



3rd International Symposium of Integrative Zoology Darwin 200

Biological Consequences of Global Change

A Big Success

The 3rd International Symposium of Integrative Zoology was held at the Olympic Village Science Park in Beijing from 8 – 10 July 2009 under the auspices of the International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS); International Union of Biological Science (IUBS); and United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In addition, the symposium was supported by the China Zoological Society; Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences and China Association for Science and Technology.

The symposium was a formal event under the IUBS Darwin 200 Program to celebrate the life and work of Charles Darwin, who was born on 12 February 1809. Darwin 200 symposia are were also held in Christchurch, New Zealand; Venice, Italy; Maldonado, Uruguay; San Jose, Costa Rica; and Cape Town, Republic of South Africa.

Recently, the ISZS initiated a research program titled “Biological Consequences of Global Change” to enhance our understanding of the impacts of climate change on animals and their environments. As a result, the theme of the Symposium was Biological Consequences of Global Change.

The timing of the Symposium was specifically chosen to take advantage of other events being held in Beijing in July. For example, the International Congress of Conservation Biology took place in July and featured the Darwin Photograph Exhibition at the National Zoological Museum of China.

Over 130 researchers from 22 countries attended the symposium. Those included Dr. Jean-Marc Jallon (President, ISZS and Vice President, IUBS), Dr. Motonori Hoshi (Past-President, IUBS), Dr. Jeffrey McNeely (Chief Scientist, International Union for Conservation of Nature) and Dr. Abraham Haim (Vice President, ISZS).

High-level Chinese officials that attended the opening ceremony include Chen Yiyu (President, National Natural Science Foundation of China), Li Jiayang (Vice President, Chinese Academy of Science), and Fu Congbin (Vice President, China Association of Science and Technology).

Representatives from the Chinese Ministry of Environment Protection, State Bureau of Forestry, Ministry of Science and Technology, Chinese Academy of Science, China Association of Science and Technology and the Costa Rican and US Embassies in Beijing were also present during the opening ceremony.

Over 80 attendees delivered academic speeches at the symposium on topics such as climate change, marine and amphibians, biodiversity, species invasion and infectious diseases. At the end of the symposium, a special workshop session for the ISZS international research program Biological Consequences of Global Change was held.

Additional Information

What is the ISZS?

The International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit membership-based organization of professionals re-established in 2004 and aims to promote zoology by improving communication between zoologists and zoological organizations; increase the availability of resources needed to conduct zoological research; and promote co-ordination, collaboration and co-operation between different fields of zoology. By representing a broad cross-section of zoologists and other interested in animals, the ISZS provides a unified voice for zoologists across the world while elevating zoology to the global stage. Our core business is the organization of the International Congress of Zoology every four years, publishing a multidisciplinary scientific journal *Integrative Zoology*, organizing International Symposia of Integrative Zoology in non-Congress years, and facilitating international research programs.

What is the IUBS?

The International Union of Biological Science (IUBS) is a non-governmental non-profit organization established in 1919. Its goals are to promote the study of biological sciences; to initiate, facilitate and coordinate research and other scientific activities necessitating international, interdisciplinary cooperation; to ensure the discussion and dissemination of the results of cooperative research, particularly in connection with IUBS scientific programs; and to support the organization of international conferences and assist in the publication of their reports.



Dr. Jean-Marc Jallon, President, ISZS and Vice President, IUBS



Dr. Li Jiayang, Vice President, Chinese Academy of Science



Dr. Fu Congbin, Vice President, China Association of Science and Technology

