ELECTIONS 2020

positions to be elected are:

Vice President
Board Member
Secretary

Candidates for Vice President

- **Etelvino Novotny, Brazil**
- **Irina Perminova, Russia**

Candidates for Board Member

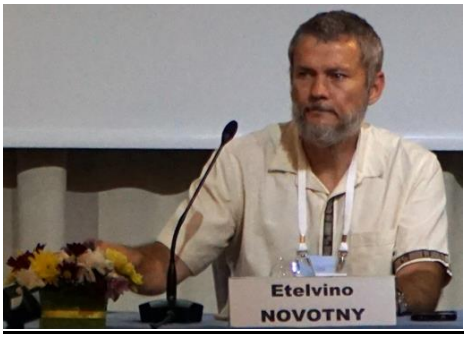
- **Fernando Rosario-Ortiz, USA**
- **Claudio Zaccone, Italy**

Candidates for Secretary

- **Hamada Abdelrahman, Egypt**
- **Marios Drosos, China**

Candidate for Vice President

Etelvino Novotny



Institution: Embrapa Soils
Address: Rua Jardim Botânico, 1024, CEP 22460-000, Rio de Janeiro , Brazil
Phone: +55 21 2179-4598 / Mobile: +55 21 98545-1170; +64 220 18 5653
e-mail: etelvino.novotny@embrapa.br; etelvino.novotny@gmail.br

Born: November 5,1970, Jacarezinho - Brazil

Education

1998-2002 PhD in Chemistry (Physical Chemistry): *Spectroscopic and Chromatographic Studies of Soil Humic Substances under Different Tillage Systems*. University of São Paulo - Brazil. Advisor: Ladislau Martin-Neto.

1994-1997 MSc in Agronomy (Soil Science): *Extraction, Fractionation and Spectroscopic Characterisation of Soil Organic Matter*. University Federal of Paraná – Brazil. Advisor: Antonio Salvio Mangrich (one year stage at Universität für Bodenkultur (University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna-Austria, Advisor: Winfried E.H. Blum).

1989-1993 Undergraduation in Agronomy. University Federal of Paraná – Brazil.

Employment

2001- Senior Researcher: Embrapa Soils: Soil Chemistry and Soil Organic Matter

Research interests

Generally: Soil Chemistry; Multivariate Analysis of Data; Chemometrics; Physical Chemistry; Spectroscopy (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance – high and low field NMR, Electron Paramagnetic Resonance, Fluorescence and Infrared)

Specifically: soil organic matter; humic substances; humic acids; pyrogenic carbon (black carbon); biochar; pesticides; environmental chemistry; physiological effect of humic substances; tillage systems; sustainability; and ecosystem services.

Publications

Author or co-author of 57 ISI papers (more than 1200 citations; h-index 20) and 15 book chapters; and approximately 60 lectures and posters at regional, national, and international conferences. Associated Editor of the Journals *Soil Research* and *Revista Brasileira de Ciência do Solo* (Brazilian Soil Science Journal) and reviewer of more than 35 Scientific Journals.

Mentoring and teaching

Supervisor of **10** Post-Doctoral; Advisor of **7** PhD Theses; Advisor of **4** MSc Dissertations; Advisor of **25** Diploma theses

Membership

Member of International Humic Substances Society since 1997; and of Brazilian Soil Science Society; Brazilian Association of NMR users.

Candidacy statement

I first started my research with Humic Substances in 1994 during my Master's degree under the advisor of Prof. Antonio Salvio Mangrich, one of the Brazilian pioneers in this topic. Since then I have been involved in different kinds of HS related projects such as: HS characterisation; soil organic matter dynamics in environment; HS as an indicator of the impact of different tillage systems; physiological effect of HS; pyrogenic carbon etc.

During my career I had the opportunity to work and to interact closely with great Humic Substances Scientist and key persons such as Prof. Antonio S. Mangrich (my MSc advisor); Dr. Ladislau Martin-Neto (my PhD advisor); Dr. Heike Knicker; Prof. Michael H.B. Hayes (my Post-Doc supervisor); Prof. Alessandro Piccolo; Prof. Pellegrino Conte, Prof. Andre Simpson; Prof. Luciano P. Canellas among others Giants.

