

Future Activities of the International Association for Fire Safety Science

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ABSTRACT

In this paper presented are a brief history, past activities, present issues, and prospects of future activities of the International Association for Fire Safety Science. After a long history of exchanging ideas in individual international groups, the International Association for Fire Safety Science (IAFSS) was founded in 1985 at its first Symposium, and in 1988, it became a registered charity in England and Wales. The objective of the Association is to promote research into the science of preventing and mitigating the adverse effects of fires and dissemination of the results of such research. In order to implement the objectives, the Association has held a series of Symposia. At the same time, regional activities have been performed to expand the activities of IAFSS into every individual country. Throughout these activities, various issues have been found in management of the Association. Improvement of the Association will be achieved by resolving those issues based on the policy of the Association.

KEYWORDS: Fire Research, International Activities, Overview

FOUNDATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

The history of fire research would start when people have realized the need to mitigate the adverse effects of fires. The importance of fire research has increased with increasing property, and for civilized society, fire technology based on knowledge accumulated through fire research has become indispensable.

In the early seventies, the results of fire research, performed by researchers in USA under the leadership of Prof. H. W. Emmons, became to be presented at various international meetings [1]. This enhanced collaboration of fire researchers in other countries such as Japan and UK with long history of fire research with those in USA with established scientific and economic circumstances. The activities of groups, which resulted from the collaboration, became extensive and many

researchers joined the groups. Those fire researchers established methodology independent of any other fields of science and technology and realized a new field of science and technology. In spite of the wishes of fire researchers, however, they could have only few opportunities of exchanging ideas and/or discussing issues.

Most of fire researchers have taken part in individual fields of science and technology other than fire science and technology, and individually performed fire research. In such circumstances, there frequently occur such cases that a well-known fact in a field is assumed to be a novel finding in another field. Also, fire research is not major in most of the fields to which fire researchers have contributed so that their contribution may not be appreciated. Fire researchers have anticipated foundation of an association for fire science and technology.

The International Association for Fire Safety Science (IAFSS) was founded in 1985 at its first Symposium with the primary objective to encourage research into the science of preventing and mitigating the adverse effects of fires and to provide a forum for presenting the results of such research [2]. Membership is open to all having these interests. In 1988, it became a registered charity in England and Wales. After the First Symposium, four symposia have been organized by the IAFSS; 1998 Tokyo [1,3,4], 1991 Edinburgh [5], 1994 Ottawa [6], and 1997 Melbourne [7]. Also, the Committee of IAFSS appointed Fire Safety Journal as the official journal of IAFSS at the Ottawa Symposium.

ACTIVITIES

The IAFSS is governed by its officers and Committee members. At the 5th International Symposium on Fire Safety Science held in Melbourne, the officers and Committee members shown in Table 1 were elected [7].

Table 1 Officers and Committee members of IAFSS

Name (Country) Office	Name (Country)
Prof. T. Hirano (Japan), Chairman	Mr. D. Brein (Germany)
Dr. D. D. Drysdale (UK), Vice-Chairman	Prof. V. K. Bulgakov (Russia)
Prof. P. J. Pagni (USA), Vice-Chairman	Dr. M. R. Curtat (France)
Prof. Y. Uehara (Japan), Vice-Chairman	Prof. M. Fontana (Switzerland)
Dr. P. Beever (Australia), Treasurer	Dr. J. R. Hall (USA)
Dr. R. Friedman (USA), Secretary	Dr. Y. Hasemi (Japan)
Prof. G. Cox (UK), Executive member	Dr. T. Kashiwagi (USA)
Prof. Fan Weicheng (China), Executive member	Dr. M. Kokkala (Finland)
Prof. J. G. Quintiere (USA), Immediate Past-Chairman	Prof. S. E. Magnusson (Sweden)
	Mr. H. E. Nelson (USA)
	Dr. C. G. Ramsay (Australia)
	Dr. O. Sugawa (Japan)
	Dr. P. H. Thomas (UK)
	Prof. R. B. Williamson (USA)
	Dr. D. Yung (Canada)

The most important activity of the IAFSS is to give reliable information on fire safety science to its members during a series of the Symposia and through the Fire Safety Journal.

