

2023 Annual Report

*Navigating Renewal:
Charting Our Recovery*



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A note from our executive director

Over the past year, IAGLR continued to play a critical role in sharing trusted information on the world's great lakes to inform decision making by governments and society. We also broadened participation in our programs, extended our impact through partnerships, and represented Great Lakes science on an international stage.



It was a pleasure to welcome more than 800 participants to Toronto in May for our first in-person annual conference in four years. By waiving registration fees for Indigenous participants, we were able to welcome more than 60 Indigenous scholars, including youth, to share their work. We also partnered with the African Center for Aquatic Research and Education to enable participation of African researchers attending both remotely and in person.

Our *Journal of Great Lakes Research* also reflected our ongoing efforts to become more inclusive. A full issue of the journal was dedicated to bridging Indigenous and non-Indigenous knowledge systems, with all contributions made accessible for free with the support of the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission. Our *Lakes Letter* magazine continued to include people from a variety of career stages, geographies, and knowledge systems.

With support from our Platinum Great Lakes Benefactors, we launched our new member portal in the fall, creating new opportunities for members to network and showcase their work. We also welcomed more than 100 members from Africa in 2023, the greatest number ever.

I express my gratitude to our members, the many volunteers serving on our board and committees, and our dedicated staff. I also thank our partners for their commitment, and our benefactors and sponsors for their generosity. It takes all of us working together to understand and protect the world's great lakes.

Thank you!

Jérôme Marty
Executive Director

On the cover

Duluth Harbor South Breakwater Outer Light. Credit: Colleen Pllat Images.

A note from our past president

2023 was IAGLR's first full calendar year with our new executive director, Jérôme Marty. Jérôme is creative, thoughtful, engaging, energetic—in short, an absolute pleasure to work with. He brings a steady hand to the tiller in overseeing operations, and as executive director, he will provide valuable continuity to IAGLR in serving its members. If you haven't done so already, I encourage you to introduce yourself to Jérôme.



Thanks to your participation, the annual conference in Toronto was a success. This was our first in-person Great Lakes conference since the COVID-19 pandemic. Still, we know that not everyone is able to travel to the conference, so we were pleased to make presentations available remotely, including a free livestream of two Indigenous sessions. IAGLR also published an open-access special issue titled “Bridging Indigenous and non-Indigenous Knowledge Systems” sponsored by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.

After a lot of behind-the-scenes work by our capable staff, especially Paula McIntyre and Wendy Foster, we designed and delivered a new member portal intended to support networking within the IAGLR community. The portal allows you to look up members by name, research interest, location, and more. Check it out!

Large lakes of the world may play a more important role in our future than we can now imagine. When everything feels like it's falling apart—war, political upheaval, climate change—large bodies of fresh water have the ability to bring us together in a way that few things can. Let us continue to bring our science, our colleagues, and our communities together around these precious great lakes.

See you in Windsor in May for IAGLR 2024!

Jean V. Adams
IAGLR Past President, 2023–24

22

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

were given this year

Appreciation Awards

Board of Directors Appreciation Award

**ANDREW
BRAMBURGER**
Environment and
Climate Change
Canada (Past
President)



Committee Chair Appreciation Award

**MARY
GINNEBAUGH**
Wisconsin
Department
of Natural
Resources
(retired) (Conference Committee
Co-Chair, Financial Strategy
Committee Chair)



Conference Appreciation Awards

CALVIN HITCH
Toronto
and Region
Conservation
Authority (IAGLR
2023 Site Chair)



TIM JOHNSON
Ontario Ministry
of Natural
Resources and
Forestry, Glenora
Fisheries Station
(IAGLR 2023 Program Chair)



Awards & Scholarships

Each year, IAGLR gives out awards to recognize excellence and service. In addition, IAGLR awards scholarships to students showing great promise early in their research careers. We were pleased to present 22 awards and scholarships at our conference in May, including to the inaugural recipients of our IDEA+ scholarships aimed at broadening participation in IAGLR.

Lifetime Achievement Award

PATRICIA CHOW-FRASER
McMASTER UNIVERSITY

Patricia Chow-Fraser received the IAGLR Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual conference (pictured



at center, with husband, friends, and former students). Chow-Fraser is a leading coastal wetlands scientist noted for her influential research, innovative uses of technology, and mentorship of young scientists. She is a long-time member and former president of IAGLR. The 18th recipient of IAGLR's Lifetime Achievement Award, Chow-Fraser is the first woman to receive it.

