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# Editorial

This is another double issue of the *IGU Bulletin* representing the years 2009–10. The period was as active and productive as ever for the International Geographical Union, as can be seen clearly through the various Commission and Task Force reports herein. 2010 saw the IGU Regional Conference hosted in Tel Aviv and a brief report on the event is presented. During 2009, the Executive Committee, having been established with substantially new membership after the Congress in Tunis towards the end of 2008, had cause to review and reassess the goals and directions of the IGU. The result was a set of priorities, indicating 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 four 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 2010. We hope to make it a premier resource for geographic information and contacts for the global geographic community that, in combination with the *IGU 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.

These are challenging goals and only time will tell if they prove to be achievable; future editions of the *Bulletin* will no doubt indicate this one way or the other.

*Michael E. Meadows*  
*Secretary-General and Treasurer*

# Éditorial

Voici un autre numéro double du Bulletin de l'UGI, qui couvre les années 2009 et 2010. Cette période a été aussi active et productive que jamais pour l'Union Géographique Internationale, comme on le voit clairement à travers les divers rapports des Commissions et Groupes de travail.

En 2010, la Conférence Régionale de l'UGI s'est tenue à Tel-Aviv, et un bref rapport sur cet événement est présenté.

En 2009, le Comité exécutif, après avoir été profondément renouvelé lors du Congrès à Tunis, vers la fin de l'année 2008, a été amené à examiner et réévaluer les objectifs et les orientations de l'UGI.

Le résultat en a été l'établissement d'une série de priorités, en indiquant comment l'UGI devrait se positionner face aux géographes et à la géographie pour les années à venir.

En plus de poursuivre ses fonctions essentielles d'organisation de conférences, de promotion de la recherche, de placement de géographes à des postes clés internationaux, et d'attribution de prix reconnaissant des réalisations exceptionnelles, le comité exécutif de l'UGI a l'intention, au cours des deux prochaines années de se concentrer sur quatre priorités:

- Travailler avec les hôtes locaux pour mettre à niveau les congrès de l'UGI et les conférences régionales. Pour rester viables dans la compétition pour le temps des chercheurs ainsi que les budgets de déplacement limités, les réunions de l'UGI doivent offrir une bonne valeur en termes d'organisation et de nouvelles connaissances scientifiques.
- Amélioration de la qualité et l'utilité du site web de l'UGI. Le site Web rénové a été mis en ligne en Décembre 2010. Nous espérons en faire une ressource de choix pour l'information géographique et un
- espace de contacts pour la communauté mondiale géographique, ce qui, en combinaison avec le Bulletin électronique de l'UGI (IGU E-Newsletter), sera un moyen efficace et puissant de promotion pour l'UGI.
- Prendre des mesures énergiques pour plus de recruter de jeunes chercheurs. Trop de géographes rencontrent l'UGI seulement en milieu de carrière ou à la fin. Susciter l'intérêt des chercheurs débutants exigera, bien sûr, que les dirigeants de l'UGI démontrent et illustrent la valeur d'une participation à l'UGI.

- Assumer un rôle de leadership dans des projets internationale inter-, multi- et transdisciplinaires. Les préoccupations généralisées sur le changement climatique mondial et ses dimensions géographiques pour les hommes offrent des possibilités exceptionnelles pour la géographie et les géographes. Nous espérons que l'initiative actuelle de proclamation par les Nations Unies d'une "Année Internationale de la Compréhension Globale" (YIGU) en 2014, pilotée par le président de la Commission de l'UGI sur l'approche culturelle en géographie Benno Werlen, est un exemple d'autres programmes futurs conçus et dirigés par les géographes. Le projet YIGU est une extension de l'initiative "Cultures et Civilisations pour le Développement Humain" lancée par le défunt Président de l'UGI Adalberto Vallega.
- Ce sont des objectifs ambitieux et seul le temps dira s'ils s'avèrent réalisables; les futures éditions du Bulletin seront sans aucun doute l'occasion de l'indiquer.

*Michael E. Meadows*

*Secrétaire général et trésorier*

**International Geographical Union  
2009–2010**

**Union Géographique Internationale  
2009–2010**

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## **The IGU Executive Committee 2008-2010**

## **Le Comité Exécutif de l'UGI 2008-2010**

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## **The IGU Executive Committee, 2010 – 2012**

## **Le Comité Exécutif de l'UGI, 2010 – 2012**

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**Minutes of the 2009 - 2010 IGU Executive Committee Meetings**  
**Minutes de réunions du comité de direction d'UGI 2009 - 2010**

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## ***International Geographical Union***

### **Executive Committee Meeting**

**Tel Aviv, Israel**

**4 – 5 May 2009**

*Present:* Ronald F. Abler, President; Vladimir Kolossov, First Vice President; Woo-ik Yu, Secretary General and Treasurer; Vice Presidents Giuliano Bellezza, Ruth Fincher, Aharon Kellerman; Markku Löytönen, Michael Meadows, Dahe Qin, and Dietrich Soyez; and IGU Executive Assistant Sarah Kim; *Excused:* Vice President Irasema Alcántara-Ayala.

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#### **Welcome and Meeting Logistics**

Abler welcomed the members of the executive committee to Tel Aviv and thanked them for attending the meeting. He expressed particular appreciation to Kellerman and his colleagues for arranging the logistics for the meeting and for the hospitality the committee's schedule promised, and to Fincher for participating in the meeting via an internet audio-visual link despite the six hour time difference between Tel Aviv and Melbourne.

#### **Adoption of the Agenda**

The committee approved unanimously the agenda Abler had submitted to the committee.

#### **Minutes**

The committee reviewed the minutes of its October 2008 meeting in Seoul. Those minutes having been approved by the committee in January 2009, no further action was deemed necessary.

#### **Operations**

##### ***IGU Country Membership***

Yu provided the members of the committee with an updated list of member countries, which the committee reviewed prior to a discussion of ways the executive committee could enlarge country membership in the IGU and encourage lapsed and observer members to re-affiliate and become active. Noting that he had attempted to make contact with the national committee chairpersons in all the countries for which he was responsible, Soyez asked for guidance regarding the specific liaison responsibilities of members of the executive committee. The IGU Statutes offer little guidance regarding the liaison responsibilities of executive committee members. Meadows reviewed his experience and suggested that finding ways to bypass contacts who are no longer active or who have lost interest in IGU is necessary. In general, executive committee members should be active rather than

reactive with respect to contacts with national committees, as well as with the IGU Commissions and Task Forces for which they are liaisons.

In reviewing membership data, committee members made note of the discrepancies among countries in dues levels. Given the state of the IGU's finances, the committee agreed that each member would contact the countries for which she or he was responsible to encourage both the payment of dues and arrears and an increase in dues category if it seemed appropriate. Further discussion led to a decision to explore the possibility of setting standard rather than voluntary dues, as a number of international organizations, including the International Council for Science (ICSU) are now doing. A committee consisting of Fincher, Yu, and Abler was asked to prepare a proposal for standardized dues based on the ICSU model for review by the executive committee at its Fall 2009 meeting.

### ***IGU Financial Report and Projection***

Secretary General and Treasurer Yu provided financial reports for calendar year 2008 and for the first few months of 2009 for the committee to review. The IGU's financial condition is sustainable, although little discretionary money to support programs or ventures beyond basic operations is available. Income in 2008 was \$ 127,423 and expenses were \$144,422 for a loss of \$16,999. IGU expenses normally exceed income in years in which an IGU Congress is held. Cash on hand at the end of 2008 was \$102,185.

### ***CCHD/UNYI Initiative***

The committee reviewed the progress being made in implementing the Cultures and Civilizations for Human Development/ United Nations International Year (CCHD/ UNYI) initiative under the leadership of Benno Werlen of the University of Jena

and chairperson of the IGU Commission on the Cultural Approach in Geography. After a productive meeting in Rome in June 2006, Werlen obtained funding from sources in Germany to underwrite the expenses of a project secretariat at Jena. Given the evolution of the project since its inception by Adalberto Vallega and Jean-Robert Pitte, renaming the project the United National International Year (of Global Understanding) is appropriate. The executive committee commended Werlen's effective leadership of the initiative, especially the steps he has taken to publicize the initiative to a number of organizations and in several countries. In response to Werlen's request for €20,000 for support for the UNYI Secretariat, the committee agreed that such an amount might be allocated over a period of several years, but that an immediate grant in that amount was not feasible. The committee asked Abler to convey the substance of its discussion and decision to Werlen after further consultation with Bellezza, Kellerman, and Kolossov, including the continuing need for representation from Africa, Asia, and Latin America on the project's steering committee. Kolossov will continue to serve as the primary point of contact between Werlen and the IGU Executive Committee.

### ***Commission and Task Force Monitoring and Review***

Abler reviewed the IGU's policy regarding the monitoring of commission and task force work and provided executive committee members with the letter that outlines the structure and content of the annual and four-year reports commission and task forces are required to submit to the executive committee and the general assembly, respectively. A similar letter will be transmitted to the chairpersons of commissions and task forces in October

requesting that their reports for 2009 be submitted by 31 December 2009. In response to a query regarding IGU policy regarding participation in commission and task force meetings by the vice president who serves as liaison with the executive committee, Abler noted that such visits are desirable but IGU funds to support them are extremely limited.

### ***IGU Bulletin Progress***

Abler reported limited progress on the delayed issues but he has identified a local printing firm that is willing to attempt the assembly of the diverse materials that are to be collated for some of the outstanding issues. Secretariat Executive Assistant Sarah Kim has begun assembling the 2007-2008 issue.

### ***Mediterranean Renaissance Program***

Kellerman summarized the written report submitted by program coordinator Maria Paradiso that reviews recent work, including the program's 24 February 2009 meeting in Rome and the MRP's plans for future work. The group's work is going well and it is developing plans to become self-sustaining financially. The program has no requests for the executive committee at this time.

### ***Geographical Journals Evaluation***

At the IGU General Assembly in Tunis in August 2008 Ton Dietz (Netherlands) suggested that the IGU undertake a project that would identify and assess geographical journals on a global basis in collaboration with national committees for the IGU in member countries. Several members of the executive committee are excited about the suggestion, noting that although similar listings exist in other disciplines, an inventory of geographical journals is desperately needed owing to the tyranny of the Institute of Scientific Information, which does not serve geography well.

The committee reviewed a brief report prepared by Dietz in collaboration with Alcántara-Ayala, Kellerman, Meadows, Qin, and Soye, and agreed that the proposed project should begin with an inventory that would help expose geographers to the variety of journals that exists and later move on to assessment only when a comprehensive journal inventory is in hand. The committee suggested that Abler contact Ton and offer to send a letter to the chairs of national committees asking them to collaborate with Dietz on the effort. Executive committee members Kellerman, Meadows, Qin, and Soye will continue to work with Dietz on implementing the program.

### ***Corporate Membership***

The executive committee reviewed a proposal submitted by Ton Dietz (Netherlands) in response to a request from Abler that he follow up on his observation at the August 2008 general assembly in Tunis, the IGU has not yet enrolled a corporate member although the 2004 general assembly in Glasgow changed the IGU Statutes to authorize the admission of members in that category. The proposal outlines a series of specific steps that might be taken to attract and retain corporate members in various industries. The difficulties of raising funds in the current depressed economic situation notwithstanding, and with due attention to possible conflicts of interest that could arise between the IGU and its member countries in soliciting funds from the same potential donors, the committee agreed that the effort should proceed; the committee suggested that Abler should ask Dietz to prepare a more specific list of the industries to be recruited, and to suggest language that could be used in a letter from the president to national committees attempting to enlist them in fund raising on behalf of IGU.

### ***IGU Unit and Coordinator Terms***

Kellerman noted that the IGU Statutes contain no provisions regarding the duration and terms of office of such IGU units as the Mediterranean Renaissance Program and the Cultures and Civilizations for Human Development/United Nations International Year. The committee agreed that in the absence of formal guidelines the executive committee would follow the same procedures that are applied to commissions and task forces.

### ***Home of Geography***

Bellezza reported no change in the status of the Villa Celimontana-Home of Geography. After some lengthy transfer difficulties, the funds promised by IGU to Villa Celimontana in October have now been transferred. A planned May 2009 meeting of the joint International Geographical Union/*Società Geografica Italiana* (IGU/SGI) Villa Celimontana was cancelled owing to the inability of the SGI members to attend. The IGU archives have been moved from the space they formerly occupied but are still accessible and the meeting facilities of the SGI remain available for IGU use on a space-available basis.

## **Cooperation and Outreach**

### ***International Council for Science (ICSU)***

Abler represented the IGU at the 29<sup>th</sup> ICSU General Assembly held in Maputo, Mozambique in October 2008. In addition to the customary reports from ICSU officers, the meeting focused primarily on implementation of the new ICSU strategic plan and on reports of ongoing ICSU projects, including the initiatives devoted to Integrated Research on Disaster Risk, Ecosystem Change and Human Wellbeing, and Health and Well-being in the Changing Urban Environment. ICSU officers and visitors also reported

on the Earth System Science Partnership (ESSP), the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP), the World Climate Research Program (WCRP), the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP), and the International Polar Year (IPY). A discussion regarding the future of the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment was inconclusive, as was the discussion following a report on Enhancing the Involvement of Social Sciences in ICSU given by a member of ICSU's key Committee on Scientific Planning and Review. It is clear, however, that the current ICSU leadership would welcome greater participation in ICSU by major international social science unions.

The IGU has designated Meadows, Qin, and Alcantara-Ayala its liaisons with ICSU's regional offices for Africa, Asia, and Latin America respectively. Abler will inform the appropriate ICSU regional office directors of the appointments.

### ***ICSU GeoUnions***

The ICSU GeoUnions, an informal consortium of earth science unions within ICSU, has met from time to time for some years to identify and act upon matters of common interest. The group met prior to the ICSU General Assembly in October. Discussion at the meeting was devoted largely to preparation for the ICSU General Assembly, with specific focus on GeoUnion participation in the activities of the ICSU regional offices, nominations of members for ICSU committees and for ICSU offices, the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE) science program, and the IYPE and its future.

### ***International Social Science Council (ISSC)***

The ISSC held its 27<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Cape Town, South Africa, in November

2008. Abler represented the IGU at the proceedings. Attention at the meeting focused on the forthcoming May 2009 World Social Science Forum to be held in Bergen, Norway and on the planned World Social Science Report that is to be completed in 2010. Other ISSC initiatives reported upon included Social Science Capacity Development by the Committee on Developing and Transition Economies (CoDATE), the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP) which ISSC sponsors jointly with ICSU, the Comparative Research Programme on Poverty (CROP), the Gender, Globalization and Democratisation (GGD) initiative, and the Research on Ethnic Conflict: Approaches to Peace (RECAP) program.

#### ***Affiliation with the CPHS***

Abler will continue to pursue IGU affiliation with the Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies, which would be helpful in pursuing the goals of the CCHS/UNIY.

#### **Festival International de Géographie (FIG)**

The organizers of the International Festival of Geography in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges, France have enthusiastically accepted a suggestion that the IGU Executive Committee hold its Fall 2009 meeting in conjunction with the Festival. *Oceans* is the theme of the 2009 Festival, and the year's *Pays d'honneur* is Spain. In addition to holding the executive committee meeting prior to FIG itself, the members of the committee should try to participate as actively as possible in the many meetings and events that take place during the festival. Possible contributions by one or more members of the executive committee might focus on, among other topics:

- IGU history
- IGU objectives and programs
- How IGU can more effectively engage the francophone geographical community
- The contributions of French geographers to world geography
- The Seventh European Frame Program
- Anglophone geographers working in France or on French topics and French geographers working in Anglophone areas or in Anglophone countries
- An IGU Cafe

Abler will write Jean-Robert Pitte and discuss these and other possibilities with him.

#### ***International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE)***

Abler represented the IGU at a meeting of the IYPE Board of Directors in London in January. In addition to the usual organizational matters, the meeting focused primarily on what is to, or should become of the IYPE's programs after the official end of the United Nations IYPE in 2010. There was general and often enthusiastic agreement among the members of the board that IYPE was highly successful and that its accomplishments could provide a sound foundation for further education and research programs in the earth sciences. Further discussions will explore how the IYPE legacy might be built upon and where funds might be obtained to underwrite such efforts.

#### ***International Cartographic Association (ICA)***

Prior to 1988, the ICA and the IGU held their congresses at the same time in the same venues. ICA recently broached the possibility of reinstituting that practice in the future, perhaps in Vancouver in 2020. Abler will continue discussions with ICA

officers on that suggestion and on other kinds of collaboration on topics of mutual interest.

### **HERODOT**

Bellezza has been in negotiations with HERODOT Director Karl Donert regarding the possibility of producing an edited collection of contributions on geographical education as a joint HERODOT-Home of Geography effort. The project is still under discussion.

## **International Geographical Congresses and IGU Regional Conferences**

### ***Tunis 2008 International Geographical Congress.***

The committee reviewed the report on the August 2008 Tunis International Geographical Congress received a few days prior to the executive committee meeting. Income from registration fees, event and excursion charges, and subventions obtained by the local organizing committee totaled \$563,340; expenses for all congress events and facilities, including a contribution to the IGU Promotion and Solidarity fund of \$9,150 totaled \$539,984, resulting in a net surplus for the Association of Tunisian Geographers of \$23,356.

The congress was held under the patronage of The President of Republic of Tunisia Zine El Abidine Ben Ali. The main congress attracted 1,113 paid participants and an additional 274 attended IGU Commission meetings held in or near Tunis, for a total attendance of 1,387. Tunisians constituted the largest body of delegates (292), followed by Japan (69), the United States (68), and China (62), and Germany (50). The organizing committee made 20 grants to young scholars from developing countries to defray their costs

of participating in the congress. Among the other dignitaries participating in the opening and closing sessions were IGU First Vice President José Palacio-Prieto; Professor Sergio Pastrana, representing the International Council for Science (ICSU); Professor Eduardo de Mulder, President of the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE); Professor Mongi Bousnina, General Secretary of the Arab League of Educational, Cultural, and Science Organization (ALECSO); and Tunisian Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Technology Professor Lazhar Bou Ouni.

The entire report on the congress will be published in the 2007–2008 issues of the *IGU Bulletin*. Abler will acknowledge receipt of the report and the appreciation of the IGU Executive Committee for the efforts of the IGU's Tunisian colleagues.

### ***Tel Aviv-Jaffa Regional Conference 2010.***

The committee received a detailed rundown on the plans for the 2010 regional conference including an inspection of the hotel and conference facilities in which the conference will be held. The executive committee met and lodged in the Dan Panorama Hotel Tel Aviv which is situated on the Mediterranean a few city blocks north of Old Jaffa. The Dan Panorama and its adjacent conference center will be the main conference hotel and the venue for conference sessions. The executive committee also met with and received reports from the conference local organizing committee and Target Conferences, Ltd., the professional conference organizers who will handle registration and program development for the meeting. All aspects of conference planning are well ahead of schedule. The members of the executive committee offered congratulations and thanks to

Kellerman and the members of the local organizing committee for their efforts on behalf of IGU 2010. The members of the local committee requested the assistance of the executive committee in identifying potential exhibitors for the conference. Executive committee members agreed to provide the committee with the names of agencies and firms in their respective countries who might be interested in exhibiting at the Tel Aviv-Jaffa conference.

### ***Santiago, Chile 2011 Regional Conference.***

The conference is tentatively scheduled for November 2011, which may not be optimal for northern hemisphere delegates. Abler plans to attend the November 2009 International Cartographic Association meeting that will be held in the same venue and organized by the same committee that will host the 2011 IGU conference. He will explore the possibility of alternative dates by mail and then in person in November.

### ***Köln, Germany International Geographical Congress 2012.***

Vice President Soyeز provided the committee with a comprehensive update on plans for the 2012 congress. The final dates for the conference are still being discussed with Köln University officials but a decision should be available by the end of July 2009. Among other features of the congress, the organizers will focus on broadening the appeal of the meeting beyond geographers and stress the value of geography in service to society. Soyeز also raised the possibility of organizing several sessions devoted to the status of geography in specific countries that would be sponsored by the IGU Executive Committee.

### ***Kyoto, Japan Regional Conference 2013.***

The executive committee did not request a report.

### ***Krakow, Poland Regional Conference 2014.***

The executive committee did not request a report.

### ***Moscow, Russia Regional Conference 2015.***

Vice President Vladimir Kolossov reported that the meeting will be held in the premises of Moscow State University during the last week of July 2015.

### ***Beijing, China International Geographical Congress 2016.***

Vice President Dahe Qin reported that the congress local committee will be established in 2010. The congress will most likely be held in the month of August.

### ***The Future of IGU Congresses and Conferences***

In light of the long-term secular decline in the number of delegates attending IGU meetings, the committee undertook a lengthy discussion of ways to make IGU conferences and congresses more attractive to more scholars and practitioners in geography and related disciplines. Among the specific suggestions that emerged from the discussion were:

- Improve the visibility of IGU meetings by publishing a *Best of IGC* Series. Commission should be engaged to select and edit their salient contributions;
- Increase IGU executive committee responsibility for, and influence over IGU meetings through improved liaison with local organizing committees;
- Redouble efforts to attract young scholars and postgraduate students to IGU meetings. International contacts and collaboration should be promoted as normal components of academic career preparation;
- Find ways to exercise quality control over meeting presentations. Could meeting evaluation forms be used?

- Experiment with illustrated paper sessions—ten to fifteen presentations primarily in poster format preceded by two to three minute summaries from each session presenter prior to breaking into poster format. This session structure, used with great success at Arctic Science Association and other meetings, provides participants with an overview of current work on the session topic (the brief summaries) followed by higher quality interaction for both presenters and listeners than is possible in standard session speaker-listener format. Following the summaries, audience members can focus on the two or three presentations most directly relevant to their interests and specialties.
- Prepare a protocol for session chairs that instructs them on what to do in case of unexpected events (particularly no-shows) and on how to keep their sessions on schedule.

The committee agreed that improving IGU meetings and attracting more delegates to attend them had to be a major priority for the IGU over the next several years; the topic will be placed on the agenda for the executive committee's next meeting.

### ***IGU Congress and Conferences Memoranda of Agreement***

The occasional misunderstandings and disagreements that arise between the IGU Executive Committee and local conference and congress organizing committees often result from the long lag time (as much as eight years or even more) between the selection of a meeting location and the actual event; it is not unusual for those who sought and accepted the responsibility for a conference or congress to have died, moved, or retired by the time the event occurs, leaving the responsibility for the meeting in the hands of individuals who were not involved in tendering the

invitation for the meeting, and who may be indifferent, or in the worst case were even opposed to soliciting the meeting. Such difficulties would not be totally resolved by written memoranda of agreement between the IGU and local organizers, but the basis for misunderstanding and disagreements would be clarified by such documents. Historically, the provisions governing IGU meetings have been contained in long series of letters and email messages among multiple individuals on both sides that may not be available to all interested parties.

Using the correspondence between former Secretary General Eckart Ehlers and members of the local organizing committee for the 2004 Glasgow Congress, Abler will prepare a draft memorandum of agreement to be concluded between future local organizers and the IGU Executive Committee for review by Kellerman, Meadows, and Soyez prior to further discussion at the executive committee's next meeting. Executive committee members suggested that the memorandum address the following items, among such others as may be appropriate:

- The locus of financial responsibility for each meeting;
- The provision of funds to support participation by young scholars and those from poor countries;
- Quality control of meeting presentations;
- Consultation with the IGU Executive Committee on the structure of the scientific program;
- Non-discrimination on a national or other basis in compliance with ICSU's principles regarding Scientific Freedom and Responsibility; and
- Local committee reports to the IGU, including contents, format, and deadlines.

## Organization

### *IGU Priorities for 2008 – 2012*

The 2008–2012 executive committee resumed the priorities discussion undertaken at its first meeting in Seoul in October 2008 and in subsequent correspondence. Following from the earlier discussion regarding IGU meetings, the committee agreed on three interrelated priorities:

- Improving IGU meetings should be a major priority for the executive committee through 2012;
- Attracting young scholars to IGU meetings and to membership in IGU Commissions and Task Forces is mandatory; too few young scholars are in evidence in IGU; and
- The relevance of the IGU to the work and careers of scholars of all ages and in all countries must be demonstrated; that relevance is not currently evident and it is assuredly not self-evident.

Suggestions put forth as ways of pursuing those priorities for further investigation include:

- Making the IGU a more effective and popular source for geographic information by identifying items of interest that could be lodged on the IGU web site. Could the IGU web site be made a portal for geography generally, perhaps in collaboration with a private sector organization such as Google? Might UNESCO provide support for a geography resource network hosted on the IGU web site, especially one aimed in part at increasing the visibility of geography among the general public? The generation of students now entering universities has been *diginated* from earliest awareness; a lively web site is need to attract members of the group. Might the IGU web site be used

to list available academic, government, and private sector positions available?

- Find ways to increase the relevance of IGU to colleagues who are uninterested or hostile to IGU. Participation in the IGU does not augment career advancement in most countries of the world; how could such participation be made desirable or even essential? Can the IGU's outreach be made more consistent and better targeted to indifferent national communities?
- Would the regular publication of international research by IGU in a journal attract scholars and raise the IGU's visibility?
- Is there a way to attract and retain the loyalty to geography and the IGU of graduates who do not pursue advance degrees? Geography programs field tens of thousands of graduates who lose their identity as geographers when they leave universities and enter employment. Maintaining contact with even a small fraction of such graduates could greatly benefit the IGU. Is there a way to do so?
- Might the IGU regularly organize special multinational seminars for promising young scholars similar to the workshop to be held prior to the Tel Aviv-Jaffa conference? An annual, high prestige conference of this type would create cohorts of scholars introduced to IGU and its commissions and task forces early in their careers.
- Could authentication, assessment, and validation be used more frequently to achieve greater prominence for the IGU? Should commissions be encouraged to establish honors and awards?

### *A Commission on the Informal Economic Sector?*

Soyez reported on inquiries made by colleagues in China-Beijing who

would like to establish a commission devoted to research on the informal economic sector in various countries of the world. Additional information and perhaps a proposal will be forthcoming. Consideration of such a proposal will raise questions regarding possible overlap with existing commissions as well as whether the IGU needs a policy regarding commission proliferation.

### ***A Commission on Transportation***

Yves Boquet (France) has discussed with Abler the possibility of establishing an IGU Commission on Transportation. He will prepare a formal proposal for executive committee consideration at its next meeting in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges.

### ***Executive Committee Meeting Schedule***

The next meeting of the IGU Executive Committee will be held in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges in conjunction with the *Festival International de Géographie*. Executive committee members should arrive in Saint-Dié on 29 September 2009. The executive committee meeting will conclude on 1 October, but members are encouraged to remain in Saint-Dié through the conclusion of the festival on 4 October and to participate in the many sessions and events of interest.

## **Honors and Awards**

### ***IGU Planet and Humanity Medal***

The committee discussed possible recipients. A suitable prospect was identified and will be contacted prior the next executive committee meeting.

### ***Laureats d'honneur***

Nominations from national committees will be solicited in November 2009 for awards to be made at the Tel Aviv-Jaffa regional conference.

### ***IGU Honors Committee***

Abler suggested that the selection of individuals to receive IGU Honors and Awards would best be made by members of a standing committee that operates largely independently of the IGU Executive Committee. He will prepare a proposal for consideration at future executive committee meetings.

## **Adjourn**

Having concluded its consideration of the items on the agenda, Abler adjourned the meeting with thanks to the members of the committee for their attention and contributions and to the Israeli colleagues for their kind and warm hospitality and excellent logistical support.

## Appendix A

IGU Executive Committee Commission and Task Force Liaison Assignments 2008-2010						
<i>No</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Chairperson(s)</i>		<i>IGU EC Liaison</i>	<i>News letter</i>	<i>activities</i>
<b>C08.01</b>	Applied Geography	Robert	Stimson	Abler	Feb. 2009	-call for papers -applied geog. & FIG joint conf. 2009, Oct.1-3 -annual report 2008
<b>C08.02</b>	Arid Lands, Humankind, and Environment	Mahmoud M.	Ashour	Bellezza		
<b>C08.03</b>	Biogeography and Biodiversity	Udo	Schickhoff	Meadows		
<b>C08.04</b>	Climatology	Zbigniew	Ustrnul	Qin		
<b>C08.05</b>	Coastal Systems	Edward	Anthony	Meadows		
<b>C08.06</b>	Cold Region Environments	Nancy	Doubleday	Qin		
		Dario	Trombottto			
<b>C08.07</b>	Cultural Approach in Geography	Benno	Werlen	Kolossov		
<b>C08.08</b>	Dynamics of Economic Spaces	Michael	Taylor	Soyez		
<b>C08.09</b>	Environment Evolution	Andrei A.	Velichko	Kolossov		
<b>C08.10</b>	Gender and Geography	Robyn	Longhurst	Fincher		-call for papers AAG -conf. in Hungary & Romania -history of the IGU gender commission -gender, place & culture award -call for papers -IGU borders conf. Sicily

<b>C08.11</b>	Geographical Education	Lex	Chalmers	Löytönen		- "Lucerne Declaration"-UNESCO -call for papers AAG -UNESCO conference "Education for Sustainable Development" - steering committee members
<b>C08.12</b>	Geographical Information Science	Brian	Lees	Löytönen	Jan. 2009	
<b>C08.13</b>	Geography of Governance	Jan	Bucek	Kolossov	Spring. 2009	
<b>C08.14</b>	Geography of the Global Information Society	Mark	Wilson	Kellerman		-digital communities conf.
<b>C08.15</b>	Geography of Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change	Jarkko	Saarinén	Soyez		-membership of the commission 2008-2012
<b>C08.16</b>	Geomorphic Challenges for the 21st Century	Anthony	Parsons	Meadows		-international conf. on geomorphology
<b>C08.17</b>	Global Change and Human Mobility	Armando	Montanari	Kellerman		-local organizer for Tel Aviv -international conf.
<b>C08.18</b>	Hazard and Risk	Shigeko	Haruyama	Ayala		-Hazard and Risk renewal -Hazard and Risk collaboration
<b>C08.19</b>	Health and Environment	Wuyi	Wang	Löytönen		-Ron's comment
<b>C08.20</b>	History of Geography	Jacobo	García - Álvarez	Bellezza		-contribution to GBS -commission renewal -Tel Aviv 2010 conf. -symposium(Madrid 2009)
<b>C08.21</b>	Indigenous Knowledges and Peoples' Rights	Jay T.	Johnson	Soyez		
<b>C08.22</b>	Islands	Chang-Yi David	Chang	Bellezza		
<b>C08.23</b>	Karst	Elena	Trofimova	Ayala		

<b>C08.24</b>	Land Degradation and Desertification	Gudrun	Gisladdottir	Meadows		
<b>C08.25</b>	Land Use and Land Cover Change	Ivan	Bicik	Ayala		-IGU LUCC commission
<b>C08.26</b>	Local Development	Michael	Sofer	Kellerman		-IGBP and the ICSU GeoUnions -new members
<b>C08.27</b>	Marginalization, Globalization, and Regional and Local Responses	Etienne	Nel	Fincher		-local organizer for Tel Aviv
<b>C08.28</b>	Modeling Geographical Systems	Yee	Leung	Löytönen		
<b>C08.29</b>	Mountain Response to Global Change	Joerg	Stadelbauer	Qin	Jan. 2009	
<b>C08.30</b>	Political Geography	Allan	Findlay	Kolossov		-A letter from Georgia
<b>C08.31</b>	Population Geography	Brenda	Yeoh	Fincher		
<b>C08.32</b>	Sustainability of Rural Systems	Lucette	Laurens	Bellezza		
		Ana Maria	Bicalho			
<b>C08.33</b>	Urban Commission: Emerging Urban Transformations	Christian	Matthiessen	Kellerman		
<b>C08.34</b>	Water Sustainability	J.A.A.	Jones	Meadows		-annual report 2008
<b>T08.01</b>	Geoparks	Dongying	Wei	Ayala		-guideline -A letter from Hiroshi Tanabe -UNESCO conf. on geoparks
<b>T08.02</b>	Megacities	Frauke	Kraas	Soyez		
<b>T08.03</b>	Olympiad	Joop	van der Schee	Bellezza		

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# ***International Geographical Union***

## **Executive Committee Meeting**

### **Saint-Dié-des-Vosges, France**

**30 September – 1 October 2009**

*Present:* Ronald F. Abler, President; Vladimir Kolossov, First Vice President; Woo-ik Yu, Secretary General and Treasurer; Vice Presidents Irasema Alcántara-Ayala, Giuliano Bellezza, Ruth Fincher, Aharon Kellerman, Michael Meadows, and Dietrich Soye; IGU Executive Assistant Sarah Kim.

*Excused:* Vice Presidents Markku Löytönen and Dahe Qin.

*Visitors:* Alexandre Moins, Scientific Director, Festival International de Géographie (FIG); Jean-Robert Pitte, 0000; and Christian Pierret, FIG President and Founder.

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Alexandre Moins, Scientific Director of the *Festival International de Géographie* (FIG) visited the meeting to welcome IGU Executive Committee members to Saint-Dié-des-Vosges and to the FIG. Moins presented a brief history of the festival from 1990 to the present, highlighting salient events that have occurred since 1990, this year being the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival. Moins also outlined the ways the festival's scientific program is organized and structured, and noted that the festival has had profound and positive effects on academic geography in France. FIG has raised the visibility of academic geography by publicizing its accomplishments, and academic geographers have become much more open to the media in France as a result of the publicity they have received at FIG during the last 20 years.

### **Welcome and Meeting Logistics**

Abler welcomed the members of the executive committee to Saint-Dié. He reviewed the schedule for the meeting and events following and suggested ways to executive could committee members could participate in the festival.

### **Adoption of the Agenda**

The committee approved unanimously the agenda Abler had submitted to the committee in advance of the meeting with three additions:

- the appointment of Charles Withers to the Commission on the History of Geography steering committee;
- IGU contacts with the International Association of Geomorphologists

### **Minutes**

The committee reviewed the minutes of its May 2009 meeting in Tel Aviv. The minutes were approved by the committee via email in July 2009. Two incomplete action items were noted:

- preparation of a set of guidelines for national committees regarding the importance and role of international collaboration in the normal academic career; and
- formulation of a protocol for session chairpersons at IGU congresses and conferences to guide them in keeping their sessions on schedule and in responding to unexpected events, especially no-show speakers.

Abler announced that the minutes would stand as submitted if he received no

corrections or amendments by 15 October 2009.

## **Operations**

### ***IGU Country Membership***

Secretary General and Treasurer Woo-ik Yu reviewed the current roster of country members. Attempts to re-establish contact with some countries that were formerly active have often been fruitless owing to outdated email addresses, deaths, and retirements. The secretariat will try making contact through the national committees of adjacent countries where possible. Noting that a few commissions were using their 2004–2008 numbers, Meadows asked that the secretariat remind commission chairs to use the 2008–2012 numbers. In response to a query about dues invoices, Yu reported that dues invoices had been sent in January and August and would be sent again at the end of October to those who had not paid their 2009 dues and any earlier arrears. Dues are invoiced separately for each year.

A discussion of differences in voluntary dues levels among similar countries led to a decision that a committee consisting of Abler, Fincher, and Yu will explore the establishment of fixed dues using a schedule used by the International Council for Science (ICSU) as a basis for a similar IGU dues scheme. The committee will prepare a proposal for consideration by the executive committee at its next meeting.

### ***IGU Financial Report and Projection***

Secretary General and Treasurer Yu reviewed 2009 IGU income and expenditures through August. Expenses are consistent with the projection for the year approved by the executive committee at its October 2008 meeting of income of \$303,000 and expenses of \$222,000.

Projected financials for 2010 are income of \$282,000 and expenses of \$182,000.

Several members of the committee asked for explanations of specific secretariat expenditures which Yu provided. The secretariat continues to benefit from generous financial support from Seoul National University and from Professor Yu's personal funds.

### ***IGU Cultures and Civilizations for Human Development/United Nations International Year Initiative (UNIY)***

The committee undertook a lengthy discussion of the progress of the initiative begun by Adalberto Vallega and subsequently taken over by Benno Werlen, Chairperson of the IGU Commission on the Cultural Approach in Geography (C08.07). After a thorough review of the challenges and opportunities presented by the program, the executive committee:

- affirmed its earlier designation of Kolossov as the primary point of contact between the IGU Executive Committee and the UNIY project;
- reiterated the need to form a project steering committee representative of all the world's major culture regions;
- tasked its own members to provide names of candidates for the project steering committee from their respective regions of responsibility for Werlen's consideration;
- suggested that Werlen should designate steering committee liaisons with the Mediterranean Renaissance Project and the Home of Geography; and
- agreed to allocate €15,000 in IGU support for the project for 2009–2010.

Kolossov will inform Werlen of the results of the executive committees deliberation and Abler will encourage commission

and national committee chairpersons to collaborate with the UNYI project and to suggest individuals who could participate in the project or serve on its steering committee. The discussion concluded on a note of thanks to Werlen for his leadership of the project and congratulations on his success in obtaining financial support for the project secretariat at Jena from local sources.

### ***Commission and Task Force Reports***

The executive committee reviewed and approved the draft of a letter that will be used to solicit annual reports from IGU Commissions and Task Forces. The reports will be due in time for the secretariat to assemble them for review at the committee's April 18–20 2010 meeting. Fincher suggested that the section of the IGU Handbook (0000) outlining the responsibilities of commission chairs be included with the request for 2009 annual reports. To facilitate the compilation of *IGU Bulletins*, commission and task force chairpersons should also be given a page limit and a style sheet.

In further discussion of commission and task force research, Alcantara-Ayala proposed that the committee develop strategies for encouraging publication of such findings in prestige journals. Kolosov suggested selecting high quality congress and conference presentations for inclusion in a "Best of the IGU" publication series, and perhaps a publication series specifically for young scholars. Abler suggested that prizes regularly awarded by commissions and task forces would be another way to encourage participation in IGU meetings and subsequent publication. The committee agreed to continue the consideration of ways to encourage publication under IGU auspices at its next meeting.

### ***IGU Bulletin Progress***

Abler and Sarah Kim have been coordinating the production of the back volumes of the *IGU Bulletin*. They will all (2003–2008) be printed in Seoul and mailed together from there in order to reduce the cost of both printing and mailing, which, combined, has run about \$15,000 per volume in the USA in the past.

### ***Mediterranean Renaissance Program (MRP) and Leadership***

The MRP has a book in publication on "Contemporary Mediterranean Geography" based on the conference it recently held in Rome. The program will hold future conferences in Tunis in collaboration with the *Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche Sociale* and in Tel Aviv with the IGU Commission on the Geography of the Information Society (C08.0000).

In compliance with the guidelines adopted when the MRP was established, the executive committee approved the appointment of Professor Maria Paradiso as Director of the MRP and Professor Ali Toumi as Program Secretary for terms of four years effective on 1 October 2009. The committee expressed its appreciation for the leadership of Mahmoud Ashour, outgoing MRP Director and for Paradiso's effective service as Program Secretary.

### ***Geographical Journals Evaluation Project***

The committee reviewed the written report sent by Ton Dietz, leader of the journals initiative. Dietz and his assistant have compiled a list of more than 1,000 geographical journals as a partial basis for the project. Bellezza reported that he has provided the list of journals Dietz requested, and Qin's was received by mail prior to the meeting. Meadows proposed that the information gathered to date be placed on the IGU web site as soon as

possible, preferably by the end of 2009. Mr. Seung-pyo Hong in the IGU Secretariat will assist Dietz in putting the information on the IGU web site after it is transferred to Seoul. A list of countries that have not yet responded to Dietz's request for their journal lists should be obtained so that the vice presidents responsible for those countries can encourage their cooperation with the journals project. The committee concluded its discussion of the project by expressing thanks for Dietz for his initiative in proposing the project and his effectiveness in leading it.

### ***Endowment/Corporate Membership Program***

Kellerman presented a summary of Ton Dietz's original and modified proposals for a campaign to recruit corporate sponsors for the IGU and reported on a recent opportunity to make contact with an executive at Google. Kellerman and Meadows will pursue that possibility. The global economic downturn suggests that the original plan for a vigorous campaign for corporate members might be scaled back until economic conditions improve. Kellerman will try to arrange a meeting with Dietz in Europe early in 2010 or invite Dietz to the executive committee's April 2010 meeting in Washington DC, if Dietz plans to attend the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers there.

### ***Home of Geography***

The committee reviewed the letter of 8 June 2009 from Professor Franco Salvatore, President of the *Società Geografica Italiana (SGI)*, which hosts the IGU's office in Rome. The SGI has reclaimed the office space that formerly housed the Home of Geography but it remains willing to house the IGU archives and to IGU commission and task force meetings on a space-available basis, for which the committee expressed

its thanks. Salvatore also reported the balance of IGU funds remaining at SGI as a result of the SGI's roles as the fiscal agent for the Home of Geography. The executive committee approved Bellezza's request that he be allowed to use the residual funds for the expenses of producing the *IGU E-Newsletter*.

### ***IGU Website***

The IGU web site will shortly be transferred to the IGU Secretariat in Seoul. Abler has written letters of thanks to the appropriate individuals at the University Helsinki who made it possible for the IGU's site to be hosted there from its inception in 1996. Several members of the committee suggested that a redesign of the web site be undertaken in the near future and Yu agreed to start the process.

### ***IGU Wikipedia Entry***

A person or persons unknown has placed a partial entry for the IGU on Wikipedia. The article appears to be based primarily on the current IGU brochure but is incomplete. Abler asked the members of the committee to review the posting and suggested that it be completed and updated as part of the updating of the IGU web site.

### ***Executive Committee Meeting Schedule***

Noting that the executive committee will meet in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in mid-April 2010, Abler questioned the necessity of the meeting schedule just prior to the Tel Aviv Regional Conference, less than 90 days later. After reconsidering the matter, the committee agreed that a half day meeting on the morning of Monday, 12 July 2010 would suffice. Dahe Qin suggested to Abler that the committee might meet in Beijing in 2010 or 2011. The committee agreed to try to work a Beijing meeting into its schedule.

## Cooperation and Outreach

### *International Council for Science (ICSU)*

Alcantara-Ayala reported on her appointment to ICSU's key Committee on Scientific Planning and Review (CSPR). The committee seeks the help of its members unions such as IGU in publicizing ICSU's programs and projects. Abler provided a brief overview of these programs and projects as described in the issue of the ICSU newsletter included in the meeting briefing book. Meadows inquired whether the IGU has any formal relationships with the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) either independently or via ICSU. Abler responded that there was some contact early in his time with IGU but that there were not active contacts now. Alcantara-Ayala and Meadows asked Abler to explore the possibility of appropriate linkages with IAG officers.

**ICSU GeoUnions** Abler will serve as the informal secretary of the ICSU GeoUnions cluster through 2010 and will convene the next GeoUnions caucus prior to the ICSU Unions meeting in April 2010. He reviewed the role and goals of the cluster within ICSU and provided a roster of the group's officers for the information of the committee. The cluster consists, in addition to the IGU, of:

- the International Astronomical Union (IAU);
- the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA);
- the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS);
- the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG);
- the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS);
- the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS); and

- the International Union of Radio Sciences (URSI, from its name in French).

The IGU is also active in the social sciences cluster within ICSU.

### *International Social Science Council (ISSC)*

Abler reviewed the high points of the notes from the ISSC General Assembly held in November 2008 and the ISSC World Social Science Forum (WSSF) that met in May 2009. The general assembly focused on opportunities for social scientists in new global programs (particularly those focused on global change), the planned 2010 World Social Sciences Report (WSSR), capacity building in and or the social sciences, international research and exchanges, and related matters. Abler attended the WSSF in Oslo. Largely through the effectiveness, experience, and insights of ISSC President and Forum organizer, Gudmund Hernes, the forum broke new ground in exploring the ways social scientists can contribute to policy formulation at domestic and international scales.

### *Festival International de Géographie (FIG)*

Abler reviewed with the members of the committee the Memorandum of Understanding between FIG and IGU that was signed by both parties on 1 October 2005. Owing to the tragic demise of IGU President Adalberto Vallega shortly thereafter and the period of uncertainty following his death, the provisions of the agreement fell somewhat into abeyance from 2006 – 2008. The presence of the IGU Executive Committee at this, the 20<sup>th</sup> iteration of the Festival, offers an excellent opportunity to re-animate the provisions of the memorandum for the mutual benefit of FIG and the IGU. The ongoing discussions with FIG officials during this meeting of

the executive committee should provide a productive framework for more intensive participation of IGU Executive Committee members in the 2010 Festival.

### ***International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE)***

The IYPE project is in its final stages after several years of highly successful programs of research and education in the earth sciences. Frauke Kraas's leadership of the Megacities component of IYPE has drawn widespread praise from throughout the IYPE community. The capstone event of IYPE will be held in Lisbon in November 2009, where the IYPE Board of Directors will explore ways to continue and capitalize on the IYPE's accomplishments. Abler will represent IGU at the meeting.

### ***International Cartographic Association (ICA)***

Former IGU President Bruno Messerli represented the IGU at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the ICA's founding Bern in June. Inasmuch as Bruno knew ICA founder Eduard Imhof well and his wife Beatrice was a student translator at the launch meeting of the ICA in 1959. Bruno reports that ICA is eager for closer collaboration with IGU. Abler will explore collaboration with the ICA Executive Committee when he visits the venue where the ICA will be holding its congress in November, which is the same location for the 2011 IGU Regional Conference in Santiago de Chile.

### ***EUGEO (European Geography)***

EUGEO was initiated in 1994 to foster greater cooperation among independent European geographical associations, institutes, and societies. After reviewing information gleaned from the EUGEO web site (<http://www.eugeo.org/AboutEUGEO.htm>) the executive committee agreed to contact EUGEO officers about possibilities of collaboration between EUGEO and IGU.

## **International Geographical Congresses and IGU Regional Conferences**

### ***Tunis 2008 International Geographical Congress.***

The committee reviewed the financial report from the 2008 congress. Yu noted that the contribution to the IGU Promotion and Solidarity Fund due from the Tunis congress local organizing committee had not yet been received at the secretariat.

### ***Tel Aviv 2010 Regional Conference.***

Kellerman reported on the status of plans for the 12 – 16 July Regional Conference. The Tel Aviv Local Organizing Committee (LOC) met last week and everything seems to be on track for the meeting. The LOC has made contact with all IGU Commissions and Task Forces except Arid Lands and Mountain Response to Global Change which have not responded to LOC queries regarding their plans. The conference web site (<http://www.igu2010.com/>) is active in both English and French and the Conference Second Circular is now available there.

### ***Santiago, Chile 2011 Regional Conference.***

Abler will visit Santiago to inspect the conference venue and meet with local organizers at the time of the International Cartographic Congress in November 2009. The IGU Conference is tentatively scheduled for November 2011. In reviewing academic calendars for both the Northern and Southern hemispheres, it became clear that a meeting during the first two weeks of November is greatly preferable to one scheduled during the last two weeks of that month.

### ***Köln, Germany 2012 International Geographical Congress.***

Soyez reported that planning for the congress is on schedule. A workshop was

held in June to identify topical emphases for the congress and a consultative committee is working on congress frameworks and structure. The congress web site (<http://www.igc2012.org/>) is up in German; French and English versions will be added shortly. The organizers are planning a large number of cross border field excursions that will be closely linked to congress themes. The exact dates for the congress remain to be determined owing to the necessity of scheduling the event around examinations that will be held in August 2012 at the University of Cologne, where the congress will be held.

#### ***Kyoto, Japan 2013 Regional Conference.***

The committee agreed that a report on planning should be requested for review at the committee's April 2010 meeting.

#### ***Krakow, Poland 2014 Regional Conference.***

The executive committee requested no update on the meeting.

#### ***Moscow, Russia 2015 Regional Conference.***

Kolossov reported that the conference will be held on the premises of Moscow State University, most likely in the last week of July 2015.

#### ***Beijing, China 2016 International Geographical Congress.***

In the absence of IGU Vice President Dahe Qin no additional information was available regarding the meeting other than that it is tentatively scheduled for the month of August. Abler will visit Beijing in October 2009 and will check on the state of planning for the event at that time.

#### ***Improving Future IGU Congresses and Conferences***

After reviewing the minutes devoted to the topic at its May 2009 meeting, the committee revisited the subject of improving the contents and structure

of IGU Congresses and Conferences in order to attract more delegates. At one level, financial aspects of congresses and conferences were mentioned often. Abler suggested that the IGU's current meeting model in which local organizing committees take all risks is not sustainable for the long term, especially in light of a close reading of the final reports submitted by the organizers of the Durban, Glasgow, Brisbane, and Tunis meetings; a joint venture model in which IGU and local organizers share risks and any financial surplus, and, of course, are jointly responsible for any financial losses, is the most probable structure for future meetings.

