

INTECOL -Bulletin

International Association for Ecology

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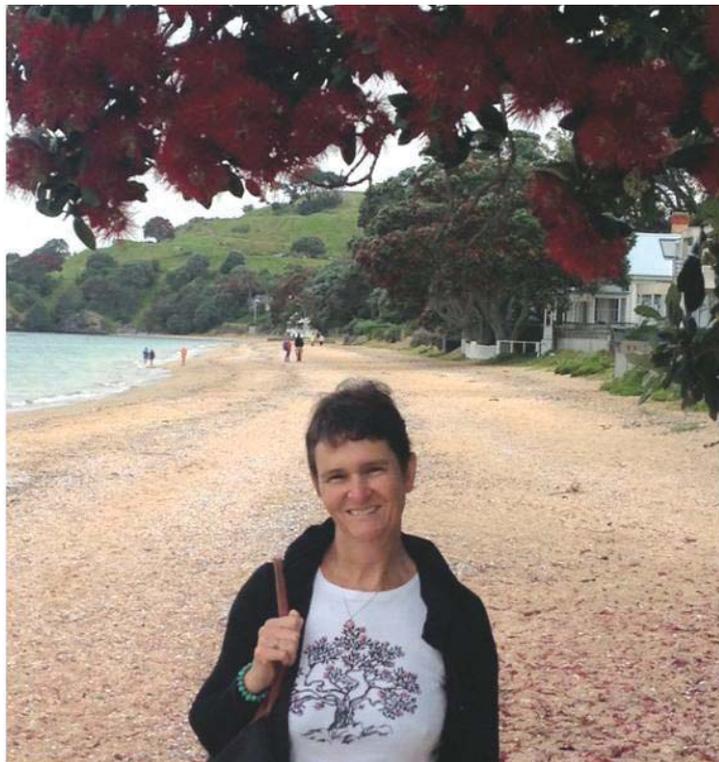
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Message from INTECOL President

NgaMihi o teKirihiemeteme Te Tau Hou



Dear INTECOL Members,

Thank you for your ongoing support and passion for INTECOL this year. As ecologists, researchers, professors, managers, policy makers, students, educators, mentors (and more) your work and research is integral to the future of our association. Ecology is the most important science for managing the earth and helping to resolve the world's environmental problems.



International meetings and congresses are a valuable way of networking and sharing ideas and innovations in science. Members of the INTECOL Board are already busy preparing for the 12th INTECOL Congress in 2017 in China. A scientific committee with international representatives will be set up as well as a local organizing committee. I would like to acknowledge the huge support we have from our Vice President Bojie Fu and the Ecological Society of China for organizing this congress.

As well plans are well under way for the next INTECOL Wetlands Conference in China in 2016. I would like to acknowledge the work of Jos Verhoeven, Eugene Turner and Jenny Davis, and the organizers of the conference in China. Planning for the 5th International Eco Summit in 2016, in Montpellier, France is also underway.

We have opened up bids for holding the XIII INTECOL Congress in 2021 and the Board will make a decision on it in early 2015. The Board would also like to encourage societies to co-host smaller meetings or sessions on specific themes.

Members have been involved in networking, collaborating and developing friendships with other ecologists between countries and across the world. Examples of inter country networks and collaborations in 2014 have included:

- The 6th East Asian Federation of Ecological Societies (EAFES) at Hainan Island, China in April 2014.
- The International Long Term Ecological Research Network (ILTER) held its annual meeting in Chile in December 2014, and its first All Scientists Meeting of the Americas. ILTER is a global network of research sites located in a wide array of ecosystems that can help understand environmental change across the globe.
- The British Ecological Society (BES) and French Ecological Societies held their annual joint meeting in December 2104 in Lille, France.

Next year the Ecological Society of America (ESA) will celebrate its centenary in Baltimore in August 2015. We hope that many ecologists can join the society in this event.

Earlier this year around World Wetland Day in February 2014 a symposium was held in Utrecht dedicated to the retirement of Jos Verhoeven, entitled

"Wetlands and Climate Change". I would like to warmly congratulate Jos. He continues to dedicate significant time and resources to INTECOL and is an active and important member of the Board.

The INTECOL Board has been working to upgrade and update the INTECOL website. It is important that we link and communicate with members from across the world. So watch this space!

This year we were very sad to lose our friend and fellow ecologist Professor Rusong Wang. He contributed significantly to ecological science and touched many people around the world with his passion and warmth. I am very humbled to read about what he has achieved. I send his family and colleagues my sincere condolences.

I would welcome your ongoing ideas and feedback on how INTECOL can work best for you. At future meetings I hope we can continue to support and expand the participation of early career ecologists, and support ecologists from all around the world, including developing countries to attend and share their knowledge. The science of ecology continually needs to learn and grow. Linking ecology with social and cultural science and influencing policy makers is also a passion of mine. I look forward to hearing from you and receiving your emails and ideas.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a very successful New Year in the world of ecology, from my summertime in New Zealand.

