

# ISIE Annual General Meeting, 28 April 2022

## MINUTES

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Simron Singh
<b>NOTE TAKERS</b>	Kuishuang Feng
<b>REGRETS FROM BOARD MEMBERS</b>	Heinz Schandl, Alissa Kendall
<b>BOARD MEMBER ATTENDEES</b>	Stefanie Hellweg, Ming Xu, Ned Gordon, Matthew Eckelman, Eugene Mohareb, Jooyoung Park, Weslynn Ashton, Gang Liu, Hiroki Callie Babbitt, Valerie Thomas, Cristina Lopez

### Preamble

The 2022 General Assembly of the ISIE took place electronically via Zoom. The meeting and associated chat discussions were recorded. 39 attendees were present. Proposals from Members had earlier been called for, and two were presented to the ISIE members. With the approval of the Board, an electronic voting system was set up on the ISIE website to enable attending and non-attending members to vote between the dates of 28<sup>th</sup> April-16<sup>th</sup> May 2022. As the meeting was entirely virtual, and proposals and other business could be raised by members well before the meeting, **any members not voting were assumed to be abstaining.**

### Agenda topics

0 ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS AGM SS

<b>DECISION</b>	Accept
A motion to accept the minutes from the previous AGM was made by <b>Simron Singh</b> The motion was seconded by <b>Stefanie Hellweg</b> The minutes were accepted based on the Results of the vote. <a href="https://is4ie.org/survey/73">https://is4ie.org/survey/73</a> Results: Yes: 27; Abstain: 1	

1 WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENTS SH

**SH** provided a warm welcome and shared reflections from the last year as President, noting:

- 1) Like 2020, the year 2021 was heavily shaped by the COVID crisis, and this affected our society as they could not meet in person, again, on our biennial conference last year and needed to delay our meeting to 2023.
- 2) On the good side, we could bridge the lack of physical meetings well within our virtual meeting series.
- 3) The industrial ecology day was a big success around the world and also around the clock.
- 4) Another virtual events that was organized celebrate the winners of the Society Prize and Laudise Medal.
- 5) We also had social online meetings like the ISIE happy hours which provided a space for informal chats between members in the times that in person interaction was not possible.
- 6) As a result of these activities, our membership numbers hit a new record of about 750 members last year. And each section has healthy numbers.
- 7) Participation and online elections and voting were higher than ever before, which shows that, despite all the challenges that we had last year we kept the society going. We actually found in the end new format of meetings is inclusive, so there are no barriers to attend no travel costs and it's environmentally friendly. So, there are no flights and greenhouse gas emissions. Online meetings will remain a communication vehicle for us, but they are only complements to the physical meetings in the future.
- 8) This year we hopefully can enjoy physical meetings again and we are looking forward to the next year's meetings which include the Gordon Research Conference in June this year and then we have the ISIE meeting event in Leiden in 2023.
- 9) COVID illustrated to us how adaptive human can be in the changes that can happen quickly. This gives us a hope that environmental challenges can be eventually dissolved but also rises concerns on climate and biodiversity crisis. This was also illustrated by the many climate disasters for the year 2021 which reminded us how important our research actually is and we need to make sure that our results of our research get implemented in practice for coping with big environment of challenges that we are facing today. Developing solutions for grand environmental challenges became integrated to the strategy of ISIE as presented last year on the AGM.

- 10) We need to strengthen our cross cutting activities that are targeted at using industrial ecology methods to address current environmental challenges and to answer policy relevant questions, like designing a sustainable circular economy reaching the sustainable development and transiting to sustainable energy systems.
- 11) In 2021, we developed a framework for coordinating initiatives within ISIE. Implementation remains to be done in the coming years. Dedicated activities on these topics will strengthen our capacity, visibility and policy impacts that are urgently needed. The interest in such policy relevant integrative topics was demonstrated by the vivid forum discussion on our webpage and the large attendance in the voting about a circular economy tech line last year. It is time for us to build on this momentum and launch initiatives to collaborate jointly on policy relevant topics. We will start with the topic of sustainable circular economy, given that this year's Gordon Research Conference carries exactly this as a main topic. We already have an event with major experts of our community together.
- 12) More than 100 members specified that they are working on circular economy and many of our members did not specify the working areas, therefore, more than these 100 members on this topic are expected. These members would become member of the section of a cross cutting section on this topic. If any members would like to become active and especially if members would like to lead such an initiative, please contact Stefanie. Stefanie will also reach out to potential leaders coordinating for such a section in the next weeks to move ahead to the next step.

