

ICEHO Bulletin 16



International Consortium of
Environmental History
Organizations

August 2018

Abstracts for 3rd World Congress close **10 September**
World Congress Presentation Award Nominations due **31 December**
Website: <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/iceho/iceho19/>

Call for Papers
3rd World Congress of Environmental History: 2019

Convergences: The Global North and the Global South in the Era of the Great Acceleration

Conference: 22-26 July 2019
Submissions due
10 September 2018



3rd WORLD
CONGRESS OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
HISTORY

Federal University of Santa Catarina (Universidade
Federal de Santa Catarina, UFSC), Florianópolis, Brasil

Guidelines

***** 300-word limit on all Abstracts**

The 3rd World Conference of Environmental History invites scholars from different disciplines to situate environmental history in a planetary perspective. The program committee invites panel, roundtable, individual paper, and poster proposals for the congress. We prefer to receive complete session proposals but will endeavor to construct sessions from proposals for individual presentations. Sessions will be scheduled for 1.5 hours. No single presentation should

exceed 15 minutes, and each roundtable presentation should be significantly shorter than that, as roundtables are designed to maximize discussion among the speakers and with the audience. Commentators are allowed but not required.

The program committee encourages non-conventional sessions that experiment with creative formats, such as hands-on workshops, tool demonstrations, and open discussion forums. To submit a proposal for an experimental session, please provide a 300-word abstract describing the activity on this form.

To maximize participation, we encourage session proposals with more participants giving shorter presentations (e.g., four presenters at 12 minutes each). Please note that individuals can be a primary presenter in only one panel, roundtable, or other session proposal, but can also serve as chair or commentator in a second session proposal.

Five types of submissions:

- Roundtable (up to 5 presenters and a chair)
- Panel (up to 5 presenters and a chair and a commentator – the latter is optional)
- Experimental session (requires only one 300-word abstract)
- Individual paper (single submission – program committee might create panels out of these)
- Poster (a single submission by an individual)

Information collected:

- Name of organizer
- E-mail of organizer
- Title of session
- Names of presenters (up to five)

- Institutions of presenters (or “independent scholar”)
- E-mail addresses of presenters
- Titles of presentations within sessions
- Abstracts (a single description for entire session limit 300 words, plus descriptions of each individual presentation limit 300 words each). Please indicate time periods or eras covered.

Submit proposals at:

<https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/iceho/iceho19/>

Any questions?

Send an email to:

wceh2019@gmail.com



3rd WORLD
CONGRESS OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
HISTORY

WCEH2019 Program Committee

Co-chairs: **Lisa Mighetto** and **Stefania Gallini**

Members

Kate Brown, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Micheline Cariño, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur

Peter Coates, University of Bristol

Stefan Dorondel, Institutul de Antropologie “Francisc I. Rainer”

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Stefania Gallini, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (co-chair)

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Lisa Mighetto, University of Washington-Tacoma (co-chair)

Ruth Morgan, Monash University/ Rachel Carson Center LMU (2017)

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John Soluri, Carnegie Mellon University

Paolo Squatriti, University of Michigan

Helmuth Trischler, Deutsches Museum Munich

oOo

*** **DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ICEHO BULLETIN**

October 31st 2018

Please send contributions
for next Bulletin to
libby.robin@anu.edu.au

Bulletin Editor



Libby Robin



Call for Participation from ICEHO Societies

World Congress Presentation Awards

Organizers of the 3rd World Congress would like to recognize the exciting work presented in conference posters and sessions. We request that ICEHO Societies consider proposing and sponsoring a one-time award, which representatives from the Societies can present at the closing ceremony in late July 2019. These awards would include a plaque, certificate, or object and a few words of recognition (they need not involve money or funding). Examples of awards could include best poster, best water history paper, best forest history paper, best student paper, most innovative session, etc. If your Society is interested in proposing an award, please coordinate with your boards and executive committees to get approval and to determine how you will select the recipient during the conference.

Please provide the following brief information to the program committee co-chairs

Stefania Gallini - sgallini@unal.edu.co

Lisa Mighetto – director@aseh.net

World Congress Presentation Award

1. **Name of your society**
2. **Contact person and email address**
3. **Name of the award**
4. **Names of 3 evaluators from your organization**
5. **A few sentences describing the award**

In the spirit of the world congress, we encourage organizations to consider **global or comparative issues and perspectives** in proposing their awards.

Deadline: 31 December 2018.