Shona Myers

President of INTECOL

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INTECOL Report

Update on the IPBES Activities: Participation and Challenges



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In the December issue of the INTECOL E-bulletin in 2013, Professor Bojie Fu, Vice President of INTECOL, introduced news about the 2nd Plenary of the IPBES (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services). He introduced us about the short history, needs for establishment, and four major functions of IPBES, as well as the major issues discussed at the 2nd Plenary held in Antalya, Turkey, December 2013.

The 3rd Plenary of the IPBES will be held in Bonn, Germany, during 12-17 January 2015, where initial work programme of IPBES during 2014-2018 will be mainly reported and discussed. The reason why I update the IPBES activities this time is 1) to describe the current activities; 2) to describe what will be done during the third plenary; 3) to share our members of INTECOL about the process to be involved in the activities; and 4) to describe some of the challenges of the IPBES in the conservation of biodiversity at global and regional levels.

During 2014, the Secretariat of IPBES organized the Task Forces on capacity-building and knowledge and data (including data and management plan/system). In addition, the Secretariat organized Expert Groups on assessments, policy support tools and methodologies, preliminary guides on scenario analysis and modeling and the conceptualization of values. The Secretariat also produced the scoping documents for regional assessments,

land degradation and restoration and the conceptualization of values. all of which will be discussed at the plenary.

The 3rd Plenary of IPBES will further deal with financial and budgetary arrangements, rules and procedures, communications and stakeholder engagement of IPBES, and institutional arrangements including the United Nations collaborative partnership arrangements for the work of the Platform and its secretariat.

As the issues of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (BES) cover diverse areas of ecology as well as taxonomy and genetics, the members of INTECOL may be interested in the activities of IPBES. Most of the information of IPBES is open through its website at <http://ipbes.net/>, which covers specific information about IPBES Work Programme, Plenary Sessions, Events, Resources, Policies and Procedures, Stakeholders, etc. If you are interested in knowing the current status/position of your country in IPBES, you may contact the person(s) in charge as national focal point(s). Information about the national focal points is also suggested at <http://ipbes.net/about-ipbes/national-focal-points.html>.

Another way for our members to participate in the IPBES activities is through the involvement with stakeholder(s) of IPBES. IPBES is of interest to the wide range of stakeholders involved in the fields of biodiversity conservation, natural resources management and development, at all levels. It is expected that these

stakeholders will act both as contributors and end users of the platform. In case INTECOL wants to be involved in IPBES activities, INTECOL should have the status of the stakeholder of the IPBES. Before the 3rd Plenary of the IPBES, stakeholder days will be convened during 10-11 January 2015, which will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to learn more about the IPBES process and to discuss how to get engaged and support the IPBES work programme (<http://ipbes.net/news/631-stakeholder-days-prior-to-ipbes-3.html>). During the events, roadmaps for implementing the stakeholder engagement strategy and engaging stakeholders in the work of the task forces will be discussed at the session of the Breakout Groups.

As an ecologist having interests in efficient and effective conservation of biodiversity, which will ultimately lead to the promotion of ecosystem services,

I personally think it a challenge for IPBES to integrate ecosystem services with biodiversity at from local to global scales. Effective coupling of the assessments of ecosystem services with biodiversity conservation will be the first test stone for evaluating the success of the IPBES. Another challenge for IPBES will be tackling the complexities and uncertainties additionally coming from the biological nature of SUPER-COMPLEX biodiversity, which includes so many species and genes and diverse ecosystems, added to the physical complexity, sometimes, commonly compared with those of climate change areas such as IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change).

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Meeting and Congress

7th International Workshop on Biomonitoring of Atmospheric Pollution

14-19 June 2015, Lisbon, Portugal

The 7th International Workshop on Biomonitoring of Atmospheric Pollution (BIOMAP 7) will be held in the city of Lisbon, Portugal, from June 14th to 19th 2015.

This is the third time that BIOMAP is organized in Portugal and it is a pleasure and an honor for Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) to organize such an important meeting of researchers, policy makers and practitioners in environmental sciences from all over the world.

There is a growing need for air and biological monitoring within the preventive context of identifying health hazards at the environment and of keeping them under control. Biomonitoring is a sensitive, selective and

user-friendly method for air quality management. The objective of BIOMAP 7 is to promote knowledge on methods and strategies for workplace, indoor and ambient air monitoring. In addition to the specific issues related to biomonitoring as a technique, this workshop specifically addresses the potential use of biomonitoring data in assessing the human exposure to toxic substances.

BIOMAP 7 is expected to provide an opportunity for an interchange of ideas among researchers, policy makers and practitioners in environmental sciences.

