



**NATIONAL AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO  
FACULTY OF HIGHER STUDIES CUAUTITLAN**

June 15, 2024

**Nomination of Dr. Bruce Lascelles for  
President of the International Union Soil Science (IUSS)**

Distinguished Chair of the IUSS Presidential Election Committee, Prof. Dr. Rainer Horn,

I herewith nominate Dr. Bruce Lascelles for President of IUSS.

Over the last decades since I was General Secretary of the Latin American Society, when the British Society of Soil Science sought to bring the WCSS-2022 to Glasgow, but especially during my time as IUSS President (including as President Elect and Past President) I met him repeatedly and was always impressed by the scientific effectivity, creativity, and engagement of Dr. Bruce Lascelles in the various positions he holds and his ability to genuinely include all soil science national societies in the last IUSS World Congress on Soil Sciences. He voluntarily led for more than 10 years the bid and preparation of the WCSS-2022 and during that time was also President of the British Society of Soil Science and a member of the Executive Committee of the IUSS as their Vice President (Congress).

What I learned of him and what convinced me completely of his personality was his overwhelming and continuous support to the IUSS during the Executive Committee meetings, during the preparation of the IUSS Strategic Plan-2021-2030 (of which he is co-author), as well as his commitment to equality, diversity, inclusion and sustainability that led him to innovate and achieve for the first time in the WCSS-2022:

- Delivery of a hybrid event, allowing those unable to afford to attend in person an opportunity to access the scientific content
- 'Blind review' abstract submissions, which led to more diverse oral presenters than in previous congresses
- Commission the first ever environmental impact assessment of the congress, or any other international congress, to ensure that clear recommendations are presented to those hosting future events on behalf of IUSS.

He has set out his scientific and extension approaches with outstanding documents that demonstrate his selfless dedication to raising awareness of soils importance, and the personal time and effort he is willing to give to his voluntary work in the best interests of IUSS, the BSSS and soils at large.

Finally, I also want to highlight the ability Dr. Bruce Lascelles has to establish relationships with high-level decision-makers, as was the case in getting His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester to attend the Glasgow World Congress in person, opening the event as a Patron of the BSSS, and that His Majesty the King Charles III, in his former role as Prince of Wales, has also supported the IUSS World Congress via a 10-minute pre-recorded address. However, no less important was his ability to obtain funding and achieve a scientifically and economically successful WCSS-2022 despite all the inconveniences experienced due to the COVID pandemic.

I believe all of this makes Dr. Bruce Lascelles a truly outstanding candidate for the position of next president of the International Union of Soil Sciences and are the reasons why I strongly support his nomination.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr. Laura Bertha Reyes-Sánchez  
Past President of the International Union of Soil Sciences**