



THE IAVS BULLETIN

The IAVS Bulletin is a newsletter for the members of
the International Association for Vegetation Science

7 2003



The 46th Symposium of the IAVS will be held in Napoli (Naples), Italy, from 8 to 13 June 2003. The main theme of the meeting will be 'Water Resources and Vegetation'.

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From the Secretary General

Dear IAVS Members, Colleagues and Friends,

We are living in a changing world with new threats and dangers, but also with new chances and opportunities. How to deal with worldwide environmental effects of global warming, the breakdown of the ozone layer and the resulting rising of the sea level? On the other hand, there are new possibilities to communicate over the Internet, to inform each other about different views and ideas, which in the end may break down walls between people and countries that have been there for too long. In this respect, vegetation science may play a role. We can have our own exchange of concepts and ideas by publishing scientific results in international journals and by participating in scientific meetings. This year, the annual symposium of the IAVS will be held in Naples (Napoli), Italy, and I warmly invite you to participate. Let's meet in Naples in June!

Wageningen, February 2003

Joop Schaminée



The International Association for Vegetation Science

President: E.O. Box, Athens, GA

Vice-Presidents:

H. Dierschke, Göttingen, Germany (Treasurer), J. Loidi, Bilbao, Spain,
A. Miyawaki, Yokohama, Japan, L. Mucina, Phuthadijithaba, South Africa,
E. van der Maarel, Groningen, The Netherlands (Publication Officer)

Secretary General: J. Schaminée, Alterra, P.O. Box 47, NL-6700 AA Wageningen,
The Netherlands. Tel: +31 317 477770, Fax: +31 317 424988;
E-mail: j.h.j.schaminee@alterra.wag-ur.nl

Administration of members without a subscription to JVS/AVS: N. Smits, administrator,
at the IAVS secretariat, address see above; E-mail n.a.c.smits@alterra.wag-ur.nl

Administration of members with a subscription to JVS/AVS: Opulus Press, Gamla vägen 40,
770 13 Grangärde, Sweden. Tel. +46 240641250, Fax +46 240640880,
E-mail admin@opuluspress.se

Membership fee: 20 EUR / 20 USD. Account no. 92.15.29.023 of IAVS, Wes
Beekhuizenweg 3, 6871 VJ Renkum, The Netherlands. Use Swiftcode SNS BNL 2A.

www.iavs.org



Minutes of the Council Meeting on 2 March 2002

The meeting was attended by Michael Barbour (US), Elgene Box (US), George Breidenkamp (ZA), Janus Faliński (PL), Kazue Fujiwara (JP), Akira Myawaki (JP), László Orlóci (CA), Valerio de Patta Pillar (BR), Michael Palmer (US), Franco Pedrotti (IT) Jörg Pfadenhauer (DE), Richard Pott (DE) and Irina Safronova (RU). As Secretary General Joop Schaminée could not attend the meeting, Nina Smits attended on his behalf; she had been appointed as representative by Laco Mucina and Hartmut Dierschke.

1. Opening and installation of the new Council

The president, E.O. Box, opened the meeting at 17:00 with a word of welcome. As there were some troubles with the late arrival of the latest bulletin, offering the members a relatively short period to vote, the Council discussed whether the preliminary result of the election had to be accepted as final. As the number of people that sent in their votes (150) was about the same as with previous votings, and no new ballots were received over the last days, the voting was accepted as final by the Council. The results are presented elsewhere in this Bulletin. The new Council members will soon be approached with the question whether they want to participate in the new Council (2002-2005). As the election of the Council was delayed, the old Executive Committee offered to stay on for another year. This was approved by the Council. The new Executive Committee will be elected in Naples.

The voting list contained 110 candidates, of which 40 receiving the most votes are elected directly. To guarantee that each major world region is represented in the newly elected Council, at least one representative from each region will be voted, i.e. the candidate that receives the most votes among those in the region). During the meeting in Freising, Box presented a provisional list of major world regions, which was discussed; amendments were put forward by van der Maarel and others. The revised list has been approved. Altogether, 12 regions have been distinguished. After the name of the region, the countries involved and numbers of members are shown.

Region 1. Northern Europe (NW Europe + Scandinavia + Baltic countries). Total = 243. Belgium 12; Denmark 14; Estonia 13; Færoes 1; Finland 19; Iceland 4; Ireland 5; Latvia 7; Lithuania 1; Luxemburg 2; Netherlands 53; Norway 30; Sweden 42; United Kingdom 40.

Region 2. Central Europe (German Europe). Total = 295. Austria 21; Germany 238; Switzerland 36; Liechtenstein.

Region 3. Southern Europe. Total = 175. Andorra; Cyprus; France 47; Israel 7; Italy 34; Malta; Portugal 7; Spain 87; Turkey 1.

Region 4. Eastern Europe (Eastern Europe + Balkan peninsula). Total = 165. Albania 2; Bosnia-Herzegovina 1; Bulgaria 4; Croatia 8; Czech Republic 33; Greece 9; Hungary 32; Macedonia; Moldavia; Poland 50; Romania 9; Slovakia 7; Slovenia 9; Yugoslavia 1.

