

IGU E-Newsletter Quarterly

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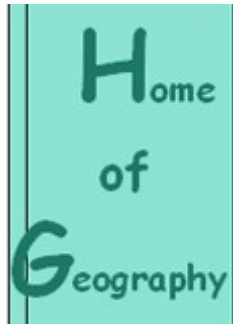
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#2 October 2005

**UGI
Union
Géographiqu
e
Internationale**



Ronald F. Abler - Associate Editor: *Markku Löytönen* - Editors: *Giuliano Bellezza*
Managing Editors: *Laura Ayo*, *Dawn Bissell* - Publisher: Home of Geography

gements, information, calls for participation in scientific events, programmes and projects
welcome. Please convey them to l.ayo@homeofgeography.org or
d.bissell@homeofgeography.org

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1) *Making the Point*

Arto Vallega, President, International Geographical Union

er sisters Unions participating in the expanding system of the International Council for
e IGU is undergoing unprecedented changes. First, changes are concerned with the
on: the membership has been widened with the establishment of new categories
ding members, communication and networking with National Committees, Commissions
es, the steering committees of research and educational projects has strengthened.
are concerned with the external relationships: the collaborations with ICSU part of the
al Social Science Council (ISSC) and the UN organisations such as UNESCO and
and become increasingly articulated; the need to react with media and public has emerged
deal with this double changing framework, The Executive Committee has restructured
on of the Union, focusing on the Secretariat services and on Communication tools. It
has restructured the organisation of the Union, focusing on the Secretariat services
ation tools. One major change is the enhanced role for the Home of Geography, with
om Italian organisations, as the Municipality of Rome and the Fondazione della
di Roma (Foundation of the Savings Bank in Rome). These changes are presented
is issue (see Focus on: Home of Geography).

has established and strengthened linkages with other organizations by adopting a Policy of Understanding with them, as in the case of the agreement with the Festival International de Géographie (see *Co-operation with the Festival International de Géographie* and

organisational changes will be of limited value, if they were the results of top-down decisions solely from decisions by the IGU Executive Committee and occasional discussions with the General Assembly. A sustained bottom-up mechanism is also needed: the better it functions, the more effective the IGU evolution will be. To help meet this need, I circulated the working paper *Theses on IGU Strategy and Actions/ Dix thèses sur la stratégie et l'action de l'UGI* on the IGU (www.igu-net.org) and Home of Geography (www.homeofgeography.org). Members are cordially invited to respond to the working paper. You may also assist in the dissemination by e-mailing and returning to the Home of Geography (d.bissell@homeofgeography.org) the questionnaire you will find in Appendix 1 of the working paper. It comes from the IGU Executive Committee and from me personally to all colleagues and friends. Please do respond to this call for collaboration.

For the future of IGU and for the progress of Geography!

Vallega

Conditions of the IGU E-Newsletter

As has been seen, the IGU E-Newsletter has been circulated in English only. The promotion of the IGU in the world would be greatly enhanced if editions of this publication could be disseminated in other languages. The IGU Executive Committee strongly urges National Committees, as well as geographical bodies co-operating with IGU, to prepare and distribute local editions in their own languages. In principle, such local editions could be managed by a local editor and may include translations of the whole or of part(s), of the text included in the “main”, English edition; and original texts, concerned with local issues, prospects and initiatives.

Members interested in providing such collaboration are cordially invited to contact Ronald Abler, Chief of IGU publications (rabler@aaag.org) or Markku Loytonen, President of the Home of Geography (markku.loytonen@helsinki.fi) or Giuliano Bellezza, Director of the Home of Geography (giuliano.bellezza@homeofgeography.org)

Executive Committee meetings

2005 meeting of the IGU Executive Committee will be held in Shanghai, PRC, from 15-19 July 2005. Major topics for discussion are: i) the role of Home of Geography, with a view to maintaining and expanding the Secretariat services of the Union there; ii) the implementation of the initiative addressed to corresponding membership; iii) collaboration with the annual Festival International de Géographie (Saint-Dié-des-Vosges); iv) the encouragement of other festivals of geographical culture; v) the development of the IGU's Cultures and Civilisation initiative; vi) the establishment of an international geographical journal; vii) the institution of Merit Awards for organizations and individuals who cooperate with the IGU; viii) co-operation with scientific non-governmental organizations and institutions, in particular reference to the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the International Society for Cultural Geography (ISSC); ix) collaboration with the International Year of Planet Earth initiative. The decisions, together with their operational implications, will be circulated in the Issue # 1 of the IGU E-Newsletter.

Cultures and Civilisations

Initiative - As was mentioned in Issue # 1 of the Newsletter, the IGU Executive Committee has approved the Cultures and Civilisations (C&C) initiative. The initiative is based on a document prepared by Jean-Robert Pitte, President of Sorbonne, and Adalberto Vallega, President of IGU, and is supported by the Fondazione della Cassa di Risparmio di Roma (Foundation of the Home of Geography). The object of the C&C initiative consists of: i) triggering discussions on how geographical culture may be protected jointly with the implementation of dialogue among civilisations; ii) producing materials for education and the public; iii) co-operating with media in the field, and iv) promoting the declaration of an International Year by the United Nations.

Steering Committee - A Steering Committee was established. At the present time it includes: Adalberto Vallega, Italy, co-ordinator, (a.vallega@iol.it)
Robert F. Abler, USA, (rabler@aaag.org)
Antoine Bailly, Switzerland, (antoine.bailly@geo.unige.ch)
Giovanni Bellezza, Italy, Director of the Home of Geography, (g.bellezza@homeofgeography.it)
Anne Buttimer, Ireland, (anne.buttimer@ucd.ie)
Philippe Claval, France, (p.claval@wanadoo.fr)
Maria Cossiga, Italy, (am.cossiga@gmail.com)
Akella Kellerman, Israel, (akeller@univ.haifa.ac.il)
Jean-Robert Pitte, France, (jean-robert.pitte@wanadoo.fr)
Louis Sanguin, France, (alsanguin@wanadoo.fr)

Tanabe, Japan, (XLH02561@nifty.ne.jp or XLH02561@nifty.com)
Werlen, Germany, (benno.werlen@uni-jena.de)

er from Tunisia is expected to be designated by the Organizing Committee of
nal Geographical Congress.

f Home of Geography

e of Geography (HG) will serve as the Secretariat for the C&C initiative. In this regard
the Director of the Home of Geography, has assumed the role of local convenor
2005 meeting of the C&C Steering Committee, and for the 2005 December Worksh

ber Meeting - On October 5-7, 2005, the C&C Steering Committee met in Villa Ce

ing the conceptual and operational aspects of the C&C initiative

A Comprehensive Approach, meant as a basic document that will be submit
ber workshop for discussions, revision and adoption

ng the main lines of a C&C Action Plan, which will be discussed, refined and adop
ber workshop and, in this framework, to identify possible operational responsibilit
members of the Steering Committee

g the December workshop programme

the criteria to be used in the call for participation in the December workshop

a tentative list of "guest invitees" to the December workshop

ing a tentative list of persons to be invited to collaborate with the C&C initia
in the December workshop, b) advisors, and c) testim
me of these wide discussions was the adoption of *A Comprehensive Approach*
s in the framework of the December 12-14, 2005 workshop on *Cultures and Civilisa*

December Workshop

Members from all over the world are invited to participate in the December C&C workshop to discuss the goals and operational areas of the C&C initiative. The programme may be found in *Appendix 2*. Geographers, as well as persons from other disciplines interested in this event are invited to fill in the participation form (*Appendix 3*). For further contact contact Giuliano Bellezza (g.bellezza@homeofgeography.org), the local Workshop Organizing Committee. National Committees, Commissions and Task Forces are warmly invited to circulate this information and call for participation in their Newsletters and on their websites.

