

## **Biographies of candidates for the elections of the officers for IUSS Divisions and Commissions 2017**

### **Division 3 - Soil Use management**

#### **Chairs**

##### ***Bal Ram SINGH***

Bal Ram Singh PhD is a professor emeritus at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. He earned his Ph.D. degree from G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, India.

His program focuses on bioavailability and mobility of heavy metals in the soil and plant system, fertility management and agricultural sustainability in soils of the tropics and on carbon sequestration in soils. He has served as Chairman of the program board "Soils and Plants" of the Research Council of Norway and as Deputy Head of the Department, in addition to many national and international committees. He chaired the Cost Action FA0905 (EU) on "Mineral Improved Cop Production for Healthy Food and Feed", in which > 200 scientists from 31 countries participated. He has supervised 76 graduate students and 16 visiting fellows/scientists from 20 countries and published 425 articles, of which 240 in peer-reviewed journals and books. Prof. Singh is a fellow of ASA (2004) and SSSA (2005) and recipient of International Award in Soil Science (SSSA) in 2011. He is currently the Chair of the IUSS Division 3 and the President of the Norwegian Society of Soil Science

##### ***Pandi ZDRULI***

Prof. Dr. Pandi Zdruli is Senior Research Scientist with the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari in Italy since 1999 where he teaches soil science. In addition, he has tutored 12 MS and 2 PhD students. Prof. Zdruli regularly review papers for 24 journals and is editorial board member of other three. Prior to joining the Bari Institute, he was Visiting Scientist (for two years) with the EC's Joint Research Centre at Ispra, Italy and Senior Fulbright Research Scholar (for five years) at the USDA NRCS in Washington, D.C. He graduated in 1981 from the Agricultural University of Tirana in his native Albania and pursued graduate studies and research in the USA sponsored by the Fulbright Foundation. Prof. Zdruli has published 80 papers and technical reports on relevant soil management topics and has edited 12 books. He is member of IUSS, Soil, Crop and Agronomy Society of America, Italian Society of Soil Science, Fulbright Association, European Soil Bureau Network (ESBN) of the EC, member of the ESBN WG "Soil Awareness and Education", member of the Editorial Board of the new World Atlas of Desertification (WAD) sponsored by EC and UNEP, Chair of the WAD Working Group "Soil", member of the GSP Technical Group Pillar 1, Coordinating Lead Author for the Land chapter, Pan European Regional Assessment part of the Global Environmental Outlook (GEO6) conducted by UNEP and scientific reviewer of the global GEO6.

#### **Vice Chairs**

##### ***Bob REES***

I have worked in soil science for over 30 years, and my current research focusses in greenhouse gas measurement and mitigation. I have been a member of the British Society of Soil Science since 1981, and spent 10 years on Council. I also have significant experience in organising large conferences, and I am Associate Editor for the Journal "Soil Use and Management". As a Scottish soil scientist I consider the hosting of the 2022 World Congress as a hugely important opportunity for Scotland and the UK given the critical role that soils play in contributing to sustainable development and prosperity.

URL: <https://www.sruc.ac.uk/brees>

**Tom ASPRAY** (Heriot Watt University; [T.J.Aspray@hw.ac.uk](mailto:T.J.Aspray@hw.ac.uk))

Tom is Assistant Professor at Heriot-Watt University (HWU) where his research interests include soil microbial ecology, soil carbon/nitrogen cycling, solid waste treatment and end use application. Prior to joining HWU in 2012, he worked in industry for a specialist remediation contractor, where he was responsible for the design and delivery of full scale contaminated soil and groundwater treatment projects involving heavy metal and/or organic contaminants. Current external roles include being incoming chair of the professional practice committee of the British Society for Soil Science and committee member of the Scottish Contaminated Land Forum.