John R. (Jack) Vallentyne Award

RIVER INSTITUTE

River Institute staff accepted their award from former IAGLR President Paul Sibley (far right).



Anderson-Everett Award

EDWARD VERHAMME
LIMNOTECH

Ed Verhamme (far right) accepted his award for long-time service to IAGLR from IAGLR President Neil Rooney and Executive Director Jérôme Marty (at left).



Journal & Editor Awards

Chandler-Misener Award

CODY SHEIK (pictured), **KAELA NATWORA**, **ELIZABETH ALEXSON**, **JAKE CALLAGHAN**, **AUSTIN SAILER**, **KATHRYN SCHREINER**, **BYRON STEINMAN** (all at University of Minnesota Duluth); **MATTHEW FINKENBINDER** (Wilkes University), **CHRISTOPHER FILSTRUP** (UM Duluth), and **ANDREW BRAMBURGER** (Environment and Climate Change Canada)



Elsevier Early Career Scientist Award

JOSHUA TELLIER
Michigan Department of Environment,
Great Lakes, and Energy



Elsevier Student Author Award

YULI LIU
Nanjing University of Information Science
and Technology & University of Wisconsin-
Madison



Best Associate Editor in 2022 Award

ANETT TREBITZ
U.S. EPA Duluth



Best Reviewer in 2022 Award

PAUL VAN ZWIETEN
Wageningen University, the Netherlands

Outgoing Associate Editor's Appreciation Awards

CRAIG HEBERT
Environment and Climate Change Canada

NICHOLAS JOHNSON
U.S. Geological Survey Hammond Bay
Biological Station

JASON STOCKWELL
University of Vermont

Scholarships

Norman S. Baldwin Fishery Science Scholarship

ALEXANDER KOEBERLE
Cornell University



Norman S. Baldwin Fishery Science Scholarship

SCOTT KOENIGBAUER
Purdue University



David M. Dolan Scholarship

SABRINA JAFFE
University of Toledo



IAGLR Scholarship

HAZEM ABDELHADY
Purdue University



IDEA+ Presenter Scholarship

NORIBETH MARISCAL
Wayne State University



IDEA+ Research Scholarship

**CAROL WALDMANN
ROSENBAUM**
Michigan State University



International Travel Award

GABRIELLA LÜKŐ
Budapest University of
Technology and Economics



833

ATTENDEES

from 18 countries representing five continents took part in the annual conference



621

PRESENTATIONS

were submitted, including 172 student presentations entered for student awards

Conference highlights

We had a fantastic time meeting in Toronto for the 66th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research, where we explored the theme *Adapting to Climate Change*. People shared our excitement of holding our first in-person conference since 2019, with in-person registration selling out weeks before the event in May. Overall, more than 800 people registered for either in-person or virtual attendance to enjoy 621 presentations across 48 sessions, three engaging plenaries, plus sold-out exhibit space.

“Fantastic sessions, inspirational and informative speakers and studies, and a really great experience overall.”

– Conference Attendee

“IAGLR’s ability to facilitate these interdisciplinary discussions is the best part of the conference.”

– Conference Attendee

Images from IAGLR 2023 in Toronto.





Participants in the session titled *Valuing Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Being, Doing, and Connecting in an Era of Climate Change, Crisis, and Uncertainty*.

Bridging knowledge systems

More than 130 in-person and virtual participants enjoyed an all-day discussion on embracing Indigenous knowledge systems in efforts to understand and care for large lakes. Presenters shared their experiences from the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence basin, Africa, Alaska, and Lake Nipigon.

Attendees identified priorities for future conferences within the theme of *Conferencing Better*. They noted that IAGLR has taken the responsibility of making changes to better include historically (and often contemporarily) excluded groups and enhance the conference experience for all IAGLR members. Some examples include supporting Indigenous attendees through free registration (69 online and in-person), offering online capabilities for sessions, and focusing on Indigenous contexts (e.g., conference opening, plenaries, dedicated session). Recordings from the session were made available freely online.

We extend our thanks to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission for supporting Indigenous participation at the conference.



