



ANNUAL CIRCULAR 2011

International Society of Limnology

Commentary from the SIL General Secretary-Treasurer and the President

1 January 2011

Dear members of SIL,

The year 2010 is now over and it has been an important one for SIL. We held our first and very happy and highly successful congress in Africa, and in a part of the continent where one of our most famous late members, Evelyn Hutchinson, had published one of his first papers and the first paper in limnology from South Africa. It was co-authored by Grace Pickford and Johanna Schuurman and was a survey of South African waters, numerically dominated by thousands of small, ephemeral ponds, pans or vleis, though the bulk of the surface water in Southern Africa is in rivers and now particularly in artificial reservoirs. Pans, though, offered a suitable metaphor for what a scientific society like SIL should embody, when it came to the presidential address on the first morning of the Congress.

Pans provide immense inspiration, not least in the wonderful survivability of their invertebrates and the persistence of one genus, even species, *Triops cancriformis*, for 250 million years. SIL too is an inspiring society. It has a unique niche in embracing and encouraging limnology worldwide. Pans are also parts of landscapes and bigger ecosystems, on which they depend for their water supply, but on which those systems and their denizens also depend for their water storage. Likewise, in occupying its niche, it is important to SIL that there be a great deal of contact and interaction among its members. Congresses help this, as do the awards made through the Tonolli Fund to young scientists in developing countries.

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The water in pans is often scarce but they support a huge range of savannah animals with a minimum of competition, even if elephants, rhinoceroses and buffalo might seem at first so domineering that less weighty animals might be excluded. Likewise, in its publications, SIL has always attempted to encourage authors from less privileged places and to make sure that the immediately less fashionable, but still necessary, is not eliminated by the hot trends of the moment. This is a policy that we will try to continue now that we have made the transition from publishing the *Verhandlungen*, the conference proceedings, to our new journal, *Inland Waters, Journal of the International Society for Limnology*. The first volume will be published in 2011 in partnership with the Freshwater Biological Association. It will be free in electronic form to all members in good standing with their subscriptions in a particular year, but if you would like a printed copy also, that can be arranged at an additional small cost of \$US80. for individuals and \$US150. for institutions. Please send in your papers. The process is electronic and easy and we have an editorial board, under our Chief Editor, Jack Jones and Associate Editor, David Hamilton, which has been chosen to have great wisdom and wide experience.

Lastly the communities of pans are survivors. They have their blossomings and their lean times, but they persist. Scientific societies also have their ups and downs and many are currently facing the problem that although there are more scientists than ever before, some sciences are expanding whilst others are less favored by government support. Alas these include those concerned with our environment, when the state of the environment should far and away be the first item on any politician's agenda. SIL currently, has a decreasing membership because retirement of older scientists is not balanced by recruitment at the younger end. SIL is very special. It is not just another society. It is a truly international society. We do not want scientific discourse to become a parochial, purely national, even single continental, activity, so SIL must survive. Everyone can help. Those able to do so might take it upon themselves to recruit one new member in their organization, be it a post grad, a post doc or a new young colleague. You could even start them off with a birthday or graduation present. Membership is not expensive and though we had to agree at the last General Assembly of the Cape Town Congress to increase the dues by 10% for the next triennium, it is still extremely good value for its reduced Congress fees, its very full newsletters, wonderfully edited by Ramesh Gulati, and of course the journal, Inland Waters. And if you are retired and not in a position to recruit new colleagues, why not simply make a donation. Those of us in such a position will no doubt by now have realized that buying more stuff that we don't need doesn't greatly increase the fabric of human happiness. Why not send the cash to SIL (and see it used to help limnology internationally) than boost the profits of international corporations.