URL: <https://researchportal.hw.ac.uk/en/persons/thomas-john-aspray/publications/>

### **Commission 3.1 Soil Evaluation and Land Use Planning**

#### **Chair**

**Ivan I. VASENEV**

Prof. Dr. Ivan Vasenev is the Head of Ecology Department and of the Laboratory of Agroecological Monitoring, Ecosystem Modeling and Prediction, Russian Timiryazev State Agricultural University, Moscow. He graduated from Moscow State University (MSU), Soil Science faculty, 1984; got the Ph.D. (1987), Dr. Sci. (Biology: Soil Science and Ecology - 2003), MSU.

#### **Vice chairs**

**Bořivoj ŠARAPATKA**

Prof. Dr. Bořivoj Šarapatka

Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Palacky University, Olomouc, Czech Republic

President of the Czech Society of Soil Science

Professor in Landscape Engineering, Dr. in Agricultural Sciences

Employment: 1983 – 1990 – Agroplan Prague (projects on land and soil use optimization), since 1990 - Palacky University, Olomouc (Professor, Head of Department, Vice-Dean),

Projects and publications on soil science, optimization of soil and land use, agroecology

Member of specialist associations, councils and commissions

Editorial boards of soil sci. journals – Soil and Water Research (on WOS), Phytopedon (SK)

URL - <http://ekologie.upol.cz/en/home-en/people/staff/sarapatka.html>

**Jagdish PRASAD**

Contributed significantly in soil resource mapping of States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh to develop a repository of soil information. In addition to this, I worked for resource inventorization of districts, watersheds, research farms including IISS (Bhopal), NIASM (Baramati), Borlaug Institute for South Asia (Jabalpur) and NIBSM (Raipur) which provided a platform for basic and applied research and agro- technology transfer. Advocated amendments in soil taxonomy and rationale for shrink-swell soils for their better understanding and management. Reported shallow, acid and red Vertisols from India. Research on spectral properties of Indian soils and spectral library added to pioneer research in predicting the properties of unknown samples and its use in precision farming. Modified land suitability criteria (Sys and others) for crops (Soybean, cotton, sugarcane,

orange, sweet orange, banana, guava, teak and sal) in tropical region by reparameterization. Delineated areas in operational sites for the benefit of planners and farming community. An effort showed that the water retention characteristics of shrink-swell soil can be predicted by Campbell function. This proved to be a pioneering step in building soil information system of Indian soils.

### **Commission 3.2 Soil and Water Conservation**

#### **Chairs**

##### ***Lillian ØYGARDEN***

Lillian Øygarden is a Research Manager at Nibio, Norwegian Institute for Bioeconomy Research. PhD in soil erosion from agricultural catchments during Nordic winter conditions. Main experience in research and monitoring programmes at field and catchment scale of runoff from agricultural areas, and Water Frame Directive. Coordination Norwegian consortium for MACSUR ([www.macsur.eu](http://www.macsur.eu)) Modelling European agriculture for food security under climate change. National representative in GRA-alliance ([www.globalresearchalliance.org](http://www.globalresearchalliance.org)). Projects- evaluations of measures to reduce GHG emissions from agriculture and adaptation of agriculture to climate change. Coordinating projects related to Agronomy for increased food production. Participating EU projects; Recare and Soilcare.

##### ***Nobuo TORIDE***

Nobuo Toride studied at University of Tokyo (M.S., 1986; Ph.D. 1990) and took a postdoctoral position at USDA-ARS U.S. Salinity Laboratory. After working for Saga University (1995-2004), he is currently a professor at Mie University (<http://www.bio.mie-u.ac.jp/junkan/sec1/lab5/eindex.html>). He was a chief editor of Journal of the Japanese Society of Soil Physics (2013-2017) and an associate editor of Vadoze Zone Journal (2004-2016). Dr. Toride has been working on analytical and numerical models for water, heat, and solute transport in variably-saturated soils including the HYDRUS model. He is planning to organize an interdisciplinary symposium on nitrogen-carbon transport with SOM degradation in a soil.

