

May 2006

USSEE News



United States Society for Ecological Economics

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2006 ISEE Biennial Conference.



**December 15—18,
2006
India Habitat Center
New Delhi
For more info visit:
www.isee2006.com**

Editorial by Bernardo Aguilar-González

We seek to begin with this new issue, a new stage in the evolution of the USSEE newsletter. We hope to offer the newsletter not only as a means to publicize events, publications and other matters of interest for the ecological economic membership of the United States. It is our goal also to foster a sense of community and differentiation. For several years the existence of our regional society has been questioned by believing that the specific membership adds little to the general membership to the International Society for Ecological Economics. Further, a simplistic characterization of US ecological economists represents us as more interested in the issues of valuation of environmental services and scale than on anything related to the sustainability parameter of distribution, as presented by Herman Daly. We believe that this characterization is incomplete. For many ecological economists based in the United States, the need to include not just social and political but also cultural considerations in the analysis of sustainability has become obvious. This has made us recognize the need to expand the scope of our newsletter and open it to provide a dialogical substrate for those issues. In this sense, we hope that the USSEE newsletter becomes not only informative but also attracts a more diverse and multicultural community of U.S. based academics, advocates and practitioners to a dialogue about the development and application of our transdiscipline.

This orientation is reflected in the new structure that we propose in this issue. We will continue to have more traditional sections such as a society section, announcements about meetings, jobs, etc. Yet, we also have included a student's section that seeks to foster the dialogue between and participation of the graduate and undergraduate students in the United States that are either formally enrolled in an Ecological Economics related program of study or that are simply interested in the field. Further, we hope

to attract in our views and opinions section a vibrant array of scholarly and opinion pieces that may add depth to the discussion that occurs in the more academic realms of discussion of *Ecological Economics*. We are also including a section on ecological economic news where we also encourage you submit news that are of relevance to the audience of this media. We are also committing to include bilingual sections in our newsletter in order to invite the participation and submission of opinion pieces that may be relevant to a more general audience that is interested in ecological economic issues. With this we wish to honor the many non-English language cultural diasporas that exist in the United States for whom, unfortunately, our field does not seem as important as we would hope it would be. In this issue we have included bilingual pieces in Spanish, yet with the help of the membership will be glad to explore other languages.

Also on this spirit, we'd like to give our newsletter a new name. I personally think that "USSEE Newsletter" sounds like something I would not ever think about reading as a first priority. Therefore, we are opening it to you to send us suggestions as of how we can rename the newsletter. Be creative! We seek a name that better reflects the new spirit we want to infuse in this publication. You may send us your suggestions to baguilar@prescott.edu. We will make a decision by the time our next newsletter comes out.

Finally, we would like to encourage you to take advantage of the services of our new secretariat. Marsha Kopan (Association Management Resources) is our new secretariat guru. We have included her contact information in our news section.

Bernardo Aguilar-González
baguilar@prescott.edu

See page 3 for Editorial en Castellano

President's Corner – by Karin E. Limburg

As spring explodes in upstate New York, it's a time of renewal. Things have been happening with our regional chapter of Ecological Economics. I'd like to share these, and other thoughts, with you.

First, we have combined forces with ISEE in terms of secretariat: we are now working with Marsha Kopan of Association Management Resources. Marsha also manages the ISEE secretariat, having done yeoman's work at un-snarling the membership lists that had fallen into terrible disarray. Now we can tell who is a current member, who forgot to renew, who's fallen away that we might want to re-recruit, and so forth. I look forward to working with her, and suggest that all of you should feel free to contact her (see our "Contact" web page). We are grateful to Isabel de la Torre and David Batker for steering us last year, particularly through one of the most thought-provoking conferences that I've attended in a long time. Isabel promises to stay engaged, working with us as a liaison to NGOs.

Second, as President-Elect, I was invited to attend the semi-annual meeting of the Council of Scientific Society Presidents (CSSP) this past December. The CSSP is sort of a support group, giving help and advice to its members on how to achieve a successful organization. Additionally, its own president, Martin Apple, uses the group to bring the influence of scientific societies, whose presidents represent literally hundreds of thousands of members, to Capitol Hill. Each meeting provides resources that Marty feels will be helpful, but he also clearly tasks the group with agenda items to work on in breakout groups. At the December meeting, for example, we discussed whether the Department of Energy should form a DARPA-like structure to tackle the tough energy problems looming. We also were briefed by the heads of NSF, NIH, NAS, and the like on emerging issues. I missed the last day, which was a visit to Congress. All in all, it was impressive to sit with the heads of The American Chemical Society, the Association for Science Teachers, The Ecological Society of America, The Soil Science Society, etc. Many of these groups expressed interest in us, particularly the ecologically oriented ones. I sense that we can benefit by membership in CSSP, and that we have a means to influence policy. Hence, I have joined representing USSEE, and will attend the May conference on the society's behalf.

Third, your Board has begun a strategic planning exercise for USSEE. We began by having a workshop at the biennial meeting in Tacoma, sitting around a table at David and Isabel's house. Many ideas were put forth, and we've tried to organize them and flesh them out. I will work with the Board to try to refine these into a set of plans that we can put out to you, the members, for feedback. We had many ideas that would require (a) people to do activities and (b) money to support these, so clearly some prioritization and fundraising is needed. In this regard, I want to reach out to you for help. In order to be a vibrant society, we need an active membership – for example, with ad hoc committees and projects. Let me hear from you if you want to help!

Fourth, the student representative to the Board, Michael O'Hara, is planning a conference for eco-eco students. Although his plans are to draw from the Northeast region primarily, there is nothing to stop students from anywhere in the US from attending and presenting. Nor is there anything to stop students from organizing a similar conference in another part of the US. Feel free to contact Michael (mohara1@binghamton.edu) or me for more information.

Other things I plan to do, somewhere between the usual helter-skelter of academia, is to send out a membership survey, work on the strategic plan, nail down a venue for the next USSEE conference, and other projects. But I want to hear from you, particularly your ideas on how to strengthen the society. At this juncture, we are small – too small, I feel. Even as we acknowledge the wisdom of a steady-state economy, we must grow the USSEE within that framework. Send me your ideas on how to improve our visibility, recruitment strategies, and society-based projects.

Finally, I want to thank Bernardo Aguilar-Gonzalez for taking on the role of Newsletter Editor this year. Like everyone else these days, he is a busy person, so we are really grateful for his service to the society. Please send items for the newsletter to Bernardo (baquilar@prescott.edu). And I want to thank the other board members for their continued dedication to USSEE.

Editorial by Bernardo Aguilar-González

Esperamos con esta nueva edición, iniciar una nueva etapa en la evolución del boletín de la Sociedad Estadounidense de Economía Ecológica (USSEE). Esperamos ofrecer el boletín no solamente como un medio para publicitar eventos, publicaciones y otras materias de interés para la membresía económico ecológica de los Estados Unidos. Es nuestro objetivo también el estimular un sentimiento de comunidad y diferenciación. Por varios años, la existencia de nuestra sociedad regional ha sido cuestionada por la creencia de que la membresía específicamente a ella añade muy poco a la membresía general en la Sociedad Internacional de Economía Ecológica (ISEE). Asimismo, una caracterización simplista de los economistas ecológicos basados en los Estados Unidos nos presenta como más interesados en los asuntos de la valoración de servicios ambientales y la escala que en nada relacionado con el parámetro de sostenibilidad llamado distribución (equidad o justicia) conforme lo presenta Herman Daly. Creemos que esta caracterización es incompleta. Para muchos economistas ecológicos basados en los Estados Unidos, la necesidad de incluir no sólo la justicia social y política sino las consideraciones culturales en el análisis de la sostenibilidad se ha vuelto algo obvio. Ello nos ha hecho reconocer la necesidad de expandir el enfoque de nuestro boletín, abriéndolo con el fin de proveer un sustrato dialógico para estos temas. En este sentido, esperamos que el boletín de la USSEE se convierta no solamente en un medio informativo sino en un medio que atraiga a una comunidad más diversa y multicultural de académicos que trabajan en los EEUU, activistas y practicantes a un diálogo sobre el desarrollo y aplicación de nuestra transdisciplina.

Esta orientación se refleja en la nueva estructura que proponemos en esta edición. Continuaremos teniendo las secciones más tradicionales como la sección dedicada a la sociedad, anuncios sobre reuniones, plazas vacantes, etc. Sin embargo, también hemos incluido una sección para los estudiantes que busca el promover el diálogo entre y la participación de estudiantes de pregrado y posgrado en los Estados Unidos que se

encuentran formalmente cursando un programa de estudio relacionado con la Economía Ecológica o que simplemente estén interesados en este campo. Igualmente, esperamos atraer en nuestra sección de perspectivas y opiniones una vibrante selección de artículos académicos y de opinión que añada profundidad a la discusión que sucede en los ámbitos de intercambio más académicos de la revista *Ecological Economics*. Igualmente, incluimos una sección de noticias económico-ecológicas donde también le invitamos a que envíe noticias que sean de relevancia para nuestros lectores. Asimismo nos comprometemos a incluir secciones bilingües en nuestro boletín con el fin de invitar la participación y envío de opiniones que sean más de interés para la audiencia general que se enfoca en los asuntos económico ecológicos. Con ello esperamos honrar a las numerosas diásporas culturales no anglo parlantes que existen en los Estados Unidos para quienes, desafortunadamente, nuestro campo no parece tan importante como quisiéramos que fuera. En esta edición hemos incluido notas bilingües en Castellano, sin embargo con la ayuda de la membresía estaremos compacidos en explorar otros lenguajes.

