



Lighthouse. Courtesy Boston Harbor Cruises

ACCOMPLISHING IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ETHICAL PRINCIPLES AND HIGH STANDARDS OF QUALITY IS A NOBLE ASPIRATION, WHICH THE IAIA CODE OF ETHICS ALREADY REFLECTS. ASPIRATION, HOWEVER, IS NOT ENOUGH.

IAIA'05 affords us an opportunity to examine and debate issues of ethical conduct and standards of quality in impact assessment and, as a practical matter, consider what the hallmarks of good assessment and ethical practice might be. The occasion of IAIA's 25th anniversary is an especially appropriate time for us to reflect and embark upon discussions of where we have been and, especially, the future direction of our profession over the next 25 years.

IAIA'05 will be exciting and noteworthy, with three eminent keynote speakers, fourteen theme forums that address challenging and cross-cutting topics, and many useful and enriching concurrent sessions, workshops and roundtables. As with our past conferences, there will be informative technical visits, opportunities to take first-rate training courses, and enjoyable social events, including the fun run. Also notable are three pre-conference meetings, related to state-level environmental impact assessment, indigenous peoples, and a World Bank Group day. Capping this year's conference is our celebration of IAIA's 25th anniversary. Join us in Boston 31 May-3 June and the weekend before and/or after. Come prepared to learn, debate and have a good time.

Here are some of the questions the annual conference will address. We invite you to bring your own questions, points of view, and conference presentations.

- Competing demands, deadlines/tight schedules and lack of resources can affect quality and ethical standards. What can and should practitioners do?
- Who is the client and to whom do we owe allegiance? Do we answer to standards set by the profession as well as those set by regulations and policies? Are principles of environmental and social sustainability and the needs of stakeholders even more important? Are transparent decision-making and transparent communication necessary or just nice to have?
- Should there be a global standard for quality in impact assessment?
- Is quality determined by the quality of a document, the process of doing assessment or the outcomes?
- How should our profession address the issues of global deterioration of ecosystems? What should be our role as a professional association, or as individual members?

We urge you to read the preliminary program and provide us with your feedback. Most importantly, we ask you to join us in Boston for a memorable IAIA'05 Annual Conference.

• **Charlotte Bingham** and **Wes Fisher**
Program Committee Co-Chairs

Ways to Participate

- Simply attend and enjoy the conference!
- Register for a training course (pages 19-23) or special event (pages 28-29)
- Submit an abstract
- Don't miss the AGM and the keynote speakers
- Submit a topic for the Practitioner's Forum
- Be a sponsor or exhibitor (page 30)
- Visit the exhibits
- Take a technical visit (page 26-27)
- Network during breaks
- Celebrate our history

Committees & Sections

Much of the cutting-edge work of IAIA is the direct result of Committee and Section activity. See the IAIA web site for information about the many committees and topical interest Sections. The only chance for Committees and Sections to meet throughout the year is at the annual conference. Check the program schedule for meeting times and plan to attend the Section meeting of your choice. Everyone is welcome to attend a Section meeting. If you are interested in serving on an IAIA Committee, please indicate your interest on the member information directory form mailed to you when you pay your membership dues, or contact info@iaia.org.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This is the annual business meeting of the Association. All meeting participants are encouraged to attend. You will meet the IAIA Board of Directors and hear reports from IAIA Committee chairs, special project coordinators, and the Treasurer. The focus is always on the previous year, but expect this year's meeting to acknowledge progress over the organization's 25-year history. This year, too, the prestigious IAIA Rose-Hulman Award will be presented at the AGM.

Council Meeting

The IAIA Council serves as an advisory resource to the IAIA Board of Directors, meeting directly after the closing plenary. The Council is composed of the Board, all Committee chairs, representatives of affiliates and branches, the CEO and Headquarters representatives, and the Conference Program Chair(s) for the current-year conference and any future known conferences. However, Council meetings are open meetings; all IAIA members are encouraged to attend.

Program Overview

Be sure to check the final program for confirmed dates, times, and events.