##### ***Ying Zhao***

Dr. Ying Zhao currently works as an Associate Professor of Soil and Water Conservation in Northwest A&F University, China and as a Joint Professor in Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography, CAS. He has completed B.Sc. (2002) in Geography from Northwest Normal University, China, Master (2005) in Soil and Water Conservation at the Institute of Soil Science, CAS, and Ph.D. (2008) in Soil Physics in University of Kiel, Germany. He mainly focused on soil hydrological process and its mechanics, and has published 61 SCI papers. He was awarded with Max-Planck fellowship, JSPS fellowship, and Thousand Youth Talent program etc.

### **Commission 3.3 Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition**

#### **Chairs**

##### ***Bruno GLASER***

Bruno Glaser is Professor of Soil Biogeochemistry at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (Germany). His areas of expertise and research activities are focused on identification and quantification of biogeochemical processes at the soil-plant-water interface. To achieve this, he uses and develops sophisticated analytical tools such as molecular markers and stable isotope labelling and analysis. Furthermore, he deals with sustainable use of natural resources such as soils and biomass and the role of soil organic matter for soil fertility. The scale of his research ranges from molecular to ecosystem levels. Fieldwork is concentrated in Europe, Africa and South America with current research projects in Germany, Brazil, and Ethiopia. Professor Glaser has published widely in

soil science, environmental science and biogeochemistry, having authored 24 book chapters and 141 peer-reviewed papers with an H-index of 40 (ISI Web of Science). His projects are interdisciplinary and international. He has received research grants from the European Union (EU), the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). He is a reviewer for a wide range of international journals, currently acts as editor for *Journal of Environmental Management and Landscape Engineering and Agronomy for Sustainable Development*. Furthermore, he is within the editorial boards of several journals including *Journal of Plant Nutrition and Soil Science*. From 2012 – 2016, Bruno Glaser was Chair of the EU COST Action TD1107 (Biochar as option for sustainable resources management). Finally, he is well involved in different expert groups and reviewer for several scientific donor organizations.

### **Raj KHOSLA**

Prof. Raj Khosla is a University Monfort Professor of Precision Agriculture at Colorado State University. His main research focus has been on Management of in-field soil and crop variability using geo-spatial technologies for precision management of crop-inputs. In 2012, he was named the Jefferson Science Fellow by the National Academy of Sciences. Previously, he served two 2-yr terms on NASA's US "Presidential Advisory Board on Positioning, Navigation and Timing". He is the Fellow of American Society of Agronomy; Soil Science Society of America; Soil and Water Conservation Society; and Honorary Life Fellow of International Society of Precision Agriculture. He is the Founder and Founding-President of the International Society of Precision Agriculture.

<http://soilcrop.agsci.colostate.edu/faculty-2/rajiv-khosla/>

### **Pil Joo Kim**

Professor Pil Joo Kim was vice-chairperson of Division 2, IUSS from 2010-2014, and contributed to the success of the 20th WCSS as Editing & Academic Committee chair. He has been involved in development of soil management strategies to improve soil quality after his PhD in Soil Science in 1997. He serviced as soil scientist at NIAST, Korea up to 2000, and researched the impact of global warming on soil carbon dynamics at Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama (2008-2009).

He was appointed as an assistant professor at Gyeongsang National University, Korea in 2001 and as a full professor and department head since 2008. He published over 200 peer reviewed journal articles, which focused mostly on improving soil fertility and minimizing greenhouse gas emissions. He supervised 26 MS and 15 PhD for the last 15 years. In recent, he is working as a specialist to improve agricultural productivity and construct Agricultural Training Centers in Senegal, Africa.