Since the second National Meeting of Humic Substances, realised in 1997, I attended all the National meetings and in 2000 I was awarded with the IHSS Travel Award to attend the IHSS Meeting in Toulouse, France. Since then I have participated in all of the International Meetings of IHSS, except in Boston. I have always encouraged my students to join the IHSS and to participate in the national and international meetings. As a result several of my students have won National and International awards from IHSS and one Training Award. I always emphasise the great work of the IHSS in supporting young researchers. This is something I believe to be unique among Scientific Societies, since with a symbolic contribution, as due, which corresponds to 8% of IHSS revenues, there is a direct return in the manner of grants of 8 times more than the registration fee (average of the last three years), without taking in account the 2019' young investigator grant.

Besides my participation in the national meetings, presenting works, giving lectures and courses, I participate actively in organising issues and collaborating in the whole events organisation. In 2018, together with Prof. Deborah P. Dick, we organised the Symposium "Fresh and Humified Organic Matter: a key factor in the soil processes and sustainability" that took place on the first day of the 21st World Congress of Soil Science. The paramount Soil Science event held every four years, with more than 4,000 registered participants, gave an enormous visibility to the Humic Substances. The program was: Functions of SOM in the environment (Prof. Roger Swift); N and C dynamics and how it is related to the Humic Substances concept (Dr. Heike Knicker); Sustainable Intensification (crop-livestock-forest production) and Impact on SOM dynamics and reactivity (Dr. Ladislau Martin-Neto; and Physiological effects of HS: recent advances (Prof. Luciano Canellas). Approximately 600 participants attended the Symposium with exciting discussions.

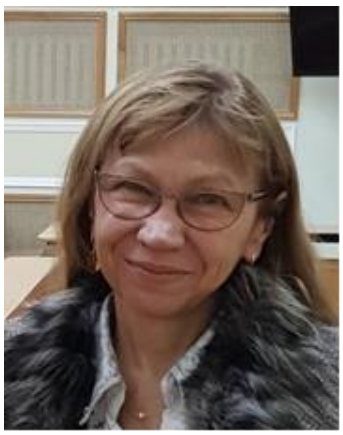
In addition, I coordinate the Brazilian group of Biochar research. It is a continuous fight to put more Science and less business into the subject. In 2010 I organised the International Biochar Initiative meeting with more than 200 participants. At this time I realised that IBI wasn't a Scientific association but a commercial and lobbyist one, which in itself is nothing wrong but it has different goals to promote biochar. I thought the ideal would be to take the issue to a serious and traditional Scientific Society. So with this in mind, with the support of many great Scientist from the IHSS we include the pyrogenic carbon issue onto the IHSS research portfolio. In another words, to bring the "biochar" from the trick show business lights into the rigorous scrutiny of the Science

lights. In my opinion the best way to balance the strong commercial interest, and to best serve the whole society, is provide it with the best and interest free information. Today I'm proud with the results of this hard work. The IHSS members generated valuable and reliable data, besides the ones already generated in decades of serious Scientific work about pyrogenic carbon (Black C and Black N) and it uses in agriculture.
If honoured to serve IHSS as its Vice-President I will dedicate myself to:

- emphasising the great and unique work of IHSS supporting young scientists;
- acknowledge the attacks suffered by IHSS concerning the existence and importance of HS and I intend to show the contribution of IHSS to the Science advance using bibliometric and Policy Science studies (facts against empty words) with great respect and reverence to the IHSS classical works, after all: "*nanos gigantum humeris insidentes*" (Bernard of Chartres, 12th century), later: Newton (1675) "If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants";
- attracting and increasing the participation of new researcher groups into IHSS such as: Ecosystem Services; Sustainable Intensification; Soil Management; Organic Residue Management; Pesticides; Water Quality; Pyrogenic Carbon etc.

Candidate for Vice President

Irina V. Perminova



Institution: Laboratory of Natural Humic Systems, Division of Medicinal Chemistry and Fine Organic Synthesis, Department of Chemistry, Lomonosov Moscow State University
Address: Leninskie Gory 1-3, 119991 Moscow, Russia

Phone: +7 495 9395546 (office)/ +7 903 6604864 (mobile)
e-mail: iperm@med.chem.msu.ru; iperminova@gmail.com
URL: www.humus.ru, https://istina.msu.ru/profile/iperminova/

Education

2006	Title of Professor in Environmental Chemistry
2001	Degree of Doctor of Sciences (Dr. Habil.) in Analytical Chemistry, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia
1987	Ph. D. (Analytical Chemistry), Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow
1982	B.S./M.S. in Chemistry; Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow

Employment

2017-present:	Head of the Laboratory of Natural Humic Systems, Division of Medicinal Chemistry and Fine Organic Synthesis, Dept. Chem., the Lomonosov MSU
2015- present:	Chief Scientist, Department of Chemistry, the Lomonosov MSU
2002 - 2014:	Leading Scientist, Division of Organic Chemistry, the Lomonosov MSU
1991 - 2002:	Senior Scientist, Division of Organic Chemistry, the Lomonosov MSU
1986 - 1991:	Research Scientist at the Laboratory of Monitoring of Marine Environment of the State Hydrometeorology Committee and Academy of Sciences of the USSR (since 1991 – the Institute for Global Climate and Ecology)

Research interests

Molecular-level analysis of humic substances and other complex natural systems using high resolution NMR spectroscopy and FTICR mass spectrometry. Biological activity of humic substances: mechanisms and applications. Development of molecular systematics of non-living organic matter. Life-sustaining functions of HS: role in soil fertility, in plant nutrition. Nature-like design of functional and hybrid humics-based materials. Design and application of humic products for agriculture, remediation, and biomedicine.

Publications
Books – 2, Book Chapters – 5, Papers in peer-reviewed journals – 130
Total number of publications (including conference proceedings) – more than 300.

A full list of publications can be found on the personal webpage:
https://istina.msu.ru/profile/iperminova/; www.humus.ru/publication
H-index – 21 (Web of Science)

Mentoring and teaching

Advisor of 15 completed Ph.D. Projects and 30 M.S. studies.

Membership
- Coordinator of the Regional Chapter of the Commonwealth of Independent States of IHSS (CIS IHSS) since 2002, member of IHSS since 1994.
- Associate Member of the IUPAC Division VI: Chemistry and the Environment (DCE) – 2019- present.

Candidacy statement

Recently the humic substances (HS) research has entered perilous stage in its development connected to harsh and not very fair competition, which was initiated by the alternative scientific schools. The term “Humic” should be banned in the scientific literature and “humic” papers should be rejected by scientific journals. My first thought at this news was: “Why nobody suggests to ban the term “petroleum”? The answer was easy: the petroleum is a holy cow of industry. Then, my second question was: why humic researchers have no industry to back them up? The answer is: this might be a consequence of a long-term policy of the IHSS: to keep away both from industry and its priorities. This motivated

me to formulate the following program, which I would like to realize if elected as a future president of IHSS.

1) To strengthen connections of the society to the humics-related industry, nominally, humic products industry, coal industry, crop protection.

I wish to resume discussions about the feasibility of corporate membership in the society and visibility of the society on their websites. I would also think about organizing the joint conference on crop protection and humics given the current EU approval of humics as biostimulants. I also suggest to push forward the topic of humate production from brown coal as an example of the ecoadapted brown coal refinery. The current push on coal industry with regard to non-fuel use of coal is to our benefit – it is time to cease the moment. This will help both to strengthen our links to industry and to prioritize the applied research in the society.

2) To resume work on chemical definition of humic substances aimed at returning humic systems into the chemistry curriculum and at defining its key stakeholders

The project application should be submitted to the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) for establishing a joint IUPAC-IHSS task group on elaborating definition of humic substances. Another application should be related to elaborating organic chemistry curriculum on the complex organic matter including humic substances. The key stakeholders for this new chemistry curriculum should be defined.

3) To increase the role and visibility of IHSS by issuing biannual resolutions on problems, achievements and visions of the humic research

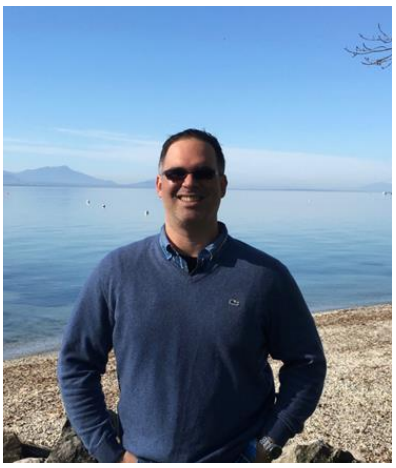
I would push the idea of preparing the IHSS conference resolutions on biannual basis, which should be adopted by the General Assembly of IHSS or by the conference. This will help us to articulate the statements and standing of IHSS, to target humic research and to define breakthroughs in humic science and technology.

4) To strengthen the role of young generation in the society, the presence of IHSS in the social media

I would suggest to establish the youth division of the IHSS, which could be empowered with the task of strengthening networking and the presence of IHSS in the social media. It will be in charge for agenda of the young researchers workshop during the meetings of the IHSS.

