

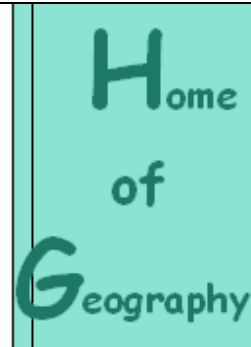


IGU E-Newsletter ***From the Rome Home of Geography***

Quarterly

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This Newsletter is circulated to more than 1500 individuals and bodies. Announcements, information, calls for participation in scientific events, programmes and projects are welcome.

Please send them to g.bellezza@homeofgeography.org or giuliano.bellezza@uniroma1.it



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1) PRESIDENT ABLER's REMARKS

President's Remarks—IGU Priorities

The IGU Executive Committee recently concluded a long discussion of how the IGU should position itself, geographers, and geography for the coming years. In addition to continuing its core functions of convening meetings, promoting research, placing geographers in key international positions, and recognizing outstanding achievement with its awards, the committee intends over the next two years to focus on five priorities:

- Working with local hosts to upgrade the IGU's congresses and regional conferences. To remain viable in the competition for scholars' time and limited travel budgets, the IGU's meetings must provide good value in terms of organization and new scientific knowledge.
- Upgrading the quality and utility of the IGU web site. The updated web site went online in December. We hope to make it a premier resource for geographic information and contacts for the global geographic community that, in combination with the *IGU-Home E-Newsletter*, will be an effective and powerful means of publicity for IGU.
- Taking more vigorous steps to recruit young scholars. Too many geographers encounter the IGU only in mid- or late career. Capturing the interest of beginning scholars will, of

course, require that IGU leaders demonstrate and illustrate the value of participation in the IGU.

- Taking a leadership role in international inter-, multi-, and trans-disciplinary projects. Widespread concerns over global climatic change and its human geographical dimensions offer exception opportunities for geography and geographers. We hope the current initiative to have the United Nations decree an International Year of Global Understanding (IYGU) in 2014 led by IGU Commission on the Cultural Approach in Geography Chairperson Benno Werlen is an example of additional future programs conceived and led by geographers. (The IYGU is an outgrowth of the Cultures and Civilizations for Human Development—CCHD—initiative launched by deceased IGU President Adalberto Vallega).
- Finding additional sources of sustainable funding for IGU operations. The IGU now operates on an average annual budget of about €75,000, which barely covers its basic operating expenses. To be more effective in promoting geography, the members of the IGU Executive Committee, must find additional sources of funding while also reducing the expenses of executive committee operations. To that end, the committee will henceforth hold one of its two annual meetings virtually via the increasingly powerful technologies of internet conferencing.

In addition to these consensus goals individual members of the IGU Executive Committee have their own priorities. Vice President Aharon Kellerman and other executive committee members have been working closely with Netherlands geographer Ton Dietz on a global web-based listing of geographical journals.

For my part, I intend to devote more time and effort to re-establishing contact with geographers in countries with which IGU has lost touch in recent years. A number of countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America who were once active members of the IGU have not been active for some time and I would like to arrange for reactivation of their membership and participation in my remaining time on the committee.

I would be happy to have comments or suggestions you have regarding IGU priorities. Please address them to me at rabler@aag.org Finally my best wishes for good health and for continued professional success in 2011.

Ron
rabler@aag.org

1a) REMARQUES DU PRESIDENT ABLER **Remarques du Président—Priorités de l'UGI**

Le Comité Exécutif de l'UGI s'est livré récemment à une longue discussion sur la façon dont l'UGI devrait se positionner, ainsi que les géographes et la géographie, dans les années à venir. En plus de la poursuite de ses activités fondamentales comme l'organisation de conférences, la promotion de la recherche, le placement de géographes à des positions internationales essentielles, et la reconnaissance de réussites remarquables grâce à des prix, le Comité souhaite insister dans les deux ans qui viennent sur cinq priorités :

- Travailler avec les hôtes locaux pour l'amélioration des congrès et des conférences régionales de l'UGI. Pour rester viable dans la concurrence pour le temps des chercheurs, et dans un contexte de budgets de déplacements limités, les conférences de l'UGI doivent apporter une bonne valeur en termes d'organisation et de progrès des connaissances scientifiques.
- Améliorer la qualité et l'utilité du site web de l'UGI. Le site rénové a été mis en ligne en décembre 2010. Nous espérons en faire une ressource de premier ordre pour l'information géographique et les contacts dans la communauté géographique mondiale, ce qui assurera, avec la *lettre électronique de l'UGI-Home*, un outil puissant et efficace de publicité pour l'UGI.
- Prendre des mesures plus vigoureuses pour attirer de jeunes chercheurs. Trop de géographes ne viennent à l'UGI qu'en milieu ou fin de carrière. Pour capter l'intérêt des chercheurs débutants, il faudra, bien sûr, que les responsables de l'UGI démontrent et illustrent la valeur d'une participation aux activités de l'UGI.
- Exercer un rôle moteur dans des projets internationaux inter-, multi- et trans-disciplinaires. Le souci, largement partagé, sur le changement climatique planétaire et ses dimensions en géographie humaine offre une opportunité exceptionnelle pour la géographie et les géographes. Nous espérons que l'initiative actuelle, menée par Benno Werlen (président de la Commission de l'UGI sur l'Approche Culturelle en Géographie) visant à une proclamation par l'ONU d'une Année Internationale de la Compréhension Mondiale (AICM, acronyme anglais IYGU, International Year of Global Understanding) en 2014, puisse être un exemple pour de futurs programmes élaborés et dirigés par des géographes. (AICM/IYGU est issu de l'initiative CCDH, Cultures et Civilisations pour le Développement Humain, qui avait été lancée par notre défunt président Adalberto Vallega).
- Trouver des sources complémentaires de financement de longue durée pour les activités de l'UGI. L'UGI fonctionne actuellement sur un budget annuel d'environ 75 000 euros, ce qui couvre à peine ses dépenses basiques de fonctionnement. Pour être plus efficaces dans la promotion de la géographie, les membres du Comité Exécutif de l'UGI doivent trouver d'autres sources de financement, tout en réduisant les dépenses opérationnelles. Dans ce but, le Comité Exécutif tiendra désormais une de ses deux réunions annuelles de façon virtuelle en utilisant les ressources de plus en plus puissantes des téléconférences par Internet.

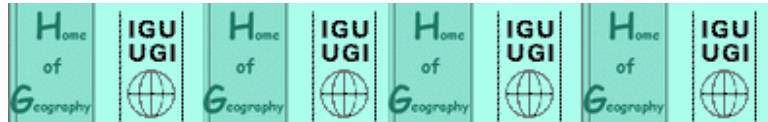
En plus de ces objectifs communs, certains membres individuels du Comité Exécutif de l'UGI ont leurs propres priorités. Le vice-président Aharon Kellerman et d'autres membres du Comité Exécutif ont travaillé de façon étroite avec le géographe néerlandais Ton Dietz pour une recension exhaustive, disponible sur internet, des revues de géographie dans le monde.

Pour ma part, j'ai l'intention de consacrer davantage de temps et d'effort pour rétablir les liens avec les géographes dans des pays avec lesquels l'UGI a perdu contact ces dernières années. Un certain nombre de pays d'Afrique, d'Asie et d'Amérique latine qui furent jadis des membres actifs de l'UGI n'ont plus participé à ses activités depuis quelque temps, et j'aimerais réactiver leur adhésion et leur participation dans le temps qui me reste au sein du Comité exécutif.

Je serai heureux de recevoir vos commentaires et suggestions par rapport à ces priorités de l'UGI. Veuillez me les adresser à rabler@aag.org

Enfin, j'adresse à tous mes meilleurs vœux de bonne santé et de succès professionnels pour 2011.

Ron
rabler@aag.org



2) INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNION

International Geographical Union Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Beijing, China

1-4 November 2010

(draft minutes, subject to definitive approval)

1. Welcome and Meeting Logistics

The meeting commenced at 08h00 on 2nd November 2010. Present: Abler (Chair), Kolossov, Bellezza, Qin, Löytönen, Soyez, Kellerman, Meadows and Himiyama- (plus Ayala and Fincher via Skype)

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with one item added, *viz.* 5.08 ICSU Grand Challenges and Belmont Report

3. Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting in Tel Aviv meeting were accepted, subject to any changes communicated to be communicated to Meadows by 15th November 2010 at the latest.

4. Organisation and Operations

4. 01 IGU Country Membership Report (Yu and Meadows)

The membership situation was discussed at length. Brasil paid US\$500 for 2010 and is currently affiliated via another organization. Kolossov suggested that they may eventually be included at a higher membership category but that this should wait for a year or so. Abler suggested that we need to engage in an exercise to rationalize the membership list and Fincher suggested that, if ten years had elapsed since there was communication, it would be expedient to remove such a country from the list. In relation to setting the level of dues, there was shortly to be a reconsideration through the international affiliation body (ISSC) and that IGU could consider adjusting the dues for different countries along these lines. Kolossov is in ongoing negotiations with Belarus and also with Kazakhstan. The question as to what the benefits of membership are was raised, the major advantage being the facility to participate fully and vote at the General Assembly and prestige. Lithuania has resumed activities and Kolossov to forward the contact information Meadows. Indeed, contact information for all countries needs to be checked by the appropriate EC members. Abler and Meadows will update the assignment list to account for incoming Vice-President Himiyama. Furthermore, a brief annual report is required to distribute (Abler assisted by Meadows).

4. 02 IGU Financial Report and Projection (Yu and Meadows)

There is incomplete information regarding the accounts in the IGU because the closing accounts have not been formalized. An amount of US\$85000 has been transferred to the new IGU account but financial activity has been limited thus far other than relatively minor expenses and some National Committee annual dues payments. Accounts are being sent to all defaulters back to 2004. South African banking interest rates (currently at 5.3%) are such that there is a reasonable income from the funds invested and Abler suggested transferring the balance left in the IGU account in the United States. Fincher commented that the General Assembly would probably query that there has been rather little spent on the Commissions and Task Forces; this is due to the fact that relatively few of these regularly request available funds. Discussion centred as to how to encourage Commissions and Task Forces to apply without, as it were, depleting funds. It was agreed that the new website would indicate the availability of annual grants and special project funds, with a view to developing a downloadable application form (Meadows to draft). Abler cautioned that the early year figures for commission allocations in the standard IGU financial history are not accurate owing to the impossibility of separating external research grants from IGU allocations to commissions in those years. Kolossov proposed to distribute the support to Commissions in the form of grants based on the results of their activity and current plans and, in any way, mention this possible support in the letter which should be sent them in the end of the year, along with the request of the annual report.

