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Compiled by Yuliya Dzyuban

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President Elect

Tanja Cegnar <tanja.cegnar@gmail.com>

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Vice-Presidents

Jennifer Vanos <jenni.vanos@asu.edu>

Yuliya Dzyuban <ydzzyuban@smu.edu.sg>

Editors-in-Chief

Pablo Fernández de Arróyabe Hernáez <pablo.fdezarroyabe@unican.es>

Alison Donnelly <donna@uwm.edu>

Angela Lees <a.lees@uq.edu.au>

Scott C. Sheridan <ssherid1@kent.edu>

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Michael Allen <mallen@towson.edu>

Councilor (Africa)

Jennifer Fitchett <jennifer.fitchett@wits.ac.za>

Councilor (Asia)

Shreya Banerjee <shreyab@smu.edu.sg>

Councilor (Europe)

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Councilor (North America)

Daniel Vecellio <dvecelli@gmu.edu>

Councilor (Latin and South America)

Fabio Luiz Teixeira Goncalves <fabio.goncalves@iag.usp.br>

Councilor (Oceania)

Angela Lees <a.lees@uq.edu.au>

A Message from the President

Scott Sheridan

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Executive Board, I would like to extend my warmest greetings and appreciation to all ISB members for everything you've done to promote our society and build our community. I very much appreciated reading the updates you'll see on the following pages and seeing the many ways our society continues to maintain a strong global presence. I am particularly proud of our recent Students and New Professionals workshop, the first to take place in the Global South. The workshop brought together biometeorologists from around the world not only to learn research methods, but also to collaborate, network, and help bring new members into our society in the years ahead. Activities like these reflect the continued growth and global reach of biometeorology and the strength of our community.

We are now only a few months away from the 24th International Congress of Biometeorology in Novi Sad. I would like to thank Stevan Savić, Jelena Dunjić, Daniela Arsenović, and their local organizing team at the University of Novi Sad for their extensive work in setting the stage for what promises to be a successful conference.

Thank you to all who contributed reports, organized activities, and continue to support the mission of the International Society of Biometeorology. I look forward to seeing many of you in Novi Sad.

Kind regards,

Scott Sheridan

President, International Society of Biometeorology, 2023–2026

Commissions Reports 2025

Climate and Health Commission

Adam Kalkstein, Commission Chair

Members of ISB’s Climate and Health Commission (CHC) continue to conduct impactful, cutting-edge research highlighting associations between weather/climate and human health, and at least three large international studies recently featured the work of CHC scientists. For example, Dr. Paul Beggs played a vital role in a comprehensive 2025 Lancet report on health and climate change that explored the many roles of climate change on human health, described how delayed actions could worsen conditions, and offered some potential pathways for future success. Likewise, Dr. Aleš Urban was the lead author on an expansive international study recently published in Environmental Research Letters which examined the health impact of heat prevention plans across Europe, concluding that these plans have resulted in “substantial” reductions in heat-related mortality. Finally, a team of CHC members recently published research examining the health impacts of changing thermal conditions for 100 cities across the planet and concluded the most oppressive days were the ones warming most rapidly, especially at night.

The breadth of current research conducted by Commission members is most impressive and includes biometeorological examinations of hospital admissions and morbidity, human mortality, infectious disease, crime, allergens and pollution, mental health, warning systems and indices, comfort, and beyond. These studies, along with so many others conducted by CHC scientists, have not only had major impacts increasing knowledge across the discipline, but have also had real-world impacts on the ground resulting in improved planning, more effective mitigation, and clear benefits to human health. The CHC is currently accepting nominations for the next Commission chair, and we are excited to see everyone in Novi Sad!

Phenology Commission

Marie Keatley, Commission Chair

Patricia Morellato, Pheno2025 Conference Chair

Alison Donnelly, Editor-in-Chief, International Journal of Biometeorology

The Commission held its sixth successful conference — Pheno2025: Towards a Global Phenology Science — in Sao Pedro, Brazil from 28 July - 1 August. It was the first in the Global South and the second in the Southern Hemisphere, hosting a total of 109 delegates. Funding provided by ISB assisted the attendance of 25 delegates from the Global South.