Preparatory Papers

The December workshop will be based on a wide number of working, preparatory papers.

Robert Pitte, Adalberto Vallega, *Cultures and Civilizations* - Presents the proposal adopted by the Executive Committee (EC);

Adalberto Vallega, *Cultures and Civilizations: A Tentative Approach* - This working paper provides background elements for designing the C&C initiative;

Adalberto Vallega, *Cultures and Civilizations: A Tentative Discourse* - This working paper discusses how cultures could be thought of in order to meet the C&C strategy.

Adalberto Vallega, *Cultures and Civilizations: Terms and Meanings* - This paper provides a view of etymology attributed to, culture and civilization.

Adalberto Vallega, *A Comprehensive Approach* - Presents a view of what issues and prospects should be discussed at the December workshop; we still can't tell what kind of document will arise from this work. This paper is regarded as having a cardinal relevance to the Workshop development. The materials may be downloaded from, the Home of Geography (www.homeofgeography.org) or www.igu-net.org websites. If downloading would be difficult, please contact by e-mail g.bellezza@homeofgeography.org. He will be pleased to send the needed documents to e-mail.

Cooperation with the Festival International de Géographie

In 2005 Festival International de Géographie (FIG), held in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges from 2-3 October, a *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* was signed by Mister Christian

and President of FIG, and Adalberto Vallega, President of the IGU. As can be seen to this Issue, the FIG-IGU MOU anticipates a wide spectrum of joint initiatives dealing with: i) geographical communication to public, ii) geographical communication to public, iii) collaboration with media, iv) the promotion of geographical festivals around the world, and v) an extended co-operation with the

Working Group was established, co-chaired by the Presidents of FIG and IGU. The Working Group includes: Ronald F. Abler, Secretary General, and Vice President Hiroshi Tanabuchi. The Working Group's operations approach will be circulated in the Issue # 3, January 2006, of the IGU E-Newsletter.

Geographical Festivals

At the IGU Executive Committee meeting, 23-27 September 2005, the IGU Executive Committee will discuss in depth how geographical festivals might be promoted at the local scale with collaboration of the Festival International de Géographie (FIG), a permanent body established in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges. In this respect, the "Geographical Festival Promotion" (GFP) initiative was adopted. It should aim at: i) circulating information on individual Geographical Festivals; ii) heightening their international visibility; iii) widening the scope of geographical communication; and iv) catalysing the attention from media on these phenomena. The IGU Executive Committee has invited local geographical bodies which are interested in collaborating with this initiative to contact the President of IGU (a.vallega@iol.it). Further details will be circulated in the Issue # 3, January 2006, of the IGU E-Newsletter.

International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE)

The organization of the IYPE, in which the IGU has played the role of founder partner, has been approved by the IGU Executive Committee. The UNESCO and the UN General Assembly were invited to proclaim this year as the International Year of Planet Earth. In the following, the set of initiatives focusing on the relevant subjects areas will be convened in the IGU E-Newsletter.

The IGU Executive Committee has not only participated in the IYPE by contributing to its relevant budget, but also by promoting the IYPE in the following scientific collaboration:

This subject will be addressed as part of the events to be included as part of the IYPE. Frauke Kraas, Germany, is the leader of the project (f.kraas@uni-koeln.de). The components of the outreach programme may include: cooperation for

affiliation with the Year; recycling educational materials; supporting scientists from
economies; citizen science; involving the public in research; competitions; story
programme development; and art commissioning. The Outreach Programme Com
a website (www.yearofplanetearth.org), produced flyers, and released 10,000
brochures and leaflets. As with the science programme, the outreach progra
operate in a 'bottom-up' mode. Individuals and organisations will be invited
for realization through the Year. Vice-president Hiroshi Tanabe is a member
to implement this programme. The key goal is to establish constructive linkages be
Outreach Programme and IGU initiatives in the educational
cultural values of nature In its April 2005 meeting, the IGU Executive Committee
collaboration with IYPE by carrying out a project on *The Cultural Values of Na*
will be further developed by the executive committee during its October 2005

International Geographical Congress A special session on the IYPE will be convened
International Geographical Congress.

of the Home of Geography The Home of Geography will host meetings and oth
by the IYPE. Last September this kind of collaboration had its debut with the partic
of Earth Sciences, under the direction of Edward Derbyshire and Ed de Mulder. Th
days workshop, and are writing a *Celimontana Resolution* espousing their strong in
their reserches in cooperation.

SCOPE Programme and Projects

the decisions taken by the General Assembly, the in New Delhi, India, 11 February
Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) adopted a research program
Appendix 4.

Communities Conference 2005

nto and Naples, from June 5-10 2005, the Digital Communities Conference 2005 w
t initiative of the IGU Commission Geography on Information Society and the Michi
E*Space Project. Digital Communities is an international network of scholars, polic
n analysts who share an interest in the relationship between information technol

The Digital Communities conference in 2005 took place in Benevento and Naples, conference explored a wide range of themes associated with information technology, the economy, technology policy, and the significance of place in cyberspace. Special attention was given to the experience of locations within the Mediterranean region, although papers on other regions were received and discussed. A special session was devoted to Mediterranean issues, and a workshop, including both scientists and policy makers, was held on 'Policies for ICT and knowledge economy in the Mediterranean'. An explicit Mediterranean theme also linked to a descriptive project, can be found on the conference website: www.ssc.msu.edu/~espace/DC2005.html. It includes a special collection of papers presented by MARS-Mediterranean Agency Remote Sensing (University of Sannio-Principato Cilento), which was one of the conference sponsors. These could serve as a good resource for research use, as well as being of general interest and an example of MARS support for the development of the major achievements of the conference was the emergence of awareness among participants of a Mediterranean knowledge system, which could serve as a set of good locations for research.

Conference Steering Committee included: Mark Wilson and Kenneth E. Corey (Michigan State University, USA, Founders of E*Space); Maria Paradiso (Università degli Studi del Sannio, Italy, Secretary, IGU Commission on the Geography of Information Society); Aharon Keller (University of Haifa, Israel, Chair, IGU Commission on the Geography of Information Society); Richard Hanley (University of Montpellier III, France, Editor, NETCOM); Richard Hanley (NYC Technical College, USA, Editor, Journal of Urban Technology).

