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THE IXTH NEOTROPICAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS IN PERU (CUSCO, 8 – 14 NOVEMBER 2011) EL IX CONGRESO DE ORNITOLOGÍA NEOTROPICAL EN PERÚ (CUSCO, 8 – 14 DE NOVIEMBRE 2011)

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Resumen.- El IX Congreso de Ornitología Neotropical en Perú (Cusco, 8 al 14 de noviembre de 2011). - El IX Congreso de Ornitología Neotropical (IX CON), coorganizado por la Sociedad de Ornitología Neotropical (SON) y la Unión de Ornitólogos del Perú (UNOP), se realizó en Cusco, Perú, del 8 al 14 de noviembre de 2011. El IX CON fue dedicado a la memoria de María Koepcke por su dedicación y contribuciones a la ornitología Neotropical y especialmente a la ornitología peruana (Servat et al., este volumen). La reunión a la cual atendieron más de 800 participantes de 25 países reunió los más altos estándares científicos y promovió el intercambio de información sobre los avances científicos en la investigación y conservación de las aves del Neotrópico. La realización del congreso en la ciudad imperial de Cusco facilitó la interacción entre los participantes y ofreció magníficas oportunidades para explorar la diversidad biológica, geológica, y cultural de la región.

Palabras claves: IX CON, Neotrópico, Ornitología, Congreso

Abstract.- The IXth Neotropical Ornithological Congress in Peru (Cusco, 8 – 14 November 2011). -The IXth Neotropical Congress of Ornithology (IX NOC), co-sponsored by the Neotropical Ornithological Society (NOS) and the Union of Peruvian Ornithologists (UNOP), took place in Cusco, Peru, from the 8 – 14 November 2011. The IX NOC was dedicated to the memory of Maria Koepcke for her dedication and contributions to Neotropical ornithology and especially to Peruvian ornithology (Servat et al., this volume). The meeting with more than 800 participants from 25 countries adhered to high quality standards of international science and stimulated the interchange of information pertaining to scientific advances in research and conservation of Neotropical birds. The congress's venue in the imperial city of Cusco facilitated the participants' interactions and offered superb opportunities for exploration of the region's rich biological, geological, and cultural diversity.

Key words: IX NOC, Neotropics, Ornithology, Congress

INTRODUCTION

Peru was selected by the Executive Board of the NOS to host the Neotropical Congress at the VIIIth NOC celebrated in Maturín, Venezuela in October 2007. The first official meeting in preparation for the Congress was held in April 30, 2008, at the General Assembly of the UNOP members in the VIIth National Congress of Ornithology (CNO) in Piura. At that meeting, a consensus among members was reached for the selection of a search committee to review proposals from interested regions of Peru willing to host the event. At the same meeting, it was also agreed to hold the VIIIth CNO concurrently with the Neotropical congress.

The search committee included Irma Franke (Museum of Natural History of San Marcos National University, MUSM); Manuel Plenge (UNOP), and Jose Álvarez (Institute for Research of the Peruvian Amazon, IIAP), UNOP members widely recognized by the ornithological community in Peru and overseas. Proposals to host the meetings in Lima, lead by Gunnar Engblom (Director, Kolibri Expeditions), Arequipa, lead by Jaime Jiménez (Director, Regional Institute of Environmental Sciences-San Agustín National University, IRECA-UNSA); and Cusco, lead by Constantino Auca (President, Andean Ecosystem Association, ECOAN), showed the strengths of each of the proposed Congress venues. After assessing the pros and cons of each proposal, the city of Cusco was selected as the venue for the IXth NOC, due to its appeal for birding activities, its rich historical and cultural attractions, and overall, for the expressed commitment from academic, governmental, and non-governmental institutions, to support the organization for such an event (venue, installations, and services). Following the guidelines of the Cusco proposal, early November was considered the best time to hold the meeting due to the weather conditions, availability of

the conference center and off-season reduced prices for lodging and other services. The first circular announcing the location, tentative date, and local officers of the IXth NOC in Cusco was issued in December 2009.

ORGANIZATION

In early 2010, the organizing committee, consisting of Grace P. Servat (former UNOP President and proposer of the IXth NOC in Peru), Constantino Auca (Chair of Local Committee) and Fernando Angulo (elected President of UNOP) held preliminary meetings electronically. At this point, C. Auca retired from the committee due to logistic issues and time constraints.

