A new Centre has recently been established at the Chinese University of Hong Kong to promote SEA and build capacity in impact assessment in China. The establishment of the Centre is timely and significant. China is facing a number of critical environmental and resources issues while grappling with double-digit economic growth and significant regional disparity. The need to mainstream sustainability consideration in national development strategy was underscored by senior government officials in the SEA Conference organized by the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) in Beijing in November 2007 with strong presence at that meeting by IAIA. Being the recipient of the IAIA Regional Award in 2000, the Chinese University of Hong Kong is strategically positioned to embark on this important mission given its knowledge of, and connections in, China and experience of working with SEPA, international agencies, IAIA and other SEA institutions. Prof. Kin-che Lam (kinchelam@cuhk.edu.hk), Director of the new Centre, is keen to partner with institutions from around the world and in China to bring this important and worthwhile initiative forward. • KC Lam • Chinese University of Hong Kong • kinchelam@cuhk.edu.hk

Don't miss the networking highlight of the year!

IAIA08
PERTH AUSTRALIA
• 4-10 May 2008 •

In this issue
1........ Professional News
2-3....IAIA Matters
3.........Career Central Feature

4-5...... IAIA-WNC and IAIA-Italia Features
6-7..... Resources
7......... Call for Journal Editors
From the President

At the risk of opening up Pandora’s box, I wish to generate some debate on a question that has come up at several meetings, directly in the summary plenaries and in many IAIA conference sessions, for as long as I have been a member of IAIA. I sense that most of us recognize and appreciate the need for addressing social and poverty concerns, health issues, cultural resources, biodiversity or climate change in our impact assessment work. For example, poverty and social issues was the most commonly cited topic of interest (after climate change) in the President Elect’s survey of the membership last year at about this time.

Some of us operate under laws, regulations or procedures that define “environment” broadly; a comprehensive consideration of issues is required as part of the “environmental” impact assessment (EIA) process and document. Addressing these concerns within the EIA process has advantages. Most processes are based on law or regulations, are structured, incorporate public, agency and other stakeholder consultations, have formal reviews, result in the public disclosure of documents and lead to an approval or permit. All issues are then part of this same process and the “environmental” management plan is subject to regulatory agency follow-up and monitoring. The downside is that some issues, such as health or poverty or cultural resources, may not be properly vetted and discussed by those agencies with responsibilities and expertise in the subject matter. Or the EIA may not have been prepared with sufficient expertise for some of the issues. Perhaps some issues may be better dealt with at a macro level and not in EIA, SEA or even sustainability assessment. Does this then argue for separate social or health impact assessments or separate biodiversity assessments? Are there criteria for determining when to lump and when to split, i.e., when to have separate assessments, such as HIA or SIA, even if this might exclude them from a regulatory process?

Please contact me (binghamc@mcc.gov) and tell me how the process works in the country (or state/province) where you live and/or work. Are several types of impact assessments prepared? What works and what does not? I would like to propose a roundtable at IAIA09: Impact Assessment and Human Well-Being to discuss the topic of lumping or splitting—advantages and disadvantages. If there is interest, I will post updates in the coming year’s newsletter on this topic.

I have enjoyed being the IAIA President for 2007-2008 and thank all of you for the feedback you have provided. I especially wish to thank the members of the Board for 2007-2008 for their support and hard work and the dedicated staff of IAIA headquarters. I look forward to serving as your Past President in 2008-2009. • Charlotte Bingham, IAIA President • Millennium Challenge Corporation • binghamc@mcc.gov

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**SIA Training Offered**

Several SIA courses are scheduled for 2008:

- **28-29 April**: Griffith University-Nathan Campus, Brisbane, Australia
- **4-5 May**: Perth Convention Exhibition Centre, Perth, Western Australia (in conjunction with IAIA08)
- **9-10 June**: University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, USA
- **23-24 October**: Washington, DC, USA (venue TBD)

Visit [http://www.socialimpactassessment.net/2008siacourses.htm](http://www.socialimpactassessment.net/2008siacourses.htm) for more information. • Submitted by Rabel Burdge (burdge@cc.wwu.edu)

**International Conferences**

- **6-9 November 2008**: Assessing and Managing Cumulative Effects, International Association for Impact Assessment, Calgary, Canada. [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org)

**Calendar**

- **7 April**: World Health Day
- **22 April**: Earth Day
- **15 May**: International Day of Families
- **21 May**: World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
- **22 May**: International Day for Biological Diversity
- **17 June**: World Day to Combat Desertification & Drought
- **20 June**: World Refugee Day
EMS Section Changes Name to “Corporate Stewardship and Risk Management”

At the Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Section meeting during IAIA07, we discussed the need to redefine the EMS Section in order to be more relevant to current interests within the Impact Assessment field and to increase our value to IAIA members. In October 2007, the IAIA Board of Directors accepted our proposal to broaden our mandate and to rename our Section to “Corporate Stewardship and Risk Management.” Our focus will still include environmental management systems, but will now also capture relevant CSR topics. Our Section looks forward to hearing about your experiences applying the International Finance Corporation’s (IFC) Performance Standards (especially Performance Standard 1), and other management tools and issues related to corporate stewardship and risk management. The Web and the EMS listserv will reflect our new Section name shortly. • Debra Zanewich • Export Development Canada / IAIA Director / Section Coordinator • dzanewich@edc.ca

Introducing IAIA Career Central!