We will list the awards available on the world congress website in the spring of 2019 (and we will list recipients after the congress). Please note that these one-time awards are specific to this world congress; they are not the same as the awards that many societies present annually. Thank you for participating in this effort to recognize and encourage scholars while adding fun and whimsy to the conference.

-- Stefania and Lisa



Call for Proposals

ICEHO Regional Workshops

ICEHO will co-finance up to three of the following kind of workshops for a maximum of USD 5,000 each.

Types of workshops:

-Regional meetings in places where no environmental history associations exist – with the aim of creating such an association. These meetings should not be limited to discussions about forming a new association; they should be organized around a topic (perhaps one particularly relevant for the region) or address another challenge of the field through scholarly presentations. They must have a clear academic component (e.g. a series of thematic presentations), but the fundamental aim is organizational building.

-Regional meetings where environmental history organization is as yet not fully operational (e.g. India, parts of Europe or Latin America). Latin America, for instance, has a solid organization (SOLCHA), but certain countries have had very low or no participation in it. Workshops can aim to promote environmental history in such places and to strengthen sub-regional networks (eg Balkan or Scandinavian collaborations within ESEH).

-Workshops to develop and implement teaching programs on environmental history. ICEHO can in such cases help identify and sponsor the travel expenses of experienced teachers – with expertise in both curriculum development and particular areas of interest to the workshop proposers to Higher Education Institutions interested in fomenting the environmental humanities.

Other initiatives will also be considered, but research-focused workshops are not the core target of the funding scheme.

Application:

All ICEHO-Member organizations and institutions are eligible to sponsor an application.

Any individual or university wanting to host such a workshop will need a letter of sponsorship by the

regional or thematic organization or institution via which they belong to ICEHO.

Should an organization be formed from the planned activity, it is expected to join ICEHO.

Workshops must be co-sponsored.

Events should happen before December 31st 2019, and can be held anywhere in the world.

Applications **must include:**

- Description of the proposed workshop, explaining the way in which it will contribute to form,
- strengthen or foster collaboration within environmental history, or support high teaching
- standards (max. 2 pages).
- Draft Program (1 page).
- Information on the applicant and the workshop convener group members (1 page).
- Budget (including co-funding details).
- Estimated date, place, and number of participants.
- Sponsorship letter from the parent organization within ICEHO.

All applications will also have to address how participants will be identified and selected, in particular, how potential participants will be informed of the workshop (max 1 page). Teaching workshops should include student representatives and/or graduate students.

Deadlines: Proposals will be considered in two deadlines: **October 31st 2018** and **February 28th 2019**. They should be sent to Bo Poulsen, ICEHO secretary, bpoulsen@cgs.aau.dk.

Notification of acceptance will be issued a month afterwards.

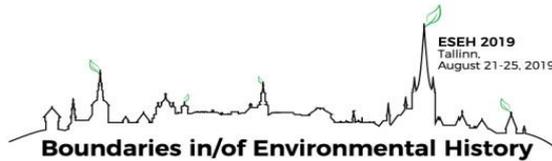
Evaluation committee: Three members of the Board of Directors of ICEHO will serve as committee.

Report: After the workshop, grantees must send a three-page report with photographs (perhaps even a short video) for the Bulletin and for ICEHO's webpage. Tweets, Facebook posts and other social media alerts are also encouraged, before, during and after the event.

News from Societies

10th Biennial European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) Conference

Abstracts due **31 October**



Tallinn, Estonia, 21 to 25 August 2019

<https://www.tlu.ee/eseh2019>

KAJAK
Estonian Centre for
Environmental History
Tallinn University



The European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) is pleased to invite proposals for sessions, individual papers, roundtables, posters and other, more experimental forms of communicating scholarship for its 2019 biennial conference.

Boundary studies is a rapidly growing field of interdisciplinary research that is increasingly relevant in historical research, for example, through studies on transnational or migration histories, global and colonial environments, relations of humans and animals or technical systems. After a successful conference in Zagreb where we tackled boundaries as contact zones in between, we would like to turn inwards and address the phenomenon of boundaries as internal processes. An environmental historian negotiates constantly the boundaries of its own field and others, but also the boundaries between humans and nonhumans, environment and technology, bodily and external, local and global. None of these boundaries are fixed, but constantly redrawn and challenged. Boundary zones mediate the contacts with other areas and act as filters for innovation, where difference and similarity need to be constantly negotiated and enacted.