También en este espíritu, nos gustaría darle a nuestro boletín un nuevo nombre. Yo personalmente creo que el nombre "Boletín de la USSEE" suena como algo que no se me ocurriría leer como primera prioridad. Por ello, lo estamos abriendo a ustedes con el fin de que nos envíen sugerencias de qué nombre le podemos poner a nuestro boletín. ¡Sea creativo (a)! Buscamos un nombre que refleje mejor el nuevo espíritu que le queremos dar a esta publicación. Puede enviarnos sus sugerencias a baquilar@prescott.edu. Tomaremos una decisión a tiempo para nuestra próxima edición.

Finalmente, quisiéramos invitarle para que use los servicios de nuestro nuevo secretariado. Marsha Kopan (Association Management Resources) es nuestra nueva guru del secretariado. Hemos incluido cómo contactarla en nuestra sección de noticias.

Bernardo Aguilar-González
baquilar@prescott.edu

A new look for the
USSEE
newsletter.

See page 1 for Editorial in English

Featured Members

Ecological economists are a diverse lot, for sure. In this year's newsletters, we're planning to profile a regular and a student USSEE member in each issue. We'll start with two Board members, Dr. Mathis Wackernagel and Mr. Michael O'Hara. In subsequent issues, we will contact members at random and ask if we may interview them for a profile. In this way we hope to get a more personal look at some of our diversity.

-Karin Limburg



Member Profile: Mathis Wackernagel

Mathis is known to many of us as the founder and Executive Director of the Global Footprint Network (GFN). Together with his PhD advisor, William Rees, Mathis developed the Ecological Footprint methodology as an accessible way to bring the impact of humans on the Earth's systems to a broad public. His organization's reputation is heating up, with requests for collaboration the world over. How did he get here?

Mathis Wackernagel was born in 1962 in Basel, Switzerland. His father helped bring him environmental awareness, telling him at age 10 about books like *Limits to Growth* and *Small is Beautiful*. This crystallized a desire in Mathis to become involved with renewable energy and appropriate technology. He entered Mechanical Engineering at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, where he earned a Master's degree in energy engineering in 1988.

After working in solar engineering in the South of France, he responded to an announcement of fellowships for study in Canada, Mathis found himself in British Columbia in the School of Community and Regional Planning at UBC. There he met and began to work with Bill Rees on sustainability issues. They struggled with how to get across the concept of carrying capacity and resource accounting so that not only scientists, but policy makers and even the general public, could readily grasp the notions. The term "ecological footprint" came about when a new computer was installed in Rees's office; the service man remarked on what a nice, compact footprint the computer had on the desk. This was just the word they were looking for. Mathis fleshed out this concept in his dissertation (1994), and together the two published *Our Ecological Footprint: Reducing Human Impact on the Earth* (1996). The book had a huge impact, selling thousands of copies and being translated into eight languages.

Mathis says the challenge was to anchor the ecological footprint (EF) concept in society as a whole. Acknowledging that this is a crude tool for resource accounting, he says that the strengths of the EF are that (1) one can document the past and present trends; (2) build a movement of people interested in environmental

sustainability; and (3) it's accessible to anyone and everyone. Bill and Mathis made sure the concept can't be trademarked and sequestered away.

Mathis started the Global Footprint Network in 2003. His success at communicating and applying concepts of Ecological Economics earned him the Herman Daly Award at the 2005 USSEE conference in Tacoma, WA. Mathis was especially pleased to be selected for this award, as he had long been an admirer of Daly's work. He met him first in 1992 at an ISEE conference in Stockholm, Sweden. They have since kept in touch, with Herman serving as an advisor to Global Footprint Network.

The Global Footprint Network is growing faster than GDP, GPI, or any other index I can think of. Their head office is in Oakland, California, where a staff of 14 maintains a mix of hard work, good cooking, and crack-up joking. Their second office is in Zurich (Switzerland), and a third one is about to be established in Brussels (Belgium). Sixty percent of the work is fee-based for NGOs, governments, and partnerships. Most of the projects take place outside the US. For example, recently Mathis was invited to meet with the EU Commission to discuss how they could research and develop ecological accounts for member nations.

When asked about opportunities, Mathis eagerly noted that they have a great need for researcher initiatives. He has many projects that could form the basis of graduate theses. He welcomes people to contact him through www.footprintnetwork.org or directly at Mathis@footprintnetwork.org.

Mathis is married to Susan, a seasoned sustainability consultant for businesses, and they have a five year old son, André. When Mathis was born, humanity used about half the regenerative capacity of the planet. When his son André was born, humanity used planetary resources about 20 percent faster than the biosphere can regenerate them. Global Footprint Network estimates that, following the most conservative (slow-growth) path UN agency scenarios put forward, human demand will grow to about two planets by the time André reaches Mathis's current age. Question: is there enough ecological capital to be liquidated to make up for this global overshoot?

Student Member Profile: Michael O'Hara, **Economics graduate student, Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY**

Michael O'Hara joined Binghamton University's Ph.D. program in economics in autumn 2002. I vividly recall our first meeting. He looked me straight in the eye, told me that he had an interest in environmental/Ecological Economics and wondered if there was potential for collaborate work. In my eight year career at Binghamton, he is the only student I have met who was familiar with my published work, was not afraid to challenge me even on that first meeting, and had some strong ideas for his dissertation research. All this, even before he had officially joined our program.

In that first meeting I got a clear insight into Michael's persona. He brings a very professional attitude to his work: a person of few words, he has little patience for all else.

After completing his undergraduate degree in Economics from Boston University, Michael explored other fields, pursuing graduate study in Classics at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and earning a Master's degree in Irish Studies from New College of California, San Francisco. During this time he became aware of the emerging field of Ecological Economics and decided to get a first-hand experience of environmental policy 'in the trenches,' working with Redefining Progress in Oakland, CA, and the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance in Bellingham, WA. Finally, when he was convinced he had found an analytical approach that made sense, he returned to graduate school once more.

At Binghamton, Michael has not only excelled as a student, he has also excelled as an instructor. After serving as my teaching assistant for a large (200+ students) section of Principles of Microeconomics, he developed his own course on the Economics of Growth and Sustainability. This course, popular with both economics and environmental studies majors, is now regularly offered as an elective by the Economics Department. He has also taken over my section of the Principles course.

Having completed his coursework and having passed all four comprehensive exams, Michael is now working on his dissertation. He is analyzing the economic value of access to rock climbing sites at the Mohonk Preserve in the Shawangunk Mountains

(the 'Gunks') in the Catskills region of New York. For several years, the cliff known to climbers as 'Skytop' has been closed for climbing. What are the economic implications of this? Will opening the route increase welfare? The answers to these questions will inform the debate over reopening the area. To Michael, who is an avid climber himself, the answers are not apparent and must be empirically determined. Opening Skytop will increase welfare, *ceteris paribus*, by expanding the choice set available to climbers. But all else is unlikely to be equal. With a larger number of climbing routes available at the Mohonk Preserve, a larger number of climbers are likely to be attracted to the area and this could create congestion effects at all the climbing routes. Congestion is very subjective, and what may be a negative experience for some might be a positive experience for others. A priori, it is not possible to tell which effect will dominate, and this is the motivation for Michael's research.

In 2004, Michael was elected to the USSEE Board as the student member. He is using this opportunity to foster a community of graduate student scholars within USSEE. Among other things, he has started a Yahoo group which allows students members to stay connected, and is currently planning a student conference for the fall. His goal is to foster a new sense of student involvement in the organization and a sense of community among student members.

In his spare time, Michael (literally) climbs mountains (for example, in summer 2005 he climbed Mt. Rainer to raise funds and awareness for the Save our Wild Salmon effort), flyfishes the local New York streams, runs trail marathons, and brews his own beer (current brew includes an excellent stout).

To learn more about his research and teaching, visit his website <http://bingweb.binghamton.edu/~mohara1/>.

Neha Khanna, Associate Professor, Economics and Environmental Studies, Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY. Neha is the Chairperson of Michael's Ph.D. dissertation committee.

USSEE announces new online discussion group

The USSEE has decided to open a members only forum in Yahoo Groups. The purpose of this forum is for the discussion of topics of interest to members. In addition it will be a means of notifying the members of USSEE information.

We hope that you will post a message of introduction. You have several mail message delivery options in this group and for any other Yahoo group.

First, you can receive all e-mail messages as they are posted. If you respond to a message, please note that then entire original message will be included in your reply so we ask that you "snip & trim" the original message.

Second, you can receive a daily digest of messages that have been posted (this is why we ask persons from the first bullet to snip and trim the original message when responding)

Third, you can choose to go "no mail" which would mean that you'd need to visit the Yahoo Groups website to see the messages that have been posted.

Just a few rules as we get started. You may add a file to the group if you have something you wish to share with the group; however, you can not send it as an attachment. The preferred file format

would be PDF so that everyone can view. We also ask that you respond with relevant comments. Do not respond with just a thank you unless you expound on how the responder's message helped you. Again, we need to respect those persons who are on digest mode. New members to the group will be moderated.

Some important email addresses for the group are:

Post message: use-coeco@yahoogroups.com

List owner: usecoeco-owner@yahoogroups.com

To find the group in Yahoo <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/usecoeco/>

You can unsubscribe to this group at anytime by going to the group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/usecoeco/>

If you are a student member of the USSEE, our Student Board Member is Michael O'Hara. There is a special Yahoo Group for USSEE student members only.

It is at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/USSEEstudents/> If you are a student member of the USSEE, you will receive a separate invitation to this group.



