

# ISIE Annual General Meeting, 30 April 2025

8AM Eastern/New York, 1PM London, 2PM Berlin, 8PM Beijing, 9PM Tokyo,  
10PM Sydney

## MINUTES

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Simron Singh, Secretary, ISIE
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Irena Dukić, Admin. and Outreach Manager, ISIE
<b>REGRETS FROM BOARD MEMBERS</b>	
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDEES</b>	Ming Xu (MX), Arnold Tukker (AT), Stefanie Hellweg (SH), Simron Singh (SS), Kuishuang Feng (KF), Matthew Eckelman (ME), Cristina Madrid Lopez (CM), Jonathan Cullen (JC), Tamar Makov (TM), Irena Dukić (ID), Edward Gordon (EG). New elected: Yuan Yao (Secretary), Alessio Miatto (Treasurer), Tomer Fishman (Board member), Cristina Madrid Lopez (Board member).
<b>PREAMBLE</b>	The 2025 General Assembly of the ISIE took place electronically via Zoom. The meeting and associated chat discussions were recorded, and 45 attendees were present. Proposals from members had been invited in advance, and five were presented to the ISIE membership. An electronic voting system was set up on the ISIE website to enable both attending and non-attending members to vote between 30 April and 12 May 2025. Only the votes cast during this period were counted. Subsequently, the Executive Team decided to extend the voting for member proposals to May 30th. The votes that occurred during the extension are included in the totals given.

## AGENDA TOPICS

<b>1.</b>	<b>WELCOME AND THANKS FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES</b>	<b>SS</b>
<p>SS welcomed everybody and thanked for joining despite the late hour for some. He presented the Agenda overview.</p> <p>MX welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked SS for organizing it, as well as those who stayed late to attend. He congratulated the newly elected Board members and expressed his gratitude to all for their continued service.</p> <p>A motion to accept the minutes from the previous AGM was made by SS. The motion was seconded by MX.</p> <p><b>Results of the vote: Do you accept the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting?</b>  <a href="https://is4ie.org/survey/111">https://is4ie.org/survey/111</a>          YES: 37          NO: 0          ABSTAIN: 1</p>		

## 2. SINGAPORE CONFERENCE UPDATE

SS and AT reported that they have been meeting regularly to monitor progress and coordinate ongoing preparations. He presented the emails from co-chairs Lynette Cheah and Harn Wei Kua who could not attend the AGM.

A total of over 900 abstracts were submitted. Significant efforts were made to accommodate as many contributions as possible, resulting in 734 accepted abstracts (an acceptance rate of approximately 78%). Aside from lively oral and poster presentations, the event will feature a lineup of eminent keynote speakers, special sessions, section gatherings, social/educational tours that showcase sustainable urban living, and dinner at the beautiful Gardens by the Bay.

AT emphasized that, as the ISIE community continues to grow, it is important to clearly position the conference as a community-driven event. He noted that future conference planning and selection processes should consider the increasing scale and inclusivity of the community. While alternative selection approaches could be considered, he expressed support for maintaining the conference as a community-focused event and acknowledged that the organizers have done their best under the circumstances.

SS thanked AT and the Executive Committee for their collaboration and support.

## 3. PAST YEAR REPORTING

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ming Xu**

The President reported that ISIE membership remains strong. While there was a slight decline following the Leiden conference in 2024, overall membership has grown to a new level. The upcoming conference is expected to host more than 1,000 participants, reflecting the Society's continued growth.

Financially, the Society is in a secure position, enabling continued support for key activities, including scholarships for conference participation, member programs, and social media outreach.

The Education Committee achieved notable progress, launching several initiatives, including industrial ecology programs in developing countries.

The joint Asia-Pacific Conference held last year was very well organized and well attended, with participants from around the world.

The President also highlighted the Gordon Research Conference (GRC), which, although not an official ISIE event, is closely connected to the Society. He noted that, as Chair, he observed strong interest, with approximately 200 applications and limited capacity, requiring many applicants to be declined—further demonstrating the growth of the community.