**SH** also recognized all members who have engaged and making the ISIE a lively and thriving society in such difficult time.

- 1) Recognition of the extensive roles played by Paul Hoekman as past executive director, Tim Baynes as past secretary, and Valerie Thomas as past treasurer, as well as the extensive efforts of Ester van der Voet as past vice-treasurer and Callie Babbitt as past vice-secretary. Thanks to the new executive director Ned Gordon for coordinating the report and many other things around this AGM and the new Secretary Simron Singh for organizing the meeting. Thanks to all the ISIE board members in 2021 who completed their terms, Shoshanna Saxe and Kazuyo Masubae. And welcome new board member, Cristina Madrid Lopez and Hiroki Tanikawa. Special thanks go to section who organized multiple events and meetings and provided a platform for exchange of ideas and collaboration.
- 2) Several committees were setup for specific tasks, and thank everybody who was engaged those committees. One major activity in 2021 was the completion of the transfer of the journal of industrial ecology to the society. The transition to an independent association was completed and this hand over will be celebrated on a separate occasion.
- 3) A big thanks to Reid Lifset who has served a long period as the Editor-in-Chief with tireless engagement for the JIE. By Reid's stepped down as editor-in-chief, he would keep an advisory honorary position as founding editor and assist the transition and duties to the new editors-in-chief who are Junming Zhu, Gang Liu and Richard Wood.

**SH** in the last highlighted the unfortunate topic on the phishing emails and emphasized that she would never ask anybody for money contribution per email. Please never pay anything and simply forward the email to our real email addresses and do not hit the reply button, so that we can inform the whole membership about these texts.

2.

## PAST YEAR REPORTING

SS

**SS** reminded attendees of the annual report and the link for voting to approve the budget online. See the [Annual Report](#).

Reporting was provided by representatives of various Society initiatives and committees:

### Membership Committee: Report from **Tim Baynes**

A map of where the members are from which shows we are an international society. Europe and North America remained strong representation of our society's population. Asia in the last year has more than doubled its count of members become the second ranked global region and China was alone the largest growth of membership. Since 2020, ISIE has extended the diversity of countries from 48 to 55 countries. This year we have a record number of members which reached to 750. The increase in overall membership has translated to an increase in engagement across all the sections. All sections become much more popular, notably the islands section was doubled in size in second year. In average, a member is involved in two or three sections. Membership information can be found on ISIE website and the annual report.

### Treasurers report from **Valerie Thomas**

VT shared the annual financial report showing the budgets. The full financial report can be found in the annual report. VT provided a summary of the report. We have done great on memberships and some members are generous to provide donations. However, membership is 2 years, may decline next year. We budgeted a bunch for the Journal of Industrial Ecology, but nothing is happened here because the transition takes long time. Therefore, the expenses are much less than the budgeted. There is self-contained entity within the budget. We had budgeted for four member proposals and last year we did not achieve as much as we want. We have good reserves, but expect to be lower next year.

**Matthew Eckelman** as new treasurer of the ISIE echoed Valerie that we are in a good position but there's a lot of uncertainty. He also highlighted using the financial assets to support the members and especially through the mechanism of membership proposals.

### International IE day: Report from **Stefan Pauliuk**

SP shared a quick overall the IE day. It needed a schedule that session hosts could book over the entire globe. The IE day

started in the morning in Sydney and ended at the 6 o'clock in the afternoon in San Francisco at the US Pacific Coast. Some sessions were available on different continents depending on the timing. There was a bottom up engagement of many society members who would contribute to different sessions. It was a platform for all society members to contribute. Received big support from the ISIE. Recognition of Bottom up, mixed IE sections and themed sections. Great support from ISIE. Biggest applause to Paul Hoekman who programmed the abstract submissions into the ISIE website and made the session organization and announcement possible within the website. This also put the infrastructure in place for future events. **Anna Petit-Boix** seconded Stefan and hope have more events in the future. She also remind members that the team exists and will continue supporting the organization of future events. The organizing team also carried out surveys and received suggestions about keynote sessions, poster events and tries to test what other things can be done. Overall, it was good experience for the future events. Some goals include supporting the society and developing guidelines for future events.