In terms of specific strategies, in addition to those discussed previously, committee members suggested:

- alternative presentation formats to complement traditional lecture-type papers and panel discussions;
- techniques for dealing with speakers who talk beyond their allocated times;
- policies for dealing with speakers who do not provide advance notice of their inability to attend IGU meetings, including listing their names in final meeting reports and alerting the organizers of subsequent meetings of their boorish behavior; and
- conducting evaluations of sessions and speakers at IGU Congresses and Conferences.

Implementing these and other suggestions will be explored with the organizers of future IGU meetings. The committee may also ask the chairpersons of commissions and national committees for their ideas on upgrading IGU meetings. In the meantime, a set of guidelines for the chairpersons of sessions held at IGU meetings will be prepared and offered to local organizing committees.

## ***IGU Congress and Conferences Memorandum of Agreement***

The committee reviewed a draft Memorandum of Agreement for IGU Congresses and Regional Conferences prepared by Abler that reflects current and recent IGU practice. Formal agreements between the IGU Executive Committee and Local Organizing Committees would help reduce tensions between the respective parties. Occasional misunderstandings and disagreements usually result from the long lag time (as much as eight years or even more) between the selection of a meeting location and the actual event. It is not unusual for those who sought and accepted the responsibility for a conference or congress to have died, moved, or retired by the time the event occurs, leaving the responsibility for the meeting in the hands of individuals who were not involved in tendering the invitation for the meeting, and who may be indifferent, or in the worst case even opposed to soliciting the meeting. Such difficulties would not be totally resolved by written memoranda of agreement between the IGU and local organizers, but the basis for misunderstanding and disagreements would be clarified by such documents. Historically, the provisions governing IGU meetings have been contained in long series of letters and email messages among multiple individuals on both sides that may not be available to all interested parties.

Executive Committee members offered a variety of suggestions regarding specific provisions of the draft proposal. By far the most contentious disagreement that emerged in the committee's discussion is the traditional expectation that local organizing committees are responsible for providing members of the IGU Executive Committee with lodging for an executive committee meeting well in advance of each

meeting and for another just prior to each meeting, as well as with complimentary registration and lodging at the conference or congress itself. The organizers of the Durban, Glasgow, and Brisbane IGU meeting have identified those costs as a serious drain on their meeting budgets and a source of resentment among the members of their organizing committees, many of whom pay their lodging and registration fees personally out of principle or necessity. The committee debated the pros and cons of current policy at considerable length and often with passion, but came to no consensus on whether the policy should be continued or altered. The committee will return to the subject at its next meeting in April 2010.

## **Organisation**

### ***2010 Secretary General and Treasurer Election***

Abler outlined the procedure and timetable to be followed for the election next year of a successor to Secretary General and Treasurer Woo-ik Yu, who has chosen not to stand for re-election. The procedure will be comparable to that used to elect a successor to Vice President Nikita Glazovsky in 2006. The ballots will be received and counted by a party independent of IGU and the results of the election will be known in late April 2010. The new Secretary General and Treasurer will take office at the conclusion of the Tel Aviv Regional Office for an initial term of four years ending at the conclusion of the Krakow Regional Conference in 2014. Only the chairpersons of IGU National Committees are eligible to vote in the election.

### ***Commission on Transportation***

The committee reviewed and approved a proposal for the establishment of an IGU Commission on Transportation submitted by Yves Boquet (France). Richard

Knowles (United Kingdom) will chair the commission, which will begin operations immediately.

### ***Commission on the Informal Economic Sector***

Several individuals contacted Soyez more than a year ago regarding a commission focused on informal economies. They have not responded to an invitation to submit a formal proposal. No further consideration is possible in the absence of a proposal.

### ***Commission on the Geopolitics of Sub-Alternate Knowledge***

Alcantara-Ayala and Abler have had intermittent contact with the group proposing the commission but have not yet received a revised proposal.

### ***Commission on Toponymy***

The possibility of forming an IGU Commission focused on place names and naming has been discussed informally for several years, with David Munro (Scotland) and Sungjae Choo (South Korea) designated as prime movers. The International Cartographic Association may be interested in a joint ICA-IGU Commission on Toponymy. Abler will assess ICA interest in a joint commission when he visits the ICA executive committee in November.

## **Honors and Awards**

### ***IGU Planet and Humanity Medal***

A highly distinguished individual has agreed to accept the IGU Planet and Humanity Medal at the Tel Aviv Regional Conference. The individual's name will be announced in a press release a week or ten days prior to the conference.

### ***IGU Laureats d'honneur***

The IGU customarily awards its *Laureats d'honneur* at IGU Congresses. Accordingly, national committees will not be solicited for nominations until October 2011.

### ***Proposed IGU Honors Committee***

Discussion of a draft proposal to establish an IGU Honors Committee to receive and evaluation nominations for IGU awards was postponed until the committee's next meeting.

## **Adjourn**

The committee having concluded its deliberations, President Abler adjourned the meeting at 16h30 on 1 October 2009 by expressing the deep appreciation of the IGU Executive Committee to Mr. Christian Pierret and the Festival staff for their generous hospitality during the meeting and the Festival.

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# ***International Geographical Union***

## **Executive Committee Meeting**

### **National Academy of Sciences, Washington DC**

#### **17 – 20 April 2010**

*Present:* President Ronald F. Abler; First Vice President Vladimir Kolossov; Secretary General and Treasurer Woo-ik Yu; Vice Presidents Irasema Alcántara-Ayala, Giuliano Bellezza, Ruth Fincher, Aharon Kellerman, Michael Meadows, Dahe Qin, and Dietrich Soyez. *Excused:* Vice President Markku Löytönen. *Visitors:* Anthony de Souza (National Academy of Sciences), Ton Dietz (University of Amsterdam), Mark Lange (National Academy of Sciences).

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### **Welcome and Meeting Logistics**

Abler called the meeting to order and welcomed committee members to Washington, DC and to the National Academy of Sciences headquarters. Mark Lange of the Committee on Geographical Sciences of the National Academy of Sciences also welcomed the committee.

### **Adoption of the Agenda**

The committee approved the agenda prepared by the President with the addition of an item regarding the effect of the annual conferences and congresses scheduled for 2010 through 2016 on IGU Commission operations.

### **Minutes**

The committee agreed that the minutes of its October 2009 meeting in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges would stand as submitted unless additional changes were proposed by 30 April 2019.

### **Operations**

#### ***Membership and Finance***

Secretary General Yu provided the committee with an updated list of country members, a report on IGU income and expenses for 2009, and a financial projection for 2010. He cautioned that the

apparent surplus in current operations should be viewed as a temporary situation owing to the large year to year fluctuations in IGU income and expenditures. The committee suggested posting a matrix of dues payments on the IGU web site in order to spur the payment of country dues arrears and sending the IGU income-expense statement to all national committees in addition to placing it on the web site also. Inasmuch as many executive committee members have obtained external support for their travel to meetings, the committee agreed that such contributions and the consequent decreased costs of executive committee travel should be documented for the Cologne meeting of the general assembly. The committee also asked Yu to update the matrix in the dues report for Armenia, Ukraine, and any other country that has moved from Observer to Member status. IGU should also remind IGU commissions and task forces that they must invoice the Secretariat annually for their allocations and that they may apply for extra funds on a competitive basis. Returning to a topic that has been discussed in prior meetings, the committee asked that a draft proposal for fixed dues (as opposed to the current voluntary scheme for country dues) be prepared for consideration at the next

executive committee meeting. Abler agreed to do so. The discussion concluded with unanimous approval by the committee of the financial reports prepared by Yu.

### ***United Nations International Year for Global Understanding Initiative (UN-IYGU)***

The committee reviewed progress to date on the initiative being led by Benno Werlen, Chairperson of the IGU Commission on the Cultural Approach in Geography who has now raised in excess of €50,000 for support of the IYGU Secretariat and its operations. Committee members reiterated some of the observations made at the October 2009 Saint-Dié meeting including the need to globalize the leadership of the project by establishing a steering committee to guide the initiative's operations. In response to Werlen's request for funds to demonstrate the IGU's support to other prospective donors, the committee agreed that \$7,000 should be allocated to the initiative and that Werlen should provide the executive committee with a project timeline and a list of prospective steering committee members by 15 May 2010. The steering committee should include representatives from the Mediterranean Renaissance Project and the Home of Geography.

### ***Commission and Task Force Operations***

The committee reviewed the reports received (Appendix A) from IGU Commissions and Task Forces in response to Abler's request for reports on their 2008 – 2009 activities. The reports were reviewed individually and the chairpersons of the bodies that submitted reports will be apprised individually of comments and suggestions made by executive committee members during the discussion. During discussion the question arose as to whether the executive committee could replace inactive commission and task force

chairperson between general assembly meetings. Abler agreed to investigate the question and suggest an appropriate modification of IGU Statutes. The committee also agreed to schedule a meeting with the chairperson of commissions and national committees in Tel Aviv.

### ***IGU Bulletin***

The 2003 – 2004 and 2004 – 2006 issues (combined Volumes 53 – 54 and 55 – 56) have been printed in Korea and are awaiting the completion of Volume 57 – 58 for mailing. Executive Secretary Sarah Kim distributed copies of the printed volumes to members of the executive committee. Abler and Kim hope to have the remaining arrears volumes published by the time of the meeting in Tel Aviv.

### ***Mediterranean Renaissance Program***

The committee reviewed the program's report and expressed its appreciation for the MRP's active program and the effective leadership of Chairperson Maria Paradiso. A volume based on the MRP's Rome conference is in press and the recent meeting in Tunis attracted a number of geographers from North Africa with whom the IGU has had little contact in recent years. The group will hold meetings in Tel Aviv and Saint-Dié in the future and intends to pursue closer contacts with geographers in Germany.

### ***Geographical Journals Evaluation***

Ton Dietz visited the meeting to provide a more detailed description of the initiative on cataloging and evaluating geographical journals he proposes to expand under IGU auspices. The project at the University of Amsterdam has now compiled data on more than 1,000 journals published in more than 50 countries. Dietz would like to expand the project into a global inventory of journals in geography and related

specialties. He proposed that the IGU endorse the project and lend its assistance in its efforts to identify geographical journals throughout the world and asked the committee's guidance in deciding how broadly "geography: should be defined. A project web site is scheduled to go live in June 2010. The IGU could help by asking all IGU National Committees to review lists of journals in their regions and to submit information on journals that should be added to the existing database. Dietz will send individual files to members of the IGU Executive Committee for their respective countries for the committee members to review. A major inaugural event for the project will be held at the Congress in Cologne with possibly a smaller launch in Santiago in 2011.

### ***Endowment/Corporate Membership Program***

Dietz's wide consultation with prospective corporate sponsors suggests that corporations are not willing to undertake such sponsorship unless there are clear benefits for them. An idea Dietz would like to pursue is that of matching the abundant world data on countries with data on cities, which are largely nonexistent or chaotic where they do exist. He suggested that the IGU help develop electronic information on cities (*The IGU World of Cities*). Each city in member countries could have its own pages on the IGU web site and could sell advertising space there. Revenues could be divided three ways, to the university involved, the country's national committee, and the IGU Endowment. One way to begin would be to focus on data for sustainable cities as the basic data provided. Dietz proposed starting with ten to fifteen countries to be highlighted at the Cologne Congress. The IGU has a comparative advantage with respect to existing sustainable cities program

because of its *global* perspective and reach. Dietz will develop before the end of 2010 a proposal for implementing the idea, which may require assignment to an IGU Task Force if it is pursued. Abler will provide the existing IGU Endowment Resolution to members of the executive committee for their background information.

### ***IGU Website***

Assuming that Michael Meadows (the sole nominee) is elected IGU Secretary General and Treasurer he intends to undertake a redesign of the IGU web site at the time it is transferred to Cape Town from Seoul. He will engage a professional for that purpose, possibly the individual who recently updated his department's web site. The VULA software at the University of Cape Town is suitable for regular communication among a group of individuals but would not work well for the IGU web site. Meadows also continues to investigate the possibility of incorporating a custom made Google Toolbar on the new site.

### ***Executive Committee Meeting Schedule***

The committee confirmed the dates of its meetings for Beijing (1 – 5 November 2010) and Cologne (16 – 19 May 2011).

### ***IGU Annual Report***

The committee agreed with Abler's suggestion that a brief annual report would be a valuable addition to the IGU's publicity efforts. Abler and Meadows will prepare a draft for the committee's review for the Tel Aviv meeting if possible, but for the Beijing meeting for certain.

### ***IGU Dues Structure Revision***

The IGU has discussed the possibility of formulating a fixed country dues schedule based on gross domestic product and some measure of how equally it is distributed within each country for several years but

has been waiting to see how ICSU and ISSC progress with their plans to adopt a similar dues structure unfold. The ICSU and ISSC planning has not progressed as rapidly as was hoped. The IGU will continue to pursue the idea in concert with ICSU and ISSC and independently.

### ***Centennial (2022) Task Force***

Abler noted that 2021 will be the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first International Geographical Congress in Antwerp and that 2022 will mark the centenary of the formal establishment of the IGU. He suggested that a task team charged with planning appropriate commemorations or a combined commemoration of the anniversaries be appointed at the Santiago Regional Conference in 2011 or at the Cologne Congress in 2012. In the meantime it would be helpful to consult other international unions that are holding centennial celebrations for ideas and examples of how to proceed.

## **Cooperation and Outreach**

### ***International Council for Science (ICSU)***

Abler reviewed the agenda of the recently concluded meeting of ICSU member unions and reported the substance of the discussions that took place at the meeting. Much of ICSU's effort is now being devoted to establishing the multi-disciplinary Earth System Science Partnership (ESSP) in which geographers often play prominent roles. IGU Vice President Irasema Alcantara-Ayala is a member of the ICSU Committee on Scientific Planning and Review (CSPR), which is ICSU's key committee for its scientific programs. Qin reported briefly on his participation in the recent meeting in Grenoble of the IGBP (International Geosphere-Biosphere Program) Scientific Committee (Qin is a member of the committee). IGBP

is sponsored by both ICSU and ISSC. The IGBP framework is working well and geographers should continue to collaborate with IGBP whenever possible.

***ICSU GeoUnions*** Abler reviewed the meeting of the ICSU GeoUnions that preceded the ICSU Unions meeting in early April. The GeoUnions consortium is an informal group of eight ICSU international unions with earth science foci that have met often in recent years to develop common strategies and cooperation within ICSU. A major topic of discussion at the most recent meeting was whether the GeoUnions should move beyond coordination to pursuing active collaborative research on topics of common interest. The discussion will continue at subsequent meetings. Abler arranged for Benno Werlen to give a presentation on the UN-IYGU initiative at the GeoUnions meeting which was well received. Participants made a number of helpful suggestions and offered support for the initiative as it is further developed.

### ***International Social Science Council (ISSC)***

The ISSC is making solid progress under its dynamic President Gudmund Hernes and its recently-appointed Secretary General Heide Hackmann. The ISSC will issue its next World Social Science Report in June 2010. ISSC plans to issue the reports very three years. Its next general assembly will be held in Nagoya in December 2010. Abler and Meadows plan to attend. ISSC will hold its next World Social Science Forum in Shanghai in 2012.

### ***Festival International de Géographie (FIG)***

Kolossov reported on Christian Pierret's visit to Moscow and on their joint planning for IGU participation in FIG 2010 in October. Russia will be the 2012 *pays d'honneur*. The IGU invitation to IGU

Commissions to nominate their members to give presentations at FIG yielded a poor response; only two replies were received. Kolossov is now working to integrate their proposed papers into the FIG program. Soyez volunteered to present a paper in French on conflicts over forest resources in Canada and Russia, a topic he has been investigating for several years. The offer was gratefully accepted.

Bellezza noted that the Municipality of Florence, Italy, in the aftermath of a recent election, has decided not to hold a geography festival in 2010. Communications between the IGU and the organizers of the Mirandela Festival in Portugal seem to have broken down. He will attempt to restore contact.

### ***International Cartographic Association (ICA)***

Abler reported on his visit to the ICA Executive Committee meeting in Santiago in November. The ICA is not interested in establishing a joint ICA-IGU Commission on Place Names at this time. Abler and ICA President William Cartwright agreed to encourage their respective commission chairs with interests in cartography and related topics to invite members from each other's cognate commissions to their respective meetings.

### ***JB GIS (Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies)***

The IGU was a member of this informal consortium of international organizations when it was launched five years ago. IGU ceased participating in its meetings after the death of President Adalberto Vallega and the transition of the Secretariat from Abler to Yu. IGU asked to be reinstated and that was agreed to by the members of the consortium at its meeting of 13 April 2010. Additional information regarding JBGIS is available at <http://www.fig.net/jbgis/>

## **International Geographical Congresses and IGU Regional Conferences**

### ***Tunis 2008 International Geographical Congress.***

The IGU has still not received the funds due to the IGU Promotion and Solidarity fund for the support of young scholars at future IGU Conferences and Congresses, despite a personal appeal during Abler's visit to Tunis in December 2009 and promises that the funds would be transmitted to the Secretariat promptly. He will ask again that the funds be remitted.

### ***Tel Aviv Regional Conference 2010.***

The Local Organizing Committee reports a total of 570 abstracts received as of 14 April. Three plenary session speakers are confirmed who will address broad topics in geography. Abler and Meadows will visit Al Quds University in East Jerusalem on 17 July to meet Palestinian geographers.

### ***Santiago, Chile Regional Conference 2011.***

Abler visited the conference venue and met the conference organizers in November. The announced Local Organizing Committee lacks adequate representation from academic geographers in Chile and neighboring countries. Abler will take the matter up with those responsible for organizing the conference.

### ***Köln, Germany International Geographical Congress 2012.***

Soyez provided an update on plans for the 2012 Congress, which are on schedule. The congress dates are now confirmed as 26 – 30 August 2012. A call for session proposals will be issued in July 2010 with proposals finalised on 31 December 2010. The Local Organizing Committee will send representatives to the Tel Aviv and Santiago meetings. The local committee

will now focus on formulating a suite of field excursions for the next issue of the congress brochure. Exhibit space at the congress will be limited to sixteen booths.

#### ***Kyoto, Japan Regional Conference 2013.***

A Local Organizing Committee has been formed and preparation of the web site is underway. A conference representative will attend the Tel Aviv conference.

#### ***Krakow, Poland Regional Conference 2014.***

The executive committee did not request a report at this early date.

#### ***Moscow, Russia Regional Conference 2015.***

Kolossov reported that the conference will be held in late July 2015 on the campus of Moscow State University. He also noted the revitalization of the Russian Geographical Society (RGS) with exceptionally generous support from the Russian government, which intends to use the RGS to diffuse geographical knowledge intensively and extensively. Prime Minister Vladimir Putin now serves as the Chairman of the RGS Board of Directors.

#### ***Beijing, China International Geographical Congress 2016.***

Qin reported that the 2016 Congress organizing committee is now established and that it has developed a preliminary plan for the congress. A separate committee has been formed to prepare a 2015 publication on China for congress delegates. A series of special events, including commemorative envelopes and stamps is planned.

#### ***"Best of the IGU" Conference/Congress Publication***

The committee took up a draft proposal for a publication series that would print outstanding papers presented at each IGU conference and congress, prepared in advance of the meeting by Fincher. A

number of questions and suggestions arose in the discussion concerning financing such a publication, procedures for selecting and editing the contents, publication language(s), and possible pre-emption of regular publication in refereed journals. The committee agreed that IGU Commissions chairpersons should be consulted regarding these questions before any further planning was done. The committee agreed that publication in either English or French should be encouraged.

#### ***Interactive Short Paper Format***

The Interactive Short Paper format combines aspects of the traditional read paper and poster presentations. It is being used by increasing numbers of scholarly organizations with good results. Abler will suggest the use of the format to the organizers of the Santiago conference.

#### ***IGU Congress and Conference Memorandum of Agreement***

In continuation of a discussion that began in the committee's October meeting in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges Abler proposed that a compromise regarding the division of costs for the IGU Executive Committee at IGU Conferences and Congresses be observed for the meetings in Tel Aviv, Santiago, and Cologne: the traditional understanding regarding local support for the executive committee's expenses should be respected *de jure*, but all members of the executive committee should be encouraged to continue their commendable and so far largely successful efforts to obtain employer or government support for their IGU expenses. In the meantime, where executive committee members cannot obtain support the IGU will cover the costs traditionally borne by local committees, and the IGU will formulate a new policy regarding the division of responsibility for such costs between the IGU and local

committees. The committee endorsed the suggestion, with the provisos that the expected meeting contribution to the IGU Promotion and Solidarity Fund remain at a minimum of **\$10.00** per full registered delegate at each meeting, and that the revised policy clearly specify that the responsibility for the formulation of each meeting's scientific program is joint between the Local Organizing Committee and the IGU.

### ***Annual Conferences in Relation to IGU Commission Operations***

Anton Gosar asked the executive committee to examine the effects of annual conferences and congresses on commission operations. The committee agreed to survey commission chairpersons informally in Tel Aviv and perhaps formally thereafter to ascertain their opinions by asking in which of the next several conferences they plan to participate. Mistakenly or not, the executive committee views the more frequent IGU meetings as an opportunity for commissions rather than an imposition. Commissions are welcome to participate in all meetings they can but the executive committee should try to find incentives for their participation.

## **Organization**

### ***2010 Secretary General and Treasurer Election***

Vice President Michael Meadows is the only nominee. Forty countries are eligible to vote. Ballots will be sent out immediately after the executive committee meeting with a return date of 20 May 2010.

### ***Proposed Commission on the Geopolitics of Sub-Alternate Knowledge***

The proposal for the commission originated in Peru but it does not conform in objectives or presentation to IGU practice. Ayala has provided the

organizers with advice. Abler will provide some additional guidance in the form of the proposal for the recently recognized IGU Commission on Transportation. If necessary, a meeting could be scheduled at the Santiago conference to clarify the proposer's objectives.

### ***Commission on Toponymy***

A group led by Helen Kerfoot may submit a proposal for a commission on place names.

### ***Commission on Landscape and Landscape Analysis***

The proposal should be clarified and the proposed steering committee broadened geographically and by adding human and cultural geographers. Abler will follow up with chairperson.

### ***Request to Change the Geoparks Task Force to a Commission***

The committee received a request from Wei Dongying to designate the Geoparks Task an IGU Commission. After discussion the history and current focus of the group the committee agreed in principle to the change pending a formal proposal that includes a description of the new commission's mission and the membership of its steering committee.

## **Honors and Awards**

### ***IGU Planet and Humanity Medal***

Negotiations continue with the individual selected to receive the Medal to identify a suitable date for a presentation ceremony as he will not be able to come to Tel Aviv. Thought might now be given to identifying another medallist to be recognized at the Cologne Congress.

### ***Lauréats d'honneur***

A call for nominations will be issued to IGU National Committees in October 2010 with nominations due on 1 July 2011. After discussing the pros and cons of the number

of *lauréats* to be awarded the committee voted unanimously to restrict the number to three at each IGU Congress.

### ***IGU Honors Committee***

Continuing an ongoing discussion, the committee agreed that an IGU Honors Committee should be established to solicit and screen nominations for the IGU's Honors and Awards with the goal of launching the committee before 2012 if it is approved by postal ballot.

## **Other Business**

### ***Priorities 2010 – 2012***

Soyez suggested that the summary of the discussion of IGU priorities contained in the minutes of the committee's Saint-Dié meeting be reworked for inclusion in the 2008 issue of the *IGU Bulletin* and the *IGU E-Newsletter*. The committee agreed unanimously.

### ***ICSU Grant***

The IGU has been informed that the application submitted by IGU in the ICSU 2010 Grants Competition by the IGU and the Australian Academy of Sciences has been funded at €30,000. The committee expressed warm congratulations to proposal author and Project Director Margaret Robertson on the success of her proposal entitled "Strengthening the Bonds between Scientific Literacy and Human Understanding: Local Area Networks to Help Build Cross-Border Solutions for Disaster Management."

### ***Haiti Earthquake***

In the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Haiti the committee considered

whether the IGU could establish an emergency reaction team to provide assistance in similar instances in the future. Ayala and Soyez agreed to formulate a proposal for further consideration by the committee.

### ***IGU Archives***

Bellezza asked that the chairpersons of IGU Commissions and Task Forces be reminded of their obligation to place in the IGU archives in Rome information regarding the structure of their commissions (founding documents, steering committee lists, *etc.*) as well as copies of their newsletters and annual reports, conference and meeting announcements, and meeting reports. The materials should be sent to him at giuliano.bellezza@uniroma1.it

### ***Collaboration with Springer Verlag***

Ian Hay (Australia) queried Kolossov about serving on the editorial board of a *Handbooks on Human Geography* series devoted to specific topics in geography, many of which closely match the foci of IGU Commissions. Committee members noted that as currently formulated the publication program seems strongly Anglophone, but the IGU could contribute by suggesting non-Anglophone editors. Kolossov will obtain more information and forward it to members of the committee. If the project seems viable it will also be referred to commission chairpersons for evaluation and action.

## **Adjourn**

Having completed the agenda Abler adjourned the meeting at 15:30 on 20 April 2010.

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# ***International Geographical Union***

## **Executive Committee Meeting**

**Tel Aviv, Israel**

**12 – 13 July 2010**

*Present:* President Ronald F. Abler; First Vice President Vladimir Kolossov; Secretary General and Treasurer-elect Michael Meadows; Vice Presidents Irasema Alcántara-Ayala, Giuliano Bellezza, Ruth Fincher, Aharon Kellerman, Markku Löytönen and Dietrich Soyez; IGU Executive Assistant Sarah Kim. *Excused:* Secretary General and Treasurer Woo-ik Yu and Vice President Dahe Qin *Visitors:* Benno Werlen (UN-IYGU), Michael Sofer and Izhak Schnell (Tel Aviv Local Organizing Committee). Colonel Juan Vidal, Victoria Beromi, Pedro Mahuzier (Santiago, Chile, Local Organizing Committee), Frauke Kraas (Cologne Local Organizing Committee); and Yukio Himiyama and Yoshitaka Ishikawa (Kyoto Local Organizing Committee).

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### **1. Welcome and Meeting Logistics**

President Abler welcomed the members of the committee to Tel Aviv and reviewed the executive committee meeting schedule and the roster of regional conference events in which the committee and various members will participate.

### **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted with one item added: Brazil national membership of the IGU (Item 9.1).

### **3. Minutes**

#### ***Minutes of the April 2010 Washington DC Executive Committee Meeting***

Draft minutes were tabled and it was agreed to hold them open for any objections or amendments until the end of August 2010. Bellezza to include them in the newsletter as draft minutes if so required before then.

### **4. Operations**

#### ***4.1 IGU Country Membership***

Sarah Kim has collated those reports that

were received in time for the Washington EC meeting; remaining reports to be dealt with at the Beijing meeting.

#### ***4.2 IGU Financial Report and Projection***

To be tabled at the Beijing meeting.

#### ***4.3 UN-IYGU Initiative***

Benno Werlen was present for this item and reported on developments in relation to this initiative, which have been considerable over the past three to four months.

*Financial support:* during the last 12 months Werlen has been successful in raising considerable funds from, for example, the Thuringia Provincial Government which has now enabled the Secretariat to continue (September 2009 to March 2012) and Werlen to buy himself out of his University teaching commitments. There have been other additional funds including the important grant from the IGU. There are ongoing attempts to raise further funds via the ICSU Grants Programme and other organizations to facilitate meetings of the Working Group. Design and printing of brochures will require substantial funding during 2011. Other agencies have been

approached and a tentative agreement has been reached with FIFA that they will give additional funds provided there is clear political support; other funding possibilities include Google and the Clinton Foundation.

*Institutional support:* The project is planned to fall within the framework of the ICSU-ISSC Grand Challenge initiative. Abler and Werlen have already presented the UN-IYGU plans to ISSC and the GeoUnions of ICSU. Formal support from ISSC is now secured. There is an informal indication of support from ICSU and the next step is to formalise this. It was recommended that IGU affiliate to ICSTI to facilitate contact with others, including engineers, and in this way extend the range of possible support.

*Organisation:* These ideas are to be presented in detail at the Tel Aviv Congress in one of the Thursday sessions. It is envisaged that the Working Group, once established, will oversee various elements of the project including the scientific programme, an outreach programme (including schools and tertiary teaching elements), political support (institutional support is needed from UN/UNESCO member countries (100 needed by September 2011)). The project activities are to be co-ordinated by a management team (Working Group) including Geographers, fund-raising personnel, political and regional representatives. It is intended to establish continental operational centres to facilitate national initiatives. There is a clear need to act quickly and individuals with appropriate profiles and time resources are necessary. Working Group members ideally need to be well known in their fields.

*Timetable:* December 2011 is the UN General Assembly and this is the most appropriate target in relation to aligning

the project with the ISSC/ICSU Grand Challenge framework. Other activities, for example establishing country support and the development of high quality brochures for key topics are required in good time to allow this. The deadline for the ICSU grant application is November 2010. Political networking should begin as soon as possible, but certainly by August-September.

Comments and suggestions followed. The EC congratulated Werlen on progress made especially in gaining the base funding for the Secretariat. Kolossov raised concerns around communication with the IGU, especially as he was the designated point of contact and these problems need to be resolved as soon as possible. The EC noted that there is still no formal Working Group established and it remains concerned about the need to expand its membership beyond Europe. Werlen commented that it is indeed the intention to involve members from all continents and a wide range of appropriate disciplines. IGU Commissions and National Committees should be encouraged to contribute to this in readiness for 2014 (for example in the form of research proposals) and the EC would present this to them as an opportunity for engagement at the Commission Chairs and National Committee chairs meeting on Wednesday morning 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010. It was emphasised that Geographers should be seen as the key link between the social and natural sciences for this project and the IGU should be seen as the lead supporting organisation, although strong supporters are essential from other disciplines who will be collaborating partners. There is however a risk that the other disciplines could dominate if we are not watchful. Project information needs to be directly accessible from the newly designed IGU webpage. Obtaining support at the

political level is especially important and may be both difficult and time-consuming, although there are some opportunities to start this process, including the fact that Woo-ik Yu is in a very influential position and there is government involvement in the Chile meeting.

#### ***4.4 Commission Updates***

Commission Reports that did not come in time for Washington were sent to the EC via email and would continue to be so circulated to facilitate discussion at the Beijing meeting.

#### ***4.5 Journals Project Update***

Ton Dietz and colleagues have moved this forward significantly and appreciation was noted for their hard work. A briefing document was being distributed to all delegates at the Tel Aviv Congress, with a further update in Santiago and a more formal launch intended for the Cologne congress. One problem noted was the fact that some journals associated with a particular country may appear listed under the schedule of the country of publication; this could be resolved through a footnote to the relevant country pages and a link to the journal in question. Meadows to inform Dietz regarding this anomaly. Soyez noted that available information from journals and publishing houses may be either incomplete or contradictory so we need to encourage the editors and publishers to modify our findings in the open draft document; amendments and corrections can be suggested by anyone, ultimately via the webpage that will host the database.

#### ***4.6 Corporate Sponsorship***

The plans were to develop two-page city information summaries for the IGU website. Ton Dietz had agreed to take this forward; further developments are anticipated by the end of 2010.

#### ***4.7 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule and Technology***

The IGU Executive Committee is committed to meeting in Beijing from 1 – 5 November 2010. The email Abler sent on 7 June proposed a revised future meeting schedule with a trial internet-mediated meeting in spring 2011 that would take the place of the planned regular meeting in Cologne. The question of costs was raised and it was confirmed that the actual costs are small by comparison with the real-time meeting, although Löytönen noted how difficult this can be when there are several participants and there are further constraints regarding timing. Although there are clearly direct cost savings and a reduced carbon footprint, there are many more benefits to the traditional face-to-face meeting. Abler introduced WebEx whereby all that is needed is a webcam and microphone; the chair has control of the common screen but can yield it to any other participant at any time. Abler is to send WebEx details the EC members and a trial meeting will be conducted in due course. Nevertheless it was agreed that Abler and Meadows would visit the LOC in Cologne over the originally scheduled 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011 dates and that an internet-mediated meeting could be attempted during that period.

#### ***4.8 IGU Secretariat Transition***

In terms of transfer of responsibility, there was some discussion as to how this could take place. Currently the IGU is registered as a corporation in Korea and this may or may not be needed for South Africa (Meadows to investigate). The immediate need was to establish the IGU bank account in South Africa; it was agreed that this not be arranged through the University of Cape Town but that a separate corporate account be opened (including credit card facility) for which a letter of authority

from the President would be required. Meadows accepts that the responsibility for most of the correspondence matters and can get additional secretarial support from existing staff through the payment of modest ad hoc stipend. In terms of book-keeping, locating an accountant who is experienced in working with non-profits would seem advisable and that a modest honorarium would be in order for this.

#### **4.9 Web Site Redesign**

Meadows presented a draft webpage that he had developed in consultation with a commercial designer in Cape Town, noting that this was in preliminary form and is a concept at this stage. However, the plan was to develop a more 'dynamic' webpage and one that would change regularly in terms of information content and features. A key to this is the design of the interface so that it appears higher up the list on conventional search engines. Several features are planned in addition to the usual information content, including a slideshow of photographs that could be submitted by the users, a dedicated custom search engine and the journals project database. Löytönen noted that the Helsinki domain had permitted no commercial activity on the site and it may be possible to get some sponsorship if UCT allows. French translation of key elements of the page is also required. Meadows to continue to develop the ideas and report at the next EC meeting in Beijing.

On a somewhat related point, Abler suggested that the IGU needs a relational database of members of the IGU community that will track the various ways individuals are affiliated with the IGU at different times (corresponding member; commission member; commission steering committee member; elected officer, etc.). Creating such a database might be explored when the revised web page is up and running.

## **5. Cooperation and Outreach**

### **5.1 Festival International de Géographie (FIG)**

Kolossov remains in direct contact with the organising committee. Disappointingly, only three Commission Chairs had responded to the letter by Abler and Kolossov containing the invitation to participate. Nevertheless, there is a dedicated time slot within the Festival (IGU will be represented by Kolossov, Abler and Soyeze). Russia is the *pays d'honneur* for the next Festival, scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2010.

### **5.2 Festa de Mirandela, Portugal**

Bellezza described this Geography festival, the fourth of which had taken place in May 2010; the organisers are enthusiastic about expanding to become more international and have been in contact with other festivals, including FIG. Abler queried what it is that this Festival wants from the IGU and that if this were to be a Memorandum of Understanding whether or not it could interfere with the IGU relationship with FIG. Fincher suggested a solution whereby there be a hierarchy of MoUs that differentiate between levels of commitment in relation to different festivals. The Memorandum of Understanding for the Mirandela festival to receive further attention for discussion in Beijing.

### **5.3 Festival de Geografía, Taxco, Guerrero, Mexico**

Geographers at the University of Taxco are organizing a Festival of Geography in Mexico from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010, including a Geography Olympiad, with participants, including teachers and learners, from several institutions. No financial support is sought but permission to use the IGU logo was requested and

was granted by Abler. The organizers have also been in contact with FIG to inform them of the development although there is no intention for this to become an 'international' festival *per se*. The festival is however expected to become an ongoing event, possibly annually or biennially, rotating between different institutions in Mexico. There is no objection to the IGU logo being used on publicity material.

#### **5.4 Elsevier Publication Proposal**

An Elsevier representative had suggested to Soyez that IGU should consider strategies regarding special issues and proceedings. LOCs and Commission Chairs would be the obvious individuals to identify possible contributions. It was agreed to discuss this further with Commission Chairs at the meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010. Soyez was designated to take lead in this discussion at that meeting if time allows.

#### **5.5 Springer Publication Proposal**

Chairs of Commissions and the IGU executive had previously been contacted about this but there has been little response. IGU could be promoted this way but the lack of apparent interest is disturbing. Kolossov was designated to present this to the Commission Chairs meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

#### **5.6 Nomination for ISSC Executive Committee**

The IGU has been invited to submit nominations for the executive committee of ISSC and it is clear that this would be in IGU interests to have a Geographer on the executive. Suggestions are to be forwarded to Abler by the end of July 2010.

#### **5.7 ICSU Science Officer Nomination**

Nominations have been requested for this paid position in Paris. Any suggestions are to be forwarded to Abler by the end of July 2010.

## **6. International Geographical Congresses and IGU Regional Conferences**

### **6.1 Tunis 2008 International Geographical Congress**

The funds promised by the Tunis Local Organizing Committee to the IGU Promotion and Solidarity Fund have still not been received despite several requests.

### **6.2 Tel Aviv Regional Conference 2010**

Izhak Schnell and Michael Sofer from the Local Organising Committee attended and provided a brief report. The congress appears to have around 500 participants. Schnell and Sofer thanked the IGU for its ongoing support over difficult times and this was reciprocated by the EC.

### **6.3 Santiago, Chile Regional Conference 2011**

There is some concern within the EC around this meeting, particularly with regard to the LOC composition and the need to expand its membership to include academics from other institutions and possibly regional representatives from other countries. Members of the LOC attended for this item and made a presentation around the conference that will be held from 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Chile organized the ICA meeting in 2009 and this had been a success in the same venue (the Institute of Military Geography). One thousand delegates are anticipated, although it was noted that this may be optimistic, especially if well-known South American Geographers are not clearly identified as conveners. Colonel Vidal responded to this concern and noted that relations have been extended to academic institutions in Chile and that invitations to participate have been sent to academic institutions in adjacent countries; he agreed that members from such countries would be invited to join the LOC and to participate

in the organization of the associated scientific programme and field excursions. With regard costs of participation, it is anticipated that the costs will be lower than the ICA conference so as to encourage attendance (US\$461 is estimated as full participant registration cost but there are various other categories). There will be cheaper accommodation for students and there is a grants programme planned to facilitate participation from younger and developing world delegates. The conference website is to be found at: [www.ugi2011.cl](http://www.ugi2011.cl)

#### ***6.4 Köln, Germany International Geographical Congress 2012***

Frauke Kraas, Cologne LOC, attended for this item and participated in the discussion after Soyez' brief presentation. The meeting is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2012; the conference website is to be found at: <http://www.igc2012.org/>. The congress will feature three main sections: First, the traditional sessions organized by Commissions and Task Forces, second, sessions dedicated to four specific key topics and, third, a Young Researchers' Forum. In cooperation with a national Scientific Committee a wide consultation has been carried out during two workshops with about 80 participants, each, mainly colleagues from Germany and neighbouring countries, in order to select and specify the key topics. An open call for Session Proposals has been issued on the Cologne homepage since early July 2010. This Scientific Committee is planned to be extended by another 16 scientists from all over the world. They will meet at a Cologne workshop in spring 2011 with the main task of selecting the most promising session topics. There was considerable discussion around the four proposed identified themes of the congress, which were deemed by some

EC members as possibly excluding more traditional systematic contributions from Geographers. Kraas and Soyez underlined that the first section of the congress allows for exactly the same procedures as traditionally, but that a stricter topical focus in the second section is intended and understood as a new and desirable Cologne specificity. The LOC, is willing, however, to consider ways in which it may encourage participation from all constituencies.

#### ***6.5 Kyoto, Japan Regional Conference 2013***

Yukio Himiyama and Yoshitaka Ishikawa attended for this item. The LOC has now been established under Yoshitaka Ishikawa as Chair. Meeting dates are August 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> 2013 at the Kyoto Convention Centre under the theme 'Traditional Wisdom and Modern Knowledge for the Earth's Future'. An official website is already established at [www.igu-kyoto2013.org/](http://www.igu-kyoto2013.org/) and a DVD introducing the conference was shown to the meeting. With regard the registration fees, the LOC was attempting to reduce registration fees through financial support from various bodies, including Kyoto City and the Japanese Science Council.

#### ***6.6 Moscow, Russia Regional Conference 2015***

The Russian Geographical Society has extended an invitation for the entire EC to attend its meeting in St Petersburg 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010. The invitation is extremely generous but some EC members have scheduled conflicts and may not be able to attend. It was agreed that EC members would inform Meadows as to their availability to attend on those dates.

#### ***6.7 IGU Congress and Conferences Memoranda of Agreement***

In 2009 at St Die there had been a robust discussion around the responsibility for financial support for EC members

attending congresses. In April 2010, Abler had presented a draft that was tabled for consideration, especially in relation to the projected deficit for the Tel Aviv congress. Kellerman noted that, under Finance, there was a clause that left the LOC bearing the sole costs except for those that the IGU agrees to bear and proposed that this be amended to indicate a more equitable distribution of financial responsibility. For example, the LOC should have responsibility for delegate facilities (venue, programme etc.) while, on the other hand, direct costs of the EC attendance and costs associated with the IGU EC operations at the meeting venue (e.g. costs of renting space for the EC meetings, General Assembly, information booth, etc.) should be carried by the IGU itself. Furthermore, Kellerman proposed that the consolidation fund contribution of US\$15 per delegate only be payable to the IGU from the LOC if the congress in question yields a financial surplus. There being no obvious consensus within the committee on these and other meeting policy questions at this stage, it was decided to continue discussion on the matter at the November meeting in Beijing.

As there was no further time available to continue deliberations owing to

committee member commitments at the regional conference, it was agreed that further discussion on the remaining agenda items (except for the additional item 9.1), including items 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3) will be conducted via email or continued at the committee's meeting in Beijing in November.

## **Organization**

### ***6.8 Priorities for IGU for 2008 – 2012***

### ***6.9 IGU Vice President Election***

## **7. Honors and Awards**

### ***7.1 IGU Planet and Humanity Medal***

### ***7.2 IGU Honors Committee***

### ***7.3 IGU Commission Awards and Prizes***

## **8. Items Added to the Agenda**

### ***8.1 Brazil Country Membership Reinstatement***

A letter of application for reinstatement of Brazil's membership has been received, accompanied by full payment of fees for 2010. Brazil country membership was confirmed and representative Ita Cruz congratulated.

## **9. Adjourn**

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# ***International Geographical Union***

## **Executive Committee Meeting**

### **Beijing, China 2 – 3 November 2010**

*Present:* Ronald F. Abler (Chair), Vladimir Kolossov, Giuliano Bellezza, Dahe Qin, Markku Löytönen, Dietrich Soye, Aharon Kellerman, Michael Meadows and Yukio Himiyama (plus Irasema Alcántara-Ayala and Ruth Fincher via Skype)

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#### **1. Welcome and Meeting Logistics**

The meeting commenced at 08h00 on 2 November 2010.

#### **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted with one item added, *viz.* 5.8 ICSU Grand Challenges and Belmont Report.

#### **3. Minutes**

##### ***3.1 Minutes of the July 2010 Tel Aviv Executive Committee Meeting***

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

#### **4. Organization and Operations**

##### ***4.1 IGU Country Membership***

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

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).

##### ***4.2 IGU Financial Report and Projection***

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 centered around 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.

#### **4.3 UN-IYGU Initiative**

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 the initiative has been formally endorsed by the ISSC, although recent news is that ICSU EC has declined to support it so far, this 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.

#### **4.4 Commission Updates**

The call for 2010 annual reports would go out shortly. 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 Mediterranean 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. Kolossov also suggested that the Commissions should establish awards for the best presentations, as the Commission on Political Geography has already done, particularly for young scholars, perhaps in covering the fee at the next conference. These points could be included in the next letter to Commissions’ Chairs.

#### **4.5 Journals Project**

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.

#### **4.6 Corporate Sponsorship**

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.

#### **4.7 Executive Committee Meeting Calendar**

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

*12 – 13 November 2011:* Face-to-face meeting prior to the IGU Regional Conference in Santiago, Chile (14-18 November 2011).

*12 – 16 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.

*23 – 24 August 2012:* Face-to-face meeting

prior to the IGU Congress in Köln, Germany (26 – 30 August 2012).

#### **4.8 Virtual Meeting Technology**

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.

#### **4.9 IGU Secretariat Transition**

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

#### **4.10 IGU Web Site**

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 in 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**

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 IGU Sesquicentennial and Centennial Task Force**

The first International Geographical Congress was held in Antwerp in 1871; the 150<sup>th</sup> 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 Election**

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**

### **5.1 Festival International de Géographie (FIG)**

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.

### **5.2 Festa de Mirandela, Portugal**

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.

### **5.3 Festival de Geografia, Taxco, Guerrero, Mexico**

Ayala tabled a report on the first Mexican Festival of Geography, which took place

between October 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 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'.

#### **5.4 Elsevier Publication Proposal**

Nothing to report.

#### **5.5 Springer Publication Proposal**

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

#### **5.6 Nomination for ISSC Executive Committee**

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.

#### **5.7 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 €800.

#### **5.8 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 indications 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**

### **6.1 Tel Aviv Regional Conference 2010**

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.

### **6.2 Santiago, Chile Regional Conference 2011**

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.

### **6.3 Köln, Germany International Geographical Congress 2012**

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 finalize these. Sponsorship negotiations are underway. There are some constraints on exhibition space (16 booths is likely to be insufficient).

### **6.4 Kyoto, Japan Regional Conference 2013**

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 organizations 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.

### **6.5 Moscow, Russia Regional Conference 2015**

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

### **6.6 IGU Congress and Conferences Memoranda of Agreement**

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.

### **6.7 Geographical Olympiads**

The Cologne LOC realized only recently the implications of the responsibility of the conference to subsidize 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**

### ***7.1 IGU Planet and Humanity Medal***

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).

### ***7.2 IGU 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.

### ***7.3 IGU Commission Awards and Prizes***

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 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010.

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**IGU Commission and Task Force Chairpersons 2009 - 2010**  
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# Commission and Task Force Annual Reports

## 2009/2010

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### C08.01 Applied Geography Commission

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#### **Membership of the Commission and Participation**

There are now 12 members of the Commission.

The current Members of the Commission are:

*Commission Chair:*

Robert Stimson

*Commission Secretary:*

Kingsley Haynes

*Commission Members:*

Diana Alexandru

Federico Arenas

El hassane Boubekraoui

Graham Clarke

Maria Lucinda Fonseca

David Giband

Elizbieta Ortowska

Stephane Joost

Eli Stern

Ali Toumi

In addition the Commission has a small International Advisory Committee comprising 13 people. Unfortunately one of those persons, Professor Reginald Golledge, died at the end of may 2009. Names and emails of the International Advisory Committee are provided in Appendix A

In order to facilitate interested persons to participate in activities of the Commission, there is a list of 'Friends of the Commission'

who are on the email distribution list for communications from the Commission and are invited to join in activities. This practice has proved to be successful over the years, and it is a good way to identify people who might become future members of the Commission. During 2009 the list of 'friends' grew to between 60 and 70 names. The names and emails of the 'friends' of the Commission are listed in Appendix A.

#### **1. The Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book on Applied Geography project**

As reported in the Commission's 2009 Report, at the Tunis IGU Congress in 2008 it was decided the major project for the commission up to the

next IGU Congress to be held in Germany in 2012 will be the production of a 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book on *Applied Geography*. The book will be edited by Commission President Robert Stimson and Secretary Kingsley Haynes.

During 2009 considerable progress was made planning for the edited book which will be on the theme of geographers and geography at work demonstrating the application of geographic theory, methods and tools to address issues of policy, planning and business concern. The chapters in the book will be a range of case studies reporting on actual projects that geographers have recently undertaken

in collaboration with public agencies, community organizations and business in a number of countries around the world and in situational contexts at different levels of spatial scale.

In 2009 papers on potential topics to be included in the edited book were presented at special sessions organized by the Commission in a number of conferences organized by international associations.

In July 2010 the Commission held a workshop in Portugal at which further papers were presented.

Outline of the proposed edited book and likely contents, authors and chapter titles is provided in Appendix B.

## **2. Meetings and Activities of the Commission held in 2010**

### **Portugal Workshop**

The Commission held one meeting and organised a number of activities in 2010. It was held in Ericeira in Portugal in 18-21 July. Commission member Lucinda Fonseca was the local organiser of the meeting, which took the form of a workshop with paper presentations and discussion of applied geography research undertaken by Commission members and 'friends' of the Commission that will be the basis of chapters for the Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> book on applied geography.

Between 25 and 30 people attended the meeting over its duration.

A field one and a half was held covering the coastal region to the west and north west of Lisbon.

The program for the meeting is reproduced in Appendix C.

### **Applied Geography Meetings, US**

Presentation of the IGU, Applied Geography Commission (AGC) activities at the

national US Applied Geography Meetings in Fort Worth Texas, Oct 2010. Discussion of edited book on Geographers at Work and potential participation by members and other interested parties.

### **AAG, EDGE**

Cooperation with the Association of American Geographers (AAG)/(US) National Science Foundation initiative on Enhancing Departments and Graduate Education (EDGE) Phase 1 program on the value of geographic education for careers in Higher Education, Government, Business, and Non-Profit Organizations. This early phase found that Business and Industry were supportive of geographic skill development and use but emphasized the need for complementary training in communication, writing, project management, collaboration and team work—web site in support of these activities for geography training is available through the AAG, EDGE and NSF. We will continue to cooperate with EDGE in its Phase 2 focus on extending non-academic cooperation with Business, Government and Non-Profits (BG&N) organizations in how academic training at the Professional Masters level, certificates etc might be of value in targeting BG&N employment.

