

# **IGU Commission C12.38 on Transport and Geography: Report 2013**

## **1. Membership**

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## **2. Meetings and Activities**

The Transport and Geography Commission C08.35 was established by the IGU in October 2009 and elected a President/Chair, Vice President and Secretary and members from 12 other countries. At the IGC Meeting in Cologne in August 2012 the IGU revalidated the Transport and Geography Commission for a further four years as C12.38. The Commission's Committee Meeting in Cologne re-elected the Commission's three officers, appointed Professor Andrew Goetz as Treasurer and revised the Commission's membership down to a total of 12 members to comply with IGU guidelines (see list above).

The Transport and Geography Commission organised an extensive programme of papers and a field trip for the IGU Kyoto Regional Conference in Japan in August 2013, convened by local Commission member Professor Yuji Murayama and his colleague Dr Kouichi Tanaka. Seven Commission members attended.

Four sessions of papers were presented, two sessions on the theme of Transport and Regional/Urban Development and two sessions on the theme of Transport Geography in Asia and Australasia.

A full day Field Trip on 'The Transport System in the Kansai Region' featured visits to Kobe Port, Kobe Airport and Kansai International Airport with travel by Shinkansen (High Speed Bullet Train), Port Liner driverless train and Hankai Tramway (classical streetcar).

A report on Japanese Transport Geography by Professor Yuji Murayama will be published in the Journal of Transport Geography in 2014.

There was an informal meeting of Commission members in Kyoto in August 2013. The Chair has liaised regularly with the Commission's officers and members and secured agreement for the Krakow 2014 programme themes and Field Trip and the introduction of Travel Awards for researchers from less developed/low income countries to participate in the Krakow meeting.

The Transport and Geography Commission is organising an extensive programme of papers and a one day Field Trip for the IGU Krakow Regional Conference in Poland in August 2014 convened by local Commission member Professor Zbigniew Taylor, Professor Richard Knowles and Professor Yves Boquet.

1. Professor Zbigniew Taylor (*Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization PAN, Warsaw, Poland*) and Professor Richard Knowles (*University of Salford, UK*) are proposing to co-convene sessions on the theme of '*Transformation of Transport Systems in Central and Eastern Europe*', including trans-border issues, transport deregulation and privatisation, and tourism and transport.
2. Professor Richard Knowles (*University of Salford, UK*) and Professor Yves Boquet (*University of Bourgogne, France*) are proposing to co-convene sessions on the theme of '*Geographical Impacts of Transport Investment and Transport Policy Change*'.

#### Transport and Geography Commission Travel Awards for researchers from less developed/low income countries

The IGU Commission on Transport and Geography has decided to use its IGU subvention to offer two Conference Travel Awards for the 2014 IGU Regional Meeting in Krakow, Poland (from 18-22 August) of up to \$475 each for researchers from less developed/low income countries.

To be eligible, applicants need to:

1. present a research paper in a Transport & Geography session at this Conference
2. submit an Abstract before the closing date of 15 January 2014
3. be a resident of a less developed/low income country
4. notify the Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary of the IGU Transport and Geography Commission that they wish to be considered for a Travel Award

A decision on who will receive these two Travel Awards will be made by the Transport and Geography Commission's officers.

### **3. Networking**

The Transport and Geography Commission has strong links with:

1. the IGU's Political Geography Commission and Urban Geography Commission

2. The Transport Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers
3. The Transportation Geography Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers
4. The Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies
5. the Journal of Transport Geography, with nine members on its Editorial Board, including two Associate Editors, whilst the Chair was Editor from 1993-2012.
6. Ashgate Publishing's 'Transport and Mobility' book series where the Chair is Co-Editor
7. The new Elsevier journal Travel Behaviour and Society, where the Vice Chair is Co-Editor
8. The UK ESRC's International Benchmarking Panel on Human Geography Research where the Chair was one of 13 members of the Economic Geography Panel

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Chair, IGU Commission on Transport and Geography  
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