<i>Type and name</i>	<i>content</i>	<i>outcomes</i>	<i>time and venue</i>	<i>organizing bodies</i>	<i>convenor</i>	<i>funding</i>
Digital Communities 2005: Technology Knowledge and Place	Themes associated with information technology, knowledge economy, technology	Articles based on presentations will be published in special issues of NETCO	2005, June 5-10, Benevento/ Naples	IGU Commission on the Geography of Information Society; E*Space	Maria Paradiso and Mark Wilson (Steering committee: Aharon Keller	University of Sannio, Research Centre on Software Technologies-RCOST, MARS-Mediterranean

	<p>gy policy, significance of place in cyberspace, with special interest for locations within the Mediterranean region.</p>	<p>M, and Journal of Urban Technology</p>			<p>man; Kenneth E Corey; Henry Bakis; Richard Hanley</p>	<p>nean Agency Remote Sensing, Province of Benevento, Regional Competence Centre on ICT, SEPSA, CIRA, SanPaolo-Banco di Napoli</p>
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Conference on Urban Climate

Italy, 5-7 September 2005, the Colloque International Climat Urbain, Ville et Architecture, under the sponsorship of, and collaboration by the IGU Commission on Climatology. Discussion on physical aspects, with special reference to climate change and its implications for urban processes. Human implications for urban architectural structures were considered. Urban climate was the focal area of discussions. In his welcoming speech, the IGU President stressed the need to investigate the human and cultural implications of climate change and its outcomes of the conference discussions should be included in the Mediterranean Regional Strategy.

Workshop on Chinese geography

In connection with the meeting of the Shanghai IGU Executive Committee Meeting (Shanghai, China, 2005), an International Workshop on the Development of Geography in China was organized. The main aim of: i) catalysing scientific investigations and discussions of geographical changes and their impact on urban growth and subsequent changes in land uses; ii) strengthening the role of geography in urban planning.

local bodies within Chinese society, thereby dealing with the major issues that rapid economic growth has brought about in China; iii) assessing the accomplishments of Chinese geographers in improving methods and techniques, as well as their efforts in developing new approaches to geographical education and training; iv) providing a means for Chinese geographers to enhance their visibility and collaboration in the international community. The meeting discussions attention will focus on: i) those geographical issues, which have caused rapid changes and on which attention should be concentrated; ii) the prospect of designing a programme for China, based on the collaboration between the Chinese National Committee and other local bodies, on the one hand, and the IGU Executive Committee together with its Commissions and Task Forces, on the other.

This initiative is a part of a programme aimed at promoting joint discussions between local geographers and geographers, on the one hand, and the IGU Executive Committee, on the other, to explore whether and how cooperation may be established with reference to local issues. The first experience of this kind was a workshop held in Taiwan, in November 2004. This workshop will be the second one. IGU National Committees and local geographical societies interested in this kind of initiative are cordially invited to contact the IGU President (ia@iol.it).

2005 World Conference of Chinese Geographers

The 2005 World Conference of Chinese Geographers was held on August 16-17, 2005 in Beijing, China. A total of more than 1,000 Chinese geographical researchers and geographers from 20 countries, the United Kingdom, Austria, Canada, France, Ireland, Japan and China (including Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) attended the conference. More than 700 papers were presented and discussed during this conference with a wide range of topics spanning scientific research in geography.

The conference was co-sponsored by the Geographical Society of China (GSC), Peking University, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research (IGSNRR) under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). Professor Tao Shu, Deputy Dean of College of Environmental Science and Engineering, Peking University chaired the opening ceremony of the conference. Academician Lu Dadao, President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, gave the opening speech. Professor Lin Jianhua, Vice President of Peking University, gave the opening address. Professor Liu Jiyuan, Director General of IGSNRR, Academician Sun Jiaqi, Director of Division of Earth Sciences of CAS, Academician Chen Shupeng, Academician Shao Kou-Hsiung Teng, President of Taipei Normal College, Professor Laurence J C Ma, President of the American Geographical Society, USA, addressed the conference. Academician Liu Changming, Vice President of International Geographical Union, addressed the conference.

ical Union (IGU), extended congratulations to this conference on behalf of IGU.

One of the main themes of this conference is "Geography and Development in China". With the process of reform and the fast development of economy and society in China, geography has made great progress in recent years. It has exerted a significant effect on promoting sustainable development and building a harmonious society, so that all the Chinese geographers are focusing their attention on it. Meanwhile, it is attracting more and more Chinese geographers throughout the world to study it as well. This is one of the purposes that the Geographical Society of China held "20th Anniversary of Chinese Geographers". It will not only be a platform for the geographers to communicate their research results of geography and achievement of teaching, but also an opportunity for them to discuss the future. It will further propel the development of economy and science in China. The conference had the following characteristics: a) Most participants were scholars aged between 30 and 40, whose main idea was "on becoming better able to make independent innovations" was the main idea of the conference; b) Young and middle-aged leading scientists were invited to give reports covering results, methods and conclusions in their respective research fields so that the audiences could capture a clear picture of the latest research progress.

The conference meeting was organized based on the hotspots including: 1) The fourth wave of urbanization; 2) Agricultural land intensity change and its impact on ecological protection in China; 3) Research status and prospect of physical geography in Taiwan; 4) Research on regional natural disasters; 5) Urbanization and temporal and spatial differentiation of China's natural disasters; 6) Progress in deserts and desertification research of China; 7) Current status and prospect of geography of China; 8) Progress in deserts and desertification research of China; 9) Current status and integrated research of geography in China; 10) Polluted environment geography; 11) Progress and challenges in geo-information science of China; and 12) Spatial structure and regional development and regional planning.

The conference held 24 parallel sessions on the following topics: 1) Geographical ideas and research progress; 2) Development of the old industrial bases in Northeast China and cooperation among the countries in East Asia; 3) Physical geography, resources and environment; 4) Geomorphologic processes and human environment; 5) Climate change and risk society; 6) Water cycle and climate change; 7) New problems, new ideas, and new methods in environmental geography; 8) Biogeography and pedo-geography; 9) Environment and health risk; 10) Urbanization and sustainable development; 11) Phenomenon and mechanism of the change of urbanization; 12) Globalization and transformation of Chinese cities; 13) Geographical information science: theory, method and application; 14) Geographical view of round-the-city tour and urbanization; 15) Environmental change and human society; 16) Grid model and global change; 17) Geocryology and environment of cold regions; 18) The theories and methods of desertification; 19) Remote sensing and GIS; 20) Geographical information science; 21) Geographical information science; 22) Geographical information science; 23) Geographical information science; 24) Geographical information science.

planning and landscape design; 21) Geographical education in internet times; 22) Geographical courses and sustainable development education; 23) Theory of ecowater research method; and 24) Regional comprehensive development and internet. At the conference, laureates of The Eighth National Youth Geographical Science Award were announced, including Dr. An Chengbang, Professor Dong Zhibao, Dr. Liu Wenxin, Professor Wang Ninglian, Professor Wei Fangqiang, Professor Xiao Cunde, Professor Zhang Pingyu and Professor Zheng Jingyun. Twenty young scholars presented their excellent papers and won the Youth Paper Award of The 2005 World Conference of Geographers.

