Minutes/Notes

IAVS Council Meeting, Brno, Czech Republic 2015
Time: Wednesday, July 22, 19:00 – 21:00
Location: Hotel Voroněž I, Congress Hall B (ground floor)

Participants
Members present: Martin Diekmann (President), Susan Wiser (Secretary), Alicia Acosta (Vice President), Javier Loidi (Vice President), Michael Palmer (Vice President), Robert Peet (Vice President), Valério Pillar (Vice President)[1], Sándor Bartha, Zoltán Botta-Dukát, Elgene Box, Helge Bruelheide, Andraž Čarni, Alessandro Chiarucci, Milan Chytrý, Guillaume Decocq, Jürgen Dengler, Alessandra Fidelis, Kazue Fujiwara, Tomáš Herben, Monika Janišová, Florian Jansen, Pavel Krestov, Peter Minchin, Meelis Pärtel, János Podani, Marcel Rejmánek, Angelika Schwabe-Kratochwil, Otto Wildi, Wolfgang Willner, David Zelený, Martin Zobel = 31 votes

Proxy votes: Sara Cousins (Alicia Acosta), Francesco de Bello (Alicia Acosta), Martin Hermy (Guillaume Decocq), Jan Lepš (Tomáš Herben), Ladislav Mucina (Andraž Čarni),Yukito Nakamura (Kazue Fujiwara), John Rodwell (Martin Diekmann), Joop Schaminée (Milan Chytrý), Nina Smits (Martin Diekmann) = 9 votes

Absent: Iva Apostolova, Nikolai Ermakov, Jessica Gurevitch

Guests: Stefan Bradham (FASEB), Péter Török (EDDG Working Group)

Welcome
President Diekmann brought the meeting to order at 19:00

1 Announcements of proxy votes (Wiser)
Bradham read the proxy votes in Wiser's absence. Proxy representation of nine members was reported and approved (see above). Total voting members represented: 31 + 9 = 40.

2 Election of new officers
a. Nominations from the Governing Board (2011-2015)

It was noted that there had been a procedural mistake. According to the bylaws, the Nominations Committee was supposed to nominate newly elected members of Council for election to the Governing Board (GB). Four of the currently serving members of the GB no longer wish to serve (Peet, Pillar, Acosta, Palmer) so the GB needs 4 new members. Diekmann moved that Council nominate by anonymous ballot (seconded by Peet). Peet noted that five nominations are required for an individual from the Council to make it on to the Governing Board ballot. The bylaws require that the President be elected first, then the Secretary, etc. Palmer noted that three men and one woman are stepping down and that three

---

[1] Governing Board members effective until elections during this meeting

of the four stepping down are non-Europeans. Maintaining heterogeneity should be kept in mind in the nominations.

b. Nominations from the floor

Diekmann suggested that Council first go through nominations from the GB and then take nominations from the floor.

c. Election of President, Secretary, and five vice-presidents

The GB nominated Diekmann for President. There were no other nominations. Since there was only one candidate, Peet withdrew his second for anonymous votes and suggested that Council members can just raise hands.

Diekmann elected unanimously, 0 abstentions.

Diekmann nominated Wiser for Secretary. There were no other nominations. Diekmann suggested an open vote.

Wiser elected unanimously, 0 abstentions.

Diekmann then nominated Javier Loidi, Pavel Krestov, Sara Cousins, Monika Janišová and Peter Minchin to serve on the GB as Vice Presidents. This list includes two women and two non-Europeans.

Diekmann's nominations approved unanimously, 0 abstentions.

Nominations for Vice-president were then taken from the floor. Palmer nominated Alessandra Fidelis (seconded by Peet). Monika Janišová nominated Zelený, who declined.

Bradham distributed papers for anonymous ballots.

Wiser announced the winners and number of votes: Janišová (30 votes), Minchin (32 votes), Krestov (28 votes), Fidelis (27 votes), Loidi (31 votes), Cousins (25 votes).

d. Treasurer/VP of Finance Discussion (Bradham)

The idea that IAVS should have a member of the GB designated as Treasurer had been discussed at the meeting of the previous Council on July 21 2015. Diekmann suggested that no decision be made at this point but that the discussion should continue with this new Council.

3 Discussion of future activities and initiatives

a. IAVS website and membership list

Diekmann described the long-standing issues surrounding the IAVS website. Wiley provides us with a website as part of our contract and this website is used for membership renewal as

well as to support other IAVS activities. IAVS has little control over the way the website is structured. Those designated as website administrators by IAVS can change content of the existing web pages, but cannot change the structure of the website. Although the GB can make decisions regarding our website contract, it is also useful for the issues (and potential solutions) to be discussed here. If Wiley did not provide us with a website and no longer provided administration of the IAVS membership database, IAVS would save ~€6000/year, as the IAVS profit share would increase from 55% to 57%.

Peet described the ongoing issues with the Wiley administration of the IAVS membership list. Wiley uses the same software across all Wiley journals with the goal to optimize the use for managing subscriptions. This has limitations for IAVS, especially as their system cannot retain historical information and information that is ancillary to subscriptions (e.g. meeting attendance by non-IAVS members). To date IAVS has continued to manage our more comprehensive membership database by periodically updating it using the membership information that comes from Wiley. This has proved challenging. Particularly problematic is keeping the Working Group membership lists current and ensuring that Working Group Chairs are informed when members renew or update their membership.

Diekmann said that one option is for FASEB to take over the responsibility of managing the IAVS membership and maintaining our website. The savings from Wiley will not offset the complete cost, however.

Dengler (from the perspective of a member of the 2015 Nominations Committee for the IAVS elections) expressed that IAVS needs a better solution than what we get from Wiley. He enquired about the cost.

