

# SOCIETAS INTERNACIONALIS LIMNOLOGIAE THEORETICAE ET APPLICATAE

ANNUAL CIRCULAR 1992

1 January 1992

*Commentary from the General Secretary....*

## WHAT IS SIL?

I offer a few reflections on what SIL is, as an international scientific association. I do this firstly from the perspective of an officer and scientist intimately involved with SIL on a daily basis for the past 24 years. My nearly continuous exchange and interaction with thousands of letters and discussions on SIL activities perhaps puts me in an effective position to comment on how SIL presently functions. Secondly, I have a rather unique longterm exposure to how most members want the SIL to function. Finally, I take this opportunity to express my perceptions of what facets of SIL are important to most of its membership and, most importantly, to the profession.

*SIL is clearly international*, perhaps better said 'supranational' in the words of one of our founders A. Thienemann. Our membership extends to some 80 countries and is expanding rapidly in tropical regions that had been underrepresented previously.

*SIL is limnological*. We have aggressively expanded the interests and activities of SIL to all inland waters. For example, research, interactions, and instructional activities on tropical and saline waters, constituting over half of surface waters, have been enhanced markedly in SIL during the past decade. In addition to these broad topics, vigorous attention is being given to detailed and rigorous research on specific subjects of major functional importance, e.g., microbiology, land-water interface, and many others, particularly associated with working groups.

*SIL is really SILTA, theoretical and applied*. A very significant, and increasing, portion of our membership is integrating fundamental research-driven understanding into practical questions of human usage of freshwater resources. Much greater emphasis is being given to the integration of exponentially expanding human activities into the composite analyses of freshwater ecosystems and their effective management than was the case previously. We have been attacking these enormous problems from many directions, particularly by encouraging interdisciplinary coupled research developments on complex ecosystems of great biological and economic importance, e.g., Lake Tanganyika.

*SIL is scientific*. This statement is foremost and fundamental, and clearly must remain the foundation of SILTA. *If the scientific foundation of SIL is weakened or compromised in any manner, the demise of the association is certain*. Why am I so adamant about this point? A small but vocal contingency of our membership insists that the primary function of SIL should be to address social problems of

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environmental utilization by devoting most of the SIL expertise and financial resources to environmental education and activism. Publications of SIL are treated incorrectly by these ill-informed individuals with contemptuous disdain as worthless. An overwhelming majority of SIL members appreciate the need for activism in addressing social ills in relation to fresh water but are steadfast that SIL can only be effective if it has *scientific* credibility as its *essential* underpinning. As has been demonstrated so often in many international groups, the essential scientific expertise will not participate if the dominating science foundation of the congresses and working groups is supplanted with endless gaseous rhetoric and debate about social environmental ills.

*SIL will be rendered impotent without a scientific journal.* The *only* important communication in science is the *written, published* record in scientific journals. Oral presentations are heard by only a minuscule audience and the words quickly dissipate. Abstracts are not true published records. Research that is not published and communicated to the scientific community *in written form* is not completed. The interactive scientific expertise that has been nurtured and networked over seven decades in SIL activities and congresses will simply dissipate and not participate without the scientific structure. Every member of SIL must retain his or her constitutional right to present and publish a scientific contribution in a quality scientific journal. This statute is not only accepted but demanded by an overwhelming majority of SIL members.

*SIL has a primary responsibility to provide quality scientific proceedings.* In 1988, SIL established a Publications Committee to evaluate the opinions of the membership towards our publications, their quality, and costs. I summarize the results of that report here (available upon request from the General Secretary).