Among the first actions of the organizing committee was the search for a meeting planner/coordinator to organize the complex logistics of the event. This role fell on Gina Gaete (Gaete Corporation) in April 2010, who started with the arrangements for the design of the visual identity of the Congress (logo, posters, flyers and other promotional materials) and the web page. Support from UNOP members traveling to international and national meetings was essential at the time. Electronic announcements of the Congress were also posted on many list servers by UNOP and NOS.

At the same time, the organizing committee concentrated efforts on the search for Co-chairs for the Scientific Committee, accomplishing this in July 2010, with the appointment of José Tello (Long Island University, New York, USA) and Thomas Valqui (Center of Ornithology and Biodiversity, CORBIDI, Peru). By then, designation of representatives of host and co-organizing institutions and coordinators of other subcommittees was completed and included Olintho Aguilar, Rocío Orellana and Joyce Vitorino from the Museum of Natural History of San Antonio Abad National University in Cusco, MHNC, Fabiola Riva (Social Events Committee); Daniel Flores

from the Cusco Convention Center (CCC), venue of the event administered by Cusco's Municipal Government; and Ada Castillo, Ángela Oroz and Bertha Jorge from Cusco offices of the Natural Areas Protection Service (SERNANP) from the Ministry of Environment of Peru, that provided institutional support and media coverage of the event.

FUNDING

Registration fees alone do not normally cover all of the costs of the diverse activities of a large Congress such as the NOC. The income from the Congress had to be supplemented by funds obtained from many other sources: rental fees for stands used by exhibitors, announcements, symposia contributions, as well as private donors and institutions that became sponsors by providing in-kind donations. These individuals, organizations, and institutions (see acknowledgements) were key in making the meeting possible and received recognition and/or publicity on the web site, as well as in the printed

materials. Fundraising for the IXth NOC was extremely difficult due to the economic recession in Europe and North America where Congress organizers have traditionally raised funds to support previous NOCs. Thus searching for sources of potential funding was the most time and effort consuming activity of the organizing committee. To initiate expenditures for activities such as the preparation of printed material for the event (e.g., logo, posters) and the web page design, an agreement was reached among members of the committee to provide financial support on «a loan» basis from NOS and a private supporter.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPANTS

The local committee and the NOS Executive Board were especially concerned that meeting costs for students would be sufficiently low to insure student participation from throughout Latin America. To fulfill this goal, and considering the fact that fundraising was unlikely to

Table 1. Committees and members that participated in the organization of the IXth NOC.

Scientific Program Committee	José Tello (Co-Chair)	Peru
	Thomas Valqui (Co-Chair)	Peru
	Juan Ignacio Areta	Argentina
	Javier Barrio	Peru
	John Bates	USA
	Donald Brightsmith	USA
	Santiago Claramunt	Uruguay
	Sergio Córdoba	Colombia
	Nataly Hidalgo	Peru
	Cristina Miyaki	Brazil
	Alexander More	Peru
	Jorge Pérez-Emán	Venezuela
	Renzo Piana	Peru
	Luis Miguel Renjifo	Colombia

Table 1. Continued

	Thomas Schulenberg	USA
	Pablo Tubaro	Argentina
	Wendy Tori	Peru
	Mauricio Ugarte	Peru
	Úrsula Valdez	Peru
	Joseph M. Wunderle	USA
Student Travel Awards Committee	Francisco J. Vilella (President)	Puerto Rico
	Bette Loiselle	USA
	Patricia Escalante	Mexico
	Carlos Daniel Cadena	Colombia
	Marcos Raposo	Brazil
	Pedro Scherer Neto	Brazil
Student Presentation Awards Committee	Juan Ignacio Areta (President)	Argentina
	Alexandre Aleixo	Brazil
	Daniel Ardía	USA
	Elisa Bonaccorso	Ecuador
	Gustavo Cabanne	Argentina
	Tomás Carlo	USA
	Santiago Claramunt	Uruguay
	Irma Franke	Peru
	Harold Greeney	USA
	Sebastián Herzog	Germany
	Jordan Karubian	USA
	Steve Latta	USA
	Cristina Miyaki	Brazil
	Luciano Naka	Argentina
	Camila Ribas	Brazil
	Gary Stiles	Colombia
	Tom White	Puerto Rico
	Bruce Young	USA

be as successful as in previous congresses, registration fees for students were set at an especially low rate. In addition, organizers offered

free registration to all volunteers from Cusco and other regions of Peru, as well as to the park guards from the National Park Service.