Region 5. East Slavonic countries Total = 70. Belarus; Russia 64; Ukraine 6.

Region 6. Middle East including Middle Asia (Minor and Central Asia). Total = 18. Afghanistan; Armenia; Azerbajdzjan; Bahrain; Georgia 2; Irak; Iran 4; Jordan 1; Kazachstan; Kuwait; Lebanon; Oman; Pakistan; Saudi Arabia 2; Syria; Turkmenistan; Uzbekistan 1.

Region 7. South and Southeast Asia. Total = 19. Bangladesh; Brunei 0; Burma 0; India 11; Indonesia 1; Malaysia 1; Indonesia; Nepal 2; Philippines; Réunion; Singapore 1; Sri Lanka 2; Thailand 1; Vietnam.

Region 8. East Asia. Total = 181. China 52; Japan 112; Korea Republic 13; Korea DPR 1; Mongolia; Taiwan 3.

Region 9. Africa. Total = 48. Algeria 6; Botswana 1; Egypt 9; Ethiopia 4; Ghana 1; Namibia 2; Nigeria 4; Senegal 1; South Africa 12; Tanzania 2; Tunisia 1; Uganda 1; Zambia 1; Zimbabwe 3.

Region 10. North America (USA + Canada + English speaking Carribean). Total = 318. Canada 46; Jamaica 0; USA 272.

Region 11. Latin America, including Central America and non-English Carribean. Total = 68. Argentina 29; Brazil 8; Chile 5; Colombia 1; Costa Rica 3; Ecuador; Honduras; Mexico 19; Nicaragua; Panama; Peru 1; Surinam; Uruguay 1; Venezuela 1.

Region 12. Australia and New Zealand plus Pacific islands (Oceania). Total = 41. Australia 26; French Polynesia; New Caledonia 1; New Zealand 14; Papua New Guinea.



2. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting, in Freising (as published in Bulletin 6) were approved with a change in section 8: the offer to organize an IAVS symposium came from Newport, not from Bangor; the offer was made by Hillary Thomas and Paddy Coker.

3. Report of the Executive Committee

The financial report for 2001 was made by the treasurer (Hartmut Dierschke).
The revenues were 14,440.28 DEM: 10,805.37 DEM membership fee and 3,634.91 DEM interest.
The expenses were:

- 10,000.00 DEM for the symposium in 2001 in Freising;
- 10,054.45 DEM for the symposium in Porto Alegre in 2002;
- 2,473.61 DEM for the notary who approved the Statutes (necessary for legalizing IAVS);
- 1,603.52 DEM for the office in Wageningen (administrator);
- 457.48 DEM for the office in Göttingen;
- 536.30 DEM to Opulus Press;
- 327.31 DEM bank costs.

The total expenses were 25,452.67 DEM. As the expenses of the symposium of Porto Alegre in 2002 were already paid in 2001, the balance turned out to be negative (-11,012.39 DEM). The balance of the IAVS on 31-12-2000 was 71,312.18 DEM and on 31-12-2001 60,299.79 DEM = 30,830.79 EUR.

On 1 September 2001, Nina Smits, Wageningen, member of IAVS, was appointed assistant for membership administration and maintenance of the home page.

Eddy van der Maarel (Publication Officer) had sent a written report to the members of the Council. Several items were put forward during the meeting.

With regard to the *Journal of Vegetation Science (JVS)* and *Applied Vegetation Science (AVS)*, there are now four Editors who serve both journals. The Council confirmed the nomination of Jan P. Bakker as new Editor after Ladislav Mucina. Bastow Wilson acts as Chairperson. The number of Associate Editors was further increased in 2001 in order to improve the procedure for manuscript review and decisions about acceptance or rejection. On the other hand, Associate Editors Julie Denslow and Deborah Goldberg (*JVS*) and Trudy Watt (*AVS*) resigned. Finally, Robert K. Peet, former Editor of *JVS*, was nominated as the second Consulting Editor, along with Eddy van der Maarel. In addition to the Book Review Editor there will be a Review Editor for 'reviews of digital products for vegetation scientists', i.e. packages of computer programs and large databases. The first colleague in this position is Michael W. Palmer, a former Associate Editor of *JVS*.

Both *JVS* and *AVS* are now available in electronic form for reasonable prices. The number of electronic subscriptions is still low but is expected to rise steadily. Considering the number of submitted manuscripts, 230 in 2002 against 200 in 2001 and 180 in 2000, *JVS* is still growing in popularity. This is certainly related to the high impact factor of *JVS*. The number of papers published in 2002 was 92, with an average length of 9.7 pages. In 2001 98 papers were published, with an average of 9.5 pages. This means that the rejection rate is ca. 55%, with a trend towards 60%. Although we had some delays in publication during the winter of 2000/2001, papers are now being published soon after acceptance. For the papers in issue 12-4 the time between acceptance and publication was 5 months, for 12-5 it was 4.5 mo, for 12-6 3.7 mo, and for issue 13-1 it will be less than 3 mo. The time between submission and acceptance varies considerably – as has always been the case. The average for the last few years has been roughly 12 mo, but the papers in the recent issue 12-6 were accepted only 9 mo after submission. Further recent initiatives to increase the attraction of *JVS* include the activation of the Forum section, which now has its own Editor, and the solicitation of Guest Editorials.