### **2010 IGU Regional Meeting, Israel**

Unfortunately it was not possible for the Applied Geography Commission to organise activities as part of the 2010 Regional Meeting of the IGU held in Israel in August.

### **Santiago Visit**

The Commission president, Robert Stimson visited Chile in late October 2010 and held meetings over three days in Santiago with Commission Member Federico Arenas, who will be co-ordinating local arrangements for the Commission's activities to be held as part of the 2011

Regional Meeting of the IGU in Santiago in November 2011. Discussions were also held with the local organising Committee for the IGU 2011 Regional Meeting.

### **3. Activities Planned for 2011**

The main activity of the Commission in 2011 will be associated with the IGU regional meeting to be held in Santiago, Chile, 14–18 November 2011. At this stage those activities will include those outlined in Appendix D.

### **4. Activities Planned for the IGU 2010 Congress**

The Commission plans to organise a number of activities during and associated with the IGU 2012 Congress to be held in Koln, Germany. Likely activities will be:

- The launch of the Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book on Applied Geography.
- Several sessions organized by the Commission at which a number of the authors of chapters in the Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book will give presentations on the topics of their chapters.
- In association with Prof. Dr. Rudolf Juchelka ((Rudolf.Juchelka@uni-due.de), a member of the management board of the German Association of Applied Geography (Deutscher Verband für Angewandte Geographie – DVAG), the Commission will a session or two on Applied Geography with a focus on the international labour market for geographers and/or recent emerging fields of applied geography.
- A pre – or post – Congress field trip.

### **5. Appendix A:**

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### **6. Appendix B:**

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Applied Geography book project for 2012 IGU Congress**

##### **Background**

The IGU Applied Geography Commission is working on producing the Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book on Applied Geography which will be launched at the IGU Congress in Cologne, Germany, in mid – 2012. This book will be on the theme 'geography and geographers at work ' in which the chapters provide examples how geographical analysis has been used to address 'real world' issues that are of concern to international organisations, public agencies and business as illustrated by actual funded projects that geographers have collaboratively with the end – users. Those 'case studies' will represent the application of geographical methods and tools to address issues both at a number

of levels of spatial scale and in a variety of social – economic – environmental contexts.

This 3<sup>rd</sup> book will be edited by Robert J. Stimson (The University of Queensland, Australia) and Kingsley E. Haynes (George Mason University, USA) who are respectively the current Chair and Secretary of the IGU applied Geography Commission. Negotiations are currently under way with a leading publisher for this book.

The Commission's previous two edited books that were launched at the Glasgow2004 IGU Congress and at the Tunis 2008 IGU Congress are:

A. Bailly, L. J. Gibson and K. E. Haynes (eds.), *Applied Geography for the Entrepreneurial University*, Economica, Paris

B. Bailly and L. J. Gibson (Eds), *Applied Geography: A World Perspective*, Kluwer Academic Publishers

Work has already begun on the 3<sup>rd</sup> book through the activities of the Applied Geography Commission in 2009 in which the Commission organised a number of sessions in international conferences at which potential contributors to the planned book presented papers that will be revised as chapters for the book. In 2010 a further meeting of the Commission to be held in mid – July in Portugal at which some of those revised papers will come pack for presentation and at which new papers will be presented that are potential chapters for the Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> book. Also, the editors have been liaising with a number of additional potential chapter authors and who will write papers/draft chapters during 2010.

It is envisaged the Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> book will potentially comprise between 15 and 25 chapters which will give a

good representation of the work applied geographers have recently undertaken that demonstrates the application of geographic analysis to address issues of public and business concern across a variety of levels of scale and in a variety of subject and situational contexts.

## **Likely contributions to the 3<sup>rd</sup> book on Applied Geography**

### **Potential Title:**

*Applied Geography: Using Geographic Analysis to Address Real World Problems Issues*

or

*Geography at Work: Applying Geographical Analysis to in the Public and Business Domains*

### **Editors:**

#### **Robert J. Stimson**

School of Geography, Planning and Environmental management  
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#### **Kingsley E. Haynes**

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### **Potential contents:**

#### **Foreword**

A prominent geographer such as:

*Sir Alan Wilson* (University College, London)

#### **Preface**

*The editors*

#### **Chapters**

1. Geography and geographers at work:  
An overview  
*Robert Stimson* (The University of Queensland, Australia)  
*Kingsley Haynes* (George Mason University, USA)  
[To be written last]

2. Title to come (relates to a project for the United Nations)  
*Graeme Hugo* (University of Adelaide, Australia)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
3. A geographic perspective on the demographic, economic and social evolution of Europe: CEG's participation in the ESPON 1.1.4 project  
*Diogo Abreu* (University of Lisbon, Portugal)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
4. A transport strategy for Pakistan  
*Roger Stough* (George Mason University, USA)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
5. Spatial modelling, GIS and network analysis for improving sustainability of transport aggregates in the UK  
*Chengchao Zou, Mark Birkin, Graham Clarke* (University of Leeds, UK)  
[Draft chapter received]
6. SMILE – An applied spatial microsimulation model for Ireland  
*Karyn Morrissey* (National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland), *Graham Clarke* (University of Leeds, U.K.), *Cathal O'Donoghue* (ERRC, Ireland), *Stephen Hynes* (National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland)  
[Draft chapter received]
7. Spatial decision support system for school network planning in Estonia  
*Edgar Sepp, Jüri Roosaare* (University of Tartu, AS Regio, Estonia), *Ülle Liiber* (PRAXIS Centre for Policy Studies, Estonian Ministry of Education and Research)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
8. Spatial optimisation: Expanding emergency services to address regional growth and development  
*Alan Murray* (Arizona State University, USA); *Daoqin Tong* (University of Arizona); *Tony Grubestic* (Drexel University, USA)  
[Draft chapter received]
9. Urban growth in the Brisbane-South East Queensland region and its implications for emergency services provision: A Geographical Information Systems-based approach  
*Jonathan Corcoran, Robert Stimson, David Rohde, Angela Higginson* (The University of Queensland, Australia); *Prem Chhetri* (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University, Australia)  
[Draft chapter received]
10. Input-output analysis and community engagement: Perspectives for closing the high-tech-community gap  
*Lay Gibson, Vera Pavlakovich-Kochi, Rphael Gruener, Bruce Wright* (University of Arizona, USA)  
[Chapter received – Permission has been obtained to reprint a published paper]
11. The Location of Business Support Programs: Does the Knowledge Context Matter?  
*Haifeng Qain* (Cleveland state University); *Kingsley Haynes, Sidney Turner* (George Mason University, USA)  
[Draft chapter received]
12. Applying retail modelling to retail policy: The trading hours and centres land use experience in Australia  
*Robert Baker, Stephen Woods* (University of New England, Australia)  
[Draft chapter received]
13. David vs Goliath: A case study of a local automobile dealership's fight to save its territory  
*John Lombard* (Old Dominion University, USA)

14. West Midlands regional planning: Coping with uncomfortable truths  
*Mike Taylor, John Bryson* (University of Birmingham, UK)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
15. The Lisbon metropolitan area: The geographer and the spatial planning challenge  
*Jose Manuel Simoes* (University of Lisbon, Portugal)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
16. Les espaces technopolitains face au développement durable: Modeles, constraints, qualities [this will have to be translated into English]  
*Ismail Haddad* (University of 7 November at Carthage, Tunisia)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
17. From politics to policy: The strength of soft power in a 'weak' public policy  
*Joao Ferraro* (Institute for Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, Portugal)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
18. Economics of space: Estimating the economic significance of a NASA testing facility  
*Michael Carroll* (Bowling Green State University, U.S.)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
19. Using GIS to assess the economic, fiscal and development impacts of toll roads in the Dallas (Texas) region: A 40 year perspective  
*Bernard Weinstein* (Southern Methodist University, USA), *Terry Clower* (North Texas University, USA)  
[Draft chapter received]
20. Helping community groups to address urban planning issues in a gipsy deprived neighbourhood: Geographical experiences from Perpignan in a post-riot contest  
*David Giband* (University of Perpignan, France)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
21. Designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating an urban community development program in Portugal  
*M. Lucinda Fonseca* (University of Lisbon, Portugal)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
22. A local master plan for biospheric conservation and development: Concept, methodology, and application  
*Eliahu Stern* (Ben-Gurion University, Israel)  
[Draft chapter received]
23. People's responses to hazard warnings: Tornados in the US (Full title to come)  
*Burrell Motz* (East Carolina University, USA)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]
24. Managing environmental hazards of outdoor falls among the elderly population of Hong Lai Poh-chin, Low Chien-Tat (University of Hong Kong); Wong Wing-Cheung, Chan Ming-Houng, Wong Martin (Kwong Wah Hospital)  
[Draft chapter received]
25. Hydropower in the Chilean Patagonia: Evaluation of socio-economic conditions for resettlement and/or compensation of rural inhabitants  
*Frederico Arenas, Pablo Osses* (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile)  
[Awaiting draft of chapter]

## 7. Appendix C:

### Meeting of the Commission in Ericeira, Portugal 18 – 22 July 2010

#### Program

#### *Sunday 18 July*

#### **Travel by coach from Lisbon to Ericeira**

Participants will be provided with transport from Lisbon to Ericeira which is located on the coast approximately 50km northeast of Lisbon.

#### **17.30: Welcome reception** (informal)

All participants and their partners are invited.

#### *Monday 19 July*

#### **09.00 – 9.15: Opening of the Meeting**

##### **Outline of the Commission's third book project**

*Robert Stimson* (Commission Chair) and *Kingsley Haynes* (Commission Secretary)

##### **Local arrangements**

*Lucinda Fonseca*

#### **09.15 – 10.15: Keynote Addresses**

##### **Chair:**

*Robert Stimson* (University of Queensland, Australia)

##### **Speaker:**

##### **From politics to policy: The strength of soft power in a 'weak' public policy**

*João Ferrão* (Institute for Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, Portugal)

#### **10.15 – 12.45: 1<sup>st</sup> Scientific Papers Session**

##### **Chair:**

*Antoine Bailly* (University of Geneva, Switzerland)

##### **Papers:**

##### **10.15 – 10.45:**

##### **Spatial modelling, GIS and network analysis for improving sustainability of transport aggregates in the U.K.**

*Chengchao Zou, Mark Birkin, Graham Clarke* (University of Leeds, UK)

#### **10.45 – 11.15: Coffee break**

#### **11.15 – 11.45:**

##### **SMILE – An applied spatial microsimulation model for Ireland**

*Karyn Morrissey* (National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland), *Graham Clarke* (University of Leeds, U.K.), *Cathal O'Donoghue* (ERRC, Ireland), *Stephen Hynes* (National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland)

#### **11.45 – 12.45:**

##### **Economics of space: Estimating the economic significance of a NASA testing facility**

*Michael Carroll* (Bowling Green State University, USA)

#### **12.15 – 12.00:**

##### **Discussion**

#### **11.25 – 14.00: Lunch** (provided)

#### **14.00 – 17.00: 2<sup>nd</sup> Scientific Papers Session**

##### **Chair:**

*Bernard Weinstein* (Southern Methodist University, USA)

##### **Papers:**

#### **14.00 – 14.30:**

##### **A geographic perspective on the demographic, economic and social evolution of Europe: CEG's participation in the ESPON 1.1.4 project**

*Diogo Abreu* (University of Lisbon, Portugal)

**14.30 – 15.00:**

**Medicometry: A new field in applied geography**

*Antoine Bailly* (University of Geneva, Switzerland)

**15.00 – 15.15: Discussion**

**15.15 – 15.45: Coffee break**

**15.45 – 16.15:**

**Spatial analysis and complex systems for the optimization of retail trade localization**

*Stephane Joost* (Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland)

**16.15 – 16.45:**

**David v's Goliath: A case study of a local automobile dealership's fight to save its territory**

*John Lombard* (Old Dominion University, USA)

**16.45 – 17.00:**

**Discussion**

**17.15 – 18.00: Applied Geography Commission business meeting**

All participants invited

**Chair:**

*Robert Stimson* (University of Queensland, Australia)

**Agenda:**

The meeting will discuss the AGC agenda of activities for:

- (a) the remainder of 2010;
- (b) 2001 when the IGU Regional Conference will be held in Santiago, Chile; and
- (c) 2012 when the IGU Congress will be held in Cologne, Germany, at which the Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> book will be launched.

**Evening:**

Informal drinks in hotel bar.

On your own for dinner this evening.

**Tuesday 20 July**

**09.00 – 12.30: 3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Papers Session**

**Chair:**

*Lucinda Fonesca* (University of Lisbon, Portugal)

**09.00 – 09.30:**

**Spatial optimization: Expanding emergency services to address regional growth and development**

*Alan Murray, Daoqin Tong* (Arizona State University, USA); *Tony Grubestic* (Drexel University, USA)

**09.30 – 10.00:**

**Urban growth in the Brisbane-South East Queensland region and its implications for emergency services provision: A Geographical Information Systems-based approach**

*Jonathan Corcoran, Robert Stimson, David Rohde, Angela Higginson* (The University of Queensland, Australia); *Prem Chhetri* (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University)

**10.00 – 10.30:**

**GIS to support school network planning in Estonia**

*Edgar Sepp* (University of Tartu, Estonia)

**10.30 – 11.00: Coffee break**

**11.00 – 11.30:**

**Using GIS to assess the economic, fiscal and development impacts of toll roads in the Dallas (Texas) region: A 40 year perspective**

*Bernard Weinstein* (Southern Methodist University, USA), *Terry Clower* (North Texas University, USA)

**11.30 – 12.30:**

**Les espaces technopolitains face**

**au development durable: Modeles, constraints, qualities**

*Ismail Haddad* (University of 7 November at Carthage, Tunisia)

**12.00 – 12.30**

**Discussion**

**12.30 – 13.45: Lunch (provided)**

**13.45 – 17.15: 4<sup>th</sup> Scientific Papers Session**

**Chair:**

*Graham Clarke* (University of Leeds)

**Papers:**

**13.45 – 14.14:**

**The Lisbon metropolitan area:  
The geographer and the spatial  
planning challenge**

*Jose Manuel Simoes* (University of Lisbon, Portugal)

**14.15 – 14.45:**

**Designing, implementing,  
monitoring and evaluating an  
urban community development  
program in Portugal**

*M. Lucinda Fonseca* (University of Lisbon, Portugal)

**14.45 – 15.00:**

**Discussion**

**15.00 – 15.30: Coffee break**

**15.30 – 16.00:**

**Hydropower in the Chilean  
Patagonia: Evaluation of  
socio-economic conditions for  
resettlement and/or compensation  
of rural inhabitants**

*Frederico Arenas, Pablo Osses*  
(Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile)

**16.00 – 16.30:**

**Local master plan for biospheric  
conservation and development:**

**Concept, methodology, and  
application**

*Eliahu Stern* (Ben-Gurion University, Israel)

**16.00 – 17.00:**

**The pros and cons of Florida's  
creative class and its geographical  
responses to the great recession**

*John Rees* (University of North Carolina, USA)

**17.00 – 17.15:**

**Discussion**

**17.15 – 17.30 Close of meeting**

*Robert Stimson and Kingsley Haynes*

**18.00 for 18.30: Drinks and dinner (at 20.00)**

All participants and their partners invited

**Venue:**

**Restaurante Esplanada Furnas**

Rua das Furnas, Ericeira  
tel + 351 – 261864870

**Wednesday 21 July**

**08.15 – 17.45: All day field trip to the  
West Region (Região do Oeste) of  
Portugal**

Transport by coach.

All participants and their partners are invited.

The field trip will include visits to urban historic centres, wine producers, fishing villages, nice beaches, and golf and beach resorts. There will be a stop for lunch which will be provided.

During part of the afternoon there will be a discussion with local officials.

**Evening:**

Informal drinks in the hotel bar

On your own for dinner this evening

## **Thursday 22 July**

**09.15:** Return by coach to Lisbon via Sintra and the west coast of the Sintra-Cascais region.

**12.30:** Arrival at Lisbon Airport

## **8. Appendix D:**

### **Activities proposed for the November 2011 IGU Regional Meeting in Santiago**

Activities will take place within the structure of the 90 minute sessions as part of the scientific papers program of the conference and which are open to all attending the conference

#### **Day 2: Tuesday 15 November 2011**

**Morning** – 2 sessions within the IGU scientific program

#### **Special sessions on Showcasing Applied Geography research in Chile**

**Organizers:** Frederico Arenas and Pablo Osses (*Instituto de Geografia, Pontificia Universidad Catolic de Chile, Chile*)

#### **Session 1: Papers on current research in Applied Geography in Chile**

In this session there will be 3 or 4 presentations of papers by Chilean geographers that feature current research on an applied geography topic that is being conducted in collaboration with public agencies or business.

#### **Session 2: A panel discussion on the challenges and priorities for Applied Geography research in Chile**

In this session discussion will be led by a panel of applied geographers from the research sector and from government and business in Chile. Members of the panel will make

brief statements of 6 – 7 minutes to be followed by open discussion. Two international applied geographers will conclude the session with a short commentary on comments by the members of the panel and during the open discussion.

**Afternoon** – 2 sessions within the scientific program

#### **Session 1:**

#### **A round-table on the topic 'Addressing regional differentials in countries in South America'**

**Organizer:** Patricio Aroca (*Instituto de Economica Aplicada Regional, Universidad Catolic del Norte, Chile*)

**Chair:** Robert Stimson, (*Applied Geography Commission Chair, University of Queensland, Australia*)

A panel of researchers from Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Colombia will discuss the implications of uneven development, each member of the panel speaking for 10 minutes:

#### **Argentina:**

#### **Brazil:**

**Chile:** Patricio Aroca (*Instituto de Economica Aplicada Regional, Universidad Catolic del Norte, Chile*)

#### **Colombia:**

That will be followed by a general discussion of the implications regional inequalities in the South American context and the implications for public policy and how that may be informed through research. There will be an opportunity for comments from the audience. To close the session comments will be made by two members of the Commission from other parts of the world.

## **Session 2: Graduate student research in Applied Geography in Chile**

**Organizers:** Frederico Arenas and Pablo Osses (*Instituto de Geografíe, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile*)

**Chair:** Kingsley Haynes (*George Mason University, US*)

In this session there will be 10 minute presentations on their research by 6 graduate students. A panel of 3 senior applied geographers from other countries will provide constructive critical feedback to the students.

### **Day 3: Wednesday 16 November 2011**

**Morning** – 2 sessions within the scientific program

#### **Special sessions featuring papers from the Applied Geography Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book**

**Organizes:** The editors of the book, Robert Stimson (*University of Queensland, Australia*) and Kingsley Haynes (*George Mason University, US*)

The Commission produces an edited book for launching at each of IGU Congresses. The 3<sup>rd</sup> book to be launched at the 2012 Congress in Köln, Germany, features work by applied geographers that has been undertaken in collaboration with a public agency or business partner. In two special sessions, 6 papers will be presented by a selection of authors who have written chapters for the Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book.

#### **Session 1: Featuring papers from the Applied Geography Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book**

**Chair:** Robert Stimson (*University of Queensland, Australia*)

#### **Session 2: Featuring papers from the Applied Geography Commission's 3<sup>rd</sup> edited book**

**Chair:** Kingsley Haynes (*George Mason University, US*)

**Afternoon** – 1 session within the scientific program

#### **Session: Around-table discussion on the geographic implications of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC)**

**Organizer and Chair:** Antoine Bailly (*University of Geneva, Switzerland*)

The GFC has had profound but differential impacts around the world and within nations. A panel will discuss the implications of the GFC for their part of the world, highlighting the geographic consequences, what they mean, and what geographic research can contribute to our understanding of the GFC and its outcomes.

Each member of the panel will speak for 7 – 8 minutes. That will be followed by general discussion.

**Panel members:** Lay Gibson (*University of Arizona, US*), Mike Taylor (*University of Birmingham, UK*), Robert Stimson (*University of Queensland, Australia*).

#### **During the final session on the afternoon of Day 3, Wednesday 16 November 2011**

##### **Business meeting of the Applied Geography Commission**

Members of the Commission and 'friends' of the Commission are invited to attend the 2011 Business meeting of the IGU Applied Geography Commission.

##### **Applied Geography Commission Field Trip and Luncheon: All day Thursday 17 November**

**Organizers:** Frederico Arenas and Pablo Osses (*Instituto de Geografíe, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile*)

Members of the Commission and 'friends' of the Commission are invited to join an all-day field trip. Numbers will be limited to 40 persons.

The field trip will cover parts of metropolitan Santiago and the region stretching to the coast to 40 persons.

The field trip will cover parts of metropolitan Santiago and the region stretching to the coast at Valparaíso, and will highlight urban growth and environmental impact conflict and management issues.

Included will be a lunch in Valparaíso and a winery visit.

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## C08.02 Arid Lands, Humankind and Environment (AHE)

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### 1. Membership

#### *Commission Chair:*

Mahmoud M. Ashour, Egypt

#### *Commission Secretary:*

Olaf Bubenzer

#### *Steering Committee Members:*

Nabil Sayed Embabi

George S. Brook

Ahmed Abdel Salam

Abduallh Nasser Alwelaie

Saif Salim Saif AL Qaidi

Xiaoping Yang

Kevin White

Ulrik Mårtensson

### 2. Meetings and field trips of the commission with brief summary

Since 2010, the commission chairman Mahmoud Ashour directs the five-year project "Sand accumulations in Egypt". Commission member Nabil Embabi is principle investigator; the commission members George Brook and Olaf Bubenzer act as foreign experts and are part of the research team. From March 1<sup>st</sup> until 6<sup>th</sup> 2010 a field trip to the Farafra Sandsea and the White Desert took place. In sum the group consisted of 34 participants who are students from different Egyptian Universities and graduated students, Rangers from the White Desert National Park, Egypt, PhD-Students and postdocs as well as professors from the Ain Shams University, Cairo, from Syria and Yemen, the Desert Research Center, Cairo, and the Universities of Heidelberg and of Cologne, Germany. In addition a field trip to north Sinai and south Sinai of the commission

member Mahmoud Ashour, Nabil Embabi and George Brook together with other Egyptian colleagues were performed.

### 3. Networking and relevant research projects

From 2007–2009, the commission member X. Yang led the project "Formation and development of the megadunes in deserts and their responses to global change. Project of knowledge innovation" (Chinese Academy of Science).

From Jan. 5–7, 2009, the commission members O. Bubenzer and X. Yang participated the meeting of the Quaternary Research Association (<http://qra.org.uk/>), X. Yang gave the talk "Potentially large amplitudes of environmental changes in the deserts of northern China during the Quaternary?".

From Jan. 7–9, 2009, the commission members O. Bubenzer and X. Yang participated the inaugural meeting "Sand seas and dune fields of the world: a digital Quaternary atlas" (<http://inquadunesatlas.dri.edu/>).

From March 5–8, 2009, the commission member G. Brook acted as member of the core committee and co-coordinator of session 1 at the Third LIMPACS (IGBP, PAGES) Conference in Chandigarh, India.

Since July 2009, the Cologne Collaborative Research Centre "Our way of Europe" (<http://www.sfb806.de/>) is running in which commission member O. Bubenzer is principle investigator of two projects.

Commission member X. Yang was chair of the session "Regional landforms and geomorphology", Chinese National

Congress on Geomorphology and Quaternary Geology, Shanghai, 2009, and co-convenor of the sessions “Landscapes in drylands, Seventh International Conference on Geomorphology”, Melbourne, 2009, and “Environments and global change”, National Scientific Conference on the Occasion of Li Siguang’s 120<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Beijing, 2009.

From Nov. 1–5, 2009, commission chairman M. Ashour and commission member N. Embabi participated in the Internat. Symposium and field workshop organized by the Alexandria University, Damanhour Branch.

Since 2010, the commission member G. Brook is principle investigator of the three-year project “Socio-environmental dynamics in the North Vaca Plateau, Belize: A long term perspective”.

Since 2010, the commission member X. Yang is principle investigator of the project “Formation of the Hunshandake Sandy Land and its environmental processes since last interglacial, and its responses to global change (Main Foci Project of the National Natural Science Foundation of China).

From February 6–7, 2009, and February 5–6, 2010, the commission member O. Bubenzer organized the annual meeting of the working group “Desert Margin Research” as part of the German Geographical Society (<http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/wuestenraender/index.html>).

From April 16–18, the commission chairman M. Ashour participated with the talk “Evidences of climatic changes in the Western Desert of Egypt” as a keynote speaker on the International Symposium of Geography, Bucharest, Romania.

From September 19–21, 2010, Chairman M. Ashour and the commission members

N. Embabi and O. Bubenzer participated in the International Colloquium on Geoarchaeology “Landscape Archaeology – Egypt and the Mediterranean World”. O. Bubenzer was member of the Scientific Committee and gave a speech with colleagues about the Geoarchaeology of the Eastern Desert, Egypt.

From December 5–10, 2010, commission chairman M. Ashour participated in the International Conference on Conservation and Development of Natural Heritage, Cairo and Sharm El Sheik.

#### 4. Publications (Relevant publications of the commission members)

Bolten, A., Bareth, G., **Bubenzer, O.** (2009). Reconstruction of Holocene land-use potential in the Egyptian Western Desert. *Proc. of the 2009 ESRI Internat. User Conference Papers*, 1080: 5 p. San Diego.

Bolten, A., Hoffmeister, D., Willmes, C., **Bubenzer, O.** & Bareth, G. (2010). Adapting the Database Concept of the CRC/TR 32 “SVA-Patterns” to CRC 806 “Our Way to Europe”. In: Curdt, C. & Bareth, G. (eds): *Proc. of the Data Management Workshop*. 29.–30.10.2009, University of Cologne. *Kölner Geographische Arbeiten* 90: 7–12; Köln.

**Brook, G.A.** (2010). The Paleoenvironment of Tsodilo. Chapter 2 in “Tsodilo Hills: Copper Bracelet of the Kalahari” (eds Campbell, A.C., Robbins, L.H. and M. Taylor), Michigan State University Press, East Lansing and The Botswana Society, Gaborone, pp. 30–49.

**Brook, G.A.**, Marais, E., Brook, F.Z., Liang, F., and le Roux, P.A.L., and Yu, K.B. (2010). A record of aeolian activity in the western Kalahari during the last 70 ka that matches Southeast Atlantic Ocean core data: heavy mineral evidence from four OSL-dated linear dunes. *Palaeoecology of*

Africa 30, Jubilee Edition: *International Yearbook of Landscape Evolution and Palaeoenvironments*.

**Brook, G.A.**, Railsback, L.B., Campbell, A.C., Robbins, L.H., Murphy, M.L., Hodgins, G., and McHugh, J. (2010). Radiocarbon ages for coatings in cupules ground in quartzite bedrock at Rhino Cave in the Kalahari Desert of Botswana, and their paleoclimatic significance. *Geoarchaeology: An International Journal* (in press).

**Brook, G.A.**, Scott, L., Railsback, L.B., Goddard, E.A. (2010). A 35 ka pollen and isotope record of environmental change along the southern margin of the Kalahari from a stalagmite and animal dung deposits in Wonderwerk Cave, South Africa. *Journal of Arid Lands* 74: 870 – 884.

**Brook, G.A.**, Railsback, L.B., Marais, E. (2010). Reassessment of carbonate ages by dating both carbonate and organic material from an Etosha Pan (Namibia) stromatolite: evidence of humid phases during the last 20 ka. *Quaternary International* (in press).

**Bubenzer, O.**, Besler, H. (2010). Sands as archives of environmental change: examples from Egypt, Sudan and Namibia. In: Möhlig, W., **Bubenzer, O.**, Menz, G. & [Eds.]: Towards Interdisciplinarity. Experiences of the Long-term ACACIA Project. *Topics in Interdisciplinary African Studies*, Vol. 15: 23.48; Cologne.

De Waele, J., **Brook, G.A.**, Oertel, A. (2009). Monk seal (*Monachus Monachus*) bones in Bel Torrente Cave (Central-east Sardinia) and their pelegeographical significance. *Journal of Cave and Karst Studies* 71 (1):16 – 23.

De Waele, J., Forti, P., Picorn, V., Galli, E., Rossi, A., **Brook, G.A.**, Zini, L., and Cucchi, F. (2009). Cave deposits in Cordillera de la Sal (Atacama, Chile). Geological Constraints on the Onset and Evolution of an Extreme Environment: The Atacama Area. *GeoActa Special Publication* 2: 97 – 111.

Förster, F., Riemer, H., Bolten, A., **Bubenzer, O.**, Hendrickx, S., Darius, F. (2010). Tracing linear structures. Remote sensing, landscape classification and the archaeology of desert roads in the Eastern Sahara. In: Möhlig, W., **Bubenzer, O.**, Menz, G. & [Eds.]: Towards Interdisciplinarity. Experiences of the Long-term ACACIA Project. *Topics in Interdisciplinary African Studies*, Vol. 15: 49 – 75; Cologne.

Fricke, K., Sterr, Th., **Bubenzer, O.**, Eitel, B. (2009). The oasis as a Megacity: Urumqi's Fast Urbanization in a Semiarid Environment. *Die Erde* 140: 449 – 463.

Ivester, A.H., Poplin, E.C., Brooks, M.J., **Brook, G.A.** (2009). Life on the edge: The formation of Mathis Lake and its human occupation. South Carolina Antiquities: *Journal of the Archaeological Society of South Carolina* 41: 1 – 16.

Ivester, A.H., **Brook, G.A.**, Robbins, L.H., Campbell, A.C., Murphy, M.L., and Marais, E. (2010). A sedimentary record of environmental change at Tsodilo Hills White Paintings Rock Shelter, Northwest Kalahari Desert, Botswana. Palaeoecology of Africa 30, Jubilee Edition: *International Yearbook of Landscape Evolution and Palaeoenvironments*.

Markewich, H.W., Litwin, R.J., Pavich, M.J., **Brook, G.A.** (2009). Late Pleistocene eolian features in southeastern Maryland and the Chesapeake Bay region—Evidence for strong WNW-NW winds accompanying growth of Laurentide Ice-Sheet. *Quaternary Research* 71:409 – 425.

Möhlig, W., **Bubenzer, O.**, Menz, G. [Eds.] (2010). Towards Interdisciplinarity. Experiences of the Long-term ACACIA Project. *Topics in Interdisciplinary African Studies*, Vol. 15; Cologne.

Moyes, H., Awe, J., **Brook, G.A.**, Webster, J. (2009). The ancient Maya drought cult: Late Classic cave use in Belize. *Latin American Antiquity* 20, 175 – 206.

- LaMoreaux, H.K., **Brook, G.A.**, Knox, J. A. (2009). Late Pleistocene and Holocene environments of the Southeastern USA from the stratigraphy and pollen content of a peat deposit on the Georgia Coastal Plain. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 280, 300 – 312.
- Lu, Y., Rioual P., **Yang, X.** (2010). An assessment of diatom presence/absence in the lakes of the Badain Jaran Desert. *Quaternary Sciences* 28: 521–534 (in Chinese).
- Robbins, L.H., Campbell, A. C., Murphy, M. L., **Brook, G.A.**, Mabuse, A. A., Hitchcock, R., Babutsi, G., Mmolawa, M., Stewart, K.M., Steele, T. E., Klein, R. G., Appleton, C. C. (2009). Mogapelwa: Archaeology, Paleoenvironment and Oral Traditions at Lake Ngami, Botswana. *South African Archaeological Bulletin* 64 (189), 13 – 32.
- Ritter, M., **Bubenzer, O.**, Bolten, A. (2009). Combined use of satellite data and digital elevation models in deferent scales applicable for geomorphological and landscape historical research: Examples from the Fourth Nile Cataract (Northern Sudan). *Zentralbl. Geol. Palaeontol.*, Teil 1, Heft 3/4 (2007): 399 – 413.
- Scott, T.W., Swift, D.J.P., Whittecar, G.R., **Brook, G.A.** (2010). Glacioisostatic Influences on Virginia's Late Pleistocene Coastal Plain Deposits. *Geomorphology* 16 (1 – 2), 175 – 188.
- Siart, C., **Bubenzer, O.**, Eitel, B. (2009). Combining digital elevation data (ASTER/SRTM), high resolution satellite imagery (Quickbird) and GIS for geomorphological mapping: a multi-component case study on Mediterranean karst in Central Crete. *Geomorphology* 112: 106 – 121.
- Siart, C., Hecht, S., Holzhauer, I., Meyer, H.P., Eitel, B., Schukraft, G., **Bubenzer, O.**, Altherr, R., Panagiotopoulos, D. (2010). Karst depressions as geoarchaeological archives: the palaeoenvironmental reconstruction of Zominthos (Central Crete) based on geophysical prospection, mineralogical investigations and GIS. *Quaternary International* 216, 1–2: 75 – 92.
- Tripaldi, A., Zárate, M., **Brook, G.A.** (2010). Sucesiones eólicas y fluviales del Pleistoceno Tardío-Holoceno de la planicie Sanrafaelina: paleoambientes y paleoclima. Chapter in "Paleoambientes y ocupaciones humanas del centro-oeste de Argentina durante la transición Pleistoceno-Holoceno y Holoceno" (eds Zárate, M., Gil, A., and Neme, G.). Sociedad Argentina de Antropología (in press).
- Xu, J., Li, B., **Yang, X.**, and other 8 authors (2009). Recent progress in geomorphology and Quaternary geology in China and some perspectives. *Acta Geographica Sinica* 64: 1375–1393 (in Chinese with English abstract).
- Yang, X.** (2009). Quaternary in the new geological time scale. *Quaternary Sciences* 29: 1008 (in Chinese).
- Yang, X.**, Conacher, A. (2009). Land degradation and rehabilitation in ecologically fragile areas: Research status and perspectives. *Geographical Research* (Journal of the Institute of Australian Geographers) 47: 1 – 3.
- Yang, X.** (2010a). Desertification and land degradation in arid and semi-arid regions. In: Alcantara-Ayala, I., Goudie, A. (Eds.). *Geomorphological Hazards and Disaster Prevention*. Cambridge University Press: 189–198.
- Yang, X.** (2010b). Climate change and desertification – with a special reference to the cases in China. In: Dodson, J. (Ed), *Changing Climates, Earth Systems and Society* (Climate change theme of the Science Programme for the International Year of Planet Earth). Springer, Dordrecht: 177 – 187.
- Yang, X.**, Liu, T., Yuan, B. (2010). The Loess Plateau of China: aeolian sedimentation

and fluvial erosion, both with superlative rates. In: Migon, P. (Ed), *Geomorphological Landscapes of the World*. Springer, Dordrecht: 275 – 283.

**Yang, X.**, Ma, N., Dong, J., Zhu, B., Xu, B., Ma, Z., Liu, J. (2010). Holocene hydrological and climatic changes in the Badain Jaran Desert, western China. *Quaternary Research* 73: 10 – 19. **Yang, X.**, Scuderi, L. (2010). Hydrological and climatic changes in deserts of China since the Late Pleistocene. *Quaternary Research* 73: 1–9.

Yu, K. B., **Brook, G.A.**, Rhew, H., Shin, Y. H., Kim, S., Brook, F. Z. (2009). Episodic coastal dune development in the Taean Peninsula and Anmyeon Island, Korea, during the mid to late Holocene. *Journal of Quaternary Science*, DOI: 10.1002/jqs.1277.

Zhu, B., **Yang, X.** (2009). Chemical weathering of the detrital sediments in the Taklamakan Desert, northwestern China. *Geographical Research* (Journal of the Institute of Australian Geographers) 47: 57 – 70.

Zhu, B., **Yang, X.** (2010). The origin and distribution of soluble salts in the sand seas of northern China. *Geomorphology* 123: 232 – 242.

## 5. Continuation

The commission will continue the re-establishment of interactions with colleagues in the Arab world, if not else, with regard to the recent political situation. In addition these colleagues have insights in the indigenous geographical knowledge of livelihood practices which could be sustainable in arid environments.

Planned joined field trips, conferences and sessions of the commission in 2011:

- Spring 2011: Field trip to the Abu Moharik dune belt as part of the project “Sand accumulations in Egypt”.
- Nov. 2011: Commission meeting and session as part of the UGI Conference in Santiago de Chile.

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## C08.03 Biogeography and Biodiversity

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### 1. Steering Committee Members

*Commission Chair:*

Udo Schickhoff

*Commission Vice Chair:*

R.B. Singh

*Committee Members:*

Albert Aweto

Hugo Bekle

Mark Blumler

Alvaro Gonzalez-Gervasio

Jennifer Hill

Andrew Millington

David Taylor

Alexander Wearing

José Alejandro Velázquez

### 2. The 2010 Report of the Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity

The Commission's annual meeting 2010 was held in Guwahati, Assam, India, 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> December. The 'International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission Seminar Land Use, Biodiversity and Climate Change' was organized and hosted by the Department of Geography, Cotton College, Guwahati, and jointly co-organized by the IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity. Once again I am very grateful to Dr. R.B. Singh, Secretary General of the National Association of Geographers, India, and Vice-Chairman of our Commission as well as to the local organizing team for the commitment to making this conference successful and a memorable one.

As the year 2010 has been declared as 'World Biodiversity Year', the seminar could not have been held at a more appropriate time and in a more appropriate place.

North East India comprises the State of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Sikkim. At the confluence of the Indo-Malayan, Indo-Chinese and Indian biogeographical realms, the NE region is unique in providing a profusion of habitats which features diverse biota with high level of endemism. The region is also the abode of approximately 225 tribes out of 450 in the entire country of India, the culture and customs of which have an important role in understanding biodiversity conservation and management issues. Land use change supplemented by various human activities has led to extinction or elimination of plant and animal habitats and species. Many of the biodiversity hotspots are under threat due to such activities.

This region has been in focus for its high biodiversity and a priority region for leading conservation agencies of the world. Conservation International has included all eight states of NE India within the Biodiversity Hotspot along with South China. NE India is expected to be highly prone to the consequences of climate change because of its geoeological fragility, strategic location vis-à-vis eastern Himalayan landscape and international borders, its trans-boundary river basins and its inherent socio-economic instabilities. Environmental security and sustainability of the region are and will be greatly challenged by these impacts.

Today, NE India is going through a transition. Especially poor and marginalized people are facing severe economic hardships and problems affecting human-environmental

interactions in general and sustainable land use and biodiversity conservation in particular. These problems have to be addressed in research strategies when considering integrated development intervention and respective policy advocacy.

Keeping these in mind the Guwahati Conference aimed at addressing the issues of land use, biodiversity and climate change by putting forward 11 subthemes for discussion:

- Population and land use
- Changing human values and impact on environment
- Integrated river basin development
- Developmental change and human health
- Biodiversity and the Himalayas
- Land use change and wetlands
- Man-animal conflicts
- Urban development and land use change
- Changing land use and climate change
- Sustainable land use practices
- Geoinformatics in land use and climate change

More than 400 participants (scientists, geographers, botanists, hydrologists, community people, practitioners, technicians, academicians, NGO's, researchers and other academic institutions attended this grand international conference. The conference was a unique platform for national and international experts on the above subjects. The programme included oral presentations, talks and discussions followed by deliberations for recommendations. Altogether, more than 300 papers had been presented in 29 sessions. The Seminar was inaugurated by IGU Vice-President Prof. Giuliano Bellezza (Rome, Italy), IGU Vice-President

Prof. Yukio Himiyama (Asahikawa, Japan), IGU Commission Biogeography and Biodiversity Chairman Prof. Udo Schickhoff (Hamburg, Germany), IGU Commission Biogeography and Biodiversity Vice-Chairman Prof. R.B. Singh (Delhi, India), the Principal Cotton College Prof. I.K. Bhattacharyya (Guwahati, India), the Head of the Dept. of Geography Prof. B.C. Kalita (Guwahati, India) and the Convener Prof. Mahfuza Rahman (Guwahati, India) (Fig. 1).

In addition to the scientific sessions, a special student interactive session was held in the indoor stadium, where three short films that won laurels in the United Nations International School Conference in New York were shown by the students of Marias Public School. Prof. W.A. Flügel (Jena, Germany) and Prof. Y. Himiyama (Asahikawa, Japan) interacted with the students and disseminated information on international map drawing competition held in the month of October every year. They both appreciated this session because it is so important to have a good education in geography in order to be prepared to tackle the future environmental problems of this planet. A book publication containing accepted papers of the conference is forthcoming.

### **3. Planned meetings and events in 2011 and 2012**

The IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity co-organizes the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Geography Congress, 06 – 08 May 2011, Kozhikode, Kerala, India. The focal theme will be 'Sustainable Natural Resources Management under Changing Climatic Scenarios'. The congress will be organized by the Centre for Water Resources Development and Management, Kozhikode, India, under the aegis of the National Association of Geographers India

(NAGI). Prof. U. Schickhoff, Chairman IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity, Hamburg, Germany, and Prof. G. Bellezza, Vice President of the International Geographical Union, Rome, Italy, are members of the International Advisory Committee of the congress.

Sub-themes of the congress include natural hazards/disasters and environmental challenges, impact of deforestation on hydrological processes, impact of anthropogenic activities and climatic changes on biodiversity, geomorphology and natural resource management, geoinformatics: technology-society interface, impact of population explosion and urbanization on land use and land cover change, environmental pollution and quality of life (water, land, air), geopolitical economy of development and globalization, tourism impacts, implications and alternatives, recent challenges for ethnic communities, refugees and war victims, and spatial infrastructure, alternative planning and management perspectives.

The main event forthcoming in 2011 is the IGU Regional Geographic Conference UGI 2011 in Santiago, Chile, 14 – 18 November 2011. At this conference, the Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity will organize a business meeting and one or several sessions on biogeography and biodiversity-related issues. All participants of the conference are invited to contribute to these sessions. A call for papers is launched at the Conference

website. Deadline for submitting abstracts is March 10, 2011.

The main event in 2012 will be the IGU International Geographical Congress in Cologne, Germany, 26 – 30 August 2012. The IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity already registered a business meeting and a paper session on 'Climate Change and Land Use Effects on Species, Communities, and Ecosystems: Indian Subcontinent and the Himalayas'. The Commission intends to organize additional sessions open for submission of papers the authors of which are not members of the Commission.

#### **4. Collaborative efforts and newsletters**

A close collaboration has been established between the IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity and the IGU Commission on Land Use and Land Cover Change, the annual meeting in 2009 was co-organized by both Commissions, together with the Environmental Monitoring Society, and the World Association of Soil and Water Conservation. The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Geography Congress, 06 – 08 May 2011, in Kozhikode, Kerala, India, will be co-organized together with the Centre for Water Resources Development and Management, Kozhikode, India.

The IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity issued a comprehensive newsletter in December 2010.

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## C08.04 Commission on Climatology (CoC)

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A heated debate about weather and climate has been going on in recent years all over the world. People are asking themselves what is going to happen in the nearest future and how life is going to change due to the climate change and extreme weather phenomena that are taking place. There are calls for alarm that even our civilization may be endangered by a state of paralysis, as though the climatic change was a proven theory. Every day the media bring the news of destructive weather phenomena destroying property and harming or even killing people. It would be difficult not to find examples of that in the course of a year in every part of the world. The issues described above were the reasons for the Commission on Climatology to focus on extremes and regional climate studies as the main research field.

### 1. Steering Committee Members

*Commission Chair:*

Zbigniew Ustrnul

*Commission Secretary:*

Kristina Blennow

*Committee Members:*

Arieh Bitan

Latifa Henia

Jun Matsumoto

Francisco Mendonça

Ana Moneiro

Roger S. Pulwarty

Nigel Tapper

Elena Voskresenskayae

Alain A. Viau

### 2. CoC Members

The Commission does not have any particular member-list. It has been working with the steering committee as the only Commission Body however lots of climatologists and environmental as well as urban and human studies scientists are cooperating. Therefore during the last Steering Committee meeting it was decided to complete the list of corresponding members (everyone interested in cooperating in the frame of Commission). The data has still being collected and prepared.

### 3. CoC Meetings

Commission on Climatology has been operating for international research cooperation and studies on the field of climatology. It promotes individual and group research work, encourage the exchange of relevant documents and information. The main stream of activities in 2010 was, on the point, focused on scientific information exchange. Internet has become the principal medium, due to which the cooperating members were able to share the results of leading-edge research.

Organized meetings:

#### **IGU Regional Conference – Tel Aviv (14 – 15 July 2010)**

During the International Geographical Union Regional Conference in Tel Aviv, Israel

(12 – 16 July 2010) Commission on Climatology organized climatology sessions within two Conference days. The

sessions covered the general themes of essential current issues:

- Global warming and its impacts – different assessments
- Urban climate and environmental impacts
- Urban climate and thermal comfort
- Mediterranean climate
- Remote sensing and advanced techniques in climate research
- Regional climatology

38 presentations were given in 9 sessions:

- Global warming and its impacts – different assessments
- Urban climate and environmental impacts
- Urban climate and thermal comfort
- Mediterranean climate – Joint Session with the Mediterranean Renaissance Project
- Remote sensing and advanced techniques in climate research
- Mediterranean and regional climatology

which were attended by about 100 participants.

#### **Steering Committee Meeting – Tel Aviv 15 July 2010**

During the IGU Regional Conference Steering Committee meeting took place. The general theme of the meeting were the Commission activities planned for 2011 (e.g. IGU Regional Conference in Chile).

#### **4. Commission plans for 2011**

The most Commission activities should concentrate upon 6 sub-themes. It should help all activities and enable better

exchange of results and findings. It should also ensure better efficiency of the entire Commission. The all mentioned sub-groups are as follows:

- Climate change and variability
- Topoclimatology
- Tropical climatology
- Physical climatology
- Environmental climatology
- Urban climatology

The main work plans anticipate intense work in the frame of each of the subgroups. The results will consist of the recent findings resulting from the work of 6 thematic subgroups. Due to the differentiated involvement of members from the different continents, the anticipated results should reflect the regional aspects and provide the global state of knowledge in all issues concerned. Cooperation with commissions and organizations, other than IGU, where the results of climatologic examinations and tests seem applicable, are of crucial significance. The seven main scientific issues/problems mentioned above do not eliminate the possibilities of tackling the other important phenomena.

#### **5. Meetings planned**

IGU Regional Conference Santiago, Chile (14 – 18 November 2011) – climatological sessions

#### **6. Newsletters and other publications issued in 2010**

Commission on Climatology Newsletter No 8, June 2010.

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## C08.05 Coastal Systems

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### 1. Membership

In December 2010, the Commission on Coastal Systems had 365 members from 65 countries.

*Commission Chair:*

Edward J. Anthony

*Past Chair:*

Douglas J. Sherman

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Colin Woodroffe

*Commission Secretary:*

Norbert P. Psuty

*Members of the Steering Committee:*

Adoté Blivi

Françoise Breton

Paolo Ciavola

John R.C. Hsu

Antonio Henrique da F. Klein

Andreas Vött

Darius Bartlett

Helmut Brückner

David R. Green

Derek Jackson

Jeffrey Ollerhead

### 2. Meetings 2010

No meetings were organized by the Commission on Coastal systems in 2010 due to an important professional move of the Chairman Edward Anthony.

### 3. Meetings 2011

In 2011, the Commission on Coastal Systems will be organizing three meetings:

- European Union of Geosciences Conference in Vienna, 3 – 8 April, with an expected attendance of about 20 CCS members
- CoastGIS 2011 Conference in Oostende, Belgium, 5 – 8 September, 2011. CoastGIS 2011 will be hosted by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) Project Office. Expected membership attendance unknown as yet.
- The International Coastal Symposium in Szczecin, Poland, 9 – 14 May. Expected membership attendance unknown as yet.
- Negotiations are going on for a CCS meeting at the IGU regional Conference in November in Santiago, Chile.

### 4. Collaborative Efforts

No collaborative meetings with other commissions or task forces were organized by the Commission on Coastal systems in 2010 for the same reason as in 3.

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## C08.06 Cold Region Environments

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### 1. Steering Committee

The Commission on Cold Region Environments (CRE) functions presently as a committee of the whole to form a steering committee. The full list of commission members appears in Appendix I.

*Commission Chair:*

Nancy Doubleday

*Commission Co-Chair:*

Dario Trombotto

Number of Commission Members as of 31 December 2010: 9 (please see Appendix I)

### 2. 2010 CRE Meetings and Activities

#### a. Meetings

**24 – 29 January 2010:** *“Arctic Frontiers: Living in the High North”*. T. Vlasova chaired session on “Wellbeing”.

**16 – 19 March 2010:** *Miami, USA Arctic Conference*. T. Vlasova and F. Nelson participated.

**12 – 18 April 2010:** *Association of American Geographers*. During AAG 2010 in Washington in April, CRE members presented and discussed the work of CRE and also discussed with IGU executives the possibilities for broadening our membership. Working within the 4 cross-cutting themes of the International Geographical Congress (IGC); i.e. 1. Global Change and Globalisation, 2. Society-Environment, 3. Risks and Conflicts and 4. Urbanisation and Demographic Change, to be held in Cologne on 26 – 30 August 2012, we identified potential session and meeting titles. Preliminary consultations were held concerning INQUA 2011 to be held in Bern.