Papers were presented across eight themes:

1. Phenology Networks from North and South: Towards a Global Phenology Science
2. Phenological methods, standards, protocols and cutting-edge approaches
3. Remote Phenology: from near-surface to orbital sensors and modeling integration
4. Phenological Mismatching and Temporality of Mutualistic Interactions
5. Phenology from Legacy and Herbarium Data to Botanical Gardens for Global Forecasting Climatic Change
6. Phenology, Traditional knowledge, and Citizen science
7. Tropical Phenology, Biodiversity Conservation and Restoration under global change
8. Urban Phenology and Global Change



Conference Chair: Prof Patricia Morellato during the opening of the conference.



Registration desk.



Delegates enjoying themselves during the conference dinner.



Delegates enjoying the field tours.

Topical Collection (formerly Special Issues)

There will be a topical collection in the International Journal of Biometeorology (<https://link.springer.com/collections/fbhfehhbd>) edited by Alison Donnelly, Patricia Morellato and Bruna Alberton from the Conference. The Topical Collection will bring together a diverse array of studies that highlight the global breadth and scientific richness of phenological research. Spanning tropical rainforests in South Asia, the threatened savannas of Brazil, the dry forests of central Africa, and the temperate forests of the Northern Hemisphere, these contributions illuminate how climate, phylogeny, functional traits, and environmental drivers shape plant phenology across ecosystems. The articles also demonstrate the methodological diversity of the field, from long-term field observations and experimental approaches to proximal sensing, phenocams, remote sensing, and innovative statistical tools. Several papers underscore the applied relevance of phenology, including its role in crop pollination and food security, the development of forecasting systems under climate change, and the integration of Indigenous knowledge systems. Collectively, the contributions in this issue demonstrate the value of linking local observations to global perspectives, advancing both the science of phenology and its practical applications in a rapidly changing world.

European Geosciences Union

Each year in the last triennium, Phenology Commission members have assisted in convening the phenology session, Plant and Animal Phenology Under the Pressure of Climate Change, at the European Geosciences Union General Assembly in Vienna, Austria.

Expression of Interest for Phenology 2028

After the highly successful Phenology 2025, it is a pleasure to put out the call for Phenology 2028. Applications will close on May 1st, 2026. Information about the call is attached at the end of this bulletin.

Students and New Professionals Commission

Dr. Peter J. Crank, Commission Chair

Since the last bulletin, the SNP has been quite active! In 2024, we published a news update and a perspective piece in the IJBM, obtained funding for our 2025 Workshop, and hosted 2 online webinars on burnout and a fireside chat with IJBM editor, Dr. Angela Lees. A lot of 2024 was spent in preparation for our 2025 workshop that was held 1-3 July, 2025, at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

2025 was a banner year for the SNP. Our workshop brought together 26 early career biometeorologists from all six inhabited continents to discuss and work on a literature review of the IJBM and biometeorology research in the Global South. The manuscript is in preparation for submission (and hopefully publication) in 2026. Our workshop was also a lesson in the challenges facing researchers in the Global South with water cutoffs teaching us the importance of flexibility, improvisation, and resilience in the face of obstacles. A huge thanks to Dr. Ariel Prinsloo for being the point person in the SNP Exec Committee to organize the workshop and to Prof. Jennifer Fitchett for being a fantastic host who made the experience incredibly valuable to all. Check out the reflection and summary video SNP Exec Committee member Claire Gallacher put together!