After the Dutch version of the IAVS Statutes was adapted to Dutch law and society rules and finally accepted by the Dutch Notary in December 2001, the application for registration of IAVS was delivered to the Dutch Chamber of Commerce in December 2001. We were registered shortly thereafter. At last IAVS has received legal status! Now the IAVS can, among other things, open a bank account for IAVS Global Fund and prepare payment of membership fees with credit cards.

IAVS has a Global Fund (GF) and an Adoption Committee that has, unofficially, functioned since the beginning of *JVS*. Since the Bilbao meeting the Committee has the following members: the IAVS Publication Officer as secretary, the IAVS Secretary, Treasurer and Administrator, and IAVS members Michael W. Palmer and Tomáš Herben. Since 1996, the number of adopted colleagues has been around 40. Adoptions go to Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, India, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Nigeria, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine, Yugoslavia, and Zambia. The list of adoptees has not been changed recently, mainly while waiting for the transfer of the money from an account in Marijke van der Maarel's name to an account of IAVS. This account can now soon be opened in The Netherlands. From 2002 onwards, the standard adoption will concern an electronic subscription. So far adoptions have been to *JVS* (with one exception). We will now also include *AVS* in the adoption system. We will contact Opulus Press for establishing an amount that has to be paid from GF to Opulus for each adopted electronic subscription. Present adoptees are being sent a letter of explanation with an application form for continued subscription. The financial situation of GF is somewhat unclear because we still have to balance incoming and outgoing amounts with Opulus, which is pending the opening of a special IAVS account. By the end of 2001 there was ca. 57,000 SEK (ca. 6000 EUR) on the GF account.

The negotiations with SPARC, the Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition, have resulted in a Memorandum of understanding between the Association of Research Libraries, the organization running SPARC, Opulus Press and IAVS regarding support of *JVS*. Van der Maarel has signed the Agreement on behalf of IAVS. One of the benefits of this agreement is that all libraries supporting SPARC will promise to enter a subscription to *JVS*. Negotiations were also made with BioOne. BioOne 'will provide uniquely integrated, cost-effective access to a thoroughly hyperlinked information resource focused on biological, ecological and environmental sciences'. Electronic versions of BioOne journals, basically journals published by small publishing houses and societies, are offered as a package to research libraries as a complement to the journal packages offered by the big commercial publishers. BioOne is supported by SPARC, which makes it all the more interesting to join it. *JVS* and *AVS* have been accepted by the BioOne organization, and Opulus Press has found solutions for several practical problems included in joining the organization, so that the journals will probably be added to the BioOne aggregation in the course of 2002.

The draft of the contract between Opulus Press and the IAVS about *JVS/AVS* was presented to the Council. Members were invited to give their comments over the E-mail. The definitive contract text will be presented at the meeting in Naples.

4. Reports of Working groups, Commissions and Regional Sections

During the meeting in Uppsala (1998), it was decided that Working Groups, Commissions and Regional Sections should provide an annual report to the Council and that these (short) reports should be published in the IAVS Bulletin. These annual reports can be found elsewhere in this bulletin (see further under 'Working Groups, Commissions and Regional Sections').

5. Statutes (including by-laws) and official registration of IAVS

The statutes were accepted by all the Council members present.



6. IAVS Bulletin and Home page

In consultation with Opulus, it was decided to leave the home page housed in Sweden, as costs are much lower there. The next Bulletin will be available in 2003, the next membership list will be prepared in 2004.

7. Activities in the coming years

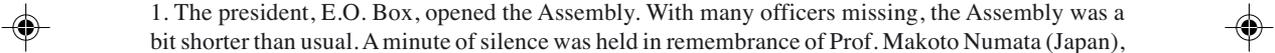
As decided earlier, the annual symposium in 2003 will be held in Napoli (Naples), Italy, from Sunday 8 June to Friday 13 June 2003. Also pre-symposium and post-symposium excursions will be organized. The theme of the symposium will be 'Water Resources and Vegetation'. Further details are given elsewhere in this Bulletin, in the section 'IAVS Symposia'.

Several offers were made for 2004 and further: (1) USA (Hawaii; invitation by Dieter Mueller-Dombois and Michael Barbour); (2) South Africa (Pretoria; invitation by George Bredenkamp and Ladislav Mucina); (3) New Zealand (Dunedin; invitation by Jill Rapson); (4) Portugal (Lisboa; invitation by Maria Delila Espirito Santo); (5) UK, Wales (Newport; invitation by Hilary Thomas and Paddy Coker); (6) Russia (Saint Petersburg; invitation by Irina Safronova).

The Council voted in April 2002 by postal ballot to have the venue of the 47th IAVS Symposium in Hawaii, organised by Dieter Mueller-Dombois and Michael Barbour.

Minutes of the General Assembly on 7 March 2002

Minutes were recorded by Carl Beierkuhnlein (Rostock).

