishment of target species and communities and the implementation of suitable management schemes to maintain habitats and preserve biodiversity.

Programme

Morning programme | Lectures of specialists to provide theoretical background
Afternoon programme | Field work and excursions to train practical research skills and learn about restoration projects on-site
Evening programme | Presentation and discussion of the students’ own work and social programme
A detailed programme will be available on our website!

Organiser

Working Group Ecosystem Research | University of Münster/Germany

Under the auspices of

Society for Ecological Restoration | European Chapter

Contact

Working Group Ecosystem Research
Institute of Landscape Ecology
University of Münster

Prof. Dr. Norbert Hözel
Robert-Koch-Str. 28
D-48149 Münster
phone +49(0)251-83 33 994
fax +49(0)251-83 38 338
nhoezel@uni-muenster.de

www.uni-muenster.de/
Restorationssummerschool
Topics

- general introduction to restoration ecology
- restoring soil microbial communities – the importance of below ground processes
- the role of seed banks and germination in restoration
- the role of seed provenance in restoration
- restoring plant communities by diasporic transfer
- plant-animal interactions in restoration – pollination as a key process
- restoring animal communities – dispersal as a key factor
- management of faunistic diversity
- restoration management in degraded fens and bogs
- reintroduction of plant species to acidified grass- and heathlands
- counteracting atmospheric nutrient deposition in heathlands
- grazing as a tool in restoration
- restoration in practice – evaluation of methods
- restoring meadow bird communities
- application of multivariate statistics in restoration ecology

Costs

The Summer School fee includes overnight stay with breakfast (Youth Hostel), lunch and a come together and farewell party. The organisers also carry all further costs for lecture rooms, working facilities, travelling during the course and general course organisation.

The Summer School fee will be 150 € and has to be paid after confirmation of participation.

Students have to pay their own travel costs to Münster and back home as well as costs for dinner.

Application

Interested PhD students should apply before April 1st 2009.

The application should include a complete postal address and e-mail address together with a short description of the topic of the student’s PhD research and motivation for attending this summer school. Please send your application (preferably by e-mail) to Norbert Hözel.

Confirmation of participation will be made until May 1st 2009, and more detailed information will be sent to the participants shortly afterwards.

The number of participants will be 20.

For further questions please contact Norbert Hözel.

For more information on the
> SER Summer School  RESTORATION ECOLOGY 2009
please visit our website:

www.uni-muenster.de/Restorationssummerschool
The 7th European Vertebrate Pest Management Conference (7EVPMC), Lyon, France (8 ~ 12 September 2009)

The European Vertebrate Pest Management Conference is a biennial meeting aiming at gathering people from different backgrounds interested in the issues of vertebrate pest management. The former meetings have been held so far in York, United Kingdom (1997), Braunschweig, Germany (1999), Se'Kibbutz Ma'aleh Hachamisha, Israel (2001), Parma, Italy (2003) Budapest, Hungary (2005) and Reading, United Kingdom (2007). The 7EVPMC website is now open online for registration, abstract submission and to contact us at http://7evpmc.vet-lyon.fr/

CALL FOR PAPERS
They are now accepting abstracts for this meeting. Only electronic submission on the web site will be considered for either poster or oral presentations in the following topics:
- Fundamental Biology
- Behaviour
- Population Management
- Habitat Management
- Integrated Pest Management
- Environmental Impacts and Ecotoxicology
- Rodenticide Resistance
- Invasive species
- Zoonoses (epidemiology, risk assessment)

Please follow the requirements specified on the web site. The deadline for submission is 30 April 2009. Authors will be notified of acceptance/rejection by 30 June 2009.

INTECOL, International Association for Ecology
INTECOL is affiliated with the ICSU family of scientific organizations as the section responsible for general ecology within the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS). The association will assist and/or support the development of the science of ecology and the application of ecological principles to global problems, especially by assisting international cooperation; the collection, evaluation and distribution of information about ecology; national, regional and international actions which will serve ecological research, training of personnel, coordination of general publications of ecological principles and the recognition of the importance of ecology for economy and society; the organization of conferences, meetings, symposia, programs and projects, conduct of speaking-series, publication of manuscripts, and measures which are deemed necessary to reach the goals of the association.

Officers and Executive Board Members
President: John A. Lee (j.a.lee@sheffield.ac.uk)
Past President: Akira Miyawaki (miyawaki-29@jise.jp)
Vice President: Craig D. James ( craig.james@csiro.au)
Secretary General: Eun-Shik Kim (kimeuns@kookmin.ac.kr)
Treasurer: Azim U. Mallik (azim.mallik@gmail.com)
Executive Board: Alan P. Covich (alanc@uga.edu), Almo Farina (farina@uniurb.it), Bojie Fu (bjfu@cashq.ac.cn), John Grace (j.grace@ed.ac.uk), Sun-Kee Hong (landhong@yahoo.co.kr), Pavel Krestov (krestov@vtc.ru), Bernd Markert (markert@schlundmail.de), Dan L. Perlman (perlman@brandeis.edu), Rebecca R. Sharitz (sharitz@srel.edu), Patrick Silan (psilan.sfe@univ-montp2.fr), R. Eugene Turner (euturne@lsu.edu), Jos T. A. Verhoeven (j.t.a.verhoeven@bio.uu.nl), Rusong Wang (wangrs@rcees.ac.cn), Takakazu Yumoto (yumoto@chikyu.ac.jp)

Website: http://www.intecol.net
Bulletin Editor: Sun-Kee Hong (landhong@yahoo.co.kr; intecol.bulletin@gmail.com)

Deadline for sending information for next e-Bulletin
- Vol. 3 No. 1: 31 January 2009