1. The *Proceedings* provide a triennial overview of worldwide limnological research activities and directions. The information of these proceedings provides a major, in some cases almost only, source of limnological information within a large number of Eastern and developing countries. A recent survey of membership found that >95 % of members found the *Proceedings (Verhandlungen)* and *Communications (Mitteilungen)* of use in their research and administrative positions.
2. The *Proceedings* functions as a major attractant for both established and emerging scientists. The quality of scientific contributions remains high and is increasing consistently (one of the five most cited publications in limnology). Members have equal opportunities to publish and the *Proceedings* affords the possibility for young scientists to attract attention to their work.
3. The *Proceedings* are distributed to nearly 3000 scientists and institutions, which is nearly an order of magnitude greater than most commercial journals.
4. The length of scientific contributions in the *Proceedings* are now four pages of the new format (equal to five in the old style) without page charges. Much longer articles are accepted with page charges, and provisions are available for waiving page charges in certain justifiable cases. Arguments that valuable contributions cannot be written in the space available are simply invalid. Some of the best contributions in limnology and ecology occur as succinct, concise presentations with supporting data and interpretations. It has been agreed that no further reductions in length will be made.
5. The *Proceedings* are large volumes and as such consume a significant portion of the income of SIL. A number of cost reduction measures have been undertaken (e.g., computerization) that have held costs constant despite increasing size. Members of SIL generally recognize the exceedingly low costs of membership in our Association that result largely because of the frugal operation by mostly gratis services of many dedicated colleagues. Clearly the *Proceedings*, as most journals, will eventually yield to totally electronic recordings and distribution. During this interim period, however, an overwhelming majority of members concur that this publication expenditure is essential to the scientific structure of SIL.

SIL is vigorous, diverse, and growing in its roles in the scientific and public communities. It also has limitations. For example, it is becoming so large and active in many multidisciplinary directions that several fulltime paid business and international lobbying officers should be undertaking the daily operations. The costs of such a business office would however approach our current total annual income and it is obviously not possible. The present reliance upon donated time by persons in addition to their regular fulltime employment limits what can be done. However, complacency is not acceptable and much more can

be done by means of further collaboration and cooperation by the membership. I express my appreciation to so many that have helped, particularly National Representatives of the International Committee and other committee members. We have gained, but we can do much more to increase our profession to the supranational level. As Bede noted, 'It is better never to begin a good work than, having begun it, to stop'. SIL must always be flexible with the needs of the profession, but the science foundation is the sustaining good work and must never be compromised.

Robert G. Wetzel  
General Secretary and Treasurer

## DUES

**MEMBERSHIP FEES** are due as of 1 February. Fees for 1992 are **50 Swiss Francs or equivalent for regular members (Sodales) and 100 Swiss Francs for associate members (Sodales adjuncti; institutions, associations, and other corporations).** Student members are entitled to a **50% reduction of regular member fees for a maximum of three years.** Instructions for payment are given on the attached sheet; please note that rates have changed in relation to revaluations of different currencies. Exchange rates for 1992 are based on those of the 1st of November 1991.

## CONGRESSES

**25th CONGRESS OF SIL IN BARCELONA, SPAIN:** The 25th Congress of SIL will be held at the University of Barcelona, Pedralbes Campus, in Barcelona, 21-27 August 1992, the first congress to be held in a Spanish-speaking country. Prof. R. Margalef is President and Dr. N. Prat is Secretary of the Organizing Committee SIL-92. The general theme of the meeting will be "*Water: The Ultimate Vehicle for Life*". Numerous post-congress scientific excursions are planned throughout Spain and Portugal. The Second Circular and call for abstracts is being distributed to all members at this time.

**FUTURE CONGRESSES:** The 26th Congress of SIL will be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil in August 1995, our first congress in South America (Prof. J. Tundisi, National Representative). The 27th Congress will take place at the University College of Dublin, Ireland, August 1998 (Dr. D. A. Murray, National Representative). Sites for the 28th Congress are currently under evaluation and include Australia, Hong Kong, Czechoslovakia, and the United States.

### General Assemblies at Congresses:

#### *Need to Streamline Necessary Business Matters*

The General Assemblies, particularly the second, at each SIL Congress provide opportunities for members to learn of business activities and conclusions made by the Executive Board and the International Committee of National Representatives. Actions taken by your elected officers and representatives are summarized by the General Secretary and require approval by the membership at the General Assembly.