Highly relevant for environmental history are ecological boundaries that create various possibilities and affordances by

their sheer existence but that can in their turn be redrawn by human activities; or geographical boundaries that create different contact zones, facilitate or complicate communication and migration of humans and nonhuman nature. All these different boundaries may coincide with current administrative boundaries but most often they do not and are differently practiced by humans and nonhuman agents. Often, the boundaries can shift or change their character. A river or sea that once was a connecting path for boats, now means an obstacle for those crossing a terrain in a petrol-powered vehicle. An infinite object such as our planet can become a bounded and finite phenomenon. An external technical system such as nuclear power plant can become infused with our bodies through radiation.

Our interest lies in transnational co-formation of environments, ecological niches, crossovers, hybrids, migration; boundaries as mechanisms for creating new possibilities, opening new channels for information exchange, facilitating coexistence of different groups, both humans and other species. The concept of boundary draws attention to the inherently interdisciplinary nature of environmental history, highlighting methods of participatory research.

Possible topics, include, but are not limited to the following:

- Hybridisation, transcorporeality, post-humanism and more-than-human histories;
- Industrial and agricultural impact on environment and biocultural diversity,
- Envirotechnical systems, nature protection, resource use;
- Environmental justice, colonialism and global environments, migration, conflicts, environmental legacies of wars, health and disease;
- Planetary boundaries and the Anthropocene, temporal and spatial boundaries in historical climate and climate change, ecosystem boundaries;
- Inter- and transdisciplinary, transnational and cross-regional environmental histories of Europe, environmental humanities and popular culture;
- Boundaries in time: new chronologies in environmental history;
- Crossing boundaries in/of scientific knowledge: pedagogical challenges of teaching environmental history.

The conference also accepts papers on environmental history that do not fall under the umbrella topic of boundaries.

Diversity policy:

The conference covers all periods and all areas of the globe and is open to scholars from all disciplines and backgrounds. In order to strengthen diversity at the conference, we give preference to panels where the presenters come from different regions within or beyond Europe, different institutions or different disciplines. We also encourage the presenting teams to observe gender and age balance and to use emergent scholars as session chairs, in order to provide better visibility to younger generations of historians. Graduate students will be offered a special reduced fee.

We encourage submission in formats that introduce a clash of perspectives, interpretations, or methodologies. For example:

- Formats permitting a joint discussion of a single theme or book as a part of the panel session.
- Formats that allow sharply focused commentary from the audience early on.
- Formats in which a single, major paper, primary source material, film, or book is the subject of attention and on which other papers and all the commentary are focused.
- Panels in which participants present one another's work rather than their own.
- Roundtables that examine teaching in the field or that explore innovative approaches to teaching.

Each person can be a primary presenter in only one panel, roundtable, or other session proposal, but can also serve as a chair or commentator in a second session proposal. The conference language is English; no submissions in other languages will be accepted. All proposals will be reviewed by the ESEH Program Committee.

All proposals should be submitted through our online submission system at <http://eseh.org/event/next-conference/2019-conference-call-for-papers/>. The deadline for submittals is **October 31, 2018**.

Questions about proposals should be directed to the Head of the Programme Committee, Prof. Finn Arne Jørgensen, University of Stavanger, through the email conference@eseh.org.

**Rachel
Carson
Center**

ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY



Turku Book Award 2019

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC) announced the Turku Book Award at the ESEH conference in Turku, Finland in 2011. The award is presented at the biennial conferences of the ESEH.

The purpose of the Award is to identify and encourage innovative and well-written scholarship in the field of European environmental history and carries a prize of € 3,000. The prize will be awarded at the 10th Biennial ESEH Conference in Tallin, in August 2019.

To be eligible, books must be:

- single author
- published in 2017 or 2018
- environmental history
- written on a primarily European topic or written by a European author

Closing date: 31 January 2019.

Three copies of the work (and a PDF digital copy) must be submitted to the Rachel Carson Center in Munich to



If the monograph is written in a language other than English, please include a one-page English summary.

turku2019@rcc.lmu.de



The Fifth Biennial Conference of East Asian Environmental History (EAEH 2019) will take place in National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan

October 24-27, 2019.

Call for Papers and Panels - EAEH 2019.
Submission system – see conference website:
<http://www.eaeh.org/eaeh2019.htm>

Important Dates:

- Call for Papers and Panels (Submit Abstract on-line): **July 1, 2018 - February 28, 2019**
- Reviewing of proposed abstracts: **March 1 - April 30, 2019**
- Announcement of accepted proposal: **May 15, 2019**
- On-line registration for participating EAEH2019: **June 1, 2019 - September 30, 2019**
- Announcement of EAEH2019 Program on website: **August 15, 2019**
- Submission of full paper: **July 1, 2019 - September 30, 2019**

For further information and updates, please visit EAEH2019 website.

