



# **ANNUAL CIRCULAR 2010**

International Society of Limnology Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL)

#### Commentary from the General Secretary-Treasurer

1 January 2010

Dear Members of SIL,

At the Congress in Montréal we decided to launch a journal and to disband the very long tradition of Proceedings and the occasional "Mitteilungen." After a long and difficult process the Executive Board has decided to continue the SIL publication activities in a partnership with the Freshwater Biological Association (FBA) in Great Britain. The contract has now been signed and a voyage with a somewhat unknown destination has begun. The one assuring thing is that our very efficient and dedicated Editor of the Proceedings, Jack Jones has agreed to help us with the tasks ahead. The name of the new journal has not yet been agreed upon but a decision will be made without too much delay. The titles "Global Limnology" and "Journal of Inland Waters" are at the front. The writing of this current commentary is mid October, so a decision might have been reached before The Annual Circular hits your desk or computer.

SIL has had a long and very fruitful cooperation with our German partner Schweizerbart'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung. They have served SIL well and with dedication. It was not an easy decision to separate from those historical bonds. The main arguments were the experience of FBA to reach the international aquatic academia and applied scientists with several high profile journals, a good deal on the economics, and their commitment to limnology. They (FBA) have contacts to a very broad international audience that SIL does not have. It is my hope and belief that SIL is doing the right thing. Like any other projection for the future, like climate change, only time will tell; and many of us will not be there to do the observation. SIL and FBA are going digital in our cooperation and you shall learn much more about it in the not so distant future.

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The future is always somewhat unpredictable. However, one thing is for sure, SIL cannot survive long term without new and young members. I urge every one of you to ask your students and young associates to join SIL. We need you to promote and to persuade the new generations to join SIL. If you are confronted with the question, "what is the point?" Then ask if they see how we can confront the future with a lack of knowledge of freshwaters in an international context. I am not naive; however, keeping SIL living and fighting is an obligation for concerned limnologists. SIL is the only international Society where we find a serious cooperation between scientists in developing and developed countries. We need these contacts in the world. United Nations and alike are good for some things, but not for what we are doing. The meeting in China (October 2009) concerning Global Change and Freshwaters is one, good example of how SIL can be involved. Bob Wetzel stated many times that the availability of clean freshwater, both for consumption and *in situ* should be high on the international agenda. Clean lakes, rivers and wetlands are an extremely valuable commodity for every human being. I might be wrong, but I think that access to freshwaters within the time perspective of the modeled major impacts of global climate changes (if and when?) are of a much more immediate concern. This is not to say that we should not be concerned about climate changes and do our outmost to deal with them. I know, I am somewhat controversial here, but in my view we have both a short-term and a long-term agenda.

SIL 2010 is a special year. We have our first Congress on the African continent. You must join us in Cape Town, South Africa and make the major efforts of Johan Grobbelaar worth the time he is investing in putting this together. I am confident that we shall have a very worthwhile Congress. AND, this is where FBA and SIL members will meet. So come and join this very special Congress.

Last, but not least. SIL has not (yet) suffered greatly from the financial crisis; however, we are suffering from the fluctuations in exchange rates and, sorry to say so, the diminishing membership. Go out there to get new members and be sure that you pay slightly more than the dues. Actually, the membership is too cheap, but only Congresses can change this! Do a little extra contribution on your payment. Be aware that we try to change the payment of the membership to go directly to SIL. BUT, it is important for you to know that in some countries your dues are linked to a national society, this is fine and OK. SIL does not want to interrupt these bounds. However, we are all moving in a world where payments of dues and books, gadgets, tickets etc. are done electronically. You may choose to do likewise and experience that this is also the way SIL has to go with the new journal and its linkage to a SIL membership. We walk the way to tie your membership closer to the journal. Do not miss the opportunity and keep guard of your connection with the most International Society concerning inland waters (Limnology).

Enjoy 2010!