Symposia

The paper selection for presentation at each Symposium has been performed in careful procedures. The Chair of the Programme Committee for the first four Symposia was Dr. Thomas, the Chair of IAFSS at its foundation and that of the last one was myself. The tasks of the Programme Committee are selection of invited lecturers (except for that for H. W. Emmons Lectureship) and original papers. The selection of invited lecturers starts at more than one year before the Symposium. After several rounds of communication and voting among the members of the Programme Committee, candidates are decided before the deadline of original paper submission.

The selection of original papers is performed based on the following basic policies agreed to in the IAFSS Committee meetings:

1. Selection of original papers should be based on reliable reviews of full papers (not abstracts).
2. At least two reviewers should be provided for each paper.
3. One reviewer should be in the same region of the author(s) and another in another region.
4. The names of reviewers for a specific paper should not be provided to the author(s) of the paper except for the case where the author is a member of the Programme Committee.
5. The members of the Programme Committee should be fair and reliable.

The IAFSS Programme Committee has carefully performed paper selection on the basis of peer reviews and reasonable consideration of regional balance. The ratio of the number of accepted papers to that of total submitted papers is about 0.8 for the First Symposium and about 0.5 for the next four Symposia. It would be surprised that despite of the low rate of acceptance, many papers have been submitted for presentation at the Symposia. This is attributable to the careful selection of papers by the Programme Committee based on reviews by reliable researchers. At the same time, an issue has arisen from the viewpoint that the information available at the Symposia is not new. This is not avoidable if the Programme Committee would select papers with few defects and spend enough time for paper selection. At the Symposia, the attendees would not find challenging papers which are of new topics or methodology but likely with marked defects. Thus, poster sessions were provided in the Fifth Symposium for improving such a situation.

The topics of the papers presented at each individual Symposium represent the issues in the field of basic fire science at that time. The number of papers in each category presented at the series of Symposia is given in Table 2. It is seen that for this thirteen years, there has occurred little change in topics interesting to fire researchers.

Fire Safety Journal

The management of Fire Safety Journal is based on almost the same philosophy for the Symposia. This Journal is the established leading publication dealing with all aspects of fire safety science and its applications to fire safety engineering. Its scope is purposely wide, as it is deemed to be important to encourage papers from all sources within this multidisciplinary subject, the science and

Table 2 Number of papers in each category presented at International Symposia on Fire Safety Science

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	5th(Posters)
Fire Physics(Total)	18	26	31	31	34	11
Ignition	1	2	3	3	0	1
Flame Spread	5	6	5	9	10	3
Fire Physics (Sub-category)	0	4	8	5	9	3
Flow in Fire	7	8	8	10	8	4
Modeling	3	5	4	3	4	0
Steady Burning	2	1	3	1	3	0
Review	14	4	12	5	5	1
Fire Chemistry	8	4	3	3	1	3
Smoke Toxicity/Hazard	13	10	8	10	10	5
Statistics/Risk/ System Analysis	9	7	5	11	10	2
Human Behavior/Egress	8	4	5	7	3	1
Detection	6	8	4	10	7	7
Suppression	10	8	6	14	17	3
Structures/Structural Behavior	17	6	7	9	7	8
Specialized Fire Problems	9	14	11	14	13	6
Translation of Research into Practice						

engineering of preventing and mitigating the adverse effects of fires. The Journal provides a forum for the further development of fire safety science and engineering as a distinct engineering discipline of critical importance. The editor Dr. D. D. Drysdale is a Vice Chair of the IAFSS, and regional editors Dr. V. Babrauskas and Prof. Y. Hasemi and most of the members of editorial board are members of the IAFSS. The paper selection procedure for publication is careful and based on peer reviews like those for the Symposia.

Regional Activities

The IAFSS has taken steps to secure its operations and extend its activities. Several regional activities have been performed with great success. The earliest regional activities after the foundation of the IAFSS started in Asian and Oceanian countries [8]. Their activities would stimulate the fire researchers in other regions. The First International Seminar on Fire and Explosion Hazards of Substances and the Venting of Deflagrations was held in the Cosmos Hotels of Moscow, Russia on July 1995[9]. Also, the First European Regional IAFSS Symposium was held at the Eidgenossische Technische Hochschule in Zurich, Switzerland on August of the same year. The successes of these meetings should be attributed to the Organizing Committees represented by Profs. Korolchenko (Moscow meeting) and Fontana (Zurich meeting).

