



NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL HUMIC SUBSTANCES SOCIETY

Number 46

Autumn 2011

Dear Colleagues,

In this newsletter important issues are addressed: amendments of the bylaws and announcements of the upcoming elections at the beginning of 2012.

The voting on the amendments of the bylaws will start in November 2011. The voting will be again performed on-line, further details are given in this newsletter. The active participation in voting with as large as possible membership participation is very much appreciated.

Also some months ahead the elections for the positions of Vice-President, Secretary and one Board Member will take place. I have appointed the new Nominations Committee consisting of Antonio Mangrich (Brazil), Elzbieta Jamroz (Poland), Jose Gonzalez-Perez (Spain) and William Horwath (USA). Professor Antonio Mangrich will act as chair of the committee. We gratefully acknowledge the acceptance of this important task and appreciate the efforts of the committee. General instructions for suggestions of possible candidates to the committee can be seen in this newsletter.

Also I would like to emphasize the importance of your participation in our 16th International Meeting of the International Humic Substances Society to be held in Hangzhou, China, conveniently located close to Shanghai, in September 9th to 14th, 2012.

Warmest regards

Ladislau Martin-Neto

President of IHSS



Functions of Humic Substances in Changing Environment

September 9-14, 2012

Zijingang Campus of Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voting on the amendments in the IHSS BYLAWS

As announced in Newsletter 45, published on July 22nd, 2011, the board proposed two amendments to the current bylaws to make changes in the election procedure. The voting will start during November, 2011.

Here is again a summary of the proposed amendments:

1. The first amendment proposes to change the rule for deciding who wins the election if there are three or more candidates for one position. As currently written, Article VI, Section 1 (below) specifies that a simple majority of votes (more than 50%) is required for a candidate to win an election. This could require a runoff election if no candidate exceeds 50%. The amended language states that only a plurality of the votes cast is required to win.
2. The second amendment simply defines an alternative procedure of distributing the ballots to members (Article VI, Section 5).

Both the current language and the proposed changes are listed below.

ARTICLE VI. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1.

Current

All of the Officers and At-Large Directors, with the exception of Treasurer, shall be elected by simple majority of the members voting from lists of candidates presented by the Nominations Committee.

Amendment

All of the Officers and At-Large Directors, with the exception of Treasurer, shall be elected by the members voting from lists of candidates presented by the Nominations Committee. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected.

Section 5.

Current

The Secretary, in collaboration with the President, will transmit election ballots to members.

Amendment

The Secretary, or other designated officer, shall provide members with access to the ballots.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

Any proposed amendment to these Bylaws shall first be presented in writing to the Board. If approved by a majority vote of the Board, a proposed amendment shall then be published in the Newsletter at least ninety (90) days before being submitted to the membership for a vote. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast shall be required for adoption of the proposed amendment. Results of the vote shall be published in the next Newsletter published after the vote.

The current bylaws are available at the IHSS website: <http://www.humicsubstances.org/>

The voting will be performed on-line. Further instructions for the on-line voting are given below:

How to vote on-line

- You will receive a message by email from: elections@humicsubstances.org
- The email will contain your username (your email address) and your password, and the web address for the electronic ballot.
- Instructions on how to vote are given on the first page after you enter with your password. You can either vote immediately, or you can download or print the instructions, voting information, and ballot for study and consideration before voting on-line.
- Balloting is open from November 15th, 2011 until December 20th, 2011.
- We will send three emails in all, the first and up to two reminders before the deadline. Reminders only go to those that have not voted.
- If by November 25th, 2011, you will not receive a message by email requesting that you cast a ballot, please inform the secretary of IHSS (gudrun.abbt-braun@kit.edu)

Who may vote

- Those who have not paid by October 15th, 2011, will not be able to take part in the voting of the amendments starting November 15th, 2011.
- The election computer will check the records for eligibility.

Members, who will not have the possibility to vote on-line

- Please inform your chapter coordinator and the secretary of IHSS (gudrun.abbt-braun@kit.edu) in case, you cannot vote on-line.
- If you vote on-line please do not request a letter ballot.
- Before letter ballots are counted, the name on the outer envelope will be checked against the list of on-line voters and if you have already voted on-line your letter ballot will be destroyed.
- You will receive the documents via mail, and you will have to proceed according to the instructions given.
- The ballots must be postmarked by December 20th, 2011:

Dr. Gudrun Abbt-Braun
Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT)
Engler-Bunte-Institut
Bereich Wasserchemie
Engler-Bunte-Ring 1
76131 Karlsruhe, Germany

ELECTIONS IN 2012

The next elections will be in January and February of 2012,
positions to be elected are:

new Vice-President

Board Member

Secretary

The President has appointed the new election Nominations Committee. Members of the Committee are: Antonio Salvio Mangrich of the Universidade Federal do Paraná, Departamento de Química (Brazil); Elzbieta Jamroz of the Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Institute of Soil Science and Environmental Protection (Poland); Jose Gonzalez-Perez from the Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología de Sevilla (IRNAS-CSIC), Seville (Spain); and William Horwath from the University of California-Davis, Davis/CA (USA). Antonio Mangrich will act as chairperson.