Contact: Hsiao-yun Liu (Miss) Academia Sinica
(Email: hsyunliu@gate.sinica.edu.tw)



**SAHS: Southern African Historical Society
27th Biennial Conference
24-26 June 2019**

**Hosted by the Department of History,
Rhodes University, Grahamstown**

Trails, Traditions, Trajectories:

Rethinking Perspectives on Southern African Histories

This 27th Biennial Conference of the Southern African Historical Society comes barely a year before the 200th anniversary of the 1820 English Settlers who occupied parts of the Eastern Cape including Grahamstown itself, dispossessing Xhosa and other groups. The histories of these settlers were pivotal to the colonisations of what later became Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia, as South Africa became a base for British colonialism regionally. The broader southern African region is rethinking the legacy of dispossession: for example, with resource nationalism in Mozambique and decades of radical land redistribution in Zimbabwe, both of which have had significant implications for the region's economic performance, leading to illegal goods and human traffic. The pronouncement – towards the end of the Zuma era in South Africa – of 'radical economic transformation' and 'expropriation of land without compensation' signals the need for historians to engage with these crucial issues. Another contemporary concern is the rise of China as a global economic player and its impact on Africa. How could historians of our time examine African economic histories?

This conference happens at a moment when university students in South Africa have made demands for curriculum transformation to reposition Africa in the global knowledge community. Moreover, with the passing of the first generation of post-independence nationalist leaders, historians are faced with the challenge of understanding the postcolonial moment. At this juncture, scholars have an opportunity to re-envision the future of southern Africa's past. This can be done by rethinking the current historiography and imagining an alternative canon. It is not enough to merely decentre the old, but to also reposition the histories of the vanquished, their environments, their technologies, their pre-existing knowledge systems, social norms and political values. The SAHS, therefore, invites contributions from professional historians, post-graduate students, and cognate specialists such as archaeologists, archivists, documentary film-makers and heritage practitioners. As the professional body for historical studies in southern Africa, this conference, however, is not exclusive in terms of its focus. We strive to reflect the broad diversity of the discipline in this region and are therefore open to a wide range of themes, including:

- Legacies of dispossession in southern Africa: land, labour and language
- Political structures and institutional cultures
- Decolonisations and the rise of the neo-liberal order
- Archives, heritage and memory
- Disputed lands: histories and politics of land-alienation, redistribution and agrarianism
- Food security

- Hydro-politics, resource politics and the state
- Indigenous knowledge systems: technologies, economies, health, and society
- Medical histories: health, wellbeing and healing
- Leadership and the state: from precolonial, colonial and postcolonial Africa
- Transitional justice, memory and healing
- Human movements, borderlands and travel narratives
- Business, international capital and African elites
- Histories of the environment
- Politics beyond the big men – the passing of the old guard
- The military: coups, wars and fractured transitions
- Labour and the Global South
- Trajectories of gender and Afro-feminism
- Historical studies and the contemporary University
- Changing historiographies

Proposals:

Proposals for the various sessions will be in the following formats: papers, panels and roundtable discussions. Please consider choosing a session format that will most effectively achieve your intellectual goals and facilitate lively interaction among presenters and the audience. Paper submissions should include an abstract (**max 200 words**) and a very short bio of about 100 words. Panel and roundtable submissions should include a minimum of three papers (each with a 200-word abstract and short bio), a proposed moderator/chair (if possible), and a 100-word abstract. Please email these to Enocent Msindo, @ e.msindo@ru.ac.za by **15 December 2018**.

Conference Fees:

The conference registration fee includes the Welcome Cocktail Reception, conference materials, mid-morning and afternoon refreshments, daily lunches and the Conference Gala Dinner.

Conference registration commences 1 March 2019

Early-bird registration ends on 10 April 2019

There will be a limited number of post-graduate bursaries to assist with registration fees. Post-graduate students are welcome to apply to the Local Organising Committee for consideration.

Further details regarding conference registration, student bursaries, accommodation and travel, conference logistics, the SAHS Vice-Presidential student essay prize, and the special conference issue of the *South African Historical Journal* will be published on the SAHS conference website in due course.