#### Diversity and Inclusion Initiative: Report from **Akshi Singh**

The diversity and inclusion team developed vision statement and the diversity&inclusion goals, which has been shared on a ISIE website in student section. The development of vision statement and the goals came with re-evaluation of portfolio items and projects. The major focus of 2021 and 2022 is broadening the diversity of the student chapter in 2022, for instance, more representation from low incoming countries Africa and LAC countries. Activity portfolio going forward includes developing D&I web page and learning series, hosting Women in science series, expanding student outreach, and providing Ad-hoc support.

#### Journal of Industrial Ecology: Report from **Gang Liu**

Gang Liu presented the journal updates in 2021-2022 on behalf of the all editors. The Impact Factor of the JIE increased from 6.5 – 6.9. The journal is continuing publishing very impactful research. Two of the Five special thematic issues have already been published including the Material Efficiency for Climate Change Mitigation and Data Innovation in Industrial Ecology. The journal is also welcome good ideas for special issues. The journal continues supporting Open Access. There are two ways. One way is that many countries have bilateral agreements with the publisher Wileys and papers from those countries can be published for free. ISIE members will received 20% discount on the OA fee. There was a smooth transition of the editorial team and editorial office. Gang Liu, Richard Wood, and Juming Zhu appointed as the new Editors-in-Chief. Reid Lifset takes a founding editor role and Cheryl Myrup serves as managing editor to assist the Co-EiC. This year is the 25 years anniversary of the journal. There will be a special virtual issue highlighting selected articles that the JIE has published in the past 25 years, together with other presentations dedicated to the anniversary of the journal, during the Gordon Research Conference in June 2022. Social media coverage of the JIE and JIE articles will be boosted, since social media coverage is essential for journal promotion and to increase the number of downloads and citations. The promotion will be financially supported by Wiley and target mainly LinkedIn and Twitter, based on the successful experience with the Chinese-speaking audience on WeChat. The journal is welcoming any advice or volunteer work.

Short reports were presented directly by Section leads or members:

#### EEIO Section

Update provided by **Kuishuang Feng**: The section now totals 276 members. In 2021, ongoing and planned efforts including 1) participated the IE day and organized EEIO sessions across three time zones during the IE Day; 2) joint session by SEM and IO in the ISIE-SEM perpetual online conference to share progress in combining material flow principles and IO analysis; and 3) the EEIO session and related events are replanned at the EcoBalance 2022. 4) worked with SETAC and ACLCA to develop a roadmap to enable EEIO to better serve decision making.

#### Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment

Update provided by **Yuan Yao**: the section main activities include 1) lifecycle assessment for sustainable development goals special issue to be published in JIE and the submission has been closed and most of submitted abstract focused on applications and improvements of LCA to support SDGs; 2) published several section newsletters; 3) the section currently has 380 members and tried new member spotlight and featured some recent publications and will feature more early stage researchers in the section.

#### Students

Update provided by **Fernando Aguilar Lopez**: 6 new board members, 245 members from 45 countries. the section main activities include: 1) first online SIEYP including workshop on eco-anxiety with a climate psychologist and networking event on "wonder"; 2) conducted two networking events in May and October; 3) Kickstarted activities for connecting the student chapter e.g. hosted several peer groups meetings, crated a slack channel with several communication topics.

#### Sustainable Urban Systems

Update provided by **Hua Cai**: new board members and 53% growth in 2021. Section may activities include: 1) participated in ISIE Virtual day – many papers led by members on forward pathways submitted to JIE; 2) continuing developing Members spotlights and featured 7 members; 3) Member survey aims to understand the needs and priority and the results helped to guide 2022 activities including Webinars, informal social events and social media.