THE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS COMMITTEE

A total of \$10,580 was available for student travel awards thanks to \$5,000 from the Frank M. Chapman Memorial Fund of the American Museum of Natural History and \$5,000 from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and \$580 from the Neotropical Ornithological Society. Francisco Vilella served as President of the Student Travel Awards Committee assisted by B. Loiselle (USA), P. Escalante (Mexico), D. Cadena (Colombia), M. Raposo and P. Scher-

er (Brazil) (Table 1). Student applications for travel awards were evaluated on the basis of several criteria using a point system which included the following factors: a) presentation in symposium, oral contribution or poster, b) student (undergraduate, graduate student, post-doctoral), membership in the NOS, and most importantly, on the quality of their science evident in their abstract. The committee also tried to include a broad geographic representation among the applicants. However, these criteria did not supersede the point score and, more importantly, scientific quality. The

Table 2. Student awardees for best posters and oral contributions given at the IX NOC, Cusco, Peru.

POSTERS			
Rank	Main Author	Country	Study Title
1	María E. Fanjul	Argentina	Uso de hábitat y técnicas de forrajeo de especies líderes de bandadas mixtas en las Yungas de Argentina
2	Carolina Miño	Brazil	DNA-based genetic mating system of four co-distributed colonially breeding waterbirds
3	Lincoln Carneiro	Brazil	Molecular phylogenetics and chronology of the genus (<i>Hyllopezus</i> (<i>Grallariidae</i>))
4	Angela Parody	Ecuador	Filogeografía y límites de especies en el Pitajo Coronado (<i>Ochthoeca frontalis</i>)
5	Cynthia Ursino	Argentina	Brood parasitism disproportionately increases nest provisioning and helper recruitment in a cooperatively breeding bird
ORAL PRESENTATIONS			
1	Jenny Muñoz	Colombia	Forrajeo en aves asociadas a bandadas mixtas en sistemas agroforestales en los Andes: costos y beneficios
2	María A. Echeverry-Galvis	USA	La muda en el ciclo de vida de aves Neotropicales
3	Hernán Vázquez-Miranda	USA	Especiación del género <i>Campylorhynchus</i> y el uso de múltiples loci, múltiples individuos y métodos de árboles de especies
4	Luíz Mestre	Brazil	Wildfires and amazonian birds: A broad-scale and long-term study on the effects of fire on Amazonian bird communities and populations
5	Laís Araujo Coelho	Brazil	Bird dynamics and composition under different fire regimes in an Amazonian savanna

student travel awards committee received 117 applications, and provided 550 (\$) each for 19 students, based on the merit of their applications. In total, the NOS provided \$10,450 and spent \$130 on wire transfer fees. The student awardees were from Colombia (9), USA (2), Argentina (2), Bolivia (1), Brazil (1), Costa Rica (1), Mexico (1), Perú (1), and Venezuela (1) (Table 2).

THE CONGRESS VENUE

The Cusco Convention Center (CCC), administered by the Municipal Government of Cusco, was a magnificent venue for the event, given its central location in the city and its modern facilities (lecture halls, meeting rooms, and exhibitor/vendor space). Audio-visual equipment was rented from the venue.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND FOOD

A wide range of prices for lodging and restaurants was available to the budgets of all participants. Some hotels provided special discounts to Congress participants and INKATERRA's La Casona, Hotel El Libertador, Costa del Sol Picoaga and José Antonio also offered free rooms to plenary speakers.

PARTICIPATION

The IX NOC was a great success in terms of the depth and breadth of formal and informal scientific exchanges pertaining to ornithology in the Neotropics. At the same time, the high and unexpected number of attendants (the meeting was planned for 400 people) registered in close proximity to the event posed logistic challenges to meet all of the participants' needs. Over 800 registered participants attended the congress, nearly 40% of which were students (Fig. 1). Attendance by registered students from the host country was also high in comparison with previous NOCs (En-

kerlin and Vuilleumier 2000, Vuilleumier and Espinosa 2004, Bosque and Escalante 2008) (Fig. 1). In addition to numerous Peruvian participants, large delegations came from Brazil, USA, Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico (Table 3). The large number of participants was not directly related to the number of countries represented, in fact, it was lower than in previous meetings (Fig. 2). Less geographic representation may be due to the absence of individuals from overseas due to lack of funding, increased price in airfares; recent attendance to other ornithological meetings (e.g., the International Ornithological Congress in the neighbor country of Brazil); or the time of the year (i.e., close to the end of academic semesters).