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1. The president, E.O. Box, opened the Assembly. With many officers missing, the Assembly was a bit shorter than usual. A minute of silence was held in remembrance of Prof. Makoto Numata (Japan), honorary member of IAVS.
 2. Information was given in the Bulletin about the election of the new Council. Votes could be cast via Internet. There should be a representative of each of the major geographic regions of the IAVS. The election of the Executive Committee will be postponed until next year, since so many members were absent.
 3. Information about the General Assembly from Freising was given in the Bulletin. The Assembly accepts the report without objection.
 4. The contract with Opulus Press has been renewed. A new contract had to be made for the new journal AVS. The number of members is around 1800. Some members (e.g. from Argentina) have currency problems. Further information will be given on the IAVS home page, where members can obtain more detailed information about IAVS finances and related matters.
 5. The new Statutes were taken to the authorities in The Netherlands, where some changes had to be made in order to conform to Dutch law. Eddy van der Maarel took care of these changes, but the Assembly must again vote to accept the Statutes with these minor changes. The Assembly accepted the Statutes without objection.
 6. Valerio Pillar suggested to publish papers from session A in the section 'Community Ecology'. Furthermore, a special feature on vegetation dynamics in time and space was suggested. There will be no publication of the whole meeting. There was no meeting of the JVS Editorial Board, so no information from JVS was available. George Bredenkamp suggested to publish papers on



'Disturbance and vegetation dynamics'. Various presentations from different sessions could contribute to this topic. Appropriate journals will be identified. Papers should be published quite soon, especially conceptual papers.

László Orlóci pointed out that all journals have waiting lists and suggested publishing papers in special issues and perhaps as a book. This is likely to increase the circulation and could be made available perhaps more quickly.

7. About meetings. A first official excursion under the name IAVS was made by the IAVS regional section in southern Africa. The next INTECOL Congress (International Association for Ecology) will be held in Seoul, South Korea. Kazue Fujiwara informed about possibilities to arrange symposia during this meeting. There is still time to organize sessions and to submit abstracts of individual presentations. Franco Pedrotti provided information on the next meeting of the European Vegetation Survey, which will not be held at its usual spring date but rather late, in September 6-9 (2002), partly in the Apennine mountains near Rome. An E-mail was read that introduced this meeting. The excursion will be in the central Apennines. The special theme of this conference will be 'Wetland vegetation'. Pedrotti also announced a meeting on 'Dynamics and Mountain Vegetation' to be held from 8-13 July 2002 at Peyresq/Annot (Provence), by French and Belgian members of the Amicale Internationale de Phytosociologie. The Boreal Forest working group of the IAVS will hold a meeting in Prince George (British Columbia), Canada, August 9-14, 2002, on 'Disturbance Dynamics in Boreal Forests'. The annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America (August 2002) will again have a session and excursion organized by the North American section of IAVS, according to Michael Barbour. Prof. Pillar announced that a short course will be given in Porto Alegre after the end of this symposium, presented among others by László Orlóci.

Professors Pignatti and Pedrotti have proposed to hold the next IAVS meeting in Napoli (Naples), Italy, 8-13 June 2003. The meeting will be held in the Botany Department of the Federico II University, situated in the old Botanical Garden. Mid-symposium excursions will be to the island of Capri and other places in the surroundings. The pre-symposium excursion will start on June 5 at Rome airport and lead to Napoli on June 7. The post-symposium excursion will go by boat to Sicily and concentrate on mountain ecosystems (e.g. Mount Etna). Places with *Pinus leucodermis* and the Abruzzo National Park will be visited on the way back to Rome (arrival June 22). The famous botanical gardens can be visited in Palermo and Napoli. Close to Napoli one can also visit the volcanic ecosystems (Solfatara di Podzuoli) which develop on extreme substrates, including geysers and hot springs. The journal *Braun-Blanquetia* offers the possibility to publish some of the presentations to be made in Napoli.

For the following years there are already seven proposals for hosting the annual IAVS meeting. The meeting for 2004 will be held outside Europe. The Council voted in April 2002 for Hawaii. For 2005 there are proposals from Portugal, St. Petersburg and Wales. This decision must also be made quite soon, since meetings require some time in advance for organization. A long-term strategy is required.

7. Student awards. Prof. Fujiwara reported the decisions by the jury judging the student posters. The job was difficult because many excellent posters had to be compared. The Jury was introduced and comprised members from seven countries. The following Posters were awarded. The third price was awarded to Fabina Pezzani, the second price to Gervasio Pineiro, and the first price to Diego Gurvich.

8. Valerio Pillar provided information and invited everyone to the Conference Dinner just following the Assembly meeting. Elgene Box closed the Assembly.



Election of the new Council (2002-2005)

Prior to the 2002 Symposium, a new Council was elected which was installed after the meeting in Porto Alegre. Here are the voting results, with names of the new Council members in bold. Added to the 40 candidates who received the most votes are representatives from additional regions: Safronova (region 5), Nakhutsrishvili (region 6), Singh (region 7), Díaz and De Patta Pillar (region 11).