Besides the monumental task of the workshop, the SNP also hosted a webinar on statistical methods (specifically the DLNM) for biometeorology research featuring the SNP Exec team, a guest lecture from Dr. Theo Economou (University of Exeter) and panel input from Dr. Ogone Motlogeloa (University of the Witwatersrand). The SNP spent most of the second half of 2025 working on reporting the results of the workshop (presented at the International Conference on Urban Climate in July 2025) and writing summary reports/manuscripts of the outcomes. We also developed a

mentorship program where we pair students and new professionals with senior researchers in biometeorology to help answer specific questions about biometeorology. Thus far, we've connected three SNP members with senior researchers to discuss research opportunities and provide advice on research design. As we look forward to 2026 and the 24th International Congress on Biometeorology in Novi Sad, Serbia, we anticipate a fruitful congress with sessions filled with SNP research and research on the Global South by Global South researchers as well as the expansion of our mentorship program! We also look forward to soliciting nominations and holding elections for the next triennium's leadership of the SNP.



SNP 2025 participants.



SNP Chair Dr. Peter Crank introducing the goals of the workshop



Regional Reports 2025

African Councilor Report

Jennifer Fitchett, Africa Councilor

2025 was a particularly exciting year for African Biometeorology. From 1-3 July, the SnP workshop was hosted at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. This workshop was centered around exploring the literature on biometeorology emanating from the Global South. Led by Dr Peter Crank, Dr Ariel Prinsloo and Claire Gallacher, the workshop brought together members of the ISB based in South Africa, Nigeria, India, China, Canada, Germany and Australia. The workshop included a fieldtrip on the Red Bus Tour of Johannesburg, to understand spatial inequalities in the Global South first hand. The group has continued to work collectively towards a draft systematic review paper, which is likely to be submitted to the International Journal of Biometeorology early in 2026. This work is also going to be presented at the 2026 ICB in Novi Sad.

The second key highlight was the publication of the first ever African Special Issue of the International Journal of Biometeorology (Volume 68, Issue 10). While the continuous publishing method that Springer had adopted meant that this special issue was supplemented by a number of unrelated papers that were in the queue, the 12 papers on African Biometeorology spanned the range of human to plant and animal themes, with studies on a range of countries. This was the last special issue to be published, with thematic collections going forward. We are hopeful that many of these papers will be presented at ICB 2026.

ISB Membership from the African continent remains strong, particularly among students and new professionals. The low membership rates for lower

economically developed countries, coupled with discernable activity from the region, continues to promote active engagement.

Asian Councilor Report

Shreya Banerjee, Asia Councilor

There were two major highlights from the Asian Biometeorology section in 2025. Members from India and China, Dr. Shreya Banerjee and Dr. Adnan Arshad, participated in the SnP workshop at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 1st to 3rd July 2025. They further contributed to the systematic literature review paper resulting from this workshop.

The second highlight was the webinar series. Shreya organised three virtual webinars for dissemination and skill building during November and December 2025. The first webinar speaker was Sahana Ghosh, who is the Associate Editor of Nature India, on 12th November 2025. She delivered a powerful webinar on "Communicating Science beyond Journals", focusing on examples from climate change and health impacts. The second webinar was on 28th November 2025, and the speaker was Dr Arista Lahiri, a public health and community medicine specialist and an Assistant Professor in the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India. He shared interesting insights about his experience of navigating community engagement in various rural areas of India. His talk was titled "Public Health in a Changing Climate: The Community- Engagement Saga". Sahana Ghosh conducted another powerful session on the third webinar on 18th December 2025 on "How to Craft Compelling Press Releases" with hands-on examples from environmental epidemiology.

2026 Tromp Awards



2026 Tromp Awards

- Best Paper: Matteo Migliari (France): Migliari, M., Chesne, L., Postal, A., Despax, J., Dogbo, A. M., Ulanowski, Y., ... & Baverel, O. (2025). Street albedo distribution's impacts on air temperature and outdoor thermal sensation during heat and cold waves. *Urban climate*, 63, 102551.
- 2nd Excellent Paper: Adnan Arshad (Pakistan): Arshad, A., Zhang, Y., Zhang, P., Wang, X., Chen, Y., Ahmed, M., & Zhang, L. (2025). APSIM-cotton model calibration for phenology-driven sowing and yield optimization in drip irrigated arid climate. *Smart Agricultural Technology*, 101325.
- 3rd Excellent Paper: Fragkeskos Kekkou (Cyprus): Kekkou, F., Economou, T., Lazoglou, G., & Anagnostopoulou, C. (2025). Temperature extremes and human health in Cyprus: Investigating the impact of heat and cold waves. *Environment International*, 199, 109451.



