

NEWSLETTER

■ INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMING UP ...

IAIA12

27 MAY-1 JUNE 2012

PORTO, PORTUGAL

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CHINESE ASSOCIATION FOR EIA ESTABLISHED

The Chinese Association for Environmental Impact Assessment will be established on 12 January 2012.

The Association is legally approved by the Ministry of Civil Affairs and is supported by the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The national association, consisting of Chinese EIA institutions as well as scholars and experts, is a non-profit organization. The main goals are to provide EIA-related consultancy (mainly for the central and local governments) and training service, and to promote information sharing & exchange, and international collaboration. The head of the association is Mr. **Zhu Xingxiang**, former director of EIA Department of Ministry of Environmental Protection.

■ **YI LIU** • TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY • YI.LIU@TSINGHUA.EDU.CN

NEW GBIF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ANNOUNCED

The Governing Board of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) has approved the appointment of **Donald Hobern** as its new Executive Secretary.

Currently the director of the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA), Hobern took up the post at the end of January 2012. He will arrive at the Copenhagen-based Secretariat as GBIF starts to implement its new strategic plan for 2012-16, aimed at advancing the data content, informatics and engagement of its worldwide network.

Commenting on confirmation of his appointment, Donald Hobern said: "I am really excited to be returning to work with GBIF. The Global Biodiversity Information Facility has a unique and important role to play in supporting national and international activities to manage biodiversity data.

"I look forward to learning more about how GBIF can meet the needs of each of its Participants. There are so many exciting projects going on in different regions, and global collaboration can help to maximize the benefits from all this work."

Hobern replaces the current GBIF Executive Secretary **Nicholas King**, who left his post at the end of December after four and a half years in the job.

"GBIF is poised to really deliver on its ten years of investment to date, as we wrap up this phase. Donald is the right person to take GBIF forward for its next exciting phase," said King.

Joanne Daly paid tribute to Nicholas King's contribution during his time as Executive Secretary. "Nick has worked tirelessly and with great skill, ensuring that GBIF has fulfilled the mission of its current phase, to move into full operation as a global facility for the benefit of science and society."

For further information, contact Tim Hirsch, GBIF Senior Programme Officer for Engagement, thirsch@gbif.org.

■ **SAMPREETHI AIPANJIGULY** • GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION FACILITY (GBIF) • SAIPANJIGULY@GBIF.ORG

The Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) was established by governments in 2001 to encourage free and open access to biodiversity data, via the Internet. Through a global network of 57 countries and 47 organizations, GBIF promotes and facilitates the mobilization, access, discovery and use of information about the occurrence of organisms over time and across the planet. IAIA and GBIF are frequent collaborators, and Nick King is currently serving on the IAIA Board of Directors.



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Rita R. Hamm, Chief Executive Officer

IAPA TO HAVE A NEW PUBLISHER: TAYLOR & FRANCIS

Readers will have noticed in the previous IAIA Newsletter (October-November-December 2011, Vol. 23, No. 2, p. 4) that **Bill Page** (Beech Tree Publications) is retiring. Bill advised IAIA of this early so that IAIA could identify a new journal publisher in good time to ensure the continued smooth publication of *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal (IAPA)*.

The IAIA Board appointed a Task Force comprising **Frank Vanclay** (Chair), **Maria Partidário**, **Bill Ross**, **Angus Morrison-Saunders**, **Luis Sánchez** and **Rita Hamm**. The Terms of Reference for the Task Force were approved at the IAIA Board meeting in Puebla, with the Task Force being "charged with undertaking a process to select a new publisher for the IAIA journal and any relevant considerations associated therewith, including for example reflecting on the appropriateness of the journal's title, its statement of Aims and Scope, and the format and presentation of the journal."

A Request for Proposals was developed and sent to some fifteen or so specifically-chosen publishers. A copy was also placed on the IAIA website. At the closing date, six proposals had been received, from which the Task Force made a shortlist of three. The three proposals, each of which would have been acceptable to IAIA, were subject to intensive scrutiny against selection criteria such as:

- Acceptability of the proposed financial arrangements
- The publisher's ability to produce the journal in a professional and timely manner and at high quality and to deliver around the world
- Standing as (journal) publisher of reputation and ability to advance the reputation of IAPA and IAIA
- Adequacy of the on-line manuscript management system and overall publishing process
- The publisher's commitment to sustainability in publication process
- Alignment with IAIA values
- Agreement to make back issues available