I believe that the proposed activities will contribute to developing strategic goals of the humic research and technologies and to promote and strengthen IHSS.

Candidate for Board Member



Fernando Rosario-Ortiz

Institution: University of Colorado Boulder
Address: 607 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309
Phone: 303-492-7607
e-mail: fernando.rosario@colorado.edu

Born: Aibonito, Puerto Rico, USA

Education

Post-Doctoral:	Southern Nevada Water Authority, Henderson, Nevada, **2006-2008**
Graduate:	D.Env. Environmental Science and Engineering, UCLA, **2006**
Graduate:	M.S. in Chemistry, California Institute of Technology, **2002**
Undergraduate:	B.S. in Chemistry, University of Puerto Rico, **1999**

Employment

Director	Environmental Engineering Program, University of Colorado Boulder, **2019-present**
Professor	Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, University of Colorado, Boulder, **2019-present**
Associate Director	Environmental Engineering Program, University of Colorado, Boulder, **2017-2019**
Visiting Professor	Institute of Biochemistry and Pollutant Dynamics, Environmental Chemistry Group, ETH, Zürich, Switzerland, **2015-2016**
Visiting Professor	Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Sciences and Technology, EAWAG, Dübendorf, Switzerland, **2015-2016**
Associate Professor	Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, University of Colorado, Boulder, **2015-2019**
Assistant Professor	Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, University of Colorado, Boulder, **2008-2015**

Research interests

Generally: Characterization of organic matter in water; environmental photochemistry; oxidation chemistry; water quality and treatment; optical properties; water reuse.

Specifically: Understanding the fundamental process that control the optical properties of organic matter; formation of reactive intermediates from organic matter; impact of climate on water quality and treatment; oxidation chemistry; photochemical degradation of organic compounds in water; formation of disinfection byproducts.

Publications

Prof. Rosario-Ortiz has authored or co-authored over 76 journal publications, 7 book chapters, one edited book, 7 research reports, over 240 research presentations, and 65 invited talks. For more details, please refer to his website: https://www.colorado.edu/faculty/rosario-ortiz/.

Mentoring and teaching

Prof. Rosario-Ortiz has mentored over 30 undergraduate students, 6 MS and 10 PhD students over the past 10 years. He has also taught different courses, including Water Chemistry, Environmental Organic Chemistry, and Advanced Aquatic Chemistry.

Membership

- American Chemical Society (1995-present)
- American Water Works Association (2003-present)
- Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (2008-present)
- International Humics Substances Society (2004-present)

Candidacy statement

The IHSS represents a diverse group of scientists focused on the study of humic substances in different environments. Given the ubiquitous nature of these materials in our environment, the study of humic substances involves numerous disciplines, from the study of soils and plants, to the role that humic substances play in aquatic systems, to their role as precursors for the formation of disinfection byproducts in water treatment. It is my interest to be part of the IHSS Board, serving as a Board Member, in part to continue to expand the reach of the organization towards underrepresented areas of inquiry, including the study of humic substances in engineered systems. As a Board Member, I will work with the rest of the organization to expand the reach of the organization to all areas of inquiry that are heavily influenced by the study of humic substances. It is my interest also to further the representation of research areas that are core to the basic understanding of the role that humic substances play in environmental systems, by reaching out to other scientists that are doing state-of-the-art work in humic substances, but may not be aware or part of the organization.

My first involvement with the IHSS was a travel awardee to attend the 2004 conference in Brazil. This opportunity represented my first international conference, and as such it played an important role in my professional development. As a Board Member, I will also work towards the development of opportunities for young professionals to be involved in the

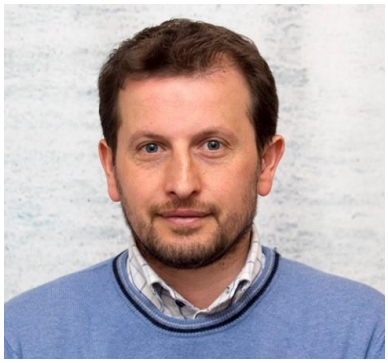
organization. There are different ways in which this can occur, including conference sessions for young scientists and also via the development of a mentoring network, where young professionals interact with more senior members.

