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ICPS BOARD UPDATE

Over the new year, the ICPS Board went through a process of renewal. Our President, Marcel van den Broek, and Treasurer, Ryan Ward, both retired, and we welcomed three new Directors, John Brittnacher as Vice President, Cindy Slezak as Secretary and Membership Coordinator, and Daniela Ribbecke as Treasurer. As incoming President, I would like to pay tribute to, and thank both Marcel and Ryan for their contributions to the ICPS.

Marcel has served the society as a member of the Board of Directors since 2009, originally as Vice President and later as President. Over that time Marcel has overseen a number of significant achievements including: firmly establishing our presence on social media platforms such as Facebook, where we now have nearly 11,000 followers; our financial membership numbers have grown to over 1200 after seeing a decline during and immediately after the Global Financial Crisis; and changes to our Conservation agenda seeing funding for international projects, the IUCN-Carnivorous Plant Specialist Group and research projects.

During Ryan's term on the Board he has taken on the difficult task of Treasurer and also moderated our Facebook forum. His enthusiasm and willingness to challenge and generate new ideas and solutions will be missed.

We are indeed fortunate that both Marcel and Ryan will remain connected to the ICPS as volunteers. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our society and we encourage anyone with the passion to get involved. One of our longstanding volunteers, Carolyn Becker, is stepping down from the important role of membership coordinator and we would like to convey our thanks and appreciation to Carolyn for her service.

The ICPS Board is delighted to have Daniela Ribbecke on the Board and John Brittnacher and Cindy Slezak back. Cindy and John have been driving forces within the ICPS since 2000, particularly in the day-to-day operations. Cindy's business management experience helped make the ICPS into a functional corporation. John handled the websites and Seed Bank. Daniela brings considerable financial experience from her current role at California Carnivores.

With change comes the opportunity for renewal. I am pleased to announce that the Board overwhelmingly endorsed the creation of two new Director positions: Director Member Services and Director Marketing. Both of these positions are vacant. Anyone who would like to express interest is encouraged to send a CV and brief statement to our secretary, Keith Becker at keith@carnivorousplants.org.

Our mission statement remains unchanged and continues to guide what we do:

To provide for informational and educational exchanges on all aspects of carnivorous plants, to support horticultural and scientific studies of carnivorous plants, to encourage the cultivation, conservation, and appreciation of carnivorous plants, and to aid in the propagation and dissemination of carnivorous plants.

I am very interested to hear what our members are thinking and would encourage you to email your ideas and feedback to me at richardnunn@carnivorousplants.org.

—RICHARD NUNN, ICPS PRESIDENT