

## **Information Only**

### **Report of the AIS Scientific Committee (January, 2020)**

The Scientific Committee received preliminary reports on the Mongolian expedition to the Russian Far East this summer that was funded by the AIS Foundation. It appears to have been successful in locating most of the 10 iris species native to the region and making extensive new collections. A full report for publication is in preparation by AIS. I would be happy to share the preliminary reports with anyone interested.

The committee was also asked for input on a request by Dr. Yuval Sapir (Tel Aviv University) for permission to conduct a survey on irises with selected AIS members as a guide to such questions as the ability for self-fertilization and production of nectar. This was considered to be a valid and potentially useful exercise since Dr. Sapir is a widely respected researcher in iris systematics with a special focus on the *Oncocyclus* group.

The composition of the Committee is unchanged: Kevin Vaughn, Carol Wilson, Jim Waddick, Bob Pries, Janis Shackelford and Gary White continue as members. The Committee continues to operate effectively.

Respectfully submitted: Bob Hollingworth, chair