SURVEY SAYS

97%

RESPONDENTS

indicated IAGLR 2023 was beneficial to their career

91%

RESPONDENTS

agreed they gained knowledge in their area of expertise

86%

RESPONDENTS

indicated they gained knowledge in areas outside their expertise

86%

RESPONDENTS

ranked the conference as excellent or good overall

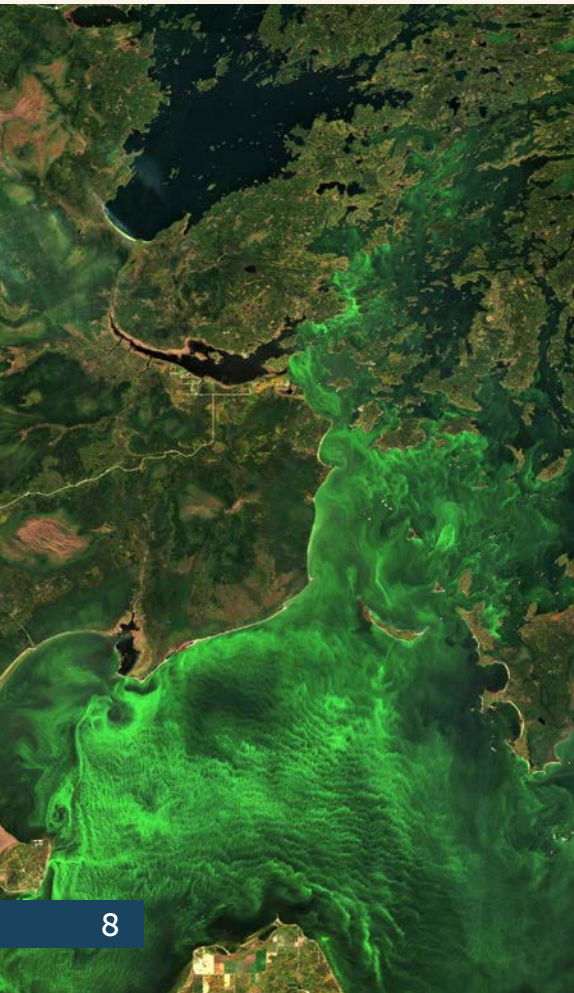
69

WAIVERS

were given to support Indigenous participants' conference registrations

135
ARTICLES

were published in seven
issues (six regular and one
special issue)

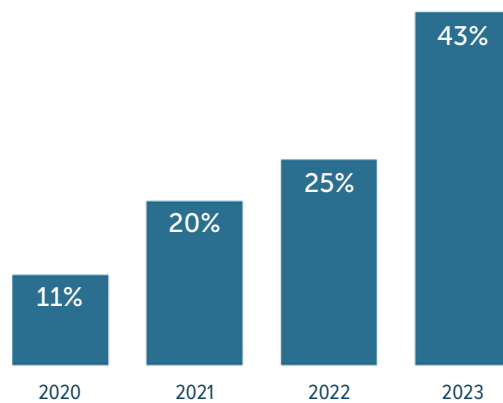


Journal of Great Lakes Research

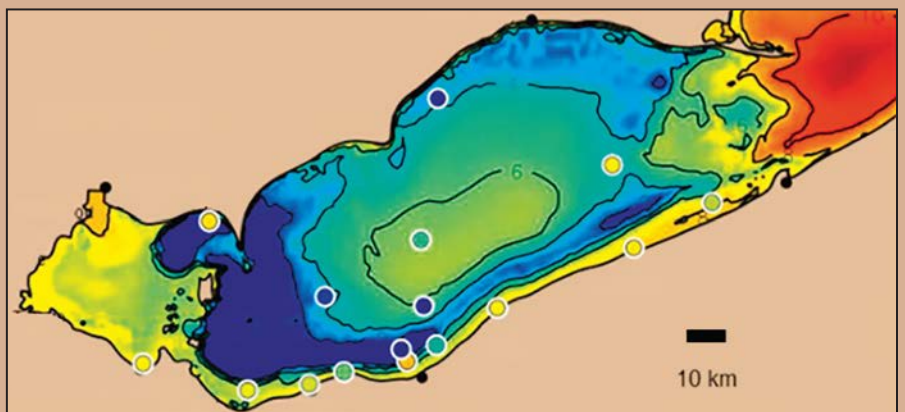
The multidisciplinary *Journal of Great Lakes Research* is IAGLR's flagship publication. Since 1975, it has published articles on a wide range of theoretical and applied topics relating to the natural and social sciences of the world's large lakes and their watersheds.