1	Van der Maarel (NL)	121	53	A. Borhidi (HU)	31
2	J.H.J. Schaminée (NL)	113	54	H.E. Weber (DE)	31
3	E.O. Box (US)	103	55	M. Rejmánek (US)	30
4	S. Pignatti (IT)	99	56	F. Romane (FR)	30
5	H. Dierschke (DE)	96	57	M.J.A. Werger (NL)	30
6	M. Diekmann (DE)	88	58	M. Hermy (BE)	28
7	J.S. Rodwell (GB)	87	59	J. Lawesson (DK)	28
8	J.P. Bakker (NL)	86	60	R. Marrs (UK)	28
9	D. Mueller-Dombois (US)	84	62	M.B. Dale (AU)	27
10	K. Fujiwara (JP)	83	63	G. Fekete (HU)	27
11	L. Mucina (ZA)	76	64	P. Keddy (US)	27
12	M. Hill (GB)	74	65	D. Brandes (DE)	26
13	J. Loidi (ES)	72	66	K.V. Sýkora (NL)	26
14	G. Bredenkamp (ZA)	71	67	J. Denslow (US)	24
15	G. Grabherr (AT)	70	68	R. Hildebrand-Vogel (DE)	24
16	F. Pedrotti (IT)	68	69	Y. Nakamura (JP)	24
17	J. Oksanen (SF)	65	70	W. Wildpret de la Torre (ES)	24
18	T. Herben (CZ)	64	71	J.C. Costa (PT)	23
19	U. Deil (DE)	63	72	F.J.A. Daniëls (DE)	23
20	R. Pott (DE)	63	73	N.B. Ermakov (RU)	22
21	M. Palmer (US)	62	74	A. Čarni (SL)	21
22	J. Faliński (PL)	60	75	A. Danin (IL)	21
23	O. Wildi (CH)	60	76	I.R. Noble (AU)	21
24	K. Dierßen (DE)	59	77	M. Costa (ES)	20
25	R. Peet (US)	59	78	O. Vevle (NO)	20
26	F. Klötzli (CH)	58	79	M. Wojterska (PL)	20
27	J. Pfadenhauer (DE)	58	80	N. Boscaiu (RO)	18
28	S. Rivas-Martínez (ES)	58	81	O. Engelmark (SW)	18
29	M. Zobel (EE)	58	82	P.A. Harcombe (US)	18
30	A. Miyawaki (JP)	57	83	A.I. Solomeshch (RU)	18
31	M. Austin (AU)	56	84	Hong S.-K. (KR)	17
32	J.-M. Géhu (FR)	56	86	Song Y.-Ch. (CN)	17
33	O. Hegg (CH)	56	87	E.-G. Mahn (DE)	16
34	J. Lepš (CZ)	53	88	N. Nakagoshi (JP)	16
35	A. Schwabe-Kratochwil (DE)	53	89	M. Valachoviš (SK)	16
36	Z. Neuhäuslová (CZ)	52	90	M.D. Walker (US)	16
37	F. Krahulec (CZ)	51	91	G.J. Doyle (IE)	15
38	J. Podani (HU)	50	92	R. Lubke (ZA)	15
39	B. Wilson (NZ)	50	94	J. Beard (AU)	14
40	L. Orlóci (CA)	49	95	B.M. Campbell (ZW)	14
49	S. Díaz (AR)	38	96	Chou Yi-L. (CN)	14
52	V. De Patta Pillar (BR)	38	97	M. Pakalne (LV)	13
61	I. Safronova (RU)	28	98	A. Seliškar (SI)	13
85	G. Nakhutsrishvili (GE)	17	99	J. Fabiszewski (PL)	11
93	J.S. Singh (IN)	15	100	Kim J.-W. (KR)	11
41	H. Bruelheide (DE)	47	101	J. Lewis (AR)	11
42	S.L. Collins (US)	46	102	A. Velásquez (MX)	11
43	M. Barbour (US)	45	103	V.G. Onipchenko (RU)	10
44	M. Chytrý (CZ)	45	104	B. Tóthmérész (HU)	10
45	A. Fischer (DE)	45	105	Chen L.-Zh. (CN)	7
46	D.E. Goldberg (US)	45	106	N. Prieditis (LV)	7
47	U. Bohn (DE)	43	107	J. Hoshino (JP)	6
48	R.H. Økland (NO)	41	108	P. Krestov (RU)	5
50	Z. Dzwonko (PL)	38	109	M. Hamzah (ML)	4
51	C. Leuschner (DE)	38	110	A. Greller (US)	3



By-laws of the International Association for Vegetation Science

Eddy van der Maarel, IAVS Publication Officer, has provided a draft text (2002-02-16) for the Bylaws of IAVS. Everybody is invited to react to this and to make suggestions for improvement. The final text will be discussed at the meeting in Naples in 2003.

Introductory remark: Included in this draft are pieces of the old Statutes which did not find a place in the new statutes. These pieces can be found in the document 'New Statutes' of 24 July 2001 by Eddy van der Maarel & Joop Schaminée, which was sent to the members of the Council. The wording and some details may have been adapted to the Statutes. I have not included the specification of the tasks of the Executive Committee members because these are partly included in the Statutes and partly superfluous.