Members are invited to send candidate names to the Nominations Committee through their chapter coordinators or directly to the committee. Your active participation is once again vital to make the IHSS Board truly representative of the IHSS membership.

The Committee is asked to present a list of candidates by November 30, 2011.

Antonio Mangrich (Chair): mangrich@quimica.ufpr.br

Elzbieta Jamroz: elzbieta.jamroz@up.wroc.pl

Jose Antonio Gonzalez-Perez: jag@irnase.csic.es

William Horwath: wrhorwath@ucdavis.edu

*Secretary of IHSS
Gudrun Abbt-Braun*

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2012

During the following weeks you will receive an email to be asked to pay the membership dues for 2012. Payment after October 15th, belongs to the membership fees of the year 2012.

Please remember, that members who have not paid dues for 2012 by January 31st, 2012, will not be allowed to vote for the upcoming elections held at the beginning of the year 2012.

IHSS WEBMASTER RESIGNS AND WEBSITE HAS MOVED

Our webmaster, Mike Perdue, is moving and will no longer be able to function as the IHSS webmaster. Mike has been our webmaster since we created a website and the Board would like to convey our deep appreciation for Mike's dedication to the task of maintaining a good website for IHSS. We are now looking for a new webmaster.

Because Mike is moving we will no longer get free hosting of the website at the Georgia Institute of Technology and the website has been moved to a server at the headquarters of the Mineralogical Society of America, in Chantilly Virginia.

The new address is: <http://www.humicsubstances.org/>

Our new webmaster is Dr. Claudio Zaccone, Dept. of Agro-Environmental Sciences, Chemistry and Plant Protection (Di.S.A.C.D.), University of Foggia, Italy. We gratefully acknowledge the acceptance of this important task. You may contact Claudio Zaccone via email (c.zaccone@unifg.it).

Paul Bloom

CALL FOR TRAVEL SUPPORT AWARDS 2012

Aims

The aim of the IHSS **Travel Support Award** is to allow graduate students to present their work and participate in the biannual International IHSS Meeting.

Conditions

IHSS Travel Support Awards will be granted only to graduate students. Investigators who have completed their PhD degrees before application are not eligible.

The award covers the conference fee (including excursion and banquet), travel, accommodation (2 students per room), and a small stipend for incidental expenses.

The conference fee and accommodation charges will be paid directly to the Conference Organizing Committee by the IHSS Treasurer, while awardees will be reimbursed for travel expenses after the conference (receipts are required).

Recipients of travel support awards will be honored at the conference banquet, where they will receive a certificate and a one-year membership in IHSS.

Malcolm Award

The IHSS Travel Support Award Committee will select the top Travel Award applicant for a special award: the Malcolm Award. This individual will receive a certificate and a check for 250 US\$ in addition to the regular travel award.

How to apply for IHSS Travel Support for the 16th IHSS Meeting
September 9th to 14th 2012, Hangzhou, China

Electronic applications (APPLICATION Form) should be sent to the Vice President of IHSS, **Prof. Teodoro Miano** (miano@agr.uniba.it).

Application form should be accompanied by:

- Curriculum Vitae, including summary of courses (1 page),
- a letter of evaluation from the applicant's main supervisor,
- a manuscript of the paper to be presented (4 pages in total).

Notifications of awards will be given to the applicants in advance of the conference registration deadline.

Deadline for submission: January 31st, 2012

For further details, including the application form, see <http://www.ihss.gatech.edu/travel.html>



IHSS CONFERENCE 2012



Functions of Humic Substances in Changing Environment
September 9-14, 2012

Zijingang Campus of Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

Hangzhou city, the capital of Zhejiang Province, was settled as early as 4,700 years ago, giving birth to the Liangzhu Civilization. Hangzhou is one of the seven ancient capitals and a key scenic and historic city in China. Marco Polo, the 13th century Italian traveller, applauded it as “the most splendid and luxurious city in the world”. The beautiful city of Hangzhou is known as a paradise on the earth with numerous touristic sites within and nearby the city, and the city attracts millions of foreign and domestic tourists. Participants will surely enjoy and benefit from the beautiful natural scenery and historical cultural sites.