The IAFSS is attempting to take care of individual countries' activities. In 1996, Prof. Quintiere, the Chair of the IAFSS at that time, visited to the University of Sao Paulo, attending a conference on fire safety, and discussing with them plans concerning the development of educational programs in fire safety. Also, last year I visited Seoul to attend the International Symposium on Fire Science and Technology at Seoul on November organized by the Korean Institute of Fire Science and Technology. More than 20 fire researchers from outside of Korea joined it. I as the chairman of our Association greeted the attendees at the opening ceremony and presented an invited paper on the activities of our

Association [10]. The IAFSS looks forward to its colleagues in South America and Korea joining in the activities of the IAFSS.

Since this symposium, the 3rd Asia-Oceania Symposium on Fire Science and Technology, is the joint activity of IAFSS and AOAFST (Asia-Oceania Association for Fire Science and Technology), it would be meaningful to describe some details of the activities in Asian and Oceanian countries [11].

Before the researchers in Asian and Oceanian countries started their activities for improving the level of basic fire science and technology in Asian and Oceanian countries, there had been various activities which composed the bases of theirs. Examples of those activities were exchanging scientist(s) and/or engineer(s) in fire research between Asian and Oceanian countries and inviting a few well-known specialists in fire research from Asian and/or Oceanian countries to a meeting in another Asian or Oceanian country. Through those activities, we were ready to arrange international meetings for scientists and engineers dealing with fire research in Asian and Oceanian countries.

To my knowledge, the first meeting for Asian fire researchers to which participants from more than three Asian countries attended was the seminar "Research on the Processes of Combustion, Explosions and Modelling of Fires" at Khabarovsk Polytechnical Institute, April, 1991. Thereafter, a series of international meetings for Asian and Oceanian fire researchers has been held as follows:

- 1991 April: **Seminar of "Research on the Processes of Combustion and Modelling of Fires"**; Khabarovsk Polytechnical Institute; Main Organizers: Prof. Bulgakov, Dr. Karpov.
- 1991 November: **China-Japan-Russia Joint Meeting on Fire Research**; University of Science and Technology of China; Main Organizer: Prof. Fan.
- 1992 October: **First Asian Conference on Fire Science and Technology**; University of Science and Technology of China; Main Organizers: Prof. Fan, Dr. Cheng.
- 1993 October: **'93 Asian Fire Science Seminar**; Science University of Tokyo; Main Organizers: Prof. Shigekura, Prof. Kawagoe, Dr. Sugawa.
- 1994 December: **'94 Asian Fire Science Seminar**; Research Institute of Human Settlements(RIHS), Republic of Indonesia; Grand Bali Beach; Main Organizers: Mr. Darmonegoro, Mr. Aksa, Mr. Leander, Mr. Suprpto, Dr. Sugawa.
- 1995 April: **'95 Asia-Oceania Fire Science Seminar**; Khabarovsk State University of Technology; Main Organizers: Prof. Bulgakov, Dr. Karpov.
- 1995 September: **Second Asia-Oceania Symposium on Fire Science and Technology**; Khabarovsk State University of Technology; Main Organizers: Prof. Bulgakov, Prof. Hirano, Prof. Sugahara, Prof. Fan, Dr. Ramsey, Dr. Karpov.
- 1996 November: **'96 Asia-Oceania Seminar on Fire Science**; University of Science and Technology of China; Main Organizers: Prof. Fan; Dr. Jianda.

Other Activities

The IAFSS has encouraged its members by various activities. The H. W. Emmons Invited Lectureship Award, the Philip Thomas Medal of Excellence for the best paper presented at the previous Symposium, and the Kawagoe Award for a lifelong career achievement in and contributions

to fire safety are major awards of the IAFSS. The candidates for the first two are selected by the Symposium Awards Committee chaired by Dr. J. A. Rockett, and that for the last one is selected by the Awards Sub-Committee of the IAFSS chaired by Prof. Pagni. Dr. J. R. Hall serves for the IAFSS as the editor of the IAFSS Newsletters, which are a unique means of communication for fire researchers and engineers not only of the IAFSS members but also for non-members. Also, Prof. S. E. Magnusson serves as the chairman of the IAFSS Education Subcommittee. By the efforts of Prof. Magnusson, a group interested in fire education has been established, which is indispensable to grow up young fire researchers and engineers.

