The Working Group on Aquatic Birds of SIL meets periodically, usually triennially, to evaluate limnological aspects of aquatic birds. This book contains the proceedings of the Second International Symposium on Limnology and Aquatic Birds that was held in Mérida (Yucatán, México) in November 1997. Some 22 papers are grouped into three subject areas. (1) The limnological basis of aquatic bird habitats evaluated characteristics of aquatic environments in relation to the abundance, distribution, behavior, and ecophysiology of aquatic birds. Methods of monitoring aquatic birds and their habitats were discussed. (2) Modelling of energy and other links of aquatic ecosystems to aquatic birds are evaluated. Particular attention is directed toward sources of food and the impacts of birds on lower trophic levels, as well as how the birds can influence nutrient dynamics in these ecosystems. (3) Integration of management of aquatic ecosystems in relation to bird conservation.

Robert G. Wetzel

Aquatic Invasive Species (WGAIS)

During calendar year 2000 a workshop, “Invasions of European and North American Ecosystems by Ponto-Caspian Species”, was held under the sponsorship of the WGAIS in association with the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO). The purpose of this workshop was to bring together scientists from Europe and North America to discuss the recent predominance of successful Ponto-Caspian aquatic species invasions in the Laurentian Great Lakes and Baltic Sea, and to examine the potential for future scientific collaborations on research studies and information exchange. Financial support for the workshop was provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Great Lakes National Program Office), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. I can be contacted by e-mail at: reid@glerl.noaa.gov.

During the coming year, Vadim and I will work to expand international participation in WGAIS; review and revise goals for CY2001 and CY2002; and, plan an activity for the next SIL Congress (2004).

To participate in WGAIS, please contact Vadim at: gaas@zin.ru with your name, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, and an indication of how you would like to be involved.

David Reid for WGAIS