

Reference for Silke Häbold – General Vice President, IODA

It is a privilege to support Silke Häbold's nomination for the position of General Vice President of IODA.

Silke is well known to us all and has a long and exceptional history of service to IODA. She served as IODA's Operations Manager from 2006 to 2021, working with a succession of Presidents and Executive Committees and contributing greatly to the effective running of the Association over those years.

I had the opportunity to work closely with Silke during the six years that I served as Vice President, the role for which she has now been nominated. I valued her reliability, thoroughness, commitment and knowledge of IODA. She combined these qualities with warmth and a good sense of humour – attributes that matter considerably in an international, largely volunteer organisation.

From my own experience of working alongside Silke, I believe she has the commitment, organisational capability and collaborative attitude to add another valuable contribution in this role.

Few candidates could bring to the General VP role Silke's depth of familiarity with IODA. She has attended more than 12 IODA annual conferences and three OD World Summits. This long involvement is clearly personally important to her. Silke describes IODA as both a source of professional inspiration and her "international family". She values the opportunity it provides for people from many countries and cultures to meet as equals, challenge one another's thinking, share ideas and develop lasting relationships.

I believe this combination of organisational knowledge and genuine commitment to the IODA community makes Silke particularly well suited to the position.

The role requires someone who can work closely with the President and other members of the Executive Committee, contribute to strategy, strengthen IODA as an organisation and help translate intentions into effective action. She has already demonstrated these attributes through many years of service to IODA.

Silke's extensive experience in operations and project management, together with roles in finance, coaching and leadership development, provides a sound practical base for this work.

IODA members, mission, and its sustainability, will all benefit from continuing to build effective systems of service and governance. Silke understands from experience what it takes to make an international volunteer association work. She knows that good ideas need to be supported by sound organisation, follow-through, communication, and attention to detail. Just as importantly, she understands that this needs to be done in ways that maintain relationships and encourage the voluntary contribution of others.

Silke's candidacy represents a continuation of a long record of service to IODA, and she has my support for this new phase of service to IODA.

Roderick Barnett

To the IODA Election Committee

I am delighted to endorse Silke's nomination for the General Vice President position.

There are few people in our IODA community who understand more than Silke about what it takes to keep IODA running smoothly. I was fortunate to work with Silke for many years during my time on the EC, in particular during my term as General Vice President and part of my term as President. Her steadying hand, meticulous approach and commitment were vital to all the quiet processes behind the scenes being done in a way that created a professionally-run organisation and offered a caring experience for office bearers and members alike.

I'm excited that Silke is ready to bloom into a different type of role in the organisation. I think her deep knowledge and institutional memory of IODA, commitment to IODA and shared values with the organisation, strong organisational skills and relationships with members, as well as her ability to work well in a team, would all serve us well in the GVP role as we move into a new chapter for IODA.

I therefore heartily support Silke's nomination.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M de Bruyn', with a stylized, flowing script.

Michelle de Bruyn