**8 – 12 June 2010:** *International Polar Year Science meeting, Oslo*. Many CRE members including Nelson, Trombotto, Vlasova and Doubleday attended. IGU-CRE facilitated cooperation between societies in Russia and the US.

**13 – 18 June 2010:** *EUCOP III, Svalbard, Norway*. Many CRE members attended. N. Matsuoka (Japan) gave a keynote lecture on “State of periglacial research at the end of IPY”, and also guided a field trip to the ice-wedge monitoring site in Adventdalen, as well as contributing to the ‘Field guide for excursions EUCOP III Svalbard, Norway 13 – 18 June 2010’. F. Nelson delivered the public keynote lecture “The Unintended Research Legacy of John Munro Longyear”.

**22 – 23 September 2010:** *“The Arctic – Territory of Dialogue”*, Moscow. T. Vlasova and F. Nelson participated in the international forum “The Arctic – Territory of Dialogue” organized by the Russian Geographical Society (headed by the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation – Vladimir Putin).

**3 – 6 November 2010:** *“Understanding Circumpolar Ecosystems in a Changing World – Outcomes of the International Polar Year”*, Edmonton, Alberta. N. Doubleday (member, scientific programme committee and session chair) and T. Vlasova presented and participated in the IPY-PPS Arctic Board meeting.

#### b. Proposals:

F. Nelson and T. Vlasova have prepared a first draft of the international project “International Geographical Union Cold Regions Environment Commission perspectives on socio-environmental

changes investigation through national geographical society's cooperation".

N. Doubleday and T. Vlasova discussed the proposal submitted to the Canadian embassy in Russia for the support of CRE activities "Cold Region Environment Canadian-Russia International Cooperation (CRE-CRIC)" (deferred).

N. Doubleday and others submitted a proposal in part for support for CRE activities to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (pending).

### 3. Planned and Proposed CRE Meetings and Activities for 2011 – 2012

**2011 INQUA:** CRE has proposed a session for the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA), to be held in Bern, Switzerland in July 2011, titled "Past and present conditions of cold environments and their human relationships with changing thermal regimes", and sponsored by the International Permafrost Association. CRE contributors to the proposal process included: J. van den Berge, X. Yang, N. Doubleday, D. Trombotto and T. Vlasova, and others. This session is now part of the General Session of the Congress. Participation is expected to be 50 people.

**2011 IGU Regional Meeting Santiago:** CRE Co-chair D. Trombotto has organized participation at this meeting. T. Vlasova will also attend. Other participation will be determined closer to the event. It is anticipated that new members will be recruited to CRE as a result of this meeting. Participation is expected to be 30 people.

**2012:** The changes currently observed and experienced in the Cold Region Environments, particularly as a result of IPY research, provided a unique focus for CRE-sponsored sessions within

the IGU Congress in 2012. In addition a CRE commission meeting and a CRE business session have been proposed to the organizers. As well, 2 formal paper sessions have been proposed.

### 4. Collaborations

The International Permafrost Association kindly co-sponsored our session for INQUA in 2011

### 5. List of newsletter, publications and media reports for 2010

Arenson, L., Pastore, S., **Trombotto, D.**, Bölling, S., Quiroz, M. and Ochoa, Characteristics of two Rock Glaciers in the Arid Argentinean Andes Based on Initial Surface Investigations. X.6<sup>th</sup> Canadian Permafrost Conference 2010, Calgary, AB. Abstract for GEO2010.

Castro, M. y **Trombotto, D.** The rockglaciers of the Cordillera del Tigre, Mendoza, Argentina. International Glaciological Conference. Ice and Climate Change: A View from the South, Valdivia, CHILE, 2010. Abstract Book, p.40.

Grosse, G. Romanovsky, V.E., **Nelson, F.E.**, Brown, J. and Lewkowicz, A.G. (2010). Why permafrost is thawing, not melting. *Eos, Transactions of the American Geophysical Union* 91(9): 87 – 88.

Legates, D.R. Mahmood, R., Levina, D.F., DeLiberty, T.L., Quiring, S., Houser, C., and **Nelson, F.E.** (2010) Soil moisture: A central and unifying theme in physical geography. *Progress in Physical Geography* 35(1): 65 – 86.

Lenzano, G., **Trombotto, D.**, Lenzano, L. E., Observaciones y mediciones GNSS en la parte terminal del glaciar Horcones Inferior, Aconcagua, Argentina. International Glaciological Conference. Ice and Climate Change: A View from the South, Valdivia, CHILE, 2010. Abstract Book, p.125. **Matsuoka, N.** ISAR-2 (2<sup>nd</sup>

International Symposium on the Arctic Research], Tokyo, 7–9 December 2010. Poster presentation on 'Monitoring permafrost and periglacial processes in Svarbard'.

**Matsuoka, Norikazu** Keynote lecture on 'State of periglacial research at the end of IPY'. EUCOPIII in Svalbard, Norway, 13–18 June 2010; Guide for field trip to the ice-wedge monitoring site in Adventdalen, contributor to 'Fieldguide for excursions EUCOP III Svalbard, Norway 13–18 June 2010'.

**Nelson, F.E.** (2011). America's Glory Road... on ice: Permafrost and the development of the Alcan Highway, 1942–1943. In: Brunn, S.B., *Engineering Earth*. Amsterdam: Kluwer, 643–661.

**Nelson, F.E.** and Shiklomanov, N.I. (2010). The Circumpolar Active Layer Monitoring Network—CALM III (2009–2014): Long-term Observations on the Climate-Active Layer-Permafrost System. pp. 9–21 *Ambientes Periglaciares, Permafrost y Variabilidad Climática: II Congreso Ibérico de la International Permafrost Association*. Alcalá, Spain: Universidad de Alcalá Servicio de Publicaciones.

Nilsson, C., R. Jansson, E. C. H. Keskitalo, **T.Vlassova**, M.-L.Sutinen, J. Moen, F. S. Chapin III. 2010.

Challenges to Adaptation in Northernmost Europe as a Result of Global Climate Change. *Ambio* (ISSN 0044-7447), Volume: 39 Issue: 1. 2010. P.81-84.

Otto, J-Ch., Götz, J., Keuschnig, M., Hartmeyer I., **Trombotto D.** & Schrott, L. Geomorphological and geophysical investigation of a complex rock glacier system – Morenas Coloradas valley (Cordon del Plata, Mendoza, Argentina). European Geosciences Union, Viena, 2010. Geophysical Research Abstracts, EGU2010-3625, Vol. 12.

Ruiz, L., **Trombotto, D.** & Villalba, R. A preliminary glacier inventory for the Wet Andes between 42°S and 42°10'S.

,International Glaciological Conference. Ice and Climate Change: A View from the South, Valdivia, CHILE, 2010. Abstract Book, p.36.

Saito, Kazuyuki and **Dario Trombotto**. (September) Snow and Ice Conference 2010. Sendai, Japan. Past and present permafrost distribution in the Southern Hemisphere — comparison of the GCM-based mapping with the observations. (南半球における過去と現在の凍土分布 – GCM出力に基づいた推定と観測との比較-)

Saito, K. & **Trombotto, D.** Past and present permafrost distribution in the Southern Hemisphere: comparison of the GCM-based mapping with the observations. Third European Conference on Permafrost, Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway, 2010.

Shiklomanov, N.I., Streletskiy, D.A., **Nelson, F.E.**, Hollister, R.D., Romanovsky, V.E., Tweedie, C.E., Bockheim, J.G., and Brown, J. (2010). Decadal variations of active-layer thickness in moisture-controlled landscapes, Barrow Alaska. *Journal of Geophysical Research—Biogeochemical Cycles*. Doi: 10.1029/2009JG001248.

**Trombotto, D.**, Penas, P y Blöthe, J.H First thermal analysis of the caldera and the summit of the volcano complex Peteroa, Mendoza, Argentina. . International Glaciological Conference. Ice and Climate Change: A View from the South, Valdivia, CHILE, 2010. Abstract Book, p.30.

**Trombotto Liaudat, D.**, Travassos, J., Ahumada, A.-L., Bodin, X., Brenning, A., Carrera-Gómez, P., Francou, B., Götz, J., Palacios, D. Monitoring sites and recent studies of periglacial processes and landforms in South America. International Polar Year Oslo Science Conference 2010.

**Trombotto, Dario**, Amalia Ramires y Guillermo Sánchez E-ICES 6, 2010 (October). Malargüe. Descubrimiento del permafrost payenino?.. Acta de Resúmenes E-ICES 6: 70-71.

**Trombotto, Dario**, Pablo Penas y José Hernández “Monitoreo termogeomorfológico de la cumbre del complejo volcánico Peteroa, Mendoza, Argentina”. E-ICES 6, 2010 (October). Malargüe. Acta de Resúmenes E-ICES 6: 69-70.

Volkov S.G., **Vlasova T.K.** Issues of agricultural production in marginal regions of the Russian North. In: Agricultural Production: experience, problems and trends of development. Volume 1. Russian Academy of Agricultural Science. Russian Research Institute of Agricultural Science. Moscow 2010.

**Vlasova T.K.** Experience in developing approaches and methods for socially-oriented observations of the North: the integration of interdisciplinary science and public opinion.(in Russian). In: “Russian Northern Innovation Strategy. Social development of northern regions” (Ed. Academician RAS V.A.Chereshnev, chairman of the State Duma Committee on Science and High Technology) Materials of the V Northern social and environmental congress Moscow, April, 21 – 22, 2009. Moscow, 2009. p.67-79. In Russian (Published in April 2010).

**Vlasova T.K.** “Construction of the Arctic Socially oriented Observation Networks: results from the Russian North”/“Arctic Frontiers” international conference “Living in the High North”. Part II: Sustainable communities in the High North; economy, well-being including health issues, and self-governance. Tromsø 24 – 29 January 2010. <http://www.arctic-frontiers.com/>

**Vlasova T.** and A. N. Petrov. 2010. Migration and socio-economic well-being in the Russian North: interrelations, regional differentiation, recent trends and emerging issues. In: Migration in the Circumpolar North: issues and contexts/ Lee Huskey and Chris Southcott, edited/ © 2010 CCI Press, pp. 163-193.

**Yang, Xiaoping\*** and Louis A. Scuderi 2010 “Hydrological and climatic changes in deserts of China since the late Pleistocene.” Quaternary Research 73 (2010) 1–9. journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/yqres](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/yqres)

Yang, M., **Nelson, F.E.**, Shiklomanov, N.I., Yao, T., and Guo D. (2010). Climate change and permafrost on the Tibetan Plateau: A review of recent research. *Earth-Science Reviews* 103: 31-44.

## **Appendix I: CRE Members 2008 – 2010**

### *Chair:*

Nancy Doubleday (Canada)

### *Co-Chair:*

Dario Trombotto (Argentina)

### *Steering Committee:*

Xiaoping Yang (China)

Norikazu Matsuoka (Japan)

Jef van den Berghe (Netherlands)

Ole Humlum (Norway)

Tatiana Vlassova (Russia)

Julian B. Murton (UK)

Frederick E. Nelson (US)

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## C08.07 Cultural Approach in Geography

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The year 2010 has been crucial for the Commission on the question of the cultural approach, due to the development of stronger interrelations of geographers between all interested countries and the responsibilities I took on to also chair and coordinate the IGU-Initiative for an UN-International Year on Global Understanding (IYGU). Otherwise, several interesting meetings and networking activities took place during the last year which at large were aimed to explore new pathways for cultural approaches in Geography. A special focus was on exploring the still idle potential of questions of sustainability within the wider framework of everyday cultures and practices. This last area of research reflects one of the main pillars of IYGU. The essential outcome of last year's efforts is, then, a world-wide community of cultural geographers and non-geographers from a range of disciplines (both from the natural sciences and humanities). Their common references integrate more and more the non-Anglophone debates and contribute to a profound global understanding.

*Benno Werlen (Chair)*

### 1. Membership

#### 1.1 Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Benno Werlen

*Commission Secretary:*

Marc Redepenning

*Commission Members:*

Kay Anderson Vincent Berdoulay

Teresa Dirsuweit

Rubén C. Lois-Gonzalez

Guy Mercier

Annsi Paasi

Rogério Haesbert

Rob Kitchin

John Pickles

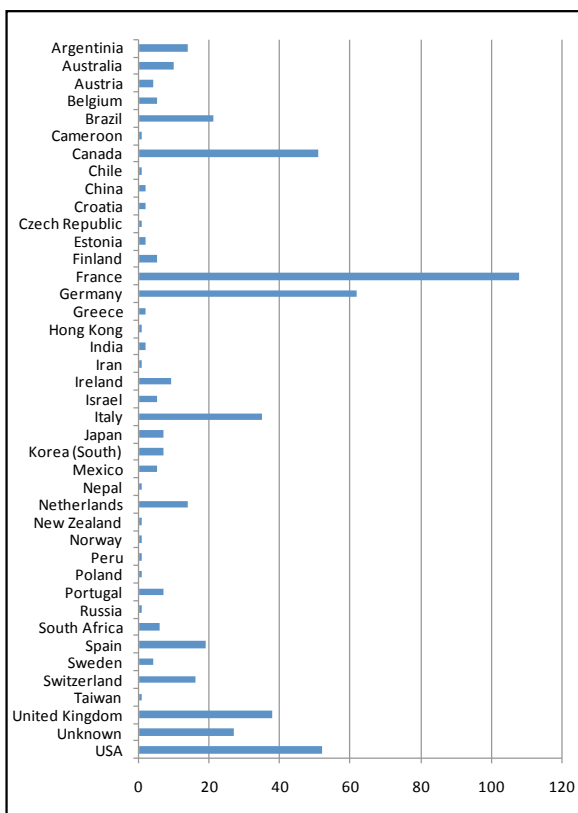
Perla Zusman

*Honorary Member:*

Paul Claval

#### 1.2 Commission Membership

The commission has 553 members (as of 31 December 2010) who receive all information about organized conferences and other relevant conferences via Email.



## 2. International Meetings in 2010

### 2.1 International Conference “Touristic cultures: spatialities, mobilities, corporealities” (Sion, Switzerland, 21 – 23 June 2010), together with IGU commission ‘Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change’.

The tension between spatialities, mobilities and corporealities is co-constitutive of tourism. The nexus between tourism and mobility is therefore a first important issue. But the cultural approach in geography also deals with the various ways of corporealities, rules and equipments of human practices. The tourist practices and the learning of ‘tourist cultures’ are therefore at stake. Finally, tourism participates with the global circulation patterns through the tourist’s ‘dis-placement’, but also through financial transactions and circulation of images. This assemblage gives birth to tourist cultures informed by shared ways of doing by tourists, and through the commodification of standardised tourist products. All this partakes to the Western culture if not to a ‘global tourist culture’. Within this framework, the following questions were raised in the conference:

- a. How does tourism as a phenomenon affect cultural approaches in geography? In which different ways are the conceptual tools of cultural geography able to stimulate new approaches to tourism? Which are the dead ends? Does tourism challenge certain assumptions or models of cultural geography? Epistemological contributions are welcome that deconstruct the geographer’s gaze of the cultural approach on tourism.
- b. The learning of tourist cultures is one of the central elements raised by Löfgren (1999): how have we acquired the skills of being tourists? This is a central question that has not yet received substantial answers. Is there, in the course of globalisation, only one hegemonic ‘Western’ tourist culture or can a plethora of different even counter-hegemonic cultures be discerned?
- c. Tourist practices are meaningful only because of the ‘dis-placement’, a change of place and location, which links tourism to mobility studies. What is the significance of tourist practices within cultures of mobility? Which are the interdependencies between tourist practices and other kinds of mobility practices? Which representations of place are mobilised by tourists and turned into cultural capital? How personal and collective identities are affected by tourist practices?
- d. The technologies of information and communication (Internet, mobile phone etc.) are one element of the performance of contemporary tourist practices. Which are the effects on the sense of place and the meaning of the dis-placement if tourists continue to be ‘attached’ to the social network and routines of the home place?
- e. The assemblage of tourist practices constitutes a performance. Corporeal techniques, competences, know-how, technologies, instruments, money, food, garment, politics, signs, marker, attractions etc are necessary to “do tourism”. The notion of assemblage within the actor-network-theory (Latour, 2000) could indeed be useful in order to describe the differences between tourist practices.

- f. The corporeal engagement is crucial for the tourist practices. Corporeal techniques – walk, alpinism, skiing, flânerie, tanning etc. – are necessary in order to perform the various practices. Therefore, tourist practices can be seen as 'cultural and technological achievements' because they necessitate the mastering of the body in a certain way according to the situation. Practising a place of otherness also permits to perform an 'other' sexuality through non-routine sexual practices.

The number of participants was around 150 geographers and non-geographers from different European and Non-European countries. 60 presentations were delivered during the three days of the conference.

## **2.2 IGU Regional Conference "Bridging Diversity in a Globalizing World" (Tel Aviv, Israel, 12 – 16 July 2010)**

At the Tel Aviv Meeting, three sessions have been organized by the IGU-Commission "The Cultural Approach in Geography", one session in close collaboration with IGU's Mediterranean Renaissance Program.

- a. ***Tourist Productions of Mediterranean Cultural Landscapes (jointly organized with the Mediterranean Renaissance Program of the IGU):*** The relationship between tourism and historical Mediterranean cultural landscapes is multidimensional and often conflictual. In this session, attention will be directed to the production of landscapes of historical cultural heritage for contemporary economic activities. We invite contributions that investigate the positive and problematic implications of such productions:

How is the production of 'staged' and so called 'authentic' elements in the tourist landscape arranged? Are there, in particular locations, symptomatic amalgamation of these groupings, from which a new virtual quality of the 'Méditerranité' ('Mediterraneanism') is created? Moreover, theoretical and methodological contributions on the idea of cultural landscapes are also highly welcome.

- b. ***Geographical perspectives for a better Global Understanding:***

Under conditions of globalization, the cultural dimension of human practices is growing in significance even on the level of everyday life, especially as regards the interrelationship of local/regional traditions and actions over distances. The prospects of success of all kinds of non-reflexive discourses (like fundamentalist discourses) are rapidly increasing and related to a lacking global contextualization of one's own life conditions. Promoting reflexive cultural research thus is becoming a very important task in future constitutions of geographical imaginations or in short: for establishing a better appropriate global understanding. To meet the rising challenges, it is important to deepen the geographical practices of the construction and reproduction of cultural realities, processes implied in social, economic as well as political actions and in the transformation of nature by human actions. We are calling for papers addressing the issue of how global understanding can be improved: What kind of geographical topics should play a key role in that project and how can cultural and the physical life conditions approached in an integrated way?

- c. ***The cultural turn in economic geography and the economic turn in cultural geography:*** (organized by Barney Warf, University of Kansas): As economic geographers have moved ever deeper into issues of 'culture' – particularly concerning questions of identity, trust, and learning regions – cultural geographers have moved likewise toward incorporating economic analysis into theories and understandings of human behavior and landscape formation. The intersections of these lines of thought have opened new conceptual vistas and domains of research, such as path dependency, actor-network theory, ethnic economies, and geographies of tourism and consumption. As the boundaries between the economic and the cultural melt away, what are the implications for human geography? Do these realms retain any meaningful status independent of one another? Is the cultural-economic dichotomy yet another tired dualism of the type increasingly jettisoned by the discipline? This session seeks to further the discussion about the convergence of economic and cultural geography, including theoretical perspectives and rich empirical examples. All papers concerning the intersections of cultural and economic geography are welcome.

The numbers of abstracts received demanded to offer six sessions in total with 25 presentations. During the Conference, the Commission's Chair, Benno Werlen, who is also Project Director of the "IGU-Initiative for an UN-International Year on Global Understanding (IYGU)" presented the goals, ambitions and the outline of the Initiative to the IGU Executive Committee, the Chairpersons of the IGU Commissions,

IGU National Committees and the Cologne 2012 Organizers. The low attendance at the sessions (usually around 10 – 15 persons per session) and at the whole congress was a limiting factor for stimulated discussion and reflection.

### **3. Planned Meetings in 2011/2012**

With respect to the IGU Regional Conference at Santiago, Chile (November 2011), the Commission will organize one session on "Cultural Approaches to Ecology and Sustainability". This session will link the Commission's activities with the further shaping and promoting of the IGU-Initiative for an UN-International Year on Global Understanding (IYGU).

Talks had taken place to organize a conference on "Borders and identity" together with the University of Luxembourg in 2011/2012.

The IGU-Commission "The Cultural Approach in Geography" was engaged through its Executive Secretary in the second preparation meeting of the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Geographical Congress ("Down To Earth") in Cologne (January 2010). The commission will be engaged in the IGC by organizing and chairing several sessions and a pre/or post-conference in the context of the IGC.

Under the auspices of IYGU two conference meetings will be held in March 2011 (Weimar, Germany) and May 2011 (Jena, Germany). Both meetings are aimed to sharpen the profile of IYGU and to discuss its main objectives. The meetings will bring together world-class scientists and knowledge managers who cover a multiplicity of disciplines bridging the humanities and natural sciences. These scientists by and large represent IYGU's Steering Committee, including well-

known names, like Ron Abler, Anthony Giddens, Ulrich Beck, Deliang Chen, Heide Hackmann, or Eduardo de Mulder.

#### **4. Networking and Collaborative efforts**

The commission has networked extensively within the IGU. On several occasions, joint sessions at IGU Regional Conferences have been organized. Joint sessions and conferences were organized with the IGU-Commission "Geography of Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change" (Sion 2010) and the Mediterranean Renaissance Program (Tel Aviv). With respect to the IGU Regional Conference 2011 plans have been discussed to offer a session on "The place of Geography and the Geographical Knowledge in the Public Sphere" together with the IGU-Commission "History of Geography". However, local organizers in Chile did not sufficiently promote opportunities for offering joint sessions that the Commission decided to refrain from these efforts. The Commission, through its Chair, was engaged in the 21<sup>th</sup> Festival International de Géographie de Saint-Dié-des-Vosges, October 2010.

Due to the fact that the Commission's activities are closely linked to the further development and the institutionalization of the "IGU-Initiative for an UN-International Year on Global Understanding (IYGU)", networking and collaboration towards non-geographic scientific communities have been expanded in the last year. These networking activities include, for example, the presentations of IYGU's main goals to the International Council

for Science (ICSU) decennial research program 2012 – 2022 on "Challenges in Global Sustainability Research" as to the International Geo-Scientific Unions, both in Paris (April 2010). In December 2010, the Commission's Chair, Benno Werlen, presented the IGU-Initiative for an UN-International Year on Global Understanding to a wider audience during a Joint Scientific Symposium of the ISSC-CIPSH General Assembly at Nagoya (Japan), 13 – 14 December 2010.

#### **5. Publications**

##### **5.1 International Meetings**

Castro-Fernandez, B., Lopez, L. & M. Pinera-Mantinán (2010): Processes of Heritage Making in Geographical Space. Santiago de Compostela. (= Cursos e Congresos da Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, no 191). (Contains chapter by the Commission's Chair).

A publication of the conference "Cultural aspects in economic, social and political geographies" (Buenos Aires, 2007) is still in preparation by the correspondent local organizers for publication. (Publication will contain a chapter by the Commission's Chair).

##### **5.2 Website/Newsletter/Flyer**

The website at [www.cultural-approach.net](http://www.cultural-approach.net) has proved to be an excellent tool of communication.

A flyer has been published to explain the objectives and the societal relevance of the IGU-Initiative for an UN-International Year on Global Understanding (IYGU).

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## C08.08 Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces

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### 1. Steering Committee Members

*Commission Chair:*

Neil Reid

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Michael Taylor

*Commission Members:*

Montserrat Pallares Barbera

Daniel Felsenstein

Martina Fromhold-Eisebith

Hege Knutsen

Jeong Hyop Lee

Charles Mather

Paul Plummer

Bill Pritchard

Henry Wai-chung Yeung

Jici Wang

### 2. 2010 Membership

The IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces does not have a formal membership base. During 2010, however, 118 individuals participated in Commission conferences. These 118 individuals represented 14 countries (Netherlands, United Kingdom, USA, Italy, Australia, Germany, Canada, South Korea, Singapore, Sweden, Spain, South Africa, Greece, and China).

### 3. 2010 Meetings

In 2010 the IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces held 3 conferences. These were:

- a. **Cologne, Germany** – Theme: Industrial Transition – New Patterns of Production, Work, and Innovativeness in Global-Local Spaces, Date: 20 – 22 May. Website: <http://www.wiso.uni-koeln.de/wigeo/>.
- b. **Groningen, Netherlands** – Theme: Wellbeing, Innovation and Spatial Transformation, Date: 1 – 3 July
- c. **Toledo, USA** – Theme: Local Food Systems and Old Industrial Regions, Date: 3 – 7 August. Website – [http://uac.utoledo.edu/igu\\_commission/ToledoMC2010-Home.htm](http://uac.utoledo.edu/igu_commission/ToledoMC2010-Home.htm)

### 4. 2011 Meetings

In 2011 the IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces will hold or participate in the following conferences:

- a. **Vechta, Germany** – Theme: Globalizing Rural Places, Date: 19 – 21 May
- b. **Seoul, Korea** – organize special three sessions on the theme of Recession, Resilience, and Recovery as part of the Third Global Conference on Economic Geography the same information (with estimated participation) for meetings your commission will organize in 2011

### 5. 2011 Collaborative Activities

Participation in Third Global Conference on Economic Geography in **Seoul, Korea** (see 4 above)

### 6. 2010 Publications

The IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces produced the following publications:

#### **Missing Links in Labour Geography.**

Edited by Ann Cecilie Bergene, Work Research Institute, Norway, Sylvi B. Endresen, University of Oslo, Norway and Hege Merete Knutsen, University of Oslo, Norway. Published : July 2010, Ashgate Publishers.

**For more information about the IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces please visit the Commission website at [http://uac.utoledo.edu/igu\\_commission/index.htm](http://uac.utoledo.edu/igu_commission/index.htm).**

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## C08.09 Environment Evolution Commission

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### 1. Membership

*Commission Chair:*

Andrei Velichko

*Commission Secretary:*

Elena Novenko

The Environment Evolution Commission consists of 12 regional working groups. The WGs include specialists in environmental evolution (paleobotanists, paleopedologists, paleoglacialogists, etc.), paleoclimatologists, as well as specialists in numerical modeling.

The leaders of WGs are the members of the Commission Steering Committee:

T. Boettger (Germany)

W. Bleuton (Netherlands)

N. Catto (Canada)

G. MacDonald (USA)

P. Kershaw (Australia)

C. Turner (Great Britain)

M. Stancikaite (Lithuania)

V. Zernitskaya (Belarus)

L. Bezusko (Ukraine)

M. Makohonienko (Poland)

A. Tsatzkin (Israel)

Kazuki Morisaki (Japan)

The number of commission members in total and by country as of 31 December 2010:

Russia – 10

Germany – 3

Netherlands – 2

Canada – 3

Australia – 5

USA – 2

Great Britain – 3

Lithuania – 5

Belarus – 4

Ukraine – 5

Poland – 3

Israel – 2

Japan – 5

Total 53

### 2. Meetings in 2010

In the 2010 the Environment Evolution Commission organized a special session in a frame of IGU Regional Conference 2010, hosted by the Israeli National Commission for Geography (Tel Aviv, July 12 – 16, 2010). The title of session was **“Environment development of Eurasia in Pleistocene-Holocene boundaries”**. The session present results of the Commission’s researches in Pleistocene and Holocene environment and developed the general line of Commission investigation. The session included 10 oral and several poster presentations, the convenor was professor Andrei Velichko. The scientists from Israel, China, USA, Poland, India and Russia took part in the session.

### 3. Meetings in 2011

**April 2011**, Moscow, Institute of geography RAS, Workshop in collaboration with International Polar Year program “Initial occupation of Arctic by ancient human under changing climatic conditions,” About 30 participants are expected.

**July 2011**, XVIII INQUA-Congress, Meeting of the regional working groups in a frame of the Congress. 10 – 15 participants are expected.

**November 2011**, Regional Geographic Conference, Chili. Special session of the Commission: “Paleoenvironment reconstructions as possible analogues for future landscape dynamics under climate

changes.” The content and participants list is in preparation.

#### 4. Collaborative efforts with other IGU Commissions

The Commission works in tight collaboration with the Commission of Glaciology and the Commission of Climatology of IGU.

#### 5. Publications

The special issue of the journal *Quaternary International* (submitted)

**Environment development of East Asia in late Pleistocene – Holocene.** Editors – academician RAS P.Ya. Baklanov and Professor A.A. Velichko

##### Content

1. A.A. Velichko, P.Ya. Baklanov. Editorial.
2. Igarashi Ya. Dynamics in climate and vegetation during Pleistocene-Holocene transition in Sakhalin and Hokkaido, Northeastern Asia
3. Sato H., Izuho M., Morisaki K. Correlation between prehistoric human cultures and environmental change in Pleistocene-Holocene transition in Japan
4. Ganzey L.A. Razzhigaeva N.G., Grebennikova T.A., Kaistrenko V.M., Kharlamov A.A. Influence of natural catastrophes for development of Southern Kuril Island landscapes in Holocene
5. Razzhigaeva N.G., Ganzey L.A., Grebennikova T.A., Mokhova L.M., Belyanina N.I. Environmental changes and landscapes development of Central and Northern Kuril Islands in Holocene
6. Lozhkin A.V., Anderson P.M., Vazhenina L.N. Palynology, plant macrofossil, and radiocarbon dates from early Holocene peat from northeast Asia: implications for the timing of the Holocene climatic optimum.
7. Bazarova V.B., Mokhova L.M., Klimin M.A. Correlation of climate and vegetation changes of the end of Late Pleistocene and Holocene in Amur River Basin
8. Bezrukova E.V., Belov A.V. Holocene vegetation and climate variability in North Baikal and Leno-Angarskoe Plateau areas, East Siberia, Russia
9. Erbajeva M.A., Alexeeva N.V., Khenzykhenova F.I. Late Pleistocene and Holocene paleoenvironment of Baicalian region with emphasis on small mammals and geological peculiarities
10. Kuzmin Ya.V., Rakov V.A. Environment and prehistoric humans on the Russian Far East and neighbouring East Asia: main patterns of interaction
11. Pushkar V.S. Paleoclimatic changes of the Northeastern Asia and North Pacific during Late Pleistocene: high-resolution diatom data recorded in sediment
12. Borisova O.K., Novenko E.Yu. Zelikson E.M. Kremenetski K.V. Lateglacial and Holocene vegetational and climatic changes in the southern taiga zone of West Siberia according to pollen records from Zhukovskoye peat mire.
13. Velichko A.A., Timireva S.N., Kremenetski K.V., MacDonald G.M., Smith L.C. West Siberian Plain as a Late Glacial desert.

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## C08.10 Gender and Geography

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### 1. Membership

*Commission Chair:*

Robyn Longhurst

*Treasurer:*

Holly M. Hapke

*Steering Committee:*

Mariama Awumbila

Mireia Baylina

Elisabeth Buehler

Claire Dwyer

Shirlena Huang

Shahnaz Huq-Hussain

Susana M. Velede de Silva

Sorino Voiculescu

### 2. Membership of Newsletter Mailing List, November 2010

As of November 2010, the Commission's listserv includes 508 subscribers representing 45 countries, though some subscribers cannot be identified by national origin since they use addresses such as yahoo.com. List members receive the twice annual Newsletter and also information about Commission meetings, and calls for papers for publications and other relevant conferences.

The Newsletter includes reports of meetings, research activities, and an extensive multilingual bibliography of articles on gender themes in geography. It is issued in English, French, and Spanish editions. Selected messages are further distributed through the US-based geogfem listserv which has 589 subscribers, including people from outside the US (there will be some overlap of subscribers to the listservs) and the listserv of the

Women and Geography Study Group of the RGS/IBG. An archive of Newsletters (since 1988) is posted on the Commission's website <http://igugender.socsci.uva.nl/>).

The largest numbers of listserv subscribers are in the US, the UK and India (over 40 each), participation in India having grown rapidly over the last two years. Other notable strengths are in Spain, Canada, Australia, Italy, New Zealand, and Switzerland (11). Low participation is most evident in east and south-east Asian countries (other than Japan) and from African countries. Also notable is the low participation from eastern Europe and the Middle East (other than Israel), though the 2009 meeting in Hungary/Romania generated growth in those countries and several subscribers from Portugal have recently been added. Latin American membership is limited to Argentina, Brazil and Mexico, with notable additions in Brazil over the last year. In Brazil, two edited book collections of have also been published recently on gender themes, and an electronic journal devoted to gender and geography has been created. These are announced in the Newsletter.

In Western Europe, participation is modest in Belgium, Germany, Austria and France, though French participation is growing modestly. Material from the Commission's newsletter is excerpted into a separate the German-language newsletter issued several times per year under rotating editorship in Germany and Switzerland.

### 3. Meetings 2010

On 8 July 2010 organisers Tovi Fenster, Orna Blumen and Chen Misgav welcomed

approximately 40 delegates from around the world to a three day pre-conference of the International Geographical Union Commission on Gender and Geography at Ein-Karem (Jerusalem). The conference, which was held at the monastery guesthouse Notre-Dame-De-Sion, addressed the theme 'Bridging Gendered Diversity in a Globalizing World'. It included 24 paper presentations; two group-based discussion sessions; a film and dialogue with representatives from Machson Watch (Women Against the Occupation and for Human Rights); a guided tour of Ein-Karem; and a guided tour of the old city of Jerusalem.

### **Best Student Paper Award**

At the pre-conference of IGU Commission on Gender and Geography *Bridging Gendered Diversity in a Globalized World* in Ein Karem, Jerusalem July 8 – 10, 2010 the Inaugural Best Student Paper was awarded to Onma Berick-Aharony for her presentation on 'The Bare Truth'. Onma's paper was based on her PhD research and focused on the ways in which secular Jewish women bodies are sexually objectified and used as a signifier in the construction of national-ethnic belonging in contemporary Israeli society. In evaluating papers, preference was given to theoretically informed primary research that addresses that topics such as gender and its intersections with class, race, ethnicity, age (dis)ability, sexuality, and culture; feminist, anti-racist and other critical geographies of space, place, nature and the environment; feminist geographies of difference and resistance, and critical methodologies. Onma received a certificate, prize of US\$250, and assistance from the Chair of the Gender and Geography Commission to develop her paper for publication. It has been submitted to *Journal of Gender Studies* who

are planning to publish a theme issue on 'Feminisms, Sex and the Body'.

On 12 – 15 July at the main IGU conference in Tel Aviv our Commission offered three sessions on Gender and Geography. In addition to the presentation of papers approximately 40 delegates participated in a guided tour of 'Queer and Cultural Diversity in Tel Aviv.'

## **4. Meetings 2011**

On 12 – 15 July at the main IGU conference in Tel Aviv our Commission offered three sessions on Gender and Geography. In addition to the presentation of papers approximately 40 delegates participated in a guided tour of 'Queer and Cultural Diversity in Tel Aviv.'

## **5. Collaborative efforts**

19 – 22 January 2010, Hamilton, New Zealand. Gender and Geography Commission collaborated with the Commission on Geographical Education to offer papers sessions at the conference 'Positioning geography'. We also collaborated with the Geography of Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change Commission to offer a field trip to Rotorua and a walking tour of Hamilton.

3 – 5 March 2010, Dehli, India. 'Contextualizing Geographical Approaches to Studying Gender in Asia' in collaboration with the Department of Geography University of Delhi and the College of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University. The meeting aimed at initiating a dialogue between geographers and other social scientists working with gender. Over 45 research papers were presented over 12 parallel sessions.

On 12 – 15 July 2010 at the IGU conference in Tel Aviv our Commission offered a

joint session with the Mediterranean Renaissance Program on Geographies of Gender in the Mediterranean.

## **6. List of Newsletters and other publications issued in 2010**

This year, list members have continued to receive our twice annual newsletter, information about Commission meetings, and calls for papers for publications and other relevant conferences.

*Annals of West University of Timisoara*, Special Issue '(Re)thinking gender, post-socialism and neo-liberalism: an introduction' (in press/online version available mid-Dec 2010). Edited and introduced by Sorina Voiculescu and Robyn

Longhurst. Contributions by Sebastian Jucu; Éva G. Fekete; Antònia Casellas, Marta Pallares-Blanch and Antoni F. Tulla; Madhushree Das and Harendra Nath Sharma; Parijat Borgohain and Harendra Nath Sharma; Matej Blazek and Fiona M. Smith; Margareta Lelea; Lajos Olasz; Szóró Ilona; and Maria Dolors Garcia-Ramon, Anna Ortiz and Hermínia Pujol.

*International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education (IRGEE) "Forum"* on Teaching Gender and Geography: National Perspectives (in preparation). Introduced and edited by Janice Monk. Contributions by Joos Droogleever Fortuijn, Maria Dolors Garcia-Ramon, Tovi Fenster, Robyn Longhurst, and Sorina Voiculescu.

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## C08.11 Geographical Education

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### 1. Membership

*Commission Chair:*

Lex Chalmers

*Commission Secretary:*

Simon Catling

*Commission Treasurer:*

Michael Solem

*Steering Committee:*

Fernando Alexandre

Yoshiyasu Ida

Osvaldo Muniz-Solari

Sibylle Reinfried

Ivy Tan

Sirpa Tani

Joop van der Schee

Wang Min

*Honorary Members:*

Margaret Robertson

Sarah Bednarz

Hartwig Haubrich

Joseph Stoltman

John Lidstone

### 2. Mailing list of Corresponding Members

A review of membership was carried out in 2010, with over 150 people removed from our list. In June, 2010 the revised list contained 366 members, with the following distribution of membership for those countries identifiable as having four or more members: United Kingdom (79), United States (28), Australia (24), Germany (18), New Zealand (18), Finland (17), Singapore (11), South Africa (10), The Netherlands (9), Czech Republic (9), Italy (9), Japan (8), Israel (7), Hong Kong (5), Denmark (5), Poland (4), France (4), Belgium (4), Canada (4), Greece (4). A

good number of correspondents had Google, hotmail and yahoo email accounts. We expect to add 50 new members from Turkey and Europe after a successful conference meetings and the 2010 Olympiad in Taiwan.

### 3. Meetings 2010

January 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. *Positioning Geography: Strategic Issues in Geographical Education*, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand. There were 81 participants from 11 countries, plus 9 delegates in virtual sessions.

July 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010. *Representations of cultural differences through geographical education*, Commission on Geographical Education conference at Fatih University in Istanbul, Turkey. 95 geographers gathered in Istanbul from 23 countries.

July 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010. *Bridging Diversity in a Globalizing World*, the IGU Regional Conference in Israel. The meetings organised by the Commission on Geographical Education had up to 40 delegates to hear 30 papers on themes related to *Teaching and Learning in Geography*.

### 4. Meetings 2011

IGU CGE Symposium entitled *Curriculum Making in Geography*. Institute of Education, University of London. April 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. The meeting follows the Geographical Association's Annual Conference. An outline of the Symposium theme is given at [www.igu-cge-uk.webs.com/londonsymposium2011.htm](http://www.igu-cge-uk.webs.com/londonsymposium2011.htm)

IGU Santiago Regional Conference meeting *United and Integrated with the World*,

14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2011. We hope to see Commission participation in Conference at Liberator Bernado O'Higgins Military School, Santiago, Chile. See <http://www.ugi2011.cl/>

Other meetings to which Commission members have been invited:

*Spatial orientation, maps and geo-information in education.* German Association of University Lecturers in Geography Symposium, Ludwigsburg. April 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011. University of Education, Ludwigsburg, Germany.

*No Passports Required.* AAG Centre for Global Geography Education Workshop at the AAG in Seattle, 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Seattle, Washington, USA. See <http://www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting>

*Geography: Your World – A European Perspective.* EuroGeo Annual Meeting and Conference. June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Titania Hotel, Athens, Greece. See <http://www.ntua.gr/MIRC/EUROGEO/index.html>

*Geoinformation in Education.* June 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Salzburg, Austria. See [www.gi-forum.org/learning](http://www.gi-forum.org/learning)

*MAPS FOR THE FUTURE: CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND INTERNET,* Joint ICA and Laboratory Cedete Symposium. June 30<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. University of Orleans, Paris, France.

*Putting Critical Thinking on the Map.* ESRI Education Users Conference. July 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Hilton Hotel, San Diego Bayfront, California, USA. See [www.esri.com/educ](http://www.esri.com/educ)

*Spatial Thinking and Geographic Information Sciences,* September 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011. University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

## 5. Collaborative efforts

The *Positioning Geography* Conference organized in January 2010 was a collaborative venture that involved joint

sessions with IGU Commission on Gender and Geography, IGU Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change and the International Network for Learning and Teaching Geography.

The *Representations of cultural differences through geographical education* in Turkey was in collaboration with the European Association of Geographers or EUROGEO.

The Commission worked with the *Bridging Diversity in a Globalizing World* Conference organizers to develop a program of 24 papers at the IGU regional conference in Tel Aviv, the Commission participated in the session.

At both the Turkish and Israeli conferences the Commission promoted the AAG's Centre for Global Geography Education outreach program called *No Passports Required*.

The Commission worked with the IGU's Olympiad Taskforce to promote and deliver the IGEO highly successful Geography Olympiad in Taipei. In the biggest Olympiad to date, 27 countries had representatives, and the Team from Singapore was the overall winner.

## 6. Newsletters and other publications of the Commission on Geographical Education in 2010

The Commissions publishes three newsletters every year in March/April, July/August and December. The Newsletters advise colleagues of conferences, research opportunities, regional activities and publications. The first newsletter in 2010 was published in April (14 pages), the second in August (19 pages) and the third in December (26 pages).

Joop van der Schee maintains the Commission website at <http://www.igu->

cge.org/about.htm The website is a popular and accessible portal to Commission publications, activities and research work. The Commission's three major contributions to international education are included on this site. The documents are:

The International Charter on Geographical Education

INTERNATIONAL DECLARATION ON  
GEOGRAPHICAL EDUCATION FOR CULTURAL  
DIVERSITY

### **Lucerne Declaration on Geography Education for Sustainable Development**

The most important publication of the Commission is the journal in International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education (IRGEE) which is edited by two members of the Commission, John Lidstone and Joe Stoltman, and now published by Routledge. IRGEE appears in four issues annually and runs to about 360

pages a year; 2010 is the nineteenth year of publication. The journal publishes editorials, research papers, forums on geographical education and reviews.

Papers from the *Positioning Geography: Strategic Issues in Geographical Education* are published in the New Zealand Geographer Vol. 66, no. 3, pp. 179-202. Three papers will also appear in International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education (forthcoming).

30 papers from the *Representations of cultural differences through geographical education* Conference in Turkey will appear as an edited edition of reviewed papers.

Newsletter 6 of the Commission describes six ongoing research projects of interest to the Commission (<http://www.igu-cge.org/newsletters/IGU%20CGE%20Newsletter%20No%206%20December%202010.pdf>). These projects produce a number of interim papers that appear in conference proceedings.

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## C08.12 Geographic Information Science

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Greatly increased use of the Internet, location-based services and mobile geospatial technologies continue to present significant new opportunities and challenges in the acquisition, handling, analysis and dissemination of geographical information. The Commission has existed since 2000; previously it was an IGU Study Group on Geographic Information Systems. Geographical Information Science is concerned with the formalization, representation, and visualization of geographical data in computer systems; the advancement in the efficiency, power, functionality of geospatial data handling methods; the study of accuracy and uncertainty; and policy creation for data dissemination and data exchange standards. The emphasis of Geographic Information Science is on the core knowledge, theory, and concepts required for leading and supporting the development and effective use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Global Positioning Systems (GPS), and remote sensing.

### 1. Membership

*Commission Chair:*

Brian Lees

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Chengu Zhou

*Steering Committee:*

Itzhak Benenson

Jean-Paul Bord

Francis Harvey

Thangavelu Kumaran

Sabine Timpf

Juri Roosaare

Mauro Salvemini

Nadine Schuurman

Abdul Rashid Bin Mohamed Sariff

Ake Sivertum

Vladimir Tikunov

Vit Vozenilek

Asami Yashushi

Late in 2010 we welcomed Professor Yasushi Asami as a member of the Steering Committee. Professor Yasushi Asami is the director of the Center for Spatial Information Science at the University of Tokyo. He is also the vice-president of the GIS Association of Japan.

Professor Asami's main research interests are in spatial information analysis and its application to city planning field. Currently he is running research projects to develop educational materials for spatial thinking and geographic information science, to develop methodology to convert spatial data protecting privacy and reserving statistical characteristics, and to develop GIS-free visualization tool from plain text files. His web site is at <http://ua.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp/okabelab/yasami/asami-j.html>. Professor Asami is now organizing an international conference "Spatial Thinking and Geographic Information Sciences" to be held on September 14 – 16 in 2011, and will work for our commission for the Regional IGU meeting in 2013 in Kyoto.

### 2. The number of Commission members

The commission has not kept records of "members". The list of attendees at the IGU Congress and the International Symposia of Spatial Data Handling gives an indication of the size and diversity of participation.

The Hong Kong SDH meeting attracted over 109 papers and attendance reached over 200.

### **3. Past Meetings**

The 2010 International Symposium for Spatial Data Handling was held in Hong Kong in May and 109 papers presented and published in the conference proceedings. A series of papers have been selected and two books will be published. One will be an SDH Monograph and the other a joint publication from the conference in the ISPRS book series. The meeting was jointly organised with the IGU Commission C04.29 Modelling Geographical Systems and ISPRS Commission II (Theory and Concepts of Spatio-Temporal Data Handling and Information).

We had organised a joint workshop between Commissions C04.13 (Commission on Geographical Information Science) and C04.29 (Modelling Geographical Systems) to be held in conjunction with the IGU meeting in Tel Aviv. Sadly, this workshop was undersubscribed and was cancelled. The few papers which survived were moved into the main conference as a series of sessions. This was a very unfortunate outcome.

The ISPRS Technical Commission IV (Geodatabases and Digital Mapping) invited us to hold workshops in conjunction with their Mid-Congress Symposium to be held November 15 – 19, 2010 in Orlando, Florida, USA. This symposium was held in conjunction with AutoCarto 2010, a Cartography and Geographic Information Society (CaGIS) Research Symposium and the Fall Specialty Conference of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. Prof Francis Harvey organised our participation.

We are planning to organise sessions at the IGU regional meeting in Chile and again co-sponsor GEOCOMPUTATION in London in 2011. This latter meeting should attract several hundred participants. Prof Sabine Timpf is already starting to organise Spatial Data Handling in 2012 in conjunction with the IGU meeting in Koln.

The biennial GEOCOMPUTATION meeting held in late 2009 at UNSW in Sydney was jointly sponsored by this commission and commission C04.29 (Modelling Geographical Systems). This was an innovative move and the conference, which attracted several hundred attendees, was very successful. This meeting is held in the years that Spatial Data Handling misses and so brings us into an annual conference cycle.

### **4. Meetings or other events planned in 2010 and 2011**

We are planning to organise sessions at the IGU regional meeting in Chile and are co-organisers of the joint IEEE International Conference on Spatial Data Mining and Geographical Knowledge Services (ICS DM) and Beijing International Workshop on Geographical Information System (BJ-IWGIS) meeting in Fuzhou, P.R. China in late June, 2011. This latter meeting should attract several hundred participants.

Prof Sabine Timpf is already starting to organise Spatial Data Handling in 2012 in conjunction with the IGC in Koln. She expects the first call for papers to be sent out in February, 2011.

As outlined above, Prof Yasushi Asami will organise our commission's participation in the Regional IGU meeting in 2013 in Kyoto.

## **5. Networking**

The Commission has been active in collaborating with other IGU Commissions and with ISPRS, ICA and SAGEO from 2008 through 2010. We have been particularly successful in our collaborations with Commission C04.29 (Modelling Geographical Systems). See meetings above.

## **6. Publications**

Our Newsletter was distributed on 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2010. This, and previous newsletters, can be found at <http://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/pems/igugisc>.

Two books are being published from the conference held in Hong Kong in May, 2010 jointly organised between this commission and the IGU Commission C04.29 Modelling Geographical Systems

and ISPRS Commission II (Theory and Concepts of Spatio-Temporal Data Handling and Information). One will be a Spatial Data Handling Monograph and the other a joint publication from the conference in the ISPRS book series.

The previous SDH meeting resulted in "Headway in spatial data handling" : Proceedings of the 13<sup>th</sup> international symposium on Spatial Data Handling, SDH 2008 / ed. by A. Ruas and C. Gold. Berlin : Springer, 2008. ISBN 978-3-540-68565-4 (Lecture Notes in Geoinformation and Cartography ).