Lastly, as a regular user of the materials provided by the IHSS, I am interested in the development of an expanded library of these standard materials. During the upcoming 2020 IHSS conference in Estes Park, Colorado, for which I am the co-organizer (together with Prof. Raymond Hozalski: https://ihss2020.org), we will be hosting a workshop to bring the community together to discuss what other isolates the IHSS should collect. I am committed to continuing this conversation, and to continue to serve the IHSS and the larger community with an appropriate standard library to further research goals related to the study of humic substances.

I look forward to working with the IHSS Board on these and other initiatives, to strengthen the organization and continue its growth.

Candidate for Board Member

Claudio Zaccone



Institution: Department of Biotechnology, University of Verona
Address: Cà Vignal 2, Strada Le Grazie 15, 37134 Verona, Italy
Phone: +39 045 8027930
e-mail: claudio.zaccone@univr.it

Born: December 31, 1977

Education

2007 *Ph.D. in Agricultural Chemistry*, University of Bari, Italy
2003 *Degree in Environmental Sciences and Forestry* (110/110 "cum Laude"), University of Bari, Italy

Employment

2019-present *Associate Professor*, Department of Biotechnology, University of Verona, Italy
2018-2019 *Associate Professor*, Department of the Sciences of Agriculture, Food and Environment, University of Foggia, Italy

2013-2014 *Academic Research Associate*, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada (on leave from the University of Foggia)
2008-2018 *Assistant Professor with tenure*, Department of the Sciences of Agriculture, Food and Environment, University of Foggia, Italy

International experience
2017 (Aug) Guest Scientist, Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, Colorado State University, Ft Collins, USA
2016 (Jul-Aug) Guest Scientist, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Madrid, Spain
2012 (Aug) Guest Scientist, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
2010 (Jul-Sep) Guest Scientist, Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Heidelberg, Germany
2006 (Mar-Apr) Research period, Institute of Environmental Geochemistry, University of Heidelberg, Germany
2005 (Apr-Nov) Research period, Institute of Environmental Geochemistry, University of Heidelberg, Germany

Research Interests

Generally: native and exogenous soil organic matter

Specifically: molecular and functional characterization of organic matter in soils and sediments; evolution of organic matter in soils and sediments in relation to climate changes; biogeochemistry of trace elements, radionuclides and organic pollutants; utilization of wastes, by-products and biomass of different origin (e.g., compost, sludge, biochar, digestate) in agricultural soils.

Publications
Author or co-author of 65 publications indexed in Scopus, 13 book chapters and >155 conference proceedings
H-index: Scopus, 23; WoS, 22; g-Scholar, 27
Citations: Scopus, 1259; WoS, 1128; g-Scholar, 1625

Mentoring and teaching
"*Soil Chemistry*" (from 2008-09 to 2018-19; University of Foggia)
"*Soil quality and biomass management*" (from 2011-12 to 2018-19; University of Foggia)
"*Soil and Environment*" (from 2009-10 to 2012-13; University of Foggia)
"*The soil: biotic and abiotic components*" (from 2012-13 to 2019-20; International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies of Bari)
"*Sustainable agriculture*" (from 2019-20; University of Verona)
Tutor/Advisor of *9* BSc students, *4* MSc students, *1* PhD student; International Advisor of *1* MSc student; Advisor of *1* post-doc researcher.

Membership
International Humic Substances Society (IHSS, since 2005), European Geosciences Union (EGU, since 2007), International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS, since 2006), Italian Society of Soil Science (SISS, since 2006), Italian Society of Agricultural Chemistry (SICA, since 2006).

Appointments

President, Soil System Sciences (SSS) division, European Geosciences Union (EGU) (Apr. 2019-to date; elected)
Advisory Board member, Italian Society of Soil Science (SISS) (Jan. 2019-to date)
IT Administrator, International Humic Substances Society (IHSS) (Sep. 2018-to date)
Vice Chair, Commission 4.1. (Soils and the Environment), Division 4, International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) (Mar. 2018-to date; elected)
Secretary-Treasurer, Italian Society of Agricultural Chemistry (SICA) (Jan. 2018-to date)
Member of the Italian National Focal Point, Soil Global Partnership - Pillar 5 “Harmonization of methods, measurements and indicators for the sustainable management and protection of soil resources” (Mar. 2016-present)
Member, Division IV (Environmental and Social Role of Soil), Italian Society of Soil Science (SISS) (Jan. 2015-Dec. 2018; elected)
Treasurer, Italian Society of Soil Science (SISS) (Jan. 2015-Dec. 2018; elected)
Science Officer, Soil System Sciences (SSS) division, European Geosciences Union (EGU) (May 2014-to date)
Chair, Soil Chemistry Sub-division, Soil System Sciences (SSS) division, European Geosciences Union (EGU) (May 2012-May 2014)
Member, Commission II (Soil Chemistry) and of the Commission VIII (Soil and Environment), Italian Society of Soil Science (SISS) (2012-2014; elected)
Web Officer, International Humic Substances Society (IHSS) (Jul. 2011-Sep. 2018)
Outreach Officer, Soil System Sciences (SSS) division, European Geosciences Union (EGU) (Apr. 2011-Apr. 2012)