### **Vice Chairs**

#### **Toru FUJIWARA**

Toru Fujiwara, Professor, Lab of Plant Nutrition, The University of Tokyo, is currently serving as a Vice Chair of IUSS Commission 3.3 and organized an international symposium at the IUSS congress in Kiel in Sept. 2015. He is a council member of International plant nutrition colloquium and has a network on international plant nutrition community. He discovered transporters of essential mineral nutrients and generated plants that tolerate low nutrient availability. These works have been published and cited frequently and received several awards from the government and scientific societies. He has also organized international and local meetings in the past.

#### **Carmen Eugenia SÎRBU**

Carmen Eugenia SÎRBU - Institution: National Research & Development Institute for Soil Science, Agrochemistry and Environment Protection – ICPA Bucharest, Romania. In 2012 I obtained PhD in agrochemistry and since 2000 I have worked as scientific researcher. Since 2004 I work as researcher at ICPA Bucharest. Currently, I am the head of the Agrochemistry and Plant Nutrition Laboratory, where I evaluate the effect of fertilizers on soil fertility and plant nutrition. My main activities were focused on the sustainable management of soil fertility, plant nutrition and environmental pollution

due to agricultural practices. My activities/results regarding soil fertility and plant nutrition management were comprised in more than 70 articles, 10 patents, 7 books and over 50 fertilizers technology and 20 projects.

### **Commission 3.4 Soil Engineering and Technology**

#### **Chairs**

##### ***Jiabao ZHANG***

Jiabao Zhang, PhD in soil physics, professor in Institute of Soil Science, CAS, visiting professor in Uni-Heidelberg (2011), Uni-Melbourne (2002), Uni-Kyushu (2000), Uni-Hohenheim (1998), Uni-California, Riverside (1994-1995), chairman of commission of soil physics, China (2004-2012), chief scientist on inherent soil productivity of china national basic research program, associate editor-in-chief of Soil and Crop (Chinese), editorial board members of Scientific Reports, ESPR. Major research field has been in the development of soil engineering and technology to improve low productive, problem, degraded soils for increasing crop yield, water and fertilizer use efficiency and minimizing environmental impacts. He published 2 books, 365 peer-review articles (106 in English journals).

##### ***Laura E. PAULETTE***

Laura E. Paulette has been a professor at the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine in Cluj Napoca, Romania for 18 years. She teaches Pedology, Soil Classification, Ecological Reconstruction and Land Use Planning and Management. Her interdisciplinary research brings together horticulture/urban agronomy, soil management, environmental and ecological agriculture. Her current research focuses on soil proximal sensing techniques (portable x-ray fluorescence spectroscopy (PXRF); portable VisNIR). She is a member of several professional and scientific international associations: the Soil Science Society of America, the European Society for Soil Conservation, the International Soil Tillage Research Organization, the Centre International du Engrais Chimique, and the Society of Ecological Restoration. She also acts as a reviewer and as a member of the editorial board for scientific journals such as *Soil Science*, *ProEnvironment*, *Bulletin USAMV* and *SCIREA Journal of Agriculture*.

### **Commission 3.5 Soil Degradation, Control, Remediation and Reclamation**

#### **Chairs**

##### ***Xudong ZHANG***

Dr. Xudong Zhang is a Professor at the Institute of Applied Ecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. He has been named Vice President of the Soil Science Society of China for the second term and he serves as the associate editor for both Canadian Journal of Soil Science and Journal of Plant Nutrition and Soil Science. Dr. Zhang received his Ph.D. from Shenyang Agricultural University in Soil Science. His research focuses on understanding the microbial control over biogeochemical cycles of carbon and nitrogen in ecosystems, especially regarding their role in maintaining the sustainability of agricultural soils. His research also involves the development of soil and soil tillage and/or management practices which improve soil quality and enhance crop productivity. Dr. Zhang has made significant and important contributions to those research. His work has been published in high level journals, for instance, *Soil Biology & Biochemistry*, *Soil Science Society of America Journal*, *European Journal of Soil Science*, *Plant and Soil*, *Soil and Tillage Research*, etc.

