

Annual Report 2019- 2021

C20.25 Islands

A. Membership

1. The Steering Committee for 2021-2024

Chair: Huei-Min Tsai, Professor, Graduate Institute of Environmental Education, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei 116, **Taiwan**. Phone: +886-2-77346565; Mobile: +86-933921658. Email: hmtsai@ntnu.edu.tw URL: <http://geogsoc.org.tw/IGU-Islands/>

Vice Chair: Annette Breckwoldt, Researcher, Alfred Wegener Institute, Bussestr. 27, 27570 Bremerhaven, **Germany** annette.breckwoldt@awi.de

Executive Secretaries:

Mucahid Mustafa Bayrak, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei 106, **Taiwan**, +886-2-77341680 mmbayrak@ntnu.edu.tw

Su-Hsin Lee, Professor, Department of Geography, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei 106, **Taiwan**, +886-2-77341665 shlee@ntnu.edu.tw

Steering Committee Members:

Eric Clark, Professor, Lund University, Department of Human Geography, Sölvegatan 10, 22362 Lund, **Sweden**. (**Former Chair 2016-2021**; Vice-Chair 2007-2016) eric.clark@keg.lu.se

Adam Grydehøj, Director, Island Dynamics, **Denmark**; Research Associate, University of Prince Edward Island, Department of Island Studies, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada agrydehoj@islanddynamics.org

Bénédicte André, Associate Lecturer, French and Francophone Studies, Macquarie University, NSW 2109, **Australia** benedicte.andre@mq.edu.au

James A. Randall, UNESCO Chair in Island Studies and Sustainability, Professor of Island Studies at University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, **Canada** jarandall@upei.ca

Jonathan Pugh, Reader in Island Studies, Newcastle University, **UK** jonathan.pugh@ncl.ac.uk

Patsy Lewis, Professor, Regional Integration and Small States Development,
University of the West Indies, Mona, **Jamaica**; Visiting Professor, Brown
University, Providence, RI, **USA** patsy.lewis@brown.edu

Sun-Kee Hong, Professor, Institution for Marine & Island Cultures (MIC), Mokpo
National University, Songrim-ro 41-11, Mokpo 530-841, **Republic of Korea**

Tessa Minter, Assistant Professor, Cultural Anthropology and Development
Sociology, University of Leiden, Wassenaarseweg 52, 2333 AK Leiden, **The
Netherlands** mintert@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

2. Advisory Board

For the sake of continuity and to support the Commission, previous Steering
Committee Members (2006-2016) have kindly agreed to function as an
Advisory Board during the 2016-2024 term.

Chang-Yi David Chang, Professor, Department of Geography, National Taiwan
University, Roosevelt Road, Taipei 106, **Taiwan**. (Former Chair, 2007-2016)
changyi@ntu.edu.tw

Godfrey Baldacchino, Professor, Pro-Rector, University of Malta, **Malta**
godfrey.baldacchino@um.edu.mt

Beate Ratter, Professor, Geographical Institute, University Hamburg, Bundesstr 55,
20146 Hamburg, **Germany** ratter@geowiss.uni-hamburg.de

Stephen Royle, Emeritus Professor, School of Geography, Archaeology and
Palaeoecology, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast BT7 1NN, **Northern Ireland,
UK** s.royle@qub.ac.uk

Costis Hadjimichalis, Professor, Harokopio University, Department of Geography,
70 EL. Venizilou St, Athens, 17671 **Greece**. hadjimichalis@hua.gr

Gerard Persoon, Professor emeritus, Leiden University, P. O. Box 9518, 2300 RA
Leiden, **The Netherlands** g.a.persoon@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

Philip Steinberg, Professor, Durham University, Department of Geography,
UK philip.steinberg@durham.ac.uk

Elaine Stratford, Associate Executive Dean, College of Sciences and Engineering;
Professor and Head of School, Geography and Environmental Studies,
University of Tasmania, Tasmania, **Australia** Elaine.Stratford@utas.edu.au

Randy Thaman, Professor, University of the South Pacific, Laucala Campus, **Fiji**
thaman_r@usp.ac.fj

François Taglioni, Director of Research, Institute of research on development
BP 172, 97492 Sainte-Clotilde cedex, **Reunion Island** tagli@diplomacy.edu

3. Corresponding Members:

The circulation list of corresponding members includes over 400 names from 35 countries: Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Greenland, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Reunion Islands, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom, United States, Virgin Island.

B. Meetings

Conferences and meetings have been organized by Steering Committee solely or jointly co-organized with IGC, or IGU regional conferences, or in collaboration with other island studies organizations, such as International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA) and Island Dynamics.

