

Regine Jahn

As one of the candidates for vice-president of the ISDR, I would like to introduce myself briefly. Currently, I am president of the (German) Society for Systematic Biology (GfBS) and council member of the Phycological Section of the German Botanical Society; I have also served for four years on the council of the ISDR. In addition, I have been instrumental in establishing and developing the annual German Speaking Diatom Meeting which was recently expanded and renamed to include Central Europe (<http://www.bgbm.org/diatoms>).

I am working as Senior Curator for Algae at the Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Germany. My focus of research is on diatom taxonomy and nomenclature, phylogeny, biogeography, bio-indication, as well as long-term changes in the biodiversity of diatoms (my publication list can be found here: <http://www.bgbm.org/bgbm/staff/wiss/Jahn/default.htm>). Recently, I have started to use molecular methods in conjunction with morphology in order to understand diatom taxonomy better and to use these results for identification. In a joint research project supported by the German government, we have developed the information system AlgaTerra (<http://www.algaterra.net>) which serves GBIF as types provider.

I would our society like to focus on four issues:

- to expand our focus of research to include more modern methods and broader subjects in diatomology;
- to address the maintenance and availability of diatom collections;
- to coordinate and support Internet databases for valid diatom names, synonyms and associated information;
- to become a forum for all diatomists, especially from the developing countries.