Eventually Taylor & Francis was selected as the preferred publisher. A recommendation was made to the IAIA Board, which was accepted at the Board meeting in Porto in November 2011, where the contract with Taylor & Francis was signed. The outcome is a great result for IAIA, with considerable financial savings to IAIA through the increased sales volume likely to be achieved by working with a large publisher. However, the higher production cost of hard copy issues will necessitate a small increase in the price of hard copy to those members who choose to continue to receive hard copy issues. Taylor & Francis will digitize all back copy (from Vol. 1 of *Impact Assessment Bulletin*) at no cost to IAIA and make this available as open access. *IAPA* will also now be in full color in the online version, and will have a limited number of color pages in hard copy. There are also favorable arrangements relating to the inclusion of *IAPA* in various relevant philanthropic access initiatives.

During the time that Bill Page and Beech Tree was our publisher, *IAPA* developed considerably as a journal. The strong interest in publishing *IAPA* by several publishers and the favorable terms negotiated with Taylor & Francis could only have been achieved because of the sound footing *IAPA* has achieved under Bill's guidance. As expressed by journal editors Angus Morrison-Saunders and **Francois Retief** in the previous newsletter, IAIA owes much appreciation to Bill. We look forward to having T&F serve us as well and as long as did Beech Tree.

As an aside, it is interesting to note that some fifteen years ago when Bill Page and Beech Tree were selected, Frank Vanclay was then Chair of the Task Force and Maria Partidário was IAIA President at that time.

IAIA expresses its thanks all members of the task force for their diligent and thoughtful care of this important IAIA issue.

WANTED: YOUR FAVORITE PHOTO

Please send your favorite photo of an IA-related project as a high resolution TIFF (minimum 4"x6" 300 dpi), together with a description of the photo, to jen@iaia.org. Select photos will be featured in upcoming newsletters.

CAREER CENTRAL

IAIA members

POST ADS FREE

through 30 June 2012!

A promotional code is posted as a private resource in the IAIA Members Group of IAIAConnect.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

At its October 2011 meeting in Porto, Portugal, in support of IAIA's Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and in general business, the Board of Directors:

- Approved all Committee nominations
- Initiated a plan to incorporate Twitter into IAIA12
- Approved new and/or revised guidelines for Council meetings, the Annual General Meetings, and Awards
- Approved the 2012 budget
- Reviewed the suggestion to offer an expanded student fee waiver program; a framework for non-conference activities will be developed
- Approved the contract with Taylor & Francis to take over publication of *IAPA*

Full minutes are available at www.iaia.org (log in) > Admin & Member Services > Board and AGM minutes.

GUIDELINES FOR AGM AND COUNCIL MEETINGS DEVELOPED

In response to feedback and suggestions from conference delegates, IAIA CEO Rita Hamm in consultation with the Board has updated and developed new guidelines for Council meetings, the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and presentation of awards.

Highlights include that award winners will be listed in the final program (instead of having a separate flyer) and will be briefly introduced near the end of the opening plenary to ensure maximum exposure and familiarity to delegates. The Rose-Hulman winner will be recognized at the AGM and invited to give a 10-minute speech, and the Outstanding Service Award will be given at the Council Meeting.

For more details see the Board minutes at www.iaia.org (log in) > Admin & Member Services > Board and AGM minutes.

spotlight on affiliates

ZAMBIA SETS AMBITIOUS AGENDA

IAIA's pilot Affiliate in Zambia, the Impact Assessment Association of Zambia (IAAZ) formed to provide a forum for advancing innovation and communication of best practices in all forms of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in order to further the development of capacity in impact assessment. Its goals and activities include:

- Maintaining a database on impact assessment practitioners in Zambia
- Reviewing new legislation affecting Zambia in relation to environmental and social issues
- Holding monthly roundtable discussion on topics relating to EIA
- National or regional meetings, training, seminars and conferences on EIA themes or issues
- Giving awards for the best EIA documents

For more information, see <http://www.necz.org.zm/iaaz/index.htm>.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, 30 May 2012
Centro de Congressos da Alfândega
Porto, Portugal

This is the annual business meeting of the Association. All meeting participants are encouraged to attend.

Tentative Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions and confirmation of the previous AGM minutes.
2. IAIA 2011-12: What have we done and where are we going?
3. Treasurer's presentation of the financial report.
4. IAIA Honors Excellence: Presentation of the Rose-Hulman Award.
5. Address by the Rose-Hulman Award recipient.
6. Any issues submitted in writing by members (30 days in advance).
7. Informal discussion of matters that members wish to raise.
8. Closing remarks.

