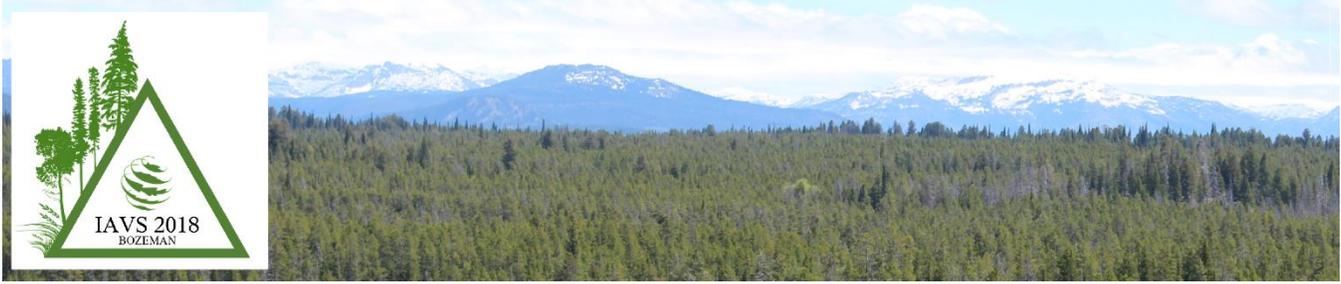


2018 IAVS Symposium: Third Circular



The 61st Annual IAVS Symposium will be held from Sunday, 22 July to Friday, 27 July, 2018 at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana, USA. The theme of the meeting is "**Natural Ecosystems as Benchmarks for Vegetation Science**". Bozeman is located in the Greater Yellowstone Area close to the Crown of the Continent of the northern Rocky Mountains. The timing of the symposium is optimal to see the subalpine and alpine flora in flower and will also allow participants to attend the 103rd Annual Conference of the Ecological Society of America, which is August 5-10 in New Orleans, Louisiana if they wish. The symposium website is located at: <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Home.aspx>



Local Organizing Committee

- David W. Roberts, Montana State University (co-chair), droberts@montana.edu
- Peter R. Minchin, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (co-chair), pminchi@siue.edu
- Kent Houston, US Forest Service (retired)
- Stephen V. Cooper IV, Montana Natural Heritage (retired)

Scientific Committee

- Alessandra Fidelis, Brazil
- Alessandro Chiarucci
- Dave Roberts, USA
- Florian Jansen, Germany
- James Moore, USA
- Jari Oksanen, Finland
- Javier Loidi, Spain
- John Du Vall Hay, Brazil
- Laco Mucina, Australia
- Loretta Battaglia, USA
- Mark Fulton, USA
- Martin Diekmann, Germany
- Meelis Pärtel, Estonia
- Milan Chytrý, Czech Republic
- Miquel de Cáceres, Spain
- Monika Janišová, Slovak Republic
- Pavel Krestov, Russia
- Peter Minchin, USA
- Riccardo Guarino, Italy
- Scott Collins, USA
- Scott Franklin, USA
- Susan Wiser, New Zealand
- Valério Pillar, Brazil



Program

An outline of the symposium program is on the IAVS 2018 website: <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Program/Program-Outline.aspx>. The complete detailed program, showing every oral and poster presentation will be posted on the website within a few days: <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Program/Detailed-Program.aspx>, as will the abstract book (<http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Program/Abstract-Book.aspx>). Printed copies of the detailed program will be included in your symposium tote bag at registration and a printed copy of the abstract book will be available on request. These documents, together with excursion guides, will also be on a USB thumb drive in your symposium tote bag.

Plenary speakers

Bob Peet, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- Monday, 23 July, 9:00 AM in Ballroom A
- “Natural ecosystems as an evolving focus of North American vegetation science”

Naia Morueta-Holme, University of Copenhagen

- Tuesday, 24 July, 8:30 AM in Ballroom A
- “Understanding the distribution of plants in the Anthropocene”

Scott Collins, The University of New Mexico

- Thursday, 26 July, 8:30 AM in Ballroom A
- “Are inherent dynamics in natural ecosystems a challenge for benchmarks in vegetation science?”