Your career success begins right here!

Many job seekers and employers are discovering the advantages of searching online for industry jobs and for qualified candidates to fill them. But when it comes to making career connections in the demanding field of impact assessment, the one-size-fits-all approach of the mega job boards may not be the best way to find exactly what you’re looking for. The all-new IAIA Career Central gives employers and job-seeking professionals a better way to find one another and make that perfect career fit.

Visit http://jobboard.iaia.org today to post or search job listings.

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Employer Benefits:
- Targeted Advertising Exposure – reach a focused audience of professionals
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- Resume Search Included with Job Posting
- Automatic Email Notification whenever job seekers match YOUR criteria
- Build Company Awareness – list company information and link to your web site
- Competitive Pricing – package and member discounts available

Job Seeker Benefits:
- Services are FREE!
- Job Search and Application
- Resume Posting with Confidentiality Option
- Save Jobs – apply when ready
- Automatic Email Notification whenever posted jobs match YOUR specific criteria.

IAIA Annual General Meeting

Thursday, 8 May 2008
12:00-1:00pm
Perth Convention Exhibition Centre
Perth, Western Australia

Agenda
1. Welcome, introductions, and confirmation of 2007 AGM minutes.
2. • Code of Conduct
   • Bylaws
3. Outstanding Service to IAIA Award: Julieta Pisanty-Levy
4. IAIA 2007/8: What have we done and where are we going?
5. Any debate? Items submitted in writing by members.
6. Have your say: Informal discussion of matters that members wish to raise.
7. Closing remarks.

IAIA Council Meeting

Wednesday, 7 May 2008
12:00-1:00pm
Perth Convention Exhibition Centre
Perth, Western Australia

The IAIA Council serves as an advisory resource to the IAIA Board of Directors. The Council is composed of the Board, all Committee chairs, Section chairs, representatives of Affiliates and Branches, and the conference program chair(s) for the current-year conference and any future known conferences. Council meetings are open; all IAIA members are welcome to attend.
IAIA-WNC Holds Conference on Cultural Impact Assessment

Assessing impacts on culture was the theme of a recent conference held by IAIA’s Western and Northern Canada Affiliate (IAIA-WNC). Titled “Cultural Impact Assessment: Beyond the Biophysical,” this sold-out conference was held in Yellowknife, in Canada’s Northwest Territories, from 28-29 February 2008. The conference brought together 100 EIA professionals and academics from government, Aboriginal communities, industry, NGOs and academia from across the country. Subjects included:

- Identifying and mitigating cultural impacts
- Using indigenous knowledge in impact assessment
- Understanding cultural landscapes
- Assessing impacts on intangible cultural resources
- Overcoming common hurdles in cultural impact assessment

In the evening, participants enjoyed an exciting demonstration of traditional Aboriginal hand games and participated in a drum dance.

Conference proceedings are posted online at www.iaia-wnc.ca as a “virtual conference” which will include presentations and audio files of most presentations. • Alan Ehrlich • aehrlich@mveirb.nt.ca

IAIA-WNC Presents Lifetime Achievement Award in EIA to Gwich’in Elder Charlie Snowshoe

The Western and Northern Canada Affiliate of IAIA awarded its first annual Lifetime Achievement Award to Gwich’in Elder Charlie Snowshoe. The Affiliate’s executive committee and regional directors from Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories (NWT) unanimously selected him for the award.

Charlie Snowshoe lives in the tiny arctic community of Ft. McPherson, NWT. He is an active traditional harvester with a deep love of the land. Snowshoe has been instrumental since the 1970s in carving out a strong role for Aboriginal people in environmental decision making.

Charlie Snowshoe was one of the original fighters for the Gwich’in Land Claim, and the Gwich’in Land Use Plan. He served on the Hunters and Trappers Panel for the historic Berger Inquiry in the 1970s. He has been a dedicated board member of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) since its creation in 1998, where he has been influential in several precedent-setting decisions.

The award was presented by affiliate president Alan Ehrlich, at the MVEIRB EIA Practitioner’s Workshop on 26 February 2008. Media were present in abundance, including two TV stations, national radio, a monthly magazine and newspapers.

In presenting the award, Ehrlich said that Snowshoe was receiving the award “…for seeing beyond the legal detail, to shine the spotlight of decision-making squarely on the big picture: What is best for the land and the people? What is the right thing to do for the long haul?...For all the wisdom you bring to making decisions about Environmental Impact Assessment.”

Snowshoe’s humorous and heartfelt acceptance speech was followed by a two-minute standing ovation.

A recording of the speech and a sample of TV coverage can be downloaded on the Affiliate web site at www.iaia-wnc.ca. • Alan Ehrlich • aehrlich@mveirb.nt.ca
Environment and Strategic Environmental Assessment
Report from the 1st National Congress of IAIA-Italia

The First National Congress on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was organized by IAIA-Italia at the University of Venice from 21-23 February 2008.