Publishing high-quality science is a community effort. The journal is overseen by our editorial team, associate editors, and the IAGLR Publications Committee. In 2023, they were joined by 16 guest editors for the special sections and issue, along with 418 reviewers. All these people collectively ensured that IAGLR continued its legacy of publishing high-quality research findings to advance our understanding of the world's great lake ecosystems. In recent years, we've also seen an increase in the percentage of articles made freely available through open-access publishing.

Percentage of Open-Access Articles per Year



Images from covers of the *Journal of Great Lakes Research*, vol. 49.



SPECIAL ISSUE:

Learning to see as another sees

In June 2023, IAGLR published a special issue of the journal titled “Bridging Indigenous and non-Indigenous Knowledge Systems,” which brought together in an unprecedented way multiple knowledge systems with a focus on knowledge co-production.

Inspired by a session at the IAGLR Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research in 2021, the issue shares knowledge on forging better relationships and seeing as another sees. It highlights IAGLR’s progress toward adopting and promoting *Etuaptmumk* (the gift of multiple perspectives, or *Two-Eyed Seeing*) and is an important step to strengthen relationships, build trust, and begin to build a new path forward. The all-open-access issue was sponsored by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.



3

SPECIAL SECTIONS

Lake of the Woods – Five Years of Research
(2016–2021)

Status and approaches to assess
Lake Erie Central Basin Hypoxia

Advancing Africa’s Great Lakes
Freshwater Research



A gathering of editors at IAGLR 2023. Seated: Mary Anne Evans, Tim Johnson, Margaret Docker, Stephanie Guildford (assistant editor), Jessica Ives (technical editor). Standing: Erin Dunlop, Lyubov Burlakova, Noel Urban, Michael Twiss, Bob Hecky (lead editor), Jay Austin, Lars Rudstam, Jim Bence (Publications Committee Chair), and Val Klump. All associate editors are listed on page 13.

“The associate editors and the reviewers are the engine of the journal. They lend their time and considerable expertise to help ensure the quality of research published.”

– Bob Hecky,
JGLR Editor

39

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

418

REVIEWERS



Communicating science

Lakes Letter

2023 saw the fifth year of publication for our quarterly *Lakes Letter*, designed to connect and celebrate our members and share compelling science through stories about scientists and the interesting work they do. We also evolved the publication from a newsletter to magazine format.



Science-Policy Connections

IAGLR also represented the voice of Great Lakes researchers globally. In September, Executive Director Jérôme Marty participated in the World Water Quality Alliance organized by a consortium of United Nations agencies. In December, he presented a brief on pollution management to a House of Commons committee in Canada. This resulted in IAGLR being invited to continue to provide briefings on freshwater priorities.



National Media

IAGLR was a regular source of Great Lakes information for national media, including in a [documentary on Lake Erie](#) that aired in November 2023 on Radio Canada.

Images from 2023 issues of *Lakes Letter*.



Partnering for impact

IAGLR engaged with other organizations to amplify our impact in 2023. We continued our membership in the Consortium of Aquatic Science Societies, which shares best practices and works to cohesively present the best available science surrounding aquatic resources, including at joint conferences. In addition, IAGLR participated in the ACCESS+ Community of Practice. This NSF-funded initiative aims to accelerate the awareness, adoption, and adaptation of evidence-based, gender-related, diversity, equity, and inclusion policies, practices, and programs within and across STEM professional societies.

In keeping with our priority to become a more diverse and inclusive organization, we also partnered with other organizations to improve the content of and access to our programs. In 2023, we worked with the African Center for Aquatic Research and Education to enhance engagement with researchers from the African Great Lakes. We also worked with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to publish a special issue of the *Journal of Great Lakes Research* on *Two-Eyed Seeing*, authored by many Indigenous scholars (see page 9) and to support Indigenous participation at the annual conference (see page 7).

“Communication and collaboration between Indigenous and western science communities are invaluable to the betterment of the Great Lakes ecosystem. ... We value IAGLR’s efforts to create opportunities for partnership.”