Cai Yunlong, Vice President of GSC, presided over the closing ceremony of the conference. Vice President of GSC and Dean of the School of Geography and Planning at Sun Yat-sen University made a summary speech. It was decided that the 2006 GSC Annual Meeting will be held at Lanzhou University in Lanzhou, Gansu Province, China.

and Gao Yiping (The Geographical Society of China)

Obituary for Prof. Takeuchi Keiichi

Takeuchi Keiichi nous a quittés le 25 juin 2005. Après avoir subi une opération du cœur il y a quelques années, il avait retrouvé la santé. A la fin de l'année dernière, il participait activement à la discussion de l'histoire de la pensée géographique et, comme à son habitude, il lui arrivait de discuter jusqu'à la nuit avec des jeunes géographes. La nouvelle de son décès nous a tous étonnés. Il avait eu une durée de vie plus courte que la moyenne masculine japonaise. C'est vrai

Il a porté sur un grand nombre de problèmes géographiques: les études italiennes, l'histoire de la pensée géographique, la méthodologie et l'épistémologie de la géographie. Ses recherches se sont appuyées sur l'histoire ou sur l'histoire intellectuelle. Sa démarche de recherche a été influencée d'ailleurs par son histoire des enseignements secondaire et supérieur, démocratique après la Deuxième Guerre mondiale. Depuis il n'a jamais oublié son esprit critique et a poursuivi ses études en Italie comme boursier du gouvernement italien et il y a séjourné pendant plusieurs années à partir de 1959. Il s'intéressait à la transformation des paysages et à l'inégalité régionale. Pour lui essentiel de poser ces phénomènes géographiques comme des questions régionales. Il a écrit un livre en s'appuyant sur le Mezzogiorno (" Chiiki Mondai no Keisei to Tenkai (Formation et développement de la question régionale) " 1998). Cette pensée n'était pas seulement celle de

si celle du peuple ou de la société populaire. Ce furent des préoccupations majeures de son UGI d'Histoire de la Pensée Géographique dont il fut le président de 1988. Son bilinguisme et ses remarquables capacités intellectuelles lui permirent de mener de brillantes études et d'embrasser une carrière internationale. D'une part, pour les géographes japonais, il publia des comptes-rendus sur d'innombrables ouvrages de plusieurs langues. Une centaine a été réunie en un livre qui est en lui-même une véritable histoire de la géographie japonaise ("Kakusin (Tradition et Innovation en Géographie) " 2003). Il a soulevé des problèmes des méthodes de géographie actuelle (" Toporogu (Topologue) " 1993), et il a fait de nombreux efforts pour élever le niveau scientifique de la géographie japonaise. Il a occupé le poste de président de plusieurs associations de géographes japonais. D'autre part, pour les étrangers, il a présenté l'histoire de la pensée géographique japonaise (" Modern Japanese Geographical Thought and Actual History " 2000), mais il s'est également efforcé de faire connaître les cultures japonaises dans les pays du monde. Il organisa l'exposition de photos " Le Japon dans les années 1945-50 " à la Culture du Japon à Rome dont il fut le directeur de 1988 à 1991 ("Nihonjin no Seisaku (La Vie des japonais) " 1995). A la fin de sa vie, il continua à consacrer ses recherches sur la Seconde Guerre mondiale (" Japon, un portrait, photographies 1945-50 " 2000). La géographie scientifique ne peut qu'être globale. Nous adressons nos remerciements à feu M. Keiichi qui pratiquait cette globalité et qui nous en a démontré la nécessité. Nous prions pour l'âme de son âme.

Gender and Geography meeting in Hamilton City (NZ)



Preliminary Notice

Shifting Boundaries: Gender, Bodies and Spaces

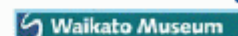
A meeting of the
IGU Commission on Gender and Geography

June 28 - 30, 2006

Immediately prior to the Brisbane IGU 2006 Regional Conference, Australia



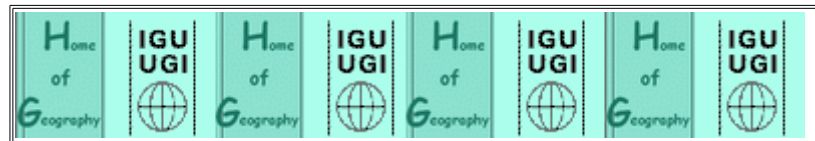
Waikato Museum of Art and History
Southend, Hamilton City, New Zealand
see www.waikatomuseum.org.nz



For expression of interest regarding participation, please contact
Robyn Longhurst, robyn1@waikato.ac.nz

A poster of the Preliminary Notice of the IGU, Gender and Geography meeting at Hamilton City, New Zealand just before the Brisbane conference. The title of the meeting is: Shifting Boundaries: Gender, Bodies and Spaces. The dates: 28-30 June, 2006

Local contact: Robin Longhurst (robyn1@waikato.ac.nz).



THE HOME OF GEOGRAPHY

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ion of the Home of Geography was originally defined as:

organising and maintaining IGU's Archives
providing space and financial support for interns;
organising scientific events and meetings and
writing and publishing a book series.

The Municipality of Rome renewed its financial sponsorship for the Home of Geography in 2005. In the same year the Fondazione della Cassa di Risparmio di Roma (Fondazione della Cassa di Risparmio di Roma) decided to support the Cultures and Civilisations initiative (see the introduction in this issue). As a result, on April 28, during a joint IGU and SGI joint meeting a Protocol of Understanding was signed which provides for expanded roles for the Home of Geography. In addition to the roles noted above, the Home of Geography will also:
prepare and circulate the IGU Electronic Newsletter
complement its role as IGU books editor
manage IGU membership services
serve as a local focus for international research and educational projects

collaborate with the Festival International of Geography
assume other tasks relevant to the IGU organization.
Individual operational areas are below concisely presented.

Organizing and maintaining the IGU Archives: The first paper materials, arrived to the Home of the IGU in Italy and UK, were ordered by Geoffrey Martin, working some months in the Home. In 2004 the files were revised by Hector Mendoza- Vargas, President of the Commission "Historical Thought", then began a work in co-operation with the Archives section of the IGC in Italia to realize an e-archive. In the second half of 2005 we received more materials and the work to classify it is only beginning. A very important part of the Archives are the interviews realized mainly by Anne Buttimer on cassette, following a program established with Thorsten Hagerstrand in the '50s. Now we are recovering the intellectual and academic careers of the most important geographers of the XX Century, donated by Anne Buttimer herself. An important portfolio that in the future will be very implemented if the Lund University will definitely agree to send us the

Agreement for the room and assistance to stagiaires: Agreement have been established by Franco Buttimer and University of Rome and by Giuliano Bellezza with the University of Viterbo to host the Archives filing. All is still at the moment, as the work for meetings, book series and publications to be nearly the maximum the actual staff of only two persons can cope with.