## **7. The Commission's website**

<http://www.igugis.org/>

or

<http://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/pems/igugisc>

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## C08.13 Geography of Governance

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### 1. Current Steering Committee Members

*Commission Chair:*

Ján Buček

*Full Members:*

Eike Berg

Christine Bichsel

Shii Okuno

Shannon O'Lear

Pushkar K. Pradhan

Eran Razin

Andrew Ryder

Xiaohong Zhang

### 2. Membership by country (as of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2010)

The Commission has more or less stable numbers of members from more than 50 countries. There are new members that joined the Commission activities this year,

<i>country</i>	<i>members</i>	<i>country</i>	<i>members</i>
Argentina	3	Korea	8
Australia	7	Latvia	1
Austria	11	Lesotho	1
Bangladesh	1	Lithuania	1
Belgium	8	Mexico	1
Brazil	9	Nepal	1
Bulgaria	1	Netherlands	17
Canada	15	New Zealand	6
China	5	Nigeria	5
Colombia	1	Norway	3
Cuba	8	Pakistan	1
Czech Republic	14	Poland	22
Denmark	7	Portugal	2
Germany	14	Romania	2
Estonia	1	Russia	7
Finland	10	Slovakia	11
France	8	South Africa	6
Hungary	13	Spain	4
India	8	Sweden	14
Ireland	2	Switzerland	31
Israel	8	Tunesia	1
Italy	11	Ukraine	2
Jamaica	1	United Kingdom	38
Japan	7	USA	49
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>407</b>

or asked to be included and stay informed. Our members are not exclusively geographers, but minor share compose academics in “neighbouring” disciplines, as well as practitioners.

### 3. Commission meetings in 2010

**2010 Commission Workshop – pre-conference to IGU Regional Conference**

***Title: Local Government in a Changing World: Between hierarchies and networks, between global neoliberalism and welfare state interventionism***

Location: Jerusalem, the Dead Sea and Beer Sheva, Israel

Dates: 8 – 11 July 2010

Co-organizers: Prof. Eran Razin and Prof. Fred A. Lazin

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Participants: 27 (10 countries)

**2010 Commission sessions during main IGU Regional Conference in Tel Aviv**

Location: Tel Aviv, Israel,

Dates: July 13, 2010

Local organizer: Prof. Eran Razin

Participants: 14 (8 countries)

### 4. Commission meetings planned for 2011 and 2012

**2011 Commission meeting**  
***Title: Geography of Governance – Dynamics for Local Development***

Dates: 31 October – November 6, 2011

Location: Kathmandu, Nepal

Local organizer: **Prof. Pushkar K. Pradhan**

Central Department of Geography,  
Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal

Expected participation: 40

### **2012 Commission meetings**

***Working title: "Citizen e-Participation in Local Government"***

Dates: Spring 2012

Location: Lisbon, Portugal

Local organizer: **Professor Carlos Nunes Silva**

Institute of Geography and Spatial  
Planning, University of Lisbon, Lisbon,  
PORTUGAL,

Expected participation: 30

### **2012 Commission meetings – sessions within 2012 IGC in Cologne**

Our sessions will be organized in co-operation with local organizers within main congress meeting. Sessions' topics are still under discussion.

Dates: 30 August 2012

Expected participation : 40 – 50 (estimated with respect to location of the congress and the fact that the Commission has large number of members in Central and Eastern European countries, but costs will matter).

Under introductory considerations within the Steering Committee and with local

organizers are meetings in Kyoto 2013 (within main IGURC programme) and in Poland in 2014 (close to IGU Regional Conference 2014 in Krakow). In second case, we will consider meeting in another large city in Poland (eventually as pre-conference).

## **5. Commission collaborative and networking activities**

Commission meeting – workshop in Jerusalem/Dead Sea/Beer Sheva in 2010 was organized altogether with IPSA Research Committee No. 5 – Comparative Studies on Local Government and Politics.

## **6. List of Commission newsletters and publications**

*Newsletters:*

- Spring 2010
- Autumn 2010

*Publication (under preparation):*

Buček, J., Ryder, A., eds. **Growth and Change: Public Policy, Administrative Reforms and Economic Development. Bratislava: Geografika.**

It will include 14 papers from nine, mostly European countries. It will be published in English and will be available in February 2011. Publisher will be Geografika, Bratislava, Slovakia.

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## C08.14 Geography of the Global Information Society

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The Commission on Geography of Global Information Society has had a productive period during 2010 with active plans for future events and activities. This report summarizes the Commission's steering committee and general membership, past and future events, and collaborations.

### **New Contact Information:**

#### **C08.14 Geography of the Global Information Society**

Mark Wilson  
Michigan State University  
School of Planning, Design and Construction  
101 Human Ecology  
East Lansing MI 48824  
USA  
Vox: +1 517 353 9056  
Fax: +1 509 472 8102  
Email: wilsonmm@msu.edu  
URL: <http://www.igu-informationssociety.org>

### **1. Steering Committee**

#### *Commission Chair:*

Mark Wilson

#### *Commission Vice Chairs:*

Henry Bakis  
Maria Paradiso

#### *Executive Secretary:*

Becky P.Y. Loo

#### *Steering Committee:*

Kenji Hashimoto  
Woo-Kung Huh  
Tommi Inkinen  
Aharon Kellerman  
Andreas Koch  
John Langdale  
Feng Li  
Sten Lorentzon

### **2. Membership**

Currently, there are more than 200 members on the Commission mailing list.

### **3. Meetings 2010**

Traditionally, in years when the IGU holds meetings (generally even years 2008, 2010) the Commission participates through special sessions. With the move to annual IGU meetings the Commission will endeavor to develop sessions annually. Building on a strong tradition of specialized commission meetings every two years, however, we will also continue to meet separately for 3 – 5 day meetings in locations of specific interest to scholars of global information society. In addition, the Commission has dedicated sessions as part of the AAG annual meetings in the United States. Details of specific meetings during 2010 include:

- April 2010 – AAG Washington DC included two sessions with 10 papers on themes of Geographies of Web Information.
- 2010 – IGU Congress Tel Aviv with 18 papers presented in four Commission sessions including one co-sponsored session with the Mediterranean Renaissance Project. Session themes included:
  - Theoretical Advances in Cybergeography
  - Mediterranean Information Societies: Traditional Cultures and Contemporary Global Communications
  - Urban/Rural ICT Applications
  - ICT, Mobility and Globalization

#### 4. Meetings 2011 – 2012

Meeting plans for the future include:

- 2011 – July – Proposed Commission conference in Athens, Greece
- 2011 – November – Proposed sessions with the IGU Regional meetings in Santiago, Chile
- 2012 – August – Proposed Commission sessions with IGU Congress in Cologne, Germany

#### 5. Collaboration

Collaboration occurs with scholarly groups and with two journals. Details include:

- 2010 collaboration with AAG interest groups on Communication Geography Specialty Group, Cyberinfrastructure Specialty Group, Economic Geography Specialty Group
- *NETCOM* is the official Journal of the IGU Commission on the Geography of Global Information Society, and is published under the auspices of the Study Group MTE (CNRS) and

Université of Montpellier III, the International Geographical Union, and the French National Committee on Geography. *NETCOM* takes an interdisciplinary perspective on networks, communications, and space.

- *Journal of Urban Technology*, which has commission members on its editorial board and publishes articles, and when possible, special issues drawn from Commission, AAG and IGU conference sessions.

#### 6. Newsletters/Publications

Information is disseminated regularly to Commission members via email, including updates on Commission activities, meetings and publications of interests, and requests for information for scholars studying information society. The Commission also uses its websites to inform members of activities. The Commission website is [www.igu-informationsociety.org](http://www.igu-informationsociety.org), and the meeting website for special events is [www.digitalcommunities.info](http://www.digitalcommunities.info)

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## C08.15 The Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change

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### 1. Background and Objectives

The Commission (C08.15) continues the work of previous term commission (C04.16) and under the same title with further defined objectives. The Commission's specific objective in 2008 – 2012 is to examine the geographical nature of tourism, leisure and global change and related modes of mobilities. The Commission also aims to stimulate a deeper integration between discussions in tourism and leisure geographies and power theories in order to understand the current processes and outcomes of human mobilities and globalization creating potentially uneven processes of development in tourism. The purpose is also to encourage geographical tourism research that would be influenced by the current development, mobility and sustainability discussions in human geography.

The general aims of the Commission are to:

1. To implement the purposes of the IGU as defined in its statutes to promote the geography of tourism and leisure around the world.
2. To develop an international research culture and processes to investigate and develop the Geographies of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change.
3. To promote close working relations with international, national and regional organisations which share similar interests in the Geographies of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change
4. To enhance the place of the geography of tourism and leisure in education and research; tourism and leisure policy-makers; the tourism and leisure industries; and the wider community.

and to work with communities which are affected by these processes and changes in local-global nexus.

The overall objective of the Commission is the development and application of an internationally comparable geographical research program on the relationships between tourism, leisure and global change.

### 2. Membership of the Commission

The Commission has over 650 corresponding members from over 80 countries. Due to the limited resources the new member directory is based on the Commission IGUST – listserv (the former directory was updated till 2008). The listserv (<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/TourismGeography/>) has 544 members (32 new members in 2010). The commission steering committee (board) for 2008 – 2012 is:

*Commission Chair:*

Jarkko Saarinen

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Alan Lew

*Commission Secretary:*

Dallen Timothy

#### *Steering Committee:*

John Akama  
Mohammed Berriane  
Sanette L.A. Ferreira  
Carolyn Funck  
Anne-Marie d'Hautesserre  
Margaret Johnston  
Werner Kreisel  
Dieter Müller  
Jerzy Wyrzykowski  
Jie Zhang

#### *Honorary Member:*

C. Michael Hall

#### *IGU Liaison Assignment 2008 – 2010:*

Vice President Dietrich Soyez

### **3. Commission Activities in 2010**

In 2010 the Commission organised/sponsored three meetings or sessions in:

Commission meeting jointly with IGU Commissions (Gender and Geographical Education) on 'Positioning Geography' in Hamilton, New Zealand, 19 – 23 Jan 2010. (app. 60 participants)

Commission meeting jointly with IGU Commission The Cultural Approach in Geography on 'Touristic cultures: space, mobilities, corporealities' in Sion (Switzerland), June 21 – 23 2010. (app. 40 participants)

IGU Regional Conference, 12 – 16 July, Tel Aviv. Sessions during the main event. There was jointly organized session with the Mediterranean Renaissance Program of the IGU.

'Global Change and Economic Crisis in Tourism'. Commission meeting, Stellenbosch (RSA), 5 – 8 Sept 2010. <http://www0.sun.ac.za/gcect/> (app. 50 participants)

Commission meeting jointly with ATLAS Special Interest Group Tourism

Geographies, 14 Oct. 2010, Tarragota (Spain). (app. 45 participants)

### **4. Commission Activities in 2011**

The planned Commission meetings in 2011 are:

"The Changing World of Coastal, Island and Tropical Tourism". Commission meeting in Martinique and Guadeloupe, French West Indies, 27 – 29 January 2011, Université des Antilles et de la Guyane (estimation: 50 participants)

Commission Pre-Meeting 'Tourism and Natural and Cultural Heritage Conservation' (initial theme) in Valparaiso, Chile, 9 – 12 November, 2011.

IGU Regional Conference, 14 – 18 Nov, Santiago de Chile. Sessions during the main event.

### **5. Collaboration**

The Commission has co-organised meetings and sessions with:

IGU Commissions Gender and Geography; Geographical Education; and Cultural Approach in Geography, and the IGU Mediterranean Renaissance Programme.

ATLAS (Association for Tourism and Leisure Education) Special Interest Group on Tourism Geographies

### **6. Publishing Activities**

The IGUST listserv has replaced the former newsletter as more timely and effective route for communication and information sharing. In 2010 there were over 120 messages posted on it.

The meetings in 2010 involved variety of publishing activities and plans. Positioning Geography Meeting organized special issues or sections dedicated to papers from the conference to *Journal*

of Geography and Higher Education, New Zealand Geographer, International Research in Geography and Environmental Education, and Research in Geographical Education. Based on the Touristic Cultures Meeting there is a journal theme issue/special issue (*Mondes du tourisme*) planned and coordinated by the Cultural Approach in Geography Commission (Prof Stock). Global Change and Economic Crisis in Tourism Conference involved a book plan, which I still in a proposal phase, and a journal theme issue (Tourism Review International, in process).

In addition to 2010 meetings and ongoing publishing activities the Commission has been active in publishing based on the earlier meetings. The remaining papers of IGU Oulu 2007 Conference on Tourism and Global Change in Polar Regions was published as an edited book by Routledge in 2010 and Tourism for Development Conference (IGU and ATLAS, Gaborone) in 2009 papers we published as two linked proceeding volumes and as Special Issue in the Current Issues in Tourism which is coming as number 3 in 2011:

Hall, C.M & J Saarinen (eds) (2010) *Tourism and Change in the Polar Regions: Climate, Environment and Experiences*. London: Routledge.

Saarinen, J, van der Duim, R. and K. Zellmer (eds)(2010) *Tourism, tourists and sustainable development in Africa*. Thematic proceedings of ATLAS Africa Conferences, Volume 7. Association for Tourism and Leisure Education, Arnhem.

Zellmer, K., van der Duim, R. and J. Saarinen (eds)(2010) *Tourism for Development: Environmental Sustainability, Poverty Reduction and Empowering Communities*, Volume 6. Association for Tourism and Leisure Education, Arnhem.

Saarinen, J., C. Rogerson & H. Manwa

(eds) (2011). *Tourism and Millennium Development Goals: Tourism for Global Development? (Special Issue)*. *Current Issues in Tourism* 14(3), (in press)

The journal *Tourism Geographies* was developed based on the IGU commission collaboration and the commission has a representative position in the editorial board. The members of the commission are also involved with several journals and book series, including the mentioned *Tourism Geographies* (EIC Prof. A. Lew), *Current Issues in Tourism* (EIC Prof. C. M. Hall), *Journal of Ecotourism* (AE, Prof. J. Saarinen) and *Heritage Tourism* (EIC, Prof. D Timothy), for example, which provides good possibilities for the theme issues and collaboration also in future.

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## C08.16 Geomorphic Challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

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### 1. Membership

*Commission Chair:*

Gary Brierley

*Steering Committee:*

Heinz Beckedahl

Adam Kotarba

Eltijani A. Elias

Hanoch Lavee

Valentin Golosov

Ana Luiza Coelho Netto

Kenji Kashiwaya

Jean Poesen

*Commission Members*

Total number of Commission members – 116

### 2. Meetings

IGU Regional meeting Tel Aviv 2010: meeting of the commission organised by Hanoch Lavee.

### 3. Networking

#### a) Collaboration with other IGU commissions

Ongoing discussions with COMLAND

#### b) Collaboration with other international groups

Ongoing discussions with International Association of Geomorphologists (Mike Crozier, Andrew Goudie, Piotr Migon and others) and ECOSUMMIT (2012) personnel (William Mitsch, Li Zhang)

### 4. Publications

A) No specific products for 2010

B) Commission's website:  
[www.gc21.group.shef.ac.uk/](http://www.gc21.group.shef.ac.uk/)  
(subject to amendment)

### 5. Continuation

(and future prospects)

Discussions are underway for commission sessions at the following conferences:

Regional IGU: Santiago, November 2011

IGU: Cologne (2012)

EcoSummit: (2012)

Regional IGU: Kyoto (2013)

Professor Brierley commenced his role as Chair of this commission in November 2010. In addition to the conferences/workshops outlines above, he also intends to develop a workshop in China on River Futures, most likely in 2012. He has also engaged in discussions with personnel from the International Association of Geomorphologists, and at a recent workshop on GeoHeritage issues in China he noted direct overlap between the role of this commission and various other groups within the IGU. There is definitely potential for growth in this area. In addition, Professor Brierley would like to develop applied themes within this geomorphology commission (see Preston et al., 2011, Geography Compass). This includes a stronger emphasis on rehabilitation and management issues in rivers (a proposed theme for the Santiago IGU), and potential developments in cross-geography issues relating to notions of 'landscape' and 'place'. For example, he has recently submitted a co-authored paper on parallel 'ways of thinking' in scientific approaches to geomorphic enquiry and Indigenous Knowledges.

Recent publications by Professor Brierley that indicate prospective areas of growth for this commission include:

## 2011

Gregory, C., Brierley, G.J. and Le Heron, R. 2011. Governance spaces for sustainable river management. *Geography Compass*. In press.

Preston, N., Brierley, G.J. and Fryirs, K.A. 2010. The geographic basis of geomorphic enquiry. *Geography Compass*. 5, 21 – 34.

## 2010

Brierley, G.J. 2010. Landscape memory: The imprint of the past on contemporary landscape forms and processes. *Area*. 42 (1), 76-85.

Brierley, G.J. Reid, H.E., Fryirs, K.A. and Trahan, N. 2010. What are we monitoring and why? Using geomorphic principles to frame eco-hydrological assessments of river condition. *Science of the Total Environment*. 408, 2025-2033.

Gregory, C. and Brierley, G.J. 2010. Development and application of vision statements in river rehabilitation: the experience of Project Twin Streams, New Zealand. *Area*. 42.4, 468–478.

Mika, S.J., Hoyle, J.T., Kyle, G., Howell, T., Wolfenden, B.J., Ryder, D., Keating, A., Boulton, A., Brierley, G., Brooks, A.P., Fryirs, K., Leishman, M.R., Sanders, M.,

Arthington, A., Creese, R., Dahm, M., Miller, C., Pusey, B., and Spink, A. 2010. Inside the 'black box' of river restoration: Using catchment history to identify disturbance and response mechanisms to set targets for process-based restoration. *Ecology and Society*. 15(4): 8. [online] URL: <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol15/iss4/art8/>. Spink, A., Hillman, M., Fryirs, K., Brierley, G.J. and Brown, K. 2010. Has river rehabilitation begun? Social perspectives from the Upper Hunter Catchment, New South Wales, Australia. *Geoforum*. 41, 399-409.

## 2009

Brierley, G.J. 2009. Communicating geomorphology. *Journal of Geography in Higher Education*. 33, 3-17.

Brierley, G.J. and Fryirs, K.A. 2009. Don't fight the site: Three geomorphic considerations in catchment-scale river rehabilitation planning. *Environmental Management*. 43 (6), 1201-1218.

Fryirs, K.A. and Brierley, G.J. 2009. Naturalness and place in river rehabilitation. *Ecology and Society*. 14 (1), 20. [online] URL: <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol14/iss1/art20/>

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## C08.17 Global Change and Human Mobility

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### 1. Membership

*Commission Chair:*

Armando Montanari

*Commission Secretary:*

Yoshitaka ishikawa

*Steering Committee:*

William Clark

Tamara Galkina

Russell King

Zaiga Krisjane

Brij Maharaj

Boris Portnov

Helion Pova-Neto

Christian van der Motten

The total number of GLOBILITY members as of 31 December 2010 is 129

### 2. Meetings 2010

- a. July 10 – 11, 2010, University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel, Symposium on “Human Mobility in the Time of a Global Economic Crisis”, 30 participants
- b. July 13, 2010, IGU Regional Conference, Tel Aviv, Israel, 3 Sessions on “Global Change and Human Mobility”, 30 participants

### 3. Meetings 2011

- a. July (t.b.d.), University of Latvia, Riga, Latvia, Symposium on “Human mobility and the real estate bubble”, 20 – 30 participants
- b. September (t.b.d.), Sapienza Rome University, Rome, Italy, Symposium on “Human mobility, ethnicity and intercultural heritage”, 20 – 30 participants
- c. November, IGU Regional Conference Chile 2011, GLOBILITY session. 20 participants

### 4. Collaborative Efforts

- **Population, Space and Place**
  - European FP7 Research Project on “Solving Environmental Conflicts in Coastal Areas: Global Change, human mobility and sustainable urban development”
  - European Espon 2013 Research project on “Territorial impacts of globalization on European Regions”
- **Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies**
- **Migration and Ethnic Themes**
- **Asian and Pacific Migration Journal**
- **Scalabrini Migration Center**
- **Sussex Centre for Migration Research**
- **National Institute of Population and Social Security Research**
- **Italian Geographical Society**
- **The Human Geographical Society of Japan**
- **The Association of Japanese Geographers**

### 5. List of Newsletter and Publications issued in 2010

- a. GLOBILITY has no Newsletter, but the website is updated regularly
- b. Publications: GLOBILITY has not issued any publications during 2010. A special issue of the Journal BELGEO is in preparation for 2011
- c. Some of the publication, in English, by individual GLOBILITY members are listed below:

Chikanda A., Nursing the Health System: The Migration of Health Professionals from Zimbabwe. In Crush, J. and Tevera, D. S. (Eds.), *Zimbabwe's Exodus: Crisis, Migration, Survival*. Kingston and Cape

Town: Southern African Migration Programme, 2010, pp.133-153.

Chikanda A., The Political Economy of Migration from Southern Africa: The Case of Medical Doctors. *OpenSpace*, 2010, 3(3), pp. 24-29.

Di Zio S., Montanari A., Staniscia B., Simulation of urban development in the city of Rome. Framework, methodology and problem solving, «*Journal of Transport and Land use, Special Issue on urban Sim*», 2010, 3(2), pp. 85-105.

Ishikawa, Y., Role of matchmaking agencies for international marriage in contemporary Japan, *Geographical Review of Japan Series B*, 2010, 83 (1), pp.1-14.

Michalkó G. and Rátz T., Hungarian spa destinations in the tourism-oriented property market, *Hungarian Geographical Bulletin*, 59. (2) 2010. pp. 131-146.

Michalkó G., Rátz T. and Bakucz M., A theoretical journey along the borders between welfare and well-being: economic aspects based on observations in Hungary. *Megatrend Review*, 7. (1) 2010. pp. 231-248.

Montanari A. and Staniscia B., Female migration in a changing world. Eastern Europeans in central Italy, *Espace, Population, Société*, 2/ 2009 (published in 2010), pp.227-241.

Montanari A. e Staniscia B., Rome: a difficult path between tourist pressure and sustainable development, *Rivista di*

*Scienze del Turismo*, 2/2010, pp.301-316.

Montanari A., Urban tourism in the context of the global economic crisis: the example of the city of Rome, *Rivista di Scienze del Turismo*, 2/2010, pp. 381-399.

Morén-Alegret, R. "When love comes to town and when it is missing. International migration, marriage, divorce and being single in small towns and rural areas in Spain", in E. K. Heikkilä & B. S. A. Yeoh (eds.) *International Marriages in the Time of Globalization*, New York: Nova Publishers, 2010, pp. 103-116

Portnov B.A., B. Reiser and M. Schwartz, Does Gibrat's Law for Cities Hold when Location Counts? *Annals of Regional Sciences*, 2010 (DOI: 10.1007/s00168-010-0402-8).

Tevera D. S., Crush, J. and Chikanda A. (2010). Migrant Remittances and Household Survival in Zimbabwe. In Crush, J. and Tevera, D. S. (Eds.), *Zimbabwe's Exodus: Crisis, Migration, Survival* Kingston and Cape Town: Southern African Migration Programme and Ottawa: International Development Research Centre, 2010, pp.307-323.

Vaturi A., Portnov B.A. (corresponding author) & Y. Gradus. Train Access and Financial Performance of Local Authorities: Greater Tel Aviv as a Case Study, *Journal of Transport Geography*, 2010 (doi:10.1016/j.jtrangeo.2010.02.008)

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## C08.18 Hazard and Risk

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### 1. Steering Committee Members

*Commission Chair:*

Shigeko Haruyama

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Dale Dominey-Howes

*Commission Secretary:*

Teruko Sato

*Committee Members:*

Juergen Weichselgartner

Victor G. Jetten

Soo Jin Park

Charlchai Tanavud

Blaz Komac

Andrey Shmakin

Enrique Novoa-Jerez

- Analysis Of Climatic Extremes And Their Change Over North Eurasia During The Last Decades
- Outburst Lakes: Case Studies From The Tien-Shan Mountains, Kyrgyzstan
- Flood Risk In Metropolitan Environs Under Dynamic Land Use And Population Change
- Application Of Geo-Spatial Information For Disaster Prevention
- Israel Drought Hazard During 1998 – 2000, Connections To Historic Drought Patterns, And Ocean Trends
- The Effect Of Vulnerability On Climate Change Mitigation Policy
- Using Tourist'S Knowledge And Perception To Enhance Volcanic Hazard And Risk Communication In Southern Iceland
- Online Gridded Population Mapping For Humanitarian Relief And Disaster Planning
- Natural Hazards In The Context Of The Social And Geographical Memory
- Natural Fires: Global Situation
- Maritime Emergency Management System Based On Gis And Decision Making Tools
- Testing The Australian Megatsunami Hypothesis
- Tsunami And Design Of Buildings In Areas Of Risk:
- Using The 'Coupled Human-Environment Systems Framework' For Exploring Issues Of Hazard And Risk
- The Awareness Level Of Israeli Students Regarding Earthquakes And Their Expected Behaviour In The Event Of An Actual Earthquake During School Hours
- Human-Nature Interaction In The 2004 Chuetsu Earthquake Disaster, Central Japan

### 2. Number of Commission Members

(as of 31 December 2010)

- a. Number of Corresponding members of the Commission is 126
- b. Members' countries are as follows: Australia, China, Chile, Denmark, France, India, Italy, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Thailand, etc.

### 3. Meetings in 2010

IGU ISRAEL regional conference was held in Tel Aviv, Israel, on July 12 – 16 July 2010. Hazard and risk commission included the following presentations.

#### Presentation themes

- Partnership For Mitigation Of Disaster For Coastal Areas
- Impact Of Bank Erosion Hazard On Human Occupance In The Jia Dhansiri River Basin, India

- Mapping Earthquake-Triggered Landslides From Remote Sensing
- Triggering Factors Of Landslides And Mudflows On Lake Büyükçekmece Area, Western Istanbul, Nw Turkey
- The Relevance Study Between Landslides And Land Use Types In Taipei Region, Taiwan
- Land Cover Changes In The Middle Reaches Of Amur River
- Assessment Physical And Chemical Characteristics Of Groundwater In The Ayeyarwady River Delta, Myanmar
- Natural Hazards And Education In Europe
- The Master Of Natural Hazards Program At The Australian National University
- Natural Hazards In High Mountains Ecosystems: La Laguna (Andean Semiarid Chile)
- Human Security And Natural Disasters In Southeast Asia: A Case Study Of The 2009 Flood Disasters In The Island Of Luzon, The Philippines

#### **4. Future Events**

We are now preparing ideas for academic supporting methods for the volcanic hazard around Mt. Merapi, Java, Indonesia, after its eruption in 2010. ITC in Netherlands where Dr. Jetten-SC, member of hazard and risk commission is teaching, proposed that graduated students of the Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University, for training of disaster mapping using remote sensing and future regional planning.

IGU Local conference for hazard and risk commission: Land use change and local response of natural disaster and mitigation in Yangon, Myanmar, Feb.20, 2011

IGU Regional conference will be held in Chile and our commission prepares a specific earthquake and Tsunami session with a field excursion

For Co-conveners of IRDR, a disaster science meeting in IUGG2011 Union Symposium U-02 and the Open Forum: The 25<sup>th</sup> IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne (28 June – 7 July, 2011)

We are preparing the joint session in Melbourne, and the local conference in Yangon in 2011 for good networking of Asian and Pacific areas possibly affected by severe natural disasters in the future. We are also preparing a discussion for the special hazard and risk commission session involving youth researchers during the IGU main conference in German 2012.

We are currently discussing the special issue of the journal of natural hazard or publication of hazard and risk. Dr. Chalchai, who is based in Thailand, will arrange local activities for mitigation in the southern part of Thailand after the Tsunami disaster.

#### **5. Collaborative Effort with other IGU Commissions**

A collaboration session with IGU LUCC commission will be held in India in December 2010. This session will be on large rivers and the risk of water resource shortages and flooding.

In the near future, the hazard and risk commission will present a collaborative conference together with the LUCC.

#### **6. List of Newsletters and other publications**

##### **Newsletters:**

- 1) Jan. – Dec. 2010 IGU Commission Information on Hazard and Risk, from No.30 to No.100.
- 2) July 2010 The Report of Special Session on Disaster Management of the East Asian Seas Congress 2009, IGU Commission Information on Hazard and Risk, No.72

- 3) August 2010 The Report of "Hazards and Risks in a Globalizing World" in the International Geographical Union in Tel Aviv, Israel, IGU Commission Information on Hazard and Risk News, No.77

**Publications:**

- 1) Jan 2010 Special Session on Disaster Management, The Proceedings of "The East Asian Seas Congress 2009 – Partnerships at Work: Local Implementation and Good Practices-", 1-13.

- 2) May 2010 Special issue for the tropical river and natural hazard, Journal of E-GEO  
After hazard and risk commission joint session of international conference tropical river in JGU (Oct., 2009)
- 3) May 2010 Special issue "Disaster Reduction and Hazard Maps", "Journal of Geography", Vol.55-5  
After hazard and risk commission joint session international conference tropical river in JGU (Oct., 2009)

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## C08.19 Health and Environment

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### 1. IGU CHE Mandate & Strategic Foci

Members of the IGU **Commission on Health and Environment** (CHE) carry out research on health and health care in the natural and built environment recognizing the importance of gender and diversity in a globalizing world. Three strategic foci for 2008 to 2012 are:

- 1) the analysis of quality of life with an emphasis on health, health care, and the environment at various geographic scales;
- 2) the links among global change, health, and environment; and
- 3) urban health and the role of migration and immigration.

These foci reflect outcomes of the previous work carried out by CHE (2000 – 2008) and the new initiatives of IGU's support of the Year of the Planet Earth (IYPE), IHDP Task Force on Global Change and Human Health, the Earth System Science Partnership's Joint Project on Global Environmental Change and Human Health, and ICSU's Planning Group on Health and Well-being in the Changing Urban Environment. CHE members will continue to represent IGU in these international initiatives over the period 2008 – 2012 strengthening geography's contributions to the international efforts to improve global health.

### 2. Steering Committee 2008 – 2012

*Commission Chair:*

Wuyi Wang

*Commission Secretary:*

Thomas Craft

*Committee Members:*

Amos Abu

Surinder Aggarwal

Sarah Atkinson

Adlai S. Davids

Maria Elena Ducci

Susan Elliot

Gerard Salem

Raul Guimares

Robin Kearns

Izabella Lecka

Svetlana Malkhazova

Sarah McLafferty

Giovanni De Santis

### 3. Honorary Members

Yola Verhasselt

David Phillips

Mark W. Rosenberg

#### 4. CHE Commission Members by Country as of 2009

Country	Number of Members
Argentina	5
Australia	4
Austria	1
Bangladesh	5
Belgium	2
Benin	1
Brasil	4
Brunei	1
Burkina Faso	1
Canada	22
Chile	1
China	4
Cuba	3
Czech Republic	4
Egypt	1
Estonia	1
Fiji	1
Finland	2
France	19
Germany	12
Hong Kong	1
Hungary	3
India	24
Indonesia	1
Ireland	3
Israel	1
Italy	7
Ivory Coast	1
Jamaica	2
Japan	4
Jordan	1
Kenya	1
Korea	2
Mauritius	2
Mexico	3
Netherlands	4
New Zealand	7
Nigeria	6
Norway	1
Pakistan	1

Poland	3
Portugal	5
Romania	1
Russia	6
Saudi Arabia	1
Slovenia	1
South Africa	12
Spain	3
Sri Lanka	1
Sweden	4
Switzerland	6
Taiwan	2
Thailand	1
Turkey	1
United Kingdom	16
United States of America	21
Wales	1
Zaire	1
Total	255

In summary, the CHE steering committee is composed of 15 members including the chairperson and secretary. The steering committee is made up of 6 women and 9 men. They come from Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany India, Italy, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, Russia, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The CHE is pleased to note that it has members from 58 countries, from all populated continents of the world.

#### 5. Meetings 2008 – 2010

Since the last IGC the IGU CHE has continued to actively support and/or co-sponsor key meetings and activities for the scientific community. A short overview on the main activities is provided in the following:

##### IGU CHE activities 2008

- The CHE has supported the set up of the *Research Center for Environment Change and Health* located at the Institute of Geographic Sciences and

Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, in 2008: The center is aimed at fostering and strengthening the local, state and national capabilities for understanding and proposing strategic solutions to the current and future environment and health hazards within the socio-economic conditions and development objectives of China. It is at the same time the first centre of its kind in Asia lead by health geographers.

- *1<sup>st</sup> International Workshop on Environmental Change and Health Security in Beijing Tianjin Urban Area* (6 – 8 October 2008): The workshop co-sponsored by IGU CHE focused on new approaches to assess and reduce health risks in mega-urban agglomerations. The workshop was held at the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China in collaboration with the Research Center for Environment Change and Health.

#### **IGU CHE activities 2009**

- *7<sup>th</sup> International Science Conference of Global Environmental Change – The Social Challenges of Global Change – International Human Dimension Programme (IHDP), Open Meeting 2009, 26 – 30 April 2009 at the World Conference Center Bonn, UN Campus, Bonn, Germany* The IGU CHE was actively involved in the preparation of a specific Health Day organized during the IHDP Open Meeting with various debates and presentations on Global Change and Health. IGU CHE was also the co-sponsor of a roundtable during the International Human Dimension Programme (IHDP) Open Meeting 2009 in Bonn, Germany on Global Change and Human Health on the future role of e-health and telemedicine

- *International Conference on Earth Science and Technology (ICEST), held and organized at the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China (May 2009) in collaboration with the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology.* Profs. Wang Wuyi and Thomas Krafft were invited to present the IGU CHE in this conference.
- The IGU CHE co-sponsored the *Congresso Internacional de Geografia da Saúde e IV Simpósio Brasileiro de Geografia da Saúde – GEOSAÚDE, held from 7–11 September 2009 in Uberlândia, Brasil.* Robin Kearns, member of the steering committee of IGU CHE represented the Commission at this meeting with a key lecture.
- *13<sup>th</sup> International Symposium in Medical Geography (IMGS) held in Hamilton, Canada (12 – 17 July 2009):* The scientific programme “Global Health: Changing Environments, Changing Health”, was organized by Prof. Susan J. Elliott, School of Geography and Earth Sciences, McMaster University and her team. A regular meeting of the CHE steering committee was held and in addition also a meeting with the chairs of the specialty groups from the US, Canada, UK and Germany. At the later the future role and organization of IMGS was discussed leading to new framework for organizing IMGS (see Appendix I).
- *2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop on Environmental Change and Health Security in Beijing Tianjin Urban Area (November 2009):* The workshop co-sponsored by the IGU CHE focused on vulnerable population and new approaches to assess and reduce health risk in mega-urban areas with special focus on Beijing-Tianjin urban

area. The workshop was held at the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China in collaboration with the Research Center for Environment Change and Health.

### IGU CHE activities 2010

- *3<sup>rd</sup> International Workshop on Environmental Change and Health Security in Beijing Tianjin Urban Area* (11 – 12 October 2010): The workshop focused on new approaches to assess and reduce health risks in mega-urban agglomerations. The workshop was held at the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China in collaboration with the Research Center for Environment Change and Health.
- Prof. Thomas Krafft was invited to represent the IGU CHE at the 7<sup>th</sup> *Symposium on Medical Geography in China* organized by the Medical Geography Committee of Geographical Society of China, Nanchang University, the Environmental Health Committee of Chinese Society of Environmental Sciences (CSES) and the Research Center for Environment Change and Health, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences in Nanchang, China (in October 2010) and to give a key note lecture.
- Since 2008 Prof. Wuyi Wang has participated in the *ICSU Planning Group on Health and Wellbeing* in the Changing Urban Environment representing IGU CHE in this new initiative on environment and health. The final meeting of the group took place in Beijing at the Research Center for Environment Change and Health in 2010. The aim of this new ICSU initiative is to develop a single integrated interdisciplinary ICSU programme for this emerging scientific. The activities within the ICSU initiative were continuously discussed and coordinated with the members of the IGU CHE steering committee.
- The IGU CHE has closely collaborated with the newly established *Health Advisory Group of IHDP* (Chair: Prof. Thomas Krafft) and with the Earth System Science Partnership's new Joint Project on Global Environmental Change and Human Health (Co-chair Prof. Mark Rosenberg). The IGU CHE will coordinate its activities with the two other groups to strengthen the participation of health geographers within these new initiatives and to ensure a high visibility of contributions by health geographers.
- *IGU Regional Conference in Tel Aviv, Israel* (12 – 15 July 2010): The CHE organized a session at the Regional Congress on 14 – 15 July 2010 and held a regular meeting of the steering committee. However, the participation of CHE members in the Regional Conference was below expectations. The steering committee has agreed to encourage participation in the upcoming meetings in Santiago de Chile and Cologne.
- *Xth International Seminar in Medical Geography* (16 – 18 December 2010 Rome, Italy): The topic of the conference was "Health and Solidarity". The conference was organized by Prof. Giovanni De Santis (IGU CHE steering committee member), University of Perugia, and Prof. Cosimo Palagiano University of Rome. The meeting brings together health geographers and public health experts from across Europe. IGU

CHE has been a traditional co-sponsor for this conference. Major results from these meetings are published in a book series that reaches out beyond the field of health geography. A business meeting of the IGU CHE steering committee was held at Rome.

## 6. Capacity building activities 2008 – 2010

### Capacity building activities 2008

- *6<sup>th</sup> International Human Dimension Workshop (IHDW) on Social Challenges of Global Change* 12 – 15 October, organized by IHDP and 2008 hosted at the Jawaharal Nehru University (JNU) New Delhi, India: A special capacity building workshop on Global Change and Urban Health for young scientists was organized by IGU CHE.

### Capacity building activities 2009

- *1<sup>st</sup> International Capacity Workshop on Environmental Change and Health Security in Beijing Tianjin Urban Area* (October 2009). Using grants from the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology and the Chinese Academy of Sciences this was the first in a sequence of capacity building workshops organized in collaboration with IGU CHE, Health Advisory Group of IHDP and the Global Environmental Change and Human Health Joint Project of the Earth System Science Partnership.
- *1<sup>st</sup> International Capacity Building Workshop on Geoinformatics in Health* (October 2009) held at the Bharati Vidyapeeth University Institute of Environment Education and Research (BVIEER), Pune, India. This workshop for graduate and PhD students was jointly organized by IGU CHE, GEOMED Research (Germany) and BVIEER.

### Capacity building activities 2010

- *2<sup>st</sup> International Student Training Workshop on “Global Change and Health Research”* held at the Research Centre for Global Environmental Change and Health, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing on 14 – 16 October 2010. The workshop was hosted by the Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research. The purpose of the workshop was to provide advanced training to Ph.D. students through a series of lectures and participatory experiences that gave the trainees a better understanding of theoretical and methodological issues related to environmental change and health risks affecting vulnerable populations. The second purpose was advanced training of skills required to advance the student’s research careers (e.g., peer-reviewed manuscript writing and research proposal writing). The third purpose was capacity building and international networking linked to related programmes and goals of the IGU CHE, the Health Advisory Group of the IHDP and the Earth System Science Partnership Joint Project on Global Environmental Change and Human Health. This International Student Training Workshop is an important component of IGU CHE’s strategy of capacity building and enhancing the visibility of health geography.
- *International Capacity Building Workshop on Geoinformatics in Health* (26.10.2010) at the Bharati Vidyapeeth University Institute of Environment Education and Research (BVIEER), Pune, India. Organized by GEOMED Research in collaboration with Beuth University of Applied Science Berlin, Department of Geoinformation, Germany.

## 7. Upcoming meetings and related activities 2011 – 2012

- Following a proposal by the CHE member Prof. Salem, IGU CHE is supporting a new initiative to set up a new *International Center for Urban Health in Developing Countries*. The objectives of the new center will be to organize seminars, intensive trainings to promote academic and professional training, multidisciplinary approaches, and bridges between decisions makers, stakeholders and researchers. The proposed center will be set up in Mbour, Senegal. In 2011, an international workshop and first training seminar will be co-sponsored by IGU CHE in Senegal as part of the capacity building strategy.
- Developing a *network of researcher* working on topics related to African studies. The leading Institution will be the University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal. For further information contact CHE member Prof. Salem.
- *4<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on "Health and Environmental Change in Beijing-Tianjin Mega City Area"* (October 2011 Beijing, China). Hosted by the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).
- *International Medical Geographical Symposium (IMGS)* at Durham University in UK (10 – 15 July 2011 Durham, UK). Please see Appendix for further details of IMGS.
- *Pre-Conference Workshop and sponsored sessions at IGU Regional Conference/ Steering Committee Meeting* (14 – 18. November 2011 Santiago de Chile): The Secretary of the IGU CHE will meet with representatives of the Chilean Health Geographers in March 2011 to prepare

the sessions and organize special health related activities.

- *A Pre-Conference Workshop to the IGC 2012 of the IGU CHE* will be organized in Berlin in collaboration with the Federal Environmental Agency and other European and German sponsors. In addition the IGU CHE will organize and sponsor a sequence of special sessions at the IGC (26 – 30 August 2012) in Cologne, Germany.
- *GEO-Saude Meeting* in Brasilia (date not fixed).

## 8. Upcoming capacity building activities 2011 – 2012

- *Implementation of a Master of Geography of Health in Africa* at the University Cheikh Anta Diop (Dakar, Senegal) in collaboration with University Gaston Berger (Saint Louis du Senegal), Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) and the University Paris Ouest Nanterre-La defense.
- *Seminar on medical Geography in Africa*. Focuses on African studies and comparative approaches. Organized by University Cheikh Anta Diop (June 2012) in Dakar, Senegal in cooperation with University Gaston Berger (Saint Louis du Senegal), Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) and Paris Ouest Nanterre-La defense.
- *3<sup>rd</sup> International student capacity building workshop on "Geoinformation and Health"* (September 2011). Organized jointly by IGU CHE, GEOMED Research, Bad Honnef, Germany and the Bharati Vidyapeeth University Institute of Environment Education and Research (BVIEER) in Pune, India.
- *3<sup>rd</sup> International Student Training Workshop on "Health and Environmental Change in Beijing-Tianjin Mega City*

Area” at the Research Centre for Global Environmental Change and Health, Beijing, China (October 2010): The workshop will be held following a scientific workshop hosted by the Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research at the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS).

## 9. Publications

Besides the scientific publications of the individual members of the IGU CHE there were three publications which were specifically prepared in collaboration with IGU CHE:

### Journals/Special Issues:

*IHDP UPDATE 1/2011: Human Health and Global Environmental Change*

This special issue of the IHDP Update has a strong representation of IGU CHE members as authors.

### Books:

*Global Medical Geography* (2010): Edited by Rais Akhtar and Nilofar Izhar, Rawat Publications, New Delhi, India – in honor of Prof. Yola Verhasselt who is a honorary member of the IGU CHE

This volume prepared and edited by the former commission member Prof. Rais Akhtar in honor of the former commission’s chair Prof. Yola Verhasselt comprises contributions of many of the world’s leading health geographers.

*Global Environmental Change and Health* (2009) in Chinese: Edited by Wang Wuyi, Yang Linsheng, Thomas Krafft and Mark Rosenberg. Beijing, China

This volume is the first comprehensive documentation of the state of the art of the scientific debate on this topic in Chinese. It was prepared by members of the IGU CHE to strengthen the field of health geography in the Chinese speaking scientific community.

## 10. Appendix

### International Medical Geography Symposium (IMGS)

#### Statement of Principles

#### Preamble

The IMGS was started in 1985 as a joint symposium of the Association of American Geographers Medical Geography Specialty Group (AAG-MGSG) and the Institute of British Geographers Medical Geography Study Group (IBG-MGSG) through the initiative of Dr. John Gigg from the Department of Geography at the University of Nottingham. Subsequent symposia have taken place in:

- 1985 – University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK
- 1986 – Rutgers University, Rutgers, USA
- 1988 – Queen’s University, Kingston, Canada
- 1990 – University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
- 1992 – University of North Carolina – Charlotte, Charlotte, USA
- 1994 – Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada’
- 1996 – Portsmouth University, Portsmouth, UK
- 1998 – University of Maryland – Baltimore, Baltimore, USA
- 2000 – Université de Montréal, Montréal, Canada
- 2003 – University of Manchester, Manchester, UK
- 2005 – University of North Texas, Fort Worth, USA
- 2007 – RFW University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany
- 2009 – McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada

#### Goals

Over the years, the goals of the symposium have remained the same: first and foremost

to bring together those individuals interested in medical and health geography to communicate their research; and secondly to build capacity among graduate students and newer researchers who might then pursue medical and health geography as part of their career paths.

### **Membership, Rotation, and Site Selection**

As the symposium has evolved, various groups have been added to the informal decision making process including the AAG-MGSG, IBG-MGSG, the Canadian Association of Geography Study Group in Health and Health Care (CAG-SGHHC), the German Working Group in Medical Geography (GWG-MG), the International Geographical Union Commission on Health and the Environment (IGU-CHE), and most recently a working group from New Zealand (NZ-WG).

In Hamilton, a general meeting was held on 13 July 2009 where various views were presented on how membership, rotation, and site selection should be decided in the future. The chairs or their representatives were asked at the end of the meeting to formalize processes for membership, rotation, and site selection.

At the meeting of the chairs or their representatives on 16 July 2009, the following principles were agreed:

1. Each of the six groups listed above will delegate one representative to be a member of the coordination group.
2. New members of the coordination group will be added as other national groups are formed based on the agreement of the current coordination group.
3. The future rotation will be the UK, US, Other Countries, Canada, and then begin again. Starting in 2011, the proposed sites are:

2011 – Durham University, Durham, UK  
2013 – US (tba)  
2015 – New Zealand (tba)  
2017 – Canada

4. Site selection will be the responsibility of the national group where the IMGS is scheduled to be held according to the rotation two years in advance. In the case of the “other countries” grouping, as it now stands the GWG-MG and the NZ-WG would be responsible for the site selection.
5. It is the responsibility of the representative of the national group to present a proposal to the coordination group. Should no proposal be forwarded to the steering group, the next group in the rotation would be asked to submit a proposal.
6. Proposals for future symposia should contain at a minimum: specific dates; a specific site and host institution; cost estimates; and identify the individual who will chair the organizing committee.
7. The coordination group will meet at each IMGS to endorse new national groups, any changes in the future rotation, and the proposal for the subsequent symposium. All decisions are to be based on the unanimity of the representatives in the coordination group.

Present at the meeting on 16 July 2009:

Christine Dunn (IBG-MGSG)  
Daniel Exeter (NZ-WG)  
Sue Grady (AAG-MGSG)  
Thomas Kistemann (GWG-MG)  
Thomas Krafft (IGU-CHE)  
Nicole Yantzi (CAG-SGHHC)

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## C08.20 History of Geography

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The International Geographical Union General Assembly held in Tunis in August 2008 approved the renaming of the former Commission on the History of Geographical Thought to Commission on the History of Geography (IGU C08.20). With this slightly different name and a renewed program, the new Commission intends to continue and reactivate the work of the Commission on the History of Geographical Thought, which was created in the 21<sup>st</sup> International Geographical Congress, held in New Delhi in 1968. In this respect, the same as I did in the last summary report, I would like to remark the fact that, as the activity of the former Commission was almost totally interrupted between August 2004 and July 2008, an important part of the efforts carried out by the new Commission's Steering Committee have focused not only in developing its own work plan for the period 2008–2012, but also in re-establishing the scientific tasks and institutional links which were virtually abandoned or broken in the previous four years.

### 1. Steering Committee Members

#### *Commission Chair:*

Jacobo García-Álvarez

#### *Commission Vice Chair:*

Michael Heffernan

#### *Secretary-Treasurer:*

Jean-Yves Puyo

#### *Committee Members:*

Charles W. Withers

Diana K. Davis

Joao Carlos Garcia

Anne Godlewska

Loan Thanh Ngô

Silvina Quintero

Ali Toumi

Jan van der Missen

### 2. Commission Members

As of 31 December 2009

- *Honorary Members:* All the living presidents of the former Commission on the History of Geographical Thought (except for the period 2004–2008) are considered as Honorary Members of the Commission on the History of Geography, namely: A. Buttimer and V. Berdoulay.
- *Other Members:* The Commission “inherited” from the former Commission on the History of Geographical Thought a list of almost 300 members (as of August 2004), which was kindly provided by Prof. Vincent Berdoulay (Commission's chair between August 1996 and August 2004). Recently, this list has been updated and extended, 4 reaching a total of 360 members (as of January 2010), including the Steering Committee's members and the Honorary members. The list includes members from 77 different countries, among which the five countries most represented are France (46 members), USA (27), Spain (26), Japan (22) and Italy (17). Considered by region, 50 % of the total membership is located in Europe (including Russia), 15'5 % in Asia, 12% in USA and Canada, 10'5 % in Latin America, 6 % in Africa and 0'3 % in Oceania. In any case, it is important to remark that the list was built mainly on the basis of the attendants to the meetings held by the Commission since 1968, in order to disseminate information on the

Commission initiatives. Therefore, it should be considered not as a list of “official” corresponding members, but as a valuable directory of scholars interested in the Commission’s activities, which may be used as a distribution list. Actually, a list of official corresponding members does not exist as of today, so the Commission’s Steering Committee is currently building it on the basis of more selective criteria. The Commission’s Steering Committee expects to have this network of official corresponding members completed for the next International Geographical Congress (August 2012).

