

The International Peatland Society (IPS) is an organisation of corporate and individual members dedicated to the responsible management and Wise Use of peatlands and peat. Our mission is to serve all those involved in peatlands and peat through the promotion, gathering, exchange and communication of knowledge and experience, by means of events and projects which address key issues, including climate change, biodiversity, the need for responsible use and restoration. Currently the IPS has 1462 individual, corporate, student and institutional members from 43 countries.

Re-link the IPS!

As you have noticed the IPS has changed its name to **International Peatland Society** to better reflect our activities. To implement this change, we kindly ask all members to update our name, address and links in their publications offline and online. IPS can now be found at www.peatlands.org, www.facebook.com/peatlands and in the peatland society group of LinkedIn. You are very welcome to inform your colleagues and partners as well. The address of the IPS Secretariat has changed to IPS, Nisulankatu 78, 40720 Jyväskylä, Finland and all staff email addresses end now with @peatlands.org. For further information see also www.peatlands.org/about-us.

Call for articles Peatlands International 3.2015

Peatlands International 3.2015 is scheduled to be published in early October 2015. Please contribute to the magazine by writing an article about your current work, research projects or cooperation efforts. All material can be sent until **7 September** to the IPS Secretariat, susann.warnecke (at) peatlands.org. Remember to submit all photos as separate jpg or pdf files with captions and the names of the copyright holders, and include the full contact details of the author. For more details and to download previous issues see www.peatlands.org/publications/peatlands-international.

List of Members published

The IPS has published its current list of members on the Intranet on our website, as determined in the Statutes of the Society. All members can login to their personal accounts, go to the document database (www.peatlands.org/publications/documentbank) and download the PDF list which includes names, organizations and email addresses of our 1400 members in 43 countries. The list will be updated 4 times a year and can be used to network internally. The list does not contain personal addresses or phone numbers and should not be used for marketing and sales purposes. If you have forgotten your password, please type your email address here: www.peatlands.org/user/password. User name is usually firstname.lastname or the first part of your email address before the @. In case you want to have your entry removed for the next issue, just email us at ips (at) peatlands.org. The document database also contains proceedings of the recent Peat Congresses and other IPS publications.

International Peat Congress 2016: Focus on Growing Media

IPS Commission II is pleased to announce a special session on "The use of growing media in today's and future horticulture in Asia, Oceania and other parts of the world" for the International Peat Congress in Kuching, Malaysia in August 2016. Although the focus is on Asia and Oceania, paper and poster proposals on developments in other regions are also highly welcome. Economic, environmental and societal aspects will be equally regarded as they are the pillars of sustainable development of growing media production and use. Responsible growing media production and horticultural applications must be acceptable, feasible and appropriate for all stakeholders. In this session, scientific progress as well as advances in practice and business endeavours will be presented and discussed between researchers, industry and growers. For more information, please see www.ipc2016.com or contact Gerald Schmilewski directly, gerald.schmilewski (at) klasmann-deilmann.com.

Mires and Peat Special Issue: Growing Sphagnum

The IPS-IMCG Journal Mires and Peat is planning a Special Issue "Growing Sphagnum", Guest Editors: Line Rochefort

and Stephan Glatzel. This volume will cover all aspects of ex-situ cultivation of Sphagnum in the field, greenhouse and laboratory cultures. Sphagnum continues to be an indispensable raw material for valuable products. Because of this, the extraction of peat moss and fibric peat is continuing worldwide. As peat moss extraction is no longer possible in many places because it has become too scarce, we need to look for new techniques of Sphagnum production. Recently, the practice of growing Sphagnum, known as “Sphagnum paludiculture” or “Sphagnum farming”, has been tested in many places. Sphagnum has also been harvested and/or grown in culture as seed material for peatland restoration. The special issue “Growing Sphagnum” addresses all aspects of ex-situ production of Sphagnum including horticulture /agronomy, methods, economy, ecology, Life Cycle Analysis, Local Case Studies. We ask contributors to send provisional titles and estimated dates for submission of manuscripts to the Editor-in-Chief, Olivia Bragg o.m.bragg (at) dundee.ac.uk as soon as possible, and in any case by **30 September 2015**. Further information can be obtained from www.mires-and-peat.net.

COP 13 of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Cancún

The host city of the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 13), the 8th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 8), and the 2nd meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing (COP-MOP2) has been changed by the Government of Mexico from Los Cabos, Mexico to Cancún, Mexico. The dates of the meetings remain unchanged, being **4 to 17 December 2016**. For more information on content and agenda, see www.cbd.int.

Peatland Exhibition in Espoo, Finland

The exhibition “In the lap of the mire – peatland nature and its benefits for humankind” is on display from **12 August to 18 October** at Nature House Villa Elfvik in Espoo, showing peatlands with all senses and introducing their ecosystem benefits, including a 10-minute demonstration how a peatland is formed from a lake within 10,000 years. The exhibition also displays which conservation and sustainability efforts are made in Finland, also with regard to hydrology. In addition, peat healthcare and food from peatlands are offered. For more info see www.espool.fi/en-US/Housing_and_environment/Environment_and_nature/Environmental_Awareness/Nature_House_Villa_Elfvik and www.espool.fi/fi-FI/Suon_sylissa_nayttely_suoluonnosta_ja_s%2869164%29 (in Finnish).

C-PEAT Workshop in New York in October

US scientists are organizing a workshop to bring together experts interested in peats from any regions in the world and over time periods from pre-Quaternary to the Holocene and recent centuries. The overall goal of the workshop is to facilitate research coordination and the synthesis of knowledge and data on peat accumulation processes and histories on Earth. The workshop will be held at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University, Palisades, New York (www.ldeo.columbia.edu) on **11 - 13 October 2015**. The workshop is to launch the new C-PEAT (Carbon in Peat on EARTH through Time) Working Group within PAGES; supported by INQUA (Holocene Global Peatland Carbon Dynamics project). More information can be found at www.pages-igbp.org/calendar/2014/127-pages/1502-c-peat-launch-wshop. We especially encourage early career scientists to participate. Some funding is available to support early career scientists as well as to cover on-site expenses. For more information contact Zicheng Yu, Dept. of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Lehigh University, phone: +1(610)758-6751, email: ziy2 (at) lehigh.edu.

Wetlands Course in Wageningen, Netherlands

A course on “Wetlands, integrated water resources management and food security 2016” is organized by the Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen UR for 2016. Interested candidates can apply to Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen UR for admission to the training. Course dates are **30 May - 17 June 2016**, deadlines 20 October (fellowships), final 17 April 2016. This course has been designed for wetland managers; including river basin and land-use planners; for policymakers, consultants, researchers, NGO and company staff involved with IWRM, wetlands and food security; and for those who wish to become a (better) water steward. To be able to act as a water steward and to advocate for wetlands, you will also need to know how to facilitate multi-stakeholder processes, how to communicate wetlands to different sectors and to use your negotiation skills. Proficiency in English is required. Tuition fee: 3875 €. For more information see www.wageningenur.nl/en/show/cdicourse_wetlands_2016.htm. For fellowships please check www.studyinholland.nl/scholarships/scholarships-administered-by-nuffic.