SIL is in a logarithmic growth phase with its expanding activities in research, education, and service. Simply a review of the activities at the General Assembly from the past triennium can require several hours. Participating members at the General Assemblies are asked to make decisions rapidly with minimal information and time for evaluation. In addition, approval is made by a relatively small percentage of the total membership.

The activities and demands of committees, working groups, and other concentrates are evaluated in detail by the Executive Board and the International Committee. These officers and representatives were elected by majority and entrusted to shepherd the SIL. I am suggesting two alterations in procedure to increase the efficiency of handling the many business matters.

(a) **Report business matters more frequently to members during the triennium.** Evaluations and decisions by the Executive Board and International Committee occur during the triennium. These matters will be conveyed to the membership, with voting by all members when necessary, via the SIL Newsletter. By this means, exchange and inputs from members can be more active.

*(b) At the Congress in Barcelona, I will review the major items collectively and request approval.* Then the floor will be opened to queries about old business and to new business items, particularly resolutions and other matters emanating from the Congress that require immediate evaluation.

It is important that you direct inquiries and concerns to your National Representatives or the General Secretary for evaluation and responses. The SIL depends upon your inputs --- I welcome your opinions and suggestions for improvement of the operation and capacities of SIL.

### SPONSOR A MEMBER!

Some members have generously contributed sufficient funds to sponsor a researcher or student of limnology from developing or other countries from which it is difficult to pay our modest membership fee. Alternatively we urge you to contribute to the Endowment Fund.

### LIBRARY AFFILIATES

SIL has shipped excess copies of all available past SIL publications to a number of libraries of developing or other countries in which it is difficult for institutional membership. In addition, institutional memberships have been provided for certain libraries from our Endowment Fund. We welcome applications from institutional libraries for assistance with their membership. Direct inquiries to the office of the General Secretary and Treasurer. Persons knowing of particularly deserving institutional libraries are urged to inform us -- we are attempting to have our scientific contributions reach as many workers as possible.

### AWARDS

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE NAUMANN-THIEMANN MEDAL AWARDS:** The Naumann-Thienemann Medal Committee continues to solicit documented nominations of scientists with unusual contributions to the development and advancement of limnology. To nominate a candidate, a curriculum vitae, list of publications, and a statement of the outstanding merits of the individual should be submitted to President Jónasson or General Secretary Wetzel for distribution to and evaluation by the Committee.

**NOMINATIONS FOR THE BALDI LECTURER:** The Baldi Memorial Lecturer for the 25th Congress, announced at the 24th Congress in the Federal Republic of Germany, will be Arthur C. Benke. The Baldi Memorial Lecturer Committee solicits documented nominations of limnologists that would present seminal insights on a particular subject in inland aquatic ecology.

**TONOLLI MEMORIAL AWARDS:** The Tonolli Memorial Fund for Furthering Limnology in Developing Countries has adequate funding from the interest of the endowment and from contributions to award a few scholarships to assist the training of young scientists from developing countries. Applications should include detailed documentation of candidates and letters of recommendation. Submissions should be made to General Secretary Wetzel for distribution to and evaluation by the Committee. The Committee evaluates proposals twice annually, in January and July.

### CORRECT ADDRESSES

Kindly verify your name and address given on the address label of this circular which bears changes reported to the General Secretary as of early December 1991. SIL cannot be responsible for loss of publications because of unreported changes of address.

### THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

for the last fiscal year will be found on the attached sheet. Over half of the accumulated reserves will be used for publication of Verhandlungen 24. The Consolidated Statement of Accounts for the past triennium appears in the General Secretary's Report in Verhandlungen 24.