Say It to the Driver Behind You



SAY IT TO THE DRIVER BEHIND YOU -- USSEE bumper stickers are **free to members** as a benefit for belonging. Just send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to

Karin Limburg, President
USSEE

118 Windsor Place
Syracuse, NY 13210.

USSEE Student Section

First Annual USSEE Student Conference/Workshop

In early fall of this year, we will be hosting an informal conference in upstate NY for student members of USSEE. The conference will provide an opportunity for student members to practice presenting their research and receive feedback from others before they have to present it in a more formal setting. It will also give us all an opportunity to become more familiar with what other students are working on, and to forge networks for collaboration and discussion. Please note that you need not have a polished paper to attend. Show us what you have and what you are doing.

All student members are welcome and invited of course, but I understand that since financing will be an issue, the focus will likely be students in the Northeast region. It is my hope that the idea will be replicated in other regions. We also encourage non-member students to attend – so spread the word! This should be an opportunity for students of economics, ecology, and Ecological Economics to meet and share ideas.

I look forward to a lively discussion and meeting with many of our student members. Any suggestions or questions would be welcome during the forging of this plan. Interested student members, please contact me at: Mohara1@binghamton.edu

It will help me if I have an idea of how many people we will have.

Michael O'Hara

Student Thesis and Dissertations

By opening this section we hope to disseminate information on what our students are doing in terms of their capstone experiences for their degrees. This space will then help us gauge the vitality of our field and the diverse interests of the up and coming ecological economists. Please send us the information at Mohara1@binghamton.edu or baguilar@prescott.edu

Opportunities for Students

* *The Center for the Applied Study of Economics & the Environment* is sponsoring a limited number of paid internships for PhD level graduate students in economics this summer with NGO's.

Details at www.case-and-e.org,

* Interested in social and environmental justice? Would you like to put your school work to use, supporting one of the most compelling grassroots struggles of our time, working with an inspiring community organization in the Appalachian coal fields?

Coal River Mountain Watch with organizations in and beyond Appalachia is forming the "Save Marsh Fork Elementary Coalition Project" Marsh Fork Elementary School sits only feet away from a coal processing plant and silo and only yards away from a sludge impoundment, where a leaking dam is holding back 2.8 billion gallons of toxic coal waste.

Citizens of Coal River have dedicated their lives to protecting their children and holding King Coal (in this case, Massey Energy), responsible for its impact on their community.

Children are sick; coal soot in the ventilation system is in their lungs. Residents suspect that exposure to certain chemicals in the air and water has caused cancers and disorders. This is no environment for children.

We are looking for capable, self-motivated, students with a heart for justice and a mind to make change. We need information. People interested in contributing their skills and research in any of the following areas are encouraged to apply:

Environmental policy
Public Educational Materials
Toxicology/ Public Health
Children's Educational Programs
Sociology
Sustainable Energy Production
Chemistry
Art/Visual Production

Work may be done at the Coal River Mountain Watch office or from your college or university. Funding may be provided by your school's internship office, and research may be counted as credit.

Please Contact Patricia Feeney at 205-617-4420 if you are interested

* *More student opportunities can be found at*

http://www.ecoeco.org/postgrad/postgrad_information.htm

Featured Articles

Published with the authorization of Prof. Ehrlich. It originally appeared in SCIENCE VOL 309 22 JULY 2005.

Millennium Assessment of Human Behavior

Paul R. Ehrlich* and Donald Kennedy

A growing scientific consensus says that global society is under increasing threat from the impact of human activities: Climate change, loss of biological diversity and ecosystem services, and changes in patterns of land use and land cover are among the more troublesome problems (1–3). Some of these problems require attention from governments and other social institutions. But it is the collective actions of individuals that lie at the heart of the dilemma. Analysis of individual motives and values should be critical to a solution. Yet society has no prominent international forum in which such issues (like how we should treat our environment and each other) are publicly discussed.

In some countries, quite different views have surfaced recently about the ethics of governmental restrictions on the rights of landowners designed to protect endangered species and about legal provisions that permit “open space” set-asides of long duration. Even in nations with cultures as similar as those of the United States and the United Kingdom, issues of land care, debates over related subsidies, and the responsibilities of private citizens versus their governments can take very different shapes. In approaching sustainability, one needs to determine how the rights of people in the current generation to consume natural capital should be balanced against the rights of future generations.

Preservation of animal life and the ethics of various kinds of human interference with “natural” systems are viewed differently by those whose cultural traditions differ. The steps that most members of the relevant scientific community believe are necessary (e.g., reduction of human-caused greenhouse gas emissions, establishment of marine reserves, limiting human population growth and per capita consumption) are disconnected from those measures the rest of society, and especially politicians, are willing to undertake.

We propose to promote the establishment of an ongoing global discussion of key ethical issues related to the human predicament—a Millennium Assessment of Human Behavior (MAHB). The time seems ripe, with the experience gained from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA), to start discussing what to do. In the IPCC and the MEA, sociopolitical issues and policy changes that might lessen the chances of catastrophic consequences are considered. But we need an institution to conduct an ongoing examination and public airing of what is known about how human cultures (especially their ethics) evolve, and about what kinds of changes might permit transition to an ecologically sustainable, peaceful, and equitable global society.

Such a process could begin by asking behavioral scientists and laypeople to explore how their own values relate to environmental sustainability and to ask themselves whether their values, if shared by 6.4 billion people, would really lead to the sort of world they want for their descendents. Citizens of the rich nations should ask themselves whether their “way of life” should really be, as the first President Bush once said to Americans, “not negotiable” (4). They need to discuss possible lifestyle changes in a framework not limited merely to what is possible for citizens of powerful nations, but enlarged to evaluate what is ethical with respect to a more global view of needs and opportunities.

The MAHB could consist of an ongoing series of open, transparent forums. The MAHB could be modeled on the IPCC but would be focused mainly in the social sciences. It would include a deeper consideration of the ethical dimensions of how we treat each other and our life-support systems. It would also involve broader participation than the IPCC, encourage the involvement of politicians, and focus on public outreach at nontechnical levels. Because knowledge of public opinions and attitudes will be essential, such communication devices as deliberative polling (5) would be built in from the start. What we are asking for is a cultural change; we know that cultures evolve, and our hope is that the very process of debate will speed that process and encourage change in a positive direction.

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Featured Articles (continued from Page 8)

War, national and international governance, and health maintenance and care are other topics that would clearly require intensive discussion. Certainly many such topics have been under consideration in various forums, including the World Bank and the United Nations. But they have not been addressed in the context of the entire spectrum of the human predicament in a “broadened IPCC” kind of effort.

One central task would be to integrate the results of the working groups on a continuous basis and to make recommendations for action. The MAHB might, for example, help generate public support for mechanisms to constrain corporate power under certain circumstances. Large-scale private activity may be part of the solution, but many analysts think that some limitation is crucial (6, 7). That open forums and face-to-face negotiation in working groups can produce positive change is clear from many examples. The Montreal Ozone Protocol was put together through the cooperation of representatives of the academic scientific community, government laboratories, and industry (8), interacting with corporate decision makers and politicians. The resulting agreements marked a major change in attitude on the part of governments and even of the manufacturers of ozone-depleting substances. There are other examples on a somewhat smaller scale. In the United States these include establishment of marine protected areas (9); development of the Sierra Forest Plan (10, 11); the Forest Stewardship Council’s negotiations with timber companies that led to more sustainable harvesting (12); and the negotiations resulting in Habitat Conservation Plans in which environmental advocates and developers have reached accord (13). The literature on mediation and alternative dispute resolution should also be explored.

Diamond (14) has listed several possible causes of “collapse” of past societies. He cites cases in which decisions were rooted in maladaptive cultural tradition or an unwillingness to count the clearly measurable costs of their actions. However, other peoples have created stable, sustainable societies under equally unfavorable conditions (15). Modern literature (16) has revised the discouraging message of the “Tragedy of the Commons” by demonstrating how even primitive societies can organize fair and sustainable rules for extracting common-pool resources.

Much of the MAHB program will have to focus on the way in which people make decisions about resource allocation and risk. The discipline of “rational-choice” economics, in which people are expected to make choices in ways predicted by the mathematics of self-interest, has been challenged by data demonstrating anomalies and contradictions (17, 18). We also need more information about the circumstances under which groups come together to form alliances and develop loyalty to them. The growing literature on religious organizations, clubs, and associations [for example (19, 20)] suggests that changing social circumstances influence the degree to which individuals make common cause.

There is much more to learn about behaviors, relationships between individual and societal goals, and institutional arrangements that lead to success or to failure. That will require active participation from groups with different traditions that often do not communicate. The professional societies and community of ecologists are already doing more than most, and we hope that other academic disciplines will do more. Part of the problem is that the disciplines have been historically segregated in universities, and only a few institutions are encouraging interdisciplinary engagement. The MAHB could help by stimulating regular symposia and panel discussions that link different specialties. One subject would be the ethics of time and task allocation by scholars in a world facing increasingly serious problems.

This effort will require support from a variety of sectors. Once an idea gathers interest, the natural starting-points for implementation are the major elements of civic society—in particular, nongovernmental organizations (including scientific and other professional societies), foundations, and other philanthropic entities. The growing international network of funders and civic organizations will need to be involved in the first phase. The United Nations, the World Bank, and other international transgovernment institutions would be natural candidates. Eventually, governments will have to be the decision-makers. In this and other respects, the MAHB courts criticism for naïveté. But that charge, often levied against new ideas, has been overcome in the past. The goal is too important to be set aside as politically infeasible.