--Morten Søndergaard, SIL General-Secretary and Treasurer

#### VISIT THE SIL WEBSITE www.limnology.org

Information is available there on awards, committees, jobs, membership, national representatives, publications, statutes and, working groups as well as links to other sites. Visit often, as information is updated regularly by our SIL webmaster, Gordon Goldsborough, University of Manitoba, Canada.

#### From Our SIL President:

The English, as everyone knows, talk about the weather to avoid probing more deeply. So I will do the former and still probe. It's a very warm and very wet and somewhat grey October so far. The roses are still flowering, the grass is still growing, and following a very dry September, the leaves are already coming off the trees. It's a time to think how to reduce the gas and electricity bills for the winter and to plan for next spring's and summer's activities. And that means decisions about how to minimize one's carbon footprint, and which of next year's conferences to attend, and how to offset the aeroplane carbon somewhat against savings in the heating bill and in wasting less food. It's mostly the poorer parts of the world that are suffering and will continue to suffer from the developed worlds' excesses reflected in global warming.

SIL thrives on its Congress. We will have to fly. But the Congress host country profits from what we spend whilst there, so in the case of South Africa, actually going there has both scientific and social benefits. I hope lots of you will decide to go to Cape town for the Congress next August and if your funds, like mine, are dwindling it will be nice to think of the money going to the less developed world rather than into the cosy, still replete, despite the bankers, coffers of North

America or Europe. Moreover, the young and enthusiastic students of Africa are avid to meet and talk to people whose names they have yet only read on papers. SIL's unique contribution is in its truly intercontinental fostering of links and help among all countries.

South Africa is a truly beautiful country and if you can do some side traveling before or after, the National Parks are extremely well run and looking at the rivers in the company of elephant and hippo is a lot more exciting than with the water rat and occasional otter. But more than anything, it is important to support a country that has achieved a near miracle in its peaceful political transition and in its creation of new water laws that are astounding in their comprehension of the real needs of freshwater systems compared with the already (over-) developed countries from which many of us come. SIL ploughs every penny and cent back into the limnological community of the world. It is run on a shoe- string, almost entirely by volunteers and its strength is in the personal contacts made at the Congresses. Cape town is a wonderful opportunity. I hope everyone will go out of his or her way to take it.

--Brian Moss, SIL President

# SIL DUES

Did you know that there are now various ways to pay your SIL dues? You can pay by:

- 1) A check for payment from a USA recognized bank
- 2) A charge card, Mastercard or Visa (some people have used those one time use Mastercard or Visa)
- 3) Direct payment from the SIL website (www.limnology.org)
- 4) Wire transfer through a Western Union (to Denise Johnson in Graham, NC, USA)

Did you know that you can pay SIL dues from your grants, trusts, gifts, or even your individual discretionary funds? Did you know that being a part of a professional organization/society like SIL looks good on your CV?

# **VOTE FOR OFFICERS/BALLOT**

The ballot for the SIL Officers is now being done electronically by e-mail. However, if you want to do the ballot by hard copy please contact the Business Service Coordinator Denise Johnson (denisej@email.unc.edu). Ballots will be accepted until April 2, 2010.

# **31<sup>ST</sup> SIL CONGRESS:**

# **<u>31<sup>ST</sup> SIL CONGRESS:</u>** Cape Town, South Africa

On behalf of the local Organizing Committee of SIL 2010, I am pleased to invite you to the 31st Congress of the International Society of Limnology. From 15 to 20 August 2010, Cape Town will be the meeting point of limnologists from around the globe. Never before has SIL met on the African continent, although Africa is commonly known as the cradle of humankind. This will be an opportunity to showcase cutting-edge aquatic science, discover Africa and in particular South Africa, while enjoying Africa's cultural, gastronomic and natural heritage. As remarked by Morton Søndergaard, SIL's General Secretary-Treasurer, South Africa is an "exotic" location and SIL members and other interested persons should do everything possible to attend this congress. Till we meet in Cape Town, --Johan Grobbelaar, Chair LOC

### **FUTURE CONGRESSES:**

<u> $32^{ST}$  SIL CONGRESS:</u> Debrecen, Hungary will be the venue for the  $32^{nd}$  congress in 2013.