BIOMAP 7 homepage <http://www.biomap.ctn.ist.utl.pt/>

Activity of Networking Members

Next-Generation Ecologists, INNGE

Dear INTECOL friends, I want to wish you all a happy celebration of the holidays and the ending to 2014. Whether you are celebrating Christmas, the related old-fashioned Nordic Yule (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yule>, which we still call it - Jul - in Denmark) or something completely different, I wish on behalf of INNGE to extend my thanks to all of you for your support this year. I will also take this opportunity to highlight a few INNGE events from 2014: Personally, I will remember 2014 for interesting travels to Kyoto, Japan in connection with the Future Earth research agenda workshop and to Lake Como in Italy in connection with the Future Earth young scientist networking conference which INNGE helped co-organize this year. You can see a video from the conference here (<http://vimeo.com/114228394>) and see pictures here (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/inngge>). INNGE has provided early input to the young scientist engagement strategy of Future Earth and we are very interested to see what it will look like when it is publicized in the first half of 2015. This year we also finally had the chance to get INNGE's vision for future networks in ecology and other fields accepted in Ecosphere - you can read a preprint of the manuscript,

here: <http://biorxiv.org/content/early/2014/12/14/012666>

Many people involved with INNGE helped putting the manuscript together, it was indeed a collaborative effort. In addition, I also look forward to discussing if we on the INTECOL board can possibly find a way to support the costs of publishing this manuscript. 2014 was also the year where we started some very early discussion with a couple of ecological societies about a possible future online international conference that could spare the environment, be more internationally inclusive and better reach out to the public. Next year, we look forward to following up with this idea which is still in a very early stage at meetings in Baltimore, Maryland and Rome, Italy and wherever else there might be interest. Finally, we have an ongoing call for candidates to our second governing board election which you are very welcome to share in your societies and personal networks - <http://goo.gl/forms/jB1PPBUzLY>. Deadline for candidate profiles is January 8.

All the best and best wishes for 2015,

Peter Søgaard Jørgensen

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Obituary Notice: Professor Rusong Wang



Professor Rusong Wang, world famous ecologist and senior researcher at the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering as chief pioneer of system and urban ecology, passed away on November 28, 2014, at the age of 67. Dr. Wang was born on September 12, 1947 in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, China. He received his Ph.D. from the Institute of Zoology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1985. Credited with the Social-Economic-Natural Complex ecosystem theory, Dr. Wang devoted his life to the development and practices of urban ecology, ecological engineering, and sustainable development theory and methods in China. The concept of ecological civilization, which became a national strategy, was first conceived by Dr. Wang. He was also the initiator of eco-province, eco-city and eco-county programs across China, creating systematic approaches for coordinated regional development. His research spanned industrial ecological transformation, ecological engineering and urban ecological construction. A great tribute to China, Dr. Wang made outstanding contributions to the development of ecological science and civilization greatly benefitting China and other countries.

Due to Dr. Wang's outstanding and respectable scholarship, his commitment to research, and his innovative and pioneering spirit, he was elected: Executive Committee Member and first Vice-Chairman of the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE); Vice-Chairman of International Human Ecological Society; Vice Chairman of the International Council on Ecopolis Development (IntEcopolis); President of The East Asian Federation of Ecological Societies, Executive Board Member of the International Association for Ecology (INTECOL) and the International Ecological Engineering Society; and President of Ecological Society of China.

Dr. Wang published more than 360 academic papers and 20 books, guided 60 Masters degree and Ph. D students, and made extraordinary contributions to ecology research and education. He was honored with the Outstanding Achievement Awards for International Human Ecology by the International Human Ecological Society as well as ten other international and national honorary titles. He was an elected member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering in 2011.

Additionally, Dr. Wang also served as the secretary-general, (and formerly as the president) on the standing committee for the Ecological Society of China, as the Editor in Chief of *Acta Ecologica Sinica*, and as an editorial board member for more than ten journals on ecology and environmental sciences. His efforts greatly promoted the development of eco-environmental sciences in China. Dr. Wang also served as a representative of the 10th, 11th and 12th National People's Congress, as a member of the 13th and 14th central committee of Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party, and as a member of the ninth and tenth Beijing Municipal Committee as Counselor for the Beijing Municipal Government.

Dr. Wang's love of his motherland and of ecological science was always cherished and deep. He devoted all his life to ecological science and sustainable development with profound academic achievements. His death is a great loss to China's future ecological science and environmental protection. Dr. Wang's great passion for science, his spirit of selfless dedication, innovation and pioneering, his fine scholarship, amiable and humble character set a glorious and immortal example.

We join together in expressing our deepest condolences for Dr. Rusong Wang. May his soul rest in peace. We will always deeply cherish his memory.



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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 personal, 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.

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