4. 03 UN-IYGU Initiative (Kolossov, Abler)

Benno Werlen has been successful in raising funds, has bought himself out of teaching for a year and established a secretariat. There is now a brochure and this has been developed and the initiative has been formally endorsed by the ISSC, although recent news is that ICSU EC has declined to support it so far is disappointing. There is a sense that the direction remains too generalised and vague and a revised version of the brochure is required that formulates the project in relation to a more precise aim and objectives. The focus of the project has shifted to the interactions between man and environment. IGU remains committed to supporting this initiative but the EC feels strongly that significant conceptual and structural clarification is necessary. The matter of the international steering committee is still unclear despite requests to establish this. It was agreed that a representative steering committee must be established (by end March 2011) and that this needs to be done before revising the project outline and structure, specifically with a view to saying more precisely what the project will achieve. It is thought to be unrealistic to establish IYGU as a UNESCO Year for 2012-2013. Abler was designated to communicate these comments directly to Werlen.

4. 04 Commission updates (All)

The call for 2010 annual reports would go out shortly (Meadows). Commissions and Task Forces would be asked to include detail as to their main accomplishments and include photographs and meeting reports where possible. Kellerman reported that the MRP occupied eight sessions at the Tel Aviv conference and that there are a number of other ongoing initiatives that include book publications and further meetings. Kellerman to convey appreciation of IGU EC to Maria Paradiso and her colleagues for their activities and effective work on behalf of IGU in the Med region. Himiyama indicated that "Japan-Korea-China Joint Conference on Geography", an East Asian geographic initiative, could be promoted as MRP by IGU support. Further information on it will be provided by him.

4.05 Journals Project (Kellerman, Meadows)

Progress has remained good on this project thanks to the efforts of Ton Dietz and colleagues. The next step would be to establish a web-based version for the website (Meadows) in time for the official launch at the Cologne congress in 2012.

4.06 Corporate Sponsorship (Kellerman)

With regards to the ‘Sustainable cities’ initiative, Kellerman was still awaiting a response from Ton Dietz. With regard to corporate exhibits at IGU conferences and congresses, it was agreed that such involvement needs to be fostered. Soyez provided an update on Cologne plans in relation to exhibits, noting that there are space constraints at the venue.

4.07 Executive Committee Calendar (Meadows and Abler)

The next meeting is planned for **16th to 18th May 2011 in Cologne** but only Meadows and Abler would physically attend, the remainder participating virtually. The full schedule subsequently as follows:

12th-13th November 2011. Face-to-Face meeting prior to the 14-18 November IGU Regional Conference in Santiago de Chile.

12th – 16th March 2012. Face-to-Face meeting (at a location to be determined: Kellerman suggested the possibility of meeting in London at the Royal Geographical Society), particularly in terms of preparing the agenda for the General Assembly which in turn requires formulating executive committee recommendations regarding the continuation, dismissal, and establishment of commissions and task forces and an executive committee recommendation for the site of the 2020 IGU Congress. Location to be determined at the next EC meeting.

23rd -24th August 2012. Face-to-Face meeting prior to the IGU Congress in Köln (26th – 30th August 2012).

4.08 Virtual Meeting Technology (Abler)

Skype was working reasonably well for the meeting underway but the absence of video connection when more than one person was online was noted as a constraint. Abler has a demo-version of Webex and would explore this further with a view to using this at the Cologne EC meeting in May 2011.

4.09 IGU Secretariat Transition (Meadows)

This has proceeded so far relatively smoothly except that a final audited or otherwise approved financial report was still required from IGU-Seoul office.

4.10 IGU Web Site (Meadows)

The new website design has been finalized and ready to go live at any time. Reasons for the delay involve registration of the domain name (IGU-net.org) as this has not yet been transferred to Cape Town. It was emphasized that there need to be clear links to the forthcoming conferences and congresses and also, if possible, links to academic departments of Geography globally.

There was some discussion about the need to have a definition of Geography and its values on the website and how we might obtain such a definition. Kellerman was requested to prepare a draft and distribute it among members.

4.11 IGU Executive Committee Priorities (Abler)

The matter has been discussed at several previous EC meetings and it was clear that significant progress has been made on some fronts but that others, for example, active encouragement of postgraduate participation in the IGU remained a challenge. Nothing is decided yet on the series “The Best of IGU”. Abler and Meadows agreed to draft a brief statement on priorities for approval by the EC followed by transmission to the wider community.

4.12 Sesquicentennial and Centennial Task Force (Abler)

The first International Geographical Congress was held in Antwerp in 1871; 150th anniversary of this is in 2021. The IGU was formally established as a permanent organization in 1922, and thus the centenary occurs in 2022. The conjunction of the two anniversaries prompts some kind of

special event or events in the 2020-2022 period. It was agreed to establish a Task Force to provide guidance regarding these special occasions and that this needs to be established no later than the Cologne congress in 2012.

4.13 IGU Vice President Elections (Meadows)

Meadows reported that the recent election had resulted in 26 votes and that Yukio Himiyama had been duly elected. EC noted its appreciation for Dr Felice Levine's work as teller. Meadows to obtain a list of countries who actually voted from her (but not the actually candidate voted for).

4.14 Palestine and Serbia Membership

Two applications for membership have been received and these would have to be ratified by vote of the General Assembly. Since the statutes allowed for such a method, it was agreed to administer the ballot by email (Meadows and Abler to draft the call). It was noted that the application from the Palestinian geographers would have to be designated as emanating from the Palestinian Authority pending a formal name change. It will also have to be modified as countries scientific communities are not eligible for membership under the section of the Statutes cited in the Palestinian community's application.

5. Cooperation and Outreach

5. 01 Festival International de Géographie (Kolossoff and Abler)

Kolossov and Abler had attended FIG 2010 as representatives of the IGU, although Soyez had been unable to travel at the time. The IGU round-table discussion had been poorly attended owing to an unfortunate clash with another major event and lack of clarity in the festival programme. It was agreed that IGU should continue to attempt to participate in this activity for 2011 when the theme will be `Afrique Pluriel`. Abler has already communicated IGU willingness to contribute to the development of the academic programme but there are concerns that identifying appropriate IGU lectures should be done as soon as possible. Clarity is needed as to the level of financial support for those appearing on the festival programme. Abler to liaise with local organisers on the matter.

5.02 Festa da Geografia de Mirandela, Portugal (Bellezza and Abler)

Bellezza attended the Festa in May 2010 and reported that attempts were made to integrate the academic and more popular elements and that from 2011 it was being planned as a national festival. Abler met with some of the organisers at St Die and agreed to provide them with a letter of support as they seek funding for 2011. A draft of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding was tabled and approved subject to an amendment taking into account the comment (Fincher) that Geography is defined as a `dynamic social science` (Abler to draft an appropriate revised wording). Liaison members from IGU are Abler, Ayala and Bellezza.

5.03 Festival de Geografía, Taxco, Guerrero, Mexico (Ayala)

Ayala tabled a report on the first Mexican Festival of Geography, which took place between October 14th and 17th 2010. There had been a wide range of academic and popular activities and Taxco was proposed as the future venue for the annual festival and is now known as the `Mexican Capital of Geography`.

5.04 Elsevier Publication (Soyez)

Nothing to report

5.05 Springer Publication Proposal (Kolossoff)

Nothing to report; the response of Commission and Task Force chairpersons in relation to this project has been disappointing.

5.06 Nomination for ISSC Executive Committee (Fincher, Abler)

Fincher is the IGU nomination for a vacancy on the Executive Committee of the ISSC; election to take place at the meeting in Nagoya, Japan, in December. Abler, Meadows and Fincher will attend this meeting.

5.07 ICSTI (International Council for Scientific and Technical Information)

Further consideration of this matter was postponed pending more information from Qin. It was noted that annual affiliation dues are currently Euros 800.

5.08 ICSU and the Belmont Report

ICSU Grand Challenges in Global Sustainability Research document and the so-called Belmont Challenges report warrant active engagement by the community of geographers. There is clear indication here of international attempts to integrate natural and social sciences – this is not new, of course, to Geographers but it makes sense for us to attempt to capitalize on it, especially as this in essence sets the research agenda for the next decade. There are clear parallels with the US Academy of Sciences ten questions that were presented to us at the Washington EC meeting. This represents a context against which to gauge the focus of our own priorities. Both documents should be forwarded (again) to National Committee Chairs and Commission and Task Force Chairs (Abler/Meadows) and also linked via the website (Meadows) with accompanying strong endorsement (indicating any weaknesses or omissions – e.g. school education) from this committee and soliciting their response. The establishment of a Task Force or other initiative as appropriate was also proposed in order to marshal interest and support within IGU and to suggest mechanisms whereby IGU can contribute to the resulting programmes. This would be assessed following collation of responses. Cologne and Kyoto LOCs to consider involving teachers around the issues highlighted in the documents.

6. International Geographical Congresses and IGU Regional Conferences

6.01 Tel Aviv Regional Conference 2010 (Kellerman)

The conference made a loss of US\$40,000 but the conference facilitators have absorbed the loss, an unusual but satisfactory arrangement. A formal vote of thanks was expressed to the LOC and all the colleagues who assisted in the organization of the conference.

6.02 Santiago, Chile Regional Conference 2011 (Meadows, Abler)

There is now a Scientific Committee with academics from several institutions, albeit all from within Santiago. There has been good communication from the LOC with the wider community of geographers, regionally and internationally. The comment was made that the brand IGU is not prominent as there is consistent use only of UGI (Abler to suggest that IGU also be used on the relevant documentation). The conference website is running well and applications for financial assistance are already emerging. With regard to publication of the proceedings there has been some correspondence with the LOC and it is agreed that individual session organizers and individual presenters will be responsible for publication initiatives.

6.03 Köln, Germany International Geographical Congress 2012 (Soyez)

Soyez reported that there is so far limited initial response from the Commissions and Task Forces. Some key topics proposals have been received. Cologne Tourism is now the official hotel and hostel partner (1000 bed quota reserved across wide range of prices) and even cheaper accommodation should be available to students. Mayor of Cologne will hold a reception for all participants in the historical town hall in the city centre (first 1000 delegates). Pre-registration numbers (expression of interest) are at 464. Executive Committee members are encouraged to pre-register. Scientific Committee is soon to be extended and will decide on the final selection of sessions and a workshop, financed by DFG, will be held in 2011 to finalise these. Sponsorship negotiations are underway. There are some constraints on exhibition space (16 booths is likely to be insufficient).

