

2nd SURE Congress was successfully hold in Shanghai, China

The second Congress of the Society for Urban Ecology (SURE) was successfully held in Shanghai, China from July 8 to 10, 2016 at Holiday Inn Shanghai. The congress was organized by the SURE and East China Normal University (ECNU) and co-organized by SURE-China Chapter, Research Center of Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES), CAS, China, Institute of Urban Environment (IUE), CAS, China, and Center for Human-Environment System Sustainability (CHESS), Beijing Normal University (BNU), China, and co-chaired by Prof. Jürgen Breuste , SURE President from University of Salzburg, Prof. Qun Chen, President of ECNU, and Prof. Conghe Song from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The congress was hosted by the School of Ecological and Environmental Sciences and Shanghai Key Laboratory of Urbanization and Eco-Restoration and was sponsored by ECNU, RCEES, IUE and CHESS.

Nearly 350 participants from more than 20 countries worldwide such as USA, Canada, Argentina, Colombia, UK, Germany, France, Poland, Sweden, Denmark, Austria, Slovakia, Italy, Japan, Singapore, Pakistan, China, etc. took part in the congress and six distinguished leading scientists on urban ecology and environmental science, i.e. Steward Pickett, Kevin Gaston, Marina Alberti, Jianguo (Jingle) Wu, Zhiyun Ouyang, and Yongguan Zhu who were invited as Keynote speakers to give plenary talks. The theme of the congress was “Challenges for Urban Ecology under Rapid Urbanization and Global Environmental Change”. Under this scope 15 sessions were set up on the hot topics of global urbanization and landscape dynamics, sustainable urbanization, urban green and blue infrastructures, metabolism of urban ecosystems, indicators for urban sprawling and compact cities, patterns and processes of urban biodiversity, the ecology and management of rural-urban linkages, urban biodiversity versus functional design of urban ecosystems, industrial ecology, urban sustainability, eco-cities and their constructions, remote sensing of urban ecology, low-carbon city development, education on urban ecology, and a forum on the future of urban ecology for young scholars. The congress totally received 254 abstracts, 168 oral presentations and 47 poster presentations covering wide research interests in the field of urban ecology. The congress set awards for ten of the best oral and poster presentations for graduate students and four travel award for excellent young urban ecologists.

During the congress, SURE had an assemblage meeting and completed the election of the new board of executive committee member. Prof. Jürgen Breuste was elected to his second term of the SURE president.

(report provided by Dr. Prof. Junxiang Li, the general secretary of 2nd SURE Congress)