Visit: <http://www.sahs.org.za>

For more information, please email

Enocent Msindo: e.msindo@ru.ac.za or

Nomalanga Mkhize, naledi.nomalanga@gmail.com

***The Southern African Historical Society is committed to fostering the development of young scholars in History and its allied disciplines.**



Special Feature contributed by the Women in Environmental History Network

Rethinking the Environmental History Syllabus

By Nancy Langston, with contributions from Sarah Elkind, Julie Cohn, and Anna Zeide

July 10, 2018

Has anyone else noticed how often environmental history syllabi largely omit women and scholars of color?

A colleague's initial twitter query about good sources for an environmental syllabus was followed by dozens of excellent suggestions—but none were written by women and few by scholars of color. Dolly Jørgensen commented on this lack of diversity, and a lively twitter discussion ensued about the structural reasons for underrepresentation. A discussion on the Women's Environmental History Network (WEHN) email list occurred simultaneously, inspired in part by WEHN's report on the women's difficulties publishing in environmental history and other fields. Reviewing her own syllabi, Sarah Elkind realized that very few of her "go to" texts were by women, and so posted an email to the WEHN list to get some fresh ideas. Meanwhile a group of female scholars separately developed the **#WomenAlsoKnowHistory** hashtag and related website tilted "Women Also Know History":

<https://womenalsoknowhistory.com/>

All of these activities followed a compelling charrette at the 2018 ASEH conference in Riverside focused on integrating race and gender into environmental history courses. At that session, the lack of diversity in the environmental history "canon" drew explicit attention and much discussion.

In response to the enthusiasm for elevating the profile of so much good work by women and scholars of color in environmental history, David Fouser collated the numerous excellent suggestions offered by our fellow #twitterstorians and Nancy Langston created a collaborative website and group Zotero library:

www.TheSyllabusProject.weebly.com

https://www.zotero.org/groups/2170789/the_syllabus_project

Anna Zeide tagged the many contributions in the Zotero library to make them more useful for scholars. The Zotero library is **intentionally collaborative**, so anyone can join, add citations, and tag and annotate sources. We then integrated the WEHN suggestions and invited other scholars to contribute. Currently, the Zotero group library has 53 active members who are collaborating to expand the list, and non-members are free to use the sources and citations.

Within a week, our starting list of 40 sources expanded to 502 sources by women, scholars of color, and scholars working on global environmental histories. The response suggests that our colleagues have a great deal of interest in reaching beyond the standard canon.

We have proposed a roundtable for the ASEH April 2019 conference in Columbus Ohio to discuss the structural reasons that have led many historians to design syllabi that lack diversity. We will also offer data on diversity within existing syllabi available online. We will explore the collaborative Zotero group library and encourage participants to practice using and adding to the library. We will save at least 45 minutes for audience discussion of best practices for diversifying environmental history syllabi. **Participants include Nancy Langston, Sarah Elkind, David Fouser, Mary Mendoza, Sara Pritchard, Brinda Sarathy, and Anna Zeide.**

Our goal with The Syllabus Project is to provide concrete strategies so that we can all diversify our syllabi to strengthen our teaching, our scholarship, and our field. **We call on all environmental historians to diversify our syllabi (and our conference panels, books, workshops, and papers). Diversity can only strengthen our teaching, our scholarship, and our field.**

*Nancy Langston, Distinguished Professor
Environmental History, Michigan Tech.*

A revised version of this note appears on the NICHE blog at <http://niche-canada.org/2018/07/05/the-syllabus-project/>

See also:

Verena Winiwarter 'Gender and Environmental History – A Call to Arms'

<https://whitehorsepress.blog/2017/09/04/gender-and-environmental-history-a-call-to-arms/>



Latest issue:

Environment and History

ISSN 0967-3407 (Print); ISSN 1752-7023 (Online)



Environment and History is an interdisciplinary journal which aims to bring scholars in the humanities and biological sciences closer together, with the deliberate intention of constructing long and well-founded perspectives on present day environmental problems.

Environment and History has a Journal Impact Factor (2017) of 0.538. 5 Year Impact Factor: 0.792.

Publisher: White Horse Press
 > More about this publication?