The IAFSS seeks ways to use its resources to promote the exchange of fire research activities throughout the world, and to assist areas and individuals in need in order that they might participate. In 1995, gifts of \$ 8,500 each were bestowed on the fire education programs at the Fire Science Center, University of New Brunswick and at the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of British Columbia, Canada. These gifts were made in recognition of the successful Fourth Symposium held in Ottawa in 1995.

PRESENT ISSUES AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Almost 13 years has passed since the IAFSS was founded, and I am the third chairman. During this period, many things have changed. The IAFSS is dealing with various issues and should make necessary activities for resolving the issues.

Basic Policy

Although the officers and the Committee members of the IAFSS have received a number of comments and proposals, and sometimes blamed for their activities, they could not find any appropriate reasons to alter the basic policy. Most comments and proposals were on strategy for individual events or actions of the IAFSS. Those include the guidelines for eliminating commercialism, sponsorship for the activities, polishing up of the Rules, and protection of our logo. Thus, the IAFSS will be managed under the same basic policy, although minor changes of the Rules will be performed.

Future Symposia

As aforementioned, the most important events organized by the IAFSS have been the International Symposia. On various issues on the International Symposia, following discussion has been done:

1. Programme

a. Categories of papers

Extensive discussion has been on the balance in fields, especially soft and hard sciences. The importance of statistics or human behavior in fire research is emphasized and it is advised not to emphasize "combustion". Many IAFSS Committee members agreed the importance of the balance in field although a suspicion was on the appropriateness of using the words of "soft" and "hard". The discussion should be continued. For actual actions for the 6th Symposium,

further discussion will be made in the Programme Committee. At this situation, any proposals to the Programme Committee or the IAFSS on this subject are welcome.

b. Paper selection process

The IAFSS has not received strong comments to alter the process of paper selection except for those by a member of the Programme Committee for the 5th Symposium. He proposed a few additional processes including distribution of referee's rating and comments before the committee meeting, Programme Committee members' presentation at the paper selection meeting, no automatic acceptance or rejection based on referee's scores, and confirmation of the authors' declaration. These proposals should be transferred to the Programme Committee for consideration in decision of the paper selection processes.

b. Programme Committee members

Some of the IAFSS Committee members pointed out the importance of the balance in field. The Programme Committee members should transfer their past experience to young generation. The members of the Programme Committee for the 6th Symposium are as follows:

Prof. Cox (UK), Dr. Evans (USA), Prof. Fan (China), Dr. Friedman (USA), Dr. Hall** (USA), Dr. Heskestad* (USA), Prof. Hirano+, (Japan), Prof. Joulain++ (France), Prof. Quintiere (USA), Prof. Magnusson (Sweden), Dr. Ramsay (Australia), Dr. Sekizawa** (Japan), Prof. Shields* (North Ireland), Dr. Sugawa* (Japan), Prof. Thomas (UK)

+: Chairman, ++: Liaison member to Arrangements and Publications Committees

*: Paper recipient, **: Cooperator with paper recipient

In the future, the members will be necessarily replaced with young. The IAFSS should grow young researchers to be members appropriate for the Programme Committee.

2. Symposium Arrangements

The Arrangements Committee chaired by a leading researcher at the Symposium site arranged each Symposium in the past. The most important task of the IAFSS is the selection of the site and the leading researcher. For the 6th Symposium, the IAFSS ask Prof. Joulain and Prof. Vantelon, University of Poitiers to be the chairmen of the Arrangements Committee. They have organized the Arrangements Committee as follows:

Chairmen: Prof. Joulain (U. Poitiers), Prof. Vantelon (U. Poitiers)

Local Members: Dr. Most (U. Poitiers), Dr. Breillat (U. Poitiers), Dr. Soul (U. Poitiers), Dr. Wang (U. Poitiers), Dr. Torrero (U. Poitiers), Dr. Blay (U. Poitiers), Prof. Curtat (CSTB), Dr. Bodard (CSTB), Dr. Rongere (Electricite de France), Dr. Mallet (Com. Energie Atomique), Dr. Tephany (Home Secretary)

Overseas Members: Prof. Hirano (Japan), Prof. Quintiere (USA), Prof. Beck (Australia), Prof. Drysdale (UK), Prof. Cox, Kokkala (Finland), Prof. Magnusson (Sweden), Prof. Fernandez-Pello (USA)

The IAFSS is seeking the sites for future Symposia and leading scientists for the Arrangements Committees and welcome to receiving proposals for hosting future Symposia.

