



International Union for the Study of Social Insects

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Greetings from warm Singapore, where I made a stop over after having attended Euro IUSSI in Helsinki. I have to congratulate Lotta Sundström and her team for organising such a wonderful conference. The conference was excellent in every respect. The standard of the talks was amazing. I had attended the Behavioural Ecology meeting in Exeter before travelling to Helsinki and felt that the standard of the contributed talks at IUSSI2016 was overall much higher (I do accept that I may be a little biased, although I do have an interest in non-social organisms too.....). The social functions were also a great success, with the opening reception at the Natural History museum, followed by wonderful food and drinks hosted by the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry Sciences the next day. And then of course the conference dinner, which was made even more exciting by the burning of table cloths (twice....). Last but not least, the organisers also kept the weather in check, as it was dry and mostly sunny during all the breaks. So, well done team IUSSI2016!

After the conference I joined Lotta, Perttu Seppä and Nick Bos and a bunch of other IUSSI attendants to the Tvärminne Zoological Station. It was wonderful to see the facilities available for field work and the famous ant colonies. And then there was the sauna next to the ice cold lake.....

Next month I will attend the North American IUSSI section meeting prior to ICE2016. I look forward to more social insects news.

Speaking of IUSSI meetings, Klaus Hartfelder, our President, has some important information to share regarding the meeting in Brazil in 2018 (see further). I also want to take the opportunity to encourage members to start thinking about IUSSI2022. I know, it seems a long way off, but we'll be there before we know it. I would like to know about potential IUSSI2022 bids as soon as possible so that I can help putting a good bid together. If I don't receive any, I will need to start making some encouraging noises in certain directions.....

For now, all the best.

Update on the IUSSI2018 Congress in Guarujá, Brazil

Dear All

It is now time for an update on the progress status of the preparations for the IUSSI2018 Congress in Guarujá, Brazil.

The date and venue site are fixed, August 5-10, 2018, in the Congress Center of the Casa Grande Hotel in Guarujá, Brazil. The two most important committees are also defined. We have a Local Organizing Committee composed by the current Officers of the Brazilian IUSSI section and two colleagues with a lot of experience in organizing meetings, and we also received positive responses from all the colleagues whom we had asked to join and help us in organizing the scientific program and who now form the International Scientific Committee.

All this and much more information that should be of interest for you to start planning you can now find on our meeting website, which has been set live this week:

<http://www.iussi2018.com>

Because it will not solely be the attractiveness of the locality, but also the quality of the scientific program that will fill the conference halls, we have a special request to all of you. Please start thinking about symposia proposals. As for the IUSSI2010 congress in Copenhagen and the IUSSI2014 congress in Cairns we think that topics that go across conventional borders among our research fields should be the most exciting ones, as they will likely be mind openers for all of us.

Within a few weeks we will place a call through the website and the IUSSI newsletters to all the sections, so that we can start to receive your suggestions. These will then be discussed by the International Scientific Committee for approval.

Best regards

Klaus Hartfelder
President of IUSSI