

# Bylaws

## Working group Historical Vegetation Ecology of the International Association for Vegetation Science *- Version of 01 September 2018 -*

### **Article 1. Name and status**

The name of this organization shall be “Historical Vegetation Ecology” Working Group. It shall be a Working Group (WG) of the International Association for Vegetation Science (IAVS).

### **Article 2. Purpose and aims**

The Historical Vegetation Ecology WG is an interdisciplinary network of vegetation scientists within the International Association for Vegetation Science (IAVS) devoted to the study of plant communities as present legacies of the past development, and to the reconstruction of the past vegetation. The purpose of the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG is to foster heuristic developments in vegetation science by providing an interdisciplinary place to all scientists interested in historical aspects of vegetation. No time scale and no spatial scale are excluded.

The main aims of the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG include:

- promoting cross-disciplinary studies, at the frontier between vegetation science (including its archaeo-ecological aspects) and human sciences, especially history and archaeology
- stimulating and facilitating international research collaborations
- compiling and distributing information about historical ecology in general
- organizing special sessions at the IAVS annual symposium and dedicated meetings

As a Section of IAVS, the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG share the IAVS goals and support its activities. The Historical Vegetation Ecology WG is subject to the Statutes and Bylaws of the

IAVS.

### **Article 3. Membership**

Membership in the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG is open to all persons. Membership in the IAVS is optional but encouraged. Membership in the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG is obtained by:

- (a) Written application to the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG Membership Administrator;
- (b) Specification when joining or renewing membership in IAVS;

Membership is discontinued by a written statement (electronic or hardcopy) sent to the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG Membership Administrator stating that the member no longer wishes to be member of the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG.

It is the responsibility of members to provide the Membership Administrator with a functioning e-mail address. Membership is discontinued when no functioning e-mail address is available to either the Membership Administrator or the IAVS Secretary.

### **Article 4. Business meeting**

A business meeting shall be held annually in conjunction with the annual IAVS Symposium. All members attending may vote in the business meeting. A member may assign a proxy vote for the business meeting to another member by notifying the holder of the proxy and the Membership Administrator. Any one participant may carry up to three proxy votes.

### **Article 5. Steering Committee**

The WG shall have a Steering Committee (SC) with five elected members. All SC members shall be members of IAVS. In case of a tie for the fifth position, all candidates with the same number of votes are elected. Each SC member shall be elected for a period of four years, with the possibility of re-election. Elections shall take place at least two months prior to the business meeting at which the regular four-year term of the SC is ending, or following a vacancy. At least

one month prior to the start of an election, it shall be announced to the members via e-mail by the Membership Administrator, who then shall receive nominations made by any member by e-mail or in person. Elections take place by means of an electronic ballot over a period of one month.

The SC shall elect a Chair and a Deputy Chair from its members and a Membership Administrator (who does not need to be a member of the SC) for a period of four years. All decisions on behalf of the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG except those explicitly assigned otherwise are made by the SC with majority.

#### **Article 6. Duties of the Steering Committee members**

- (a) The SC members promote the interests of the Historical Ecology WG and supervise WG operations and scientific activities;
- (b) The Chair (or his/her deputy in case he/she is held up) presides at the SC and Historical Ecology WG business meetings;
- (c) The SC may call upon members of the WG or appoint committees to assist with the WG affairs;
- (d) The Chair supplies an annual report to IAVS;
- (e) The Membership Administrator keeps records of the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG and its members and conducts elections and ballots.

#### **Article 7. Finances**

The Historical Vegetation Ecology WG financial assets shall be held by and managed through the accounts of IAVS.

#### **Article 8. Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended by a 3/5 vote of the members participating in the business meeting of the Historical Vegetation Ecology WG. Proposed amendments must be circulated to

the membership by e-mail at least two weeks in advance of the business meeting at which they are voted on.

Changes in the bylaws are contingent on approval by the IAVS Council.