6.04 Kyoto, Japan Regional Conference 2013 (Himiyama)

Himiyama reported that 40 members of the LOC met for the first time in September at the venue and established nine subcommittees. Current focus is on fund-raising and key agencies and organisations have been approached. The Scientific Programme Committee is drafting a letter to be sent to Commissions and Task Forces. A commemorative postage stamp is planned.

6.05 Moscow, Russia Regional Conference 2015 (Kolossoff)

LOC will be established early in 2011. The Russian Geographical Society has been made aware of the upcoming conference.

6.06 IGU Congress and Conferences Memoranda of Agreement (Abler)

ICA has very clearly set out guidelines but until now IGU has not had a formal memorandum of agreement that specifies relevant responsibilities. In relation to the clause dealing with the Promotion and Solidarity Fund, the following clause was appended: *If the meeting fails to realize its anticipated surplus of income over expenses, this provision may be renegotiated.* The most contentious issue is that of the responsibility of payment of the registration fee for EC members. A clause was added that resulted in a change in this to the effect that the registration fees for EC members would only be paid by the LOC if the member in question was unable to obtain external funding. It was further agreed that Abler would attend to the tone of the document to ensure that the relationship between IGU and the LOC is seen as one of partnership.

6.07 Geographical Olympiads

The Cologne LOC realized only recently the implications of the responsibility of the conference to subsidise the Olympiad in the amount of US\$5000. Soyez proposed that the Task Force be asked to apply for special funds to cover this amount or that IGU find some other means of sharing the cost. It was agreed to share this cost for the Cologne meeting (i.e. US\$2500 from LOC, US\$2500 from IGU). Abler is to request sight of budgets for previous Olympiads from the Task Force. The Memorandum of Agreement would come into force after the Cologne meeting in respect of the Olympiad subsidy. Abler will ask the Task Force to ensure that all Olympiad participants be ratified by the appropriate National Committees.

7. Honors and Awards

7. 01 IGU Planet and Humanity Medal (Löytönen and Abler)

Löytönen reported on the award of the medal by the IGU (Abler) to Mr Ahtisaari in Helsinki the previous week. Abler's presentation speech and a photograph are loaded onto the new website pending the launch. It is time to start considering potential nominees; some suggestions were made (Abler and Meadows to pursue).

7.02 Honors Committee

It has been agreed that the Planet and Humanity Medal should be awarded only every four years; the IGU *Lauréat d'Honneur* and the Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize in Human Geography are the other regular awards. Guidelines for the proposed Honours and Awards Committee were tabled and approved although the committee still needs to be established with an agreed compliment of at least five members. Abler to confirm if this needs to be put to the General Assembly.

7.03 IGU Commission Awards and Prizes (Abler)

Abler suggested that this matter not be pursued further at this stage, although the fact that Commissions have the authority to establish their own prizes should be communicated when next the Executive Committee meets face to face with them (Cologne).

8 Adjourn

Abler proposed a very warm vote of thanks to the host of this meeting, with special thanks to Dahe and his colleagues for the fine arrangements.

The meeting was adjourned at 15h35 on 3rd November 2010.

Reception in the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research



Visite au Institut des Sciences Géographiques et des Recherches sur le Ressources Naturelles

2a) COMPTES RENDU DE LA REUNION DU CE DE L'UGI, PEKIN, 2 ET 3 NOVEMBRE 2010

(procès-verbal sous réserve d'une approbation définitive)

1. Accueil et logistique de la réunion (Abler et Meadows)

La réunion a débuté à 8 h le 2 novembre 2010.

Étaient présents : Abler (Président), Kolossov, Bellezza, Qin, Löytönen, Soyez, Kellerman, Meadows et Himiyama. (Ayala et Fincher ont participé par liaison Internet Skype)

2. Adoption de l'Ordre du Jour

L'ordre du jour a été adopté, avec addition d'un élément : 5.08 ICSU Grand Challenges and Belmont Report

3. Compte-rendu (tous)

Le compte-rendu de la réunion précédente à Tel Aviv a été adopté, sujet à toute modification qui serait soumise à Meadows avant le 15 novembre au plus tard.

4. Organisation et Activités

4. 01 Rapport sur les pays membres de l'UGI (Yu et Meadows)

La situation des pays membres a été discutée en profondeur.

Le Brésil a payé une cotisation de 500 dollars américains pour 2010 mais est actuellement affilié à une autre organisation. Kolossov suggère qu'il puisse éventuellement être inclus dans une catégorie d'adhésion plus élevée, mais il faudrait attendre environ un an.

Abler exprime la nécessité de rationaliser la liste des pays membres. Fincher suggère qu'une absence de communication depuis dix ans implique une radiation du pays concerné.

En liaison avec l'établissement du niveau de cotisation, on a brièvement débattu de la reconsidération de l'adhésion via l'ISSC, et l'UGI devrait réfléchir à une évaluation des cotisations selon ce critère.

Kolossov est en cours de discussions avec le Bélarus et le Kazakhstan. La question des bénéfices retirés d'une adhésion à l'UGI a été soulevée, les principaux étant la possibilité de pouvoir participer pleinement et voter lors de l'Assemblée Générale de l'UGI, ainsi que le prestige. La Lituanie a repris ses activités et Kolossov va transmettre à Meadows les coordonnées des responsables.

De fait, il convient de vérifier les coordonnées des contacts dans tous les pays, tâche des membres du Comité Exécutif pour leurs pays de responsabilité respectifs. Abler et Meadows vont mettre à jour la liste des pays et des responsabilités pour prendre en compte l'arrivée du nouveau vice-président Himiyama.

De plus, il faut distribuer un bref rapport (Abler aidé de Meadows).

4. 02 Rapport Financier de l'UGI et projections (Yu et Meadows)

Les informations sur les comptes de l'UGI ne sont pas complètes car les clôtures de comptes n'ont pas été formalisées.

Un montant de 85 000 dollars américains a été transféré sur le nouveau compte de l'UGI mais l'activité financière à ce jour s'est limitée à de menues dépenses et quelques cotisations annuelles de Comités Nationaux.

Des relances sont envoyées à tous les membres en défaut de paiement depuis 2004.

Les taux d'intérêts bancaires en Afrique du Sud (actuellement 5,3%) sont tels que les fonds investis fournissent un revenu raisonnable, et Abler suggère de transférer le reliquat du compte de l'UGI aux États-Unis. Fincher note que l'Assemblée Générale va sans doute poser des questions sur le faible niveau des dépenses en direction des Commissions et Groupes d'Études, du fait que peu d'entre eux réclament régulièrement l'allocation de fonds.

Une discussion s'engage sur la façon d'encourager commissions et groupes d'études à solliciter des fonds, sans toutefois les épuiser. On s'est mis d'accord pour que le nouveau site web indique la disponibilité de fonds pour des allocations et des projets spéciaux, avec la possibilité de développer une application de téléchargement de formulaire (à élaborer par Meadows). Abler souligne que les chiffres antérieurs pour les allocations aux commissions dans l'histoire financière standard de l'UGI ne sont pas exacts, du fait de l'impossibilité de séparer les dotations de recherche externes des allocations UGI dans ces années antérieures. Kolossov propose de répartir le soutien aux Commissions sous la forme d'allocations basées sur les résultats de leurs activités et leurs projets, et de toutes façons, de mentionner la possibilité de soutien dans la lettre qui devrait leur être envoyée à la fin de l'année, en même temps que la demande d'un rapport annuel.

4. 03 UN-IYGU Initiative Nations Unies - Année Internationale de la Compréhension Mondiale (Abler and Kolossov)

Benno Werlen a eu beaucoup de réussite dans la collecte de fonds, s'est libéré de ses tâches d'enseignement pour un an et a mis en place un secrétariat. Il y a maintenant une brochure, tout

ceci a été développé et l'initiative soutenue formellement par l'ISSC, bien que les informations récentes sur l'absence de soutien à ce jour par le Comité Exécutif de l'ICSU soient une déception. Le sentiment est que les objectifs restent trop vagues, et une nouvelle version de la brochure, formulant des buts et objectifs plus précis est nécessaire. Le coeur du projet a migré vers les interactions homme-environnement. L'UGI reste attachée à ce projet, mais le Comité Exécutif pense qu'une clarification conceptuelle et structurelle significative est indispensable. La question d'une comité de pilotage international ne semble pas réglée malgré les demandes d'en établir un. On se met d'accord pour qu'un comité de pilotage soit en place à la fin de mars 2011, et cela doit être fait avant une révision des contours et de la structure du projet, tout particulièrement avec le souhait que soient exprimées plus précisément les réalisations attendues du projet. Il est irréaliste de vouloir obtenir une année UNESCO IYGU pour 2012-2013. Abler est désigné pour s'en entretenir directement avec Werlen.

4. 04 Travaux des Commissions (tous)

L'appel à rapports d'activité pour 2010 devrait être envoyé prochainement (Meadows). Il sera demandé aux commissions et groupes de recherche d'inclure des détails tels que les principales réalisations et d'inclure des photos et des rapports sur les réunions autant que possible.

Kellerman indique que le MRP a mobilisé huit sessions lors de la conférence de Tel Aviv et qu'il y a de nombreuses autres initiatives en cours incluant des publications d'ouvrages et d'autres réunions. Kellerman va transmettre à Maria Paradiso et à ses collègues les félicitations du Comité Exécutif de l'UGIto pour leurs activités et leur travail efficace au nom de l'UGI dans la région méditerranéenne.

Himiyama indique que la conférence commune Japon-Corée-Chine sur la géographie pourrait être soutenue par l'UGI comme le MRP. Il va fournir des informations complémentaires.

4. 05 Projet sur les revues (Kellerman, Meadows)

Des progrès substantiels ont été faits sur ce projet grâce aux efforts de Ton Dietz et de ses collègues. La prochaine étape serait d'établir une version Internet pour le site web de l'UGI (Meadows) avant le lancement officiel au congrès de Cologne en 2012.