Robert G. Wetzel, General Secretary-Treasurer

## SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALE LIMNOLOGIAE

The following countries send U.S. Dollars or pay through a bank direct to the General Secretary in Alabama at the rates indicated for U.S.A. members below:

Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Korea, Lebanon, Lithuania SSR, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, P.R. of China, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, U.S.S.R., Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Members in the following countries send their subscriptions to the National Representatives at the rates indicated:

		1992		
		Sodales	Sodales Adjuncti	
<b>Australia</b>	Prof. G.P. Harris, COSSA, P.O. Box 3023, Canberra GPO, ACT 2602	40.65	A\$	81.30
<b>Austria</b>	Dr. M. Dokulil, Inst. f. Limnol. d. ÖAW, Abteilung Mondsee, Gaisberg 116, A-5310 Mondsee	400	Ös	800
<b>Belgium</b>	Dr. N. De Pauw, Laboratorium voor Biologisch Onderzoek van Waterverontreiniging en Marikul, J. Plateaustraet 22, B-9000 Gent	1200	BFr.	2400
<b>Britain</b>	Prof. Dr. Brian Moss, Dept. of Environ. & Evolut. Biology, University of Liverpool, P.O. Box 147, Liverpool L69 3BX	19.35	Stg £	38.70
<b>Canada</b>	Dr. Patricia Chambers, National Hydrology Research Institute, 11 Innovation Blvd., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 3H5	37.00	Can.\$	74.00
<b>Czechoslovakia</b>	Dr. V. Korinek, Dept. Hydrobiology, Fac. of Sciences, Charles University, Vinická 7, Praha 2	900	Ckr.	1800
<b>Denmark</b>	Prof. Dr. P.M. Jónasson, Freshwater Biological Laboratory, University of Copenhagen, 51 Helsingørsgade, DK 3400 Hillerød	220	Dkr.	440
<b>Finland</b>	Arrangements made by Prof. Ilmavirta	140	FM	280
<b>France</b>	Dr. M. Nisbet, 2, place du Général Leclerc, 94160 Saint-Mande	200	FFr	400
<b>Germany</b>	Prof. Dr. H.-J. Overbeck, Max-Planck-Institut f. Limnologie, Postfach 165, D-2320 Plön/Holstein	56.50	DM	113.00
<b>Hungary</b>	Dr. A. Abaffy-Bothár, Hungarian Danube Research Station, Jávorka Sandor u. 14, H-2131 Göd	2225	Ft	4450
<b>India</b>	Prof. Dr. B. Gopal, School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi 110067	83300	Rupie	166600
<b>Ireland</b>	Dr. D. A. Murray, Zoology Department, University College Dublin, Belfield Stillorgan Rd., Dublin 4	20.85	Ir. £	41.70
<b>Israel</b>	Dr. T. Zohary, Kinneret Limnological Laboratory, P.O. Box 345, Tiberias 14102	50.00	SFr	100.00
<b>Italy</b>	Dr. R. de Bernardi, C.N.R. Istituto Italiano di Idrobiologia, Largo V. Tonolli 50-52, 28048 - Pellanza	42200	Lit	84400
<b>Japan</b>	Dr. H. Kawanabe, Department of Zoology, Kyoto University, Kitashirakawa, 606 Kyoto	4350	Yen	8700
<b>Netherlands</b>	Dr. S. Parma, Limnologisch Instituut, Rijksstraatweg 6, 3631 AC Nieuwersluis	65.00	Hfl.	130.00
<b>New Zealand</b>	Dr. C. W. Burns, Department of Zoology, University of Otago, Great King Street, Dunedin	56.50	NZ\$	113.00
<b>Norway</b>	Prof. Dr. J. Kjensmo, Division of Limnology, Department of Biology, University of Oslo, Box 1027 Blindern, 0315 Oslo 3	220	NKr	440
<b>Poland</b>	Dr. J. I. Rybak, Polish Hydrobiological Society, ul. Nowy Swiat 67, 00-046 Warszawa	384615	Zl	769230
<b>Romania</b>	Dr. S. P. Godeanu, Institutul Central de Biologie, Splaiul Independentei 296, 77748 Bucuresti	2050	Lei	4100
<b>Spain</b>	Dr. N. Prat, Dpto. Ecologia, Fac. Biología, Universitat de Barcelona, Av. Diagonal, 645 08028 - Barcelona	4850	Peseta	9700
<b>Sweden</b>	Dr. I. Ahlgren, Limnologiska Institutionen, Box 557, S-751 22 Uppsala	205	Sw.Kr.	410
<b>Switzerland</b>	Internationale Vereinigung f. Limnologie, Überlandstrasse 133, 8600 Dübendorf on Post Office cheque account # 80-32846	50.00	SFr	100.00
<b>U.S.A.</b>	Prof. R.G. Wetzel, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0344	33.00	US\$	66.00

SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALIS LIMNOLOGIAE  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (1 July 1990 - 30 June 1991)

	<u>RECEIPTS</u>			<u>PAYMENTS</u>	
Balances at Banks on 1 July 1990		SFr 903,990.86	Publications:	SFr 110,665.59	
Subscriptions:	<u>Current Pymts</u>	<u>Back Pymts</u>	<u>Advance Pymts</u>		
Checking Acct., Alabama	SFr 24,653.19	4,151.44	709.90	Postage:	
University Acct., Alabama	100.00	900.03	0.00	Univ. Alabama Acct.	SFr 1,989.81
Zürich Acct.	91,551.90	5,665.44	75.00	Alabama Checking Acct.	1,426.76
BRD Acct.	17,962.62	2,444.90	0.00	BRD	<u>664.14</u> <u>4,080.71</u>
Czech. Membership Fees	500.00	0.00	0.00	Bank Charges:	
Great Britain (Partial)	1,923.15	0.00	0.00	Zürich (Primary Acct.)	260.84
	<u>136,690.86</u>	<u>13,161.81</u>	<u>784.90</u>	Zürich (Investment Acct.)	11,096.95
			150,637.57	Michigan Checking	3.21
Sale of Publications (1990)	38,579.76		38,579.76	Alabama Checking	25.27
(Less 20% Commission)				Baldi	165.05
Endowment Fund:				BRD	194.82
Alabama Acct.	1,407.75			Publisher	<u>166.00</u> <u>11,912.14</u>
Zürich Acct.	1,609.65		3,017.40	Travel/Congress Expenses:	0.00
Income from Page Charges:	45,003.71		45,003.71	Honoraria:	
Income from Index Sales:				Gen. Sec.-Treas.	1,000.00
Alabama Acct.	320.53			Editor	<u>500.00</u> <u>1,500.00</u>
Zürich Acct.	20.00		340.53	Supplies & Services:	
Interests and Dividends:				Printing, Photocopying, Supplies	1,406.83
Baldi Memorial	471.50			Secretarial Services	21,609.01
Zürich (Primary Acct.)	277.95			Telephone	210.06
Zürich (Investment Acct.)	31,705.60			Computer Consultant	1,133.25
Tonolli Memorial	9,483.12			Membership Fees	205.14
(Gain from Market Fluctuations)	3,003.82			SIL Newsletter	<u>3,060.00</u> <u>27,624.29</u>
Alabama Checking	303.38			Grants by SIL:	
Alabama Savings	12.81		45,258.18	Student Fellowships (4)	8,974.70
Miscellaneous:				Conservation Committee	3,846.30
Publication Sale	32.05			Saline Lakes Fellowships	1,282.10
Royalty	174.00			Hangzhou '90 (PROC) Fellowships	1,282.10
Reimbursement Swiss Taxes	12,619.40		12,825.45	Tropical Inland Waters Fellowships	3,205.25
Subtotal: Income for FY:			295,662.60	Arbeits Donauforschung (3 yrs)	<u>5,439.00</u> <u>24,029.45</u>
			<u>SFr 1,199,653.46</u>	Apparent Net Losses from Revaluations of US Dollar and DM Relative Conversion To Swiss Franc	37,066.19
Conversion Rates (1 Nov 1990, per SIL Statutes)				Floating Currency Changes and Rounding Errors	<u>SFr 1,161.78</u>
1 US Dollar = 1.2821 SFr = 1.5385 DM				Subtotal: Expenditures for FY	SFr 218,040.15
We have examined these accounts and find them to be correct and give a true impression of the Association's financial position.				Balances at Banks on 30 June 1991:	
George H. Lauff				Zürich (Primary Acct.)	96,691.15
Frank F. Hooper, Auditors				Zürich (Investment Acct.)	500,000.00
				Publisher	226,714.26
				BRD	20,080.18
				Michigan Checking	0.00
				Baldi Memorial	9,696.35
				Tonolli Memorial	117,934.05
				Alabama Checking	4,014.56
				Alabama Savings	228.56
				University of Alabama	<u>SFr 6,254.20</u> <u>981,613.31</u>