The Journal of Industrial Ecology (JIE) continues to serve as the Society's flagship publication. The President expressed thanks to the Editors-in-Chief, as well as to authors and reviewers for their continued support. He also noted that the contract with Wiley is approaching its end, and discussions with potential new publishers are underway.

All ISIE Sections remain active, with particular recognition given to the Student Section for its strong engagement.

MX concluded by expressing his anticipation of the upcoming conference in Singapore and acknowledged all candidates who participated in the recent elections.

Welcomed the newly elected member:

Wei-Qiang Chen as President-elect  
Yuan Yao as Secretary  
Shweta Singh as Vice-secretary  
Alessio Miatto as Treasurer  
Zhi Cao as Vice-treasurer  
Tomer Fishman as Board member  
Cristina Madrid Lopez as Board member  
Hua Cai as Nominating Committee Member  
Jonathan Krones as Nominating Committee Member

MX also expressed his sincere thanks to all outgoing Board and committee members for their service and contributions to the Society.

Stefanie Hellweg as Past President  
Simron Singh as Secretary  
Kuishuang Feng as Vice-secretary  
Matthew Eckelman as Treasurer  
Eugene Mohareb as Vice-treasurer  
Hiroki Tanikawa as Board member  
and Xiao Li and Stefano Cucurachi as members of the Nominating Committee

He noted that he greatly enjoyed working with Arnold and expressed confidence in and appreciation for Arnold's upcoming leadership.

MX concluded by thanking everyone for their support.

SS thanked Ming for his service and leadership.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Simron Singh**

The Membership Report was noted as available online. As of the previous day, ISIE had 1,007 members, with numbers expected to increase further as the conference approaches. The report highlighted regional trends, including growth in membership in Asia and a decline in Europe. It was also noted that many members are active in more than one ISIE Section.

### **TREASURER REPORT – Matthew Eckelman**

The Treasurer presented the financial update and shared slides with the members. He reported that the Society remains in a strong financial position and expressed thanks to all donors, with special recognition given to Tom Graedel for his contributions.

Looking ahead to 2025, income is expected to be supported by conference proceeds. In terms of expenditures, the Society continues to prioritize student scholarships and support for participation in meetings. Overall, a slight surplus is anticipated, with a positive net income.

Members were encouraged to review the budget and to get in touch with any questions or suggestions, noting that there is potential for further expansion of scholarship support.

The Treasurer also reported that banking arrangements have been improved, with appropriate access now secured. He noted that this would be his final report and expressed his appreciation, as he prepares to hand over responsibilities to his successor.

SS thanked Matthew for his dedicated service to the Society.

### **Highlights from our 2024 Annual Report of activities (only those who offered to present short oral reports)**

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Heather Logan**

The Education Committee, formed in 2024, reported on its initial activities and progress. The Committee began by soliciting input from members to better understand educational needs across the Society, with particular attention to challenges faced in developing countries.

Key priorities identified include improving access to teaching materials and data globally, developing shared syllabi, and promoting open-source educational resources. In response, the Committee has been working on compiling and sharing materials, including testing a GitHub-based platform for resource exchange.

Additional activities include exploring the development of courses, identifying facilitators, and improving access to textbooks and educational materials through libraries and other channels. A call for applications related to these initiatives is planned for November.

No questions were raised.

### **INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS AND ECO-INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT SECTION – Koichi Kanaoka –**

Koichi Kanaoka reported on behalf of the Section. As Secretary, he provided an overview of activities for 2024, which was a relatively quiet year for the Section.

A gathering was organized at the Gordon Research Conference (GRC), focusing on effective collaboration and exchange within the community. The Section also completed the election of a new Board.

Looking ahead, the 18th Industrial Symbiosis Research Symposium will take place in Singapore at the ISIE2025. A webinar series is planned to begin next week, and members are encouraged to consult the Section website for further details.

