

All those who contributed to the conference: Thank you for all your excellent work!

It is fair to conclude that the conference was a great success! So many people have contributed in so many ways to turn this event into a smoothly running meeting with many very interesting presentations and posters and a very good atmosphere for discussion and networking.

I owe much gratitude to the INTECOL Wetlands Working Group for selecting Utrecht as the venue, to the Netherlands and international scientific committees for giving structure to the program and for organizing a first basic number of symposia and to the presidency of Utrecht University for supporting the conference in many direct and indirect ways. I thank all sponsors for their generosity and interest in the conference. The staff of Jaarbeurs Congress center has taken care of professional excellence and high-quality catering.

The FBU congress bureau of Utrecht University has worked very professionally in registering all participants, interacting with them on many details, organizing many aspects of the conference such as catering, time coordination, logistics and accommodation. Nienke Pot, Miranda Motshagen and Inge van Gaal are gratefully acknowledged. Fred Knol and René Kwant were very helpful with original ideas, financial advice, financial management and knowledge on protocol and special contacts. Roij Meijer and Soleanie Martis assisted in the contacts with the media.

The staff and students of the Faculty of Biology are especially thanked for their enormous and high-quality support. Emy Franck of Beeldprocessing & Vormgeving designed the graphic style of the printed matter and web site of this conference. Web master Marc Coemans has designed the set-up of the contents of the web site and has succeeded in building a logical structure with user-friendly registration procedure and the total program including all abstracts online. Roland Bobbink and Boudewijn Beltman organized the mid-conference excursions and coordinated the projectionists during the meeting. Edu Dorland has coordinated the program during the last phase of the preparations, composed the program book and abstract book, and handled the transfer of hundreds of presentations electronically together with Maarten Verhoeven.

The blue crew of 'zaalwachten' Gerrit Rouwenhorst, Sandra Robat, Paul van der Ven, Merel Soons, Hein Pijnappel, Maurice Paulissen, Victor Beumer, Alice Liu, Susan Sollie, Karin Tromp, Bas van de Riet, Agnieszka Lawniczak, Isabel van den Wyngaert, Martijn Antheunisse, Judith Sarneel, Rutger Zeijpveld, Ronald van den Heuvel, Ingrid Souren, Steven Verhoeven and Willem Verhoeven, are thanked and complimented for their enormous effort and effective contribution to welcoming and helping participants, overseeing the powerpoint projections and helping with logistics.

You as participants are thanked for all your great scientific input and for many fruitful discussions and scientific interaction. Gene Turner and Dennis Whigham are acknowledged for their overall support and for setting up the student poster jury.

“This was a great meeting” many of you have said to me. Thank you for being so positive!

Jos Verhoeven