New resource available

.....
Environmental Impact Assessment Field Guidelines for FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) *Field Projects* can now be downloaded at www.fao.org/climatechange/29103-02e9a33753ffc325da1e-25250c06c927b.pdf.

Congratulations to **Patrick Duffy**, who initiated the project in 1991.

Is your membership info up to date?

.....
IAIA members, is your directory information complete? Have you included your language(s), professional specialties, or areas of expertise? Including these details on your profile increases networking opportunities and helps other members find you in the Member Directory and on *IAIAConnect*. Update your details online by logging in as a member at www.iaia.org and clicking Manage My Membership > Edit Information.

RESEARCH CORNER

INPUT INVITED FROM STUDENTS, SCHOLARS

One of IAIA's strategic goals is to make contributions, advancements and disseminate IA research. Among IAIA's members are several junior and established scholars who are passionate about impact assessment (IA) and bring that enthusiasm into their research. Master's and Ph.D. students in particular are close to the "sharp end" of innovative and original IA research, contributing to the advancement of the theory and practice of IA and providing up-to-date breadth and depth of knowledge on cross-cutting themes and topical issues.

The IA Research Corner is intended to provide students, as well as more senior scholars, an opportunity to inform other IAIA members about their research topics, disseminate knowledge, communicate findings, or seek contributions.

Contributions to this feature are invited. Text should be no longer than 300 words and may be sent to jen@iaia.org.

INTERNSHIPS INVITED ON CAREER CENTRAL

Employers and students, check it out!

Employers and recruiters can access the most qualified talent pool with relevant work experience to fulfill staffing needs. Special rates for employers seeking interns; for job seekers, the service is always free! See <http://jobboard.iaia.org/> today.



Wondering how to fill your entry-level positions?

Career Central is an online resource to help employers and job seekers make career connections in the environmental field. Early career professionals bring fresh ideas, new energy and can keep your company current with modern trends and tactics.

Turn to **Career Central** to reach this early career audience.

CAREER CENTRAL

Visit <http://jobboard.iaia.org/> to post your job today!
You can't afford not to.

IAIA

HISTORIAN NEEDED

Do you have a knack for storytelling, an obsession with journaling, or a writing talent you would like to share?

Rabel Burdge has been IAIA's informal historian for several years but will retire in June 2012. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Rita Hamm (rita@iaia.org) for information.



NETWORK WITH IAIA MEMBERS THROUGH CONNECT

On IAIA conference evaluations, "networking" is consistently listed as the #1 conference benefit. IAIA wanted to expand and enhance this benefit to all members, regardless of whether or not they could attend an IAIA conference. At the same time, the IAIA Sections wanted a replacement for the existing listservs. After exploring options and consulting the Sections, IAIA launched a new professional networking site: **IAIAConnect**.

Want to ask a question of all IAIA members, get Section members' opinions on a topic, or continue a discussion started at IAIA11 to involve those who didn't attend the conference? Log in at <http://iaiaconnect.iaia.org>, choose a group, and post your question.

While only IAIA members are allowed to post, reply and upload to IAIAConnect, non-members will still be able to view discussions, announcements and resources posted there.

Messages and replies on IAIAConnect are archived and accessible, much like an electronic bulletin board. Members can upload resources, collaborate on wiki documents, post event notices, and add a profile picture. Because IAIAConnect is integrated with our membership database, members can easily search for and view each others' profiles, so it serves as a membership directory as well. Activity on the site can be sent to members via e-mail notifications, with either a daily or weekly "digest."

If you have any questions, please contact Bridget John (bridget@iaia.org) or download two resource documents posted at www.iaia.org/iaia-connect: 1) Frequently Asked Questions and 2) a quick reference guide to the navigation system used in Connect.

■ BRIDGET JOHN • IAIA HEADQUARTERS • BRIDGET@IAIA.ORG

Have you or an IAIA member you know recently made news, celebrated a promotion, retired, or completed a major project? Please send the information to the newsletter and share it with the IAIA community!

CALL FOR CONFERENCE HOSTS

Are you interested in hosting a future IAIA annual conference in your country?

The Board evaluates many factors, including location; proposed theme in relation to the IAIA mission, vision and values; quality of the proposal; and potential financial outcome.