Volume 24, Number 3, August 2018

Research article

S N Are There Echoes of the AD 536 Event in the Viking Ragnarok Myth? A Critical Appraisal
 pp. 303-324(22)
 Authors: Nordvig, Mathias; Riede, Felix

S N Industry and Forests: Alternative Raw Materials in the Soviet Forestry Industry from the mid-1950s to the 1960s
 pp. 323-347(25)
 Author: Kochetkova, Elena

S N Science, Markets and Power: Adolf Severin Jensen in the Debate over Greenland's Fisheries Development during the Early Twentieth Century
 pp. 349-375(27)
 Author: Priebe, Janina

S N Climate, Conflict and Society: Changing Responses to Weather Extremes in Nineteenth Century Zululand
 pp. 377-401(25)
 Authors: Klein, Jørgen; Nash, David J.; Pribyl, Kathleen; Endfield, Georgina H.; Hannaford, Matthew

S N 'Racy of the Soil': Ian Mudie, Right-Wing Nationalism, and the South Australian Soil Erosion Crisis
 pp. 403-426(24)
 Author: Regan, Jayne

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 Chapter 3 – Locale: Political and Cultural Context of Mobilisation
 Chapter 4 – Landscape, Capital and Violence
 Chapter 5 – Why the Ogoni Mobilised
 Chapter 6 – From Grievances to Micro-mobilisation: How the Ogoni Mobilised
 Chapter 7 – Cultural Basis of Mobilisation
 Chapter 8 – Mobilisation: A Place for Moral Motivation?
 Chapter 9 – Place and Limit of Mobilisation
 Chapter 10 – Conclusion

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Environment and Conflict

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John Agbonifo, Osun State University, Osogbo, Nigeria

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John Agbonifo is President of the African Network of Environmental History. For a review copy, <http://pages.email.taylorandfrancis.com/review-copy-request>



GUIMARÃES:

EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL – AN UPDATE

Planning for ICEHO's third World Congress is well under way and the gathering of environmental historians at Florianopolis, Brazil, promises to be a stimulating and exciting event. It is to be hoped that after the Congress there will be an ongoing connection between ICEHO and Florianopolis and its university. Since the previous World Congress in Guimarães in July 2014, I have been reporting regularly on the legacy of that successful meeting: the ongoing relationship between ICEHO and the city in the application for the award of European Green Capital (EGC) through our representation on the External Advisory Committee. This forms part of a 'Mission Structure' that includes city and other officials, academics in relevant fields at the University of Minho, and the External Advisory Committee chaired by Mohan Munasinghe, under the supervision of a coordinator. The EGC is an annual EU competitive award to the city that can demonstrate formally through a complicated

bureaucratic process that it has improved, and will improve further, in twelve environmental aspects. These include issues such as waste disposal, water and air quality, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and biodiversity conservation. Once the application has reached the EU, a panel of experts assesses it in comparison with the other applicants. A short list is selected and then a winner is declared.

After three years of hard work the application from Guimarães for EGC 2020 was submitted in October 2017. The outcome was announced by the EU coincidentally during a Mission Structure meeting in April 2018. The disappointing news that Guimarães was not among the shortlisted cities came during a student Eco-Parliament (see picture above) held in the Landscape Laboratory.

For a short while, there was gloom in the air. However, it did not take long for everyone to recollect the continual declarations by Mayor Domingos Bragança that the prize was only a vehicle, or template, for creating Guimarães as a future green city; it was not the sole objective. Spirits lifted and by evening – when citizens gathered at Vila Flor to hear spontaneous presentations by young and old about the importance of contributing to an environmentally sustainable city and buoyed by the talk given by Mohan Munasinghe on looking forward not backward – the civic community was ready to tackle the next phase with enthusiasm. Last October a local election returned Mayor Bragança to City Hall with an increased majority – many say his commitment to the environment played its part – and his new team of senior councillors are all dedicated to continuing the process towards a ‘green’ city, indeed, one that is ‘more than green’. We have already been notified that the Mission Structure will not be disbanded and that the process towards environmental sustainability will continue unremittingly. What is particularly significant about the Guimarães application, although this was not a box that could be ticked on the application form, was how the process had changed the attitudes of thousands of citizens through a people-centred rather than technocratic approach, transforming them into eco-citizens, and how significant their environmental history had been in that transformation.

There were 13 applicants for EGC 2020 and, instead of the usual five on the short-list, there were only three for 2020, Lisbon, Ghent, and Lahti, all of which had previously been shortlisted, some more than once before. Guimarães came in fifth place. It has since been announced that Lisbon has won the award for 2020.

Jane Carruthers



Young ecocitizen explaining the importance of sustainability at the public meeting in Guimarães

River restoration in Guimarães

(photos Jane Carruthers)



Make sure your organization is part of the ICEHO Family

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Information and forms online:

<http://www.iceho.org/join/>

Contact: **Andrea Anderson:**

Andrea.Anderson@foresthistor.org

Contacts for ICEHO

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Verena.Winiwarter@BOKU.ac.at

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