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Featured Articles (continued from Page 9)

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Ecological Economics, Latin America and the Latin American Community in the United States

by Bernardo Aguilar-González

In a time of decreasing membership all throughout Ecological Economic societies (1), it seems relevant to deconstruct some of these trends. Specifically, the absence of Latin Americans in the membership of the USSEE is notable.

In the last 50 years Latin America has looked to the U.S. a lot for economics training, models, consultants and other advisors. Many Latin Americans come to the United States, me included, to get their economics degrees because they think that these are better and more prestigious degrees.

This means that as US based Ecological Economists we can have a strong potential impact in Latin America. This

impact can be facilitated by a stronger and more active participation of the large base of Latin American economists that live here.

The overall structure of Ecological Economics has seen a migration of Latin Americans away from it. According to figures synthesized by David Stern and updated by myself recently, today, Latin American regional societies (ASAUEE- Asociación Argentino Uruguayana de Economía Ecológica and EcoEco- Brazilian Society for Ecological Economics) make up only 9.4% (88 members) of the total membership of the ISEE, whereas in 2004 those societies made up 29.5% of the total membership (694 members). EcoEco lost 90% of its membership and ASAUEE increased its membership by a healthy 280%.

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Nevertheless, this increase, from a small starting number, does not make up the huge loss in Brazilian members, above 40% of the total loss of membership of the ISEE. Some may say that this reflects the general loss of membership in all chapters. Yet, if the numbers are examined again, one can see that the membership of the ISEE has shifted in this period from being larger in developing nations and transitional economies (LDC-TE) (52.0% of total members in 2004) to a membership mostly concentrated in Australia and New Zealand (ANZSEE), Canada (CANSEE), Europe (ESEE) and the United States (USSEE) (76.6 % of the membership). Further, if we examine the membership of countries from other Latin American countries today, we see that it only makes up 2.0% of the total membership. In the USSEE, only 4.6% of its membership seems to have a Latin American or Hispanic origin (based on last names in the

listing) (Table 1).

Another sign of the loss of influence that our field has had among Latin Americans can be derived from looking at valuation studies. From three sources: the Web Site of the Salvadorian Research Program on Development and the Environment (PRISMA) (<http://www.prisma.org.sv/>), the Regional Forum on Environmental Service Payment Systems organized by the regional FAO office as part of the III Latin American Meeting on Watersheds in Arequipa, Perú, in June 2003, and, the Electronic Forum on Environmental Service Payment Systems in Watersheds, organized by the same regional office in 2004, I gathered a cross section of studies in hopes of exploring how influential we had been in promoting a vision of valuation that embraces ideas as multicriteria analysis or biophysical applications.

Table 1: Changes in Membership in the ISEE from 2004-2006

Based on data found in <http://www.rpi.edu/~stemd/ECON4250/Presentation.pdf>. Synthesized by David Stern updated as of 4/26/06 based on ISEE membership directory

	2004	%	2006	%	Reduction 04-06	% of total loss	% of its own lost
ANZSEE	110	4.65	63	6.70	47	3.30	42.73
ASAUEE	5	0.21	19	2.02	-14	-0.98	-280.00
ASEE	0	0.00	15	1.60	-15	-1.05	
CANSEE	61	2.58	87	9.26	-26	-1.82	-42.62
ESEE	375	15.86	286	30.43	89	6.25	23.73
EcoEco	689	29.13	69	7.34	620	43.51	89.99
INSEE	360	15.22	49	5.21	311	21.82	86.39
KSEE	7	0.30	0	0.00	7	0.49	100.00
RSEE	169	7.15	5	0.53	164	11.51	97.04
USSEE	502	21.23	284	30.21	218	15.30	43.43
Unaffiliated	87	3.68	63	6.70	24	1.68	27.59
Total ISEE	2365		940		1425		60.25

Total LDC-TE	1230	52.01	157	16.70
Total DC	1048	44.31	720	76.60

Members in Other Latin American Countries 2006

Mexico	5
Belize	1
Guatemala	1
Honduras	1
El Salvador	0
Nicaragua	0
Costa Rica	2
Panama	1
Colombia	2
Venezuela	0
Ecuador	1
Peru	1
Chile	0
Bolivia	1
Paraguay	0
Cuba	1
Puerto Rico	0
Dominican Rep.	2
Haiti	0
Jamaica	0
Trinidad & Tobago	0
Total	19

2.02 % of total ISEE membership

Of the Total Membership of the USSEE only 10 members seem to have a Latin American or Hispanic background 4.59 % of the total USSEE membership.

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The results of the survey of 55 studies showed that 87.3% of the studies used the Total Valuation Equation methodology as a framework of reference, mostly using it with a neoclassical approach (no self-criticism of the substitutability assumptions or indirect valuation-imaginary markets created) (65.5%). Most studies used shadow price methodologies (36.4%) and/or contingent valuation methodologies (18.2%). Studies critical of neoclassical methodologies were 7.3% of the sample and most come from researchers of the National University of Costa Rica. These are the exact same number of studies that use multicriteria methodologies. Biophysical methodologies (embodied energy, ecological footprint, etc.) are completely absent from the sample. Criticism to neoclassical economics is found in comparative studies (12.7% of the sample) yet not focused specifically always on decision-making tools (Cost Benefit Analysis). Essentially, Latin Americans are mostly not distinguishing between environmental/natural resource economics and our field.

Maybe some of these trends can be understood in light of the work of Inge Røpke in identifying trends in the development of our field (2). Yet, some of the membership shifts pointed here are a complete change from the scenario analyzed in that paper.

Why is this loss of contact with Latin Americans so strong? Is Ecological Economics losing its attractiveness? Some would be tempted to blame it in the general context of loss of emphasis of environmentalism that has been promoted by the current administration in the U.S. Maybe this is partially right, yet it seems unlikely that in countries where today we actually see a rebirth in the prevalence of progressive ideas, desertion from Ecological Economics would be a logical result. In the U.S., the recent and massive activation of Latin American social movements around the issues surrounding immigration would seem a perfect field to motivate discussion around the issues of carrying capacity, social justice and diversity that our field promotes. Maybe we need a deeper retrospective at the USSEE.

The inclusion of topics that are relevant for the reality of Latin Americans is scarce in our journal *Ecological Economics*. A brief survey of volumes 50-54 of *Ecological Economics* shows us that of the last 198 entries to the journal (including book reviews) only 16 (8 %) have

authors with Latin American/Hispanic (many are well known Spaniards) last names, are focused on Latin America or are written by people who, not being Latin American, work in Latin America. This situation has improved slightly in Vol. 55, where out of 46 entries, 5 are of relevance to Spanish/Portuguese or Latin American audiences (11%). Also, it is worth pointing out that of the 92 studies in the data base of most influential publications in Ecological Economics (3), only 5 include Spanish/Portuguese or Latin American authors. Of these, 4 are Spanish.

I would like to suggest, for the sake of discussion, that we need to look close at the work in the fields that, given the changing realities that affect the Latin American community in the United States and in their own countries, will attract fellow economists, ecologists, social scientists, etc. from this regional/cultural group to the fora of discussion and reflection that the USSEE offers (an observation that may apply to the ISEE too).

Along these lines, without ignoring the good work that has been and is being done by colleagues in the region or with these cultural groups in the U.S., I would propose a larger focus on the political changes happening in the region and their socio-ecological consequences. Examples could include researching the meaning of the idea of endogenous development proposed by Hugo Chavez's government for the sustainable management of natural resources; the socio ecological consequences of the increased securitization of the free trade agenda by the Bush administration (4); sustainability implications of south-south trade in view of strategic petroleum politics; migration and remittances as socio-environmental phenomena; border economics; etc.

These efforts will require a larger commitment to channeling research and training funds to these topics. Further, maybe organizing our next USSEE meeting in the Southwestern U.S. (maybe even in partnership with other organizations working in the region) and including border topics as a priority in the agenda would be a way of promoting this vision too.

In essence, as times and the socio-ecological landscape of the United States changes, we must change too. I personally see with optimism the election of Peter May as the president-elect of the ISEE and the current tenure of

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Joan Martínez-Alier. They could have a positive influence in reverting the situation above stated at the Latin American country level. Yet, as far as the United States goes, the challenge is in our hands. This is a particularly important moment for us Latin Americans who see in this field an opportunity to promote a transformation to a more multicultural, productive and resilient United States which, in the end, will benefit our countries of origin.

References and Notes

- (1) This statement is based on the data compiled by David Stern from Renselaer Polytechnic Institute, which can be found at <http://www.rpi.edu/~sternd/ECON4250/Presentation.pdf> and actualized by myself as of 4/26/06.
 (2) Røpke, I., et. al, (2005) "Trends in the development of

ecological economics from the late 1980s to the early 2000s" *Ecological Economics* 55 (2005), pp. 262-290.
 (3) Costanza, R., et. al, (2004) "Influential publications in ecological economics: a citation analysis" *Ecological Economics* 50 (2004), pp. 261-292.
 (4) The term securitization is used in reference to the overlap between the national security agenda and the free trade agenda, whereby free trade agreement promotion is seen as an element of national security. This is suggested in Carranza, M. *The North-South Divide and Security in the Western Hemisphere: Strategic Options for Latin America After September 11 and the Iraq War*. Paper presented at the 47th annual convention of the International Studies Association, "The North-South Divide and International Studies", March 25-26, 2006, San Diego, California.