– Andrew Muir, Director of Science
Great Lakes Fishery Commission



Convening to develop a science plan for the future

IAGLR continued its pivotal role in providing time and space for vital conversations concerning science-based decision making to benefit the health of the Laurentian Great Lakes ecosystem.

In 2023, we supported the International Joint Commission’s Great Lakes Science Advisory Board in hosting a town hall discussion at our annual conference. Its focus? The Great Lakes Science Strategy for the Next Decade. This initiative lays out a framework for placing the Great Lakes region on a sound scientific footing to move beyond restoration and toward conservation of the lakes.

\$69,000

FINANCIAL
SUPPORT

was provided for
scholarships, travel support,
and conference registrations
during FY 2023



Thank you supporters

Donors

Organizations

\$15,000+

Great Lakes Fishery Commission
NOAA Great Lakes Environmental
Research Laboratory

\$7,000+

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

\$5,000+

Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife
Commission
Parks Canada
State of Michigan

\$2,500+

Cooperative Institute for Great
Lakes Research
Elsevier
Environment and Climate Change
Canada
Great Lakes Commission
Great Lakes Sea Grant Network
International Joint Commission
LimnoTech
Ontario Power Generation
University of Toronto Scarborough,
Department of Physical and
Environmental Sciences

\$1,000+

ACCESS+

Algoma University
Aquatic Ecosystem Health &
Management Society
Avensys Solutions Inc.
IISD Experimental Lakes Area
Institute for Great Lakes Research,
Central Michigan University
International Fisheries Section of
the American Fisheries Society

\$500+

Annis Water Resources Institute,
Grand Valley State University
Centre for Indigenous
Environmental Resources, Inc.

Individuals

Martin Auer
James Bence
Valerie Brady
Subba Rao Chaganti
Susan Daniel
Dean Foster
Wendy Foster
Mary Ginnebaugh
John Kennedy
Barry Lesht
Jérôme Marty
Catherine Masson
Paula McIntyre
Andrew Muir
Paul Sibley
Kristin TePas
Adrea Unitis, *in memory of Fred
Gruhl*
Donald Uzarski
& our anonymous donors

Volunteers

Alfred Achieng (B, CC)
 Jean Adams* (B, CC)
 Orlane Anneville (AE, C)
 Jay Austin (AE, C)
 Jim Bence (CC)
 Caren Binding (AE)
 Leon Boegman (AE)
 Jennifer Boehme (CC)
 Nick Boucher (C)
 Damien Bouffard (AE)
 Evie Brahmstedt (C)
 Andrew Bramburger* (B, CC)
 Charles Bronte (AE)
 George Bullerjahn (C)
 Lyubov Burlakova (AE)
 Cindy Chu (C)
 Paris Collingsworth (B, CC)
 Francesca Cuthbert (AE)
 Susan Daniel (B, CC)
 Heather Dawson (C)
 Margaret Docker (AE)
 Alexander Duncan (B, C)
 Erin Dunlop (AE)
 Gael Dur (C)
 Marlene Evans (AE)
 Mary Anne Evans (AE)
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 Marc Gaden (AE)
 Jenny Fisher (AE)
 Mary Ginnebaugh (CC)
 Suzanne Gray (B)
 John Hartig (C)
 Craig Hebert (AE)
 Julie Hinderer (C)
 Calvin Hitch (B, CC)
 Ronald Hites (AE)
 Joel Hoffman (AE)
 Len Hunt (C)
 John Janssen (AE)
 Nicholas Johnson (AE)
 Tim Johnson (AE, CC)
 Donna Kashian (B, CC)

Andrea Kirkwood (C)
 J. Val Klump (AE)
 Marten Koops (C)
 Ted Lawrence (C)
 Barry Lesht (AE)
 Monica Lewis Patrick (C)
 Stu Ludsin (C)
 Young Liu (AE)
 Alex Maguffee* (B)
 Catherine Masson (CV)
 Matt McCandless (C)
 Robert Michael McKay (AE, C)
 Rob McLaughlin (AE)
 Scott McNaught (CASS liaison)
 Sophie Monfette (C)
 Kevin Obiero (C)
 Richard Ogutu-Ohwayo (AE)
 Jess Owen (C)
 Judith Perlinger (C)
 Trevor Pitcher (C)
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 Neil Rooney* (B, CC)
 Rebecca Rooney (C)
 Lars Rudstam (AE, C)
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 Shahmohamadloo (B, C)
 Yulia Sapozhnikova (C)
 Nancy Seefelt (AE)
 Ali Shakoor (C)
 Paul Sibley (CC)
 Somayah Sima (AE)
 Jason Stockwell (AE)
 Wendylee Stott (AE)
 Craig Stow (AE)
 Harvey Thorleifson (AE)