### 3. Meetings 2010

In 2010, the Commission has held one scientific meeting, organised on the occasion of the IGU Regional Conference in Israel. This Commission Symposium was divided into two different locations: two sessions were held at Tel-Hai Academic College on July 11 2011, within the framework of a pre-conference field trip organised by the Commission on July 9-12 around the Historical Geography of Galilee; and four sessions were held in Tel Aviv, on July 13 2011, during the major conference. Professor Haim Goren, from Tel Hai Academic College, acted as the local coordinator of the activities carried out by the Commission.

The general topic of the Commission Symposium was *Geography, Civilizations, and Cultural Identities in Historical Perspective*. Special attention was paid to the historical contribution of Geography and geographical thought in conceptualising world’s cultural diversity, at different scales and in different times and places. The three main topics discussed in the Symposium were as follows: 1) Visions of identity and civilization in Modern and Contemporary Geography;

2) Theoretical and Historical perspectives on the Relationships between Space, Landscape and Identity; and 3) Colonial Geographies of the Near East. A total of 22 papers, prepared by 27 authors, were presented: 8 in the Tel Hai pre-conference and 14 in the Tel Aviv conference. The pre-conference field trip around the Historical Geography of Galilee was attended by 18 people (including 12 paper authors registered for the Commission sessions, 4 participants from other IGU Commissions and 2 accompanying persons), apart from the organising staff. The tour, carefully designed and assisted by Prof. Haim Goren, included the visit to Mount Carmel, Acre, Segev Region, Kfar Vradim, Safed, Jish, the Lebanese Border, Kfar Giladi (a kibbutz along the Libanese border where the group was accommodated during the trip), the Tel Hai College (where the preconference paper sessions took place), a War Memorial in the Golan Heights, Rosh Pinna, Yiron, the Community Stress Prevention Centre at Kiriath Shmona, the Hula Valley and the Hula Nature Reserve, and the sacred sites of Tabgha and Capernaum, on the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

### 4. Meetings planned for 2011

The Commission co-organizes and will hold the following meetings in 2011:

#### 4.1) International Symposium on “History of Geography and Colonialism” (Praia, Santiago Island, Cape Vert, June 15 – 17 2011).

This meeting has been organized in collaboration with the University of Cape Verde’s Department of Science and Technology. Four thematic axis will be considered, namely: a) Reflections on Geography and Colonialism; b) Geographical Knowledge of Tropical Regions; c) The Non-tropical Colonial

World; and d) Geography in Cape Verde: History and theoretical/methodological Issues. The first two days of the Symposium will be devoted to conferences and paper sessions. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2011, there will be two excursions going, respectively, to the historic centers of Praia and Ribeira Grande de Santiago (Cidade Velha). The first circular and call for papers was issued on December 22 2010. Abstract proposals for oral and poster presentations should be sent, either in English, in French or in Portuguese, no later than February 28<sup>th</sup> 2011 to Prof. Judite Nascimento, 6 Departamento de Ciência e Tecnologia, Universidade de Cabo Verde, Campus do Palmarejo, Praia, Santiago, Cabo Verde, either by fax (00238 2627655) or by email (geografia2011cv@hotmail.com ).

**4.2)** Within the framework of the **IGU Regional Conference in Santiago the Chile, November 14–18 2011**, the Commission will organize general sessions open to papers on any aspect of the history of geography and geographical thought, as well as a themed seminar on *Geography and Territorial Policies: Past and Present*. The themed seminar will include presentations that evaluate the historical contributions of geographers to different areas of territorial politics, including border delineation and territorial divisions, the territorial organization of the state, colonial policy, regional policy, urban and regional planning, forest policy, geopolitical and geostrategic thought, military policy etc. Those interested in presenting a paper or poster to either the general sessions or the themed seminar should send an abstract through the “Submission System for Papers and Posters” on the website of the IGU Santiago 2011 Regional Conference (<http://www.ugi2011.cl>), using the thematic classification Box 20 for the

History of Geography. Submissions will be evaluated by the Scientific Sub-Committee of the Local Organizing Committee and the Committee of the IGU Commission on the History of Geography. Accepted submissions will be assigned either to the general sessions or the themed seminar. Abstracts and posters may be submitted in English, Spanish or French, though authors should note that simultaneous translations will only be available in English and Spanish. The same as the call for the Symposium in Cape Vert, the first circular informing on the Commission specific sessions for the IGU Santiago de Chile 2011 Regional Conference was issued on December 22 2010. The deadline for abstracts of papers and posters is 10 March, 2011.

**4.3** Finally, the Commission has already expressed its wish to participate in the celebrations to commemorate the centennial of Orlando Ribeiro’s birth, which will be held at Lisbonne in 2011 (exact dates still to be confirmed). Prof. Joao Carlos García (University of Porto) is acting as representative of the Commission’s Steering Committee with regard to the steps taken in this direction by the *Centro de Estudos Geográficos da Universidade de Lisboa*, the institution in charge of organizing the Centenary celebrations of one of the leading figures in the history of contemporary Portuguese Geography. Plans for the occasion include an international scientific symposium and an exhibition around Ribeiro’s life and work, but the details are still to be defined.

## 5. Collaborative Efforts

**5.1)** Since 1976, the Commission acts as international Commission not only within the IGU, but also with the Division of History of Science and Technology (DHST) of the International Union of the History

and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS). As it was noticed in the last summary report for the IGU Executive Committee (April 2010), institutional and scientific normal relationships with this Union, which were virtually interrupted from August 2004 to August 2008, had been restored since the renewal of the Commission in August 2008. As a result, the Commission did patronage a paper session in the last International Congress organised by the IUHPS, held in Budapest from 28 July to 2 August 2009, as well as participated in the General Assembly of the IUHPS-DHST which took place on that occasion. In the next years, the Commission will seek to reinforce its cooperation with the IUHPS by organising a specific Symposium within the framework of the 24<sup>th</sup> International Congress of History of Science and Technology, which will be held at the University of Manchester, between 22 and 28 July 2013, under the organisation of the British Society for the History of Science.

**5.2)** In addition to this, the Commission will try to promote cooperation with other IGU Commissions in the next future. As a first step in this direction, the Commission's Steering Committee did contact the Commission on the Cultural Approach in Geography in order to organise a joint meeting within the IGU Regional Conference to be held in Santiago de Chile in November 2011, although the proposal is still under study.

**5.3)** Finally, the Commission is also trying to multiply and to strengthen its relationships with national organisations directly concerned with the history of geography and cartography. In this respect, it is worth recalling the fruitful cooperation experience carried out between the Commission and the History of Geographical Thought Working Group of the Association of Spanish Geographers

in order to organize the international Symposium "Languages and visions of landscape and territory", which was held near Madrid in February 2009. A similar collaborative effort is currently taking place between the Commission and the Portuguese *Centro de Estudos Geograficos* with regard to the organization of the celebrations to commemorate the centennial of Orlando Ribeiro's birth, to be held in Lisbon in 2011 (see Section 4). Likewise, the Commission's Chairman was recently invited to give the opening lecture of the Second Brazilian Symposium on the History of Geographical Thought, which took place in Uberlandia on December 12 – 16 2010. This occasion has been very fruitful in order both to regain and to strengthen the links between the Commission and the Brazilians community of historians of geography, one of the largest and most active in the field worldwide. Future plans for institutionalising this cooperation include the co-organization of a Latin-American Historians of Geography Meeting for the end of 2012, although the proposal is still under study.

## **6. Newsletter and other publications issued in 2010**

### **6.1) Serial Publications**

- A) The 25<sup>th</sup> (2010) Commission's Annual Newsletter, will be issued, both in English and French, in the first half of February 2011. As all the Commission's Newsletters 8 published since December 1996, it will be available on the Commission's website (<http://web.univpau.fr/RECHERCHE/UGIHG/index.html>).
- B) *Geographers Biobibliographical Studies (GBS)*, founded in 1977, is the annual serial publication devoted to the lives and works of geographers. It is, effectively, the 'house journal' for

our Commission and an important scholarly resource for studies that provide a key insight into the personal shaping of a discipline, in different countries and at different times, and into the ways in which geography and geographical knowledge, however understood, has had an impact upon its practitioners.

- C) Volume 29 (2010) of *GBS* appeared in October 2010, its seven essays bringing the overall total of biographical and historiographical essays in the series to 426. The geographers whose life and work is covered in this latest volume are (in the order in which they appear in the volume): the British regional geographer Alan Grant Ogilvie (1887–1954); the French regionalist and Marxist Pierre George (1909–2006); the population geographer and one-time editor of *GBS*, Philippe Pinchemel (1923–2008); the spatial modeller and historical geographer Leslie Wilson Hepple (1947–2007), the pioneering medical geographer Andrew Thomas Amos Learmonth (1916–2008); the leading cultural geographer Denis Edmund Cosgrove (1948–2008); and Allan Pred (1936–2007), theoretician of urban geographies and historical geographer of modern Sweden.

*GBS* is published by the Continuum International Publishing Group and on behalf of the IGU Commission on

the History of Geography. In fact, one of his current two co-editors,

Prof. Charles Withers is full member of the Commission. Likewise, since 2006 onwards, *GBS* has received from the IGU a generous annual contribution of 1000 \$ to assist with the production costs of the publication, which is the only one devoted to the assessment of scholar's contributions to geography and to geographical knowledge in international context.

## 6.2) Other publications

In addition to these serial publications, the Commission has actively participated in the publication of a book based on the contributions submitted to the aforementioned Symposium on "Languages and visions of landscape and territory", which was held near Madrid in February 2009 (see Section 5). This book, which appeared on May 2010, includes a total of 42 contributions written by 46 authors (mainly in French, Spanish and English). Its complete reference is as follows: Ortega-Cantero, Nicolás; García-Álvarez, Jacobo; Mollá, Manuel (eds.) (2010): *Lenguajes y visiones del paisaje y del territorio / Langages et visions du paysage et du territoire / Languages and visions of landscape and territory*. Madrid, Universidades Autónoma y Carlos III de Madrid / Grupo de Trabajo de Historia del Pensamiento Geográfico de la Asociación de Geógrafos Españoles, 516 pp. ISBN: 978-84-8344-174-9.

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## C08.21 Indigenous Peoples Knowledge and Rights

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The commission was formed in 2006 with three main goals: to create a network amongst Indigenous and non-Indigenous geographers; to encourage and mentor young academics, particularly Indigenous scholars; to encourage and foster geographic research for and with Indigenous communities.

### 1. Membership

The Commission's steering committee has been stable for several years now, but we continue to experience difficulty in securing membership from South or Central America. We hope to address that problem during the IGU Regional Conference at Santiago de Chile.

#### a) Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Brad Coombes

*Commission Secretary:*

Renee Pualani Louis

*Committee Members:*

Jay T. Johnson

William Jonas

Klaus Frantz

Evelyn Peters

Ari Lehtinen

Albertus Pramano

Maano Ramutsindela

Ming Huey Wang

#### b) Commission Membership

On the basis of individuals who are registered with our list-serv, the Commission's membership is currently 154 – an increase of 27 on the previous year.

Aotearoa/New Zealand .....	29
Australia .....	37
Austria .....	1
Canada .....	9
Finland .....	2
Ireland .....	2
Israel .....	1
Indonesia .....	1
Norway .....	3
South Africa .....	1
Sweden .....	2
Taiwan .....	7
United Kingdom .....	7
United States .....	52

### 2. Meetings

#### a) Taumutu Marae, near Christchurch, New Zealand, July, 2010

This meeting consisted of a three-day pre-conference and was held immediately before the joint conference of the Institute of Australian Geographers and the New Zealand Geographical Society. The gathering was advertised to IPKRC members and all members of those national organisations, so many were in attendance who had not previously engaged with the IPKRC. 42 individuals stayed at least one night, with several others visiting during the day. At the end of the meeting, 21 new members joined the IPKRC list-serv. The number of graduate students who attended was a particularly rewarding aspect of the pre-conference and, accordingly, several of our discussion sessions were dedicated to aspects of PhD scholarship and the ethical dimensions of research with Indigenous peoples.

The pre-conference followed the general principles of *hui* (gatherings) and *marae*

(sanctified land, often associated with a meeting house). It commenced with a *whakatau* (less formal welcome) on Friday night and, when more of us had gathered, a formal *powhiri* on Saturday morning. Several Ngai Tahu representatives talked to the group during the three days. Because of the proximity of the marae to Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere, discussions focused on land use change around the lake, the history and cultural impacts of associated environmental degradation, and comanagement of the lake which was instigated in 2005 when the bed of the lake was transferred to Ngai Tahu ownership. Some members of our group harvested *tuna* (eels) from the lake with the assistance of local residents, whilst others visited restoration projects alongside lake tributaries. On the last day, we visited the recently constructed offices for Ngai Tahu, where Mark Solomon, the Chair of Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu, spoke about Maori economic development before other presentations on the use of GIS in land claims settlement and relationship building for environmental enhancement.

The attendees thank Garth Cant, who has longstanding connections to the marae, and the many locals who facilitated our stay at Taumutu.

#### **b) Santiago de Chile, November 2011**

The Steering Committee of the IPKRC intended that their annual meeting for 2011 would be at the Arctic Centre in Finland. However, that meeting will be cancelled because of unresolved organisational difficulties. Instead, several members of the IPKRC listserv have notified their interest in a meeting prior to this year's regional conference of the IGU in Chile. There have been promising discussions with Pehuenche organisations, with the likelihood of a field trip to consider Indigenous concerns about hydroelectric development along the Alto Bio Bio.

### **3. Networking**

#### **a) Collaborations with other Commissions and Task Forces**

The last major collaboration was with the IGU's Islands Commission in 2007. The Commission's meeting in Saskatoon, 2009, was a joint gathering of geographers and statisticians who have research interests in Indigenous affairs.

#### **b) Collaborations with other international bodies**

Our commission has observer status with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. As is evident in the report on the 2010 meeting, we have collaborated with a number of national geography organizations including the Association of American Geographers and its Indigenous Peoples Speciality Group, the Canadian Association of Geographers, the New Zealand Geographical Society, and the Indigenous Issues Study Group of the Institute of Australian Geographers

#### **c) Cooperative efforts with the ISSC and ICSU**

None to date.

### **4. Publications**

A book is soon to be published which is derived from presentations at the Saskatoon meeting of 2009. *"Indigenizing Modernity" – Indigenous Urbanization in International Perspective*. Eds E Peters and C Anderson. UBC Press.

The Commission has a new website:  
<http://www.indigenousgeography.net/ipkrc.shtm>

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## C08.22 Islands

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The *Commission on Islands* is a commission approved by the IGU Executive Committee at the IGU Brisbane Regional Conference in July 2006.

The Inaugural Meeting of the IGU Commission on Islands was held on October 29 – November 3 2007, at Taiwan University in Taipei, Taiwan. It included about 150 participants from 23 countries.

### 1. Steering Committee Members

*Commission Chair:*

Chang-Yi David Chang

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Eric Clark

*Commission Secretary:*

Hue-Min Tsai

*Committee Members:*

Godfrey Baldacchino

Beate Ratter

Steve Royle

Costis Hadjimichalis

Gerard Persoon

Philip Steinberg

Elaine Stratford

Randy Thaman

François Taglioni

### 2. Membership and Election

**Membership:** There is no formal list of membership. The participants of each conference and meeting are automatically on the mailing list for upcoming events. The number on mailing list is about 150, covering 25 countries (August, 2010)

**New Members and Partnership:** Everybody in this conference is welcome – no membership fee

### 3. Meetings organized and participated (2007 – 2010)

The Inaugural Meeting of the Commission was held on **October 29 – November 3, 2007** at National Taiwan University in **Taipei, Taiwan** (about 150 participants)

#### **The 31st IGC Tunis in August, 2008:**

Three sessions were organized: (i) *Island vulnerability and complexity*, (ii) *Island environmental history and development*, (iii) *Island culture, place and identity*. 20 papers from 8 countries (Russia, Netherlands, Sweden, UK, Ireland, Canada, Korea, Taiwan) were presented. There were about 50 participants in the sessions.

**IGU Tel Aviv Regional Conference, Israel, July 12 – 16, 2010.** One session of the IGU commission on Islands was organized in the conference. There were about 25 participants in the sessions.

**IGU Commission on Islands Meeting, *Finding Their Place: Islands in Social Theory* 27–30 August 2010, Ven, Sweden.** There were about 100 participants.

### 4. Proposed Meetings (2011 – 2014)

**2011 IGU Commission on Islands meeting in Malta on May 11 – 15 by Godfrey Baldacchino.**

**2011 IGU Santiago Regional Conference, Chile, 14–18 November, 2011–** Easter Island for **IGU Commission on Islands Meeting** by Prof. Randy Thaman and Prof. Grant McCall.

**2012 IGU Cologne Congress, Germany, 26 – 30 August, 2012 IGU Commission on Islands Meeting** organized by Prof. Beate Ratter

**IGU Penghu Archipelago Commission on Islands Meeting, Taiwan**, early October, 2012, organized by Prof. Kuo-Yuan Kau

**2013 IGU Reunion Island Commission on Islands meeting, France**, organized by Prof. Francois Taglioni

**2014 IGU Kraków Regional Conference, Poland**, organized by Prof. Maciej Jedrusik

## 5. Collaborative Efforts

2007 IGU Commission on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge and Rights.

Participation in Islands of the World X, **ISISA** (International Small Island Studies Association) at Jeju Island, Korea, 25 – 29 August 2008. The conference theme was: *Globalizing Islands: Culture, Peace, Resources and Sustainability*.

Steering Committee members played important roles in organizing sessions. Participation: 200

The 3<sup>rd</sup> **Nordic Geographers Meeting**, 8 – 11 June 2009, Turku, Finland: participation in three sessions: *Geography of coastal regions* and *Rethinking human/non-human associations: changing politics of nature I & II*.

The First World Congress of Environmental History (WCEH) 4 – 8 August 2009,

Copenhagen, Denmark. Organized a session on *Ecological Imperialism Redefined*. Participation in four other sessions.

**AAG 2010 Annual Meeting**, 14 – 18 April 2010, Washington, D.C. Participation in sessions: (i) Real Worlds and Environmental Visions I & II (ii) Rethinking Islandness: Discursive Spaces and Tidalectics in Island Worlds – I, II, III

Participation in **ISISA Islands of the World XI**: Celebrating Island Connectivities, August 23 – 26, 2010, Bornholm, Denmark.

Joint meeting with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Island Dynamic Conference in Malta, 11 – 15 May 2011

## 6. Publications

The Commission website is regularly updated:

<http://igu-islands.giee.ntnu.edu.tw/>.

Island Studies Journal <http://vre2.upei.ca/islandstudies.ca/journal> is managed by Steering Committee member Godfrey Baldacchino and is one forum for publication of commission research.

Many publications of Commission members will be updated on websites.

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## C08.23 Karst

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### 1. Membership

*Commission Chair:*

Elena Trofimova

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Nataša Ravbar

*Steering Committee Members:*

Ilona Bárány-Kevei

Michael Day

Radosław Dobrowolski

Amos Frumkin

Aleksander B. Klimchuk

Akira Maekado

Jacques Schroeder

Luiz E. Panisset Travassos

Kyung Sik Woo

As of 31 December 2010, the Commission has 179 members from 34 countries.

### 2. Meetings 2010

**15 June 2010:** The work meeting of the Commission took place in Postojna. It was organized in the framework of the 18<sup>th</sup> International Karstological School "Classic Karst" – DINARIC KARST: 14 – 19 June, Postojna, Slovenia.

13 participants from the Steering Committees of the Commission took part at the meeting, including: Elena Trofimova, Nataša Ravbar, Amos Frumkin, Radosław Dobrowolski, Aleksandr Klimchuk, and from previous Steering Committees: Kazuko Urushibara-Yoshino, Ugo Sauro and Andrej Kranjc, as well as the Local organizer of Commission in the framework of the Congress of the International Geographical Union in 2012 – Martin Trappe. Mick Day and Kyung Sik WOO took part at the internet conference.

In the focus of Commission's discussion were:

#### A. Forthcoming meetings of the Commission:

*IGU Regional Conference, Tel Aviv, Israel, July 12 – 16, 2010; Karstological School 2011 in Postojna (Slovenia); Local karst conference in Tegeran, in March 2012; Karstological School 2012 in Postojna (Slovenia); 32<sup>nd</sup> Geographical Congress in Cologne (Germany) 2012.*

#### B. Topics for explorations and the Commissions activities :

"Karst Informational system, "Cave ice: geoindicational aspect", "Glossary of the local terms on karst and speleology", "Karst objects in the List of World Heritage", "Karst protection".

#### C. The Commissions website

18<sup>th</sup> International Karstological School "Classic Karst" – DINARIC KARST was organized by KARST RESEARCH INSTITUTE at ZRC SAZU in cooperation with Speleological Association of Slovenia, Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO, IGU Commission C08.23 Karst, International Union of Speleology UIS, Region of Istra and Natura Histrica.

Dinaric karst is an expansive (800 km long and up to 150 km wide) and an important karst area in the world with the remarkable caves, big sinking streams and abundant karst springs. Some Slavic words for relief forms of karst territories (doline, polje, uvala, ponor) became world-wide terms. Dinaric karst is also a place of the first descriptions of troglobionts.

The goal of the 18<sup>th</sup> International Karstological School was to present the features of Dinaric karst to young karstologists and to compare Dinaric karst with other subtypes of the karst:

from tropical to polar one. The history of karstological ideas and explorations related to Dinaric karst were exposed too. The scientific sessions were accompanied by the field trips.

The main subjects for the scientific discussions were: geomorphology of Dinaric karst; geology of Dinaric karst; hydrology of Dinaric karst; biospeleology of dinaric karst; speleology of Dinaric karst.

The following field trips were organized during the Karstological School: "Postojnska jama cave – speleogenesis and history of use", "High Plateaus and Levelled Surfaces of Dinaric Karst", "Contact karst – allogenic impact (blind valleys of Matarsko podolje, caves and unroofed caves)", "Geomorphology and hydrogeology of Kras plateau", "Geomorphology and hydrogeology of Ljubljana karst river".

**15 July 2010:** The work meeting of the Karst Commission (C08-23) occurred in Tel Aviv in the framework of the IGU Regional Conference, 12 – 16 July, Tel Aviv, Israel.

8 participants took part at the meeting including: Elena Trofimova, Amos Frumkin and Kyung Sik Woo.

In the focus of Commissions discussion were:

#### **A. Forthcoming meetings of the Commission:**

*Karstological School 2011 in Postojna (Slovenia); Regional Conference of IGU in Santiago, Chile, 14 – 18 November 2011; Local karst conference in Tegeran, in March 2012; Karstological School 2012 in Postojna (Slovenia); 32<sup>nd</sup> Geographical Congress in Cologne (Germany) 2012; Regional Conference of IGU in Kyoto, Japan, 4 – 9 August 2013.*

#### **B. Topics for explorations and the Commissions activities:**

"Saving Caves – Towards an International Protection System for Karst Environments", "Cave ice: geoindication aspect", "Glossary of the local terms on karst and speleology", "Karst objects in the List of World Heritage", "Karst Informational system".

#### **C. The Commissions website:**

Generally the central theme of the IGU Regional Conference was "Bridging Diversity in a Globalizing World".

During the conference, the Karst Commission held three Sessions: Karst, Caves and paleoenvironment and Mediterranean caves.

On 11 July Amos Frumkin organized a day tour to the Dead Sea Region. Major theme: Caves, lakes, environmental change and archaeology of the Dead Sea region.

### **3. Future Meetings**

#### ***Karstological School, 20 – 25 June 2011 in Postojna***

The subject of the school is: Karst underground protection  
All information available on  
<http://iks.zrc-sazu.si>

#### ***IGU Regional Conference of IGU in Santiago, Chile, 14 – 18 November 2011***

The Karst Commission will organize the scientific sessions and field excursions during the conference. You can register at the conference website – [www.ugi2011.cl](http://www.ugi2011.cl)

#### ***Local karst conference in Tegeran, in March 2012***

in the stage of the discussion

#### ***Karstological School, June 2012 in Postojna***

All information will be placed on <http://iks.zrc-sazu.si>

### ***Geographical Congress in Cologne 2012***

The 32<sup>nd</sup> International Geographical Congress will be held in Cologne during 26–30 August 2012. Karst Commission will organize the plenary session and the field excursions during the conference. You can register at the conference website – [www.igc2012.org](http://www.igc2012.org)

Local organizers of Commission in Germany: Dr Martin Trappe and prof. Pfeffer.

### ***Regional Conference of IGU in Kyoto, Japan, 4 – 9 August 2013***

More information on – [www.igu-kyoto2013.org](http://www.igu-kyoto2013.org)

## **4. Collaborative Efforts**

International Union of Speleology

International Association of

Geomorphologists

International Geological Correlation  
Program

International union for Conservation of  
Nature

Glaciological association of Russia  
WWF

## **5. Publications in 2010**

1. *“Annotated Bibliography of Publications”* (ISSN 1580-8157) /Ed. Dr. L. P. Panisset Travassos and Dr N. Ravbar (digital version)
2. *18 International Karstological School “Classic karst”* – DINARIC KARST:

General information, programme, field trips, abstracts. Postojna, Karst Research Institute, 74 p.

3. *6 papers*, devoted to the cave ice, were published in 2010 *under general patronage of Karst Commission IGU*. The publication was realized in “Data of glaciological observations”, V. 107, dated by 2009:
  - V. Andrejchuk, Y. Galuskin Cryomineral formations in caves: introduction to the problem, p. 142-155.
  - S. Turri, E. Trofimova, A. Bini, V. Maggi Ice caves scientific research history: from XV to XIX centuries, p. 156-162.
  - S. Turri, V. Maggi, A. Bini Ice caves as natural archives in the palaeoclimatic studies, p. 163-169.
  - Kranjc Ice change in the caves of Slovenia shown by the old literature, p. 170-174.
  - Z. Kern, I. Fórizs, A. Perşoiu, B. Nagy Stable isotope study of water sources and of an ice core from the Bortig Ice Cave, Romania, p. 175-182.
  - E. Trofimova Ice caves of Irkutsk amphitheatre as objects of natural heritage, p. 183-186.
4. Newsletter dated 15 June 2010
5. Newsletter dated 15 July 2010
6. Newsletter dated 31 December 2010

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## C08.24 Land Degradation and Desertification

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Most environments are affected by common factors which favour and increase land degradation processes. Two main topics are widely responsible: a) climatic conditions and changes, and b) anthropic impacts through land use. There is an urgent need to achieve a better practical and theoretical understanding of land degradation processes which affect the world's landscapes. In order to achieve these objectives, the working plan of the Commission is as follows:

- to promote and coordinate interdisciplinary research on land degradation and desertification in our changing global environment;
- to study the effects of environmental change, both natural and human induced, and their implications for land degradation and desertification;
- to conduct regional case studies under different climatic regimes and environmental risks (forest fires, floods, river channel changes, soil-erosion, water depletion, water quality), study the planning and design of conservation measures and the potential conflict between ecological sustainability and economic viability;
- to alert authorities as to the importance of adequate surveillance of land degradation processes;
- to develop and communicate the best techniques for monitoring changes and collecting data, and to sponsor and support activities leading to exchange of information regarding land degradation and desertification.

### 1. Membership

*Commission Chair:*  
Guðrún Gísladóttir

*Commission Secretary:*  
Paul F. Hudson

*Steering Committee Members:*

Owen P. Graham

Takashi Oguchi

Gregor Ollesch

Sílvio Carlos Rodrigues

Kate Rowntree

Michael Stocking

Anna Tengberg

Xavier Úbeda

Xiaoping Yang

The commission currently has 239 members.

### 2. Meetings 2010

COMLAND Session at IGU Regional Congress in Tel Aviv: *4 paper presentations*

COMLAND Pre-Congress meeting in Haifa (July 5 – 11, 2010) entitled "Land Degradation and Desertification": *19 paper presentations*

Organizer: Prof. Moshe Inbar, University of Haifa, Israel

### Other activities since 2008 Congress in Tunis

COMLAND continues to be an active IGU Commission, and since the 2008 IGU Congress in Tunis has been productive from the standpoint of the organization of meetings, publication, awards, and in the addition of new Members and Steering Committee Members.

## Meetings:

Since the 2008 IGU Congress COMLAND has organized or co-sponsored six meetings.

### **1, Kuwait: March 14 – 18, 2009:**

International Conference on Desertification  
COMLAND Field Conference  
Organizer: Jasem Al-Awadhi, Kuwait University

### **2, Melbourne, Australia: July 6 – 11, 2009**

COMLAND sessions at the IAG meeting

### **3, Magdeburg, Germany: September 5 – 9, 2009:**

International Conference on Land and Water Degradation Processes and Management  
COMLAND Field Conference  
Organizer: Gregor Ollesch

### **4, Murcia, Spain, September 16 – 19, 2009:**

International Conference on Desertification in memory of John Thornes  
Co-sponsor with the Spanish Society of Geomorphologists (main sponsor).

### **5, Haifa, Israel, July 5 – 11, 2010: COMLAND field conference in coordination with the IGU Regional Congress in Tel Aviv.**

COMLAND Field Conference  
Organizer: Moshe Inbar, University of Haifa  
Also, COMLAND session at the Tel Aviv meeting

### **6, Grahamstown, South Africa: September, 2010:**

Land Degradation in South Africa  
Co-sponsor with South African Association of Geomorphologists (main sponsor)  
Organizer: Prof. Kate Rowntree, Dept. of Geography, Rhodes

## **3. Forthcoming Meetings**

Five new meetings are planned (with COMLAND as organizer or sponsor), for Chile in 2011, Germany in 2012, Italy in 2012, Japan in 2013, and Poland in 2014.

### **1. Santiago, Chile: November, 2011**

Sessions at the IGU Regional Congress, and COMLAND pre-congress field meeting  
Organizer: Prof. Carmen Paz Castro, University of Chile (for COMLAND pre-congress meeting)

Title of Field Trip: *The Copiapo Valley in the Atacama Desert: Landscape Diversity, Land Use Complexity, and Development*

### **2. Cologne, Germany: August 22 – 26, 2012**

COMLAND pre-conference meeting and COMLAND paper sessions at the IGU Congress

### **3. Caligiari, Sardinia, Italy: October, 2012**

Title: *Land Degradation in Mediterranean Environments: Causes, Processes, Management*

Dates: Oct. 8 – 12 (preliminary)  
Organizer: Dr. Andrea Vacca, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cagliari, Italy (Sardinia)

### **4. Kyoto, Japan: August 4 – 9, 2013**

Sessions at the IGU Regional Congress, and COMLAND pre-congress meeting with field trip

Dates: to be determined (prior to IGU Congress)

Field Trip Organizer: Prof. Takashi Oguchi, Center for Spatial Information Science, University of Tokyo, Japan

### **5. Krakow, Poland: 2014**

Sessions at the IGU Regional Congress, and COMLAND pre-congress meeting with field trip

Field Trip Organizer: Dr. Pavel Prokop,  
Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow,  
Poland

#### **4. Collaboration with other organizations**

**Murcia, Spain, September 16 – 19,**

**2009:** Int. Conf. on Desertification in  
Memory of John Thornes

Co-sponsored with the *Spanish Society of Geomorphologists (main sponsor)*.

**Grahamstown, South Africa:**

**September, 2010:** Land Degradation in  
South Africa

Co-sponsor with *South African Association of Geomorphologists (main sponsor)*

Organizer: Prof. Kate Rowntree, Dept.  
of Geography, Rhodes University,  
Grahamstown, South Africa, (COMLAND  
Steering Committee member)

#### **5. Publications**

COMLAND has continued to publish its  
conference proceedings in high quality  
peer reviewed journal outlets. During  
the two year period since the 2008  
IGU Congress in Tunis, COMLAND has  
published three special issues from prior  
meetings and two in progress.

In Progress:

Hudson, PF and Inbar, M (editors).  
“Geodiversity and Land Degradation:  
Anthropogenic and Natural Drivers  
of Environmental Change”. Land  
Degradation & Development.

Special issue of papers presented in Haifa  
at the COMLAND preconference meeting  
for the IGU Tel Aviv meeting. Editors: PF  
Hudson and M Inbar

Rowntree, K. (editor). Land Degradation &  
Development.

Special issue of papers presented at the  
South African Association (SAAG) of  
Geomorphology Meeting, in Grahamstown

(COMLAND was a co-sponsor of the  
meeting)

2010:

Xiaoping Yang and Louis A. Scuderi (Eds.)  
2010. Environmental Changes in Arid and  
Semi-arid Regions. Quaternary Research  
73, 1, 162 pp. Papers published from the  
COMLAND meeting held in Left Banner,  
Inner Mongolia, China, 2007.

2009:

Xiaoping Yang and Arthur Conacher  
(Eds.) 2009. Land Degradation and  
Rehabilitation in Ecologically Fragile  
Areas. Geographical Research 47, 1, 94 pp.  
DOI: 10.1111/j.1745-5871.2008.00562.x.  
Papers published from the COMLAND  
meeting held in Left Banner, Inner  
Mongolia, China, 2007.

Gregor Ollesch 2009. Abstracts and field  
trip guide. International Conference on  
Land and Water Degradation Processes  
and Management, Magdeburg, Germany  
September 6 – 9, 2009.

2008:

Steffanie Scott and Arthur Conacher  
(Eds.), 2008. Land Degradation and  
Poverty, Geographical Research, 46  
(1), Published papers presented at the  
COMLAND meeting in Nghe An Province,  
Vietnam, in February 17 – 27, 2006.

#### **6. Recent Awards**

COMLAND has awarded four awards  
since the 2008 IGU Congress in Tunis,  
including its COMLAND Award for  
contributions to the Commission and the  
COMLAND Distinguished Award for Land  
Degradation.

*COMLAND Award*

- Jasem Al-Awadhi, Kuwait 2009
- Gregor Ollesch, Germany 2009
- Moshe Inbar, Israel 2010

*COMLAND Distinguished Award for Land  
Degradation*

- Rattan Lal, USA 2009

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## C08.25 Land Use and Cover Change

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### 1. Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Ivan Bičík

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Sergey Ganzei

*Committee Members:*

Fethi Ayache

Dan Balteanu

David Carr

G.S. Chauhan

Matej Gabrovec

Carlos Mena

Ernan Rustiadi

Qiu hao Huang

Helmut Geist

The Steering Committee has been completed in 2010 by Prof. Helmut Geist, University of Aberdeen.

### 2. IGU LUCC Website

All important information about the IGU LUCC commission's activities is available at the IGU LUCC website – <http://www.luccprague.cz/>. There you can find up-to-date information about IGU LUCC commission activities, planned conferences and meetings, etc. Email address of IGU LUCC secretariat remains the same – [igu.landuse@gmail.com](mailto:igu.landuse@gmail.com).

### 3. Meetings 2010

**PRAGUE 2010 – “Land Use and Land Cover Changes in a Globalised World” (June 28 – July 1, 2010, Prague, Czech Republic)**

Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, and Faculty of Science, J.E. Purkyně University in Ústí

nad Labem, Czech Republic were main organizers of conference **Land Use and Land Cover Changes in a Globalised World** which was held in **June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 1st 2010 in Prague**. The conference focused on land use, landscape and the countryside, mainly in Europe.

#### Main Topics of the Conference

1. Land use transformations in a globalised world
2. Current landscape changes
3. Agricultural landscape in Central Europe during the period of transformation
4. Historical changes of land use and their driving forces
5. Regional differentiation of LUCC on various spatial levels
6. Impacts of agricultural and environment policies on land use
7. New functions of rural space
8. Suburbanisation and its impacts on rural landscape

Some 35 persons took part and realized 26 themes from eight topics above on this Conference in two days in Prague. Then the following excursion was organized to Northern Bohemia with cooperation of the Faculty of Science, UJEP University in Ústí nad Labem. The excursion gave a chance to see and discussed some problems of land use changes and development, e.g. agricultural areas and open mines territory with huge recultivation. Some topics were prepared for publication in *Acta Universitatis Carolinae – Geographica*, some other in *Atlas*, Volume V (see below). More information on [www.luccprague.cz](http://www.luccprague.cz)

## **IGU REGIONAL CONFERENCE, TEL AVIV, ISRAEL, JULY 12 – 16, 2010**

The International Geographical Union (IGU) realized Regional Conference in Tel Aviv, Israel, July, 12 – 16, 2010. The IGU Commission on Land Use and Cover Changes realized three sessions on which 14 papers were presented, from 10 countries. Also business meeting during the conference was realized in which 4 members of the Commission participated. Some members of the IGU/LUCC Commission also participated in the preconference meeting and excursion realised by the Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems, July, 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>. There were further topics, related to LUCC, presented during the two day seminar.

More information on <http://www.igu2010.com/>

## **New Approaches in Land Cover/Use Change Research: Prague, December 20 – 21, 2010**

In December 20–21 an international seminar was held, “New Approaches in Land Cover/use Change Research”. There were 12 topics for some 25 participants. Seminar was prepared by the IGU/LUCC Commission and Project GEO Network for Capacity Building (GEO-Net-CaB). This event was also successfully used for establishing some deeper contacts and collaboration among Middle European specialists with NASA and American universities.

## **4. Other activities of the LUCC/ IGU Commission in 2010**

Professor Y. Himiyama has initiated, in 2001, the preparation and publishing a special edition oriented on the presentation of land use/cover changes: Land use/cover changes in selected regions in the world. In the last decennium, four

volumes of this atlas have been published. It seems to be of big interest over the world and thus four volumes were published in the new edition:

**HIMIYAMA, Y., I., MATHER, A., BIČÍK, MILANOVA, E. (eds.): Land Use / Cover Changes in Selected Regions in the World, Volume I – IV, Combined edition, IGU-LUCC Research Reports, IGU-LUCC, Asahikawa, Japan.**

Our commission realized prolonging of this Activity. We prepared at the Faculty of Science, Charles University the following Volume of this Atlas.

**Himiyama, Y., Bičík, I., Feranec, J. (eds.): Land Use / Cover Changes in Selected Regions in the World, Volume V. IGU-LUCC Research Reports, IGU-LUCC, Charles University in Prague.**

Content of this big format Atlas, Volume V:

1. Ganzey, S., Ermoshin, V., Mishina, N.: Land cover/land use changes in Amur river basin in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Russia, China, Mongolia (p. 7 – 18)
2. Feranec, J., Otáhel, J., Nováček, J.: Slovakia's land cover in 2006 and its change in 2000 – 2006 (p. 19 – 26)
3. Milanova, E., V., Kirilenko, A., P., Dronin, N., M.: Land use and cover change under agricultural development and climate change in Russia (p.27 – 32)
4. Kopecká, M., Nováček, J.: Natural forest fragmentation: An example from the Tatra region, Slovakia (p. 33 – 38)
5. Kabrda, J.: Structure of agricultural land use in the Czech Republic (p. 39 – 48)
6. Rašín, R., Chromý, P.: Land use and land cover development along the Czech-Austrian boundary (p.49 – 56)

7. Romportl, D., Chuman, T., Lipský, Z.:  
Landscape Heterogeneity Changes and  
Their Driving Forces in the Czech  
Republic After 1990 (p. 57 – 66)

**Attention:** This atlas is available by  
contacting Ivan Bičík: bicik@natur.cuni.cz  
after paying only postage

## 5. Forthcoming Meetings

### **Czech – Polish – Slovakian seminar: Regions of Visegrad States in the mirror of the challenges of integrated Europe**

*(Regióny krajín V4 tvárou v tvár novým  
výzvam integrovanej Európy)*

Seminar is organized in English especially  
for investigators from Europe interested  
in temporal processes in Europe  
(especially Middle Europe)

Term: June 6. – 10, 2011

In: Bratislava and Kaštieľ Mojmírovce  
(Slovakia)

We suppose that minimally two meetings  
will be oriented on this event also on the  
landscape and land cover changes.

### **IGU REGIONAL CONFERENCE, SANTIAGO, CHILE, NOVEMBER 14 – 18, 2011**

The IGU LUCC commission will organize  
sessions during this conference. We  
propose to organize some meetings  
oriented to LUCC topics and we will prepare  
business meeting for this commission with

the organizers. Although there is not exact  
information about programme, you can  
already register at the conference website.

More information on  
<http://www.ugi2011.cl>

### **IGU REGIONAL CONFERENCE, COLOGNE, GERMANY, AUGUST 26 – 30, 2012**

The 32<sup>nd</sup> International Geographical  
Congress will be held in Cologne during  
26 – 30 August 2012. There is already the  
opportunity to register at the conference  
website.

You will get regular information concerning  
the IGC 2012. The IGU LUCC commission  
will organize sessions and a business  
meeting (also oriented on the next activity  
of the Commission after 2012) as usual in  
the main days of IGU Congress. We started  
cooperation with the Commission on the  
Sustainability of Rural Systems on the  
preparation of the preconference meeting,  
organized in Czechia at the Faculty of  
Science and in the field. The excursion will  
show typical problems of the Czech rural  
transformation and landscape and land  
use changes and will present results on  
the investigation of the Middle European  
geographers. More information about this  
preconference event will be available soon.

More information on  
<http://www.igc2012.org>

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## C08.26 Local Development

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### 1. Steering Committee Members

*Commission Chair:*

Michael Sofer

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Jerzy Banski

*Committee Members:*

Ash Amin

Biørn T. Asheim

Clélio Campolina Diniz

Ayda Eraydin

Weidong Liu

Fermín Rodríguez

Suman Sao

Tony Sorenson

### 2. Corresponding Members

The number of corresponding members, besides the steering committee members, that receive our information, notes and newsletters regularly is 137. On an irregular basis, we spread our news to a range of about 500 persons.

### 3. Meetings 2010

**Local Development in a Globalizing**

**World:** Tel Aviv, Israel – July 12 – 16, 2010.

18 papers were presented, with 30-40 participants present.

### 4. Meetings 2011

**Local Development in a Globalised**

**World – Issues and implications:** Seoul, South Korea – June 28 – July 1, 2011.

20 papers will be presented with 60 participants expected.

It will take place within the framework of the Third Global Conference on

Economic Geography: Space, Economy and Environment.

<http://www.space-economy.org/conference/themes.html>

### 5. Collaborative Efforts

- In 2006 – Joint annual conference with the commissions of Sustainability of Rural Systems and Land Use Cover Change in Cairns, Australia.
- In 2007 – The annual conference was part of the Second International Conference of Economic Geography, Beijing, China.
- In 2010 – A joint session with the Commission on Marginalization, Globalization and Regional and Local Response in the IGU Regional Conference, Tel-Aviv

### 6. Newsletters and other publications

1. Newsletter – September 2010
2. A collection of nine (9) papers of the 2009 annual meeting of the commission in Warsaw appeared in a refereed journal: **Rural studies**, Volume 20, titled “Socio-Economic Disparities and the Role of Local Development”.
3. A new issue of rural Studies with papers of the commission meeting in Tel-Aviv 2010 is in preparation. The editor is Professor Jerzy Banski.

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## C08.27 Marginalization, Globalization and Local and Regional Response

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<b>1. Steering Committee:</b>	Hong King	1
	Hungary	1
<i>Commission Chair:</i>	Iceland	1
Etienne Nel	Ireland	1
<i>Commission Secretary:</i>	India	5
Walter Leimgruber	Israel	5
	Italy	3
<i>Committee Members:</i>	Japan	5
Alison McCleery	Korea (South)	3
Raghuvir Chand	Malaysia	5
Bishwo Shrestha	Nepal	14
Tomás Haylícek	Netherlands	1
Mario M. Valenca	New Zealand	3
Dolores Sanchez Aguilera	Norway	3
Markky Tykkyläinen	Portugal	10
J.A. (Tony) Binns	Romania	2
	Russia	2
<b>2. Commission Members</b>	Slovenia	4
The Commission currently (November 2009) has 193 members, drawn from 42 countries	South Africa	3
	Spain	21
Total number of members: 194 from 40 countries	Sweden	9
	Switzerland	8
Members by country:	Tunisia	1
	Thailand	1
Argentina	UK	9
Australia	USA	20
Austria	Vietnam	1
Bangladesh	Zimbabwe	1
Belgium	Undetermined	12 Email addresses
Canada		
Chile		
China, PR		
China Taipei		
Czech Republic		
Ethiopia		
Finland		
France		
Germany		

### 3. Meetings 2010

**4 - 10 July, 2010:** The Commission met at Graz in Austria and Fribourg in Switzerland, and participated in a conference and associated study tour through the Alps, entitled: Mountain Areas and Globalization. 27 members participated.

#### 4. Meetings 2011

**1 – 9 May, 2011:** The Commission will meet at Naintal in India. The conference theme will be: 'Local and Regional Responses to Globalization in the Mountains and Marginal areas of the world'. (estimated 50 participants)

**14 – 18 November, 2011:** The Commission will participate in the IGU Regional Congress in Santiago, Chile. An estimated 3 sessions will be held with some 30 participants.

#### 5. Collaborative Efforts

Joint sessions were organized with the Commission on Local Development at the Tel Aviv conference.

#### 6. Newsletters and Publications

Newsletters:

- July 2010
- December 2010 (pending)

Other Publications:

Geographical Marginality as a global issue: Papers presented during the Meetings of the Commission on Marginalization, Globalization And Local And Regional Response, 2004 – 2007, **Leimgruber, W., Nel, E.**, Matsuo, Y., Binns, T., Chand, R., Cullen, B., Lynch, D., Pradhan, P.K. (Eds), 2010; International Geographical Union, Commission C08-47, Department of Geography, University of Otago, Dunedin. ISBN 978-0-473-17042-4, 527 pages. (on CD)

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## C08.28 Modelling Geographical Systems

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### 1. Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Yee Leung

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Stewart Fotheringham

*Secretary and Editor:*

Pavlos Kanaroglou

*Committee Members:*

Ali Bennisr

Graham Clarke

Manfred M. Fischer

Daniel A. Griffith

Yukio Sadahiro

Therese Steenberghen

Jinfeng Wang

### 2. Members

The Commission currently has 254 members, representing 29 countries.

### 3. Meetings 2010

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary European Congress of the Regional Science Association International**, Jönköping, Sweden, 19 – 23 August 2010

IGU-CMGS co-organized a session on complexity analysis with The European Regional Science Association

IGU Regional Conference, Tel Aviv, Israel, July 12 – 16, 2010

IGU-CMGS organized two sessions at the 2010 IGU Regional Conference, with about 50 participants.

**The Joint International Conference on Theory, Data Handling, and Modeling in GeoSpatial Information Science**, Hong Kong, 26 – 28 May 2010

IGU-CMGS co-organized the conference with the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Commission II and IGU Commission on Geographic Information Science, with about 250 participants.

### 4. Meetings 2011

**AAG Annual Meeting**, Seattle, April 12 – 16, 2011

IGU-CMGS is participating in the special session on space-time integration.

**1st International Conference on Spatial Data Mining and Geographical Knowledge Services, and 8th International Workshop on Geographical Information Systems**

June 29 – July 1, 2011, Fuzhou, P.R. China

IGU-CMGS is co-organizing the conference with Spatial Information Research Center of Fujian, Fuzhou University, P.R. China Commission on Quantitative and Computational Geography, The Chinese Geographical Society State Key Laboratory of Resources and Environmental Information System, The Chinese Academy of Science Key laboratory of Spatial Data Mining & Information Sharing, Ministry of Education of China College of Mathematics and Computer Science, Fuzhou University College of Environment and Resource, Fuzhou University Commission on Geographical Information Science, International Geographical Union International Geographic Union Regional Geographic Conference, November 14 – 18, 2011, Santiago, Chile IGU-CMGS is organizing sessions in the conference

## 5. Collaborative Efforts

IGU-CMGS co-organized conferences in 2010 with the following IGU and non-IGU organizations (see item 3 for details please):

European Regional Science Association

International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Commission II

IGU Commission on Geographic Information Science

It will co-organize conferences in 2011 with the following IGU and non-IGU organizations (see item 4 for details please):

IGU-CMGS is co-organizing the conference with Spatial Information Research Center of Fujian, Fuzhou University, and P.R. China

Commission on Quantitative and Computational Geography, The Chinese Geographical Society

State Key Laboratory of Resources and Environmental Information System, The Chinese Academy of Science

Key laboratory of Spatial Data Mining & Information Sharing, Ministry of Education of China

College of Mathematics and Computer Science, Fuzhou University

College of Environment and Resource, Fuzhou University

Commission on Geographical Information Science, International Geographical Union

## 6. Publications

No newsletters are published. A website is maintained with regular information dissemination:

<http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/~igu-cmgs/index.html>

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## C08.29 Mountain Response to Global Change

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### 1. Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Jörg Löffler

*Commission Secretary:*

Anders Lundberg

*Committee Members:*

Yuri Badenkov

Monique Fort

Donald A. Friend

Hans Hurni

Jean-Paul Métaillé

Yolanda Jiménez Olivencia

Martin Price

Fausto Sarmiento

### 2. Members as of 31 December 2010

Number of members: 155 (44 German, 22 Swiss, 7 Austrian, 7 British, 5 French, 5 Italian, 5 Russian, 5 US-American, 4 Canadian, rest others)

### 3. Meetings 2010

C08.29 endorsed the International Conference “Global Change and the World’s Mountains”, Perth, Scotland, 26 – 30 September 2010, organised by the Centre for Mountain Studies (CMS, Director: Martin Price, member of the C08.29 Steering Committee), and the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI).