PRINTED MATERIAL

The IXth NOC logo, visual materials, and web page for the congress were designed by staff from Gaete Corporation. The meetings program and the CD containing abstracts for all oral and poster contributions accepted by the scientific committee were formatted by A. Moore and D. Olachea. The programs CD with a foreword by Adrian Forsyth, President and Co-founder of the Amazon Conservation Association (ACA) was funded by ACA thanks to the leadership of Daniel Huamán, Director of ACA's Wayquechas Field Station. Other printing jobs such as bags for participants, banners, posters, t-shirts for volunteers, and pens were totally or partly funded by INKATERRA, Prom Peru, ACA, MINAG, and California University Press.

MEDIA COVERAGE

The events at the IX NOC received coverage from the local and national media. Congress organizers were interviewed by local and national broadcasters from radio and TV and local and national newspapers published articles about congress activities.

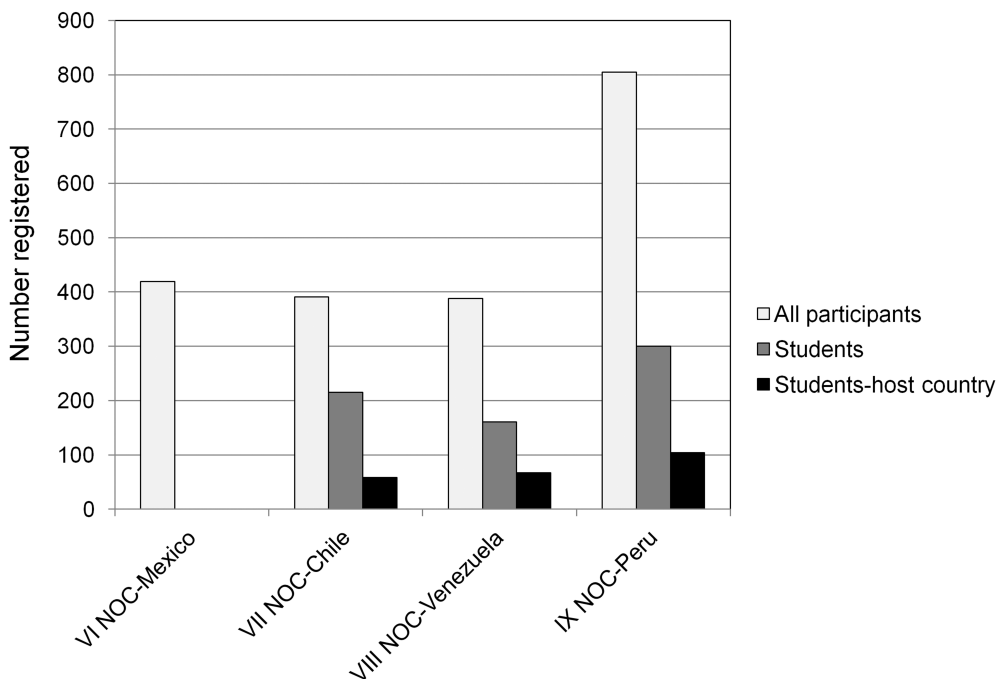


Figure 1.- Participation in Neotropical Ornithological Congresses since 2000 (Enkerlin and Vuilleumier 2000, Vuilleumier and Espinosa 2004, Bosque and Escalante 2008, this meeting).

OPENING CEREMONY

The conference opened with a mixer at the Qorikancha Temple (or Santo Domingo Convent) attended by nearly 600 people. The president (J. Wunderle, NOS) and the General Secretary (G. Servat) of the IX NOC welcomed participants in their opening remarks and introduced authorities from the institutions sponsoring the event: the UNOP, City Hall of Cusco, the National University San Antonio Abad of Cusco (UNSAAC), and the National Service for the Protection of Natural Areas (SERNANP). An emotive homage to the memory of M. Koepcke, to whom the Congress was dedicated, in recognition of her work with Neotropical birds, was given at the ceremony by I. Franke and J. Terborgh (Servat et al. this volume). A wonderful video with photographs, provided by Julianne Koepcke