Publications

Article 1

1. The Association will aim to publish scientific journals. It will establish agreements with a Publishing House arranging the name and conditions for publication of each journal. Such agreements will be signed by the President, the Secretary and the Publication Officer. The Association shall be the owner of these journals, which will be indicated as 'Official organ of the International Association for Vegetation Science'.

2. The Association will publish:

- a. the scientific journal 'Journal of Vegetation Science'.
- b. the scientific journal 'Applied Vegetation Science'.

3. Each of the Association's journals shall be edited by two to four Editors.

4. The Editors will be appointed by the Council. The Editors may appoint Associate Editors in consultation with the Council and appoint an Editorial Board.

Article 2

The Association can publish other publications to which it holds copyright. The Association does not take any financial liability for any of these publications.

Article 3

1. The Association will aim to arrange with the publishers of vegetation-science journals other than the Association's own journals that these journals be made available at a reduced price to members of the Association. Such journals may indicate the special relation with the Association.

Global Fund

Article 4

1. The Association maintains a fund called the 'IAVS Global Fund' for partially or fully defraying subscriptions of Members of the Association and of Institutions in 'low-income countries' and 'middle-income countries'. The allocation of support is carried out by a committee called the 'Adoption Committee'.



2. The Adoption Committee shall consist of the Publication Officer, the Secretary, the Treasurer, one Member representing the 'high-income countries' and one Member representing the 'low-income countries and middle-income countries'.

Affiliation

Article 5

The Association may be affiliated with relevant International Associations and Unions, as shall be decided by the Council.

Council

Article 6

1. The Council must invite the following members as associate Council Members:

- a. presidents of symposia of the Association during the coming three years;
- b. co-ordinators of Working Groups and chairpersons of Committees;
- c. presidents of Regional Sections;
- d. the Editors of the scientific journals of the Association;
- e. honorary members.

2. Associate Council Members do not have voting right.

Article 7

1. The Council shall meet at least once a year. The Secretary shall notify the Council Members of the date, place, and agenda six weeks prior to each meeting of the Council. A special meeting of the Council may be requested by the Executive Committee or by a minimum of ten Council Members.

2. Decisions of the Council shall be made on the basis of a simple majority of votes. Council Members who cannot participate at a meeting can delegate their vote to another member. Each member can cast at most three proxy votes. If fewer than 20 members of the Governing Council are represented, voting shall be by postal ballot after all members have been informed about the proposal in question and the arguments for and against.

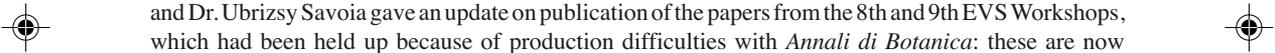


Reports and survey of Working Groups, Commissions and Regional Sections

EUROPEAN VEGETATION SURVEY

Contact person: John Rodwell, Lancaster, United Kingdom

E-mail: uvs@lancaster.ac.uk



The 11th Workshop of the European Vegetation Survey was held at the Orto Botanico in Rome from 6 to 9 September 2002. Over 50 participants from 12 countries attended the one-day workshop with papers and posters on the main theme of 'wetlands' and a one-day excursion to the Abruzzo National Park in the Apennines. In addition, a pre-Workshop meeting of the SynBioSys Scientific Steering Committee was held in the Orto Botanico Library on 5 September and an EVS Business Meeting on 9 September at Civitella Alfedena. Sandro Pignatti opened the Workshop, welcomed the participants, and highlighted some achievements of EVS members during the previous year: the publication of *The Diversity of European Vegetation* by an EVS team, the appearance of Volume 2 of the *Atlas of Plant Communities of the Netherlands* and Volume 3 of the *Vegetation of Slovakia*. On behalf of the SynBioSys Europe team, Joop Schaminée and Stephan Hennekens gave a presentation of this major new information system, with John Rodwell providing an outline of links between the software and EUNIS habitats. Details of progress with national vegetation surveys were provided for the Czech Republic by Jaroslav Moravec, for Slovakia by Milan Valachoviš and for Hungary by Attila Borhidi. Laco Mucina gave an update on the publication of the scientific text of the Overview of European Vegetation (due 2003). At the Business Meeting, Ulrich Deil provided an update on the Pignatti Festschrift – a special two-volume edition of *Phytocoenologia* which will include papers from the 10th Workshop and some others on 'Halophytic Vegetation', scheduled for publication for the IAVS meeting in June 2003. Sandro Pignatti and Dr. Ubrizsy Savoia gave an update on publication of the papers from the 8th and 9th EVS Workshops, which had been held up because of production difficulties with *Annali di Botanica*: these are now resolved and publication is expected in 2003. The meeting decided simply to publish abstracts of this year's papers in *Annali* with encouragement for participants to seek full publication elsewhere or to expand papers for the IAVS meeting. The 12th Workshop would comprise two jointly-organized sessions within the IAVS Naples meeting: one on 'Ephemeral Vegetation of Wet Habitats' on the morning of Tuesday 10 June, a second on 'Databases and Information Systems for Vegetation Science' on the morning of Thursday 12 June, 2003. Following an original offer at the 10th EVS Workshop, Panyotis Dimopoulos presented further details of a possible venue for the 13th EVS Workshop in Ioannina in northwestern Greece, sometime in late April-mid May 2004, with possible themes of 'Abandonment and Vegetation' and 'Sub-Mediterranean Vegetation' and with excursions to the Vikos-Aoos Gorge and southern Albania. This offer was very warmly accepted. In March 2005, the 14th EVS Workshop will return to the Rome venue.