See <http://www.perth.ac.uk/specialistcentres/cms/Conferences/Pages/default.aspx>. A short report on the event can be found in Newsletter 7. In order not to collide with this conference, the initially planned commission meeting in Bonn in 2011 was cancelled.

### 4. Meetings 2011 and 2012

UGI 2011 Regional Conference, 14 – 18

November 2011, Santiago de Chile:

Session on “Mountain Response to Global Change”

It will be chaired by Fausto Sarmiento, Member of the Steering Committee

IGC Cologne 2012 “Down to Earth”, 32<sup>nd</sup> International Geographical Congress, 26 – 30 August 2012

All sessions dealing with mountain-related topics will be organised centrally by C08.29 (Jörg Löffler, chairman) to avoid overlaps in time regarding this subject (for call for sessions, see Newsletter 7)

A potential Steering Committee meeting in Norway during summer 2011, including an excursion to Norwegian mountain sites, has been considered by a few members (there are no definite plans as yet).

### 5. Newsletters

Newsletter 1 – January 2009

Newsletter 2 – May 2009

Newsletter 3 – August 2009

Newsletter 4 – December 2009

Newsletter 5 – March 2010

Newsletter 6 – June 2010

Newsletter 7 – January 2011

See <http://tolu.giub.uni-bonn.de/igu-mountains.de/news.htm>

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## C08.30 Political Geography

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### 6. Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Anton Gosar

*Commission Secretary:*

David Newman

*Committee Members:*

Carl Dahlman

Elena Dell'Agnese

Alexandru Ilies

Alexander Murphy

Maano Ramutsindela

Paul Reuber

Stéphane Rosière

Lynn Staeheli

Marek Sobczynski

Takashi Yamazaki

#### 1. Members as of 31 December 2010

To define members of the CPG IGU by name and country is a difficult task. As president, I've asked CPG IGU Steering Committee members to help me out. I've received just a limited number (3) of responses. Therefore, the enclosed data is based on estimations received through the counting of participants by citizenship on meetings (if available), through list-serve addresses (USA), through memberships in associations related to political geography. The IGU membership is different as the AAG membership. It is not based on the association membership fee or on professional interest fees. But some national geographic associations have own sub-sections on political geography and their estimates on membership is pretty accurate. If the goal of IGU is to receive approximate numbers of members

in regard to interest, this must be a long time process, with several unified criteria to be implemented: counting of academia teaching professionals, counting of geography professionals working in nation-state institutions, counting participants at appropriate meetings by citizenship, registering students working on topics in geopolitical and political geography themes, etc. Also, the topic of political geography could in parts of the world be defined as a delicate professional orientation (critical geopolitics) and in several countries result into prosecution. The enclosed table should spark discussion among CPG IGU Steering Committee members as well. I guess, some "geographies" are not aware of our, CPG existence, some are shunning away and are not taking contact with the CPG IGU due to different reasons.

Country	No. of CPG IGU Members	Comments
EUROPEAN UNION	600	
United Kingdom	200	Durham
France	100	
Germany	129	Info: CPG IGU Steering Committee Member
Poland	17	Info: CPG IGU Steering Committee Member
Italy	43	Info: CPG IGU Steering Committee Member
Slovenia	39	Info: CPG IGU Steering Committee Member
Romania	25	
Austria	15	
Hungary	15	
Spain	15	
Cyprus	15	
Greece	15	
Sweedden	15	
Netherlands	15	

Finland	15	
Belgium	15	
OTHER EUROPE	50	
Croatia	5	
Serbia	5	
Bosnia & Herzegovina	5	
Switzerland	10	
Russia	15	
NORTH AMERICA	650	PGSG AAG
USA	595	Based on list-serve addresses of PGSG members
Canada	25	
SOUTH AMERICA	25	
AFRICA	25	
Tunisia	5	
South Africa	5	
ASIA	50	
Japan	10	
India	10	
Israel	10	
AUSTRALIA & OCEANIA	25	
WORLD	1400	

## 2. Meetings 2010

**January 8 – 9**, Newcastle, UK. BIC 2010: Borders And Identities Conference. 100 participants

**May 5 – 8**, Oradea, Romania. Borders and Identities. 90 participants

**July 6 – 11**, Beer Sheva, Israel. Borders, Territory and Conflict in a Globalizing World. 90 participants

**July 12 – 17**, Tel Aviv, Israel. IGU Regional Conference (6 sessions + 1 joint session with the Mediterranean Renaissance Program). 50 participants

**September 22 – 24**, Glubczye-Opava, Poland/Czech Republic. Historical Regions in the Structures of the EU. 60 participants

**September 23 – 25**, Vienna, Austria. Adriatic Forum III: Regional Development and Regionalization. 80 participants

**December 2 – 3**, Sapporo, Japan. De-Areanization of Border Studies: The Greater Eurasia and its Neighbours. 50 participants

**December 6 – 7**, Tokyo, Japan. Toward Networking with World's Border Studies: Japan's Borders in Global Perspective. 40 participants

## 3. Meetings 2008 and 2009

Detailed information on past meetings co-organized by the CPG IGU is available in our Newsletters, published on the Internet: <http://www.cas.muohio.edu/igu-cpg/IGU%20CPG%20Newsletter%2012.pdf>. Along with the named, several others were organized on the topic of political geography, but organizers have not asked for our support; needless to say, we have informed our members via Newsletter about them (if information was available – in particular of PGSG AAG and Durham, UK events.

2008:

**April 2 – 4**, Reims, France. Space of Politics: Concepts and Scales. 120 participants

**August 12 – 15**, Tunis, Tunisia. IGU World Conference (4 Sessions). 30 participants

**September 17 – 19**, Swinoujscie, Poland. Historical Regions Divided by Borders. 50 participants

**September 24 – 27**, Oradea, Romania. Applied Political Geography in a New Contemporary European Borderland. 50 participants

**November 27 – 28**, Koper-Capodistria, Slovenia. Borderless Area

2009:

**August 25 – 28**, Manchester, UK. „20 Years After ... „ – Geopolitics and the Post-Social World. 50 participants

**September 7 – 9**, Legnica, Poland.

Historical Regions of Europe. 50 participants

**September 13 – 16**, Trapani, Italy.

Borderscapes II: Another Brick in the Wall? 75 participants

**October 1 – 2**, Trieste, Italy.

Adriatic Forum II: Construction and Deconstruction of Nationalism and Regionalism: A Long Journey to Europe. 50 participants

#### **4. Meetings 2011**

**September 6 – 10**, Kiev/Crimea, Ukraine.

Sovereignty in a Globalized World: A Contemporary Political Geography Discussion. 100 participants

**September 16 – 17**, Zadar, Croatia.

Adriatic Forum: Geopolitical Issues of the Adriatic: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow. 70 participants

**September 24 – 26**, Portoroz, Slovenia.

Intergration and Development Issues in Multicultural Border Regions. 150 participants

**November 16 – 18**, Santiago, Chile.

Political Geography. 50 participants

#### **5. Collaborative Efforts**

We have been working together:

- with the IGU's Commission on Gender and Geography,
- with IGU's Mediterranean Renaissance Program;

Also:

- Political Geography Specialty Geography of the AAG.
- The Research Committee on Political and Cultural Geography (RC 15) of the International Political Science Association (IPSA).
- Royal British Association of Geographer

#### **6. Newsletters**

<http://www.cas.muohio.edu/igu-cpg/IGU%20CPG%20Newsletter%2012.pdf>

Newsletter 13 (Winter 2010/11)

(Editor: Prof. Anton Gosar)

Newsletter 12 (Winter 2009/10)

(Editor: Prof. Anton Gosar)

Newsletter 11 (Summer 2009) (Editor: Prof. Anton Gosar)

Newsletter 10 (December 2008)

(Editor: Prof. Anton Gosar)

Newsletter 9 (Spring 2008)

(Editor: Prof. Anton Gosar)

Newsletter 8 (November 2007)

(Editor: Prof. Anton Gosar)

Newsletter 7 (January 2007)

(Editor: Prof. André-Louis Sanguin)

Newsletter 6 (January 2006)

(Editor: Prof. André-Louis Sanguin)

Newsletter 5 (September 2005)

(Editor: Prof. André-Louis Sanguin)

Newsletter 4 (December)

(Editor: Prof. André-Louis Sanguin)

Newsletter 3 (June 2004)

(Editor: Prof. André-Louis Sanguin)

Newsletter 2 (April 2003)

(Editor: Prof. Vladimir Kolossov)

Newsletter 1 (2001)

(Editor: Prof. Vladimir Kolossov)

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## C08.31 Population Geography

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### 1. Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Allan M. Findlay

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Brenda Yeoh

*Commission Secretary:*

Daniel Hogan

Passed away 27 April, 2010

*Committee Members:*

Elli Heikkilä

Samuel Agyei-Mensah

Maria Carmen Faus-Pujol

Paul Gans

Graeme Hugo

Gunnar Malmberg

K. Bruce Newbold

Etienne Piguet

Alina Potrykowska

Jianfa Shen

Suzanne Withers

### 2. Commission Membership

There are currently 288 people receiving the Commission's twice yearly newsletter.

### 3. Meetings 2010

#### a) Conference Title: '*Contemporary Labour Migration*', NUI Galway

Location: National University of Ireland, Galway

Dates: 12–13 May 2010

Participants: 30

Organised by the School of Geography and Archaeology, National University of Ireland (NUI), Galway. Other sponsors included the Population Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society.

#### b) IGU Regional Congress, Tel Aviv

Location: Tel Aviv, Israel

Date of sessions organised by the commission: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

Sessions: *Population and migration I* (chair Prof A Potrykowska)

*Population and Migration II* (chair Prof E Piguet)

*Population and Diversity III* (chair Prof E Piguet)

### 4. Meetings 2011

#### a) Conference Title: 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Population

**Geographies** Location: Universtiy of Umeå, Umeå, Sweden

Conference Convenor: Prof G. Malmberg (member IGU Population Geography Commission Steering Group)

Date: 14 – 17 June 2011,

Sessions organised specifically by the IGU Commission on Population Geography, Convenor: Prof A Findlay (Dundee, UK)

1. *Mobilities and Difference*,
2. *Environmental Change, Population and Vulnerability*

In addition one of the plenary lectures at the conference will be given by Prof Piguet (Neuchatel), Commission steering group member.

#### b) RGS Annual International Conference, 2011

Location, London, 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> September

IGU Commission sponsored session with Population Geography Research Group of the RGS/IBG

Theme: *Geographical Imagination and Migration*

Convenor: Prof E. Piguet

# 5. Meetings 2004 – 2010

(See table below)

# 6. Publications

During the year the commission produced two newsletters, ably coordinated by our newsletter editor Dr Elli Heikkilä (appendix 3)

Two other publications appeared in 2010 arising specifically from the Commissions work:

***Title: International Marriages in the Time of Globalization***

Editors: Elli K. Heikkilä (Institute of Migration, Finland), Brenda S. A. Yeoh (National University of Singapore, Singapore)

Publisher: Nova Science Publishers, Inc.  
The book articles are partly based on IGU Commission on Population and Vulnerability Special Sessions on ‘Love and Mobility in the Time of Globalisation’, The Fourth International Conference on Population Geographies, 10–13 July 2007, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

***Title: Embodied Transnationalism: Bodies in Transnational Spaces***

Edited by Kevin Dunn  
Special Issue of *Population, Space and Place*, Vol 16: 1, 83pp  
This edited collection arose entirely from a meeting of the Commission held at the IGU Regional Congress in Brisbane in 2006.

City	Country	Dates	Number of participants	Papers presented
Glasgow	UK	19 – 20 August 2004	85	37
Singapore	Singapore	13 – 14 January 2005	30	12
Dundee	UK	10 – 11 March 2005	30	15
Brisbane	Australia	3 – 7 July 2006	120	58
Hong Kong	China	10 – 13 July 2007	90 (IGU sessions only)	43
Mannheim	Germany	8 – 9 August 2008	25	15
Tunis	Tunisia	12 – 15 August 2008	60	30
Umea	Sweden	1 – 3 April 2009	50	40
Brighton	UK	13 – 14 May 2009	65	25
Dartmouth	USA	5 – 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2009	80	n.a.
Galway	Ireland	12 – 13 May 2010	35	16
Tel Aviv	Israel	14 July 2010	40	10

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## C08.33 Urban Geography

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### 1. Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Christian Matthiessen

*Associate Chairs:*

Adrian G. Aguilar

Celine Rozenblat

*Committee Members:*

Lilian Barakat

Kam-Wing Chan

Guoqing Du

Andre Horn

Lienhard Loetscher

Jose Somoza Medina

Michael Pacione

Petros Petsimeris

### 2. Meetings 2010

The commission's 36<sup>th</sup> meeting was held in Tel Aviv from 6 – 17 July, including a preconference working tour in northern Israel from 6 – 11 July, and regular session activities at the IGU regional conference in Tel Aviv, 12 – 17 July. There was also one business meeting. Urban Geography sessions counted 43 papers.

### 3. Forthcoming Meetings

2011:

The next commission meeting is planned for 14 – 18 August, at **Canterbury Christ Church University**, United Kingdom. Local organiser: Dan Donoghue. Estimated number of participants: 60. All details regarding the conference are available on the Commissions website (<http://www.igu-urban.com/>)

The theme is: "Urban Transformations: Exploring Local, Regional and Global City Regions" and encompasses a wide range

of research currently undertaken by members of the Commission and provides a framework within which the three main issues identified above can be explored. The City region concept allows researchers to investigate not just the immediate area of 'the city' but to expand their horizons at a range of geographical scales to look at the vast network of interactions that occur within and between settlements of all sizes within the wider hinterlands of urban places. As such this theme keeps in mind the rationale of the Commission to explore the emerging trends that are rapidly transforming the character of cities and their hinterlands. Although the various processes causing urban transformations are common to many countries, changes in urban systems and the internal geography of cities as well as concerns regarding sustainability, take different forms in different places. This is particularly true for city regions where one can find evidence for remoteness, peripherality and even exclusion among smaller centers despite their immediate locations within spheres of influence of larger metropolitan centers.

The commission also accepted the invitation to join the IGU Regional conference in Santiago, Chile November 14. – 18. Estimated participation: unknown. ([www.ugi2011.cl](http://www.ugi2011.cl)). We expect urban geography sessions, and will provide a chairman if requested. We would also like one pre- or post conference fieldtrip. Liaison officer is Adrian G. Aguilar ([Adrian@servidor.unam.mx](mailto:Adrian@servidor.unam.mx)).

**2012:** 26 – 30 August 2012 is the time for the next large IGU congress. The 32<sup>nd</sup>

International Geographical Congress in Cologne focuses scientific attention on the core themes of humanity (www.igc2012.org), with four sub-themes:

- Global Change and Globalisation
- Society and Environment
- Risks and Conflicts
- Urbanisation and Demographic Change

The commission has decided that professors Ludger Basten and Lienhard Lötscher will be local organisers of the commissions meeting, which combines independent activities before the main congress and which also allows members to join urban geography sessions at the congress itself.

#### **4. Collaborative Efforts**

There are plans for co-work with the Megacities Commission and with the Transport Geography Commission in Cologne 2012.

#### **5. Publications**

IGU Urban Commission 2008–2012 (2009): Emerging urban transformations: International Conference. 66 pages contained 59 presentations, which with

a few exceptions were presented at the Hyderabad conference 2009.

IGU Urban Commission 2008–2012 (2009): Editor Geetha Reddy Ananth: Emerging urban transformations: Multilayered Cities and Urban Systems. 857 pages. Comprise 44 full papers.

Members of the commission are planning four books:

- Book on different types of cities (Wayne Davies).
- Book on world urbanization: theoretical, empirical (Petros Petsimeris)
- Book on comparative urban systems (Petros Petsimeris, Celine Rozenblat).
- Epistemology of the former members of the commission (Petros Petsimeris).
- Book on the geography of crime (Andre Horn).

For the commission meeting in Tel Aviv, Izhak Schnell and Celine Rozenblat have taken responsibility to edit a special issue of Urban Studies Journal.

The Urban Geography Commission has since its establishment in 1976 produced 22 books.

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## C08.34 Water Sustainability

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### 1. Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

J.A.A. Jones

*Commission Vice Chair:*

Kazuki Mori

*Committee Members:*

Claudio Cassardo

Changming Liu

Thomas McMahon

Heinz-Theo Mengelkamp

Peter Robinson

Olga Scarpati

Amarendra Sinha

Trahel Vardanian

Kobus van der Walt

Ming-ko Woo

Jun Xia

### 2. From the Chairman

2010 has been an extremely busy year despite the lack of a formal meeting for the first time since the creation of the Commission in 2002, or indeed of its predecessor the Study Group on Climate Change and Extreme Hydrological Events back in 1998. The reason has been bringing two more major publications to fruition. *Water Sustainability: a global perspective* brings together the research undertaken over the last decade, which began in earnest with assured funding from the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the International Geographical Union (IGU) in 2004. This allowed the appointment of Dr Keren Smith as a research assistant and a beginning to be made on establishing links with the managers of the major international data archives and on downloading and

analysing the data. The book now contains the first world maps of data derived from many of these databases, notably annual and seasonal maps of precipitation, evaporation and riverflows, together with maps of extremes, both high and low. It also takes the first steps in analysing the distribution of factors that make water management difficult – extreme seasonal contrasts, low annual precipitation and high interannual variability. The world maps also cover water quality and water-related diseases.

The book highlights the nature of the challenges currently facing water provision around the world and attempts to predict the trends over the coming century. In this, it covers not only the problems posed by the burgeoning global population and climate change, but also the changing political and economic environments – the prospect of ‘water wars’ and weaknesses in the global financial system that led to the greatest world recession since the 1930s in 2009. The way forward must involve progress on a wide variety of fronts, not just more efficient use of water and recycling, important though these are, but also new technologies using seawater, solar power and simple, low cost solutions for the developing world – like wave-powered desalination or play pumps for children. Improvements in law and governance also have clear roles to play in creating sustainable solutions, as too do improvements in monitoring and modelling systems, and in supporting the role of charities and charitable funding from private companies. Giving also needs to be better focused and monitored. The UN, the World Bank and other major

funders of projects to improve water supply and sanitation around the world have begun to demand more information and more accountability, and to focus more on the social and environmental impacts of water resource developments, and there is a clear need to proceed further down this path to ensure that solutions match social and environmental requirements, that funds are not wasted through incompetence or corruption, and serve the poor as well as the rich.

The second book draws to a close the Commission's work in support of the UN International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE). I was appointed to chair the IYPE Science Implementation Team for Groundwater and Commission member João Paulo Lobo-Ferreira, head of the Groundwater Division of the Portuguese Laboratory for Civil Engineering, served as my deputy. *Sustaining Groundwater Resources* is intended to give an overview of the current challenges, developing trends like climate change, and the role of new technologies for monitoring, modelling and managing groundwater resources in the future. It is one of eight volumes being published by Springer in their Legacy Series to commemorate the IYPE, which itself was instigated to mark 50 years since the 1957-8 International Geophysical Year that kickstarted international scientific collaboration in the geosciences. Perhaps the most notable aspect of the IYPE is the recognition that geoscience is now about far more than pure physical science which was the focus in the 1950s, that it now has a social and environmental conscience, which is upfront and vital – as the IYPE logo states: “Earth sciences for society”.

Finally, I must add a more personal note. Having served as chair of this Commission and of the preceding Study Group for the last 12 years, I have decided that it will be

time for me to relinquish control in 2011 and to pass the chairmanship over to my successor, Professor Claudio Cassardo. Claudio has served our IGU group faithfully since 1998 as its webmaster. He also organised our last – and very memorable – conference in Turin. He is the unanimous choice of the Steering Committee. Our colleague Professor Kazuki Mori has kindly expressed his willingness to continue as vice-chair for the foreseeable future, and I will continue as an ordinary member of the Steering Committee.

### 3. Publications

Publication of papers based on the Turin conference in the new online open access journal *Water* began in 2010 and is continuing into 2011. Papers are being made available as soon as peer-review is complete. The book *Water Sustainability: a global perspective* was published in December 2010 and the final manuscript for the IYPE book *Sustaining Groundwater Resources* has now been submitted to Springer.

#### 1. *Water Sustainability: a global perspective*

The book is presented as a contribution from the Commission and also as part of the Commission's contribution to the IYPE. Using the latest mapping techniques, the book examines water availability, the impact of climate change and the problems created for water management worldwide, as well as possible solutions. It is one of the first textbooks to meld the physical and human aspects affecting the world's water resources.

- In **Part One**, the author outlines the challenges and investigates the human factors: population growth; urbanisation and pollution; the commercialisation of water, including

globalisation and privatisation; and the impacts of war, terrorism and the credit crunch.

- In **Part Two**, he examines the restless water cycle, the impact of past and future climate change and the problems change and unreliability create for water management.
- In **Part Three**, current and future solutions are discussed, including improved efficiency and water treatment systems, desalination, weather modification and rainwater harvesting, and improved legal and administrative frameworks.

Tony Jones concludes by asking how far technical and financial innovations can overcome the limitations of climatic resources and examines the human and environmental costs involved in such developments.

The book is written in an approachable style and is ideal for anyone concerned with the sustainability of water resources in the coming decades, whether approaching the subject from the point of view of international relations, geography, water engineering or environmental management.

Table of Contents and further details can be found on the Commission website at <http://water-sustainability.ph.unito.it>.

The Hodder website provides additional resources to accompany the book, available to purchasers of the book or ebook, at <http://www.hodderplus.com/geography>.

## Reference

Jones, J.A.A. 2010: *Water Sustainability: a global perspective*. London, Hodder Education, 464 pages. £39.99. ISBN 978 1 444 10488 2 (paperback), (ebook available from March 2011).

## 2. Sustaining Groundwater Resources

The book contains 13 chapters: 1. Groundwater in peril, *J. Anthony A. Jones*; 2. Groundwater and health: meeting unmet needs in sub-Saharan Africa, *Segun Adelana, Wilson Fantong, Dessie Nedaw and Anthony Duah*; 3. Karst, uranium, gold and water – lessons from South Africa for reconciling mining activities and sustainable water use in semi-arid karst areas: a case study, *Frank Winde*; 4. Arsenic distribution and geochemistry in groundwater of a recharge wetland in NW Botswana, *Philippa Huntsman-Mapila, Hermogène Nsengimana, Nelson Torto and Sorcha Diskin*; 5. Sustainability of groundwater resources in the North China Plain, *Jie Liu, Cuoliang Cao and Chunmiao Zheng*; 6. Groundwater management in a land subsidence area, *Kazuki Mori*; 7. Climate change and groundwater, *Cath E. Hughes, D.I. Cendón, M.P. Johansen, and K.T. Meredith*; 8. Linking runoff to groundwater in permafrost terrain, *Ming-ko Woo*; 9. Geography of the World's groundwater: a hierarchical approach to scale-dependent zoning, *Jac van der Gun, Slavek Vasak and Josef Reckman*; 10. WHYMAP and the Groundwater Resources Map of the World 1:25 000 000, *Andrea Richts, Wilhelm F. Struckmeier and Markus Zaepke*; 11. Overview of a multifaceted research program in Bénin, West Africa: an International Year of Planet Earth Groundwater Project, *Stephen E. Silliman, Moussa Boukari, Landry Loubegnon and Felix Azonsi*; 12. Groundwater artificial recharge solutions for integrated management of watersheds and aquifer systems under extreme drought scenarios, *J.P. Lobo Ferreira, Luís Oliveira and Catarina Diamantino*; 13. Groundwater in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – meeting the challenges, *Kevin M. Hiscock*.

Chapter 11 is a report from the winning project that the Science Implementation Team for Groundwater selected in the IYPE research competition.

### **Reference**

The IYPE book ***Sustaining Groundwater Resources: A Critical Element in the Global Water Crisis*** is due to be published by Springer Verlag, Dordrecht, in the spring of 2011. Price £87.00.

### **3. *Water: online open access journal***

Cassardo, C. and J.A.A. Jones (eds), 2010: ***Managing Water in a Changing World: Selected Papers from the 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Commission on Water Sustainability. Water***, ISSN 2073-4441, online at [www.mdpi.com/journal/water](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/water).

### **4. Plans for 2011**

The Commission is planning to participate in the Regional Conference in Santiago, Chile, in November 2011. Professor Cassardo is the coordinator of the Commission's sessions and he will be circulating details of these to members shortly and calling for papers.

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## C08.35 Transport and Geography

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A Committee meeting was held in London on 2<sup>nd</sup> September during the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers (RGS-IBG) Conference. A programme of meetings was agreed up to and including the IGC in Cologne, Germany in August 2012.

### **Sessions of the Commission on Transport and Geography held at the RGS-IBG Conference in London on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 (held in conjunction with the RGS-IBG Transport Geography Research Group)**

**Theme 1: Innovation in transport and tourism research: Sustainability, Transport and Tourism:** Convenors: Richard Knowles (University of Salford, UK) and Stephen Page (London Metropolitan University, UK)

#### **1. Policy, Mitigation and Practice**

Gareth Shaw and Stewart Barr (University of Exeter, UK)

Tourism, Transport and Climate Change: context, practice and policy

Paul Peters (Breda University, Netherlands) et al

The dynamics of tourism transport and climate mitigation policies

Lisa Davison (Loughborough University, UK)

Great Britain: An alternative travel destination?

James Higham (University of Otago, New Zealand) and Scott Cohen (Bournemouth University, UK)

UK consumer perceptions on air travel's climate contribution and decisions to visit New Zealand

#### **2. Modal Issues and Evaluation Tools**

Naznin Afrose Huq (University of Dhaka, Bangladesh)

Electronic Three Wheelers: An Alternative Transport for Tourists in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh

Eke Eijelaar (Breda University, Netherlands) et al

Impacts of European cycle tourism

Thiago Allis (University of San Carlo, Brazil)

Railway heritage and tourism development in Brazil and Argentina

#### **3. Understanding and modelling future issues in tourist travel**

Andreas Kagermeier (University of Trier, Germany) and Werner Gronau (Stralsund School of Business, Germany)

Individual lifestyle as a major dimension for long term sustainable transport systems in leisure and tourism

Stephen Page (London Metropolitan University)

Understanding Transport and Tourism in Scotland to 2025: The use of scenario planning

Peter McGrath (University of Central Lancashire, UK)

The emergent slow travel market

**Theme 2: Climate change and transport:** Convenors: Lee Chapman (University of Birmingham, UK) and Tim Ryley (University of Loughborough, UK)

## **1. An Overview**

Dan Calverley (University of Manchester, UK)

Driving down domestic emissions: assessing the UK budget for personal transport

Karen Lucas (University of Oxford, UK)  
Knowledge review of social and distributional impacts of climate change policy options for personal travel

Erel Avineri and Owen D Waygood (University of West of England, UK)  
Communicating CO<sub>2</sub> to individuals: how do people respond to CO<sub>2</sub> information for transport?

Ben Waterson et al (University of Southampton, UK)  
Is making people aware of climate change enough to change travel behaviour?

Elizabeth Hooper and Lee Chapman (University of Birmingham, UK)  
Future Resilient Transport Networks

## **2. Mode specific issues**

Murray Goulden (University of Nottingham, UK) et al  
Transport Futures: is our foresight comprehensive enough?

Colin Pooley (University of Lancaster, UK) et al  
Can increased walking and cycling really contribute to the reduction of transport-related carbon emissions?

Moshe Givoni (University of Oxford, UK) and Piet Rietveld (Free University Amsterdam, Netherlands)  
Comparing the environmental impacts from using large and small passenger aircraft on short haul routes

Lucy Budd and Tim Ryley (University of Loughborough, UK)

The impact of climate change on the UK's commercial aviation sector

John Thornes (University of Birmingham, UK)

The impact of climate change on Winter Road Maintenance

## **3. Geographical Case Studies**

Urda Eichhorst (Wuppertal Institute for Climates, Energy and Environment, Germany)

Climate-proofing urban transport planning in developing cities

Matias Ruiz Lorbacher and Matthias Kracht (Free University Berlin, Germany)  
Sustainable transport in China: Lessons from a second tier city

Helene Vergereau (Atkins Consultancy, UK) and Mike Salter (East of England Development Agency, UK)  
How low can transport go? Assessing transport's contribution to a low carbon economy in the East of England

David Banister (University of Oxford, UK) and Robin Hickman (Halcrow, UK)  
Low carbon scenarios – what do they do for wider sustainability impacts?

### **Report on the meeting of the IGU Commission on Transport and Geography, London, September 2, 2010**

The board of IGU Commission 35 on Transport and Geography met at Imperial College in London on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, at 1 pm, during the RGS-IBG annual conference, following a thematic session jointly convened by the IGU Commission and the Transportation Geography Research Group of the Institute of British Geographers.

In attendance : president Richard Knowles (U.K.), secretary Yves Boquet (France),

steering committee members Jacques Charlier (Belgium), Moshe Givoni (Israel), Naznin Afrose Huq (Bangladesh), Andreas Kagermeier (Germany) and Zbigniew Taylor (Poland).

Present in London also, vice-chair Becky Loo (Hong Kong) and committee member Andrew Goetz (USA) were unable to attend the business meeting but exchanged views with the chair and secretary ahead of the meeting.

Committee members Albert Abane (Ghana), Daniel Mabazza (Philippines), Yuji Murayama (Japan), Kevin O'Connor (Australia) and Gordon Pirie (South Africa) sent their apologies for not being able to travel to London at this time.

This meeting was the first formal meeting of a majority of members of the steering committee since its inception in October 2009, after a brief session of 4 of its members (Boquet, Goetz, Knowles and Murayama) in Washington DC in April 2010 on the occasion of the AAG conference.

The steering committee discussed the following topics based on the agenda proposed ahead of the conference by president Richard Knowles.

### **1. Sessions to be organized in conjunction with IGU conferences and congresses**

#### **• IGU Santiago de Chile, November 2011**

In the absence of steering committee member Oscar Figueroa (Chile), it was not possible to establish a firm proposal. However, the idea of a thematic session on Bus Rapid Transit, that has grown worldwide after successful experiences in Curitiba, Brazil and Bogota, Colombia, was suggested during our meeting. Secretary Yves Boquet will contact Oscar Figueroa for a follow-up, and will suggest a possible

field trip for presentation of the Santiago BRT system. He will also try to engage this topic with a delegation of IGU Chile's organizers during their trip to Paris in late September, when they will meet board members of the CNFG (French National Geography Committee) and the AGF (Association of French Geographers).

A meeting of the editorial board of the *Journal of Transport Geography*, held the evening before this IGU commission meeting, has shown that Latin America was quite poorly represented in publications. The Santiago meeting would be a good opportunity to improve the contacts and links between Latin American transport geographers and their counterparts in other world regions. Boquet and Knowles may make the trip to Chile, depending of the availability of financing to such a distant location.

#### **• IGU Cologne, August 2012**

Four proposals for thematic sessions have emerged

The first one would be organized jointly with the IGU task force on megacities, dealing with transportation issues in megacities. Knowles will be the lead contact with Taskforce chair Christian Matthiessen (Copenhagen University) to organize this session

Three other proposals have arisen for thematic paper sessions in Cologne

- Transportation and climate change (lead contact and organizer : Tim Riley, University of Loughborough, UK ?)
- Long-distance transportation, intercontinental travel, world-wide freight (Givoni)
- Governing and managing the transport systems, in the Global North and the Global South. The session would be co-organized by Kagermeier

and a colleague from a country in the global South (Abane ? Pirie ?), in order to encourage papers from colleagues in emerging and developing countries, since the literature seems to emanate and present cases mostly from European and North American countries.

• **AAG Seattle (April 2011)**

In accordance with the conference focus recommended by AAG directors, a session (or more) on Trans-Pacific transport issues would be co-organized with the AAG Transportation Geography Specialty Group. Boquet and Goetz will be in touch with AAG-TGSG chair Julie Cidell. Former TGSG chair John Bowen from Central Washington University would also be a good contact.

• **London, August – September 2011**

Eugeo and IBG will meet in London in back-to-back conferences. This would be an ideal setting, on the overlap day (August 31<sup>st</sup>) for a thematic session on European-wide transport networks (low-cost airlines, high-speed rail).

**2. Organization of a field-trip before the IGU conference in Cologne**

The committee retains the proposal for a field trip in Benelux countries, around the theme of European gateways (ports and airports), submitted by J. Charlier

The decision taken about its duration (and its associated cost) will of course condition the number of places that can be visited.

The five-day tour basic outline could be as follows (starting from Amsterdam, that is a convenient airport and where colleagues might like to spend one day or two on their own before) :

Participants would gather in Amsterdam, at Schiphol Airport in the evening before the start of the trip

- Day 1: airport and port of Amsterdam; accommodation in Rotterdam
- Day 2: port of Rotterdam ; from the mid-afternoon by road to Antwerp via the impressive Delta works. Accommodation in Antwerp
- Day 3: port of Antwerp. Accommodation in Bruges
- Day 4: port of Zeebrugge and inland barges vertical lift of Strépy. Accommodation in Brussels
- Day 5: airports of Brussels and Liège, and drop-off at Cologne conference hotels

To improve opportunities for networking and to reduce costs, travel would be by coach rather than train. Charlier already organized a successful field trip of that nature in 1996 after the Hague IGU Congress.

A more detailed proposal is sent as a separate attachment

**3. Other items of business**

- Goetz, as was proposed in Washington in April, has agreed to set up an account in the United States for the IGU specialty group, in order to facilitate the movements of funds related to the Commission's activities. The Commission will apply for a small grant from IGU for 600 dollars.
- The Commission needs to set up a web site to enhance its visibility. Kagermeier agreed to evaluate the possibility to develop one based in Germany.
- Charlier and others expressed the fear that the meetings may be mostly based in the US and Europe. It is necessary to increase the global reach of the group by having some meetings on other continents. Several members of the steering committee (Boquet, Knowles, Loo, Murayama, O'Connor,

at least) will meet in Hong Kong in december 2010 on the occasion of the HKSTS conference. And of course the 2013 IGU meeting in Kyoto will be a good opportunity to gather in Asia. Murayama would be the main organizer.

The meeting was adjourned at 1.45 pm.

Made between London, Lille and Dijon, France, on September 3, 2010

Yves Boquet, commission's secretary

This report was forwarded to members of the Commission, IGU Board members, organizers of Santiago and Cologne IGU meetings, as well as the leaders of the AAG's Transport geography Specialty group and the French CNFG's Commission de Géographie des Transports, meeting in Le Havre September 8 – 10.

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## C08.37 Geoparks

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Since 2000, geographers and geologists have met on several occasions to discuss the pertinence of an interdisciplinary perspective on Geoparks, linking geo-conservation with endogenous local development. The latter has been one of the topics seriously undertaken by geographers during the last decades. The geographical perspective on Geoparks includes integrating landscape as its main concept; requires a holistic approach and trans-disciplinary research to promote multicultural participatory bridges, and links local knowledge and practice into the research-development agenda. It encourages solid scientific inter-union linkages and focuses on establishing Geoparks in the world. It also promotes the research relations in the world and the exchanges in developing countries and developed countries.

In 2004, the IGU Executive Committee decided to launch the Commission on Geoparks during the 31<sup>st</sup> IGC, an initiative that could bring a geographical perspective to a developed UNESCO program for the management and protection of the natural and cultural heritage.

### 1. Steering Committee

*Commission Chair:*

Wei Dongying

*Commission Treasurer:*

Lloyd Richardson

*Commission Secretary:*

Wang Min

*Committee Members:*

Thandi Nzama

Wolfgang Eder

Nickolas Zouros

Duane Fast

Carole Murphy

Peter Bobrowsky

### 2. Meetings 2010

#### **4<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks, Kangkawi, Malaysia, 9 – 15<sup>th</sup>**

The 4<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks 2010 was held at the Langkawi Global Geopark, MALAYSIA, and while at the same time the Commission steering committee meeting was also held here. Dr. Dongying Wei, Prof. Changming Liu, Mr. Duane Fast, Prof. Nicrous Zuros and Prof. Wolfgang Eder participated in the steering committee meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Work was summarized and planned for the future, especially the plenary meeting to be held from 9 – 13 June, 2010 in Beijing.

#### **IGU-COGEM meeting, China, 8 – 10 June**

IGU-COG Executive Meeting was held from 8 to 10 June, 2010 at the Beijing Normal University. Dr. Lloy Richardson, Mr. Duane Fast, Dr. Dongying Wei, Prof. Dahe Qin, Prof. Changming Liu, Mr. Yonggang Wang from the Ministry of Land and Resources, Mr. Tuojie Luo from the UNESCO Geopark Network Office, and Mr. Yueping Han from the Yuntaishan World Geopark participated in the meeting and the IGU-COG development and cooperation with other organizations were discussed.

#### **IGU-COG Executive Members meetings, St. Louis, USA, 1 – 3 October**

The second IGU-COG Executive members meeting in 2010 was held at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Dr. James Wilson, Dr. Lloyd Richardson, Mr. Duane Fast,

Dr. Carole Murphy and Dr. Dongying Wei participated in the meeting and discussed the international forum on Geoparks that will be held in May, 2011 and the issue about the International Journal of Geoparks.

### **3. Website**

The Commission has developed a website that is available as a repository for papers on Geoparks. The site was developed and is maintained by Dr. Dongying Wei, and it marks a significant development in the organizational structure of the Commission. The website will be updated regularly with more information on Geoparks and electronic journals available at [www.igu-cog.org](http://www.igu-cog.org).

### **4. Newsletters**

The Commission is in irregular contact with steering committee members through an email newsletter. The distribution list and organization of the Newsletter is managed by Dongying Wei. There have been eight of these newsletters distributed in the 2007 – 2010 period.

### **5. Work Plan for 2011 – 2012**

The Commission will focus on the development of comparative studies on Geoparks, tourism and corresponding social, economic, environmental and political change and will concentrate on the communication and transfer of research results in policy relevant terms to policy makers and industry as well as continuing the scientific publishing programme of the Commission. The Commission therefore seeks to continue its activities for the next four years as outlined in relation to its existing objectives. The planned activities are as follows:

- The forthcoming IGU-COG executive members meeting will be in Beijing from 27 to 29 June, 2011. More details are available at [www.igu-cog.org](http://www.igu-cog.org).
- International Forum on Geopark: Capacity Building and Sustainable Development in Geoparks will be held in Taining world Geopark, China.

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## T08.03 International Geography Olympiad

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### 1. Steering Committee

#### *Task Force Co-Chairs:*

Joop van der Schee  
Henk Ankoné

#### *Committee Members:*

Kathryn Berg  
Wolfgang Gerber  
Zouhaier Hlaoui  
Su-Min Shen

#### *Committee Counsellors:*

Fernando Garcia-Garcia  
Sue Lomas

### 2. Membership

*The Task Force does not have any other members as such. However, the leaders of Olympiad teams could perhaps be regarded as the equivalent. These amount to approximately 60 from more than 30 countries:* Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, China – Beijing, China – Hong Kong, China – Taipei, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom.

### 3. Meetings 2010

Title: International Board Meetings (2)  
Dates: July 30 and August 4, 2010  
Location: Taipei, Taiwan  
Number of participants: Approx 30 at each

### 4. Meetings 2011

Title: International Meetings to prepare the 2012 Olympiad  
Dates: February 12 and October, 2011  
Location: Köln, Germany  
Number of participants: Approx 10 at each

### 5. Collaborative Efforts

Collaboration with the Chair of the IGU Commission on Geographical Education as to the design of the Olympiad fieldwork test.

### 6. Olympiad 2010:

For safety reasons the International Board and the Task Force decided not to organise an Olympiad in Tel Aviv in 2010 during the IGU congress. The Geographical Society of China located in Taipei and the Department of Geography of the National Taiwan Normal University hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> International Geography Olympiad. This was held in Taipei, Taiwan, from 29 July to 4 August 2010, under the auspices of the International Geographical Union Olympiad Task Force. The venue was the Sacred Heart High School beside the Tanshui River.

Twenty-seven teams participated, with a total of 105 students. It was the first time that Croatia, Denmark, Hong Kong and Singapore had sent teams and that Turkey had sent an observer.

The competition consists of three tests. Six sets of questions in the Written Response Test (WRT) included the themes of Millennium Development Goals, Floods, Population Geography, Landforms, Agriculture and Environment, and Natural Hazards. The Multi-Media Test (MMT) was held with students at individual computers. Students looked at the 40 questions and graphics in Power Point format on the PC screen and were able to control the timing of each question themselves. These two tests were prepared by the WRT and MMT committees respectively, with contributions from the participating

countries, while the Fieldwork Test was prepared through the collaboration of Taiwanese geographers and Olympiad International Board members.

The site of the Fieldwork Test for the 2010 Geography Olympiad was the Guandu Wetland, where students made detailed maps and careful observations to answer questions related to vegetation, human intervention and the establishment of natural reserves. Students were also asked to play the role of a city planner and give four arguments that they would expect to hear in a meeting about the future of the Guandu wetland and to discuss to what extent the arguments would be common in urban communities anywhere.

Fifty-three students were awarded medals (Gold – 9, Silver – 17 and Bronze – 27) . Among 27 teams, 21 countries won medals. Singapore, though participating for the first time in the iGeo, impressively received the highest team score and won two gold and two silver medals. The five teams with the highest team score at iGeo 2010 Taipei were:

1	Singapore
2	Australia
3	Poland
4	Lithuania
5	Estonia

An 2010 was the improvement of the statutes and rules of the Olympiad. All participating countries were invited to make suggestions. During the 2010 Olympiad in Taipei all suggestions were discussed. The final version was sent to all members of the International Board before publishing on the Olympiad website [www.geoolympiad.org](http://www.geoolympiad.org).

In 2010 the financial situation of the Task Force was still problematic. A lot of time and money has been invested by the Task

Force members from Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand and The Netherlands and their geographical societies. The IGU has been giving 600 US dollars each year between 2004 and 2008 but not afterwards. In 2008 in Tunis the IGU Board decided that in the near future the organizing country of an IGU congress will pay 5000 US dollar to the Task Force for the organization of the Olympiad but so far this has not be realized. So the 2010 Olympiad in Taipei was organised without IGU support since it was not linked to an IGU congress. We hope to receive IGU support for the 2012 Olympiad in Köln.

The Olympiad website [www.geoolympiad.org](http://www.geoolympiad.org) has been revised in 2010 with financial help from ESRI and VU University Amsterdam.

## 7. Olympiads 2011 and 2012:

Although the IGU Task Force for the Olympiad tried to organise an Olympiad along with the 2011 IGU congress in Chile, it was not possible to realise it. An Asia Pacific Regional Olympiad will be organised in Mexico in 2011. As for other Olympiads, the Task Force has decided to have a geography Olympiad every year from 2012 onwards.

The preparations for the next Olympiad during the 2012 IGU Congress in Köln have already started. A first meeting in Köln was very successful and a second one will take place in February 2011.

A change of the chair of the International Geography Olympiad will take place in 2012.

Preparations to find a new chair have started. Consultation of the Task Force and the International Board are on the way and we have good reasons to think that we will find a good new chair to continue the important work of the Olympiad.

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# The Mediterranean Renaissance Project (MRP)

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## 1. Steering Committee

*Coordinator:*

Maria Paradiso

*Executive Secretary:*

Ali Toumi

*Committee Members:*

Ronald F. Abler

Mahmoud Ashour

Antoine Bailly

Giuliano Bellezza

Anne Buttimer

Annick Douguédroit

Anton Gosar

Aharon Kellerman

Mohamad Riad

Maria Sala

Theano S. Terkenli

## 2. MRP and IGU Tel Aviv 2010

The MRP developed further ties and cooperation with Commissions through by 8 joint sessions with several commissions (Political Geography, Gender, Tourism, Cultural Geography, Local development, climate change). The list of MRP corresponding members is increasing.

## 3. Joint conference with Tunis-CERES (Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche Sociale)-MERC (Middle East Competition a program by Ford Foundation) Tunis, March 2010

The Conference, entitled 'Mediterranean Tourism and Global crisis', was co-organized by Maria Paradiso and Ali Toumi (principal local organizer). It successfully took place in Tunis, 9–11

March 2010, in the CERES venue in Tunis, co-sponsored also by CERES and MERC. There were 15 speakers from Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Spain UK, and US. MRP officers who participated in the event and presented papers were: Annick Douguédroit, Maria Paradiso, Theano Terkenli and Ali Toumi. The meeting was followed a field trip leading from Cap Bon to Sahel focusing on Tunisian spatial development for tourism and economic activity at large.

The two keynote speakers were Professor L. Michalak (Berkely University, anthropologist) and Mr. A. Smaoui, former Tunisian Minister of Tourism. One technical paper was presented by M. T. Baya Director of Tunisian Spatial Planning.

CERES expressed interest in further collaboration with MRP in publishing the conference proceedings. MERC also expressed willingness to continue to cooperate with MRP for seminars within a frame of multidisciplinary cooperation, though more thought is needed in order to safeguard the role of geography within a multi-disciplinary arena.

Proceedings are in progress and will be published in collaboration with CERES.

## 4. MRP Book Project

MRP book with Springer on 'Contemporary Mediterranean Geography': The book is co-edited by Theano Terkenli (Greece) and Louis Cassar (Malta). The book is progressing and some authors received revisions.

## **5. Future Plans and Initiatives**

### **5.1 MRP preparations for Santiago and Cologne**

The Santiago meeting will not be a major focus for MRP but still MRP will try to have a presence there. Annick Douguédroit will explore possibilities of inviting a local Chair together with the Commission on Climatology in order to have an MRP session on 'Mediterranean Climate' taking into consideration that Chile has Mediterranean climatic zones.

MRP will devote more emphasis and efforts to the 2012 IGU Conference in Cologne issuing a call for session(s) and papers on the topic 'German ties with the Mediterranean'. Maria Paradiso has already shared this planned activity with the two Co-Chairs of IGU Cologne who'll support and proposed in principle a session on Renewable Energy from Mediterranean. The Cologne LOC promised to answer after internal meetings.

### **5.2 Union for the Mediterranean**

*Contact with Italian Foreign Affairs.*

Before the nominations at the UofM Maria Paradiso got in touch with the Italian Head of diplomacy for the UofM in order to inform on MRP and have possible support in terms of networking (UofM, Alliance of Civilisations) and information on UofM. He was ready to support the presentation of MRP to the Ministers of Higher Education and Research who are supposed to meet in Slovenia to present MRP as a research network complementary to existing educational bodies. The meeting was postponed but luckily the nominations for UofM deputy-secretaries went ahead.

*Meeting with Professor Ilan Chet, Deputy Secretary for Research*

After initial consultation by Maria Paradiso with the Italian Diplomat in charge of the Union of the Mediterranean she got in touch with the Deputy-Secretary of Research, a leading scientist from Israel, Prof. Ilan Chet, thanks to links provided by Aharon Kellerman. Maria Paradiso prepared and sent presentation materials on MRP and asked for a meeting in Israel proposing four main goals.

The meeting took place on July 13 at Dan Panorama Hotel with Professor Chet, Maria Paradiso and Aharon Kellerman.

Professor Chet showed real interest and readiness to help on the basis of an MRP written document to be prepared.

### **5.3 MRP Annual Conference 2011**

A proposal for sponsoring a Conference entitled: 'Migration as mobilities, geographical perspectives from the Mediterranean' has been submitted to the Malta meeting of Foreign Ministers, UN Alliance of Civilisations, Mediterranean focus via the Italian Foreign Office.

### **5.4 UNDESA-UN: Textbooks project on sustainability in the Mediterranean (tentative)**

UNDESA-UN – Division of Sustainability expressed to Maria Paradiso the willingness to invite MRP to lead a side event during next year RIO Conference on Sustainability about the concept idea of text book on Mediterranean sustainability possibly supported by UNESCO. Anne Buttmer suggested proposing a concept of video-book showing case-studies of success stories on the issue.