A special thanks to all those who submitted papers. Matteo will present *Street albedo distribution's impacts on air temperature and outdoor thermal sensation during heat and cold waves* in a Special Session as part of the International Congress of Biometeorology. The Society would also like to thank Peter Höppe and Tanja Cegnár for their support and partnership with the Tromp Foundation in supporting biometeorology.

Upcoming Conferences

24th International Congress of Biometeorology

The theme of the 24th International Congress is “Biometeorology: Addressing 21st century Global Climate Issues and Perspectives of Living Beings and Places”. The 24th International Congress of Biometeorology will be held at the University of Novi Sad, Serbia on 13 – 16 July 2026. Registration is open! Questions about the Congress should be directed to the Local Organizing Committee email: nsucl@pmf.uns.ac.rs.

Living with the Elements: Weather, Climate, and Human Health

This workshop aims to strengthen the human biometeorology community by bringing together experts, practitioners, and stakeholders to exchange knowledge and co-create future directions. The workshop will serve as a platform for aligning perspectives, inspiring new initiatives, and fostering a vibrant community committed to advancing human biometeorology for societal benefit. The session will be held on Thursday, 10 September 2026 in a hybrid format in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Through presentations, interactive discussions and shared experiences, participants will:

- Build and enhance professional networks that support long-term collaboration.
- Showcase examples of effective and innovative biometeorological services, highlighting real-world applications, communication tools, and operational solutions.
- Identify current gaps in scientific understanding, methodological approaches, and user-oriented practices related to the impact of the atmosphere on human health.

- Develop a shared set of recommendations to guide future research priorities, service improvements, capacity development, and cooperation.

The number of participants is limited; therefore, registration via email, trompfoundation@gmail.com, is mandatory for both virtual and in person participants.

Call for Expressions of Interest to Host Phenology 2028

The Phenology Commission of the International Society of Biometeorology (ISB) (<https://uwm.edu/biometeorology/>) is calling for expressions of interest to host Phenology 2028. Phenology 2028 will be the 7th Conference in the series. Typically the Conference attracts between 120 and 150 delegates.

Proposals should provide:

- Primary contact/host
- Conference overarching theme
- Proposed meeting dates
- Primary members and structure of the local organizing committee
- Primary conference venue, including rationale, advantages, and estimated costs
- Organizational, logistical, and funding support available
- Transportation arrangements and estimated costs
- Field Trips

Other considerations:

ISB is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion across its membership and events. The Conference proposal should therefore align with the values outlined in the Society's Diversity and Inclusion Statement (<https://uwm.edu/biometeorology/about/diversity/>).

Costs of attending in person conferences are often prohibitive for researchers, particularly for those from low and middle income countries. Hence, the Conference proposals should enable the participation of some delegates remotely, including for those giving presentations. ISB members receive a reduced registration fee.

At some previous Phenology Conferences the following have occurred:

- Reduced registration fees for students if they presented and assisted with the running of the Conference.
- Prizes for Best Student Talk and Poster.
- Arrangements for childcare to assist those with caring responsibilities to attend the conference.
- Selected papers for a Topical Collection (previously called Special Issue) of the International Journal of Biometeorology.
- ISB has provided a small grant to support the Conference.

The call will close on the 1st of May 2026. Proposals should be sent to Marie Keatley, Chair, Phenology Commission (marie.keatley@rmit.edu.au). The proposals will be assessed by Chairs of the previous Phenology Conferences. It is anticipated that an outcome will be provided to applicants by June 1st with an official announcement made at the 2026 International Congress in Serbia.

Applicants may be required to participate in a video call to clarify questions that the assessment panel may have.