3. Publications

The IAFSS has published 5 proceedings of the past Symposia. Because of careful selection of the papers presented at the Symposia, the contents of the proceedings are of information in high level. The IAFSS should keep the level of the proceedings high. Thus, the responsibility of the chairman of the Publication Committee is heavy. He should edit the papers presented at the Symposium and publish in a volume of proceedings. The IAFSS asked Prof. Curtat, a member of the IAFSS Committee, to be the chairman of the Publications Committee for the 6th Symposium. He organized the Committee as follows:

Chairman: Prof. Curtat (CSTB)

Members: Prof. Joulain (U. Poitiers), Dr. Bodard (CSTB), Dr. Beever (Australia), Prof. Drysdale (UK), Prof. Cox (UK), Dr. Delichatsios (USA), Dr. Grosshandler (USA), Prof. Hasemi (Japan), Dr. Kashiwagi (USA), Dr. Molkov (Russia).

Keeping and distributing the proceedings are also important task. The IAFSS is seeking an appropriate institution for keeping original negatives of proceedings. This action was initiated when Dr. Kashiwagi was received an inquiry from Edwards Brothers the printer about the storage of negatives of the 4th Proceedings. Despite of extensive discussion, the IAFSS could not decide our policy about the treatment of the proceedings of the past Symposia. Dr. Hasemi pointed out a similar problem about the proceedings of the Asia-Oceania Symposium of Fire Science and Technology. The proceedings of the past Symposia are available through the IAFSS Administrative Office, c/o SFPE, 7315 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 1225 W, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA, Tel: 301-718-2910, Fax: 301-718-2242.

4. Planning of a Future Symposium

To organize an IAFSS Symposium, the IAFSS has to have a combined plan for the Programme, Arrangements, and Publications Committees. Without such a plan, each Committee cannot perform its tasks because each task is more or less related to other tasks in the three Committees. The schedules of the three Committees for the 6th Symposium (Table 3) are good examples for realizing the importance of the combined plan.

Nomination of Committee Members

The IAFSS Bylaw Rule 13, regarding election procedures, was changed by member vote in the 5th Symposium, Melbourne. The procedure of nomination will begin with the appointment of a Nominating Committee by 12 months before the next Symposium, which by rule is the end point of the term of office for members of the Committee. The nominees proposed by the Nominating Committee are to be reported to the members by 6 months before the next Symposium. At this time, a member of the IAFSS can consider offering petition nominations. The IAFSS has experienced to have such nominees in the past.

Table 3 Schedules of the Three Committees for the 6th Symposium

	Programme	Arrangements	Publications
1997.12	Determination of Committee members and the persons to whom papers should be sent and chairs of poster sessions		
1998.02		Printing of Call for Papers	
1998.03	Reorganize review committee		
1998.04	Selection of invited lecturers		
1998.06	Send out letters of invitation to the candidates of the invited lecturers (by the name of Arrangements and Programme Committees)		
1998.08		Printing of the 2 nd circulation	
1998.10	Deadline of submission		
1998.12	Deadline for poster presentation Deadline for invited paper submission Send out the invited papers for review	Tentative schedule of Symposium including acceptable number of papers	
1999.01	Committee meetings for paper selection and inform to the authors Selection of potential chair persons		Provide the guideline of camera-ready manuscript preparation
1999.03		Printing of the final programme	
1999.04			Deadline of the camera-ready manuscript submission
1999.05			Ask the authors to revise the papers with parts to improve
1996.06			Deadline on the revised manuscript submission
1999.07	Submit the Programme Committee Chairman's report	Symposium Submit the Arrangements Committee Chairman's report	Prepare "Preface" Ask IAFSS Chairman to submit the Chairman's report
1999.08			Send the Manuscripts to the Printer Continue to touch with printer until sending out the proceedings

Fire Safety Journal

It is desirable to keep the quality of the Fire Safety Journal high. The most effective way for it is to receive an appropriate number of good quality papers. The IAFSS ask you to submit good quality papers to our Journal.