Candidacy statement

As a second year PhD student, I joined the International Humic Substances Society (IHSS) giving my first oral presentation during the VI meeting of the IHSS-Italian chapter in Perugia. For the subsequent 13 years, I attended most of the IHSS meetings at both national and international level, and I had the pleasure to be involved in the growing of the IHSS continuously contributing to its activities and serving as Web Officer (since July 2011) and as IT Administrator (since September 2018).
The IHSS is a terrific occasion for young scientists from different countries to meet and/or join well-known colleagues working with humic substances (HS) and natural organic matter (NOM) through travel and training awards, and a powerful tool for cross-linking individuals with very different background and expertise.
The IHSS played a relevant role in my scientific career; therefore, I am now ready to contribute to its future development, supporting successful programs, encouraging innovative ideas and promoting the relationship with other international societies, to best serve the IHSS as well as to help raising the next generation of HS- and NOM-scientists.

Candidate for Secretary

Hamada Abdelrahman

Institution: Cairo University
Address: Cairo University Rd.,
Giza, 12613, Egypt:
Tel: +20 115 577 290 51
e-mail: hamada@agr.cu.edu.eg / http://scholar.cu.edu.eg/hamada
http://scholar.cu.edu.eg/hamada

Born 1983

Education

2009–12	**PhD** in Agricultural (Soil) Chemistry, University of Bari, Italy
2006–08	**MSc** in Organic farming, CIHEAM, IAMB, Italy
2004–06	Postgrad studies, advanced soil science course, Cairo University Egypt
1999–03	**BSc** in Soil Science and Agric, Microbiology, Cairo University Egypt

Employment

11.2019-	**Associate Professor,** Heliopolis University for Sustainable Development
09.2019 –	**Associate Professor** (Tenured), Soil Chemistry and Fertility, Cairo University
2013 – 2019	Assistant Professor, Cairo University

International Experience (Fellowships and Awards)

0.8.2017 – 05.2018	**Fulbright** Visiting Scholar, USDA–ARS
0.8.2016 – 05.2017	Guest Scientist, Aarhus University
0.8.2015 – 0.8.2016	Postdoc, University of Bari, Italy
2014	**DAAD** Postdoc, Jülich Research Center, Germany

Research interests

Generally: Soil organic matter role and cycling in agroecosystem; Nutrients management in organic farming, composting and soil amendments.

Specifically: Composition and response of different forms of soil organic carbon to global changes (land use and/or climate).

Publications

Journal Articles: 12
Book Chapters: 2
Proceedings: 2
Conference (Extended Abstracts): 20

Full List of publications available here

Teaching and Mentoring

I teach at Cairo University since 2004 where I started my research career as a teaching assistant. I knew that I need to travel abroad to build a knowledge on soil organic matter, a soil component that is less considered by Egyptian soil scientists. While at my University, I teach different courses that links **soil chemistry, fertility, and organic farming.** I teach PhD/MSc students and undergrad student., both in English and Arabic in a participatory approach. Courses I teach include: i) Soil Testing (ASS 600); ii) Nutrient management in organic farming (AS 324); iii) Agricultural residues recycling (ASS 415); vi) Environmental Management for soil fertility (ASS 654); v) Soil fertility management (OA 514); vi) composting and biofertilization (OA 515); vii) Soil Fertility Management (ASS 418); viii) Soil Pollution and remediation technologies (ASS 313); and ix) Introduction to soil science (ASS 106).
I co-supervise 2 MSc students and 4 BSc students at Cairo university within Soil Science Department Programs.