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## **The 2010 Tel Aviv IGU Regional Conference**

### **La Conférence Régionale de Tel Aviv 2010**

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#### **From Professor Izhak Schnell: Chairperson of the Conference Local Organizing Committee**

The IGU regional conference at Tel Aviv August 2010 focused on the topic of "Bridging World Diversities". We estimated that this is a major challenge for the international community in which geographical knowledge can be of great help. In addition, we estimate that Israel is an excellent example for these kinds of issues. More specifically we decided to focus the conference on three aspects of world diversity: Global warming and ecological diversity; Globalization and socio-cultural diversity; and geopolitical fragmentation. For each of these topics we presented also a session on the Israeli example. One session focused on climatic diversity and biodiversity in Israel representing Israel as one of the smallest and crowded place that allows for the highest diversities of climates and types of species. This reality is a main challenge to environmental policies in Israel. A second set of lectures dealt with the heterogeneity of Israeli society and the attempt to bring together people from more than 80 origins in building the nation. The third session dealt with the Israeli Palestinian conflict with the participation of Palestinian and Jewish scholars who presented the main geopolitical struggle on both side of the divide.

The field trips also focused on main problems and challenges of Israeli society. One trip was to the desert area focusing on development challenges and inequalities.

A second trip was in the north of Israel in the Galilee focusing on the Jewish-Arab/Palestinian delicate coexistence and conflicts in the area. Other field trips focused on environmental issues and historical geographical aspects of a city like Acre and the Holy places in the north of Israel around the lake of Galilee. The last trip included the desert area in Israel and Petra in Jordan.

In the opening session we tried to present the contribution of Israeli geography to the local and the international communities. Waterman evaluated the academic works of Israeli geographers to the geographical milieu and I mentioned the contribution of Israeli geographers to the Israeli milieu. I appraised the role of geographers in spatial planning and in applying socio-spatial and environmental policies, the role of geographers in consulting governments in peace initiative and in promoting public debate over geopolitical struggles including highly critical attitudes.

In total there were close to 500 lectures in the conference with the participation of almost all commissions and more than 500 geographers participated in the conference. The general feeling of the organizers and the participants was that the academically the conference was highly interesting and stimulating as much as the hospitality and organization.

# International Geographical Union

## Statutes

Revised to 10 March 2008

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### **I. Denomination, Objectives and Domicile of the Union**

- A. The International Geographical Union, commonly referred to as IGU, is an international, nongovernmental, nonprofit scientific organization.
- B. The purposes of the International Geographical Union are:
  - 1. to promote the study of geographical problems;
  - 2. to initiate and coordinate geographical research requiring international cooperation and to promote its scientific discussion and publication;
  - 3. to provide for the participation of geographers in the work of relevant international organizations;
  - 4. to facilitate the collection and diffusion of geographical data and documentation in and between all member countries;
  - 5. to promote meetings of the International Geographical Union, regional conferences between the International Geographical Congresses, and other meetings in furtherance of the objectives of the Union;
  - 6. to participate in any other appropriate form of international cooperation with the object of advancing the study and application of geography;
  - 7. to promote international standardization or compatibility of methods, nomenclature, and symbols employed in geography.
- C. The International Geographical Union adheres to the International Council for Science (ICSU) and recognizes it as providing a coordinating

and representative body for the international organization of science.

- D. The International Geographical Union adheres
- E. to the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and recognizes it as providing a coordinating and representative body for the international organization of the social sciences.
- F. The domicile of the Union is the place in which the Secretary General is based.

### **II. The Membership of the Union**

- A. Membership of the Union shall be by countries. For this purpose a “country” shall be a territory wherein scientific matters are organized independently. Admission of a country to membership of the Union shall not constitute recognition of its political but only of its scientific status. In cases of doubt the advice of ICSU shall be sought. Each member country has the same rights and the same duties except as hereinafter provided.
- B. Applications by countries to join the International Geographical Union may be made through a committee for the IGU, a principal academy, a Research Council, or some other similar institution, or through scientific societies or an association of such institutions or societies, or, in special cases, through an appropriate government department. All applications for membership shall be made to the Secretary General, considered by the Executive Committee, and decided by the General Assembly.

- C. A Committee for the IGU, fully representative of geographers, shall be formed in each of the countries belonging to the Union. It shall be formed on the initiative, or with the cooperation, of bodies such as those mentioned in B above.
- D. The Committees for the IGU shall promote the objects of the Union in their respective countries with specific reference to international aspects. They shall diffuse information from the Executive Committee to the geographers in their country and report every four years to the Executive Committee about their activities and the state of geography in their country. The Committees for the IGU shall nominate delegates to represent them at meetings of the Union. Each Committee for the IGU, either singly or jointly with one or more other Committees for the IGU, has the right to submit to the Union, for discussion, questions within the objectives of the Union as defined in Section I. B.
- E. In addition to full membership of the Union there shall be a class of associate members. If the development of geographical studies or the number of geographers is insufficient to make possible the formation of a Committee for the IGU as laid down in C above, any group of three or more persons may constitute themselves a Committee and apply for associate membership. The Executive Committee of the Union may submit to the General Assembly recommendations for the acceptance or the continuance of associate membership or for transfer of associate members to ordinary membership.
- F. In order to maximize the Union's contacts with geographers throughout the world there shall be a class of corresponding members. These members may be either individuals or institutions.
- G. Upon recommendation of the executive committee, the general assembly

may authorize the admission of non-voting Corporate Sponsors to the union. Corporate Sponsors may be academic institutions, government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, or private firms that support the goals and programs of the International Geographical Union. The dues for IGU Corporate Sponsorship shall be set at the time of admission and may be adjusted from time to time by the IGU Executive Committee.

### **III. The General Assembly**

- A. The work of the Union shall be decided by a meeting of the General Assembly of the delegates appointed by the member countries adhering to the Union or at other times by a postal ballot of the delegates from member countries in good standing registered with the IGU Secretariat.
- B. The General Assembly shall hold an ordinary meeting, normally about once every four years, whenever possible at the time and place of an International Geographical Congress. A General Assembly normally will have two or more sessions on different days. The date and place of the meeting shall be determined by the General Assembly at its previous meeting or, if not so determined, arranged by the Executive Committee. An extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly may be called by the president in consultation with the Executive Committee and must be called on written request from at least half the member countries. At least four months' notice must be given of all meetings of the General Assembly.
- C. An Executive Committee consisting of a President, Vice Presidents, and a Secretary-General and Treasurer shall be elected by the General Assembly or by postal ballot.
- D. All individuals present who are fully registered as attending a Congress

may attend the meetings of the General Assembly and take part in the discussion without power of voting except as hereinafter provided. The President of the Union may also invite to attend meetings of the General Assembly, in a consultative capacity, representatives of international or national scientific and scholarly institutions and other appropriate scientists and scholars.

- E. The Agenda for the meeting of the General Assembly shall be fixed by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee and shall be circulated to Committees for the IGU of adhering member countries at least four months before the opening of the meeting. A matter not appearing on the agenda may be raised by a delegation with the approval of the Executive Committee; a decision arising from such an item may only be taken in a following session of that General Assembly.
- F. Resolutions upon scientific matters shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast by individuals fully registered as attending the Congress who are personally present at the meeting of the General Assembly.
- G. Resolutions on matters of an administrative character shall be decided on a vote taken by countries of the Union represented at the General Assembly or eligible to vote in a postal ballot, each country having one vote. A decision shall only be valid if more than 50 per cent of the possible votes, i.e., of member countries present at the General Assembly or eligible to vote via postal ballot, are cast. Associate and corresponding members have no vote.
- H. In cases of doubt as to the category to which a question belongs the President shall decide. Where there is an equal division of votes the President shall, in all cases, have a second or casting vote.

## **IV. The President**

- A. The President of the Union shall be elected by the General Assembly and shall normally be chosen from among those who have had experience as elected officers of the Union. He or she will assume office after the conclusion of the General Assembly or, if this is held during a Congress, after the conclusion of the Congress. He or she will remain in office until after the conclusion of the next ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, or, if a Congress is being held at the same time, until after the conclusion of the Congress. He or she is not eligible for reelection as President during the next period. The retiring President becomes a Vice-President for one further period.

## **V. The Executive Committee**

- A. Members of the Executive Committee serve in an individual capacity.
- B. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the immediate past President, eight other Vice Presidents and a Secretary General.
- C. In addition to the President and to the retiring President, who becomes a Vice President for one further period, the eight Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the General Assembly or by postal ballot. They have specified duties: They shall stimulate activities and coordinate IGU Commissions while also representing the Union and furthering contacts within their own regions. One Vice-President shall act as a Publications Officer. The number of Vice Presidents may be modified by a vote of the General Assembly on a proposal of the Executive Committee. Except as specified in Section V – I of these Statutes, the Vice Presidents shall hold office for a period of four years and each shall be eligible for reelection for one further period only. The Vice Presidents shall be chosen as widely as possible from amongst

member countries of the Union, and at any given time the Executive Committee shall not include more than one representative from any one country. One of the VicePresidents shall be appointed by the Executive Committee as First VicePresident. He or she shall take the place of the President should the President be unable, temporarily or otherwise, to act. If the retiring President is unable to become a Vice-President, the IGU Executive Committee may designate one of the existing Vice-Presidents to replace the retiring president for the subsequent four-year period only.

- D. Except as specified in Section V - J of these Statutes, a Secretary General shall be elected at a General Assembly or by postal ballot for a period of four years and shall normally be chosen from among those who have had experience as elected officers of the Union. He or she shall be eligible for reelection for one further four-year period only. The Secretary General shall also act as Treasurer and shall maintain a permanent administrative office or secretariat. With the approval of the Executive Committee and in order to provide for the efficient administration of the Union's affairs, he or she may arrange for an Assistant SecretaryGeneral or AssistantTreasurer. The SecretaryGeneral shall make arrangements for the publication of a Bulletin or other means of keeping geographers informed, through their Committees for the IGU, of the activities of the Union and for the circulation of information on publications sponsored or assisted by the Union.
- E. In the case of any vacancy occurring amongst its members, the Executive Committee shall have power to fill it. Any person so appointed shall hold office until the next meeting of the General Assembly, which should

proceed to a definite election for the following period only.

- F. Membership of the Executive Committee shall be unpaid but members shall be entitled to traveling expenses and subsistence allowances for attending meetings of the Executive Committee on scales determined, as from time to time may be necessary, by the Executive Committee.
- G. The Executive Committee shall meet during each International Geographical Congress and at such times and places as the President in consultation with the SecretaryGeneral shall determine. There shall be at least one meeting between congresses at which the program proposed for the next congress shall be considered. The Chair of the Organizing Committee of the Congress or his or her representative shall be invited to this meeting for joint consideration of appropriate matters.
- H. It is the task of the Executive Committee to monitor new trends and developments in the field of geographical education and research, to bring these to the knowledge of the committees of the IGU and to take all action required to ensure an optimal participation of the Union in international science programs. Further duties of the Executive Committee shall include those which have been entrusted to it from time to time by the General Assembly, and in particular:
1. the preparation of the Agenda for the General Assembly;
  2. the consideration of invitations for general and regional congresses and the formulation of recommendations thereon for decision by the General Assembly;
  3. collaboration with the organizers of the international congresses;
  4. the consideration of items submitted by Committees for the IGU for inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly;

5. the establishment of special or temporary committees or task forces for particular tasks;
  6. the approval of Commissions to examine defined geographical problems.
  7. the conferment, on behalf of the International Geographical Union, as a mark of distinction, of special honors on persons who have achieved particular distinction or who have rendered outstanding service for the international community of geographers.
- I. In the August 2008 election for the IGU Executive Committee, four Vice Presidents shall be elected for single terms of six years (2008 – 2014) duration; the four Vice Presidents so elected shall not be eligible for re-election as IGU Vice Presidents at the conclusion of their terms in 2014. In the August 2008 election, four Vice Presidents shall be elected for terms of four years duration (2008 – 2012); the four Vice Presidents so elected will be eligible for re-election as Vice Presidents for one additional four year term (2012 – 2016) upon the completion of their original terms in 2012. From 2014 onward, four IGU Vice Presidents will be elected every even calendar year, and those elected will serve terms of four years, being eligible for election for no more than two consecutive terms.
  - J. In the August 2008 election for the IGU Executive Committee, the IGU Secretary General and Treasurer will be elected for a single term of two years (2008 – 2010) duration; the individual so elected shall be eligible for re-election as IGU Secretary General and Treasurer upon completion of his or her original term in 2010 for one additional term or four years only (to 2014). From 2014 onward, an election for IGU Secretary General and

Treasurer will be held every fourth year, and those elected will serve terms of four years, being eligible for election as Secretary General and Treasurer for no more than two consecutive terms.

## **VI. Commissions**

- A. Commissions shall be established for the study of a specific problem or for the accomplishment of a task which requires international collaboration. Commissions shall promote individual and group research work, encourage the exchange of relevant documents and information, and organize conferences, meetings and, where appropriate, field excursions, both between Congresses and during International Geographical Congresses.
- B. The establishment of a new Commission may be proposed by a member country or by the Executive Committee. The proposal, including a statement of objectives and a program of work, should reach the Executive Committee at least nine months before the time of meeting of the General Assembly. The objectives of the new Commission should be precisely defined. The proposal should be accompanied by a suggested list of the future chair and possible steering committee members. It shall then be discussed and may be approved by the Executive Committee
- C. Commissions are clustered in thematic fields, each coordinated by a Vice-President. Commissions are renewable depending on evidence of activity and continued relevance to the objectives of the Union. In exceptional cases, an earlier termination or change in task and leadership is possible if the majority of member countries agree on the basis of a letter ballot.
- D. A Commission shall consist of a Chair and a Steering Committee normally consisting of not more than ten other

members, each of whom shall serve for approximately four years and be eligible for reappointment for a second term of similar length. From among its steering committee members a Commission may designate, if it wishes, a ViceChair and a Secretary. Normally, there shall not be more than one member from any one adhering country. The Chair shall normally be appointed by the General Assembly; the list of steering committee members shall be approved by the Executive Committee. No person shall be a member of the steering committee of more than one Commission. The Commission may coopt an appropriate number of members. In the event of a vacancy in the chair occurring between General Assemblies, a new chair shall be appointed by the Executive Committee having regard to the recommendation of the members of the Commission Steering Committee. Vacancies in the Steering Committee of a Commission occurring after the approval of the list by the Executive Committee may be filled by resolution of the Commission.

- E. A Commission may organize its work by establishing subcommittees on special problems.
- F. Commissions may apply to the Executive Committee for grants of funds to enable them to carry out their work. The financial liability of the Union is limited to the grants made and approved by the Executive Committee that will divide available funds over the clusters.
- G. A Commission may undertake research contracts and may request grants from national or international, or other appropriate, organizations. Commissions must inform the

Executive Committee of the action taken and the results achieved.

- H. A Commission may publish the results of its work or may collaborate in joint publications.
- I. Each Commission shall prepare a concise report on its work which should be submitted to the SecretaryGeneral for the Executive Committee at least nine months before the next ordinary meeting of the General Assembly. The report should include an account of the work carried out, the methods used, and the results obtained together, when appropriate, with a program of further research. The report shall be distributed to each Committee for the IGU and discussed in open meeting during the International Congress. The combined presentation, discussion and publication of reports by several Commissions may be arranged. The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, decides whether the activities of a Commission justify the renewal of its appointment.
- J. The maximum term of service on a Commission for a chair or steering committee member in any capacity shall be twelve years.

## VII. Finance

- A. Countries may adhere to the Union in one of the following fifteen categories. Each adhering country shall pay annually as a minimum the number of subscription units proper to its category in accordance with the scale below:
- B. Each country applying for membership of the Union shall specify in which category it wishes to be classed. For each country the organization

Category	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Units	1	2	3	5	7	9	12	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50

which adheres to the Union shall be responsible for the payment of the contributions. Every country in arrears with its contributions shall be reported to the General Assembly. Any adhering member of IGU, which is in arrears for three years, shall have observer status until the outstanding dues are paid.

- C. Associate member countries of the Union shall pay such annual contributions as the General Assembly may from time to time determine.
- D. Corresponding members pay annual dues decided upon by the Executive Committee.
- E. The Secretary General shall prepare a statement of accounts of income and expenditure for each of the years intervening between two General Assemblies. He or she shall also prepare, on behalf of the Executive Committee, an estimate of the budget for the period intervening between one General Assembly and the next. A Finance Committee, nominated for the purpose by the General Assembly, shall examine the accounts for the preceding years and the budget estimates and shall report on these matters to the General Assembly. The Finance Committee may make recommendations for change in the membership categories of countries. Following its examination of the budget and of the Finance committee's report, the General Assembly shall fix the amounts of the subscription unit from full members and of the annual dues from associate members and also the currency or currencies in which the payment will be made.
- F. The income of the Union is derived primarily from:
  - 8. contributions by members;
- K. subventions from other organizations;
- L. sale of publications;
  - 9. gifts and donations;
  - 10. congress and conference registration fees;

#### 11. research grants.

The income is to be devoted primarily to:

- 1. the cost of administration, including the maintenance of the Secretariat and the meetings of the Executive Committee;
- 2. the expenses of publications issued under the direction of the Union and specifically authorized by the Executive Committee;
- 3. subventions toward the expenses of Commissions;
- 4. subventions toward the cost of organization of International Geographical Congresses, and of regional meetings, especially in regions where the responsible organizations need help in organizing geographical studies;
- 5. contributions toward the cost of research undertaken under the direction, or with the approval, of the Union;
- 6. the cost of cooperation with ICSU, ISSC and other organizations, including dues. Any surplus may be used as the General Assembly may direct to advance the general purposes of the Union as determined by Article I. Funds derived from donations and grants shall be used by the Union with due regard to the wishes expressed by the donors. Any country which withdraws from the Union resigns by this act its right to share in the assets of the Union.

G. The Union has a *Geography Promotion and Solidarity Fund*, the aim of which is to further geography and to support geographers, especially from less equipped countries. The Fund is governed by a Board appointed by the Executive Committee.

H. The Secretary General in his capacity of Treasurer shall keep accurate accounts and records of all financial

transactions. He or she shall arrange for the accounts to be audited annually.

- I. At each International Congress or Regional Conference, a sum, established by the Executive Committee, is to be included in the registration fee of all participants and transferred to the Treasurer within six months of the conclusion of the Congress or Conference.

## **VIII. Internal Regulations**

- A. The General Assembly may draw up internal regulations for the conduct of its business, the general duties to be assigned to the members of the Executive Committee and, in general, for all matters not provided for in the Statutes.
- B. Similarly, each Commission may draw up regulations for the conduct of its own business. Such regulations shall be approved by the Executive Committee and no regulation shall be made which is contrary to the terms of the Statutes.
- C. The working languages of the Union shall be English and French.
- D. There shall be no discrimination as regards race, ethnic group, citizenship, religion, sex or political opinion within the Union or in the meetings organized by it or held on its behalf.
- E. As a member of ICSU, the IGU follows ICSU guidelines on the free circulation of scientists.

## **IX. The International Geographical Congress**

- A. An international geographical congress shall, if possible, be held approximately every four years.
- B. Invitations shall be addressed to the SecretaryGeneral by member countries of the Union or by groups of member countries offering to act as hosts, and the acceptance of an invitation shall be by vote of the General Assembly by adhering countries of the Union. A General Assembly may accept

invitations for the two next succeeding Congresses.

- C. When an invitation has been accepted, the organization and financing of the Congress shall, subject to the other provisions stated in Article IX, be the responsibility of the host country or countries. However, the Executive Committee shall advise on the program planned for the Congress. It shall be the responsibility of the host country or countries that:
  - 1. suitable facilities are provided for the meeting of the General Assembly;
  - 2. provision shall be made for the meetings of the Executive Committee and for the functioning of the Secretariat;
  - 3. facilities in time and space shall be made available for meetings of Commissions of the Union;
  - 4. outline proposals for the Congress arrangements shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at least two years in advance of the date of the Congress. The Executive Committee shall satisfy itself that the proposals are compatible with the Statutes of the Union. A representative of the Organizing Committee of the next Congress shall normally be invited to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee at which the proposals are considered, and the host country shall be asked to invite a member or members of the Executive Committee for consultation.
- D. The SecretaryGeneral shall inform member countries of the Union of the location of the next International Geographical Congress and of the address of the organizers. Thereafter communication may be directed between Committees for the IGU or individuals and the Organizing Committee of the next Congress.

- E. The working languages of an International Geographical Congress shall be English and French. With the approval of the Executive Committee the language of the host country may be used in discussions provided that appropriate translation facilities have been arranged.
- F. The Executive Committee may accept invitations for regional conferences or other international meetings of a more restricted character or for special purposes or may itself sponsor or organize such meetings.
- G. A general international geographical congress or regional conference shall be open to delegates from all members of the Union and to individuals both from member countries and from countries which are not members.
- H. The organizing committee of an international geographical congress or meeting may be invited to report on its activities to the General Assembly. After the conclusion of the congress or meeting, the organizing committee shall submit a final report to the Executive Committee.
- B. The Executive Committee of the International Geographical Union, having satisfied itself that the Statutes of the Association proposed for affiliation satisfy these conditions, shall recommend to the General Assembly that affiliation be granted.
- C. The International Geographical Union and the affiliated association shall continue as independent bodies having their own statutes, organization and finance. The degree of collaboration shall be left for mutual arrangement between the respective executive bodies.
- D. The affiliation terminates when the General Assembly of the Union or the affiliated organization so decides and the other organization has been duly informed.

## **XI. Duration of Convention and Modifications**

### **X. Affiliation of Other Scientific Institutions**

- A. The International Geographical Union may offer affiliation to other international associations having cognate interests, provided the aims, objects and constitution of such associations are compatible with those of the International Geographical Union. The relations with the affiliated organizations may have a thematic or a regional character.

- A. The duration of the Union is not limited.
- B. No change shall be made in the terms of the present Statutes without the approval of more than one half of the votes cast at the General Assembly or by postal ballot by the adhering countries of the Union eligible to vote.
- C. In the case of the dissolution of the Union, voted and agreed by at least twothirds of the adhering countries of the Union, the available funds shall be given by the General Assembly to one or more scientific or scholarly institution.
- D. The French and English texts shall be given equal weight in deciding the meaning to be given to the articles of the present Statutes.

# Union Géographique Internationale

## Statuts

Révisés à le 10 March 2008

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### I. Dénomination, Objectifs et Siege de l'Union

- A. L'Union Géographique Internationale, communément appelée l'UGI, est une organisation scientifique internationale, non-gouvernementale et sans but lucratif.
- B. L'Union Géographique Internationale a pour but:
  - 1. de favoriser l'étude des problèmes qui concernent la géographie;
  - 2. de susciter et de coordonner les recherches géographiques exigeant une coopération internationale et de favoriser leur discussion scientifique et leur publication;
  - 3. d'assurer la participation des géographes aux activités des organisations de recherche scientifique internationales qui les concernent;
  - 4. de favoriser la collecte et la diffusion des données géographiques et de la documentation géographique dans et entre tous les pays membres;
  - 5. d'assurer les réunions des Congrès internationaux de géographie, des Conférences régionales entre les Congrès internationaux de géographie et les autres réunions destinées à servir les buts de l'Union;
  - 6. de participer à toute autre forme de coopération internationale dans le but de faire progresser la recherche en géographie et son application;
  - 7. de promouvoir, au plan international, la compatibilité des méthodes et la standardisation de la nomenclature et des symboles utilisés en géographie.
- C. L'Union Géographique Internationale adhère au Conseil International pour la Science (CIUS) et le reconnaît comme un organisme de coordination et de représentation pour l'organisation internationale des sciences.
- D. L'Union Géographique Internationale adhère au Conseil International des Sciences Sociales (CISS) et le reconnaît comme un organisme de coordination et de représentation pour l'organisation internationale des sciences sociales.
- E. Le siège de l'Union est le lieu où réside le Secrétaire général.

### II. L'Appartenance à l'Union

- A. Les membres de l'Union sont des Etats appelés ici pays. A cette fin, on considère comme pays un territoire où la vie scientifique est organisée de façon autonome. L'admission d'un pays comme membre de l'Union constitue une reconnaissance non pas de son statut politique, mais seulement de son niveau scientifique. Dans le doute, l'avis du CIUS est sollicité. Tous les pays membres jouissent des mêmes droits et sont astreints aux mêmes obligations, à l'exception des cas prévus plus loin.
- B. Dans chaque pays l'adhésion à l'Union peut être sollicitée par un Comité de l'UGI, une Académie, un Conseil de la recherche ou toute institution similaire, ou par des sociétés scientifiques, ou un groupement de telles institutions ou sociétés, ou encore, dans certains cas spéciaux, par le Gouvernement représenté par un Ministère intéressé. Toute demande d'adhésion est adressée au Secrétaire général, examinée par le Comité exécutif et

soumise à la décision de l'Assemblée générale.

- C. Un Comité de l'UGI, pleinement représentatif des géographes, est constitué dans chaque pays adhérent à l'Union. Il est créé sur l'initiative ou avec l'appui des institutions mentionnées ci-dessus en B.
- D. Les Comités de l'UGI encouragent, dans leurs pays respectifs, les buts de l'Union, en accordant une importance particulière à leurs aspects internationaux. Ils doivent diffuser les informations venant du Comité exécutif aux géographes de leurs pays et présenter tous les quatre ans un rapport au Comité Exécutif concernant leurs activités et l'état de la géographie dans leurs pays. Les Comités de l'UGI désignent les délégués chargés de les représenter aux Assemblées de l'Union. Chaque Comité de l'UGI, soit seul, soit de concert avec un ou plusieurs autres Comités de l'UGI, a le droit de soumettre à l'Union, pour discussion, des questions en rapport avec les buts de l'Union tels qu'ils sont définis Section I.B.
- E. Outre les membres titulaires de l'Union, il existe une catégorie de membres associés. Si, dans un pays, le développement des études géographiques ou le nombre des géographes ne permet pas de constituer un Comité de l'UGI dans les conditions prévues en C, un groupement de trois personnes ou plus peut prendre l'initiative de se constituer en Comité et demander la qualité de membre associé. Le Comité exécutif de l'Union peut soumettre à l'Assemblée générale des recommandations pour l'acceptation ou la prolongation de la qualité de membre associé ou pour l'admission de membres associés dans la catégorie des membres titulaires.
- F. L'Union comporte aussi des membres correspondants soit individuels ou

institutionnels dans le but d'améliorer les contacts avec des personnes ou des institutions importantes isolées.

- G. Sur recommandation du Comité exécutif, l'Assemblée générale peut autoriser l'admission de personnes morales dans l'Union n'ayant aucun droit de vote. Ces personnes morales peuvent être des universités, des agences gouvernementales, des organisations à but non lucratif ou des entreprises privées qui soutiennent les objectifs et programmes de l'Union Géographique Internationale. Les cotisations de ces personnes morales sera défini au moment de leur admission et pourra être ajusté à l'occasion par le Comité exécutif de l'UGI.

### **III. L'Assemblée Générale**

- A. Les travaux de l'Union sont décidés au cours d'une réunion de l'Assemblée générale des délégués désignés par les pays adhérent à l'Union ou à tout autre moment par un scrutin postal des délégués des pays membres dûment inscrits auprès du Secrétariat de l'UGI.
- B. L'Union réunit normalement l'Assemblée générale ordinaire environ une fois tous les quatre ans, si possible au même moment et au même endroit qu'un Congrès géographique international. Une Assemblée générale comporte normalement deux sessions ou davantage réparties sur plusieurs jours. L'époque et le lieu sont arrêtés par l'Assemblée générale précédente, ou, si tel n'a pas été le cas, fixés par le Comité exécutif. Une Assemblée générale extraordinaire peut être convoquée par le Président en accord avec le Comité exécutif; elle doit être convoquée sur la demande écrite d'au moins la moitié des pays membres. La convocation à toutes les réunions de l'Assemblée générale doit être envoyée au moins quatre mois à l'avance.

- C. Un Comité exécutif comprenant un Président, des Vice-présidents, et un Secrétaire-général et Trésorier doit être élu par l'Assemblée générale ou par scrutin postal.
- D. Tous les participants individuels à un Congrès qui sont régulièrement inscrits et présents peuvent assister aux réunions de l'Assemblée générale et prendre part aux discussions sans posséder le droit de vote, sauf exceptions indiquées ci-dessous. Le Président de l'Union peut aussi inviter à assister, à titre consultatif, aux séances de l'Assemblée générale, des représentants d'institutions scientifiques ou universitaires, internationales ou nationales, ainsi que d'autres savants intéressés.
- E. L'ordre du jour de l'Assemblée générale est fixé par le Président en accord avec le Comité exécutif et communiqué aux Comités de l'UGI des pays adhérents au moins quatre mois avant l'ouverture de la session. Une question ne figurant pas à l'ordre du jour peut être soulevée par une délégation avec l'approbation du Comité exécutif; la décision concernant une telle question ne peut être prise que lors d'une session ultérieure de cette Assemblée générale.
- F. Les résolutions concernant les questions scientifiques sont adoptées à la majorité des votes émis par les participants régulièrement inscrits au Congrès et personnellement présents à la réunion de l'Assemblée générale.
- G. Les résolutions concernant les questions de caractère administratif sont adoptées à la suite d'un vote par pays membres de l'Union, représentés à l'Assemblée générale ou en droit de voter par scrutin postal, chaque pays disposant d'une voix. Pour être valable, une résolution doit réunir plus de 50 pour cent des votes des pays membres présents à l'Assemblée générale ou en droit de voter par scrutin postal. Les pays membres associés et les membres

correspondants n'ont pas le droit de vote.

- H. En cas de doute sur la catégorie dont relève une question, la décision appartient au Président. Dans tous les cas de partage égal des voix, la voix du Président est prépondérante.

#### **IV. Le Président**

- A. Le Président de l'Union est élu par l'Assemblée générale et est normalement choisi parmi les personnalités dont l'expérience est attestée par l'exercice de fonctions électives dans l'Union. Il ou elle entre en fonction après le clôturé de l'Assemblée générale, ou, si cette dernière a lieu pendant le Congrès, après la clôturé du dit Congrès. Il ou elle reste en fonctions jusqu'à la clôturé de la prochaine Assemblée générale, ou, si un Congrès a lieu en même temps, jusqu'à la clôturé du dit Congrès. Il ou elle n'est pas rééligible comme Président pour la période suivante. Le Président sortant devient un des Vice-Présidents pour une nouvelle période.

#### **V. Le Comité Exécutif**

- A. Les membres du Comité exécutif agissent à titre personnel.
- B. Le Comité exécutif est constitué par le Président, le Président sortant, huit autres Vice-Présidents et un Secrétaire général.
- C. En dehors du Président et du Président sortant, qui devient Vice-Président pour une nouvelle période, les huit Vice-Présidents seront élus par l'Assemblée générale ou par scrutin postal. Ils ont des tâches déterminées. Ils doivent stimuler et coordonner les activités des Commissions de l'UGI, représenter l'Union et développer ses contacts dans la région. Un Vice-Président devra prendre en charge le Service des Publications. Le nombre des Vice-Présidents peut être modifié

- par un vote de l'Assemblée générale, sur proposition du Comité exécutif. Sauf spécifié dans la Section V – I de ces Statuts, les Vice-Présidents restent en fonction pour une période de quatre ans et sont rééligibles ensuite, mais pour une seule nouvelle période. Les Vice-Présidents sont choisis pour représenter aussi largement que possible les pays membres et, à aucun moment, le Comité exécutif ne peut comprendre plus d'un représentant de chaque pays. Un des Vice-Présidents est désigné par le Comité exécutif comme premier Vice-Président. Il ou elle remplace le Président quand celui-ci est empêché, temporairement ou non. Si le Président sortant n'est pas en mesure de devenir un Vice-président, le Comité exécutif de l'IGU pourrait désigner un des Vice-présidents actuels pour remplacer le président sortant uniquement pour la période de quatre ans à venir.
- D. Sauf spécifié dans la Section V – J de ces Statuts, un Secrétaire général est élu à l'Assemblée générale ou par scrutin postal pour une période de quatre ans et doit normalement être choisi parmi ceux qui possèdent une expérience en tant qu'officiels élus de l'Union. Il ou elle est rééligible pour une seule nouvelle période de quatre ans. Le Secrétaire général fait aussi fonction de Trésorier et il entretient un bureau administratif permanent ou un secrétariat. Avec l'accord du Comité exécutif et pour rendre plus efficace la gestion de l'Union, il ou elle peut se faire aider par un Secrétaire général ou un Trésorier adjoints. Le Secrétaire général s'occupe de la publication d'un Bulletin et de l'information des géographes, par l'intermédiaire des Comités de l'UGI, sur les activités de l'Union, et de la diffusion d'informations concernant les publications faites sous la responsabilité ou avec l'aide de l'Union.
- E. Le Comité exécutif peut pourvoir aux vacances qui surviendraient en son sein. Toute personne désignée dans ces conditions demeure en fonctions jusqu'à la réunion de l'Assemblée générale suivante qui procède à une élection régulière valable seulement pour la prochaine période.
- F. Les fonctions de membre du Comité exécutif ne comportent pas de rétribution; mais les membres ont droit au remboursement des frais de voyage et de séjour pour participation aux réunions du Comité, suivant un barème, révisé s'il en est besoin de temps en temps par le Comité exécutif.
- G. Le Comité exécutif se réunit pendant chaque Congrès géographique international et en tous temps et lieux que le Président fixe après avoir pris l'avis du Secrétaire général. Une réunion au moins a lieu entre les Congrès pour examiner le programme du prochain Congrès; à cette réunion est convié le Président du Comité d'organisation du Congrès, ou son représentant, pour l'examen en commun des questions afférentes.
- H. Le Comité exécutif a pour but de développer de nouvelles voies et activités dans le domaine de l'enseignement et de la recherche géographiques, de les faire connaître aux Comités de l'UGI et de prendre toutes mesures nécessaires pour assurer la meilleure participation de l'Union aux programmes scientifiques internationaux. En outre, le Comité exécutif exécute les tâches qui lui sont confiées par l'Assemblée générale, et en particulier:
1. la préparation de l'ordre du jour de l'Assemblée générale;
  2. l'examen des invitations pour les Congrès généraux et régionaux et la préparation des recommandations à leur sujet pour décision par l'Assemblée générale;

3. la collaboration avec les organisateurs des Congrès internationaux;
  4. l'examen des diverses questions soumises par les Comités de l'UGI en vue de leur inscription à l'ordre du jour de l'Assemblée générale;
  5. la création de Comités spéciaux ou temporaires pour des tâches particulières;
  6. l'approbation de Commissions pour examiner des problèmes géographiques spécifiques.
  7. l'attribution, à titre honorifique, au nom de l'UGI, de distinctions spéciales à des personnes ayant accompli des travaux éminents ou ayant rendu des services émérites au profit de la communauté géographique internationale.
- I. Lors de l'élection d'août 2008 du Comité exécutif de l'IGU, quatre Vice-présidents doivent être élus pour des mandats uniques d'une durée de six ans (2008 – 2014); les quatre Vice-présidents effectivement élus ne doivent pas être en droit d'être réélus en tant que Vice-présidents de l'IGU à la fin de leurs mandats en 2014. Lors de l'élection d'août 2008, quatre Vice-présidents doivent être élus pour des mandats d'une durée de quatre ans (2008 – 2012); les quatre Vice-présidents effectivement élus seront en droit d'être réélus en tant que Vice-présidents pour un mandat supplémentaire de quatre ans (2012 – 2016) à la fin de leurs mandats initiaux en 2012. A partir de 2014, quatre Vice-présidents de l'IGU seront élus chaque année calendaire paire, et les élus serviront des mandats de quatre ans, étant en droit d'être élus pour un maximum de deux mandats consécutifs.
- J. Lors de l'élection d'août 2008 du Comité exécutif de l'IGU, le Secrétaire-général et Trésorier de l'IGU sera élu pour un mandat unique d'une durée de deux ans (2008 – 2010) ;

la personne effectivement élue doit être en droit d'être réélue en tant que Secrétaire-général et Trésorier à la fin de son mandat initial en 2010 pour un mandat supplémentaire de quatre ans uniquement (jusqu'à 2014). A partir de 2014, une élection du Secrétaire-général et Trésorier de l'IGU se tiendra tous les quatre ans, et l'élu servira un mandat de quatre ans, étant en droit d'être réélu en tant que Secrétaire-général et Trésorier pour un maximum de deux mandats consécutifs.

## VI. Commissions

- A. Les Commissions sont créées pour étudier des questions précises ou pour accomplir des tâches qui requièrent une collaboration internationale. Elles favorisent les recherches individuelles ou collectives, facilitent des échanges de documents et d'informations, organisent des conférences, des rencontres et éventuellement des travaux de terrain, à la fois entre les Congrès et pendant les Congrès géographiques internationaux.
- B. Tout pays membre ou le Comité exécutif peuvent proposer la création d'une Commission nouvelle. Le projet, comprenant une définition des objectifs et un programme de travail, devrait parvenir au Comité exécutif au moins neuf mois avant l'Assemblée générale. L'objet de la nouvelle Commission doit être délimité avec précision. Le projet devrait être accompagné d'une liste proposant le Président et des membres éventuels d'un Comité de Direction. Il est alors discuté par le Comité exécutif et pourra être approuvé par le Comité exécutif.
- C. Les Commissions sont regroupées en ensembles thématiques, chacun étant coordonné par un Vice-Président. Les Commissions sont renouvelables en fonction de l'évidence de leur activité et de l'utilité de leurs objectifs pour l'Union. Dans des cas exceptionnels la majorité des pays membres peut, par

- un vote écrit, conclure avant terme le travail d'une Commission ou modifier ses objectifs ou sa présidence.
- D. Une Commission comprend normalement un Président et un Comité de Direction comprenant au maximum dix autres membres, approuvés pour une première période d'environ quatre ans, renouvelable une deuxième fois pour une période semblable. Parmi les membres du Comité de Direction, une Commission peut, si elle le désire, nommer un Vice-Président et un Secrétaire. Normalement, elle ne devrait pas compter plus d'un membre par pays adhérent. Le Président est normalement désigné par l'Assemblée générale; la liste des membres du Comité de Direction est approuvée par le Comité exécutif. Personne ne peut être membre du Comité de direction de plus d'une Commission. La Commission peut s'adjoindre par cooptation un certain nombre de membres. En cas de vacance de la Présidence, entre deux Assemblées générales, un nouveau Président est désigné par le Comité exécutif, sur proposition des membres du Comité de Direction de la Commission. Une décision de la Commission peut pourvoir au remplacement des membres, en cas de vacance dans le Comité de Direction de la Commission, survenant après l'approbation de la liste par le Comité exécutif.
- E. Une Commission peut organiser son travail en créant en son sein des sous-commissions sur des questions particulières.
- F. Les Commissions peuvent solliciter du Comité exécutif des subventions ou des fonds destinés à l'exécution de leurs tâches. La responsabilité financière de l'Union est limitée aux subventions accordées et approuvées par le Comité exécutif qui partage les fonds disponibles entre les ensembles de Commissions.
- G. Les Commissions peuvent conclure des contrats de recherche et solliciter des subventions auprès d'organisations nationales ou internationales, ou d'autres organismes. Les Commissions doivent rendre compte au Comité exécutif de ses démarches, puis des résultats obtenus.
- H. Une Commission peut publier les résultats de leurs recherches ou collaborer à des publications.
- I. Chaque Commission prépare un bref rapport de son travail qu'il fait parvenir au Secrétaire général du Comité exécutif au moins neuf mois avant l'Assemblée générale suivante. Le rapport doit comporter un compte rendu des travaux réalisés, des méthodes adoptées, des résultats acquis, ainsi qu'un programme des recherches ultérieures, s'il est jugé utile. Ce rapport est diffusé auprès de chaque Comité de l'UGI et discuté au cours d'une réunion très largement ouverte à l'occasion du Congrès international. La présentation, la discussion, la publication des rapports peuvent être faite en commun par plusieurs Commissions. L'Assemblée générale décide, sur proposition du Comité exécutif, si le renouvellement d'une Commission est justifié par son activité.
- J. La durée maximale de service d'un membre d'une Commission ne peut excéder douze années pour un Président ou une membre du Comité de Direction.
- VII. Finances**
- A. Tous les pays adhérent à l'Union comme membres titulaires sont répartis entre les quinze catégories suivantes. Chaque pays adhérent paie

Catégorie	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Unités	1	2	3	5	7	9	12	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50

annuellement au minimum le nombre d'unités de souscription correspondant au numéro de sa catégorie, suivant le barème ci-après.

- B. Tout pays demandant son adhésion à l'Union doit spécifier dans quelle catégorie il souhaite être classé. Dans chaque pays l'organisation qui adhère à l'Union est responsable du paiement de la contribution. Tout pays dont les contributions sont en retard fait l'objet d'un rapport à l'Assemblée générale. Quand un pays membre n'a pas payé ses cotisations pendant trois années consécutives, il est réduit au statut d'observateur, jusqu'à ce que les arriérés aient été soldés.
- C. Les pays membres associés de l'Union paient une cotisation annuelle fixée, et susceptible d'être modifiée, par l'Assemblée générale.
- D. Les membres correspondants (institutionnels et individuels) paient une cotisation annuelle fixée par le Comité exécutif.
- E. Le Secrétaire général prépare un état des recettes et des dépenses pour chacune des années de la période comprise entre deux Assemblées générales. Au nom du Comité exécutif, il ou elle prépare un budget prévisionnel pour la période comprise entre une Assemblée générale et la suivante. Un Comité financier, nommé à cette fin par l'Assemblée générale, est chargé de vérifier les comptes des exercices précédents et d'étudier les propositions budgétaires. Il soumet, sur ces questions, des rapports à l'Assemblée générale. Le Comité financier peut proposer des changements de catégories pour certains pays. Après avoir examiné le budget et le rapport du Comité financier, l'Assemblée générale fixe le taux de la part contributive unitaire des membres titulaires et les redevances annuelles des membres associés, ainsi que la ou les monnaies dans lesquelles le paiement doit être effectué.

F. Les recettes de l'Union proviennent essentiellement:

- 8. des contributions des membres;
- 9. des subventions accordées par d'autres organismes;
- 10. de la vente des publications;
- 11. de dons et de donations;
- 12. de droits d'inscription aux congrès et aux conférences;
- 13. de crédits de recherche.

Les recettes doivent être tout d'abord consacrées à payer:

- 1. les dépenses d'administration, y compris l'entretien du Secrétariat et les réunions du Comité exécutif;
  - 2. les frais des publications faites sous la direction de l'Union et explicitement autorisées par le Comité exécutif;
  - 3. les subventions aux Commissions;
  - 4. les subventions pour l'organisation des Congrès géographiques internationaux et des rencontres régionales, en particulier dans les régions où les organismes responsables ont besoin d'aide pour l'organisation des études géographiques;
  - 5. éventuellement, des contributions aux frais de recherches entreprises sous la direction ou avec l'accord de l'Union;
  - 6. les frais liés à la coopération avec le CIUS, le CISS et d'autres organismes, y compris les cotisations.
  - 7. L'excédent peut, avec l'agrément de l'Assemblée générale, être utilisé pour faire avancer les buts généraux de l'Union, définis à l'article premier. Les ressources provenant de dons et de subventions sont utilisées par l'Union en tenant compte des désirs exprimés par les donateurs. Tout pays qui se retire de l'Union abandonne de ce fait ses droits à l'actif de l'Union.
- G. L'Union dispose d'un «Fonds de Solidarité et de Promotion de la

Géographie» dont le but est de développer la géographie et d'aider les géographes, en particulier ceux des pays les moins riches. Le Fonds est géré par un Bureau nommé par le Comité Exécutif.

- H. Le Secrétaire général en sa qualité de Trésorier tient des comptes détaillés et les archives de toutes les transactions financières. Il ou elle veillera à ce que les comptes soient vérifiés annuellement.
- I. A chaque Congrès international ou Conférence régionale, une contribution, fixée par le Comité exécutif, sera incluse dans les frais d'inscription de tous les participants; elle sera transférée au Trésorier de l'Union dans les six mois après la clôture du Congrès ou de la Conférence.

## **VIII. Règlements Internes**

- A. L'Assemblée générale peut édicter des règlements internes concernant, soit la conduite de ses travaux, soit les tâches générales qui incombent aux membres du Comité exécutif, soit, en général, tous les objets non prévus dans les Statuts.
- B. De même, chaque Commission peut élaborer des règlements pour la conduite de ses propres travaux. Ces règlements doivent être approuvés par le Comité exécutif, aucun d'eux ne pouvant contenir des prescriptions contraires aux termes des Statuts.
- C. L'Anglais et le Français sont les langues de travail de l'Union.
- D. Aucune discrimination de race, de groupe ethnique, de nationalité, de religion, de sexe ou d'opinion politique n'est admise dans l'Union ni dans les réunions qu'elle organise ou tenues sous son patronage.
- E. En tant que membre du CIUS, l'UGI adhère à ses directives concernant la libre circulation des scientifiques.

## **IX. Le Congrès International de Géographie**

- A. Un Congrès géographique international doit être tenu tous les quatre ans environ, si possible.
- B. Les propositions doivent être adressées au Secrétaire général par les pays membres ou les groupes de pays membres qui offrent de recevoir le Congrès. L'acceptation de l'invitation fait l'objet à l'Assemblée générale d'un vote par les pays membres titulaires de l'Union. Une Assemblée générale peut accepter des invitations pour les deux prochains Congrès.
- C. Quand l'offre du pays hôte a été acceptée, l'organisation et le financement du Congrès sont de la responsabilité du ou des pays hôtes, sous condition des autres dispositions de l'Article IX. Toutefois le Comité exécutif se réserve un droit d'avis sur le programme proposé pour le Congrès. Il est de la responsabilité du ou des pays hôtes :
  - 1. de prendre les dispositions nécessaires en vue des réunions de l'Assemblée générale;
  - 2. de prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour les réunions du Comité exécutif et le fonctionnement du Secrétariat;
  - 3. de prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour assurer un horaire et des locaux aux réunions des Commissions de l'Union;
  - 4. de soumettre ses propositions en vue de l'organisation du Congrès au moins deux ans à l'avance au Comité exécutif qui doit s'assurer que ces propositions sont en accord avec les statuts de l'Union. Normalement un représentant du Comité d'organisation du pays hôte est convié à la réunion du Comité exécutif où ces propositions sont examinées et le pays hôte doit consulter un ou plusieurs membres du Comité exécutif.

- D. Le Secrétaire général informe alors les pays membres du lieu du prochain Congrès international de géographie et de l'adresse des organisateurs. Les Comités de l'UGI des pays membres ou les particuliers peuvent ensuite communiquer directement avec le Comité d'organisation du prochain Congrès.
- E. Les langues de travail d'un Congrès international sont l'anglais et le français. Avec l'accord du Comité exécutif la langue du pays invitant peut être utilisée dans les discussions à condition que soient prévues des traductions.
- F. Le Comité exécutif peut accepter des invitations à des Conférences régionales ou à d'autres réunions internationales de caractère plus restreint ou avec des buts précis; il peut lui-même patronner ou organiser de telles réunions.
- G. Les Congrès géographiques internationaux généraux, aussi bien que les Conférences régionales, sont ouverts aux délégués de tous les pays membres de l'Union et à d'autres personnes appartenant à des pays membres de l'Union ou à des pays non-membres.
- H. Le Comité d'organisation d'un congrès ou d'une rencontre géographique internationale peut être invité à rendre compte de ses activités à l'Assemblée générale. Après la fin du Congrès ou de la rencontre, le Comité d'organisation doit adresser un rapport final au Comité exécutif.

## **X. Affiliation d'Autres Institutions Scientifiques**

- A. L'Union Géographique Internationale peut proposer l'affiliation à d'autres associations scientifiques internationales dont les intérêts lui sont apparentés, à condition

que les aspirations, les objets et les constitutions de telles associations soient compatibles avec ceux de l'Union Géographique Internationale. Les liens avec les organisations affiliées peuvent être de nature régionale ou thématique.

- B. Le Comité exécutif de l'Union Géographique Internationale, après s'être assuré que les statuts de l'Association proposée pour l'affiliation satisfont à ces conditions, conseille à l'Assemblée générale d'accorder l'affiliation.
- C. L'Union Géographique Internationale et les associations affiliées continuent à être des institutions indépendantes, pourvues de leurs propres statuts, organisations et finances. Le degré de collaboration fait l'objet d'accords mutuels entre les organes exécutifs respectifs.
- D. L'affiliation prend fin quand l'Assemblée générale de l'Union ou de l'organisation affiliée le décide après en avoir dûment prévenu l'autre partie.

## **XI. Durée de la Convention et Modifications**

- A. La durée de l'Union n'est pas limitée.
- B. Aucun changement ne pourra être apporté au texte des présents statuts sans l'approbation de plus de la moitié des votes des pays membres de l'Union en droit de voter à l'Assemblée générale ou par scrutin postal.
- C. En cas de dissolution de l'Union, votée par l'Assemblée générale à la majorité des deux-tiers des voix de l'ensemble des pays adhérents, les fonds disponibles seront attribués par l'Assemblée générale à une ou plusieurs organisations scientifiques.
- D. Les textes français et anglais font foi de façon égale pour l'interprétation à donner aux articles des présents statuts.