Featured Articles **La Economía Ecológica, América Latina y la Comunidad Latino Americana en los Estados Unidos**

En un tiempo de membresías decrecientes en todas las sociedades de Economía Ecológica (1), parece relevante deconstruir algunas de estas tendencias. Específicamente, la ausencia de Latino Americanos en la membresía de la Sociedad Estadounidense de Economía Ecológica (USSEE) es notable.

Durante los últimos 50 años, Latino América ha visto a los Estados Unidos con frecuencia para la preparación académica, modelos teóricos, consultores y otro tipo de asistencia técnica en materia económica. Muchos Latino Americanos vienen a los Estados Unidos para obtener sus posgrados pues piensan que son más prestigiosos.

Ello implica que, como Economistas Ecológicos basados en los Estados Unidos podemos tener un efecto potencial muy fuerte. Este impacto puede ser facilitado por una más fuerte y activa participación de la gran base de economistas Latino Americanos que viven aquí.

La estructura general de la Economía Ecológica ha visto una emigración de los Latino Americanos. De acuerdo con las figuras sintetizadas por David Stern y actualizadas por mi persona recientemente, hoy, las sociedades regionales Latino Americanas (ASAUEE- Asociación Argentino Uruguay de Economía Ecológica y EcoEco- Sociedad Brasileña de Economía Ecológica)

constituyen solamente el 9.4% (88 miembros) de la membresía total de la ISEE, mientras que en el 2004 esa sociedades contribuían con cerca del 29.5% de toda la membresía (694 miembros). EcoEco perdió un 90% de su membresía y la ASAUEE aumentó su membresía en un saludable 280%. Sin embargo, este aumento que parte de un número base pequeño no compensa la enorme pérdida de miembros Brasileños, mas de un 40% de la pérdida total de miembros de la ISEE. Algunos podrían decir que ello no es más que una tendencia general a la pérdida de membresía en todas las sociedades regionales. Sin embargo, si se examinan los números otra vez, se puede ver que la membresía total de la ISEE ha cambiado en este período de ser mayor en los países menos desarrollados y economías en transición (PMD-ET) (52.0% del total de mebrsía en el 2004) a una membresía que se concentra en Australia y Nueva Zelandia (ANZSEE), Canada (CANSEE), Europa (ESEE) y los Estados Unidos (USSEE) (76.6% de la membresía en el 2006). Asimismo, si se examina la membresía de otros países de América Latina hoy día, vemos que solamente llega a un 2.0% del total de la membresía. En la USSEE, solamente el 4.6% de la membresía parece tener un origen Latino Americano o Hispánico (basado en los apellidos en el listado) (Tabla 1).

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Otro signo de la pérdida de influencia que nuestro campo ha tenido con los Latino Americanos puede encontrarse al hacer un escrutinio de los trabajos de investigación sobre la valoración en América Latina. De tres fuentes: el sitio Web del Programa Salvadoreño sobre Desarrollo y el Ambiente (PRISMA) (<http://www.prisma.org.sv/>), el Foro Regional sobre el Pago de Servicios Ambientales organizado por la FAO como parte del III Congreso Latino Americano sobre Cuencas en Arequipa, Peru, en Junio del

2003, y, el foro Electrónico sobre Pago de Servicios Ambientales en Cuencas Hidrográficas, organizado por la misma oficina regional en el 2004, recolecté una muestra de estudios con el fin de explorar que tan influyentes habíamos sido los economistas ecológicos en promover una visión de la valoración que acepte ideas como el análisis de multicriterio y las aplicaciones biofísicas.

Tabla 1: Cambios en la membresía de la ISEE entre 2004-2006

Basado en datos encontrados en <http://www.rpi.edu/~stern/ECN4250/Presentation.pdf>. Sintetizados por David Stern
Actualizado al 26/4/06 basado en el directorio de membresía de la ISEE.

	2004	%	2006	%	Reducción 04-06	% de pérdida total	% pérdida de propia membresía
ANZSEE	110	4.65	63	6.70	47	3.30	42.73
ASAUUE	5	0.21	19	2.02	-14	-0.98	-280.00
ASEE	0	0.00	15	1.60	-15	-1.05	
CANSEE	61	2.58	87	9.26	-26	-1.82	-42.62
ESEE	375	15.86	286	30.43	89	6.25	23.73
EcoEco	689	29.13	69	7.34	620	43.51	89.99
INSEE	360	15.22	49	5.21	311	21.82	86.39
KSEE	7	0.30	0	0.00	7	0.49	100.00
RSEE	169	7.15	5	0.53	164	11.51	97.04
USSEE	502	21.23	284	30.21	218	15.30	43.43
Unaffiliated	87	3.68	63	6.70	24	1.68	27.59
Total ISEE	2365		940		1425		60.25
Total PMD-ET	1230	52.01	157	16.70			
Total PD	1048	44.31	720	76.60			

Miembros en otros países Latino Americanos 2006

México	5	
Belize	1	
Guatemala	1	
Honduras	1	
El Salvador	0	
Nicaragua	0	
Costa Rica	2	
Panamá	1	
Colombia	2	
Venezuela	0	
Ecuador	1	
Perú	1	
Chile	0	
Bolivia	1	
Paraguay	0	
Cuba	1	
Puerto Rico	0	
Rep. Dominicana	2	
Haití	0	
Jamaica	0	
Trinidad & Tobago	0	
Total	19	2.02 % de membresía total de la ISEE

de la membresía total de la USSEE sólo 10 miembros parecen tener un origen Latino o Hispano
4.59 % de la membresía total de la USSEE

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Otro signo de la pérdida de influencia que nuestro campo ha tenido con los Latino Americanos puede encontrarse al hacer un escrutinio de los trabajos de investigación sobre la valoración en América Latina. De tres fuentes: el sitio Web del Programa Salvadoreño sobre Desarrollo y el Ambiente (PRISMA) (<http://www.prisma.org.sv/>), el Foro Regional sobre el Pago de Servicios Ambientales organizado por la FAO como parte del III Congreso Latino Americano sobre Cuencas en Arequipa, Peru, en Junio del 2003, y, el foro Electrónico sobre Pago de Servicios Ambientales en Cuencas Hidrográficas, organizado por la misma oficina regional en el 2004, recolecté una muestra de estudios con el fin de explorar que tan influyentes habíamos sido los economistas ecológicos en promover una visión de la valoración que acepte ideas como el análisis de multicriterio y las aplicaciones biofísicas.

Los resultados de la muestra de 55 estudios arrojaron que el 87.3% de los estudios utilizan la aplicación del método de la Ecuación del Valor Total (EVT) como marco fundamental de referencia. La utilización del mismo, se hace desde una perspectiva fundamentalmente neoclásica (sin crítica a las presunciones de sustitución o de los mercados imaginarios creados (65.5%). Mas bien, los estudios utilizan mayoritariamente las técnicas que genéricamente se pueden llamar de precios sombra (36.4%) y/o de valoración contingente (18.2%). Los estudios críticos no pasan del 7.3% de la muestra, encontrándose en ese mismo nivel las aplicaciones de técnicas de multicriterio. La mayoría de estos estudios provienen de la Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica. La valoración biofísica (huella ecológica, energía implícita, etc.) está totalmente ausente de la muestra. La crítica a la economía neoclásica se expande un poco más cuando se contabilizan todos los estudios de evaluación comparativa independientemente de que critiquen el prevalente marco metodológico de costo-beneficio o no (12.7% de la muestra). Esencialmente, los Latino Americanos no están distinguiendo entre la economía ambiental/de los recursos naturales y nuestro campo.

Tal vez algunas de estas tendencias se puedan entender de acuerdo con el trabajo de Inge Røpke al identificar tendencias en el desarrollo de nuestra transdisciplina (2). Sin embargo, algunos de los cambios en la membresía apuntados serían difíciles de explicar de acuerdo con

esa lógica.

¿Por qué es la pérdida de contacto con los Latino Americanos tan fuerte? Está la Economía Ecológica perdiendo su atractivo? Algunos estarían tentados a culpar este fenómeno en el contexto general de pérdida de énfasis del ambientalismo que ha sido promovido por la corriente administración de los EEUU. Quizás ello es parcialmente cierto, sin embargo parece difícil que en países donde hoy día se experimenta un renacimiento en la prevalencia de ideas progresistas, la deserción de la Economía Ecológica sea un resultado lógico. En los Estados Unidos, la reciente y masiva activación de los movimientos sociales Latino Americanos alrededor de los asuntos que se refieren a la inmigración pareciese un campo perfecto para motivar discusión alrededor de temas como la capacidad de carga, la justicia social y la diversidad que nuestro campo promueve. Quizás necesitamos una retrospectiva más profunda en la USSEE.

La inclusión de temas relevantes para la realidad de los Latino Americanos es escasa en nuestra revista *Ecological Economics*. Un breve muestra de los volúmenes 50-54 de *Ecological Economics* nos revela que de las últimas 198 piezas en la revista (incluyendo reseñas bibliográficas) sólo 16 (8%) tienen autores con apellidos Latinos (algunos son bien conocidos Españoles), están enfocados en América Latina o están escritos por autores que, sin tener apellidos Latinos, trabajan en América Latina. La situación mejoró en el Vol. 55, donde de 46 piezas, 5 son de relevancia para audiencias Españolas/Portuguesas o Latino Americanas (11%). Igualmente, vale la pena señalar que de los 92 estudios en la base de datos de las publicaciones más influyentes en la Economía Ecológica (3), sólo 5 incluyen autores Españoles/Portugueses o Latino Americanos. De ellos, 4 son Españoles.

