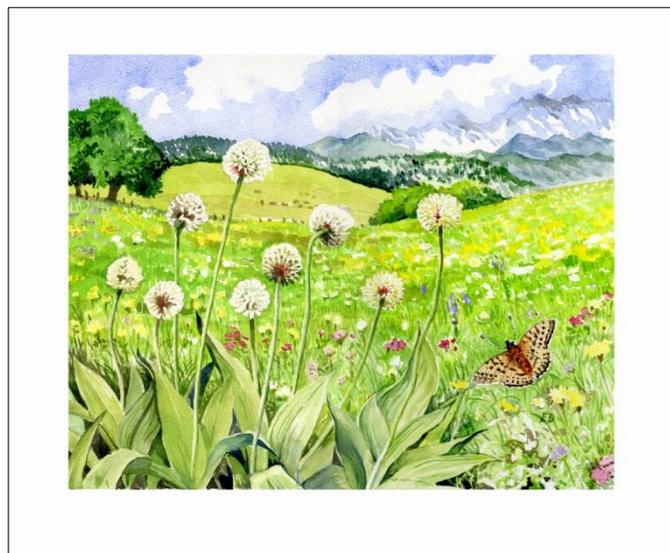


Report of the IAVS Award Committee over the year 2014

Joop Schaminée, chair

At the annual IAVS meeting in Perth, Kazue Fujiwara has become an IAVS *Honorary Member*, for all the work she has performed for our organisation for so many years. This year (2015), for the third time, the *Alexander Von Humboldt Award* will be awarded to an outstanding scientist in the field of vegetation research. After awarding Professor Philip Grime in 2011 and David Tilman in 2013, Sandra Lavoural will receive this award at the IAVS meeting in Brno. At this meeting, both price-winners will be honoured by a *laudatio speech*, given by Elgene Box (Kazue Fujiwara) and Sandra Diaz (Sandra Lavoural). They both also will receive an original watercolour painting, especially made for this occasion by the Dutch artist Ed Hazebroek, depicting *Wisteria floribunda* flowers for Kazue Fujiwara (her family name is related to this plant) and a subalpine meadow landscape with flowering *Allium victorialis* for Sandra Lavoural. The members of the Governing Board are invited to nominate candidates for the next Honorary membership in 2016, before 31-12-2015.



At the meeting in Perth, also the *young scientists competitions* took place, for *best poster* and *best oral presentation*. The winners were announced at the General Assembly and their names are mentioned on our website www.iavs.org (see under Awards).

Poster competition:

First prize: Guochen Kenny Png. Do N-fixing plants show higher root phosphatase activity on P-poor soils? (Co-authors: Etienne Laliberté, Patrick E. Hayes, Benjamin L. Turner and Hans Lambers);

Honorable Mention: Talita Zupo. Do different disturbance types affect resprouting patterns of shrub species in cerrado? (Co-authors: Elizabeth Gorgone-Barbosa, Mariana N. Rissi and Alessandra Fidelis);

Honorable Mention: Ilka Strubelt. Changes in species composition and richness in an alluvial hardwood forest over 52 years (Co-authors: Martin R. Diekmann and Dietmar Zacharias).

Oral presentation competition:

First prize: Angela Pannek. Comparing resource-based and co-occurrence based methods for estimating species niche breadth (Co-authors: Michael Manthey and Martin R. Diekmann);

Honorable mention: Christina Birnbaum. Do soil microbes drive Acacia species invasion in non-native ranges in Australia? (Co-authors: Michelle R. Leishman);

Honorable mention: Jessica Parker. Exploring the spatial and temporal dynamics of the relationship between precipitation and aboveground vegetation biomass (Co-authors: Charles G. Curtin and Craig F. Conley);

Honorable mention: Daniel Montesinos. The puna vegetation of Moquegua, South Peru: Chasmophytic communities and grasslands (Co-authors: Antoine M. Cleef and Karlè V. Sýkora).