Membership

International Humic Substances Society, IHSS (Since 2009)
International Society of Organic Agriculture Research (ISOFAR, since 2010)
Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI, since 2016)
Egyptian Soil Science Society (ESSS, Since 2003)
Fulbright Alumni Member
DAAD Alumni Member
International Exchange Alumni Member
EuroScience
Arab World Association of Young Scientists
Italian Soil Science Society (2009–2013)
Soil Science Society of America (2009–2012)
European Geoscience Union (2009–2012)

Teaching and Mentoring

I started teaching at Cairo University in 2004 where I started my research career as a teaching assistant. I knew that I need to travel abroad to build a knowledge on soil organic matter, a soil component that is less considered by Egyptian soil scientists. While at my University, I teach

different courses that links **soil chemistry, fertility, and organic farming.** I teach PhD/MSc students and undergrad student., both in English and Arabic in a participatory approach. Courses I teach include: i) Soil Testing (ASS 600); ii) Nutrient management in organic farming (AS 324); iii) Agricultural residues recycling (ASS 415); vi) Environmental Management for soil fertility (ASS 654); v) Soil fertility management (OA 514); vi) composting and biofertilization (OA 515); vii) Soil Fertility Management (ASS 418); viii) Soil Pollution and remediation technologies (ASS 313); and ix) Introduction to soil science (ASS 106).

Membership

International Humic Substances Society, IHSS (Since 2009)
International Society of Organic Agriculture Research (ISOFAR, since 2010)
Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI, since 2016)
Egyptian Soil Science Society (ESSS, Since 2003)
Fulbright Alumni Member
DAAD Alumni Member
International Exchange Alumni Member
EuroScience
Arab World Association of Young Scientists
Italian Soil Science Society (2009–2013)
Soil Science Society of America (2009–2012)
European Geoscience Union (2009–2012)

Candidacy statement

After a manuscript has been rejected merely on the ground of the validity and relevance of “humic substances” and several emails, thanks to Dan Olk, debating and emphasizing the relevance and significance of humic substances, as reported in the literature, and consequently a special session (*The Future of Humic Substances Research: Preface to a Debate*) during the SSSA annual meeting in Jan 2018 took place, I am very motivated and driven, more than before, to take part in the IHSS. I was supported by the IHSS, through the training and travel award programs, and I want to contribute to the IHSS to the extent possible.

There are and were great moments of the IHSS but lately the number of IHSS member is alerting. The IHSS board and officers has taken a considerable measures to increase the outreach and visibility of the IHSS but still the actions taken did not yield what were aspired. It is the time to reconnect all IHSS members and to drive the motivation of IHSS young members to the travel and training awards. Engaging young members in a fellow up program and in IHSS activities, young NOM forum and alumni network will revive the society. These ideas and means for outreach has already proven valid and significant in two scientific networks, *CHIHEAM Bari Former Trainees Network* and alumni of *Africa Science Leadership Program* that I was responsible, among others, to bring it forward.

The IHSS has a long distinguished history and I see the role of a secretary not only in maintaining the IHSS communication active, meetings organized, minuted and communicated to the members but also to extend its activities for more visibility and outreach. I will continue, and possibly, extend/improve the newsletter section of news from the awardees and members. Beside the administration activities, I will transfer idea and initiative, proven valid with other scientific communities, for a greater outreach and visibility to the IHSS. An outreach motivated team of young members can do beyond expectation

and impact positively the IHSS. Also, the presence on IHSS on social platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn, etc.) must be officialized, improved and maintained.. I will be happy to serve on the outreach committee.
The IHSS can have greater influence, representation and outreach, and I am set to take part in making this happen. I am very thankful for the nomination and if elected I do look forward to successful collaboration.

Candidate for Secretary

Marios Drosos

Institution: Institute of Resource, Ecosystem and Environment of Agriculture (IREEA)**,** Nanjing Agricultural University
Address: 1 Weigang Road, 210095, Nanjing, China.
Phone: +86 025-84398657
e-mail: drosos.marios@gmail.com & drososmarios@njau.edu.cn
http://cres.njau.edu.cn/Academics___Outreach/Faculty/Department_of_Soil_and_Ecology.htm;
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Marios_Drosos

Born 08 May 1979 in Thessaloniki, Greece

Education

Diploma: Department of Environmental and Natural Resources Management/ University of Ioannina/Agrinio/Greece (1999-2004)
PhD: *Thesis entitled "Isolation and physicochemical characterization of humic and fulvic acids from Greek Soils – Lignites - Composts"*
Physical Chemistry Laboratory/Department of Environmental and Natural Resources Management/University of Ioannina/Agrinio/Greece (2005-2009)