4. 06 Mécénat d'entreprise (Kellerman)

En ce qui concerne l'initiative "villes durables", Kellerman attend encore une réponse de Ton Dietz. En ce qui concerne les stands d'entreprises aux congrès et conférences UGI, le comité est d'accord pour susciter de telles actions. Soyez a fourni une mise au pooint sur les projets de Cologne par rapport aux stands de présentation, indiquant qu'il y a des contraintes d'espace sur le site du congrès.

4. 07 Calendrier du Comité Exécutif (Meadows, Abler)

La prochaine réunion est prévue du 16 au 18 mai 2011 à Cologne, mais seuls Meadows et Abler se déplaceraient physiquement, les autres membres du comité participant virtuellement. Voici donc le calendrier des réunions ultérieures :

12-13 novembre 2011. Réunion en présentiel à Santiago du Chili avant la conférence régionale UGI (14-18 novembre).

12 – 16 mars 2012. Réunion en présentiel en un lieu à préciser. Kellermann suggère la possibilité de se réunir à Londres dans les locaux de la Royal Geographical Society. Il s'agira de préparer l'ordre du jour de l'assemblée générale de Cologne, ce qui implique de préparer des recommandations du Comité Exécutif sur la continuation, la suppression ou la création de commissions et groupes de travail, et une recommandation du Comité Exécutif pour le choix du site du congrès 2020. Lieu à déterminer lors de la prochaine réunion du Comité Exécutif.

23 –24 août 2012. Réunion en présentiel à Cologne avant le congrès (26 – 30 août 2012).

4. 08 Technologie des rencontres virtuelles (Abler)

Skype a fonctionné relativement correctement pour la réunion en cours à Pékin, mais l'absence de connexion vidéo lorsqu'il y a plus d'une personne en ligne a été notée comme une contrainte. Abler a une version de démonstration de Webex et souhaiterait mieux le comprendre dans le but de l'utiliser lors de la réunion virtuelle de Cologne en mai 2011.

4. 09 Transition du secrétariat de l'UGI (Meadows)

Cela s'est passé en douceur jusqu'à présent, à l'exception d'un rapport financier audité ou approuvé qui est encore demandé au bureau UGI de Séoul.

4. 10 Site web de l'UGI (Meadows)

La nouvelle conception du site web a été finalisée et est prête à prendre vie à tout moment. Les raisons du retard tiennent à l'enregistrement du nom de domaine (IGU-net.org) qui n'a pas encore été transféré en Afrique du Sud. On insiste sur le besoin d'avoir des liens clairs vers les conférences et congrès à venir, et aussi, si possible, vers les départements de géographie du monde entier.

Il y a eu une discussion sur le besoin de présenter une définition de la géographie et de ses valeurs, et comment obtenir une telle définition. Kellerman va préparer une ébauche qui sera distribuée aux membres.

4. 11 Priorités du Comité Exécutif de l'UGI (Abler)

La question a été discutée lors de réunions précédentes du Comité Exécutif, et il est clair que des progrès substantiels ont été réalisés sur certains points, mais que pour d'autres, comme l'encouragement à la participation des jeunes docteurs aux activités de l'UGI, des défis importants demeurent.

Rien n'est encore décidé à propos de la série "le meilleur de l'UGI".

Abler et Meadows acceptent de préparer une brève ébauche de présentation des priorités, à approuver par le Comité Exécutif avant transmission à l'ensemble de la communauté géographique.

4. 12 Groupe de travail sur les 150e et 100e anniversaires de l'UGI (Abler)

Le premier congrès international de géographie s'est tenu à Anvers en 1871. Son 150e anniversaire est en 2021. L'UGI a été formellement créée en tant qu'organisation en 1922, et son centenaire arrive en 2022. La conjonction des deux anniversaires implique l'organisation d'un ou plusieurs événements commémoratifs dans la période 2020-2022. Il est convenu de mettre en place un groupe de travail pour fournir des conseils relatifs à ces événements spéciaux et ceci doit être fait au plus tard au congrès de Cologne en 2012.

4. 13 Élection d'un vice-président de l'UGI (Meadows)

Meadows indique que la récente élection partielle a résulté en 26 votes exprimés et que Yukio Himiyama a été élu selon les règles. Le Comité Exécutif exprime ses remerciements au Dr Felice Levine pour son travail de scrutateur. Meadows va obtenir d'elle une liste des pays qui ont voté (mais pas pour quel candidat ils ont voté).

4. 14 Adhésion de la Palestine et de la Serbie

Deux candidatures d'adhésion ont été reçues et doivent être approuvées par un vote de l'Assemblée Générale. Puisque les statuts l'autorisent, le Comité décide d'effectuer ce vote par courrier électronique (Meadows et Abler vont rédiger l'appel à vote). La candidature des géographes palestiniens devra être présentée comme émanant de l'Autorité Palestinienne en attendant un changement officiel de nom. Elle devra aussi être modifiée car les communautés scientifiques des pays ne sont pas éligibles pour adhésion selon la section des statuts citée dans la candidature de la communauté palestinienne.

5. Coopération et interventions publiques

5. 01 Festival International de Géographie (Kolossoff et Abler)

Kolossov et Abler ont assisté au FIG 2010 à St Dié en tant que représentants de l'UGI. Soyez n'avait pas pu s'y rendre à ce moment-là. La table-ronde sur l'UGI a été peu suivie en raison d'une concurrence malheureuse avec un autre événement-clé et d'un manque de clarté dans le programme du festival. Il est convenu que l'UGI continuerait à participer en 2011 quand le thème sera "Afriques plurielles,..". Abler a déjà communiqué le souhait de l'UGI de contribuer au développement du programme scientifique, mais un souci majeur est d'identifier au plus vite les communications UGI appropriées. Une plus grande clarté est nécessaire quant au soutien financier des personnes figurant dans le programme du festival. Abler contactera les organisateurs locaux sur ce point.

5. 02 Festa de Mirandela, Portugal (Bellezza et Abler)

Bellezza a participé à la Festa en mai 2010 et indique que des efforts ont été faits pour intégrer les éléments scientifiques et plus populaires, et qu'à partir de 2011 ce sera un festival national. Abler a rencontré certains des organisateurs à St Dié et a accepté de leur fournir une lettre de soutien pour leurs démarches de financement en 2011. Une version préliminaire du protocole d'accord envisagé a été rédigée et approuvée, sujette à amendements prenant en compte le commentaire de Fincher selon lequel la géographie est une „science sociale dynamique“. (Abler va rédiger une version réécrite). Les membres de l'UGI assurant les liens sont Abler, Ayala et Bellezza.

5. 03 Festival de Geografía, Taxco, Guerrero Mexico (Ayala)

Ayala a présenté un rapport sur le premier Festival de Géographie du Mexique, qui s'est tenu entre le 14 et le 17 octobre 2010. Il y a eu un grand nombre d'activités scientifiques et populaires, et Taxco, site du futur festival annuel, est désormais connue comme "la capitale mexicaine de la géographie".

5. 04 Proposition de publication Elsevier (Soyez)

Rien à dire.

5. 05 Proposition de publication Springer (Kolossoff)

Rien à dire, si ce n'est que le manque de réponse des présidents de commissions et groupes de travail a été décevant.

5. 06 Nomination au Comité Exécutif de l'ISSC (Fincher, Abler)

Fincher est la candidate proposée par l'UGI pour le poste vacant au Comité Exécutif de l'ISSC; l'élection aura lieu à Nagoya (Japon) en décembre. Abler, Meadows et Fincher seront présents à cette réunion.

5. 07 ICSTI (International Council for Scientific and Technical Information)

Un examen de ce sujet est repoussé, en attendant que Qin ait pu glaner davantage d'informations. A noter que l'affiliation coûte 800 euros par an.

5. 08 ICSU et le rapport Belmont

Le document de l'ICSU "Grands défis de la recherche sur le développement durable mondial" et le rapport appelé "Défis Belmont" justifient une implication active de la communauté des géographes. Il y a là de sincères efforts internationaux pour intégrer les sciences naturelles et sociales – ce n'est pas une nouveauté, bien sûr, pour les géographes, mais il est logique pour nous de tenter d'en profiter, en particulier parce que sur le fond cela met en place l'agenda des recherches pour la décennie à venir. Il y a un parallélisme évident avec les 10 questions de l'Académie Américaine des Sciences qui nous ont été présentées lors de la réunion du Comité Exécutif à Washington. Ce contexte nous amène à évaluer nos propres priorités. Les deux documents devraient – à nouveau – être transmis aux présidents de comités nationaux et aux présidents de commissions et groupes d'études de l'UGI (Abler/Meadows) et mis en lien sur le site web (Meadows) avec un fort soutien du Comité Exécutif pour les accompagner (indiquant

aussi les faiblesses ou omissions, comme l'enseignement scolaire) et une demande de réponse. La mise en place d'un groupe de travail ou tout autre initiative appropriée a été proposée de façon à canaliser l'intérêt et le soutien au sein de l'UGI, et pour suggérer des mécanismes selon lesquels l'UGI pourrait contribuer aux programmes en résultant. Ceci serait déterminé après réception des réponses. Les comités d'organisation locaux de Cologne et Kyoto envisagent d'impliquer des enseignants autour des thèmes mis en valeur dans ces documents.

6. Congrès Internationaux de Géographie et conférences régionales de l'UGI

6. 01 Conférence régionale de Tel Aviv 2010 (Kellerman)

La conférence enregistre un déficit de 40 000 dollars américains, mais les soutiens de la conférence ont absorbé cette perte, dans un arrangement inhabituel mais satisfaisant. Un vote formel de remerciement est exprimé au comité local d'organisation et aux collègues qui ont aidé à la tenue de cette conférence.

6. 02 Conférence régionale de Santiago du Chili 2011 (Meadows, Abler)

Il y a maintenant un Comité scientifique avec des universitaires de différentes institutions, quoique tous de Santiago. Les communications du comité local d'organisation avec la communauté des géographes, au niveau régional et mondial, ont été bonnes. Un commentaire est que la marque "UGI" n'est pas assez mise en valeur. (Abler suggère que l'UGI soit aussi mentionnée sur la documentation). Le site web de la conférence fonctionne bien et les demandes de soutien financier commencent à apparaître. En ce qui concerne la publication des Actes de la Conférence, il y a des échanges de courrier avec le comité local d'organisation, et il est convenu que les organisateurs de sessions et les intervenants seront responsables des initiatives de publications.