Bradham provided some provisional estimates:
- US$4000: Membership database setup, including importing content from Wiley
- US$13,600/year: Ongoing membership service including handling renewals, having a members only area, enabling Working Group Chairs to log into and view their membership lists, reporting
- US$5000: Website setup and transfer from Wiley
- US$3960/year: Ongoing cost for hosting the website.

Wiser asked whether FASEB already interacts with Wiley (SB: yes). Wildi felt that Wiley does a good job, but it would be better to be independent. Several Council members/guests expressed that this would be beneficial to Working Groups (Dengler, Wiser, Török). Bruelheide asked if the membership services fee included managing financial transfers, continued contact with late renewers, etc. He also felt IAVS needed a guarantee of a price for 5 years and plenty of notice before any fee increases (SB: yes this is possible).

Council unanimously supported the principle of the contract being awarded to FASEB for membership and website management and authorized the GB to proceed in this direction.

b. <u>Meeting services</u>

FASEB will provide meeting services to IAVS for the first time for the 2016 meeting in Brazil.

Chytrý asked whether IAVS will pay for all the costs associated with the meeting websites, especially setting up the registration pages. Peet replied that IAVS will provide a template (designed by FASEB) but that the meeting will still need to cover the other costs.

Council members then made suggestions regarding features of these tools that would be desirable. Bruelheide suggested that it would be useful if the registration form auto populated address and other known information for registrants who are IAVS members. Working groups expressed that such a template would be useful for their meetings and asked whether this would be an option (Dengler for EDDG, Chytrý for EVS); other Council members felt the GB should explore helping Working Groups in this way (Bruelheide). Török felt the meeting registration could be used as a vehicle to attract new members.

Bradham replied that FASEB would need to look into these options.

c. **IAVS logo discussion**

Peet described the inconsistencies that have arisen with the IAVS logo (**see Attachment 1**). The IAVS logo is currently used in our journals on covers and at each paper. When we contracted with Wiley, they modified the pre-existing logo to fit our journals (e.g. all rounded corners). With the pre-existing logo, there was quite some discussion about the content of the logo. It was not very clear if there is a tree on top of the world, or a tree with roots (then why such mangrove type roots?), or a plant with different leaves at the base and on the top of the shoot.

The issue was then discussed by Council. Dengler felt the idea around the 2010 logo was good, but not completely representative of what IAVS does. Pärtel expressed that after discussions with IAVS the Wiley designers decided to adopt the leaf design and that for now we should use the Wiley logo, but ask about a logo redesign. He does not support going back to the earlier design. Loidi agreed. Chytrý said it creates a bad impression for a logo to change frequently and especially to go back to an earlier version. Diekmann & Fidelis agreed.

Diekmann moved to keep 2012 logo and use it consistently and then look for a logo firm to do a redesign.
39 approved, 1 did not approve.

d. **DOI for non-journal articles (Peet/Bradham)**
[Attachment: **DOI Provider Comparison.pdf**]
Bradham described the issue of DOI providers (**see Attachment 2**). The primary providers are Crossref and DataCite. Crossref is slightly more expensive.

Willner asked why IAVS needs DOIs? Peet replied that DOIs are already associated with IAVS journal articles. IAVS would like to have DOIs for all our publications (e.g. the IAVS Bulletin, Working Group bulletins). Pillar added that DOIs would be useful for symposium abstract books, excursion guides etc.

Diekmann moved that IAVS adopts DOIs for these publications and that we use Crossref.

Approved unanimously, 0 abstentions.

4 **Other business**

Diekmann explained that IAVS needs a second auditor for the financial statements (see minutes of previous council meeting 21 July 2015)

Jansen was nominated.
Approved unanimously, 0 abstentions.

Attachment 1: IAVS Logo Discussion

IAVS Logo Discussion

2010 - Incorporates both the Vegetation and Global Imagery

2012 - Website / Journals (Drops the Global Imagery)

2014 - Proposal to go back to Vegetation AND Global Imagery

Attachment 2: DOI Provider Comparison

DOI Provider Comparison

Provider	Crossref	DataCite
Provider Statement	CrossRef is an association of scholarly publishers that develops shared infrastructure to support more effective scholarly communications. Our citation-linking network today covers over 74 million journal articles and other content items (books chapters, data, theses, technical reports) from thousands of scholarly and professional publishers around the globe. Mission statement: "CrossRef's goal is to be a trusted collaborative organization with broad community connections; authoritative and innovative in support of a persistent, sustainable infrastructure for scholarly communication."	We want to help make data more accessible and more useful; our purpose is to develop and support methods to locate, identify and cite data and other research objects. Specifically, we develop and support the standards behind persistent identifiers for data, and our members assign them. If you think you could benefit from minting and/or assigning DOIs to promote data sharing get in touch with the DataCite member for your region.
Benefits	• No broken links: Because a DOI link is a persistent link, unlike a URL, publishers and others who use CrossRef create reliable, persistent links in citations and database records. • A single agreement with CrossRef serves as a linking agreement with all participating publishers. Avoid having to sign numerous bilateral linking agreements with publishers. • Add value to your electronic publications: Readers have come to expect online material to contain outbound links to cited sources. At the same time, CrossRef linking will augment the accessibility of your content through inbound links. - See more at: http://www.crossref.org/01company/16fastfacts.html#sthash.nMfMsfvj.dpuf	Through collaboration, we: • support researchers by helping them to find, identify, and cite research data and other research objects with confidence; • support data centres by providing persistent identifiers for datasets, workflows and standards for data publication; • support journal publishers by enabling research articles to be linked to the underlying data/objects. Currently we are working primarily with organisations that host data, such as data centres and libraries.