Newsletters

The IAFSS has published newsletters. The last one 'Newsletter No. 9' was issued on January 1998. The present editor is Dr. Hall. If you have news for the next issue, which will appear in early 1999, please send it to Dr. John R. Hall, Jr., National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P. O. Box 9101, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101, USA, or fax to 617-984-7478, or e-mail to jhall@nfpfa.org. News on an upcoming meeting, a notable publication, an award, a change in job, etc. is welcome. The present editor Dr. Hall is particularly interested in news from outside North America, where news tends to be harder to obtain. The IAFSS needs your help to have more news and more representation from all over the world in future issues.

Education Subcommittee

Professor Magnusson has well managed the activities of the Education Subcommittee of IAFSS (ES-IAFSS). He has proposed a plan to have the web-site for their activities, although at present we are in discussion about it. We can expect to confirm substantial progress within ES-IAFSS at the 6th Symposium in Poitiers.

Regional Activities

The IAFSS has discussed about the policy for regional activities. For this several years, the IAFSS has taken care of regional activities under the guidelines discussed at the Edinburgh meeting of the IAFSS Committee, 1991 and finalized by Prof. Pettersson (Vice Chairman of IAFSS at this time) in 1992. Although there is no strong reasoning to change the guidelines, the IAFSS has decided to discuss about our support for the regional activities that cannot meet the 1992 policy.

In order to establish strong forums on fire safety science, the IAFSS should have a plan for the future. The most important action may be to encourage young fire researchers. To provide an IAFSS Medal for excellent papers presented at the regional meetings including both of those able and unable to meet the 1992 policy was suggested by Prof. Quintiere, the Immediate Past Chairman of IAFSS.

The IAFSS is pleased to support regional conferences such as the 3rd Asia-Oceania Symposium on Fire Science and Technology by presenting awards with small amount of money. The Asia-Oceania Symposia have been approved by the IAFSS as regional activities planned by the Asia-Oceania Association for Fire Science and Technology, which is composed of members of fire researchers from Asian and Oceanian countries. For the Symposium, paper selection has been performed on the basis of full papers and hard cover proceedings will be published.

The IAFSS encourages organizing regional conferences on Fire Safety Science and will cooperate for increasing the scientific level of the conferences. If the organizer needs the attendance of the fire researchers, the IAFSS is pleased to cooperate for inviting them.

Financial

The IAFSS is going to establish a Financial Committee. In it, the members will work out the rules to save and spend money with investment strategy.

NGO in the United Nations

By the efforts of Prof. Cox, the IAFSS has applied to the NGO section, Department of Public Information of the United Nations to be a NGO having "Consultative Status" with the United Nations. We are now waiting for the reaction of the United Nations.

Others

It is good for the IAFSS members that the communication for each other can be done easily. By doing it, the IAFSS members will be able to exchange ideas and enhance their scientific knowledge. One of such efforts has been done with Drs. Dlugogorski and Sumathipala. They proposed to make an e-mail list of IAFSS. However, the IAFSS should be careful because the e-mail network is likely used for commercialism. The action should satisfy at least the Article 2 of the IAFSS Rules.

Sometimes, the activities of the IAFSS conflict with those of other institutions. An example is the conflict between the Interflam '99 and the 6th Symposium. The schedules of the Interflam '99 (Edinburgh: 28-30 June) and 6th Symposium (Poitiers: 4-8 July) are very close. This conflict can be resolved if the organization of each meeting is based on the objective of each institution. The objective of the IAFSS is to promote basic fire science and quite different from the objectives of any other institutions.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The future activities of the IAFSS should be for contribution to fire science and technology. Indeed, the level of fire science and technology is based on the levels of individual researchers. I believe the encouragement of individual researchers is indispensable for improvement of the overall level of fire science and technology. Thus, the efforts of the IAFSS should concentrate on encouragement of fire researchers, especially young researchers. The most important role of the international association is providing opportunities for researchers of different countries to exchange information, knowledge, and ideas in the field of interest. The IAFSS should take care of the activities on fire science in every corner of the world and offer a needed help. For implementation of its objectives, the IAFSS needs the help of every fire researcher, if he is interested in enhancement of fire safety.

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