NOMENCLATURE COMMISSION

Contact person: Jean-Paul Theurillat, Champex-Lac, Switzerland;
E-mail: jean-paul.theurillat@cjb.ville-ge.ch

The 3rd edition of the International Code of Phytosociological Nomenclature (ICPN) was published in late 2000 in the Journal of Vegetation Science, 11:739-768, prepared by the Standing Committee of the Nomenclature Commission, on behalf of the Nomenclature Commission of IAVS and the Fédération Internationale de Phytosociologie (FIP), based on the 2nd edition. Major alterations are, among others: (1) The possibility of retaining names in current use (NCU) as *nomina conservanda* (conserved names). (2) 'Association names' of the Uppsala School, published before 1.1.1936 (with the exception of names of moss and lichen communities), are no longer regarded valid names within the modern hierarchical system of syntaxa governed by the Code, since these names correspond in reality to the 'sociations' of that School (but some NCU names based on these 'associations' and used for a long time in accordance with their types might be maintained as *nomina conservanda*). A new *Committee for Nomina Conservanda, Ambigua, Inversa & Mutata* (CNC) has been established (Secretary: Prof. Dr. G. Grabherr, Dept. of Vegetation Ecology and Nature Conservation, University of Vienna, Althanstrasse 14, A-1090 Wien, Austria). Proposals dealing with these names are to be sent to him, together with supporting documents as listed in ICPN, Appendix II. Dr. J.-P. Theurillat (Centre alpine de Phytogéographie, Fondation J. M. Aubert, CH-1938 Champex-Lac, Switzerland) is in charge of the registration of new names of syntaxa, new combinations, and new typifications. Authors are requested to send a copy of their publication to him. An annual report on these names and typifications will be published. Versions of ICPN in other languages are in print. Free copies of the new edition of the code are available for all IAVS members; requests can be sent to the IAVS Secretariat in Wageningen (The Netherlands) .

LONG-TERM VEGETATION DYNAMICS

Contact person: Jan Bakker, Groningen, The Netherlands;
E-mail: j.p.bakker@biol.rug.nl

This Working Group had its 10th Meeting from 24-26 August 2000. The Macaulay Land Use Research Institute kindly hosted the meeting, that was organized by Dr. Robin Pakeman. The meeting was attended by 20 delegates; 12 oral presentations were given. An excursion was organized to see the effects of different management regimes on grassland vegetation. A Special Feature on Long-term Vegetation Dynamics was published in Volume 5 of AVS in 2002. This issue included eight papers.

VEGETATION THEORY

Contact person Prof. Eddy van der Maarel, Groningen, The Netherlands;
E-mail eddy.arteco@planet.nl

DISTURBANCE DYNAMICS IN BOREAL FORESTS

Contact person: Ola Engelmark, Umeå, Sweden
E-mail: ola.engelmark@ieh.se

REGIONAL SECTION FOR PACIFIC ISLANDS

Contact person: Prof. Dieter Mueller-Dombois, Honolulu, USA;
E-mail: AMDHAWAII@aol.com



PABITRA, the Pacific-Asia Biodiversity Transect Network, was first presented during the 43rd IAVS symposium, in Nagano, Japan. The theme of the Nagano PABITRA workshop was 'Tasks of Vegetation Ecology in the PABITRA Net.' The 13 presentations were sub-structured under four sub-themes: 1. Assessment and monitoring of plant biodiversity in the Pacific Islands; 2. Analysis of human relationships to island biodiversity; 3. Analysis of freshwater flow, its relation to island biodiversity and ecosystem health; and 4. Historical perspectives on island biodiversity (Nagano Abstract book: 74-80). Following that, PABITRA received funding from APN (the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research) in Kobe. This funding has been used to run an INITIAL SYNTHESIS meeting (July 15-19, 2002) on the proposed Gateway Transect in Fiji. A Fijian PABITRA group has since been organized by Marika Tuiwawa, Curator of the Herbarium at the USP (University of the South Pacific) in Suva.

REGIONAL SECTION FOR JAPAN

Contact person: Prof. Kazue Fujiwara, Yokohama, Japan;
E-mail: kazue@ynu.ac.jp

REGIONAL SECTION FOR SOUTH AFRICA

Contact person: Prof. George J. Bredenkamp, Pretoria, South Africa;
E-mail: gbredenk@scientia.up.ac.za

REGIONAL SECTION FOR NORTH AMERICA

Contact person: Prof. Michael G. Barbour, Davis, USA;
E-mail: mgbarbour@ucdavis.edu



IAVS Symposia

46th IAVS Symposium, in Napoli (Naples), Italy (2003)