to Irma Franke for the occasion, was prepared by the volunteer efforts of Darwin Miranda, an ornithologist from Cusco, to pay tribute to the great dame of Peruvian and Neotropical ornithology. Afterwards, the cultural performance «Birds of Time» included traditional dances such as the «Huallata dance» which represents the courtship of Andean geese (*Chloephaga melanoptera*) and was performed by inhabitants of local communities nearby Cusco. In addition, performances included a payment to earth ceremony, an ancient ceremony performed by a wise man or shaman, and a video performance. The opening night was sponsored by the Dominican Order in Cusco, administrators of the Qorikancha, the Promotion and Tourism Agency from Peru (Prom Peru), and the personal contribution of M. Pyhala, former Ambassador of Finland in Venezuela and Peru and great supporter of

Table 3. Geographic distribution of contributors to the scientific program of the IXth NOC.

Country ¹	Authors
Brazil	227
Peru	104
USA	90
Colombia	84
Argentina	76
Mexico	62
Venezuela	39
Chile	32
Bolivia	20
Ecuador	15
Canada	10
Costa Rica	10
United Kingdom	10
Panama	6
Uruguay	4
Australia	3
Paraguay	2
Puerto Rico	2
Czech Republic	2
Philippines	1
Spain	1
Finland	1
France	1
Honduras	1
Switzerland	1
Germany	1
Total: 26	805

¹As provided in registration forms.

birding activities.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Bird Fair. - From November 9-14, several exhibitors displayed their products or advertised

the availability of their activities at stands or tables installed in the central patio at the CCC. Among the exhibitors/vendors were: ECOTONE-GOC, ILISKO MEISSNER (nets and field equipment for ornithologists), Naturalist Artists (exhibit and sale of art works), Pluspetrol-Peru S.A./ORDEBRECHT-Biodiversity Monitoring Program at Camisea, CORBIDI, Cooper Ornithological Society (Ornithological Society from North America), Organización de Gestión de Destino (Swiss Ecotourism Agency, Cusco), Uculmano Ecolodge (Ecotourism Agency from Pasco), Manu Expeditions (Ecotourism Agency), and Prom Peru. Funds obtained from renting tables and stands were used to finance Congress activities and subsidize student registration fees. Conference sponsors were given complimentary exhibit stands or tables.

Art Exhibition. - The inauguration of the exhibition of ornithological art: "Birds of the Neotropics" in the magnificent Qoricancha included artists such as Frederick Pallinger and Renata Cunha (Brasil), Juan Pablo Vergara (Colombia), Adrián Tejedor (Cuba), Juan Manuel Carrión, Eduardo Jaime (Ecuador), Arturo de Miguel (Spain), Robin Shiele (Guatemala), Luis Aguirre, Marco Carpio, Oswaldo Merchor, Tono Venegas, Juan Pablo Zapata, and Fernando Zavalaga (Peru). The exhibit was organized by Oscar Vilca, naturalist artist from Peru in coordination with F. Riva and hosted by the Dominican order of Santo Domingo (Qoricancha) and the Cultural Association Charlie Quispe.

Photography Contest and Exhibition. - The photo contest coordinated by F. Riva was a success with 95 participants from 13 countries. The contest's jury was composed of recognized photographers including: Walter Wust, Andre Baertschi, and Michael Tweddle. Prizes included birding tours provided by Manu Expeditions, Rainforest Expeditions, and Ulcumano Ecolodge, and books donated by W. Wust, CORBIDI, Conservation International and Pro Naturaleza.