It only takes 48 min. to travel from Shanghai to Hangzhou by high-speed train. The Hangzhou International Airport serves a network of 160 domestic and international routes connected to 58 cities and region.

TOPICS

- Formation, structure and characteristics of HS and NOM
- HS/NOM and carbon sequestration
- HS/NOM and biogeochemical cycling of nutrients
- HS/NOM and the environmental processes of toxic elements and anthropogenic organics
- HS/NOM, naturally occurring and engineered nanoparticles
- HS/NOM, biodiversity and ecosystem health
- Characterization and function of biochar in the environment
- Industrial products and application of HS

Extended abstract submission starts: **September 1st, 2011**

Extended abstract submission deadline: **March 31st, 2012**

Confirmation of oral or poster presentation: **April 15th, 2012**

Pre-registration is already possible, see <http://zjklsp.zju.edu.cn/IHSS2012/index.html>

Early bird rate cut-off: **Before April 30th, 2012**

Standard rate starts: **July 1st, 2012**

Final program schedule: **July 15th, 2012**

Full paper submission: **September 10th, 2012**

For further information regarding the IHSS16 please contact:

Chair: Prof. Jianming Xu **E-mail:** jmxu@zju.edu.cn

Secretary: Prof. Jianjun Wu **E-mail:** wujianjun@zju.edu.cn

Telephone: + 86-571-88982955 **FAX:** + 86-571-88982955

Address: College of Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences, Zhejiang University,
866 Yuhangtang Road, Hangzhou 310058, P.R.China

For further information see webpage: <http://zjklsp.zju.edu.cn/IHSS2012/index.html>

FUTURE CONFERENCES

Molecular Aspects of Humic Substances as a Result of biological Activities in Soil and the Environment

Biannual Meeting of the IHSS-Italian Chapter

5th – 7th December 2011, Portici, Italy

The biannual meeting of the Italian Chapter of the IHSS will take place from December 5 to 7. It will take place in the Chinese Room of the Royal Palace of Portici (built in AD 1734), near Napoli, where also the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Napoli Federico II is located.

The meeting will be held in English. An attendance of 60 to 80 scientists and students is previewed from Italy. However, humic substances scientists from Europe and elsewhere are warmly welcome.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: November 15th, 2011

Further detailed information is given on the IHSS webpage

Contact: Prof. Alessandro Piccolo

Chairman of the Organizing Committee

alessandro.piccolo@unina.it or alpiccol@unina.it

**2nd International Conference on Humic Innovative Technologies
Natural Organic Matter in Clean Water and Carbon Sequestration Technologies
(HiT-2012)**

Second Meeting of the CIS Chapter of IHSS

22nd - 27th April, 2012, Moscow, Russia

Main goal of the HiT-2012 is to provide impetus to cutting edge research in the field of innovative clean water and carbon sequestration technologies based on understanding of ecoadaptive chemistry of natural organic matter (NOM) and organo-mineral interactions.

The main topics will focus

- on the role of NOM in self-purification of water ecosystems,
- on refractory organic carbon as a marker of climate change,
- on water treatment and its relation to quality of NOM,
- on reference materials and standardization of NOM analysis,
- on organo-mineral interactions,
- and on carbon sequestration technologies.

Information on registration fees and hotel accommodation will be available on the Conference website: <http://www.humus.ru/hit-2012/eng/>.

Contact: Organizing Secretariat

Prof. Irina Perminova (Chair)

Dr. Olga Yakimenko (Secretary)

Lomonosov Moscow State University,

Leninskie Gory, Moscow, Russia

Tel.: +7(495)9395546 (of); +7(903)6604864 (mob)

e-mail: iperm@org.chem.msu.ru

<http://www.humus.ru/hit-2012/eng/>

Eurosoil 2012

4th International Congress, Soil Science for the Benefit of Mankind and Environment

2nd – 6th July 2012

Fiera del Levante, Bari, Italy

The Congress will focus on and develop the various aspects of fundamental and applied soil science and technology, field approaches and social, economical and political implications in relation to the present and future needs and emergencies of mankind and environment.

Special emphasis will be devoted to the fundamental role of soil as a central ecosystem and instrumental but limited and sensible resource for a correct, sustainable and harmonized development of mankind and its benefit and welfare.

Information on registration fees and hotel accommodation will be available on the Congress website.