Me gustaría proponer, con el fin de abrir la discusión, que tenemos que buscar aumentar el trabajo en campos que, dada la cambiante realidad que afecta a la comunidad Latino Americana de los Estados Unidos y de sus propios países, atraiga a colegas economistas, ecólogos, científicos sociales, etc. de este grupo regional/cultural a los foros de discusión y reflexión que la USSEE ofrece (Esta observación parece aplicarse a la ISEE también).

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En este sentido, sin ignorar el buen trabajo que ha sido y está siendo hecho por otros colegas en la región o con estos grupos culturales en los EEUU, me gustaría proponer un mayor enfoque en los cambios políticos que suceden en la región y sus consecuencias socio-ecológicas. Algunos ejemplos podrían incluir el investigar el verdadero significado de conceptos como el desarrollo endógeno propuesto por el gobierno de Hugo Chávez para el manejo sostenible de los recursos naturales; cuáles son las consecuencias socio-ecológicas del aumento en la seguridad alrededor de la agenda del libre comercio por parte de la administración Bush (4); las implicaciones para la sostenibilidad del comercio sur-sur con vista de la política estratégica del petróleo; la migración y las transferencias como fenómenos socio-ambientales; la economía de las fronteras; etc.

Estos esfuerzos requerirán de un compromiso mayor para canalizar fondos hacia la investigación y entrenamiento en estos tópicos. Asimismo, quizás organizar nuestra próxima reunión de la USSEE en el suroeste de los EEUU (tal vez en asocio con organizaciones que trabajan en la región) e incluir tópicos de la frontera como una prioridad en la agenda sea una manera de promover esa visión también.

En esencia, conforme el tiempo genera cambios en el paisaje socio-ecológico de los Estados Unidos, asimismo debemos cambiar nosotros. Yo personalmente veo con optimismo la elección de Peter May como presidente electo de la ISEE y asimismo veo la actual presidencia de Joan Martínez-Alier. Ellos podrían tener una influencia positiva a fin de revertir la situación presentada a nivel de los países Latino Americanos. Sin embargo, en lo que toca a los Estados Unidos, el reto está en nuestras

manos. Este es un momento importante para nosotros los Latino Americanos que vemos en este campo una oportunidad para promover una transformación hacia un país más multicultural, productivo y sostenible, lo cual, al final, beneficiará también a nuestros países de origen.

Referencias y Notas

- (1) Esta expresión se basa en los datos compilados por David Stern del Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, los cuales pueden ser hallados en <http://www.rpi.edu/~stern/ECON4250/Presentation.pdf> y que fueron actualizados por mi persona el 26/4/06.
- (2) Røpke, I., et. al, (2005) "Trends in the development of ecological economics from the late 1980s to the early 2000s" *Ecological Economics* 55 (2005), pp. 262-290.
- (3) Costanza, R., et. al, (2004) "Influential publications in ecological economics: a citation analysis" *Ecological Economics* 50 (2004), pp. 261-292.
- (4) Se trata de un proceso de sobreposición entre la agenda de seguridad nacional y del libre comercio. Ello es sugerido por Carranza, M. *The North-South Divide and Security in the Western Hemisphere: Strategic Options for Latin America After September 11 and the Iraq War*. Paper presented at the 47th annual convention of the International Studies Association, "The North-South Divide and International Studies", March 25-26, 2006, San Diego, California.

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Brevia and Letters to the Editor

In order to foster participation and dialogue, we believe this is one of the most important sections of our newsletter. Here we hope to include short pieces. We would like to get pieces of less than 800 words (Brevia) that address relevant issues in our field. We will also include here your letters to the editor. Submissions can be sent to baguilar@prescott.edu



Announcement and Links



Calls for Contributions

Encyclopedia of Earth

(<http://www.earthportal.net/eoe>)

The world's experts on the environment of Earth, and the interaction between society and the natural spheres of the Earth, are forming to produce a single comprehensive and definitive electronic encyclopedia about the Earth. The *Encyclopedia of Earth (EoE)* will be free to the public and free of advertising.

We seek all qualified editors and authors to collaboratively develop:

- A free, fully searchable, trusted source of articles about the Earth
 - A to Z coverage of topics describing the environment of Earth that span the natural, physical, and social sciences, the arts and humanities, and the professional disciplines
 - An information resource that will be useful to students, educators, scholars, professionals, as well as the general public
 - An authoring site that combines the authority of peer review with the power of Web-based collaboration
- A public reference site that is updated every 15 minutes

Editors: Professor Cutler J. Cleveland of Boston University, Editor-in-Chief of the award-winning *Encyclopedia of Energy* (Elsevier Science), is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Encyclopedia of Earth*. A distinguished International Advisory Board provides editorial oversight (see below).

Publisher: The *Encyclopedia* is one component of the *Earth Portal* (<http://earthportal.net/>), the world's first comprehensive resource for timely, objective, science-based information about the Earth and environmental change. It is published by the Environmental Information Coalition, National Council for Science and the Environment (<http://www.ncseonline.org>).

Scope: The scope of the *Encyclopedia* is the environment of the Earth broadly defined, with particular emphasis on the interaction between society and the natural spheres of the Earth. See the taxonomy and topic areas at <http://earthportal.net/EP/eoe/eoetopics/>.

Join the Effort: If you are interested and want more information, please send an email to [<eoe@earthportal.net>](mailto:eoe@earthportal.net), or visit (<http://earthportal.net/EP/steward/>).

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Calls for Contributions (continued from Page 17)

International Advisory Board

Rita Colwell, Chairman, Canon U.S. Life Sciences, Inc., former Director of the National Science Foundation, USA

Robert W. Corell, Chair of the Steering Committee for the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment

Robert Costanza, Director, Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, University of Vermont, USA

Mohamed H. A. Hassan, President, African Academy of Sciences, Nairobi, Kenya

Thomas Homer-Dixon, Director, Trudeau Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University College, Canada

Andrew J. Hoffman, Holcim Professor of Sustainable Enterprise, Ross School of Business, The University of Michigan, USA

Steve Hubbell, Distinguished Research Professor, Uni-

versity of Georgia, USA

Simon A. Levin, Moffett Professor of Biology, Director, Center for Biocomplexity, Princeton University, USA

Bonnie J. McCay, Distinguished Professor of Human Ecology, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, USA

David W. Orr, Chairman, Environmental Studies Program, Oberlin College, Ohio, USA

Rajendra K. Pachauri, Director-General, The Energy and Resources Institute, Chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, India

F. Sherwood Rowland, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, University of California - Irvine, USA

B. L. Turner, Director, School of Geography, Clark University, USA

Publications from Members and Recommended by Members

* **Barry D. Solomon's** Presidential address at the 2005 USSEE Conference in Tacoma, Washington, "**The size thing revisited: the optimal scale of the transdiscipline of ecological economics**", was published in the September 2005 issue of the International Journal of Ecological Economics and Statistics, pp. 1-20.

* James Kahn highly recommends "**Collapse**", by **Jared Diamond, the author of Guns, Germs and Steel**. He says it presents some interesting hypotheses about the necessary conditions for collapse, and then provides evidence from a number of case studies. James also recommend a Hollywood movie, called **Rapa Nui**, which looks at the combination of ecological and social collapse on Easter Island. The nice thing about the movie is that has Hollywood stars (such as Jason Lee) so it will grab students' attention. The bad thing about the movie is that there is some sex and nudity, so depending on your school district, you may or may not be able to show it.

* James Pittman recommends "**The Greening of Goldman Sachs**" by **Traci Hukill**. In November Goldman Sachs, a financial sector leader worth \$60 billion, rolled

out a new environmental policy that goes further, and is smarter, than any comparable policy in the corporate world.. It's the first corporate environmental policy to hinge on the newly minted idea of "ecosystem services," <http://www.alternet.org/envirohealth/29901/>

* There is a new working paper at our USSEE website. It is by **Robert Costanza**, titled "**The Real Economy**" and will later appear in AdBusters. Check it out at http://www.ussee.org/working_papers/Costanza_Real_Economy.pdf and if you want to look at the other papers, click on http://www.ussee.org/working_papers/

* Bernardo Aguilar-González recommends: **The Burning** by **Thomas Legendre**. This Literary fiction piece is the first novel in the English language that develops a plot based on the principles and applications of Ecological Economics. It is a good read too. More about this book in <http://books.guardian.co.uk/reviews/generalfiction/0,,1754138,00.html>



News and Notes from Members

THE US SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS IS A SPONSOR FOR THE DISSERTATIONS INITIATIVE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH.

The U.S. Society for Ecological Economics agreed in September 2005 to serve as one of several society sponsors for the Dissertations Initiative for the Advancement of Climate Change Research, DISCCRS (pronounced "discourse") -- see <http://www.aslo.org/phd/discrposter.pdf> for an overview and <http://aslo.org/phd.html> for details.

The DISCCRS goal is to accelerate insights, research and societal action concerning vitally important and time-sensitive area of climate change and its impacts.

DISCCRS targets recent Ph.D. recipients across the full spectrum of disciplines related to climate change and impacts. It is structured to foster interdisciplinary understanding and collaborative relationships.

DISCCRS is international in scope. Demographic data collected as part of the dissertation registration process facilitates characterization of the population of climate-change graduates. A Dissertation Registry on the DISCCRS webpage provides a concise overview of emerging research and introduces new to the broader community. The webpage also contains resources developed through the program to accelerate interdisciplinary career development. An Electronic Newsletter transmits time-sensitive information to all registered graduates. Annual Symposia bring together a select cohort of graduates whose work transcends traditional boundaries to provide a "capstone" interdisciplinary experience. In addition to presenting their research, participants discuss emerging science and policy topics.