Organizing scientific events and meetings: The first major event hosted in 2005 has been the International Workshop on Geographical Perspectives on Sustainable Development: Networking and Partnerships with Teachers and Young Scientists. With the funds offered by the ICSU, 1000 Euro, in Villa Celimontana from 13th through 14th June. In the Report the Project Director, Robertson, wrote that the workshop established a strategy to implement the role of geographical education in secondary school education systems. The document can be seen in the Home of the IGU in the "events 2005" section.



ber 6th and 7th the Home was the seat of an important workshop of the IGY+50 Int
, organized by representatives of the International Year of Planet Earth (Planet E
Geophysical Year (eGY), the International Polar year (IPY) and the International Hel
21 scholars gathered in our premises, under the direction of Edward Derbyshire a
ne Background notes can be seen in the Home of Geography website, in the "eve



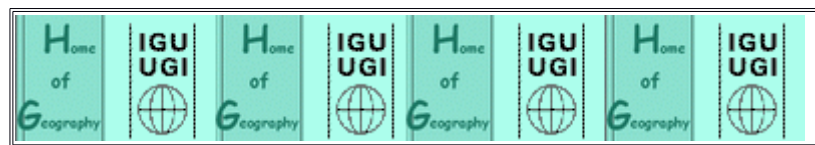
workshop of the Steering Committee of the Cultures and Civilizations initiative of the Home from 5th to 7th October. Even in this case, more details can be seen in the Home website, in the "events 2005" section.

On these occasions, the Home, in accordance with the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, provides visas for all the participants to the meetings and for other visiting scholars wanting to attend, and, when requested by participants to meetings not directly organized by IGU, provides accommodation and meals.

Regarding the publishing and circulating a book series: By mid September we eventually received the text of the third volume, "The City", the third of our series. Before the end of October the final proof reading was completed. It is hoped that the Home will present the volume in the occasion of the December meeting.

In the spring we did not receive news about two books, proposed in 2004 by Tony Jones (The Home for Water Sustainability; title: *Managing water resources in a changing physical environment*) and Ton Van Naerssen (*Assessing the (un)desirability of borders towards the Mediterranean and flows after enlargement of the European Union*). The following points, particularly 7 (Establishing and managing the Membership Service

g other tasks relevant to the IGU organization), further development of these operati
 Geography will be planned at the 23-28 October meeting of the IGU Executive Cor
 Numbers 5 (Perform and circulate the IGU Electronic Newsletter), 6 (Implement
 s editor) and 8 (Serving as local focus for international research and educational proje
 being explained in the precedeing
 tive Secretary has been very efficient in preparing the list serve of the more than
 several members of the ICSU. We sent to all the first issue of the new e-News
 will be completed and disseminated before the Shanghai meeting of the IG
 Point 9 (Collaborating with the Festival International of Geography), see Appendix 3 b



g the IGU's future

announced in the IGU e-Newsletter #1, the Ten Theses on IGU Strategy and Ac
 to the "IGU family" in order to trigger discussions about the mid- and long-term targ
 e theses are reported below as an Appendix to the Newsletter. All the geogra
 invited to specify if they agree, don't agree, or have no opinion as regards the individu
 e done by crossing the relevant boxes and by return the filled in Appendix to
 y. The full text of Ten Theses on IGU Strategy and Actions may be found in, and
www.homeofgeography.org, and www.igu-net.org.

invite anyone wanting to express his opinion to fill the boxes and e-mail their answer
@homeofgeography.org or l.ayo@homeofgeography.org

ses on IGU Strategy

- *Redress the Imbalance between Technique- and Episteme-Building* – The elab
 knowledge and representations of the interactions between social and spatial proces
 paradoxical phase. Representation techniques have improved much more rapidly
 epistemological discourse upon which they are based, particularly the discours
 logical role of geography in bridging the human and natural sciences, on i
 st and non-structuralist visions, and on strengthening holistic visions of the world.
intrinsically encouraged to promote synchronization of representation techniques and
namely techne and logos.

agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

Trigger Effective Discussions of Interdisciplinarity – The cardinal focus of future geographical sciences should be the development of an episteme that meets the need for the interdisciplinary approaches specified by the 1999 World Conference on Science. Interdisciplinarity is important to dealing effectively with global change and globalisation. *Hence, the IGU should focus on promoting and changing concepts of interdisciplinarity from the mere assembling of disciplines to interdisciplinarity defined as creating isomorphisms that integrate the natural and social sciences in the context of spaces and places.*

agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

Promote Holism in the Geographical Sciences – One of the major gaps to be bridged in interdisciplinary approaches to the Earth's surface is the increasing inclination to attribute strong scientific value to the natural sciences and to discount idiographic research. The need for effective integration of different types of knowledge has acquired increasing relevance. *The IGU's mission here is to encourage the development of concepts that bridge logos- focused and graphia-concerned disciplines in order to capitalise on the synergy between case studies and theoretical approaches.*

agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

Accommodate All Theoretical Streams – The expanding social need for sustainable development based on safeguarding the bio-cultural identity of places, the evolving framework of interdisciplinary approaches and finally the unprecedented improvement of geographical investigation techniques demand that, in geography, discussions rooted in diverse topical and theoretical streams is essential for progress in the discipline and prerequisite to expanding geography's role in the international scientific community. *External and internal ideological conflicts must be foregone. The IGU must accommodate and promote an open and constructive discussion in a spirit of global scientific communication.*

agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

Focus on New Concepts - The entire scientific landscape has recently been marked by the emergence of a large number of new concepts representing and explaining interactions between the atmosphere and the Earth's surface, with special consideration to interactions between local and global scales. *Consequently, the IGU has a double mission. It must collaborate closely with the other geographical sciences and need geographical concepts and methods; at the same time it bears primary responsibility for promoting the design and operationalization of new geographical concepts and for disseminating them.*

the broader scientific community.

I agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

measures on actions

Reorganize the Executive Committee – International scientific unions such as the IGU have two choices: 1) they can maintain the conventional organisation and serve as arenas for international communication and networking, or 2) they can redesign their goals and structure to meet the needs of science and society. The second choice implies increased heterogeneity and action. In the conventional approach the president of a scientific union plays an executive role, the secretary general serves as a reference person for the union's activities and research bodies, and vice-presidents assume occasional responsibility for specific areas. In the reactive (second) approach the president attends also to the union's strategic planning, the role of vice-presidents in order to ensure consistency of actions with goals, the secretary general manages the organisation as a whole, and the vice-presidents assume responsibility for specific operational fields. The faster the IGU shifts from the conventional stance to the second approach, the sooner it will become more effective in representing the global geographical community in the international scientific arena.

I agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

Harvest Research – The changing role of science and increased international interaction demand that the scientific achievements of IGU Commissions and Task Forces be systematically used to improve the status of geography in the international arena and in national educational systems. These efforts are to be carried out by systematically collecting the scientific products of research bodies consisting of concepts, methods, and lessons from case studies and disseminating them to enhance the roles of geography in international research programmes and national educational systems. Accordingly, the executive committee should move from a passive role of the work of commissions and task forces to interacting closely with such bodies, evaluating their products and disseminating them through global scientific networks. The effective use of the IGU's scientific resources will raise the visibility of geography in the international arena and in member countries.

I agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

8 - *Involve the Entire Geographical Community* – The IGU has been primarily self-referential since its inception in that its role in the international arena has been primarily self-referential.

nded primarily on its national committees, commissions and task forces. The IGU sh
in addition, etero-referential. The newly-elected executive committee is keen to
communication with bodies and individuals operating outside the IGU. Global inform
ation techniques should be more intensively used to increase such an involvement.
gness to host discussions and initiatives from the entire geographical community, v
U to be more effective in today's globalised scientific

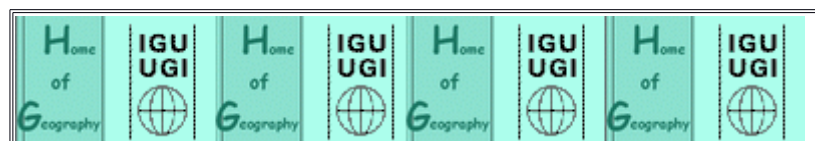
agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

Expand Communication - Communication will play a key role in validating the IGU
of the globalised scientific community. Improved communication must be a
cally, open to all the geographers from inside and outside the Union, flexible in using
onic tools, and be continuously modulated by the IGU's evolving strategies. In parti
ations should be addressed, as appropriate, to both the scientific world and to the
espond to the expanding social needs for geographical assessments, representa
The more quickly the IGU shifts from traditional internally-directed communications
ance marked by a firm inclination to improve and expand dialogue, the sooner its abi
effective role in the globalised world will

agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion

Raise Visibility - In recent years geography has enjoyed increasing social rele
ations of the Earth and the world have aroused an expanded interest in such traditio
eries, magazines and newspapers, in such visual media as television, CDRoms a
in the cyber media of the Internet. These developments constitute and implicit stimu
these multifaceted and powerful media. The IGU need specific programs to build
o control access to the media and to those who create media content. The IGU and
y community will benefit greatly by employing these media as channels to disse
IGU research to the public.

agree _____/ No, I don't agree _____/ I have no opinion



International Workshop: Cultures and Civilisations for a New World



Rome, 12-14 December 2005

Organisers: Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio, Municipality of Rome, SGI-Home of Geography

Preliminary Programme

Partner Organizations

International Geographical Union, Home of Geography

Società Geografica Italia (*Italian Geographical Society*)

Fondazione della Cassa di Risparmio di Roma (*Foundation of the Saving Bank in Rome*)

Comune di Roma (*Roman Municipality*)

Organisations

Fondazione della Cassa di Risparmio di Roma (*Foundation of the Saving Bank in Rome*)

Comune di Roma (*Roman Municipality*)

Co-ordinators

A. Vallega, President of International Geographical Union (a.vallega@iol.it)

J. Abler, Secretary General and Treasurer, International Geographical Union

www.iguaag.org)

Bellezza, Director of Home of Geography (g.bellezza@homeofgeography.org)

rapporteurs

Abler, Secretary General and Treasurer, International Geographical Union
via Cossiga, Società Geografica Italiana

and French

Materials of the Workshop may be found in the websites of the IGU www.igu-net.org
Geography www.homeofgeography.org

Framework

The workshop was designed, and it is convened, in the framework of the Cultures and Civilisations Initiative, convened by the International Geographical Union with the aim of:

• increasing the width and depth of the endowment the civilisations and cultural identities;
• demonstrating how this extended endowment has been built, not only through the evolution of individual civilisations, but also, and particularly, because civilisations have interacted with each other;

• affirming the universal value of the inter-cultural and inter-civilisational dialogue among civilisations;

• emphasising the existence of conditions that could lead to advanced and constructive civilisation, bringing about increasingly progressive stages of human development;

• promoting initiatives that - in the frameworks of education, communication, and relations - aim to strengthen and diffuse an accurate and positive vision of civilisations and the richness of the values appropriate to inter-cultural and inter-civilisational dialogue.

The workshop was designed to discuss the principles on which the C&C initiative could be based, the theoretical and operational approaches which it could fruit from, and the key actions which it could undertake. Therefore, it is expected that, as its major outcome, the workshop will adopt a comprehensive document, tentatively called Cultures and Civilisations for a New World, which will: i) present the objectives of the C&C initiative, ii) include the proposal for the proclaiming of an international year of civilisations, and iii) sketch a relevant Action Plan.

e materials

w, the C&C Steering Committee adopted a draft document, called Cultures and Civilisations in a Better World. A tentative approach, which is expected to serve as the reference basis for the work.

the following working papers were drafted:

Cultures and civilisations: A Tentative Discourse - File Discourse.doc

Cultures and civilisations: A Tentative Approach - File Possible approach.doc

Cultures and civilisations: Terms and Meanings - File Terms meanings.doc

These materials may be downloaded from the above-mentioned websites.

Questions

From the above mentioned documents from the C&C Steering Committee, discussions at the workshop could usefully focus on the following range of questions:

How the conceptual approach to cultures and civilisations could help inter-cultural and international dialogue and collaboration;

How the approach to cultures and civilisations by decision-makers and stakeholders could contribute to the achievement of effective sustainable development;

How approaches integrating the protection of cultural identities and the role of civilisations could be designed and operated;

How an international year of cultures and civilisations by the United Nations could be designed;

How the role of cultures and civilisations may be presented in educational curricula and media;

How the social sciences could interact with the public and media in a view of assuming cultures and civilisations as cardinal tools to move towards a better world;

How an Action Plan may be designed in order to deal with the above-mentioned questions;

How an organisation could help the operation of the Action Plan and, in particular, the proposal for designating an international year.

Abstracts

Responses relating with the above list of questions would be welcome.

Responses of no more than 1,000 words should be conveyed to the Home of Geography

(homeofgeography@homeofgeography.org) by November 15th, 2005. They will be lodged in the IGU and Home of Geography websites.

Preparatory preliminary draft of papers will be welcome to be lodged in the websites.

Participation is free.

Participants are cordially invited to fill in the enclosed form, and to return it to the Home of Geography.

bissell@homeofgeography.org or l.ayo@homeofgeography.org) or by fax (++3

Workshop design

09:00-10:30 Sessions

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:30 Sessions

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Sessions

15:30-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-17:30 Sessions

Workshop design: tentatively, the Workshop will not include parallel sessions. It is expected to

12th December

REGISTRATION

OPENING SPEECHES

WORKSHOP PRESENTATION - The trio "cultures, civilizations and human development"

1 - The role of scientific approaches to cultures and civilisations

2 - Cultures and civilizations in a globalised world

3 - Nature, culture, and sustainable development

13th December

4 - The social perceptions and imaginations, and their geographical implications

5 - Cultures and civilization in educational systems

6 - Media representations of cultures and civilisations

Day, 14th December

SESSION 7 - Cultures and civilizations for peace

8 - Cultures and civilizations for human development

9 - The UN approaches to cultures and civilizations

- Cultures and civilizations for a new world

Dinner is expected on Wednesday.