We have said that the Cape Town Congress was a particularly happy one, despite the cool and damp weather that was perhaps unexpected for Africa, but in fact characteristic of Cape Town in August. It was happy because it was sizeable but not huge, and compact in the layout of lecture theatres, poster display, and lunch and coffee areas. Indeed the last four were all together. It was also a remarkable congress in that the organization was in the hands of only a tiny group, five in all and led by Johann Grobelaar (with the help also of his and other organizers' families). Many congresses have very large organizing and scientific committees and professional congress organizers, so the achievement in Cape Town was stupendous. It illustrates what a small but dedicated group can do. SIL itself is a small society, but it can do great things, provided it can survive. Please try to recruit one new member each, or if you can't do that, send a donation. Lots of small things add up to a huge difference.

--Morten Søndergaard, General Secretary-Treasurer President

Brian Moss,

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.

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 (you can also use those "one-time use" Mastercard or Visa cards)
- 3) Direct payment on the SIL website (www.limnology.org)
- 4) Wire transfer through a Western Union (to Denise Johnson in Graham, NC, USA)

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. Please make sure your national representative lets the SIL office know that you have paid your dues.

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?

NEW MEETINGS

SIL resolved at the 31st Congress to make links with other societies with a view to organizing or participating in joint meetings. The Executive Committee is now actively seeking out such opportunities.

FUTURE CONGRESSES:

32ST SIL CONGRESS:

Budapest, Hungary will be the venue for the 32nd congress in 2013.

<u>33rd SIL CONGRESS:</u> The 33rd Congress will be held in Turino, 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 34th Congress is open for bids.

PUBLICATIONS

INLAND WATERS:

The International Society of Limnology has a new journal, Inland Waters, which is an international, peerreviewed journal for original papers that advance our understanding of inland aquatic ecosystems and their management. The web site for submissions is: https://www.fba.org.uk/journals/index.php/IW/index

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. This is becoming very important as we increase our use of electronic communication. People tend to change their e mail address much more often than their mailing 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 SIL, Student Conference, Tonolli, or Wetzel Funds.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP 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

This is a way of helping young people, especially in the developing world, who will really appreciate your advice and wisdom. If you are willing to join this cause, please send your research interests to Denise Johnson at: denisej@email.unc.edu

RECOMMEND TO YOUR LIBRARY

Please recommend *Inland Waters* to your librarian if your institution does not already have a subscription. Institutional subscriptions are still very inexpensive and will remain so even though we will steadily increase them over the next few years to a rate more comparable with other journals rates.

PUBLISH IN INLAND WATERS

Launching a new journal is an exciting business. Publishing in the first volumes makes you a part of limnological history! Please send Inland Waters your excellent papers. We will favor short ones and on line first publication means rapid appearance. SIL needs your work as well as your subscription!

International Society of Limnology(SIL)

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

The following countries or regions pay dues of \$60.00 (Regular Members) and \$122.00 (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:

Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malawi, Malaysia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sultanate of Oman, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe.

Members from Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, India, Luxembourg, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela pay at the rate indicated for USA Members in the chart below.

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5310 Mondsee, Email: maria.leichtfried@oeaw.ac.at	61.	179.	EUR
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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF LIMNOLOGY (SIL)

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- □ INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER (libraries, organizations) from Developed Countries 250.00/USD, and from Developing Countries 122.00/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.

INLAND WATERS

The Journal of the International Society of Limnology is a new, international, peer-reviewed journal for original papers that advance our understanding of inland aquatic ecosystems and their management.

The new journal replaces the SIL Proceedings (Verhandlungen), but will remain as faithful as possible to the niche that SIL occupies, with encouragement of a worldwide set of authors and short (except for papers arising from named and plenary talks at Congresses), rapidly published papers. The scope of the journal includes all aspects of physical, chemical, and biological limnology, as well as applied and regional limnology. Publication in the journal is not restricted to SIL members.

Inland Waters is an "online first" journal, publishing papers online as they are accepted, and then in 4 print issues per year. Manuscript submission is now open (see website for guidelines).

Subscription year starts January 2011.

Publication of first papers will be January 2011 (online), and spring 2011 (print).

Online version (comes with SIL	□ If you only want printed version, you must pay an	□ If you want both online and printed version, you must
Membership). Access details will be sent	additional \$80.00/USD a year all Regular Members, or	pay an additional \$80.00/USD a year all Regular
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