DISCCRS is funded by three programs within NSF via grants to Whitman College (EAR0435728, C.S. Weiler PI) and University of Oregon (EAR-0535719).

Current sponsors besides the USSEE include American Geophysical Union AGU, American Meteorological Society AMS, American Society of Limnology and Oceanography ASLO, Association of American Geographers AAG, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists AERE and Ecological Society of America ESA and Environmental Studies Section of the International Studies Association ESS-ISA.

For more information, contact

C. Susan Weiler, Ph.D.

Office for Earth System Studies, Whitman College at Tel: 509-527-5948 or weiler@whitman.edu

INDERSCIENCE GIVES USSEE MEMBERS SPECIAL RATES FOR THE FOLLOWING JOURNALS:

Int J of Sustainable Development, www.inderscience.com/IJSD
 Int J of Environment and Sustainable Development, www.inderscience.com/IJESD
 Int J of Green Economics, www.inderscience.com/IJGE
 Int J of Innovation and Sustainable Development, www.inderscience.com/IJISD
 Int J of Global Environmental Issues, www.inderscience.com/IJGEnvl
 Int J of Water, www.inderscience.com/IJW
 Int J of Environment and Pollution, www.inderscience.com/IJEP
 Int J of Agricultural Resources, Governance and Ecology, www.inderscience.com/IJARGE
 Int J of Global Energy Issues, www.inderscience.com/IJGEI
 Int J of Risk Assessment and Management, www.inderscience.com/IJRAM
 Int J of Emergency Management, www.inderscience.com/IJEM

Inderscience publishes a highly professional profile of some 200 journals which USSEE members may be interested in. For example,

Global Business and Economic Review (GBER), www.inderscience.com/GBER,
 International Journal of Management and Decision Making (IJMDM), www.inderscience.com/IJMDM,
 International Journal of Foresight and Innovation Policy (IJFIP), www.inderscience.com/IJFIP,
 International Journal of Public Policy (IJPP), www.inderscience.com/IJPP,
 International Journal of Technology and Globalisation (IJTG), www.inderscience.com/IJTG

Personal subscription rate are US\$100 for a quarterly online journal (US\$150 for journal which is published 6 or 8 times a year, US\$200 for a journal published 12 issues a year) For a personal printed subscription, the postage cost is added.

www.inderscience.com

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News and Notes from Members (continued from Page 19)

HAZEL HENDERSON'S SERIES ETHICAL MARKETS, NOW AIRING ON PBS STATIONS IN 44 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS THROUGH 2006

Their ETHICAL MARKETS website has been expanded and is now updated regularly with news on corporate social responsibility, socially-responsible investing and the clean, green, renewable sectors of the global economy, with links to many top providers. Check out their site www.EthicalMarkets.com <<http://www.EthicalMarkets.com>> they welcome your ideas and news for posting!

Case Western University Business School and its Center for Business as an Agent of World Benefit has adopted the "EthicMarksm" (which Hazel trademarked and initially funded) as a new accreditation mark for recognizing "advertising that uplifts the human spirit and society." So far, their media partners are Business & Society Review, edited by Michael Hoffman of their Advisory Board; ODE Magazine, published in Amsterdam and in the USA and other countries by Juriaan Kamp and Syb Roell; KOSMOS, now on newsstands, edited by Nancy Roof.

The companion book she is now writing to the ETHICAL MARKETS TV series on PBS stations (still airing through 2006) will be on the Fall list of Chelsea Green Publishers of Vermont (Beyond the Limits of Growth: Don't Think of an Elephant and other top sellers). Their host and star, Simran Sethi, MBA is her collaborating author and will be filling engagements promoting the book. Hunter Lovins, President of the Natural Capitalism Institute is writing the Foreword.

2006 PEW FELLOWS IN MARINE CONSERVATION INCLUDE GLEN-MARIE LANGE USSEE MEMBER.

The Pew Institute announced the winners of the 2006 Pew Fellowship in Marine Conservation. "The 2006 Pew Fellows truly represent the global reach of this unique program," says Pew Institute Director Ellen Pikitch, who is also a Pew Fellow. "These pioneers of marine conservation are discovering new solutions for protecting and preserving our oceans worldwide."

The 2006 Fellows are:

* Exequiel Ezcurra, director of the Biodiversity Research Center at the San Diego Natural History Museum and an expert in the ecology of deserts and coastal ecosystems of Baja California and the Sea of Cortez. He will develop a regional plan to manage the Sea of Cortez as a whole, single ecosystem in order to reduce the region's increasing environmental degradation.
<http://www.pewmarine.org/pewFellowsDirectoryTemplate.php?PEWSerialInt=7111>

* Narriman Jiddawi, a marine biologist and senior research fellow at the Institute of Marine Sciences at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. She will develop a system to assess goods and services provided by marine ecosystems into the income accounts of developing countries, using Zanzibar as a model, in collaboration with Pew Fellow Glenn-Marie Lange.
<http://www.pewmarine.org/pewFellowsDirectoryTemplate.php?PEWSerialInt=10461>

* Glenn-Marie Lange, a senior research scholar at the Center on Globalization and Sustainable Development at Columbia University's Earth Institute. She has worked extensively in Africa and Asia, where a major component of her research has focused on building tools to integrate environmental concerns into economic policy analysis. She will collaborate with Pew Fellow Narriman Jiddawi to develop economic models for assessing the value of marine ecosystems.
<http://www.pewmarine.org/pewFellowsDirectoryTemplate.php?PEWSerialInt=10460>

* William Kostka, executive director of the Conservation Society of Pohnpei, the first non-profit conservation organization in the Federated States of Micronesia. He will work to establish networks of marine protected areas in the Micronesian region. Kostka was a member of the first group of Micronesian leaders in conservation formed by the Nature Conservancy.
<http://www.pewmarine.org/pewFellowsDirectoryTemplate.php?PEWSerialInt=10468>

* Robert Richmond, a research professor at the Kewalo Marine Laboratory at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, has worked extensively in coral reef biology for more than 25 years. He will work on the development of biomarkers as a forensic tool to assess threats to coral reefs. Biomarkers classify cellular reactions in corals that are triggered by particular stressors.
<http://www.pewmarine.org/pewFellowsDirectoryTemplate.php?PEWSerialInt=5169>

* Enric Sala, an associate professor and deputy director at the Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, California. He will examine the effectiveness of using an ecosystem-based approach to manage marine reserves in Mediterranean rocky habitats.
<http://www.pewmarine.org/pewFellowsDirectoryTemplate.php?PEWSerialInt=9744>

For more information about these and other Pew Fellows, contact: Polita Glynn, Pew Fellows Program Manager
polita@rsmas.miami.edu

Job Corner

The Global Roundtable on Climate Change is hiring a Project Manager for its working group on technology and engineering. Please note that this is a different job than the Program Coordinator position.

The Global Roundtable on Climate Change is an effort by the Earth Institute at Columbia University to assist creation of an improved global consensus and to catalyze effective cross-sectoral action on climate change. The Roundtable brings together high level stakeholders from business, civil society and government to discuss responses to climate change and attempt to reach consensus on some basic elements of an international strategy to mitigate and adapt to climate change. See www.grocc.org for more information.

The Project Manager will be responsible for day-to-day management of the research of Working Group-II (WG-II) on technology and engineering, one of five working groups established to support the activities of the GROCC. Management of this group includes preparation of all WG-II written deliverables, including a Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) policy statement and other assessments/ statements proposed by participants in the GROCC or WG-II. The Project Manager will manage demonstration projects and other collaborative efforts between CU and GROCC participants on energy (especially CCS) and will engage in outreach to GROCC participants and others with reference to potential demonstration projects and potential association in CSE/EI programs and projects. The position offers opportunities for substantive participation in meetings, development of reports/white-papers, or presentations at conferences.

This is a great opportunity for someone with a background in energy technology or policy. Other qualifications include strong writing skills and experience with corporate outreach.

This is a Columbia University grade 12 position, with salary from 50-low 60s depending on qualifications, and full benefits.

All applicants must complete Columbia University's online application in addition to submitting materials directly. The web address is <https://jobs.columbia.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1142445560954> and the listing can be located by

searching under "Project Manager". Resumes and cover letters can also be submitted to:

Kate Brash
Program Manager
Global Roundtable on Climate Change
The Earth Institute at Columbia University
tel. 212-854-6067
fax: 212-854-6309
kbrash@ei.columbia.edu

The Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC)

seeks to hire an ecological, environmental or resource economist to direct the Center's ecological economics program. This program uses economic approaches to estimate non-market values of the natural environment and introduce these values into planning and decision-making processes. The individual will have the opportunity to develop and conduct innovative and policy-relevant Ecological Economics research and interact with other scholars, the policy community and other stakeholders.

The successful applicant will be an ecological, environmental or resource economist with a Ph.D. in economics and be familiar with grant writing as well as publishing in peer-reviewed periodicals. Applicants should submit a full CV through the HARC website:

<http://www.harc.edu/jobs>

Click on the job title.

Follow directions for file submission.

No phone calls, please.

HARC is a private, not-for-profit applied scientific research facility dedicated to moving knowledge to action to promote technologies and policies that improve human well-being and protect the environment.

HARC is located in The Woodlands, Texas, 30 miles north of Houston. The

organization offers competitive compensation and excellent benefits, as

well as the opportunity to work in a stimulating collaborative

environment. More HARC information can be found at

www.harc.edu

<<http://www.harc.edu>>. Additional information about

The Woodlands is available at www.thewoodlandstx.com

<<http://www.thewoodlandstx.com>>.

