



Interdisciplinary Environmental Association

MISSION AND GOALS

The Interdisciplinary Environmental Association (IEA) is an organization of academics, practitioners, and concerned citizens from a wide range of disciplines and perspectives who believe that environmental problems require an interdisciplinary approach that needs to be clearly reflected in an organization dedicated to enhancing the discussion of these issues across disciplinary and political boundaries. The mission of the IEA is thus to bring together all disciplines so that environmental knowledge is enhanced through interdisciplinary communications. The goals of the organization are to enhance understanding of environmental issues by educating each other in an interdisciplinary format, and to present disciplinary perspectives of environmental problems to people outside those disciplines, as well as to those outside academia, in a clear, understandable fashion.

ORIGINS

The IEA was conceived in the early 1990's when an economist (Dr. Demetri Kantarelis) and a geographer (Dr. Kevin Hickey) at Assumption

College MA decided to create an interdisciplinary course in environmental economics. While looking for supporting information for course design, they discovered that there was little published scholarship from which to draw, and that peer-reviewed journals and other professional outlets afforded little opportunity for scholars to step beyond their field and experiment with a new, broader approach to environmental issues. Suspecting that there were other scholars with similar interests in interdisciplinary approaches to environmental issues but no outlet for presentation or publication, they initiated the IEA in the spring of 1994 to identify and organize these individuals. From this small beginning, the IEA now spans over two dozen different disciplines and countries.



Drs. Kevin Hickey (left) and Demetri Kantarelis, Founders of the IEA.

CONFERENCE

The IEA is responsible for the organization of the annual International Interdisciplinary Conference on the Environment (IICE). The first IICE was held in Boston in June of 1995 and included over 100 attendees and 70 papers representing 18 foreign countries and 14 disciplines. This initial group of participants became the core of the IEA, with subsequent

members drawn primarily through word of mouth, the internet, and the conference.

Presentations for the conference are selected by reviewed abstracts, with a requirement that presentations take an interdisciplinary approach to an environmental issue, are up-to-date within the presenter's primary field of interest, and are understandable to colleagues outside the presenter's primary field of interest. All presentations are discussed by colleagues outside of the presenter's field, and include time for discussion of the presented ideas by colleagues from many disciplines and countries. Manuscripts related to presentations can be submitted for review and publication in the Association's journal.

JOURNAL

Interdisciplinary Environmental Review (IER: ISSN 0023-6234) is an international journal published semi-annually by the IEA. IER seeks to present relevant and up-to-date information on environmental issues approached from an interdisciplinary perspective. The journal's goal is to enhance communication on environmental issues across traditional disciplinary and political boundaries such that, at a minimum, the main points, arguments, and "take home" message of any article are accessible to readers from any discipline.

All papers submitted to IER are subject to a blind review process from both within and outside the principal discipline of the author(s), and must not have been published, accepted, or submitted for publication elsewhere. To facilitate communication between disciplines, authors are asked to make an effort to write their manuscripts so as to be understood by an audience outside their discipline, using a minimum of specialized or unexplained technical tables, formulae, or jargon.



HONOR SOCIETY

Kappa Alpha Omicron (KAO) is the international student chapters and honor society in Interdisciplinary Environmental Science/Study organized by the IEA. The Greek letters of the organization stand for the perspectives that can be used to address environmental issues: Kosmos (the universe), Anthropos (humanity), and Oikos (household ["ekos"]). An active chapter of KAO may be chartered and established in any regularly incorporated and properly accredited four-year college or university granting the Bachelor's or higher degree, whereas high schools and two-year colleges may apply for an affiliated membership. KAO is designed to offer high school and college/university students (and faculty) working on interdisciplinary environmental issues around the world an academic home and support, a hub for networking across disciplines and countries, and much-needed recognition for the outstanding interdisciplinary work being performed in this rapidly expanding and important academic discipline. For further information on KAO, visit <http://www.ieaonline.org/KAO.htm>.

THE FUTURE

The IEA is charting its future course after 15 successful years of interdisciplinary exchange, faculty and student support, and international networking related to environmental issues. These plans include continued growth of the organization and its activities, efforts toward accreditation/certification standards in interdisciplinary environmental education, more robust and varied outreach methods, and an effort to network academic environmental organizations from different countries. With disciplinary exchange of information and interdisciplinary academic support at its core, the IEA looks to continue its success into the foreseeable future.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the IEA includes the journal *Interdisciplinary Environmental Review* and other benefits. Annual Membership is included in the IICE conference fees, or may be paid independently.

<i>Regular Members</i>	\$80
<i>Student Members</i>	\$40

Additional membership at the same address as a Regular Member, without receiving the publications of the IEA \$40

The IEA also welcomes Institutional Members. Institutional Members are business firms, academic institutions, governmental agencies, and other organizations that share IEA's educational objectives. Institutional members are identified in the IICE Conference Program/Abstracts, Journal, Proceedings, and Announcements, as well as in a Conference display. Institutional Members receive all publications of the IEA and participation in the Conference without registration fees, as follows:

<i>Sponsoring</i>	\$2,400+
<i>(includes up to 12 participants)</i>	
<i>Supporting</i>	\$1,200
<i>(includes up to 6 participants)</i>	
<i>Contributing</i>	\$600
<i>(includes up to 3 participants)</i>	

Library subscriptions to IER are also available for \$75 annually.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE IEA OR FOR MEMBERSHIP AND SPONSORSHIP INQUIRIES, CONTACT:

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 Association**



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