EUROSOIL 2012 and ECSSS President:

Nicola Senesi

Dipartimento di Biologia e Chimica Agroforestale e Ambientale

Università di Bari “Aldo Moro”, Bari, Italy

Tel.: +39 080 5442853, Fax: +39 080 5442850, e-mail: senesi@agr.uniba.it

Contact: Organizing Secretariat SelectoSrl

Society of Quality Management System

Via Roberto da Bari, 108 - 70122 Bari- Italy

Piazza Campitelli, 1 - 00186 Roma - Italy

Tel.: +39 080 5218556 Fax: +39 080 5245166

info@eurosoil2012.eu

www.eurosoil2012.eu

www.selectocongressi.com

1st National Humic Substance Congress in Turkey

6th - 9th June, 2012

Culture and Congress Center, Esentepe Campus,

Sakarya University, Sakarya, Turkey

Topics: all fields related with humic substances

Contact: **Prof. Dr. Ahmet Tutar**

Email: atutar@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011

Past President

Dr. Jerzy Weber
Wroclaw University of Environmental and
Life Sciences
Institute of Soil Science and
Environmental Protection
Grunwaldzka 53,
50-357 Wroclaw, Poland
☎ (+) 48 71 3205631
☎ (+) 48 60 4668932 (mobile)
jerzyweber@gmail.com

President

Dr. Ladislau Martin-Neto
Brazilian Agricultural Research
Corporation- Embrapa
Labex-USA-Embrapa/USDA-ARS
Cooperation
5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Bldg. 4-
1193
Beltsville, MD 20705-5141, USA
☎ (+) 1 301 504 4556
☎ (+) 1 301 504 4528
martin.ladislau@yahoo.com

Vice President

Dr. Teodoro Miano
Università di Bari
Dipartimento di Biologia e
Chimica e Agro-Forestale e
Ambientale
Via G. Amendola, 165/A
70126 Bari, Italy
☎ (+) 39 80 5442857
☎ (+) 39 80 5443099
☎ (+) 39 80 5442850
miano@agr.uniba.it

Secretary

Dr. Gudrun Abbt-Braun
Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT)
Engler-Bunte-Institut
Bereich Wasserchemie
Engler-Bunte-Ring 1
76131 Karlsruhe, Germany
☎ (+) 49 721 608 44309
☎ (+) 49 721 608 47051
gudrun.abbt-braun@kit.edu

Treasurer

Dr. Raymond Hozalski
Dept. Civil Engineering,
University of Minnesota
500 Pillsbury Drive SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455, USA
☎ (+) 1 612 626 9650
☎ (+) 1 612 626 7750
hozal001@umn.edu

Associate Treasurer

Dr. C. Edward Clapp
USDA-ARS
Dept. Soil, Water, Climate
University of Minnesota
1991 Upper Buford Circle
St. Paul, MN 55108, USA
☎ (+) 1 612 625 2767
☎ (+) 1 612 625 2208
eclapp@umn.edu

Board Position

Dr. Claudio Ciavatta
Dip. Scienze Tecnologia Agro-Ambientali
Università di Bologna
Viale Fanin, 40
40127 Bologna, Italy
☎ (+) 39 051 2096201
☎ (+) 39 051 2096203
claudio.ciavatta@unibo.it

Board Position

Dr. Irina Perminova
Department of Chemistry
Lomonosov Moscow State
University
Leninskie Gory 1-3
119991 Moscow, Russia
☎ (+) 7 495 9395 546
☎ (+) 7 495 9395 546
ipermin@org.chem.msu.ru

Chairman, Samples Collection

Dr. Paul R. Bloom
Dept. Soil, Water, Climate
University of Minnesota
1991 Upper Buford Circle
St. Paul, MN 55108, USA
☎ (+) 1 612 625 4711
☎ (+) 1 612 625 2208
prb@umn.edu

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International Humic Substances Society on the World Wide Web

Our website has been moved. Go to:

<http://www.humicsubstances.org/>

IMPRESSUM

Editor: INTERNATIONAL HUMIC SUBSTANCES SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 46

President

Dr. Ladislau Martin-Neto

Brazilian Agricultural Research

Corporation- Embrapa

Labex-USA-Embrapa/USDA-ARS

Cooperation

5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Bldg. 4-1193

Beltsville, MD 20705-5141, USA

☎ (+) 1 301 504 4556

☒ (+) 1 301 504 4528

martin.ladislau@yahoo.com

Secretary

Dr. Gudrun Abbt-Braun

Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT)

Engler-Bunte-Institut

Bereich Wasserchemie

Engler-Bunte-Ring 1

76131 Karlsruhe, Germany

☎ (+) 49 721 608 44309

☒ (+) 49 721 608 47051

gudrun.abbt-braun@kit.edu