Koichi Kanaoka also expressed his appreciation to all members of the Student Section for their contributions.

No questions were raised.

### **SOCIO-ECONOMIC METABOLISM SECTION – Christoph Helbig**

Christoph Helbig reported on behalf of the Section. He announced the appointment of a new Section Board and expressed sincere thanks to the outgoing Board, particularly Stefan Pauliuk, for their significant contributions.

Christoph Helbig and Zhi Cao are now serving as Co-Chairs of the Section. The Section has continued its core activities, strengthened community engagement, and will maintain its conferences, such as the recent one in Beijing.

An updated version of the Section website was presented, and members were invited to explore it for resources and updates: <https://is4ie.org/sections/metabolism/pages/323>

Members were also encouraged to participate in the ongoing Perpetual Online Conference series, which has now been running for five years.

Looking ahead, a Section conference will be held in the United Kingdom in July 2026, organized by André Serrenho, Jonathan Cullen, and Rick Lipton. Appreciation was expressed to the organizers for their efforts.

No questions were raised.

### **SUSTAINABLE URBAN SYSTEM SECTION – Joe Bozeman and Kangkang Tong**

Joe Bozeman and Kangkang Tong reported on behalf of the Section. Membership has increased in 2025, reflecting continued engagement and growth.

The Section contributed actively to International Industrial Ecology Day (IE Day). Special recognition was given to Thomas Elliot for his leadership in charring sessions related to the IPCC, as well as to emerging leader Amy Brooks for her recent publication in Nature Sustainability.

Kangkang Tong highlighted the release of the SUS Bulletin, which summarizes Section activities. The Section aims to continue these bulletin updates at regular intervals and to strengthen collaboration with other societies. Upcoming events: special session approved at ISIE2025 conference and a SUS meeting at ISIE2025 conference.

No questions were raised.

### **SUSTAINABLE CIRCULAR ECONOMY SECTION – Magnus Fröhling**

Magnus Fröhling reported on behalf of the Section. Established in 2022, the Section has grown to 424 members as of April 2025.

The Section's mission is to foster cross-cutting collaboration within industrial ecology and to critically assess and advance the role of the circular economy in achieving sustainability. It continues to support interdisciplinary exchange and contribute to advancing circular economy research and practice within the Society.

Key activities in 2024 included the publication of a virtual special issue (VSI) and editorial titled "Unpacking the path toward a sustainable circular economy through industrial ecology", hosting a webinar on macro-economic modelling under global constraints, and contributing to ISIE conferences through peer review.

Looking ahead, the Section will focus on future activities and engagement during its meeting at ISIE 2025 in Singapore.

No questions were raised.

### **IE DAY 2024 – Cristina Madrid**

Cristina Madrid-López provided a brief update on IE Day. The 2024 event spanned more than 24 hours across multiple time zones and took place on November 21, featuring a series of globally coordinated sessions.

Several improvements were implemented this year, including the introduction of two co-chairs, six local nodes across different regions, and a bottom-up approach to session organization. The event included approximately 20 sessions, some attracting more than 100 participants, demonstrating strong engagement.

Efforts to expand participation in certain regions, particularly Africa and the Americas, remain an ongoing challenge. Cristina acknowledged the support of Ned and Irena in organizing the event.

Additional developments included continued use of the Zenodo platform for sharing materials and the introduction of an official IE Day logo. The importance of knowledge sharing and global collaboration was emphasized, along with a call for continued participation in future editions. It was also noted that IE Day may contribute to attracting new members to the Society.

Cristina thanked all contributors and participants for their involvement. SS expressed appreciation for Cristina's leadership and the work of the organizing team.

**Question (Stefan Pauliuk):** Do we know the date of this year's IE Day?

It was noted that IE Day is typically held around 30 November; however, efforts are being made to avoid scheduling it on a weekend. The exact date will be announced in due course.