6. 03 Congrès International de Géographie de Cologne, Allemagne, 2012 (Soyez)

Soyez indique que jusqu'à présent il y a eu peu de réponses des commissions et groupes de travail. Certaines propositions de thèmes-clés ont été reçues. Cologne Tourisme est désormais le partenaire officiel pour l'hébergement (quota de 1000 lits réservés dans une gamme de prix très étendue), et des hébergements encore moins chers devraient être disponibles pour les étudiants. Le maire de Cologne organisera une réception pour tous les participants à l'hôtel de ville historique au centre de la cité (1000 premiers délégués). Le nombre de pré-inscrits (manifestation d'intérêt) s'élève à 464. Les membres du Comité Exécutif sont invités à se pré-inscrire. Le Comité scientifique va être prochainement élargi et décidera d'une sélection finale de sessions. Un atelier, financé par FDG, se tiendra en 2011 pour finaliser le programme. Des négociations de mécénat sont en cours. Il y a quelques contraintes pour l'espace d'exposition (16 stands, ce sera probablement insuffisant).

6. 04 Conférence régionale de Kyoto, Japon, 2013 (Himiyama)

Himiyama indique que 40 membres du comité local d'organisation se sont réunis pour la première fois en septembre sur le site et ont établi neuf sous-commissions. L'accent est mis actuellement sur la levée de fonds, des agences importantes et diverses organisations ont été contactées. Le comité du programme scientifique est en train de rédiger une lettre qui sera envoyée aux commissions et aux groupes de travail. L'émission d'un timbre commémoratif est prévue.

6. 05 Conférence régionale de Moscou, Russie, 2015 (Kolossoff)

Un comité local d'organisation sera mis en place au début 2011. La Société Russe de Géographie a été mise au courant de la tenue de la future conférence.

6. 06 Protocole d'accord pour les Congrès et Conférences de l'UGI (Abler)

L'ICA a une série de règles très claires mais jusqu'à présent l'UGI n'avait pas d'accord formel spécifiant les responsabilités respectives. En lien avec la clause sur le Fonds de Promotion et de Solidarité, la clause suivante a été ajoutée : *si la conférence n'arrive pas à dégager le surplus attendu de revenus par rapport à ses dépenses, cette disposition peut être renégociée*. La question la plus controversée est celle de la responsabilité du paiement des frais d'inscription des membres du Comité Exécutif. Une clause a été ajoutée qui prévoit un changement selon lequel les frais d'inscription d'un membre du Comité Exécutif ne seraient pris en charge par le comité local d'organisation que dans le cas où la personne en question n'aurait pas pu obtenir de financement extérieur. De plus, il est convenu qu'Abler modifiera le ton du document pour s'assurer que les relations entre l'UGI et le comité local d'organisation apparaissent comme un partenariat.

6. 07 Olympiades Géographiques

Le comité local d'organisation de Cologne n'a réalisé que récemment les implications de la responsabilité de la conférence dans le soutien de 5000 dollars américains pour financer l'Olympiade. Soyez a proposé que l'on demande au groupe de travail de solliciter un financement spécifique pour couvrir ce montant, où que l'UGI trouve d'autres moyens pour partager les coûts. Il est convenu d'un partage de ces coûts pour le congrès de Cologne (2500 dollars du comité local d'organisation, 2500 de l'UGI). Abler va demander au groupe de travail de lui présenter les budgets des précédentes Olympiades. Le protocole d'accord sur la subvention à l'Olympiade prendrait effet après le congrès de Cologne. Abler va demander au groupe de travail d'assurer que tous les participants à l'Olympiade sont agréés par leurs Comités Nationaux respectifs.

7. Honneurs et Prix

7. 01 Médaille de l'UGI "Planète et Humanité" (Löytönen and Abler)

Löytönen fait un rapport sur la remise de la médaille par l'UGI (Abler) à M. Ahtisaari la semaine précédente à Helsinki. Le discours d'Abler et une photographie seront le site web de l'UGI dès qu'il sera en ligne. Il est temps de commencer à songer à d'autres récipiendaires potentiels. Des suggestions sont avancées. Abler et Meadows suivent la question.

7. 02 Comité des Honneurs de l'UGI (Abler)

Il est convenu que la médaille Planète et Humanité ne serait attribuée que tous les quatre ans. Le *Lauréat d'Honneur* de l'UGI et le prix de la fondation Mattei Dogan en Géographie Humaine sont les autres récompenses attribuées régulièrement par l'UGI. Des recommandations pour la Commission des Honneurs et prix ont été proposées et approuvées, bien que le comité doive encore être mis en place avec au moins cinq membres supplémentaires. Abler va confirmer si cela doit être validé par l'Assemblée Générale.

7. 03 Récompenses attribuées par les commissions de l'UGI (Abler)

Abler suggère que cette question ne soit pas examinée pour le moment, malgré le fait que les commissions aient le pouvoir de créer leurs propres prix, ce qui sera indiqué aux présidents de commissions lorsqu'ils rencontreront le Comité Exécutif à Cologne.

8. Ajournement

Abler propose un vote chaleureux de remerciements aux hôtes de cette réunion, avec des remerciements particuliers à Dahe et ses collègues pour les excellentes conditions d'accueil.

La réunion est levée à 15h35 le 3 novembre 2010

Traduction française:

Yves Boquet, professeur à l'université de Bourgogne, Dijon, France



3) NEXT IGU OFFICIAL INITIATIVES

3.1) SANTIAGO DE CHILE, IGU REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2011

So far many abstracts have already been submitted and some attendees (both authors and non-authors) have already registered for UGI 2011.

The Second Call for Papers full brochure has been issued and is available for download from the conference web site. Authors have until March 10th 2011 to submit their abstracts for paper or poster.

Meanwhile, the city of Santiago, venue for UGI 2011, has recently been distinguished by the well-known newspaper New York Times (on-line Travel section, article "The 41 Places to Go in 2011"), which gives Santiago a prominent place among the tourist destinations of the world. So attendees and participants at UGI 2011 will enjoy their stay in Chile; you will be welcome!!"

Edwin Hunt

Communications Sub-Committee for UGI 2011

3.2) KÖLN, IGU CONGRESS 2012

Dear Members of the IGU,

2011 has started and we would like to give you a short summary of the eventful 2010 here in Cologne. Dr. Valérie Viehoff has joined the IGC Local Organising Committee (LOC) and reinforced the international orientation of the team in Cologne. With regard to the programme and the scientific content some major steps have been accomplished: The profile of the four key topics has been further refined and the *Call for Sessions* was published in the summer.

Members of the Local Organising Committee attended several international conferences and workshops, presenting the refreshed concept of the IGC 2012 and inviting geographers of all ages and from all around the world to participate in the IGC 2012. Further progress was made with regard to the logistical and practical preparations of the congress in August 2012: All the necessary rooms for the keynote sessions and the meetings of the IGU Commissions and Task

Forces have been booked, space for an international trade fair and exhibition of publishers has been arranged and 16 spaces have already been allocated. Negotiations with several sponsors are currently being finalised and the attendance of the first keynote speaker has been confirmed.

The conceptual phase of the preparation is thus coming to an end and we have started to focus more on the logistical and practical implementations. Overall we are looking back on the achievements of the year 2010 with contentment and looking forward to fresh challenges in 2011.

With best wishes from Cologne,

Your Local Organising Committee

Deadline for the submission of sessions by the IGU Commissions and the submission of session proposals on the four key topics

The open Call for Sessions was published on the IGC website in July 2010. Until the closing deadline on 1st April 2011 session proposals for any of the four key topics of the IGC 2012 can be submitted via the online system. All submitted session proposals regarding the key topics will be reviewed and a selection will be made by an international Scientific Committee in May 2011.

1st April 2011 is also the deadline for the submission of sessions by the IGU Commissions. The chair of an IGU Commission or Task Force, you are cordially invited to inform us of any sessions you are planning.

A submission form was sent to each Commission by e-mail in August 2011. Please feel free to contact the LOC if you need a second volume of the form (info@igc2012.org).

The extended international Scientific Committee

During the first phase of preparation the Scientific Committee of the IGC 2012 consisted of ten representatives from within the German speaking Geography community. In preparation for the forthcoming tasks, such as for instance the review process of the session proposals and the continuous scientific monitoring and accompanying of the IGC programme over the next two years, the Scientific Committee has been extended by four international experts in each of the four key topic areas. The 26 members of the international committee will be meeting for their first workshop and conference in May 2011 in Cologne.

Representatives of the Local Organising Committee:

Prof. Dr. Frauke Kraas and Prof. Dr. Dietrich Soyez (Cologne)

Global Change and Globalisation:

Prof. Dr. Huib Ernste (Nijmegen, NL)

Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Glaser (Freiburg, GER)

Prof. Dr. Hans Gebhardt (Heidelberg, GER)

Prof. Dr. Xiubin Li (Beijing, CN)

Prof. Dr. Nigel Tapper (Victoria, AU)

Prof. Dr. Hervé Théry (São Paulo, BR)

Society and Environment:

Prof. Dr. Raquib Ahmed (Rajshahi, BD)
Prof. Dr. Hans-Rudolf Bork (Kiel, GER)
Prof. Dr. Boris Braun (Cologne, GER)
Prof. Dr. Patrick Nunn (Suva, FJ)
Prof. Dr. Christian Schulz (Walferdange, LU)
Prof. Dr. Yvette Veyret (Paris, F)

Risks and Conflicts:

Prof. Dr. Helmut Brückner (Cologne, GER)
Prof. Dr. Derek Gregory (Vancouver, CA)
Prof. Dr. Detlef Müller-Mahn (Bayreuth, GER)
Prof. Dr. Jean Radvanyi (Moscow, RU)
Prof. Dr. Johann Stötter (Innsbruck, A)
Prof. Dr. Ben Wisner (Oberlin, US)

Urbanisation and Demographic Change:

Prof. Dr. Surinder Aggarwal (Delhi, IN)
Prof. Dr. Taoufik Agoumy (Rabat, MA)
Prof. Dr. Martin Coy (Innsbruck, A)
Prof. Dr. Zaiga Krisjane (Riga, LV)
Prof. Dr. Günter Thieme (Cologne, GER)
Prof. Dr. Lee Boon-Thong (Putra Nilai, MY)

The LOC on a visit to India

Between 19 and 21 of November the annual meeting of the National Association of Geographers of India (NAGI) took place in Chandigarh. The Local Organising Committee of the IGC 2012 was represented in Chandigarh by Carsten Butsch, who explained the new concept of the congress and presented the current state of the preparations for 2012. The 600 participants of the NAGI thus not only had an opportunity to visit the stall of the IGC 2012, but they were also able to ask questions and learn more about the opportunities to actively participate in the IGC 2012 by submitting session proposals before 1st April 2011 or papers and posters at a later stage. The Local Organising Committee of the IGC 2012 looks forward to welcoming many members of the NAGI in Cologne in August 2012.