Employment

2011-2012 Postdoc Researcher *Chair of Water Chemistry and Water Technology/ Karlsruhe Institute of Technology/Engler-Bunte Institute/Karlsruhe/Germany*
2012-2014 Postdoc Researcher *Centro Interdipartimentale di Ricerca sulla Risonanza Magnetica Nucleare (CERMANU)/University of Naples "Federico II"/ Portici/Italy*
2014-2015 Researcher *University of Basilicata/Potenza/Italy*

2015-2018 Researcher *Centro Interdipartimentale di Ricerca sulla Risonanza Magnetica Nucleare (CERMANU)/University of Naples "Federico II"/Portici/Italy*
2018-now Associate Professor Institute of Resource, Ecosystem and Environment of Agriculture (IREEA)**/**Nanjing Agricultural University/Nanjing/China

Research interests

Generally: Natural Organic Matter (NOM) and Humic Substances (HS), Organominerals, new carbon-based materials, and their environmental implications.

Specifically: Investigation of the structure and composition of HS. Identification of the humic molecules of NOM, focused mainly in soil organic matter (SOM), with Humeomics fractionation, using chromatographic (GC-, HR LC-MS) and spectroscopic (NMR and ATR-IR) techniques. Tracing Humification pathways by long term rice cultivation field experiments (chronosequence over 700 years) and composts. Humic changes with biochar, heavy metals or nanoparticle addition in soil.

Publications

Author or co-author of 41 articles in international peer reviewed journals, indexed in web of science, and participated in 4 book chapters, about humic matter. Cited 373 times. Total Impact Factor = 168.606 (2019) and H-index = 12. Participated with presentations in 19 international and 3 national peer-reviewed conferences.

Mentoring and teaching

Teaching Graduate Courses of Soil Organic Matter Chemistry (In English) & Bachelor Courses of Fundamental Soil Science (In English) at Nanjing Agricultural University. Co-supervised master and PhD students, including IHSS awardees. Currently mentoring a PhD student (Molecular changes of Soil Organic Matter under climate change conditions), and 3 MsC students (The molecular components of chinese rice paddies; The molecular structure of maize biochar produced under different temperatures; Humeomics molecular database formation from diverse soils)

Membership

IHSS member since 2004

Candidacy statement

Mother nature was always my passion and this is the reason I have chosen to follow a career in environmental science. My studies in University of Ioannina, provided me insight to the world of research, which was the proper tool to answer to my scientific curiosity. I have chosen to follow the path of soil science, because environmental health and soil fertility can influence the quality of human life globally. Therefore, in order to contribute to the better understanding of soil science, during my PhD, I have isolated and characterized humic and fulvic acids from soils and lignites, creating a large data collation. Furthermore, I have collaborated with Dr. Jerry A. Leenheer at USGS in Denver, Colorado, and established a novel technique for humic acid fractionation. Then, from the gained experience, along with Prof. Yiannis Deligiannakis, we created a synthetic model of humic substance without the use of catalysts that can be a tool to model humification rates. For this achievement I was granted Travel award to participate the International Meeting of Humic Substances Society in Russia (2008) and a Training award (2009) to collaborate with Prof. Fritz H. Frimmel in the EBI Institute of KIT in Karlsruhe, Germany. After I obtained my PhD, I worked in a

multidisciplinary group in University of Ioannina, Greece, for the characterization of carbon-based materials and created a novel organo-mineral material using humic acid and bentonite to co-adsorb phosphorous and ammonia. During my postdoc in KIT, I researched on how natural organic matter (NOM) is affecting the photocatalytical behavior of TiO_2 upon organic pollutants. Then, I joined the group of Prof. Alessandro Piccolo in CERMANU, University of Naples, Italy and I worked in humic substances and lignin research, and developed Humeomics fractionation application in soil. My career so far gave me the opportunity to establish a wide network of international collaboration. I am associate editor of the Springer Journal "Chemical and Biological Technologies in Agriculture" since 2017, and have been lead guest editor for its thematic series "HA/NOM Structure and Bioactivity", which published papers from the 17th IHSS meeting in Greece (2014). Currently, I am Associate Professor working full time in Nanjing Agricultural University, China, for soil science, and specifically for soil organic matter chemistry. It is my goal to peer into the humic structures to create a global molecular database that can be the standpoint to elucidate unidentified environmental mechanisms. I have been a member of IHSS since 2004, and I would like to offer my knowledge to be of service to the society, therefore I am willing to stand as a candidate for the position of IHSS Secretary.