

Minutes

IAVS General Assembly, Pirenópolis, Brazil 2016

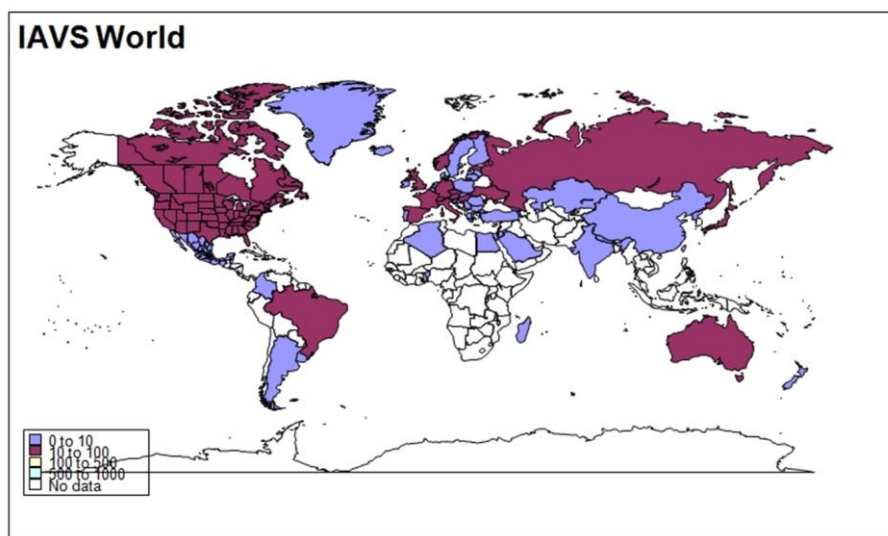
Time: Friday, June 17, 16:00 – 16:30

Location: Luciano Peixoto Convention Center

The General Assembly was opened by President Martin Diekmann, who presented the following:

1. Membership report

As of May 2016 IAVS has 650 members from 63 countries; details for the top 20 countries are shown in the table below. Germany and the United States still have the most members.



Country	No. of members
Germany	94
United States	94
Brazil	46
Japan	27
Spain	27
Italy	24
Australia	23
Russia	20
France	18
United Kingdom	18

2. Council business

Highlights of Council business will be printed in the *IAVS Bulletin* 2016/3; the complete minutes of the 2016 meeting of Council will be made available on the IAVS website.

Highlights of the year include:

- IAVS income is stable; total income for 2015 was ~€200,000 and ending cash was ~€376,000.
- In 2016 IAVS is projected to have a largely balanced income/expenses

- In 2017 there will be considerable financial support for people to attend the annual symposium and IAVS working group meetings
- New IAVS logo

Council voted to adopt a new logo for IAVS that was designed by Elena González Miranda and Tania Quindós González (University of the Basque Country, Spain).



IAVS

Members were encouraged to join IAVS Working Groups (European Vegetation Survey, Eurasian Dry Grassland Group, Ecoinformatics, Group for Phytosociological Nomenclature, Circumboreal Vegetation Map and Vegetation Classification), Regional Sections (North America) and the new Young Scientists Section (pictured below at the symposium).



3. Publications (presented by Peter Minchin)

The journals are doing well. The 2015 impact factors were released in June. The impact factor for JVS is 3.151 and for AVS 2.308; both of these statistics are a slight decline and the Chief Editors are working with Wiley, the publisher, to understand the reason. Licensing went up 14%. We have a new editor for the IAVS Bulletin – Monika Janišová – who has markedly increased the interest level of the content. Finally, IAVS can now get DOIs for all its publications.

The full report from the Publications Officer is published with the Council Minutes.

4. Future Meetings

The 2017 symposium will be held in Palermo, Italy. The 2018 symposium will be held in Bozeman, Montana, USA. In either 2019 or 2020 the symposium will be held in Vladivostok, Russia.

4.1. Palermo, Italy, 2017 (presented by Riccardo Guarino)

The symposium will be held June 20–24 (Tuesday-Saturday). The theme will be “Vegetation patterns in natural and cultural landscapes”. The pre-symposium excursion will be from June 11–18 (Sunday-Sunday). The focus will be on coastal landscapes of Sicily: Along the Sicilian coast, from Capo San Vito (NW Sicily) to Capo Passero (SE Sicily), including two days on the Island of Marettimo (max 30 participants). The post-symposium excursion will be from June 25–July 1 (Sunday-Sunday) and will visit the Sicilian Mountains (for well-trained hikers): Etna, Nebrodi, Madonie (max 30 participants). This will include a transect from the sea to the top of Mt. Etna.

The symposium venue will be the Palermo Botanical Garden.



Riccardo showed us many beautiful photographs to entice us to come to Palermo. He also described the biogeography, climate, geology, vegetation and other aspects such as travel options, cultural history, the local food. The website is scheduled to be up by October 2016.

4.2. Bozeman, Montana, USA, 2018 (presented by Peter Minchin)

The symposium will be held 22–27 July, 2018. It will be held in a convention center with capacity for 500+ people. The venue can be readily reached by connections to Bozeman-Yellowstone international airport. There are plenty of hotel rooms as well as student dormitories for budget accommodation. The tentative symposium theme will be “Intact Native Ecosystems as Benchmarks for Vegetation Science”. Mid-symposium excursion ideas include the Gallatin Mountains, Yellowstone National Park, Three Forks and Beartrap Canyon, Fairy Lake and Bridger Mountains and Custer National Forest and Beartooth Pass. The two pre-symposium excursions will be 3–4 days and visit the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystems (running in opposite directions). The two post-symposium excursions will be 4–5 days and will go to Glacier National Park, the Canadian Rockies and Northern Idaho. Again we were shown amazing photographs of the natural landscapes to entice us!



4.3. Vladivostok, Russia, 2019 or 2020 (presented by Pavel Krestov)

The symposium will be held in either 2019 or 2020, depending on whether any proposals from Europe are forthcoming for 2019. The venue will be FEFU, the Far Eastern Federal University. There are ready flight connections from major Russian and Asian cities, including Moscow, Tokyo and Bangkok. Again we were tempted by photographs of the interesting landscapes and vegetation and look forward to learning more details at the 2017 symposium.



5. IAVS Awards (presented by Susan Wiser)

- Announcement of Student awards for 2016
 - Young scientist Poster Award:

First

Nathalia Bonani: How is fire affecting the germination of legume species? The study of Cerrado and forest species

Honorable mention

Anaclara Guido: Invasive species removal: assessing community impact and recovery from invasion

Joosep Sarapuu: Cut evolution in cut forests? Changes in phylogenetic structure of tropical rain forests due to ecological release of leaf-cutting ants

- Young scientist Oral Presentation Award:

First

Anina Coetzee: The importance of Proteaceae species richness in providing nectar resources

Michele Dechoum: Factors controlling grassland occupancy by shrubs in montane systems in Southern Brazil

Honorable mention

Elizabeth Gorgone Barbosa: Can fire be used as a management tool to control invasive grasses in Cerrado?

1. Items raised by the participants

No items were raised.

2. Thanks and gifts to the organizers

President Diekmann thanked the keynote speakers and the participants. There were 175 participants representing 31 countries. 42% of the participants were from Brazil. His photos highlighted the wonderful venue.



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He then thanked the symposium organisers including John Du Vall Hay, Valério De Patta Pillar, Alessandra Fidelis, Vania Regina Pivello, those of the Secretariate including Diana Hay and Stefan Bradham and all others in the LOC helping to organize the symposium and excursions.

The General Assembly was adjourned by President Diekmann at 17:15.