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Job Corner (continued from Page 21)

Job Opportunity: Economic Development Manager in Kenya

The Academic Model for the Prevention and Treatment of HIV/AIDS, or AMPATH, is a successful model of HIV/AIDS control in Kenya that uses a systems-based approach to prevention and treatment that closely links clinical care, research, and training. A partnership between Moi University School of Medicine, Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, and Indiana University, AMPATH addresses food and income security needs, delivers and monitors ARV treatment, and fosters prevention of HIV transmission.

AMPATH aims to enhance and expand economic development opportunities for its population of HIV infected persons, expected to number nearly 50,000 persons by the end of 2007. AMPATH has already developed a fair trade certified craft workshop, pro-bono business consultancy services to micro-entrepreneurs, a micro-finance program, and an agricultural cooperative. Indiana University is seeking a highly motivated individual to serve as the manager for this effort. The manager will live on site in Eldoret, Kenya and work cooperatively with a Kenyan counterpart. Minimum requirements for this position include extensive experience working in resource-limited settings, preferably in sub-Saharan Africa; MBA degree or equivalent training; outstanding communication skills; and exceptionally strong inter-personal skills.

For additional information, please contact Ron Pettigrew, Program Manager, IU-Kenya Partnership, rpettigr@iupui.edu, 317-630-8695.

Other Professional Opportunities

Self nominations are invited for the Editors/Associate Editors for **International Journal of Ecological Economics & Statistics (IJEES)** (ISSN 0973-1385).

Please submit your nomination through email with your CV/ www page (home page) address till May 7, 2006 to the Editor-in-Chief, IJEES.

Also, you are welcome for submission of original and unpublished paper for the consideration of IJEES. The main aim of the International Journal of Ecological Economics & Statistics (IJEES) publish refereed, well-written original research articles, and studies that describe the latest research and developments in Ecological Economics and ecological statistics. IJEES is

an interdisciplinary research journal in the area of environmental economics & environmental statistics.

Please visit for editorial board: <http://www.ceser.res.in/ije.html>

James Kahn is organizing USSEE sessions at the Southern Economic Association meetings. This year, the meetings are Nov 18-21 in Charleston, SC.

He would like one session to focus on the unique contributions of Ecological Economics, and the other session to be a set of applied papers. If someone would like to propose a particular theme, that would be fine with me.

Please send him a one paragraph abstract of your paper, as well as complete contact information for you and all your co-authors. Complete contact info includes affiliation, regular address, e-mail address, phone and fax numbers. This information is required for the program. KahnJ@wlu.edu

James Pittman invites to participate in the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

The UN has declared 2005-2014 as the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. Among other projects rolling right now (more on me later for those interested), James is helping with the US Partnership for the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development on both the Marketing Committee and the Business Action Team.

The Decade encourages countries to integrate the concept of sustainable development into their education policies and into all aspects of learning. The aim is to bring about behavioral changes that will usher in a more viable and just society.

James thinks that some of you have interest in involvement or joining the US Partnership. Here is more info:

Link to the DESD homepage:

http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=27234&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Link to the US Partnership web site:

<http://www.uspartnership.org>



Meetings

ISEE 2006

The Ninth Biennial Conference of ISEE, 'Ecological Sustainability & Human Well-Being', will be held in Delhi, India from

the 15th to the 19th December 2006.

Further details can be found at the conference website

www.isee2006.com

Association for Evolutionary Economics Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, USA January 5-7, 2007

AFEE invites proposals for individual papers and complete panels for the 2007 AFEE conference. The theme of the AFEE program will be:

Contributions of Institutional Economics to Public Policy Debates: Past and Present

Information at <http://www.orgs.bucknell.edu/afee/>

[AnnualMeeting.htm](#)

SPECIAL CONFERENCE ON FRONTIERS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

February 26-27, 2007

Resources for the Future

Washington, DC.

Information at [http://www.rff.org/rff/Events/Frontiers-of-Environmental-Economics.cfm?](http://www.rff.org/rff/Events/Frontiers-of-Environmental-Economics.cfm?CFID=3320810&CFTOKEN=60908613)

[CFID=3320810&CFTOKEN=60908613](http://www.rff.org/rff/Events/Frontiers-of-Environmental-Economics.cfm?CFID=3320810&CFTOKEN=60908613)

The DISCCRS III (Dissertations Initiative for the Advancement of Climate-Change Research) Symposium

will take place Sept. 8 - 15, 2007

in the Big Island of Hawai'i.

Information at <http://www.aslo.org/phd/discrposter.pdf>

More information on professional meetings can be found at the ISEE link: http://www.ecoeco.org/conf/Non-ISEE_conferences.htm

Other Relevant Links

From our President, here's a list of ecologically-oriented scientific societies that we could list (not in any particular order). All of these organizations have been moving their policy committees toward paying increasing attention to socioeconomic drivers of ecosystem change.

The Ecological Society of America (www.esa.org)

From their mission statement:

The Ecological Society of America (ESA) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization of scientists founded in 1915 to:

- * promote ecological science by improving communication among ecologists;
- * raise the public's level of awareness of the importance of ecological science;
- * increase the resources available for the conduct of ecological science; and
- * ensure the appropriate use of ecological science in environmental decision making by enhancing communication between the ecological community and

policy-makers.

Society for Conservation Biology (www.conbio.org)

From their "About Us" statement:

What is the SCB?

The Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) is an international professional organization dedicated to promoting the scientific study of the phenomena that affect the maintenance, loss, and restoration of biological diversity. The Society's membership comprises a wide range of people interested in the conservation and study of biological diversity: resource managers, educators, government and private conservation workers, and students make up the more than 10,000 members worldwide.

What is the mission of the Society?

To advance the science and practice of conserving the Earth's biological diversity.

SCB has a Socio-Economic Section.

Continued on Page 24

Other Relevant Links (Continued from Page 23)

Estuarine Research Federation (www.erf.org)

The Mission of The Federation

The Federation advances understanding and wise stewardship of estuarine and coastal ecosystems worldwide. Its mission is to:

- * Promote research in estuarine and coastal ecosystems
- * Support education of scientists, decision-makers and the public
- * Facilitate communication among these groups

Membership in the Federation is open to all who support these goals. The Federation currently has approximately 1,650 members, and approximately 1,000 more who are members of the Affiliate Societies.

The Federation addresses the purposes listed above by convening conferences in odd-numbered years (see Meetings), through the more frequent meetings of its Affiliate Societies in their regions and through regular publication of the scholarly journal *Estuaries* and the Newsletter. In addition, the Federation serves as a source of advice on estuarine and coastal matters by responding to requests for information from legislative and management organizations.

American Fisheries Society (www.fisheries.org)

The American Fisheries Society (AFS), founded in 1870, is the oldest and largest professional society representing fisheries scientists. AFS promotes scientific research and enlightened management of resources for optimum use and enjoyment by the public. It also encourages a comprehensive education for fisheries scientists and continuing on-the-job training. The AFS publishes some of the world's leading fisheries research journals:

- * Transactions of the American Fisheries Society
- * North American Journal of Fisheries Management
- * North American Journal of Aquaculture (formerly The Progressive Fish Culturist)
- * The Journal of Aquatic Animal Health
- * Fisheries

AFS organizes scientific meetings where new results are reported and discussed. In addition to these primary functions, the Society has many other programs in areas such as professional certification, international affairs, public affairs and public information.

More than 100 chapters, divisions, student subunits, and sections carry out the mission of the society at the local, regional, and special interest level.

American Society for Limnology and Oceanography (www.aslo.org)

As the leading professional organization for researchers and educators in the field of aquatic science, ASLO works to provide for their needs at all phases of professional development. ASLO is best known for its highly rated research journals, its interdisciplinary meetings and its special symposia. The society supports increasingly important programs in public education and outreach and public policy. It strives to encourage student participation and to increase opportunities for minorities in the aquatic sciences. ASLO's mission statement is:

ASLO fosters a diverse, international scientific community that creates, integrates and communicates knowledge across the full spectrum of aquatic sciences, advances public awareness and education about aquatic resources and research, and promotes scientific stewardship of aquatic resources for the public interest. Its products and activities are directed toward these ends.

ASLO welcomes and invites anyone interested in the aquatic sciences to join!

You may also want to check out:

Center for the Advancement of the Steady State Economy WWW.STEADYSTATE.ORG. Sign the position on economic growth at: <http://steadystate.org/PositiononEG.html>

DISCCRS website contains many details about the initiative and resources for climate-change scholars: <http://aslo.org/phd.html>

Ecological Economics Blog: <http://forestpolicy.typepad.com/ecoecon/>

Environmental Economics Blog <http://www.env-econ.net/>

Estuarine Research Federation <http://www.erf.org/user-cgi/VisionsII.pl>

Footprint Network News <http://www.footprintnetwork.org/newsletters/>

Integrated Assessment Society (TIAS): <http://www.tias-web.info/>

USSEE Officers

President, Karin Limburg (2006-07)
Past President, Barry Solomon (2006)
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2006-2007 Randy Bruins, At-Large Member
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Stephen DeCanio, University of California-Santa Barbara
Neha Khanna, Binghamton University
Skip Laitner, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
* Richard Norgaard, University of California-Berkeley
Matthias Ruth, University of Maryland

David Stern, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

* USSEE representative to American Institute of Biological Sciences,
<http://www.aibs.org>

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Secretariat

Marsha Kopan, Association Management Resources

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