Trade fair and exhibition at the IGC 2012

As integral part of the IGC 2012 publishers and providers of geographical software and other equipment as well as geographical societies and other organisations shall be given an opportunity to present their products and services. As the initial 16 exhibition spaces provided in the main building were booked up more quickly than anticipated and further requests for bookings were received over the last few weeks, it was decided to create additional exhibition space. However,

given the architecture and lay-out of the buildings, fire regulations would prevent the provision of additional space inside the university buildings. A new location in the form of an exhibition tent on the plaza between the buildings will thus be added to create additional exhibition space. Another 24 exhibitors will thus get an opportunity to advertise their products and work to participating geographers from around the world. We look forward to receiving your booking request for a space in the IGC 2012 exhibition.

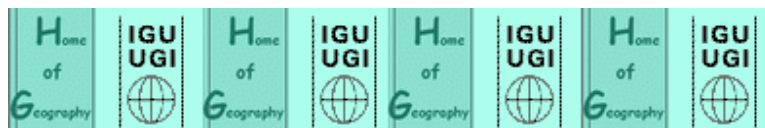
Dr. Holger Kretschmer h.kretschmer@uni-koeln.de

Very recent communication from LOC:

Dear Subscribers to the IGC newsletter,

We would like to inform you that another interesting conference on geosciences will close the call for abstracts soon. The General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) will take place in Melbourne, Australia from 28 June - 07 July 2011. The deadline for abstract submission is 1 February 2011. Please find more information on the meeting at <http://www.iugg2011.com/>.

Kind regards from Cologne,
Your LOC of the IGC 2012



4) REPORTS FROM CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

4.1) APPLIED GEOGRAPHY IN THEORY AND IN PRACTICE, ZAGREB, 5-6 NOVEMBER

Organized by the Department of Geography of the University of Zagreb, by L. Sakaja and A. Lukic, in their historical building, the international conference attracted over 100 participants, 60 papers, 8 posters presentations, from over 20 countries, mainly from central and southern Europe. Two keynote speakers, Michael Pacione and Antoine Bailly gave papers on "Applied geography: principles and praxis" and "An epistemology of Applied geography". The conference was a great place of scientific exchanges, showing the interest of young geographers for applied geography and their interest for the IGU applied geography Commission. It was a great initiative, to be followed by new ones in Europe

4.2) 5th JAPANESE, KOREAN AND CHINESE JOINT CONFERENCE ON GEOGRAPHY, SENDAI, TOHOKU UNIVERSITY, 7-10 NOVEMBER 2010

The 5th Japan-Korea-China Joint Conference on Geography was held at Katahira Campus, Tohoku University from November 7-10, 2010.

These Japan-Korea-China Joint Conference on Geography intend to give geographers from these three countries a place of international announcement and academic exchange between scholars, and specifically emphasizes the contributions and development of younger academics. Japan,

Korea, and China take responsibility as the host country by rotation, and year after year, this conference has become larger with the 5th conference ending on a particularly high note.

The 5th conference has held with 130 scholars, the highest number of participants ever. Seventy nine were from Japan, twenty one from Korea, and thirty from China, but five Chinese students and three Korean students were included as Japanese participants as they were studying abroad in Japan at the time of the conference. The backgrounds of the participants were versatile; for example, a student from Indonesia, Chinese students staying in Korea, and German scholars working at Sun Yat-sen University also came to the conference. The specialties were also versatile and covered a wide field of geography, such as city, agriculture, industry, development, environment, climate change, landscape, GIS/RS and so on as the titles of the presentations indicated.

The schedule of the 5th conference is described below. On November 7th 2010, Professor IKEYA Kazunobu of the National Museum of Ethnology gave the keynote speech entitled "Ecological sustainability and social development: a never-ending conflict for management of the earth?" in the 2nd building of the Institute for Materials Research.

On November 8th and 9th, seventy one oral presentations and thirty poster presentations were held. The chairs of the oral presentations were selected from among the young scholars and graduate students, and participants had active discussions at both presentation sites.

On November 10th, 2010, seventy seven members were involved in the excursion to observe the reconstruction efforts at the site affected by the Iwate-Miyagi Nairiku earthquake.

The excursion bus started from the hotel in Sendai City. On the way to the landslide location at Aratozawa Dam, the bus passed by the "Igune" (homestead woodland) and "Nagaya Gate" spread across the Monji area, Kurihara City. At the landslide location, Professor MIYAGI Toyohiko (Tohoku Gakuin University) explained how the large scale landslide occurred.



The participants during the field trip on the mountains surrounding Sendai

The excursion was originally planned to visit Kurikoma Rest House at Iwakagamidaira, but this plan was altered due to inclement weather. The bus returned to the base of the mountain and participants had commemorative photos taken (*see photo above*).

After the lunch, Professor MIYAGI explained the mechanism of landslides that occurred in the Iwate-Miyagi Nairiku earthquake, and Mr. KANAZAWA, a leader in the Koei area, Kurihara City, which was the area most affected by the earthquake, spoke about the reconstruction efforts in the area.

After that, the participants visited the outlet mall at Izumi park town: the suburban residential area within the Izumi ward, Sendai city, and then went back to the hotel. That night, a farewell party and recognition for the Young Geographer Prize were also held. Award winners (*shown in the photo below*) are listed in alphabetical order, their affiliations are those of the current session: KANG Ji-Hyun (Tohoku University, Graduate student, Japan) *et al.*, KIM Min-Gi (Konkuk University, Graduate student, Korea) *et al.*, KUKIMOTO Mikoto (The University of Tokyo, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Japan) *et al.*, LI May (Ochanomizu University, Graduate student, Japan), LI Nana (Nara Women's University, Graduate student, Japan), NORITO Takashi (Kyoto University, JSPS Research Fellow, Japan), PARK Chang-Yong (Konkuk University, Graduate student, Korea) *et al.*



The continuous holding of the conference leads more scholars from different geological fields to participate in the conference. The 5th conference was mainly administered by young graduate students and scholars, and this operating structure encourages frank discussion among the members. Such an operation is not common, especially for international conferences, and so it is valuable experience for developing scholars. The 5th conference was a precious experience for both participants and operators.

The committee of the 5th conference is a project team and will be dissolved after the paperwork is finished. The next conference held in Japan will be in 2013, in the same year as IGU Kyoto Regional conference will be held, when the committee of the 8th conference will be organized.

To read full version of the report, please visit the website of the Association of Japanese Geographers' "E-journal GEO" at <http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/ajg/ejgeo> (the article will become available within the next few months).

Kenta Yamamoto

4.3) IGU COMMISSION SEMINAR, COTTON COLLEGE, GUWAHATI , ASSAM, INDIA, 11TH TO 13TH DECEMBER, 2010

It was indeed a privilege and an opportunity for the Geography department, Cotton College to hold a seminar of the IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity, on the theme: 'Land Use, Biodiversity and Climate Change'

Cotton College as an institution that pursues and promotes academic excellence and scholarship has achieved many milestones in 109 years, and the Geography Department on completion of its fiftieth year ,have the privilege to hold a IGU Commission Seminar on 'Land Use, Biodiversity and Climate Change.

There was tremendous response to the call for papers .In total there were 360 abstracts covering the eleven sub themes mentioned below:

- Population and Land use
- Changing Human values and impact on Environment
- Biodiversity and the Himalayas
- Man Animal Conflict
- Land use Change and Wetlands
- Development Change and Human Health
- Urban Development and Land use Change
- Land use and Climate Change
- Integrated River Basin Development
- Sustainable practices in the Globalize world
- Geo-informatics in Land use and climate change



Folk song to begin the Opening Ceremony. Hearing at the desk, left to right: Prof. I.K. Bhattacharyya (Principal Cotton College, Guwahati, India), Prof. Udo Schickhoff (IGU Commission Biogeography and Biodiversity Chairman, Hamburg, Germany), IGU Vice-Presidents Prof. Giuliano Bellezza (Rome, Italy) and Prof. Yukio Himiyama (Asahikawa, Japan), IGU Commission Biogeography and Biodiversity Vice-Chairman Prof. R.B. Singh (Delhi, India) and the Convener Prof. Mahfuza Rahman (Guwahati, India)

The abstracts itself tell us that today, India's North east ,which is usually clubbed into a single entity is going through a transition, and hence an integrated development, intervention policy advocacy and collaborative research is required for inclusive development.

Geographers have played an important role in fostering strong active and ongoing interdisciplinary connections with faculty across colleges and University. Therefore, this Seminar encompassed not only geographers across the globe and other parts of India, but number of participants from other disciplines like the health sector, voluntary sector and industry had.

The Three days of the seminar was attended by more than 500 delegates. The seminar had lectures, poster and paper presentations , discussions, topical talks, experience sharing, field trip ,and the added attraction was stalls show casing the products from this region (handlooms and handicrafts and products made out of areca nut leaves).

This seminar , especially for people in this region was not only a platform for knowledge sharing, but use of the themes as a means to identify and thread together key issues facing all of us emerged . The boundaries of knowledge and understanding was pushed back by the end of the third day.

The first day the Inaugural session started at 9:30 am in the morning. With Prof G.Bellezza Vice President IGU on the Chair, Prof Yukio Himiyama VP IGU and Prof Udo Schickhoff, IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity as Guests of honour. A Souvenir was released by Prof Himiyama. Prof R.B. Singh, member of IUGG-IGU National Committee India spoke on the seminar and the importance of it.

The Plenary session on the first day was delivered by Pro Wolfgang Albert Flugel from Institute of Geography Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, Germany . He spoke on the impact of Climate Change and its impact assessment and analyses for integrated land and water resources management (ILWRM), applying the JESAT approach in Asia, Africa and Europe.

Post lunch the same day had six parallel sessions with researchers presenting papers on the eleven sub themes. A special interactive session was organized for students, where three short films were screened by the senior students of Maria's Public School, Guwahati that won laurels in the UN International School Conference in New York. The short documentary films were scripted, shot and documented by the children themselves. The films ranged from Climate change, Bio-ethics, Energy and environment and Pollution. Prof Wolfgang (Germany) and Prof Himiyama (Japan) interacted and disseminated information on international map drawing competition held every year in the month of October. The children got the message that not only deeper understanding of issues was required, but equally important were the lateral learning. Holding a student session was greatly appreciated because the children are the future baton holders of planet earth and their understanding and widening of their mental horizons is important.