- During **2019-2020**, major activities include,
 1. Committee members meeting and organized session program together with Nordic Geographers Meetings in Trondheim, Norway, on June 17-19, 2019. Theme: '*Sustainable island geography – Geographies of island sustainability*' (Participants: 50 on this sections, about 300 at the entire conference.)
 2. Steering Committee meeting via webinar at Jan 11, 2021. (Participants:10 Steering Committee members and executive secretary)
 3. A joint program with ISISA Islands of the Worlds Conference "*Sharing Lessons, Sharing Stories*"- the 1st Global Island Studies webinar (24 June, 2020). It ran the first ever 'global island studies webinar' (GISW 1), run on a Webex platform, with the most bewildering time zone management: 70 presenters in 62, 30-minute blocks, from 30 countries and territories. Plus 156 additional attendees, also from far and wide. Thank John Duff, Bojan Furst and the team at the Leslie Harris Centre of Memorial University of Newfoundland, for rising up to the challenge and basically solving all the tech-related problems.
 4. The 10th People & the Sea Conference organized by the Centre for Maritime Research (MARE) in Amsterdam during the last week of June 2019 (<http://www.marecentre.nl/2019-people-the-sea-conference/>). The theme of the conference was '*Learning from the past, imagining the future*'. We organized a panel related to SOCPacific, on 'Perceptions and values of marine resources and their uses in relation to conservation and management areas, practices and target species' in the South Pacific Islands area. This allowed for stimulating exchanges between island research team members as well as with other participants and attendees.
 5. The Conference on "*Climate Change, Indigenous Resilience and Local Knowledge Systems: Cross-time and Cross-boundary Perspectives*" held at National Taiwan

University & National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan, 13–15 December 2019. Co-organized by IGU Commission on Islands (on the sessions '*Island Resilience and Local Knowledge*'), sponsored by The Humanities and Social Sciences (RIHSS), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). (Participants: 150 from 8 countries)

6. Annual meeting of East Asian Island and Ocean Forum (27 Nov-1 Dec. 2019, Pukyung University, Korea), theme : '*Development and Exchange of Humanities Network in Sea Area*'. (Participants: 45)
 7. The Marine and Islands Cultures Conference: "*Island Humanities: Changing Humanities Geography and Sustainability of Island*" organized by Institution for Marine & Island Cultures (MIC) , Mokpo National University, South Korea. It started from September 2020, and will be continued to 2027 annually.
- The meetings/events the Commission plans to hold in **2021 and later years**:
1. Strengthen communication networks among island geographic researchers and island communities, primarily through the Island Commission website, Facebook, and newsletters.
 2. Collaboration with IGU national committees and commissions to organize regional conferences in different regions around the globe. For instance, the Asia-Pacific region (e.g. in Indonesia, Japan, and New Zealand) in 2021, 2023, 2024; the conference themes and locations will be discussed by Commission Members
 3. Collaboration with International Small Island Studies Association to organize the 17th and 18th "Islands of the World Conference" in St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada- 14-18 June 2021 or Webinar virtual Conference (the deadline for submitting abstracts is 28 February 2021) : <https://www.mun.ca/wearehere/isisa.php> ; and in Zadar and area, Croatia - 13-19 June 2022.
 4. *Islands & Local Development* – Given concerns about sustainable development issues for small island vulnerable environments and local societies, the Commission will develop programs for the systematic study of island strategies for sustainability at the local level in response to global/regional changes. These efforts may provide valuable guidance for islands' local development. The content to be discussed at the next Steering Committee Meeting to be held in St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada and webinar in June 2021.
 5. Regional Meetings: Co-organize a South Pacific Islands Conference with SOCPacific coordination meeting and the joint fieldwork periods in Fiji, Vanuatu and New Caledonia that will be conducted later in 2021 and 2022.
 6. *Education* Programs – In order to promote the study of island geography in education programs at all levels, the Commission will organize various workshops and educational programs for island geographical studies, young geographers exploration, young islanders programs, and so on.

C. Networking

The Commission on Islands (C20.25) has been active for over a decade now, having been approved by the IGU Executive Committee at the IGU Brisbane Conference in July 2006. Since its inaugural conference was held in Taipei, Taiwan in 2007, the Commission has gathered scholars from around the world who are interested in studying islands as distinct geographical phenomena and in exploring their significance in the contexts issues concerning global change, sustainability and resilience research, cultural geography and humanities, political and economic geography, and other key aspects of development. The Commission also works together with relevant national and international organizations in promoting research on and awareness of island development issues, as well as to strengthen the significance of the wealth of diversity of island cultures

The IGU Commission on Islands has consistently networked and collaborated with other island studies organizations, most prominently the **International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA)**, **Island Dynamics**, **Future Earth- Coast**, and so on. It has furthermore collaborated with other IGU Commissions, most notably previous **C12.21** Indigenous Knowledges and Peoples' Rights. The Commission plans to initiate dialogue with more Commissions to look into potential collaborations such as co-organizing conferences (e.g. staggering days at same venue, with overlapping research interests convening together at the end of one conference and beginning of the other; or, convening together throughout, but with some keynotes and sessions in plenum). These might include Commissions such as **C20.06** Coastal Systems; **C20.12** Geographical Education; **C20.17** Geography of Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change; **C20.21** Global Understanding; **C20.22** Hazard and Risk; or **C20.32** Marginalization, Globalization, and Regional and Local Responses.