Contact Rita Hamm at IAIA HQ (rita@iaia.org) to express your interest and receive information on preparing an effective proposal.



Save the date!

27 MAY - 1 JUNE 2012

WHY VOLUNTEER?

Reason #101: Meet a diverse range of people

Volunteering brings together a diverse range of people from all backgrounds and walks of life. Both the recipients of your volunteer efforts and your co-workers can be a rich source of inspiration and an excellent way to develop your interpersonal skills. Volunteering also offers an incredible networking opportunity. Not only will you develop lasting personal and professional relationships but it is also a great way to learn about people from all walks of life, different environments, and new industries. Networking is an exciting benefit of volunteering and you can never tell who you will meet or what new information you will learn and what impact this could have on your life. Source: www.worldvolunteerweb.org

IAIA is IAIA through its members.



January

1 Global Family Day

February

12 Darwin Day
22 World Thinking Day

March

8 International Women's Day
20 World Frog Day
22 World Day for Water
29 Earth Hour (20:00 local time)

Mark Your Calendar

IAIA & AFFILIATE ACTIVITIES

Impact Assessment in Policy and Practice. A gathering of professionals to consider and discuss aspects of impact assessment in central and local government policy development and service delivery. Every 4th Tuesday of the month. Wellington, New Zealand. www.nzaia.org.nz/Library/WellingtonForum/Wellington.htm

The Portuguese Connection - Impact History, Tourism, and Assessment. 14 February 2012. Lisbon, Portugal. www.flad.pt/?no=3000001849:14022012

Three Levels of Intervention in Environmental Assessment: Towards Better Decision-Making. 16-17 February 2012. Montréal, Québec, Canada. www.aqei.qc.ca/neuf/index.htm

Updated IFC Performance Standards. 12 April 2012. Washington, DC, USA. www.iaia.org/affiliatesbranches/washington-area-branch.aspx

Cumulative Environmental Effects: CPANS 2012 Spring Conference and AGM. 23-24 April 2012. Calgary, Canada. www.iaiawnc.org/

IAIA12 Energy Future: The Role of Impact Assessment. 27 May-1 June 2012. Porto, Portugal. www.iaia.org

OTHER MEETINGS

Sustainable Development in the Energy Sector. 17-19 April 2012. Perm, Russian Federation. <http://orgeconom.timepad.ru/event/18674/>

7th International Conference on Urban Regeneration and Sustainability. 7-9 May 2012. Ancona, Italy. www.wessex.ac.uk/12-conferences/sustainable-city-2012.html

IN MEMORY

Gene M. Owens, long-time IAIA member and Co-Chair of IAIA's Washington Area Branch since 2008, passed away on 25 December 2011 at his home near Washington, DC.

Gene spent much of his career (1982-97) at Tulane University. He received a Ph.D. in Political Science from Georgetown University's School of Government and Foreign Affairs in 1974. Environmental economics became the focus of much of his work, and he was co-author of the publication *Measuring Environmental Quality in Asia*, and editor of the study "Financing Environmentally Sound Development." Gene retired from ADB in 1997 to join the Harvard Institute for International Development as Environmental Policy Advisor in Cairo, Egypt, in 1998, and then to set up his own consulting firm, EcoShare Group. He also served as Adjunct Professor at John Hopkins University's Advanced Academic Programs (Washington Center). Over the last several years, he has been associated with several international consulting firms with assignments in Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Armenia, Thailand, China and Zambia.

For many years, Gene has actively promoted IAIA both in the USA and abroad, in particular in China. Since 2008, Gene co-chaired the Washington Area Branch of IAIA. We remember and appreciate his significant professional contributions and his persistent joy in working with all of us in IAIA—as we enjoyed working with him.

Friends of Gene wishing to make a contribution in his name to IAIA's capacity building fund for practitioners in developing countries, please contact IAIA HQ (info@iaia.org).

FOLLOW IAIA ON FACEBOOK

Check us out at www.facebook.com/pages/IAIA-International-Association-for-Impact-Assessment/311623229112.

The purpose of this page is to expand IAIA's reach, network to new people, and draw them to the more expansive information and resources on IAIA's Web site.

If you already have a Facebook account, we encourage you to become a "fan" and post links and content, start a discussion, and share the page with contacts who might be interested. Even if you don't have a Facebook account, please check out the page, as you will be able to view everything.