### **RESULTS of the vote: Do you accept the 2024 Annual Report?**

<https://is4ie.org/survey/110>

YES: 38

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 2

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## **4. MEMBER PROPOSALS**

SS explained the procedure and rules to accept the member proposals. This year five proposals are being presented for consideration.

**1. Member Proposal: ISIE Textbook Grant Program Trial (Heather M. Logan / Education Committee):**

View and vote here: <https://is4ie.org/survey/113>

Heather M. Logan presented the proposal.

The ISIE Textbook Grant Program supports educators and universities by providing access to essential industrial ecology textbooks, helping improve teaching quality while ensuring students have free access to key learning materials.

The program benefits the Society and its members by providing educators with essential textbooks, enhancing the quality of industrial ecology education, and fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing.

No questions were raised.

**RESULTS** of the vote: 109

YES: 112

NO: 3

**The proposal was approved.**

**2. Member Proposal: Bringing Circular Economy Principles to Public Schools (Luis Izquierdo Horna):** View and vote here: <https://is4ie.org/survey/114>

Luis Izquierdo Horna is not online.

This proposal aims to integrate industrial ecology principles into schools by developing scalable tools and strategies for sustainable waste management, improving resource efficiency, and fostering collaboration among educators, policymakers, and researchers.

The proposal benefits the Society and its members by advancing sustainable waste management in schools, promoting circular economy practices, and providing a scalable model that fosters collaboration, community engagement, and long-term environmental impact.

No questions were raised.

**RESULTS** of the vote: 83

YES: 93

NO: 10

**The proposal was not approved.**

**3. Member Proposal: Enabling Climate Accountability in Science: Standardizing Carbon Evaluation for ISIE Conferences (Xiangjie Chen):** View and vote here: <https://is4ie.org/survey/115>

Xiangjie Chen presented the proposal.

The proposal aims to help ISIE assess and reduce the carbon footprint of its conferences by piloting a standardized evaluation approach, developing practical tools and guidelines, and strengthening the Society's leadership in sustainability.

The project would benefit ISIE and its members by providing practical tools and insights to measure and reduce conference emissions, supporting informed decision-making, strengthening climate leadership, and building capacity through student training.

**Comment (Joe Bozemann):** It was noted that, in addition to capturing greenhouse gas emissions from conferences, it is also important to consider the benefits of in-person gatherings and how these contribute to collaboration and the advancement of the Society's activities.

**RESULTS** of the vote: 90

YES: 105

NO: 15

**The proposal was not approved.**

**4. Member Proposal: Enhancing Industrial Ecology in Georgia (Ralf Aschemann):**

View and vote here: <https://is4ie.org/survey/116>

Ralf Aschemann presented the proposal.

This proposal aims to promote industrial ecology in Georgia by mapping existing activities, building a national network of stakeholders, and developing a strategic roadmap for future development.

The project benefits ISIE and its members by expanding visibility and membership in Georgia, fostering new collaborations, and establishing a regional hub for industrial ecology in the Caucasus.

No questions were raised.

**RESULTS** of the vote: 44

YES: 64

NO: 20

**The proposal was not approved.**

**5. Member Proposal: Sustainable Voices: A Writing Challenge to Amplify Industrial Ecology's Impact (Frederica Geremicca on behalf of the Student Section):** View and vote here:

<https://is4ie.org/survey/117>

Federica Geremicca presented the proposal.

This proposal aims to engage ISIE members in creating accessible, high-quality content for the Society's new website through a writing challenge, fostering communication skills, collaboration, and broader public understanding of industrial ecology.

This initiative benefits ISIE and its members by increasing visibility, enhancing public understanding of industrial ecology, fostering member engagement and collaboration, and strengthening communication skills among researchers.

No questions were raised.

**RESULTS** of the vote: 125

YES: 128

NO: 3

**The proposal was approved.**

SS informed members that five member proposals have been submitted. Members are invited to vote "yes" or "no" on each proposal (no abstention option). Proposals receiving at least 10% net positive votes will be put forward for recommendation for funding.

Online voting will be open **until 12 May**.