Related Links in the networking:

IGU: <https://igu-online.org/>

ISISA: <http://www.isisa.org/index.php> ;

Island Studies Journal (SSCI): <https://www.islandstudies.ca/>

Journal of Marine and Island Cultures: <https://jmic.online/>

Island Dynamics: <https://www.islanddynamics.org/>

Island Innovation: <https://islandinnovation.co/>

Future Earth Coast: <https://www.futureearthcoasts.org/our-hotspots/>

D. Publications

1. **Island Studies Journal:** <https://www.islandstudies.ca/>

- Vol. 14(2) (Nov 2019) <https://www.islandstudies.ca/node/533> ; Vol. 15(1) (May 2020) <https://www.islandstudies.ca/node/537> ; Vol. 15(2) (Nov 2020) <https://www.islandstudies.ca/node/538> (editor-in-chief: Dr. Adam Grydehøj, IGU-Islands Steering Committee Member)
2. **Journal of Marine and Island Cultures** / International open access journal, SCOPUS / Website: <http://jmic.online/> (vol. 8-1, 8-2 in 2019 and vol. 9-1, 9-2 in 2020 were published) (editor-in-chief: Prof. Sun-Kee Hong, IGU-Islands Steering Committee Member)
 3. **Anthropocene Islands' initiative** (editor Dr. Jonathan Pugh, IGU-Islands Steering Committee Member) <https://www.anthropoceneislands.online/>
David Chandler & Jonathan Pugh (2021) 'Anthropocene islands: There are only islands after the end of the world Article Menu'. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2043820621997018>
 4. **Island Experiences with COVID-19** (co-editor: Prof. James Randall, IGU-Islands Steering Committee Member): covering 24 island experiences, Guam, Okinawa, Trinidad & Tobago, Grenada, Aland Islands, Shetlands, Malta, Egadi Islands, etc. <https://islandinnovation.co/category/partners/scelg-upei/>
 5. **SOCPacific:** Fache, E. and Breckwoldt, A. (2019). Introduction to Research Project SOCPacific: A Sea of Connections: An interdisciplinary, multi-level and multi-stakeholder study of South Pacific fisheries. *Pacific Geographies* 51 (16-21), <https://doi.org/10.23791/511621>
 6. Special Issue (2020) "**Indigenous Resilience and Indigenous Knowledge Systems in the context of Climate Change**" in *Sustainability* journal (Guest editor: Huei-Min Tsai, IGU-Islands Chair) :
[https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special issues/Climate Change Indigenous Resilience and Local Knowledge Systems](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special%20issues/Climate%20Change%20Indigenous%20Resilience%20and%20Local%20Knowledge%20Systems); examples of papers:
Berkes F, **Tsai H-M**, Bayrak MM, Lin Y-R. Indigenous Resilience to Disasters in Taiwan and Beyond. *Sustainability*. 2021; 13(5):2435. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13052435>
Bayrak MM, Hsu Y-Y, Hung L-S, **Tsai H-M**, vayayana t'. Global Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples in Taiwan: A Critical Bibliometric Analysis and Review. *Sustainability*. 2021; 13(1):29. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13010029>
Persoon GA, **Minter T**. Knowledge and Practices of Indigenous Peoples in the Context of Resource Management in Relation to Climate Change in Southeast Asia. *Sustainability*. 2020; 12(19):7983. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12197983>
van der Ploeg J, Sukulu M, Govan H, **Minter T**, Eriksson H. Sinking Islands, Drowned Logic; Climate Change and Community-Based Adaptation Discourses in Solomon Islands. *Sustainability*. 2020; 12(17):7225. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12177225>
 7. Special Issue (2021) "**Sustainable Island Tourism**" in *Sustainability* journal (Guest editor: Stephen Royle, IGU-Islands Advisory Board Member) ; the deadline is 31 May 2021:
[https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special issues/island tourism](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special%20issues/island%20tourism)
- **URL: C20.25 Commission's website:** <http://geogsoc.org.tw/IGU-Islands/>
 - **Commission's Facebook:**
[https://www.facebook.com/IGU Islands-293879944568925](https://www.facebook.com/IGU-Islands-293879944568925)