Janet Franklin, University of California – Riverside

- Friday, 27 July, 8:30 AM in Ballroom A
- “Vegetation scientists answer big questions when we work together”

For more information about the plenary speakers and abstracts of their talks, please see:

<http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Program/Plenary-Speakers.aspx>

IAVS Honorary Membership Award 2018 – Laco Mucina

Honorary Membership is the highest award that IAVS can bestow on an individual member to recognize sustained contributions of extraordinary merit to the Association or to the field of Vegetation Science. The award was established in 1988 and is awarded at approximately two-year intervals. The recipient of the IAVS Honorary Membership Award for 2018 is **Laco Mucina**, Senior Principal Research Fellow, School of Biological Sciences, The University of Western Australia. Dr. Mucina will accept his richly-deserved award in a special ceremony to be held at the IAVS 2018 Symposium on the afternoon of Monday, 23 July. After a Laudatio by Bob Peet and Milan Chytrý, Laco will present his acceptance speech, “Pain in the paradise: evolutionary ecology of nutrient-poor biomes of the world”. The abstract of this talk can be found here: <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Program/Honorary-Membership-Award.aspx>

Special Sessions

The program includes eight special sessions on the following topics:

- Species pools across scales: an integrative perspective
- Temporal and spatial vegetation changes using permanent plots
- Toward a circumpolar Arctic vegetation classification
- Invasive species on coastal dunes
- Historical ecology in vegetation science
- The US National Vegetation Classification system
- Dispersal and plant reproduction in disturbance driven vegetation dynamics
- Theory and methods in vegetation science

The special session include 82 presentations. More information can be found at <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Program/Special-Sessions.aspx> and in the [detailed program](#).

Oral Sessions

The program includes an additional 90 oral presentations, arranged in eleven oral sessions on the following topics: Alpine Vegetation, Assembly rules, Climate change, Community analysis, Conservation and Restoration, Disturbance ecology, Functional traits, Invasive species, Vegetation Inventory/Mapping/Modelling, Vegetation classification, and Vegetation dynamics. Information on these sessions is in the [detailed program](#).

Poster Sessions

There are three poster session with a total of 93 poster presentations, arranged in 16 topic groups: Assembly rules, Biome-Alpine/Tundra, Biome-Grassland, Climate change, Community analysis, Conservation, Disturbance ecology, Diversity patterns, Functional traits, Invasive species, Restoration, Vegetation classification, Vegetation databases/tools, Vegetation dynamics, Vegetation inventory/mapping, and Vegetation modelling.

Poster sessions are in Ballroom C from 4:30-6:00 PM on Monday, 23 July, Tuesday, 24 July, and Thursday, 26 July. A cash bar will be available. More information on poster sessions is in the [detailed program](#).

Workshops

Three workshops will take place on Sunday, 22 July. The topics are: “Rethinking biomes – towards a consistent high-level classification of global vegetation”, “Fundamentals of structural equation modeling”, and “Historical vegetation ecology”. More information on this workshop can be found at: <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Program/Workshops.aspx>



Excursions

The three Pre-Symposium and Post-Symposium Excursions (A, B, and C) are fully booked and will visit regional grassland, steppe, forest, and alpine vegetation. Full details are available on the IAVS 2018 website.

Mid-week Excursions

Ten mid-week excursions will take place on Wednesday, 25 July, with costs included in registration. If you have not yet selected your preferences for mid-week excursions, you should do so as soon as possible because we are about to start allocating people to excursions soon. People participating in Excursions A, B or C should be careful not to select mid-week excursions that visit sites already seen on those excursions. The direct link to specify your first, second, and third choices for mid-week excursions is: https://tofu.msu.montana.edu/cs/iavs_midweek_excursions/registration

Descriptions of the mid-week excursions can be found at: <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Excursions/Mid-Symposium-Excursions.aspx>

Buses will pick people up from all of the official conference hotels at 7:30 AM and deliver them to the Strand Union Building. The excursion buses will depart from Strand Union Building at 8:30 AM sharp. The return times differ among excursions. More details will be available at registration.