Silent Auction. - A silent auction on behalf of the Museum of Natural History of

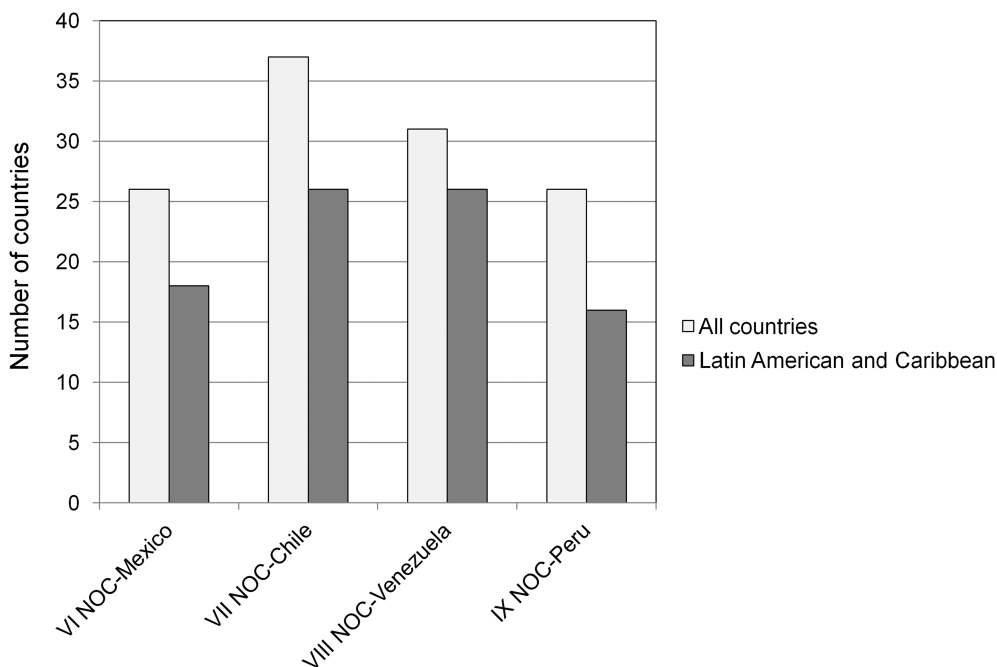


Figure 2.- Countries represented in Neotropical Ornithological Congresses since 2000 (Enkerlin and Vuilleumier 2000, Vuilleumier and Espinosa 2004, Bosque and Escalante 2008, and this meeting).

San Antonio Abad National University in Cusco, MHNC, co-organizer of the IX NOC, was held from 12:00 – 5:00 PM on November 14, in a stand at the main patio, provided by the Congress organizers. Six beautiful limited edition bird plates (five ~ 27.0 x 20.0 cm, and one poster-size copy in limited edition), generously donated by J. O'Neill (and hand-carried to Peru by T. Valqui) were on display for auction. The auction, lead by representatives of the MHNC, had the support of volunteers who supervised the exhibition. The proceeds collected from the silent auction, about \$300, were received by the MHNC Administrator Rocio Orellana to support ornithological activities.

Excursions. - Birding walks were organized in the early mornings during the entire Congress week in areas close to Cusco city. On Saturday, November 12, 2012, full-day excursions organized by Manu Expeditions allowed

many participants to visit Abra Malaga and Machupicchu. Several birding groups visited other places on their own or took tours with several different tour operators.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

The Co-chairs and members of the Scientific Program Committee (Table 1) were responsible for reviewing and editing 858 abstracts from 805 participants representing 26 different countries (Table 2). The program included 5 plenary conferences, 20 symposia, 300 oral presentations, 378 posters, 6 round tables and 2 workshops. The scientific sessions were scheduled for five days with an interim break on November 12 for field trips. Plenary lectures were presented by invited speakers in the main lecture hall: Rob T. Brumfield (Louisiana State University, USA), Jon Fjeldså (University

of Copenhagen, Denmark), Thomas Martin (University of Montana, USA), C. J. Ralph (USDA Forest Service, USA), and Robert E. Ricklefs (University of Missouri-St. Louis, USA). Each day started at 9:00 AM with a plenary conference after which five concurrent sessions including various symposia were held in adjacent rooms. After lunch, symposia and workshops continue until the late afternoon.

The poster contributions were a very significant part of the overall scientific program; the activity was partially funded by FONDECYT (Fondo Nacional de Desarrollo Científico, Tecnológico y de Innovación Tecnológica de Perú). Given the number of participants, posters were presented in three evening sessions organized thematically (~ 125 posters/night). Poster presenters were asked to be available to discuss their research during the assigned time period their posters were displayed.

A number of meetings of different societies and entities were held throughout the week in rooms reserved at CCC or other locations provided by SERNANP in Cusco.

STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARDS

A committee composed of 17 renowned Neotropical ornithologists (Table 1), chaired by Dr. Juan Ignacio Areta, had the task of evaluating all student oral and poster presentations based on a pre-established set of criteria. The committee, composed of members representing a wide range of geographic origins, ages, and ornithological interests, helped insure impartial evaluations of the presentations. Three different judges independently evaluated each of the student oral presentations and posters and their scores were averaged to obtain a final score for each student, from which the five highest-ranking students in the oral presentations and five in the poster presentations received awards. There was intense competition for the awards given that there were over 300 student presentations at the congress. The

authors or senior authors (many presentations were multi-authored) (Table 2) were presented with a pair of binoculars, donated by Optics for the Tropics, and books at the closing ceremony on November 14, 2011.