SS thanked all contributors, noting that the number of proposals reflects strong member engagement and a clear willingness to actively contribute to and shape the Society's activities.

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## 5. UPDATE OF LAST YEAR'S MEMBER PROPOSALS

SS explained that this update was optional and intended as a brief overview of ongoing activities related to approved member proposals.

### 1. A platform for sustainability literacy and research dissemination (Max Koslowski)

Following the handover, Frederica presented an update on the project. She outlined that the general structure of the platform has been developed, including both visual design and content framework. The focus is on creating meaningful and accessible content.

She also raised considerations regarding the platform's long-term maintenance, suggesting potential involvement of students beyond the Student Board to support its continued development.

## **2. Industrial Ecology methods crash course (Shiva Zargar)**

It was noted that Shiva Zargar was not present to deliver the update.

## **3. Islands at Risk: showcasing and teaching “Island Industrial Ecology” (Simron Singh, on behalf of the Islands Section)**

Simron Singh reported that this project was approved at the AGM 2023 on behalf of the Islands Section. The initiative involves the production of a documentary on Island Industrial Ecology.

He noted that the production has progressed through several stages, including filming at multiple locations such as Aruba, Mauritius, Maldives and the Seychelles. There were some changes in the filming team during the process.

The documentary is now nearing completion and is currently under review by the Section Board, with the final version expected by mid-June. It is planned to be promoted at the Singapore conference.

This will be the first documentary produced by the Section, and a broader announcement will be made once it is released.

## **4. Data Commons Initiative (Stefan Pauliuk)**

Stefan Pauliuk presented an update on the Data Commons initiative and thanked SS for the opportunity to share his screen.

He explained that the initiative aims to develop a database for the industrial ecology community, building on earlier work initiated by Tom Graedel. The database has been in development and testing for approximately more than eight years and currently includes around 300 datasets.

Members are invited to contribute data via the platform, which includes a validation system (IEDS Data Validator) to ensure quality and consistency. The initiative represents a significant effort in terms of both development and conceptual design.

The database is available at: <https://www.database.industrialecology.uni-freiburg.de/>

Stefan also noted that further details on the data model will be presented in an upcoming webinar, which will be shared through the ISIE newsletter: <https://is4ie.org/events/event/the-isie-socioeconomic-metabolism-perpetual-online-conference/program/124>

SS thanked Stefan for the excellent work on this initiative.

## **4. Report on India Workshop (Shweta Singh)**

It was noted that Shweta was not present to deliver the update. The report on activities in India is included in the Annual Report.

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no additional announcement under other business.

## **7. CLOSING OF GENERAL MEETING**

**AT**

Arnold, the President-elect, thanked all participants and expressed appreciation to the outgoing Board members: Hiroki, Eugene, Kuishuang, and, in particular, Stefanie for her leadership during the COVID period.

He also thanked the Secretary Simron Singh for guiding the Society in their role and extended special thanks to Matthew Eckelman for his contributions as Treasurer, including navigating the challenges of establishing a bank account.

Ming was thanked for his leadership over the past two years, and congratulations were extended to both him and Cristina, as Ming is stepping down from his role and Cristina has been re-elected to the Board for a new term.

The President also acknowledged the support of the Executive Office, thanking Ned and Irena for their continued work in supporting the Society and facilitating its activities.

He welcomed the incoming Board members: Wei-Qiang Chen as President-elect, Tomer Fishman and Cristina Madrid-López as Board members, Alessio and Zhi as Treasurer and Vice-Treasurer, and Yuan Yao and Shweta Singh as Secretary and Vice-Secretary. He expressed confidence in the new leadership team and his hope that the strong collaboration and team spirit of the current Board will continue.

Simron Singh formally closed the meeting, thanking colleagues for their contributions and engagement. He noted that it has been a pleasure to serve the Society and expressed appreciation to all participants for attending the AGM. He also indicated that follow-up communication would be shared.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 10.32 AM US EST**

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