

IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces

2012-13 Report

A. Membership

The IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces does not have a formal membership base. However, since the Commission was approved at the 2012 IGU World Congress held in Cologne, Germany, 79 individuals have presented papers at 2 Commission conferences (Krakow, Poland and Berlin, Germany) and the IGU Regional Conference in Kyoto, Japan. These 79 individuals represented 23 countries (USA, Germany, Poland, Japan, Finland, Norway, Estonia, Malaysia, United Kingdom, China, India, Slovakia, Australia, Nigeria, Colombia, Denmark, Spain, New Zealand, Portugal, France, Canada, Sweden, and South Africa). Please note that these statistics do not include data from the Leeds, United Kingdom conference that was held in conjunction with three other Commissions (see below). To prevent double counting, statistics and information about that conference will be provided in the report of the Applied Commission (the organizing Commission for the Leeds conference).

The members of Steering Committee of the IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces are as follows:

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B. Meetings

The Commission held and/or participated in the following events during 2012-13. These are:

- a. Mini-conference on *Innovation & Creativity in Emerging Economic Spaces: Local Entrepreneurship & Transnational Corporations*. Held in Kraków, Poland, May 3-5, 2012. Papers presented – 22. Conference Summary - The objective of the Conference is to examine the innovative and creative local and foreign businesses and to study the relationships between local companies and global enterprises. It is widely accepted that the scope of innovative behavior is not limited to high-tech industries or knowledge-intensive business services; creativity in 'traditional' industries is no less important. Since operations and linkages of local and global enterprises are highly volatile, the dynamics of these relations can be especially intriguing
- b. Mini-conference on *Dynamics in Food and Agriculture based Supply Chains*. Held in Berlin, Germany, July 11-13, 2013. Papers presented – 44. Conference Summary - During recent decades fundamental changes in the way food is produced (e.g. industrialization of agriculture), distributed (e.g. globalization of food trade), marketed (e.g. supermarketisation globalization and structural change of the retail sector) and consumed (e.g. growing market share of processed food, globalization of culinary culture, new rise of ecological food) have occurred in many countries of the world. The changes include fundamental shifts in the structure, organization and governance in food production and supply chains. These developments influence their regional and international settings and vice versa.. Presentations topics included theoretical works (e.g. on Global Production Networks, Global Commodity Chains, regional food clusters, new institutional economics) case studies (e.g. regional examples, commodities, supply chains, retail and trade developments, institutional changes) and applied work.

- c. Joint Conference with Commissions on Applied Geography, GIScience, and Modelling Geographical Systems on the theme of *Applied GIS and Spatial Modelling*. Held in Leeds, United Kingdom, May 29-June 2, 2013. See Commission on Applied Geography Annual Report for additional details.
- d. IGU Regional Conference in Kyoto, Japan, August 4-9, 2013. Commission held three special sessions on the theme of *Management Geography*. These special sessions were organized in conjunction with the *Spaces of International Economy and Management* (SIEM) Research Group at Ritsumeikan University in Japan. Papers presented – 13. Sessions Summary - First tier global cities are becoming more significant as translators and mediators of global practices in the world city network, second tier cities are becoming strategically important for adapting to local practices. Within the global city network, new spaces of global business practices are becoming visible. In global cities, new international platforms of technology and business practices are being created. Economic geographers see world cities as centers of translation and calculation in a world-wide network of heterogeneous flows connecting communities of practices (COPs) globally. Papers in these special sessions focused on the different kind of management practices that can be observe in the pipeline of the global city network.

The Commission has the following events planned for 2014:

- a. A conference on the theme *Globalisation & New Patterns of Services Sector Driven Growth* will be held in Amsterdam, Netherlands, June 19-20. The host institution will be the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research, University of Amsterdam. The meeting in Amsterdam will be a joint meeting co-hosted with the *Regional Science Association International* (RSAI).
- b. The Commission has proposed 7 sessions on a variety of themes ranging from the green economy to emerging economic spaces for the 2014 IGU Regional Conference in Krakow, Poland.

C. Networking

As noted above the Commission engaged in two collaborations:

- a. The Commission collaborated with three other Commissions (Applied Geography, GIScience, and Modelling Geographical Systems) in organizing a conference on the theme of *Applied GIS and Spatial Modelling* that was held in Leeds, United Kingdom, May 29-June 2, 2013.
- b. The Commission collaborated with *Spaces of International Economy and Management* (SIEM) Research Group at Ritsumeikan University in Japan (<http://www.siemrg.org/about.html>) to organize three sessions on the theme of *Management Geography* at the IGU Regional Conference in Kyoto, Japan, August 4-9, 2013.

- c. In 2014 the Commission will collaborate with the Regional Science International (RSAI) in the co-organizing of a conference on the theme of *Globalisation & New Patterns of Services Sector Driven Growth* that will be held in Amsterdam, Netherlands, June 19-20.
- d. During 2012 and 2013 the IGU-CDES had no cooperative efforts with either the ISSC or the ISCU.

D. Publications

During 2012 and 2013 the Commission continued its very successful publishing relationship with Ashgate Publishers. Ashgate publishes a series entitled *Dynamics of Economic Spaces* and the Chair of the Commission serves as the Series Editor. During 2012-13 the Commission published two books that were the outcome of previous conferences.

- a. Reid, Neil., Jay D. Gatrell, and Paula S. Ross. 2012. *Local Food Systems in Old Industrial Regions**Local Food Systems in Old Industrial Regions: Concepts, Spatial Context, and Local Practices*. Farnham, England: Ashgate. 286 pages.
- b. Fromhold-Eisebith, Martina. and Martina Fuchs. 2012. *New Global-Local Patterns of Production, Work, and Innovation*. Farnham, England: Ashgate. 260 pages
- c. Tamásy, Christine and and Javier Revilla Diez. 2013. *Regional Resilience, Economy and Society Globalising Rural Places*. Farnham, England: Ashgate. 306 pages

The current URL for the Commission website is http://uac.utoledo.edu/igu_commission/index.htm.