Representative from Center for Environment Education released the toolkit (a CD) on Low Carbon Lifestyles. It is a trainer's guide with practical climate friendly actions that can be adopted in our daily life and the quantitative estimation of reduction of green house gas emissions by individual actions.

The second day 12th Dec 2010, morning plenary lecture was delivered by Prof G.Bellezza on Energy and Environment. He emphasized on renewable energy sources and geothermal energy to help solving the problem of energy crisis.

Post lunch plenary lectures was delivered by Prof. Yukio Himiyama, Hokkaido University of Education Asahikama, Japan, spoke on the "Changes of Population and Land use, Some observations in northeast Asia". Prof Parimal Bhattacharjee, retired Head Zoology department, Gauhati University and Wildlife Trust of India Executive Trustee, spoke extensively through a slide show on the diversity of fauna in the Northeast part of India vis a vis the other regions of the world.

On 13th morning the plenary lecturer was delivered by Prof Dulal. Chandra Goswami, Gauhati University and renowned geomorphologist from this region . His talk was on Integrated Basin Approach: Management Paradigm for Harnessing Northeast Rivers. He highlighted that the per capita and per hectare availability of water in this region is the highest in the country . However, less then 5% of the existing potential has so far been tapped for societal use. After which field trips were organized – one for a river cruise in the River Brahmaputra and the other to a Wildlife Sanctuary at a distance of 35km from the city.



Left, cruise on the Brahmaputra: Prof. B.C.Kalita, Head of the Department of Geography, with some guests and many of the local students who provided invaluable help during the Conference. Right, small commuter boats are continuously crossing the river

Recommendations.

- 1- Having two major international rivers, the redoubtable Brahmaputra and the Barak that flow through three most populous countries in the world- China, India and Bangladesh besides a host of tributaries with interstate watershed boundaries, the management of the Northeast regions vast water resources needs adequate regional as well as international cooperation and pooling of resources and expertise at the national and global level.
- 2 - Convert water resources of the region into a force for sustainable development of the region through an integrated , multidisciplinary approach that covers not only technological aspects but also social, economic and environmental aspects.
- 3 - An Apex regulatory body for water resource management should be formed..
- 4 - Mobilize students to form a forum to do collaborative activities.
- 5 - Transcend boundaries to bring all the North eastern states on to one platform for developmental programmes.
- 6 - Dynamics of land use changes should be studied carefully based on facts, and future land use should be planned to make it viable in the era of land and resource constraints.
- 7 - Encourage cooperation, collaboration and co ordination among all stakeholders of projects and programmes.
- 8 - Work towards environmental security and sustainability.

Mahfuza Rahman

4.4) TRAVELS AND TRAVELERS SEMINAR, UNIVERSITY OF MINHO, 17 DECEMBER 2010

Dear colleagues,

The conference *Travels and Travellers*, organised by the Geography Department of the University of Minho, Portugal, took place on December 17, 2010, in Guimarães. The event had an attendance of about 100 participants and 37 very interesting papers from eight different countries (Indonesia, Iran, Brazil, Argentina, Romania, Ireland, United States, and of course Portugal).

Parallel sessions were divided into nine groups: Tourism and Mobility; Travels and Representations; Travel Experiences and Geographical Writing; Tourism, Policy and the Production of Space; Travel and Identity; Travels and Geopolitics; Travel Cultures and Education; Travel Experiences and the Production of Space; Travel, Landscape and the Environment.



1)left to right: Agung Budiono, Indonesia, João Sarmento (Organiser), José Manuel Simões, Budi Guntoro (Indonesia); 2) Lively Session on Travels and Geopolitics

Included in the organisation of the conference was a cinema cycle dedicated to the theme of Travels, and four films were exhibited in Guimarães, during the months of November and December: *Motocycle Diaries* (2004) *The Darjeeling Limited* (2007), *Mickybo and Me* (2004), and *Into the Wild* (2007).

Furthermore, an exhibition of travel sketches and drawings by three artists (Eduardo Salavisa, Lapin and Isabel Fiadeiro) was also organised at the University, and was open to the public between November 30 and December 17.

Further info on <http://sites.google.com/site/vijjgp/home>

4.5) SPECIAL JOINT SYMPOSIUM OF ISPRS COMMISSION IV AND AUTOCARTO 2010

A special Joint Symposium of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) Commission IV and AutoCarto 2010 was held in conjunction with the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)/Cartography and Geographic Information Science (CaGIS) Specialty Conferences in Orlando, Florida, USA on November 15-19, 2010. The theme of the Symposium Technical Program Co-Chaired by Marguerite Madden President of ISPRS Commission IV and E. Lynn Usery, Chair of the U.S. National Committee to the International Cartographic Association (ICA), was “Geospatial Data and Geovisualization: Environment, Security and Society”.

A total of 567 participants from 39 countries attended the Joint Symposium that opened with a General Session featuring the Presidents of three international geospatial professional societies. Professor Orhan Altan, President of ISPRS, Professor William Cartwright, President ICA and Professor Ronald Alber, President of the International Geographical Union (IGU), discussed their perspectives on “Geospatial Data and Visualization for Challenging Times”. The ISPRS and ICA Congress Directors, Professor Cliff Ogleby and Ms Anne Ruas, respectively, outlined their plans for the ISPRS Congress to be held in Melbourne, Australia in August 2012 and the ICA Conference in Paris, France in July 2011.

Three additional General Sessions provided a mix of philosophical discussion, practical application and educational inspiration. Professor Menno-Jan Kraak from ITC, University of Twente, The Netherlands, posed the question, “Is There a Need for Neo-cartography?”. The combination of non-geoprosessionals collecting and displaying geo-tagged data with advanced geovisual analytics has resulted in seemingly chaotic mash-ups that lack cartographic design. Perhaps it is time to link cartographic guidelines with visualization strategies. In a second General Session, David Fuhr from Airborne Data Systems, Inc., recounted his experiences with multi sensor data acquisition, processing and distribution in response to the summer’s British Petroleum oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The fourth General Session was focused on educators and students. Dr. Kathaleena Edwards Monds from Albany State University in Georgia presented a project using DNA and GIS analysis to trace the African ancestry of 4H students in southwest Georgia and produce human migratory maps to help them explore their ancestry from a global perspective. This was followed by success stories from students active in ASPRS, ISPRS, CaGIS and ICA. Cemal Ozgur Kivilcim, Chair of the ISPRS Student Consortium, Meghan Graham MacLean, Chair of the ASPRS Student Advisory Council, Dr. Sarah Battersby, CaGIS Board

Member and participant in AutoCarto and ICA Conferences, and Sergio Bernardes, former President of the University of Georgia Student Chapter of ASPRS all spoke of how their involvement in geospatial professional societies has benefited their education and careers.

Held at the Doubletree Hotel just outside the entrance of Universal Studios, participants were offered 13 pre-conference technical workshops and registration permitted attendance at all Technical Sessions including four ASPRS Specialty Sessions, 19 ISPRS Working Group (WG) Sessions and 13 AutoCarto 2010 Sessions. Topics ranged from geospatial data infrastructure, imaged-based change detection and web-based geoinformation services to data ontology, geovisualization, generalization, 3D spatial data integration for disaster management and planetary mapping/databases. In addition, 8 special sessions were organized on topics such as commercial mapping product guidelines, meeting challenges of increased geospatial data availability, and the Integrated Geospatial Education and Technology Training (iGETT) Project integrating remote sensing into geospatial programs of two-year colleges. A poster session displayed 53 posters outside of an exhibit hall hosting 45 industry and government agency exhibitors. Finally, a total of 14 business meetings of US national and international geospatial societies were held during and immediately following the Symposium. Platinum Medallion Sponsorship by ESRI, ERDAS and Vexcel Imaging was greatly appreciated, as well as Gold Medallion Sponsorship by BAE Systems and ITT, Gold Conference Sponsorship by Riegl USA and Silver Conference Sponsorship by Cardinal Systems.

Each day of the conference there were organized events for all students and young professionals courtesy of the ASPRS Student Advisory Council (SAC). Members of the ASPRS SAC and the ISPRS Student Consortium (SC) co-chairs met for the first time and formalized their relationship by drafting a Memorandum of Understanding that was presented to the ASPRS National Board and the ISPRS Council. Plans were made to hold the ISPRS SC Summer School for the first time in the U.S. at Fayetteville State University in North Carolina, July 30 – August 6, 2011. The “Active Data for Active Students” summer school will focus on airborne, terrestrial and mobile laser scanner data theory and applications.

This joint Symposium was organized as a collaboration of professional societies that normally convene independently in different corners of the world. In challenging economic times we were seeking solutions to limited travel funds, overbooked professional and personal lives, ever growing conference obligations and the desire to reduce our geospatial carbon footprint. This Symposium addressed all of these concerns and offered the opportunity for cross-fertilization and discovery under a wide umbrella of GIS, remote sensing, photogrammetry, GPS, cartography and geovisualization. We hope the end result was the enrichment and promotion of GIScience for the benefit of the environment, security and society.

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Professor and Director Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science (CRMS)
Department of Geography
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4) IN MEMORIAM

4.1) REX WALFORD (1934-2011)



Rex was University Lecturer in Geography and Education at Cambridge from 1973 until 1999, and served as Head of the then University Department of Education in the early 1990s. He became a Fellow of Wolfson College in 1988 and an Emeritus Fellow in 1999. Rex ran the postgraduate (PGCE) teacher-education course for geographers for 25 years, providing the country with a constant stream of young enthusiastic geography teachers, and the University with a regular supply of wicket-keepers, opening batsmen and Footlights performers. Indeed, it was often remarked that the PGCE Geography timetable was constructed with an eye on the Wisden fixture list and the demands of play rehearsals!

Rex has been a leading international name in geographical education over the last three decades, contributing to the transformation of the teaching of geography in secondary schools throughout the United Kingdom. Many of his former students became teacher educators themselves, and the high quality of geography teaching in many secondary schools today owes much to Rex. He was a very effective and very enthusiastic advocate of Geography and a key bridge between Geography in universities and in schools, working with a missionary zeal to convince people that Geography is not only important but also fun.