SATURDAY 28 May		SUNDAY 29 May		MONDAY 30 May		TUESDAY 31 May	
7:30am						Registration Opens	
8:00am							
8:30am						Opening Plenary	
9:00am							
9:30am							
10:00am							
10:30am						Break	
11:00am						Theme Forums	
11:30am							
12:00pm						Lunch	
12:30pm							
1:00pm						Concurrent Sessions	
1:30pm							
2:00pm							
2:30pm						Break	
3:00pm						Concurrent Sessions	
3:30pm							
4:00pm							
4:30pm							
5:00pm						Practitioners' Forum and Committee Meetings	
5:30pm							
6:00pm							
6:30pm							
7:00pm							

Registration for Training Courses #1-8 and Indigenous Peoples' Forum

Training Courses #1-8
Indigenous Peoples' Forum

Registration

Training Courses #2-9
State-Level EIA
World Bank Group Day

Exhibits and Poster Setup

Registration for Training Courses #1-8 and Indigenous Peoples' Forum

Registration for State-Level EIA, World Bank Group Day and Training Course #9

Opening Reception and Poster Session

Ways to Participate

Abstract Submission for Papers, Posters, Workshops, Sessions, Roundtables, or Panels

Abstract submission deadline: 31 January 2005

Presenting author registration deadline: 10 March 2005

Language: English

How to Send: Follow the instructions at www.iaia.org (Conference > IAIA'05). If online submission is not possible, contact Jennifer Howell at IAIA Headquarters (jen@iaia.org) for instructions.

Acceptance and Registration: Presenting authors will be notified on or before 15 February 2005 regarding the status of their submissions. **To guarantee inclusion of the presentation on the final program, the presenting author's registration form and full fees must be received at IAIA Headquarters by 10 March.** At that time, accepted submissions will be dropped from the program if the presenting author's registration and fees have not been received.

Remember: early registration will save you money! Note that the late and on-site registration rate takes effect 1 March. IAIA does not have funds available to pay registration or travel expenses for program participants. Delegates who register and pay fees in full before 1 March will receive a free t-shirt at the conference!

Publications: An abstracts volume will be distributed in Boston to program participants. The IAIA'05 Program Committee tentatively plans to publish full conference proceedings on CD-ROM. The Program Committee and/or your session chair will contact you regarding submission of your full paper as soon as details are available. Participants are encouraged to submit their papers for possible publication in IAIA's journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*.

Poster Presenters: Each poster presenter is assigned one space 4'/1.2m high x 3.5'/1m wide on a flat, upright panel covered in fabric. Presenters are expected to provide tacks or Velcro to put their posters in place. If you need more than one poster space, contact IAIA HQ by 31 March for price information. Poster preparation information is available on the IAIA web site (www.iaia.org > Conference > IAIA'05 > Poster Presentations). Posters will be on display from Monday, 30 May until Friday, 3 June.

Definition of Terms

Paper: The oral summary of a paper within a session. Typically paper presenters have 10-15 minutes presentation time plus 5-10 minutes for Q&A.

Poster: Visual presentation of a paper or project by means of graphics, photos, data, and a small amount of text on a display area. Posters are self-explanatory, but poster authors are available to answer questions during the session dedicated to poster viewing.

Workshop: The topic is specific and active discussion seeks to resolve a defined problem. May be a combination of paper presentations and discussion.

Panel: Invited speakers present different views or experiences on a topic, typically followed by an informal discussion between the speakers and questions from the audience.

Roundtable: A group of individuals, usually invited, hold an informal discussion on a specific topic or problem.

Session: A block of time during which paper presentations are made on a single topic. "Session" can also refer to a block of time in which a workshop, panel, roundtable, or dedicated viewing and discussion of posters takes place.

Theme forum: Smaller than plenaries and larger than concurrent sessions, theme forums bring together on a particular topic the various aspects of impact assessment and examine how those aspects apply to different sectors and issues.

Practitioners' Forum: For issues that arise during the conference and that practitioners want to pursue through informal follow-up discussions. During the day, participants post potential topics for discussion, and individuals interested in each posted topic sign up for the related discussion. If a topic generates sufficient interest by the end of the afternoon, space is then made available for the discussion to take place.

WEDNESDAY 1 June	THURSDAY 2 June	FRIDAY 3 June	SATURDAY 4 June
			7:30am
Registration Opens	Registration Opens	Registration Opens	8:00am
Theme Forums	Theme Forums	Awards and Closing Plenary	8:30am
			9:00am
Break	Break	Break	9:30am
Theme Forums	Theme Forums	Closing Plenary	9:30am-3:30pm Technical Visit D
			10:00am
Lunch	Lunch	12:00pm-5:00pm Exhibit and Poster Takedown	10:30am
			11:00am
AGM	Concurrent Sessions	1:00pm-3:30pm Technical Visit A	11:30am
Concurrent Sessions	Break	1:30pm-6:30pm Technical Visit B	12:00pm
Break	Concurrent Sessions	4:30pm-9:30pm Technical Visit C	12:30pm
Concurrent Sessions	Practitioners' Forums		1:00pm
Practitioners' Forums and Section Meetings			1:30pm
			2:00pm
			2:30pm
			3:00pm
			3:30pm
			4:00pm
			4:30pm
			5:00pm
			5:30pm
			6:00pm
			6:30pm
	Banquet/Party		7:00pm