##### ***Stefan NORRA***

Stefan Norra, born 1966 in Bremen, Germany, researches and teaches in the field of Geoecology and Soil Sciences. He is Honorary Professor for Geoecology at the Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg and apl. Professor at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, where he heads a working group for "Environmental Mineralogy and Environmental system Analyses". Focusses of his soil related engagements are urban soils, soil contamination, agricultural soils, soil and society, ecosystem services and soil mineralogy. Stefan frequently carries out field work and projects in Germany, Inner Mongolia (China), West-Bengal (India), Vietnam, Thailand and cooperates more and above that with colleagues worldwide from France, Switzerland, Australia, US, Pakistan, Peru and many more. Stefan currently is the speaker of the Commission for Soil in Society and Education of the German Soil Science Society and member of the editorial boards of "Chemie der Erde – Geochemistry" and "Journal of Soils and Sediments". Many of my scientific and work experiences very well fit into the topic of Commission 5 "Soil Degradation, Control, Remediation and Reclamation", which is one the topics caring about sustainable protection and management of soils even on a global level. The Pedosphere is the thinnest sphere compared to lithosphere and atmosphere and is the fundament of human live on earth. Therefore, I would be pleased to invest my activities in promoting this topic.

### **Agota HOREL**

Agota Horel works as a senior scientist at the Institute for Soil Sciences of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA-ATK-TAKI) in Budapest, Hungary. Agota received her PhD in Environmental Engineering at University of Alaska Fairbanks. She did her Post-Doc work at University of Alabama, Dauphin Island Sea Lab working on oil spill related soil remediation studies.

Agota is a member of the Hungarian Soil Science Society, where she currently holds the secretary position at the Soil Technology Section. Agota authored 20 journal papers and taught several civil and environmental engineering courses.

URL: <http://mta-taki.hu/hu/tagok/horel-agota>

### **Vice chairs**

### **Junta YANAI**

*Prof. Junta YANAI* (Kyoto Prefectural University, Kyoto, JAPAN). I have made research on the 1) remediation of Cd-contaminated soils and 2) control of soil degradation in the tropics and dry regions using geostatistics etc. for more than 25 years. I obtained my PhD degree in Agricultural Science from Kyoto University in 1998. I have worked as a university staff since 1995. I published over 60 scientific journal articles and more than 10 books, and received Progress Award of the Japanese Society of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition (2006) and Best Paper Award of the *Soil Science and Plant Nutrition* (2006). I also served as a Committee member of JSSPN (2013-present) and attended IUSS Inter-Congress Meeting in Rio de Janeiro as one of the representatives. I have made research in collaboration with foreign researchers in Asia, Europe and Africa etc. (1992-present) based on my experience in abroad as a visiting researcher at Rothamsted Research in UK (2002-2003). I really hope to contribute to the progress of soil science through this international activity.

URL: [http://www2.kpu.ac.jp/life\\_environ/bioanal\\_chem/yanai.html](http://www2.kpu.ac.jp/life_environ/bioanal_chem/yanai.html)

### **Mihail DUMITRU**

**Prof. univ. dr. D.h.c Mihail DUMITRU** (born 1947) graduated in agronomy (1973), and PhD in agronomy (1982). Present position is Deputy Director - National Research Institute for Soil Science Agrochemistry and Environment (ICPA Bucharest), with a long activity in research development aiming at a sustainable agriculture, harmonization of agricultural technologies with those of environmental protection within the agriculture, development of wildlife in agricultural areas, diversification of agricultural systems, alignment of rules for environmental protection in agriculture

with those of the European Community, soil conservation. He is author and co-author of over 20 patents, 70 books, and 400 scientific papers.