More than 150 members from all over the country attended the congress. Among the attendees were local and regional managers, environmental control agency personnel, and students and professionals dealing with environmental issues and SEA.

Prof. Michael Schlesinger, a worldwide climate change expert, addressed the delegates on the first day of the congress and presented his latest book, Human-Induced Climate Change: An Interdisciplinary Assessment. In the following two days, Prof. Leonard Ortolano of Stanford University explained procedures and concepts of environmental assessment from 1970 to 2008. Ortolano’s presentation was much appreciated!

Other topics of the congress:
- National Legislation of SEA
- Models, methodologies and information systems used for SEA
- The relationship between environmental assessment and management, control and monitoring
- The relationship between SEA and biological landscape ecology
- Indexes and indicators for SEA
- Satellite remote sensing and satellite imagery as SEA knowledge baseline source
- Space decision support systems

Giuseppe Magro, national IAIA-Italia President, introduced the IAIA-Italia program for SEA and in particular the opportunities of GIS applications for impact assessment in Italian administrations.

Prof. Virginio Bettini, President of the IAIA-Italia Scientific Committee, introduced an innovative SEA frame for the Via Francigena historical route.

The congress closed with Prof. Falqui from the University of Florence, who summarized the key concepts of the three-day congress. In his remarks, Prof. Falqui also complimented IAIA-Italia for having organized such an event, the first one in Italy, and expressed his hope that the Association continues its activities, including hosting an IAIA global conference in Italy. • For information, contact info@iaiaitalia.it.

Mark Your Calendar

4-10 May 2008

28-29 October 2008

6-9 November 2008
Assessing and Managing Cumulative Environmental Effects. IAIA special meeting. Calgary, Canada.
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See you at IAIA08 in Perth!

Has an IAIA member you know recently made news, celebrated a promotion, retired, or completed a major project? Please send the information to the newsletter and share it with the IAIA community!
IAPA: FreeOnline

Did you know? Full online texts of papers in Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal since March 1999 are free to IAIA members through IngentaConnect. Tables of contents, abstracts and index, and a contents alerting service are also available.

As of January 2008, all items in IAPA are open-access 24 months after publication.

Bookmark IngentaConnect at www.ingentaconnect.com/content/beech/iapa today!

IAPA Seeks Inclusion in SSCI

Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal is IAPA’s journal. It is one of the few journals in the world fully dedicated to impact assessment. It is within IAIA aims to continue improving this journal and keep it at the level of the best international journals. An important step is to have IAPA indexed in the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI); this will improve the international recognition of IAPA as being among the best.

To achieve this status, IAPA needs to be cited in other journals that are already in the SSCI. And it needs to receive good and even excellent articles. You can help us in this effort. If you are submitting a paper to another journal, please make sure that the journal is already in the SSCI and please cite IAPA papers. And if you are submitting a paper to IAPA, remember that IAPA goes to over 120 countries, to libraries as well as to members, and is widely read by policy makers, consultants, etc., and by academics and students.

Notes for Authors are available in the journal and on the Web (www.iaia.org) and copies go to all members of IAIA and to many libraries. It is published four times a year.

Call for New IAPA Editors

The current editors of IAPA will retire in May 2009. IAIA will formally open a call for applications in May 2008. Applicants for the editorship are invited to express their interest over the next several weeks and to submit formal applications between 1 May and 1 August 2008. Interested persons are encouraged to contact us with any questions before submitting an application. Further information can be found on the IAIA Web site.

IAPA is currently edited by Professor Colin Kirkpatrick and Dr. Carys Jones, both at the University of Manchester, UK. The journal belongs to IAIA (International Association for Impact Assessment, www.iaia.org) and copies go to all members of IAIA and to many libraries. It is published four times a year.

A selection panel of the journal editorial board has been set up and criteria for application will be announced in the formal application; formal applications will be addressed to IAIA headquarters.

Interested individuals are urged to ask questions before submitting a formal application. The present editors, the publisher and members of the editorial board will also be available at the annual conference in Perth to answer questions.

For questions, please contact one of the persons below, with copy to the other two:

- **Maria Partidario**, Chair, IAPA editorial board
  mrp@civil.ist.utl.pt
- **Colin Kirkpatrick** and **Carys Jones**, editors
  editor.iapa@manchester.ac.uk
- **Bill Page**, publisher
  page@scipol.co.uk or phone +44 1483 824871

**Recommended Lists of Good Practice SEA/SA and HRA/AA Reports**

In December 2007, Levett-Therivel sustainability consultants compiled updated lists of recommended SEA/SA/environmental reports and appropriate assessment/Habitats Regulations Assessment reports that respondents considered good in various ways.

The SEA/SA reports list is organised roughly by the elements of good practice that the reports display: good baseline/scoping, the SA framework, assessment, consultation, links to decision-making and other forms of assessment, and monitoring.

No attempt was made to specify in advance what is meant by “good practice,” or to vet the recommendations.

Both lists can be found under “News and recent publications” at www.levett-therivel.fsworld.co.uk/.

- First seen in the February 2008 Ireland-UK Branch Newsletter
Welcome!


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