The 46th Annual meeting of the IAVS will take place in Italy, in and near the city of Napoli. The Symposium will take place in the Dipartimento di Biologia Vegetale, Federico II University, Napoli. The Dipartimento is in the historical Botanical Garden (Orto Botanico) in the town center. Hotel accommodation will be offered in neighbouring parts of the city. The symposium is scheduled for the week following Pentecost, which is a favourable time for many central European colleagues because of university holidays. Arrival and registration will take place on Sunday June 8, and the meeting from June 9 until June 13. The main excursions planned (before and after the Symposium) are: (1) a pre-symposium excursion, June 5-8, starting from Rome late afternoon for participants coming to the international Airport - 2 and 1/2 days enabling a short overview of coastal and mainland vegetation between Rome and Naples (four climax belts: *Quercetum ilicis*, mixed deciduous oak forest, beech forest, Mediterranean mountain grasslands); and (2) a post-symposium excursion, June 14-20. Travel by ship to Sicily, study Mt. Madonie, the Stromboli volcano and Mt. Etna; then transfer to mainland Italy, Mt. Pollino, Abruzzo National Park, return to Naples or to Rome International Airport. On June 11 there will be mid-symposium excursions to Mt. Vesuvio or to Capri Island. The excursion program and dates are indicative and can change.

Further information: 46th IAVS Symposium Secretariat, Dipartimento di Biologia Vegetale, Città Universitaria, Università di Roma 'La Sapienza', I-00180 Roma (Italy);
Tel. +39 0649917104 (Dr. A. Ubrizsy Savoia), +39 0649917132 (Dr. A. Testi) or +39 0649917112;
Fax +39 0649917130; E-mail iavs.2003@uniroma1.it



47th IAVS Symposium on Hawaii, USA (2004)

The 47th IAVS meeting is planned to be held in Kailua-Kona on the Island of Hawai'i (the 'Big Island'), Hawai'i, USA. The symposium theme will be 'Ecosystem Disturbance and Resilience: Continents and Islands'. The suggested meeting time is 19 to 29 July 2004. Dr. Julie S. Denslow, US Forest Service, will chair the organizing committee. A two-day pre-symposium excursion through Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is proposed for July 19-20. The symposium is planned for July 21-25 with a mid-symposium excursion to the complex of vegetation on the lava flows of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa. A post-symposium excursion is planned to include three other islands: Maui and Haleakala National Park; Kaua'i and Koke'e State Park and Waimea Canyon; and O'ahu and Kahana Ahupua'a State Park.

The town of Kailua-Kona and the Kona coast of Hawai'i Island is an important tourist centre with numerous restaurants and hotels, many of which can be accessed via Internet. Kona Airport can be reached by inter-island flights (Hawaiian or Aloha Airlines) from Honolulu International Airport or directly from Japan and the US mainland. We are investigating the King Kamehameha Hotel as the conference venue. It has a large ballroom that can seat up to 400 people or be subdivided into four separate meeting rooms for seating up to 70 people each with tables. All modern projection technology is available. There is a small, sandy ocean beach in front of the hotel, and many restaurants are within walking distance. The symposium will be organized in cooperation with the University of Hawai'i, the US National Park Service, the US Forest Service, the Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Centre of the USGS Biological Resources Division, and the NA Chapter of the IAVS.

Further information: Prof. Dieter Mueller-Dombois, Botany Dept., Univ. of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI 96822, USA; home tel/fax +1 8082541873; Botany Dept. fax +1 8089563923; E-mail amdhawaii@aol.com

Other symposia

Information on other symposia can be found on the website (www.iavs.org).



Miscellaneous

Prof. Dr. Erich Oberdorfer (1905 – 2002)

On 23 September 2002, Erich Oberdorfer died at the age of 97 in his home town Freiburg i. Br. (Germany). For more than 70 years he worked in the field of phytosociology and was the author of many remarkable volumes, which can be considered milestones in the development of phytosociology. Some of his most important projects are his vegetation maps, several synoptic publications (for example about the vegetation in Chile, the Canary Islands and the Balkan countries) and his important standard volumes: 'Süddeutsche Pflanzengesellschaften' and 'Pflanzensoziologische Exkursionsflora'. Generations of young scientists of phytosociology, also in foreign countries, have been influenced by the 'Exkursionsflora'. Moreover, he did fundamental work in the field of nature protection and was intensively engaged in museums of natural sciences (for many years he was director of the 'Landessammlungen für Naturkunde' in Karlsruhe).

Erich Oberdorfer received several awards. In 1963 he was nominated professor at the University of Freiburg i. Br., and in 1977 the Technical University of Munich awarded him the degree of doctor h.c. Several remarkable Festschrift volumes were published at the occasion of his 70th, 80th and 90th birthday, respectively, as well as at the occasion of the award of the Reinhold-Tüxen-Preis in 1989.

Erich Oberdorfer was one of the pioneers of phytosociology, who was able to demonstrate, in a masterful way, the links of phytosociological-biogeographical and floristic-taxonomical insights. We will miss his opinions and statements, his clear, analysing letters, his extensive knowledge in the field of phytosociology and botany, and his engaging character.

Angelika Schwabe, Darmstadt

More detailed obituaries will be published in the journals *Phytocoenologia*, *Tuexenia* and *Carolinea*.

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