Anett Trebitz (AE)
 Michael Twiss (AE, CC)
 Noel Urban (AE, B, CC)
 Ed Verhamme (C)
 Tony Vodacek (AE)
 Lizhu Wang* (B, C)
 Les Warren (B, C)
 Brian Weidel (AE)
 Mathew Wells (C)
 Chris Wilson (AE, C)
 Ram Yerubandi (AE)
 Lei Zhang (C)

IAGLR board members are indicated by a B after their names, with officers designated by an asterisk. Associate editors of the *Journal of Great Lakes Research* are designated by an AE, committee members a C, committee chairs a CC, and other conference volunteers a CV.



100+
 VOLUNTEERS

provided their time and talent serving on the board and committees, planning the conference, and editing the journal

Financials

IAGLR reported a balanced budget at the end of FY 2023 (September 30, 2023). Numbers below are preliminary. Final numbers will be produced by an independent account and reported in the annual Form 990 made available on the IAGLR website at iaglr.org/about/financial.

FY 2023 Revenue

Journal	\$208,944	27
Conference	476,405	61
Membership	52,945	7
Contributions	48,874	6
Total Revenue	\$787,168	100%

FY 2023 Expenses

Journal	\$63,187	8
Conference	333,487	42
Salaries and benefits	299,742	38
Administration	53,350	7
Scholarships	24,060	3
Travel	13,442	2
Total Expenses	\$787,268	100%

789

MEMBERS

were part of IAGLR
in 2023

IAGLR Member Portal

In October 2023, we launched a new benefit for our members—the IAGLR Member Portal. It features a robust, searchable directory to support networking within the IAGLR community. Members can look up other members by name, research interest, lake focus, location, and more. One of the big benefits of joining a professional association is the connections people make. Now IAGLR members have a simple way to initiate those connections. Thank you to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory for supporting development of the new portal through our Great Lakes Benefactor program.

Search Member Directory

Use the following search options to locate IAGLR members.

Search by name

Search

Supports wildcard searches using asterisks
(i.e., to search for all names starting with the letters *smi*, enter *smi**)