Workshop is expected to take place on Tuesday afternoon.

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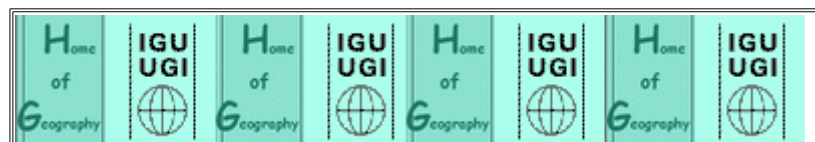
www.homeofgeography.org

Contact person: Dawn Bissell and Laura Ayo, Executive Secretaries, Home of Geography

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International Geographical Union FIG Festival International de Géographie

*together to promote geography in the scientific community, education,
and the general public*

Memorandum of Understanding

*International Geographical Union, hereinafter "IGU", headquartered at the organization of
the General Secretary - Treasurer is attached, represented by its President, Mr.*

*International de Géographie, hereinafter "FIG" and supported by the Association d'Organisation
du Festival International de Géographie (ADFIG), headquartered at Saint-Dié-
de-Vienne (France). The Festival is represented by its Founding President, Mr. Christian Pierret, with
the approval of the directions taken in this memorandum so that ADFIG can broadly support the*

The basics of cooperation between IGU and FIG

the FIG

that their activities share a common purpose:

The I.B of IGU's statutes indicates that IGU's aim is "to promote the study of geographies; ...to provide for the participation of geographers in the work of relevant international organizations; to facilitate the collection and diffusion of geographical data and documents between all member countries; to participate in any other appropriate form of international cooperation with the object of advancing the study and application of geography."

The purpose of the FIG is to promote the dissemination of geographical facts about the world, to disseminate geographical knowledge to the widest possible audience, to encourage public authorities throughout the world to acknowledge geography's importance in education, to promote geography as a social science that is essential to the actions of modern man, to promote the knowledge of the other, equality of people, of men and of women, to promote peace and the right to sustainable development for all. It also promotes geography through the Festival, as well as through meetings and publications related to the topic of a Festival.

to activities aimed at education and geographical training:

The FIG has adopted the Charter of Geographical Education, implemented a Permanent Commission for Geographical Education, promoted the Olympiads for Young Geographers, designed and disseminated educational instruments, including the Geographical Perspectives on Sustainable Development guide for teachers especially involved in international cooperation in education. Thanks to these activities education has become one of the Union's key sectors;

Since its inception in 1990, the FIG has always adopted a dynamic approach toward geographical education. This has been developed with gradually increasing intensity throughout each edition of the Festival. The FIG has provided a permanent educational structure for information, discussions as well as intellectual and cultural interaction among all geographers. These features are unmatched in the arena of geographical education and dissemination. The Festival has been officially recognized by the French Ministry of Education as an opportunity for high-school teachers. The European Union and the French government have recognized the value of the event and have lent their support to the FIG, its educational and cultural project.

ongoing moves to bring the science of geography closer to all people:

The FIG has successfully tried out some innovative approaches, which have proven effective to disseminate geography to the widest possible audience and to provide local communities with instruments that help them understand the various parameters geography analyses as part of the sustainable development of their activities and territories.

s activities were increasingly responding to the objectives and trends of the Conference on Environment and Development and as it was extending its participation in international research projects devoted to sustainable development, the IGU gradually expanded its relations with the general public as a key instrument in optimising its role in society;

to generate a geographical approach that complies with the universal values of sustainable development and solidarity by:

• disseminating useful geographical knowledge in order to understand local situations and problems, where economic, social and environmental issues arise and eventually get resolved;
• highlighting the part played in the life of local communities by the identity of a given locality and the values connected to it;

• the part played by geographical conditions likely to foster cooperation between the people of different cultures and communication between cultures.

Success gained

Since the creation of the Festival, and with a presence ensured by several of its most distinguished members, the IGU has been working more closely with the FIG since 2001. The IGU's Executive Committee meeting has even been hosted by the Festival's twelfth edition. Since then, their cooperation has grown and proved efficient, and the latest Festival, the 15th (2004) once again served as the venue for IGU's Executive Committee meeting (elected in Glasgow, August 2004) for several days.

Future goals

Building on their mutual interests and the productive relationships already brought to fruition, IGU and FIG believe that working together more closely and as a matter of routine is likely to benefit both organizations at international level.

IGU will strive to:

• promote a new image of geography throughout the world to enhance the part it plays as a social science aimed at understanding the complexity of issues faced by human communities in different territories;

• disseminate geographical knowledge that is accessible to the general public with the help of modern media such as new information and communication technologies;

• cooperate with the structures dealing with education and geographical training at various levels (international, national, regional and local);

• promote the creation and dissemination of cartography as well as computerized geographical information systems, not only in schools and universities, but also towards larger, non-specialized audiences.

particular, they wish to make geographical technologies available to communities;
businesses;

develop all forms of geography applied to economics, urban planning, health and social issues.

Terms and content of cooperation

To pursue their common goals, IGU and the FIG suggest designing and developing a series of projects for cooperation.

IGU shall lend its official and continuous moral patronage to the FIG, which is entitled to refer to IGU in all actions it undertakes and in all its documents;

IGU shall benefit from IGU's scientific assistance, in particular with regard to the representation of countries and regions throughout the world;

IGU shall make every effort to encourage geographers throughout the world to take part in the FIG as well as the initiatives both organizations might decide to take jointly, and which shall be mentioned on a regular basis in the periodical Newsletter and on the Union's web site;

IGU shall be regarded as a preferential cooperation structure in scientific events organized by the Union's Commission and Task Forces;

The Union's Executive Committee shall encourage the Committees involved in organizing International Geographical Conferences and International Geographical Congresses to welcome the FIG's presentations and to support any international initiatives it might take.

IGU shall be mentioned in documents issued by the FIG as an international organization and "official science partner of the Festival";

IGU shall provide an office space to the FIG on a permanent basis and free of charge in the town of Saint-Dié-des-Vosges (following the agreement of that town's municipal council) or in any other town chosen by the FIG's Founding President shall designate;

IGU shall reserve a space specially devoted to the FIG for the duration of the Festival. Every year the FIG shall host an IGU event, the content and form of which shall be mutually agreed;

IGU shall invite IGU speakers and participants to take part in the Festival's various activities and other initiatives;

IGU shall make every effort to encourage geographers, especially younger geographers, to take part in IGU's actions and activities, in particular through the part played by the "corresponding members".

Implementation of cooperation

to carry out the actions referred to, IGU and the FIG shall set up a Cooperation Team composed of two members from IGU and two members from FIG. The Team shall be jointly chaired by IGU and FIG's Founding President, with the assistance of the Science Director and the General Secretary of the Festival. The Cooperation Team's main tasks are to:

• Develop annual work plans focused on the FIG;

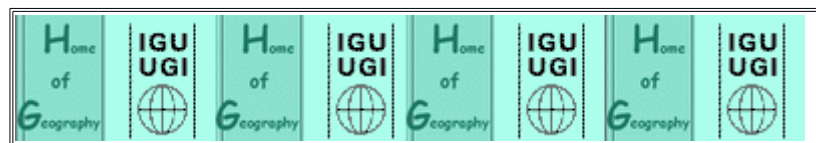
• Develop initiatives included in the work programs.