.An early advocate of the use of games and simulations in Geography, he used his love of drama, Music and the arts to inspire and motivate teachers and taught alike. Rex was a man of seemingly endless energy and extraordinary humanity. His contributions to the world of Geography, through Geographical Association Committees, the Charney Manor conferences, the GA Worldwide quiz, his work as President of the Geographical Association (1983 - 1984), and his enlightened role on the National Curriculum Geography Committee, were boundless and immense.

At Cambridge, Rex started the transformation of the teacher education course by the introduction of 'Situation and Themes', a course set in the fictional Coldstream secondary school, which introduced students to education theory and practice through role play, analysis of classroom situations presented on video and problem solving of real school situations.

Such a practice-based approach, based on active participation and simulation, was innovative and revolutionary at the time, a landmark innovation in teaching education students which alerted successive cohorts of students to the relevance and application of educational theory. Whether in the seminar room or a primary classroom, Rex was a talented and innovative teacher, inspirational and energetic, with the most extraordinary use of humour to engage, stimulate and challenge. That he was beloved by his students is beyond doubt, but he also offered much kindness and generosity to his colleagues, as well as his ideas and resources. Retirement to Rex was fictional. A PhD linked his interests in religion and space and place, focused on the role of the Christian churches in suburban London in relation to the poor, and was only started in retirement when he had the time really to enjoy it. Alongside his academic career, Rex had a great love of the theatre, and was very actively involved, along with his wife Wendy, in amateur drama groups, largely as a writer, producer and musical director, producing performances of a high standard.

A Dorothy L. Sayer fan, Rex wrote a 'one woman' play about her life which he took to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 1985 with the Head of Department's secretary, Miriam Rundle, as Dorothy. He also produced a theatre performance of her radio play 'The Man Born to be King' as well as a dramatisation of 'Murder must Advertise'.

Since retirement, Rex expanded his life-time interest in theatre as a co-founder of Cameo Theatre Company, and at his death was a Council member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators and Chair of the Cambridge Drama Festival. He regularly worked with soprano Gabrielle Bell in presenting programmes and workshops about musical theatre, and frequently led courses for the University Institute of Continuing Education on music, theatre and film.

In all of these activities, and in his steadfast Christian faith, Wendy stood beside him and with him, encouraging, supporting, challenging, in a wonderfully reciprocal relationship. Rex's strong Christian faith pervaded all his work, and sustained his belief that all children should be offered the opportunity to succeed, whatever their background and circumstances. A truly brilliant teacher, Rex will be missed by so many colleagues, friends and teachers, across the world, for his intellect and knowledge, his understanding of geographical and educational issues, his dynamism and his warmth.

Mike Younger / Joan Whitehead

January 2011

<http://www.cambridgenetwork.co.uk/news/article/default.aspx?objid=77807>

(received from Prof. Simon Catling, on 2nd February, 7.45 p.m.)

Dear Colleagues,

You will recall that I circulated recently the very sad news of Dr Rex Walford's tragic death in a boating accident.

There is to be a Memorial Service to celebrate the life and many achievements of Rex Walford on Wednesday February 16th at 3.00pm. It is to be held in Ely Cathedral, Ely, Cambridgeshire, England, UK.

I am sure that many of you would want to come, though you may not be able to do so. It has been requested that those who plan to attend either come by sharing a car or by train, since there is restricted parking around the Cathedral. The Cathedral is 10 minutes walk from Ely station.

With best wishes,

Simon

(Professor Simon Catling)

4.2) IN THE NAMES OF GEORGES AND MIREILLE ANGLADE

In the Newsletter n.19 a short obituary on the life and dead of Georges Anglade was published. One year later we receive a new about the Anglade's daughter Dominique. A bright demonstration of the best way to overcome a private pain: trying to relieve other suffering people.

Haiti earthquake death of UQAM geography dept-founder Georges Anglade, and wife Mireille Neptune Anglade, has sparked initiative by their daughter Dominique: Moved by parents' death in quake, Montrealer reached out to help Before the earthquake, Dominique Anglade could count more than a handful of blessings. The diminutive 36-year-old, who hails from a prominent Haitian-Canadian family, had a thriving career as a management consultant, two young children, an adoring husband, and a sprawling mansion in Westmount.

Then, nearly a year ago, she earned another, uncomfortable distinction: Her parents, George and Mireille Anglade, became the first Canadians confirmed killed in the blurry aftermath of Jan. 12, 2010. They were crushed in the computer room of their family compound in the Mont-Joli neighbourhood of Port-au-Prince. A five-page autopsy report noted they died holding hands. Their demise left a gaping hold in Ms. Anglade's life, but it also steeled her in unexpected ways, fuelling the creation of Kanpe (Creole for "stand up" - <http://www.kanpe.org/home.html>) a non-profit that promises a new model for delivering health, educational, farming and other assistance to rural Haitians struggling to rebuild their lives. Kanpe seeks to cut through the daunting labyrinth of aid organizations by providing families with a guide – a Haitian caseworker to help assess their needs and find sustainable solutions. Essentially, Kanpe wants to help Haitians help themselves. The end goal is financial autonomy.



The death of Mr. Anglade, a long-time professor, founder of the University of Quebec [sic] at Montreal, and former Haitian cabinet minister, along with his wife, shocked Montreal's tight-knit Haitian community. Ms. Anglade allotted herself exactly six weeks to mourn before launching herself back into work at the consulting firm McKinsey. On the side, she nurtured Kanpe. "Despite the pain I was going through, I thought of all of the people in Haiti who don't have parents or children any more. People lost everything. And I thought I can't sit here in Montreal and feel bad about myself when there is such devastation in Haiti. I am probably in a better position than most who have been touched by this," reflected Ms. Anglade, who was

born in Montreal, but lived in Haiti for several years as a teenager before returning to Canada for university.

“I felt very lucky,” Ms. Anglade recalled the other day, curled on a white leather couch in her airy living room. For Ms. Anglade, the earthquake brought the persistent problems of international aid to Haiti into sharp focus. “There are thousands of NGOs operating in Haiti and obviously it’s not working. I thought, there must be something we can do to fight poverty that hasn’t been done in the past. How can we add value from a Canadian perspective?” she mused. A big part of that was eliminating the silos of competing aid organizations that work toward separate ends. Kanpe’s model targets families, assessing all of their needs and formulating coordinated solutions.

Back in Montreal, Ms. Anglade cobbled together a board that includes everyone from Paul Farmer, the U.S. doctor who founded Partners In Health to Régine Chassagne, the Montreal singer from Arcade Fire whose parents emigrated from Haiti during the dictatorship of Jean-Claude Duvalier. They enlisted corporate support from KPMG, Domtar and McKinsey, where she works.

The organization is now seeking to raise \$2-million to work with 500 families in the village of Thomonde in Haiti’s central plateau. Arcade Fire has pledged to match every donation, up to \$1-million. Barely six months old, Kanpe has raised \$200,000. Its goal is to empower Haitians to deliver aid rather than parachuting outsiders into the country. In practical terms this means identifying the neediest families – those with no income, malnourished children and no hope – and solving their problems through a Haitian caseworker. The caseworker assesses each family and comes up with a game plan to get them back on their feet. The plan is meant to be holistic, including everything from health care to financial support to education. On the ground, Kanpe has partnered with two of the most admired aid organizations in Haiti: Partners In Health and Fonkoze, a peasant bank that specialized in microfinance. Ms. Anglade, who has travelled to Haiti twice since the earthquake, once to bury her parents and last week to further Kanpe’s work, hopes to have the first 150 families selected to receive help in three months. “People say there is nothing happening in Haiti. There’s not enough, but there are things happening,” she says. “People say they are tired of giving to Haiti, but then just last week we received a \$66 donation from a three-year-old boy with a lemonade stand, so I refuse to be discouraged,” she adds.

Kanpe’s founders hope the charity will be a pilot project for how aid is delivered to other regions of Haiti in the future. Organizers are meticulously documenting their efforts, measuring what works and what doesn’t so that others can copy them. Ms. Anglade can see the difference her fundraising efforts in Canada are making on the ground in Haiti. She recalls a woman she met in Thomonde who had nothing until she was given three goats, as part of a microfinance initiative, which multiplied to eight goats in less than a year. Curious, Ms. Anglade asked the woman if goats had really made a difference in her life. The woman stared back at Ms. Anglade, dumbfounded. “She was looking at me like I was completely crazy. ‘Before I had nothing, and now I have eight goats,’ she kept saying. For her that meant the world.”

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/project-jacmel/haiti-one-year-later/moved-by-parents-death-in-quake-montrealer-reached-out-to-help/article1866642>

Sonia Verma
Globe and Mail
Jan. 12, 2011



5) FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(more information in the Home of Geography website, Events 2011)

6.1) CIRSI, SEMINAR ON DIVERSITY, GENDER AND DISCRIMINATION IN SPACES, BRUXELLES 16-18 FEBRUARY

6.2) REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF IAG/EAG, ORGANISED BY ETHIOPIAN ASSOCIATION OF GEOMORPHOLOGISTS, ADDIS ABEBA, 18-22 FEBRUARY 2011

6.3) ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS ANNUAL MEETING, SEATTLE(WASHINGTON), 12-16 APRIL

6.4) SECONDE EDITION DE LA BIENNALE DE CARTOGRAPHIE, LAUSANNE 14-15 AVRIL

6.5) COMMISSION ON GEOGRAPHICAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM, LONDON 18-20 APRIL



6) HOME OF GEOGRAPHY UPDATE

I am convinced that the possibilities of geographical researches, and the capability of the geographers, are largely unknown to governments and politicians all over the world. Therefore, with my work in the HofG, I am doing my best: 1) to diffuse geographical knowledge, and 2) to facilitate young people to be involved (please, have a look to the third point of President Abler's Remarks, opening the present newsletter).

I know that posting news in the website is a good way to inform people, but receiving a newsletter at home can determine an even wider distribution. There are today some news, very important but too large to fit in the Newsletter. They really deserve large diffusion: in the Home of Geography website, News 2011, January, young people can find information on travel-grants to attend the IGU 2011 Regional Conference in Santiago de Chile, both in Spanish (Becas) and in English (Grants).

In the same part of the website, the Chairs of the IGU Commissions can find the form to fill for organising a Session during the IGU 2012 International Congress in Köln (although they should have already received it).

I finish with the same words President Abler used in opening the newsletter, sending to all my best wishes for good health and for continued professional success in 2011 (of course, his English is far better than my one),

Giuliano Bellezza