Build a Query

Choose a parameter

Research Focus

Biology > Ecology

Waterbody Focus

Erie

+ Add a parameter

Search

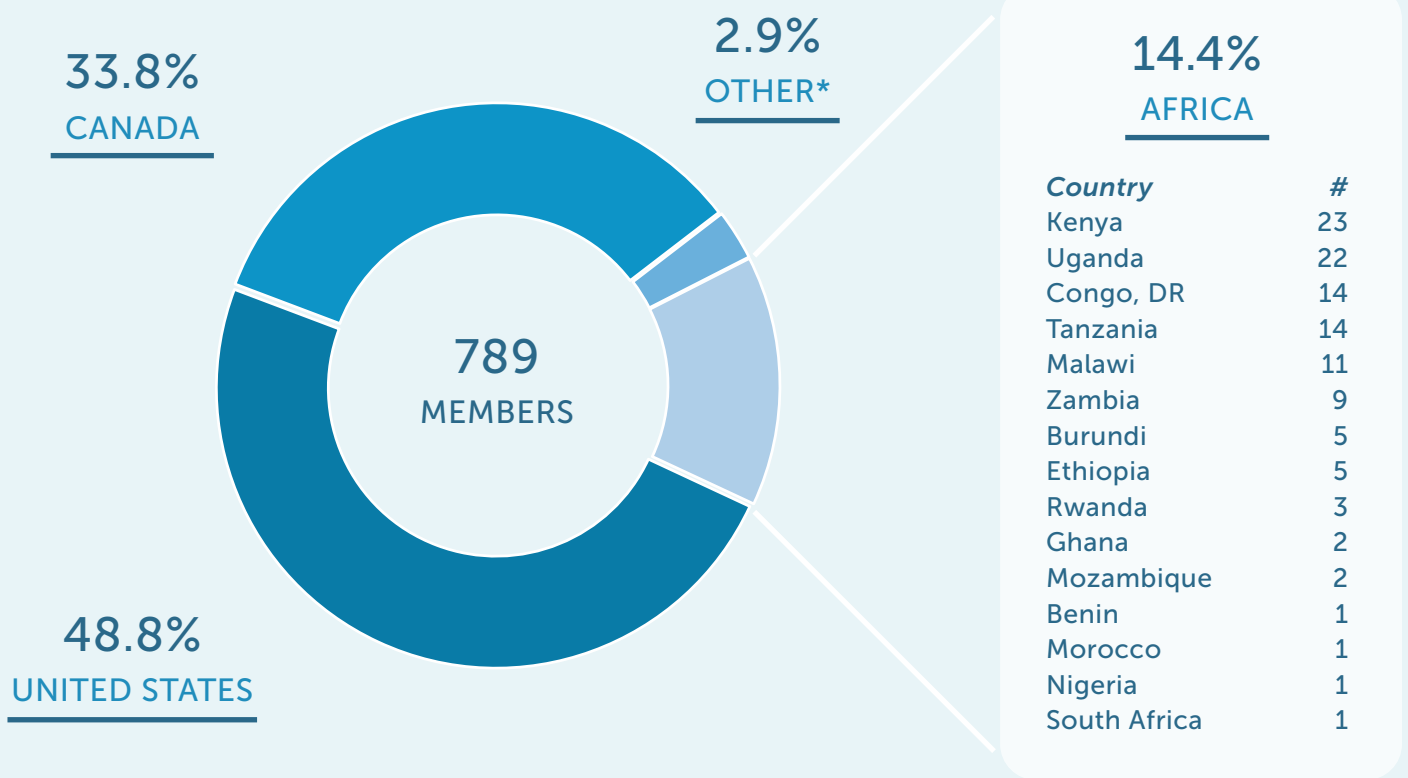
Membership

In 2023 we were pleased to see our membership numbers rebound after experiencing lower counts during the pandemic when our conferences had moved to an all-virtual format.

We welcomed 789 members this year, up nearly 9% over prepandemic levels and 68% over 2022. This included more than 100 new members from Africa in 2023. The figure below shows a geographic view of our membership, including the African countries represented.



A geographic look at 2023 membership



* Other includes members from Asia, Europe, Oceania, and South America.

Although our offices are located in Ann Arbor, Michigan—the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Anishinaabeg (the Three Fire Confederacy of the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi Nations) as well as the Wyandot Nation—we acknowledge that we work, live, play in, and care about all large lake watersheds throughout the world. We acknowledge Indigenous peoples as these watersheds’ original caretakers and knowledge keepers and recognize their contributions to the stewardship and governance of the world’s largest systems of freshwater. These lands and waters also remember the histories of those who arrived as migrants—both in this generation and generations past—as well as those who arrived involuntarily as refugees or a result of slavery.

We recognize our responsibility to involve the full diversity of these voices in achieving our vision of a peaceful world in which large lake ecosystems are valued and healthy; where these ecosystems inspire curiosity, awe, love and respect, and stewardship in all people. It is an ongoing journey with mistakes and learning along the way. We invite your comments to ensure healthy relationships and a welcoming space within the IAGLR community.

Contact Us

Looking to connect with IAGLR? Please reach out to Jérôme Marty, our executive director, at jmarty@iaglr.org.

International Association for
Great Lakes Research
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Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
iaglr.org

IAGLR is a U.S. 501(c)(3) and Canadian nonprofit organization.

IAGLR BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2023–2024)

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Alexander Duncan

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Calvin Hitch

Jérôme Marty
Ex officio

Sabina Rakhimbekova *

René Sahba Shahmohamadloo

Noel Urban

Les Warren

** New board members starting their terms in May 2023.*

STAFF

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Executive Director

Brianna Ellis
Conference Coordinator

Wendy Foster
Business Manager

Paula McIntyre
Communication Director

Journal of Great Lakes Research

Robert Hecky
Lead Editor

Stephanie Guildford
Assistant Editor

Jessica Ives
Technical Editor