#### Island Industrial Ecology

Update provided by **John Telesford** – membership spans the globe with at least one member on each of continents and the membership grew from 50 in 2020 to 105 in 2002. Section main activities include: 1) participated in Spotlight sessions during the IE day 2021 with two panel sessions, the Pacific region and the Americas, and four member spotlights; 2) creating a symposium of annual symposium on sustainable island futures; 3) maintaining a library of Island publications.

Sustainable island futures bi0annual symposium Island IE section and the sustainable Island system. Looking ahead to 2022: introductory lecture series on Island IE and launch and meeting of island IE section.

#### Socio-Economic Metabolism

Update provided by **Hiroki Tanikawa**: the section is the largest global network of researchers employing MFA with 340 members. Section main activities include: 1) the ISIE socioeconomic metabolism perpetual conference and Organze a series of monthly online conferences. 14<sup>th</sup> ISIE SEM conference in Vietnam.

#### Industrial Symbiosis and Eco-Industrial Development

Update provided by **Anne Hewes**: the ISEID section returned to more normal activitie in 2021. Section main activities include: 1) participated in general assembly with about 30 members from the section; 2) participated in spotlight session which featured implementations of industrial symbiosis by practitioners, policy makers and academics; 3) the elections for the board of the section are opening in Spring.

#### **RESULTS of the vote: do you accept the past-year reporting and forward budget?**

Yes: 35

<https://is4ie.org/survey/72>

3.

### PROPOSALS FROM MEMBERS

VT

This year two proposals are being presented for consideration. One is from the ISIE student chapter board and another one is from

#### **Establishing a standard process to award student scholarships for ISIE conference participation –**

A proposal was presented by **Fernando Lopez**. The proposal is to establish a standard procedure for students scholarships to attend ISIE conferences, but also for other conferences that may be related. The issue is that the curiteria and guidelines for financial support vary for each conference. Financial support should transparently support students that might not be able to attend otherwise and should be in line with the ISIE diversity and inclusion strategy. The Benefits to ISIE include clear and transparent selection guidelines for applicants and conference committees; ensure inclusive process in line with the ISIE diversity & inclusion goals; bring formerly underrepresented students to ISIE conferences. Different committees may contribute to the this including executives, conference, student chapter, diversity & inclusion. The resource for scholarships will be determined by involved parties. A prototype of proposal is for Leiden 2023 if conference committee agrees.

Question from **Simron Singh**: if there is any budget or is there any financial commitment. **FL** replied no as it will be based on the conference.

Question from **Stefanie Hellweg**: if the Gordon Conference could benefit from this because there the same question comes up. **FL** replied that this could be for any conferences related to Industrial Ecology.

Questions from **Stefan Pauliuk**: if we could use existing budget to support. **Stefanie Hellweg** replied yes and it's already done and that's why it would be useful to have a common procedure and not let every organizer develop it from scratch. **Valerie** confirmed that budget is available and for Gordon conference and the society always give this priority to support students.

Question from **Simron Singh**: how this proposal is going to work with different locations or host for different conferences. **FL** replied that the main document could be resued and dedicated for pre conference and the idea is to have a good starting point that is transparent and standardized.

Casted the votes

<https://is4ie.org/survey/70>

#### **RESULTS of the vote: do you support the proposal: Establishing a standard process to award student scholarships for ISIE conference participation?**

Yes: 90

Against: 1

Abstain: 5

#### **Improve ISIE Job Board and create Jobs Committee – Reed Millier**

A proposal was presented by **Reed Miler**: the basic aim of the proposal is to improve the expericen of people who are looking for jobs and to improve the expericen of people posting and maybe change to a better title that is career committee than jobs committee. The proposal also includes revision of the jobs board and offer some resources regarding career development. **RM** demonstrated how to improve the job webpage on the ISIE website and give some examples, including consolidating everything in one table and adding some filters. To add a job, the person needs to be a member, so that excludes industry or nonprofit organizations that aren't part of the society. Par of the proposal is to facilitate that either by having free listings or in inexpensive listing fee or a membership category of the exmployer. Another feature from the job search is to be able to subscribe the updates so that people get an email digest if there are new positions posted. Also give the posters the option to renew the positions if they are still active or otherwise the status of it would say expired. It's very difficult to estimate how hong webdevelopment will take and there might be other features. If it's successful, then it could potentially continue into the future.