SFr 1,199,653.46

**SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALIS LIMNOLOGIAE THEORETICAE ET APPLICATAE**  
 International Association of Theoretical and Applied Limnology  
**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Please type or print

Name in full \_\_\_\_\_

	Gender/Title	First	Middle	LAST(FAMILY)
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Mailing Address  
 (business/institutional address preferred)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Official Title or Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Degrees: \_\_\_\_\_

Fields of Aquatic Research or Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in SIL shall consist of persons who are actively interested in the advancement of limnology and its applications. Membership categories consist of:

- REGULAR MEMBER** (50 SFr or equivalent [cf. attached sheet] per annum);
- STUDENT MEMBER** (25 SFr or equivalent [cf. attached sheet] per annum);
- ASSOCIATE MEMBER** (institutional libraries, organizations; 100 SFr or equivalent [cf. attached sheet] per annum);
- LIFE MEMBER** Individuals who make major financial contributions to SIL. The minimum contribution for this category of membership consists of 70 times the prevailing dues. These contributions will be placed in a special endowment fund intended to help young limnologists attend congresses and other meetings sponsored by SIL.

Exchange rates are established each November 1st for the following calendar year. Payments may be made to the General Secretary-Treasurer or in certain countries to cooperating National Representatives (cf. attached sheet for current rates as issued with each Annual Circular in January).

**Honorary** and **Emeritus** membership categories are also available to longterm members of SIL; contact the General Secretary for greater details.

The publications of SIL are essentially triennial. The *Proceedings (Verhandlungen)* consist of massive volumes (ca. 4000 pages) of scientific papers delivered at the triennial congresses of SIL. Irregular *Communications (Mitteilungen)* consist of critical analyses of methods and other topical subjects and are published as finances of SIL permit. Payment of annual membership dues is required whether journals are received in one particular year or not. *Proceedings* and *Communications* are issued to all members who are in good standing for the entire triennium during which the publications were produced. Back issues of SIL publications are available for purchase; contact the General Secretary for details.

In addition, individual members of SIL can obtain the *Archiv für Hydrobiologie* publication series, an official organ of the Association, at a 25% price reduction through the General Secretary.

The **SIL Index of Past Publications** includes a detailed author and subject index of all papers published in the *Proceedings* (Vol 1-20) and *Communications* (Vol 1-21). This valuable source volume is available at cost to members (20 SFr or US \$10).

I enclose payment for:

Membership dues for calendar year(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Index to Past Publications of SIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Remittance: \_\_\_\_\_

(Remittance in US dollars being sent from a foreign country *must* be drawn on a major international bank in the USA that is recognized by the Federal Reserve System). Mail application with your remittance to your national representative (see Annual Circular) or to:

Prof. Robert G. Wetzel  
 General Secretary-Treasurer SIL  
 Department of Biological Sciences  
 University of Alabama  
 Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0344  
 USA