Annual work plans shall be formulated on the basis of mutual agreement by IGU and FIG, taking into account the distribution of costs and responsibilities. As their cooperation grows, and depending on both the needs and the efficiency of such cooperation, IGU and the FIG might in time come to set up a more structured cooperation, aimed at establishing a proper legal organization open to broader objectives.

Paris, 1 October 2005

Mr. Christian Pierret
Founding President
Festival International de Géographie

Mr. Adalberto Vallega
President
International Geographical Union



Programme and projects

Management of societal and natural resources

Savannah network - The Executive Committee encouraged Jeremy Wood and John Watson to finalise and submit their final report for publication in a scientific journal, and to closing the project once this is achieved.

Global invasive species programme (GISP) - The Executive Committee acknowledged that the current date and structure of GISP currently focus on advocacy and expert advice to decision-makers regarding invasives, using the integrated strategy developed during Phase 1 of GISP. SCOR will withdraw its sponsorship, looking forward to further cooperation with GISP, should it be required in scientific reviews in the future.

Urban solid waste management (USWM) - The Executive Committee encouraged Nimbe and Joe Baker to synthesise and publish the results of USWM, with a view to closing the project once this is achieved.

Information management in an information rich world - The Executive Committee invited the O

ss ways to finalise and terminate this project with Tony Janetos.

ing the gap between environmentalists, decision makers and resource managers in l
rica - The Executive Committee noted that the project document focuses more on ca
ing than on the synthesis and review of the science base. The President will write to
ora explaining how to finalise the project document according to SCOPE's project gu
cially as regards a SAC, budget, project plan, etc. Reynaldo Victoria volunteered to h
no Zamora develop the project plan with a view to re-applying to IAI for funding. The
mittee stressed that this project should remain independent from the IAI/SCOPE proj
lopment.

essment of sustainability indicators (ASI) - The Executive Committee noted that all dra
ters of the forthcoming volume need substantial revision, and that Tomas Hak is in ch
ordinating this process. Once the revised chapters are in hand, an editorial meeting sho
e in Paris.

itive ecopolis development - The Executive Committee approved the nomination of P
ragt to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the project. The Executive Director will co
r Dogse and his colleagues at UNESCO regarding possible support for the project.

quences of industrial animal production (CIAP) - The Executive Committee congrat
ney and his colleagues for the progress in this project.

gricultural technologies and practices for the 21st century (AG21 - new project) - Th
utive Committee thanked Holm Tiessen for his efforts in coordinating development of

System processes and biodiversity

a surface processes (ESPRMUD) - The Executive Committee encouraged Ian Doug
se the synthesis report, with a view to closing the project once the manuscript has be
pted for publication.

iversity and ecosystem functioning (BD-EF) - The Executive Committee congratulated
erer and her colleagues for the work accomplished and encouraged them to finalise t
ts for publication in a science journal.

ocean fluxes; the silica cycle - The Executive Committee encouraged Venu Ittekkot t
operate with the Editor-in-Chief and Island Press concerning the publication of the syn

ational nitrogen initiative (INI) - The Executive Committee congratulated Jim Gallow
agues for the accomplishments of INI over its first year of existence, thanking especia
er, Keith Syers and John Freney for their dedication and leadership of a very success
gen Fertiliser RAP. The Executive Committee encouraged the development of RAPs
gen and wellbeing and on nitrogen impacts on the open oceans, the latter possibly in
poration with SCOR, IGBP/IMBER (integrated marine biochemistry and ecosystem re

GBP/SOLAS (surface ocean - lower atmosphere study). The Executive Committee expressed concern about uncertainties regarding the financing of INI.

South Asia integrated regional studies (MAIRS) - The Executive Committee received the report from John Stewart concerning the editing and publication of the first volume.

Emerging ecosystems - The Executive Committee requested the Officers and Secretariat to coordinate the next phase of the project together with the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences of ICSU, in line with the resolutions passed by the General Assembly of SCOPE.

Microbial environmental genomics (MicroEnGen) - The Executive Committee requested the Officers and Secretariat to assist project leaders in further developing the project plan and to coordinate fundraising efforts.

Indicators of water quality - The Executive Committee invited Norman (Jake) Peters to coordinate the project plan with assistance from Ian Douglas.

Dynamics of semi-enclosed marine systems (PACKMEDS) - The Executive Committee decided to submit the project to ICSU for funding in 2006. It invited Paola Rizzoli and the Officers of SCOR and IUGG on ways to ensure appropriate synergy between this project and the SCOR working group on hypoxia.

Capacity building in the Americas for global change research - The Executive Committee invited Aldo Sala, Holm Tiessen and Reynaldo Victoria as SCOPE representatives in the Steering Committee of this joint IAI/SCOPE project which will be developed as a RAP.

Environment and health

Scientific group on methodologies for the safety evaluation of chemicals (SGOMSEC) - The Executive Committee encouraged the SGOMSEC leadership to review its membership with a view to the consideration of the SGOMSEC studies planned for the coming years, and to the appropriate disciplinary, geographic and gender balance.

The President drew attention to the need to promote new projects under the Environment and Health cluster, as ongoing projects on Radioactivity at military sites (RADSITE), Environmental contamination in the food chain, and Biodiversity, health and the environment are all approaching completion.

Projects for future projects recommended by the General Assembly in its Resolutions

Land and water management in the arid zones - The Executive Committee encouraged the International Commission for SCOPE to submit a project proposal.

Integration of ecological sciences to sustainability issues - The Executive Committee reaffirmed that SCOPE is interested in collaborating with UNESCO on a joint project addressing this issue, following the recommendation made by the General Assembly.

Projects in the carbon based economy and ecosystem management - The Executive Committee reaffirmed that SCOPE is interested in collaborating with UNESCO on a joint project addressing

theme, following the recommendation made by the General Assembly.

Heavy metals cycling and their effects on environment and health - The Executive Committee encouraged the Indian Committee for SCOPE to develop a project on this theme, based on proposals for a Mercury project presented to the General Assembly.

PREME - The Executive Committee confirmed SCOPE's interest in activities linked to the prevention and mitigation of extreme events in coastal zones, in liaison with ICSU's initiatives.

Human population dynamics, demographic changes and environment drivers and impacts - The Executive Committee invited the Officers to approach IHDP and IGU in order to discuss possible initiatives in this field.

Wildfire burning and its impact on ecosystem processes - The Executive Committee encouraged Dr. Jake Peters and his IUGS colleagues to develop a proposal addressing this topic.

Nano-particle technologies - The Executive Committee encouraged SGOMSEC to consider possible future study on methodologies to assess the effects of nano-particle technologies on health and environment.

Integration of environmental impact assessments - The Executive Committee will look at the feasibility and desirability of such a project by SCOPE.