Offer some new features: the changes hope improve the user experiences, include more  
In terms of funding: about 500 pounds.

Question from Raja Chowdhury: a lot of job posts on LinkIn, how to link our website with existing platform. If the employer is not a ISIE member, they can't post jobs on our website. Reply from Reed: yes, things that certainly something to look into in terms of the logistics up, but one thought was that jobs got emailed around rather than posted. They ask that it could be useful to have some ways for a member to opt in to some sort of jobs and if there is an interesting job that came across on LinkedIn, then they can share it to that. Maybe the career committee need to think about building our presence on it. Created a job list to share with all members or create on LinkIn.

Question from Simron: will this be an ongoing thing like once the improvements have been made and system is kind of setup, is there a group that will have to oversee the process over time? Replies from Reed: yes, hopefully it could be a lean committee that require for volunteers to coordinate with the job market and with the platform and it could be useful to have some sort of committee into the future.

SS the voting today is to support this initiative with up to 500 Euros.

<https://is4ie.org/survey/71>

Yes: 87  
Against: 3  
Abstain: 4

4. UPDATE OF PREVIOUS PROPOSAL SS

Popularize the Industrial Ecology Concept in Asia

Reported by **Raja Chowdhury** –

Industrial Ecology has a lot of space to improve in India. A lot of efforts has been made from last July onwards.

Main activities include educating people about the role of industrial ecologist who can play important role in mitigating environmental problems, developing student chapters in different universities in India. A member from Australia has come connections in Kerala in the southern state of India and she has opened a student chapter over there. Raja gave some lectures and also tried to have some conferences but did not work out. All together, Raja asked for 2000 euros for all the activities, but later he found that it is better to have these activities in a voluntary mode. Raja has informed the lead of the board about the whole process that can be done to improve it.

ISIE "project"

Reported by Ming Xu. Some budgets were allocated for membership proposals, but did not get enough proposals to spend all the budget. New regulation was approved. The new regulation was that board can approve internal proposals for projects to be supported by the budget. Ming Xu coordinated four projects that include industrial ecology introductory lecture series, IE cartoon competition, communications and outreach specialist, and social media manager.

6. PROVISION FOR VACANCIES SS

Recruiting the 2022-23 Finance Committee: volunteers are **Tim Baynes** from CSIRO, Australia and **Jiashuo Li** from Shandong University, China.

Two Board members have recently completed their terms: Tim Baynes (Past Secretary), Valerie Thomas (Past Treasurer) and Ester van der Voet (Past vice-treasurer) and Callie Babbitt (Past vice-secretary). They were acknowledged and thanked for their contribution.

The Board welcomed three new members, Ned Gordon (Executive Director), **Simron Singh (Secretary)**, Kuishuang Feng (Vice- **Secretary**), **Matthew Eckelman (Treasurer)**, Eugene Mohareb (Vice-**Treasurer**) and , and look forward to their continued contribution.

7. HOUSEKEEPING RULES SS

Consideration and vote on acceptance of any changes to the housekeeping Rules. In the past year, a new article on conflict of interest has been entered and is being put forward for acceptance by members.

**Article VI. Policy on Conflict of Interest**

The purpose of this policy is to help Board members of ISIE to effectively identify, disclose and manage any actual, potential and perceived conflicts of interest in order to protect the integrity of ISIE and manage risk. Conflict of interests are common, and they do not need to present a problem to the ISIE as long as they are openly and effectively managed.

**RESULTS of the vote: do you accept the housekeeping rules – note separate results for two changes?**

Yes:35

<https://is4ie.org/survey/69>

Acceptance of Proposals from Members carries if the net vote in favour is at least a tenth of the total membership

Yes:13

Against: 3

Abstain: 3

The timing of elections, annual reporting and the AGM are brought closer together in the ISIE calendar

Yes: 20

Abstain: 1

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9.

OTHER BUSINESS

SS

Reid – free copy for the JIE paper available with only shipping cost.  
Reed Miller: database

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CLOSE OF MEETING AT 09:55 AM US EDT ON 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022

SS

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