We thank all the colleagues who agreed to serve on this committee; they not only attended their assigned student presentations, but provided evaluations and spent many hours in the difficult task of selecting a few of the very best student presentations from a large number of high quality student presentations.

As in previous occasions, the Executive Board of the NOS agreed to publish a special volume of *Ornitología Neotropical* with the Proceedings of the Congress, edited by Jack Eitniear. These proceedings summarize the presentations made at the NOCs, which are therefore available for consultation and study in the future. Such proceedings also serve as historical documents that vividly illustrate the history and development of ornithological science in the Neotropics.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE NOS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The new executive board of the NOS for 2011-2015 includes the President, Jorge Pérez-Emán; President-elect, Juan Ignacio Areta; Secretary, Jennifer Cahill; and Treasurer, Daniel Lebbin. André Weller was re-elected as Editor-in-Chief of *Ornitología Neotropical*. Members of the Board of Directors who were elected or re-elected include Ursula Valdez, Pedro Scherer Neto, Cristián Estades and Daniel Cadena. These newly elected members joined Eduardo E. Iñigo-Eliás and Marcos Raposo, already on the NOS board.

CLOSING CEREMONY

At the closing ceremony, held in the main lecture hall at CCC, J. Wunderle (President IX NOC) recognized and acknowledged the

contributions from local authorities and committees and announced the new members of the Executive Board for NOS; G. Servat (Secretary) and F. Angulo (VIII UNOP President) then closed the ceremony acknowledging sponsors, donors, volunteers, and other contributors to the event. F. Riva presented awards to the winners of the photo contest, and the ceremony was closed with the evening's highlight, which included I. Areta's announcement of the winners of the student presentation awards. A closing dinner at Club Cusco with musical entertainment from the UNSAAC Ballet was an optional activity that sold out with ~ 80 participants.

VENUE OF XTH NOC IN 2015

The venue of the Xth NOC in 2015 will be in Manaus, Brazil where the Congress will be jointly hosted by the Brazilian Ornithological Society and the Neotropical Ornithological Society.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Organizations that provided financial or in-kind support for the IXth NOC were: Frank M. Chapman Memorial Fund of the American Museum of Natural History, Optics for the Tropics, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, CONCYTEC (Fondacyt), Universidad Nacional de San Antonio Abad del Cusco, Natural History Museum of San Antonio Abad National University of Cusco, Municipalidad del Cusco, CORBIDI, SERNANP, MINAG, Dirección General Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre del Ministerio de Agricultura del Perú (DGFSS-MINAG), Prom Peru, Hotel Libertador, Manu Expeditions, Convento de Santo Domingo – Qorikancha, Rainforest Expeditions, APTAE, Inca Rail, Ulcumano Lodge, Lindley Corporation, and Bioweb. Thanks

to M. Pyhala, J. P. O'Neill, Luis Flores García (Major of Cusco), Daniel Flores (Manager of CCC), Olintho Aguilar (Director MHNC), Rocio Orellana (MHNC Administrator), Rosa Pacheco (Decano Facultad de Ciencias Biológicas, UNSAAC), Fray Luis Enrique (Qorikancha), Daniel Huamán (ACA), J. Koecklin (INKATERRA), Barry Walker (Manu Expeditions), Rosa Vento (DGFSS-MINAG).

In addition to all the organizations and individuals mentioned above, to whom we express once again thanks on behalf of the organizers of the IX NOC for their assistance, we want to recognize the labor of the body of volunteers from the MHNC who assisted us long before the event started and were present during the entire event. We also want to acknowledge T. L. Erwin, J. Ochoa, J. Pérez-Emán, for reviewing early drafts of the manuscript. Last but not least, thanks to C. Arana, J. Balderrama, J. Barrio, A. Begazo, J. C. Chaparro, V. Gamarra, C. Guillén, S. Iglesias, F. Llacta, W. Mendoza, O. Mujica, J. A. Ochoa, M. Olarte, R. Piana, L. M. Renjifo, D. Reategui, M. Sifuentes, T. Ordóñez, L. Salinas, S. Sevillano, W. Tori, J. L. Venero, J. Vitorino, and O. Vilca, for your time, effort and/or in kind contributions when it was most needed.

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