IAIA SEEKS INCLUSION IN SSCI

Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal is IAIA's journal. It is one of the few journals in the world fully dedicated to impact assessment. It is within IAIA aims to continue improving this journal and keep it at the level of the best international journals. An important step is to have *IAPA* indexed in the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI); this will improve the international recognition of *IAPA* as being among the best.

To achieve this status, *IAPA* needs to be cited in other journals that are already in the SSCI. And it needs to receive good and even excellent articles. You can help us in this effort. If you are submitting a paper to another journal, please make sure that the journal is already in the SSCI and please cite *IAPA* papers. And if you are submitting a paper to *IAPA*, remember that *IAPA* goes to over 120 countries, to libraries as well as to members, and is widely read by policy makers, consultants, etc., and by academics and students.

Submit papers to editors Angus Morrison-Saunders (A.Morrison-Saunders@murdoch.edu.au) and Francois Retief (francois.retief@nwu.ac.za).

■ MARIA PARTIDARIO · INSTITUTO SUPERIOR TÉCNICO AND CHAIR,
IAPA EDITORIAL BOARD · MRP@CIVIL.IST.UTL.PT

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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

1 September - 30 November 2011

Australia: Deirdre Bourbon, Ian Bryson, Felicity Cahill, Jo-Anne Everingham, Claire Forbes, Simon Gusah, Lyn Hopewell, Sean Reddan, Patrick Sunter, Anthony Sutton, Nayeli Torres-Montenegro, Helena Wretham. **Belarus:** Volha Navitskaya, Iryna Usava. **Brazil:** Murilo Bustamante. **Canada:** Kanwaljit Chaudhry, Tammy Hirsch-Sigfusson, Cynthia Marchildon, Breanna Sikorski. **Chile:** Paula Gajardo. **Dominican Republic:** Carlos Lizardo Perez. **France:** Prisca de Beauchamp. **Germany:** Whisper Wels. **Ghana:** Quawson Agyabu. **Iran:** Saba Baradaran Amini. **Italy:** Giorgio Baldizzone. **Kenya:** Alex Mutiso. **Lebanon:** Georges Kamar. **Nigeria:** Mamoud Abubakar. **Philippines:** Marinela Cecilia Pascua. **Spain:** Barbara Ribeiro. **Switzerland:** Reinhard Weissinger. **United Arab Emirates:** Noman Qadir. **United Kingdom:** Hillary Dreaves. **USA:** Richard Burke, Jean-Raymond Desruisseaux, Melissa Dubinsky, Ronald French, Aaron Goldschmidt, Michael Henry, Doug McFarling, Anthony Silva, Christian Zier. **Vietnam:** Michael Parsons.

WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/IAIACHANNEL



We're here...
Check us out!

NEW ON THE 'NET ■ WWW.IAIA.ORG

Follow IAIA online! In addition to our own web site, you can find IAIA at

- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- IAIA Channel on YouTube
- IAIAConnect—IAIA's professional networking site
- And more! Visit IAIA's home page (www.iaia.org) to get connected.

NOTE: For best results on IAIA's site and others, the IAIA webmaster recommends upgrading your browser to Internet Explorer 9 if possible.

IAIA IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Subject to change; watch for updates!

January 2012

- 1 Board election ballots out
- 3 Newsletter mailed
- 31 IAIA12 student fee waiver deadline
- 31 IAIA12 paper/poster abstract submission deadline

February 2012

- 28 IAIA12 last date authors may register and pay in full to be included in IAIA12 final program

March 2012

- 1 Newsletter articles due
- 1 Board election ballots tabulated; results announced
- 28 IAIA12 draft papers due

April 2012

- 1 Newsletter mailed
- 8 IAIA12 draft papers due
- 30 Board action items, annual reports and Annual General Meeting action items due

May 2012

- 27-1 June IAIA12

June 2012

- 10 Newsletter articles due

July 2012

- 1 Newsletter, IAIA13 first announcement/call for sessions mailed

Quotable

To change and to improve are two different things.

GERMAN PROVERB

IAIA Newsletter

Next issue: April-May-June 2012

Submission deadline: 15 March 2012

Professional practice articles should be a maximum of 150 words. Send submissions or questions to professional practice news co-editors **Richard Fristik** (Richard.Fristik@wdc.usda.gov) and **Bram Noble** (b.noble@usask.ca).

General interest articles should be a maximum of 300 words. Send to **Jennifer Howell** (jen@iaia.org). Suggestions, comments, and story ideas are always welcome.

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