**<u>33<sup>rd</sup> SIL CONGRESS:</u>** The 33<sup>rd</sup> congress will be held in Turin, Italy, in 2016.

#### **FUTURE CONGRESS PROPOSALS:**

Do you want to host a SIL Congress in your country? SIL members who have recommendations or want to make inquiries leading potentially to a proposal for sponsorship of a congress are urged to contact the SIL General Secretary – Treasurer. The 34<sup>th</sup> congress is open for bids.

# PUBLICATIONS

#### PROCEEDINGS VOLUME 30 (Montréal, Canada) Information:

SIL Volume 30 is almost finished!

Members who send their dues payments to a national representative do not receive their publications until acknowledgement of the dues payment has been sent to the SIL office by the national representative.

The CD for Volume 30 is released after all papers belonging to Volume 30 have been prepared for publication.

If you have questions about the delivery of copies of Volume 30, contact the SIL Business Services Coordinator.

SIL members owe much gratitude to Professor Jack Jones of the University of Missouri for his extensive editorial work.

## CORRECT ADDRESSES

Please verify your name and address given on the address label of this circular. SIL cannot be responsible for loss of publications because of unreported changes of address. Also please make sure that we have your correct email address.

# SPONSOR A MEMBER

Some members have generously contributed sufficient funds to sponsor a researcher or student of limnology from countries from which it is difficult to pay our modest membership fee. Please contact the General Secretary-Treasurer for details if you are interested in contributing.

Alternatively, we urge you to contribute to our Endowment, General, Tonolli, or Wetzel Funds.

# SIL NEEDS YOU TO BE A MENTOR

Mentors are willing to offer advice to students and junior scientists seeking to publish their research findings, in some of the following ways:

- Screening of data for its suitability for publication
- Advice on a target journal
- Help in preparing a paper together in a constructive and professional atmosphere
- Provide follow-up after the review process
- Advice on career planning

If you are willing to join this cause, please send your research interests to Denise Johnson at: denisej@email.unc.edu

#### International Society of Limnology Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL)

All members send their subscriptions (dues) to the Business Services Coordinator or their National Representatives at the rates indicated:

The following countries or regions pay dues of \$55.00 (Regular Members) and \$110.00 (Institutional Members) in U.S. Dollars, by check drawn on an international bank in the USA that is recognized by the Federal Reserve System, by major credit card (Visa or MasterCard), or online at the SIL Website by PayPal:

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- □ INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER (libraries, organizations) from Developing Countries 110 USD, and from Developed Countries 180 USD.
- □ **AFFILIATE MEMBER** National or regional societies with an observer status in SIL and who pay 15% of the annual institutional fee. Affiliate members receive all privileges of membership but not scientific publications.
- LIFE MEMBER Individuals who make major financial contributions to SIL. The minimum contribution for this category of membership consists of 40 times the prevailing dues.

### PUBLICATIONS

The *Proceedings* (*Verhandlungen*) consists of volumes of scientific papers delivered at the triennial congresses of SIL. Irregular *Communications* consists of critical analyses of methods and other topical subjects and are published as finances of SIL permit. *Proceedings* and *Communications* are issued to all members who are in good standing for the year prior publication. Back issues of SIL publications are available for purchase; contact the General Secretary for details. Beginning with *Proceedings* 27, publications are available in printed form or on CD-ROM; please indicate your choice below:

Printed	CD-ROM	□ Both printed & CD-ROM (Additional \$25/USD <u>each year</u> , or \$30/USD <u>each year</u> if paying by VISA
		or MasterCard)

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Membership dues for calendar year (s):	\$	Mail application with your remittance to: Prof. Dr. Morten Søndergaard, Gen. SecTrea., c/o Ms. Denise Johnson, SIL Business Services Coordinator, University of NC at Chapel Hill, CB 7431, GSGPH, 135 Dauer Dr., ESE, 148 Rosenau Hall, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7431, Email: msondergaard@bi.ku.dk, or denisej@email.unc.edu, or to your National Representative (see Annual Circular or SIL Website).
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