Social Events

Welcome Reception and Mixer – Sunday, 22 July, 5:30 – 8:00 PM

There will be a welcome reception and mixer on Sunday, July 22 from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM with light food and drinks served (tickets will be required for alcoholic drinks – see below). The cost of the welcome mixer and social is included in registration and all symposium participants and their guests are invited. It will take place at [The Story Mansion](#), 811 S. Willson Ave, which is about a 15 minute walk (1.3 km) from the symposium venue ([Strand Union Building](#) on the Montana State University Campus). The walk from the dorms or Strand Union Building is through pleasant residential streets.

You should register for the symposium before going to The Story Mansion because tickets for alcoholic drinks will be included in your registration packet. Registration is in the [Ballroom Foyer on level 2 of the Strand Union Building](#) and it opens at 4:00 PM on Sunday, July 22. People attending workshops or other meetings on Sunday will either be in Strand Union Building or just a short walk away. Shuttle buses will be operating on Sunday afternoon between the official conference hotels, Strand Union Building, and [The Story Mansion](#). For a map, see <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Social-Events/Welcome-Reception.aspx>.

Music Jam and Social – Tuesday, 24 July, 7:00 – 11:00 PM

A music jam session is a long-standing tradition at IAVS Symposia. At the IAVS 2018 Symposium in Bozeman we invite everyone to come to a jam session and social at the Eagles Club, upstairs at 316 E. Main Street, Bozeman on the evening of Tuesday, July 24. The session will start around 7:00 PM and will probably wind up around 11:00 PM (the bar closes at 2:00 AM but remember that mid-week excursions start early the following morning). Bring your instruments (or we can provide them) and your voice and be prepared for a fun night. The Eagles Club is about a 30 minute walk (2.6 km) from Strand Union Building. For a map, see <http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Social-Events/Music-Jam-Session.aspx>.

Symposium Dinner – Thursday, 26 July, 7:30 – 10:00 PM

The IAVS 2018 Symposium Dinner will be at Deer Park Chalet at Bridger Bowl from 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM on Thursday, 26 July. Tickets (\$80) were available for purchase during registration. If you did not buy tickets but would like to attend, please contact Toni Lee (toni.lee@exchange.montana.edu) as soon as possible. Bridger Bowl is about 33 km from the symposium venue. Buses will depart the Strand Union Building at 6:30 PM sharp. After the dinner, buses will be available to take participants back to their dorm, hotel, or downtown Bozeman.

Arriving at Bozeman and Local Transport

Bozeman can be readily reached by connections to Bozeman-Yellowstone International Airport (BZN). Direct flights from the east arrive from Minneapolis and Denver, with connections to New York, Newark, Philadelphia, Washington, and Atlanta. Direct flights from the west arrive from Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. The selected conference hotels all provide free airport shuttle services and a shuttle bus will be provided for people staying in student dormitories. Other airport transportation options include taxi and Uber.

Most of the symposium hotels are located off Interstate 90, approximately 4 km from the symposium venue, Strand Union Building on MSU campus. Downtown Bozeman is mid-way between the hotels and campus. We will provide a circulating shuttle bus service between the hotels, downtown, and MSU campus on each day of the symposium, starting early morning and finishing late evening. Downtown Bozeman is a pleasant 25 minute walk (2 km) from campus through the tree-lined streets of the historic residential district. It is considered safe to walk in Bozeman at all hours. Other local transport options include taxi, Uber, and the free Streamline bus service, which operates daily between campus, downtown, and the area where the hotels are located. More information and links are available on the IAVS 2018 website.



We look forward to seeing you in Bozeman!

<http://iavs.org/2018-Annual-Symposium/Home.aspx>