URL: [www.agw.kit.edu/6382.php](http://www.agw.kit.edu/6382.php)

### **Commission 3.6 Salt Affected Soils**

#### **Chairs**

##### ***Jingsong YANG***

Dr. Jingsong Yang, Professor of the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China, Director of Center for salt affected soils utilization and salinity management of the Institute, Vice Chair of Commission of Salt-Affected Soils of the IUSS 2014-2018, national principle expert of Effective Agricultural Use of Salt Affected Soils of China. He was the Chair of the Saline Soils Commission of Chinese Soil Science Society during 1999-2012. His research field is mainly focused on management of soil salinization and integrated use of salt-affected soils. He is now in charge of several state keynote projects on salt affected soils management of China.

##### ***Tibor TOTH***

Tibor Tóth works as scientific advisor at the Institute for Soil Sciences of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA-ATK-TAKI) in Budapest, Hungary. He is also the editor-in-chief of the journal Arid Land Research and Management (Taylor & Francis) since 2006.

Tibor is the president of the Hungarian Soil Science Society, and was co-founder and vice-chairman of the IUSS Working Group and later Commission 3.6. "Salt-affected soils". He organized several international meetings in this position between 2006 and 2014.

He (co)authored more than hundred papers, dozen books, two dozen book chapters. Tibor teaches courses on salt-affected soils and soil ecology.

URL: <http://members.iif.hu/tot3700/>

##### ***Jorge BATLLE-SALES***

Jorge Batlle-Sales, is Chair Professor of the University of Valencia (Spain), Area of Pedology and Agricultural Chemistry.

Secretary of Commission of Salt-Affected Soils IUSS since 1994 and has organized four International Symposia (3 at Valencia) on soil salinity with IUSS and FAO (ISSALE-95, SPUSH 2001, WCSS 2002-W33, and GFSCC2010) and participated in many international courses.

Spanish Representative on FAO's Global Network on Salt Affected Habitats since 1995, was Vicepresident for Spain of the World Association for Soil and Water Conservation (WASWC). Is Leader of the Working Group on Soil Salinization and member of the Scientific Advisory Board of DESERNET International.

##### ***Valentina VOICU***

Valentina Voicu (born 1976) graduated in agronomy, specialization: Soil Science and Agro-chemistry (2000), and PhD in agronomy (2008). Present position is researcher and Scientific Secretary at the National Research Institute for Soil Science Agrochemistry and Environment (ICPA Bucharest), and Associate Professor at the "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, Faculty of Engineering and Agronomy of Brăila. Her work focuses on salt affected soils, identify and monitoring the areas with

salts affected soils or with risk at salinisation, and to adopt appropriate measures in order to rehabilitate the soil quality for salt affected soils.

Vice chair

**Ki-In KIM**



대한토양비료학회  
Korean Society of Soil Science and Fertilizer

**Korean Society of Soil Science and Fertilizer**

166, Nongsae-gmyeong-ro, Iseo-myeon, Waju-gun,  
Joollabuk-do 55365, Republic of Korea

Tel: 182-63-226-7335  
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E-mail: ksssf349@hanmail.net  
Website: <http://www.ksssf.org>

Dear Dr. Bal Ram Singh,

Korean Society of Soil Science and Fertilizer highly recommends Dr. Ki-In Kim for applying Division 3: Salt affected soils: commission vice-chair. Dr. Ki-In Kim has been a vice president of international relations for Korean Society of Soil Science and Fertilizer since 2015 and contributed IUSS Jeju Award. His research area was soil fertility and management and salt affected soils to improve soil and crop quality. He worked at USDA-ARS and University of Minnesota. Now, he is working at Mokpo National University as an assistant professor. He published over 20 peer reviewed journal articles. He volunteered Korean International Cooperation Agency project (KOICA) for helping undeveloped country, such as Myanmar. His work was focused on teaching environmentally friendly agriculture. Now, one of his main focus is salt affected soils, especially, reclaimed land in Korea.

Sincerely,

Tongmin Sa

The president of Korean Society of Soil Science and Fertilizer