

# Annual Report

C20.13 Geographical Information Science

Jun Xu

# **C20.13** Geographical Information Science

# Report 2021

# 1. Membership

The GIScience commission had a steering committee of 11 members. This year, the commission recruited 3 members. Currently, the commission has 19 members from 15 countries.

#### Co-chair

Fenzhen Su

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#### Co-chair

Dr. Daniel Sui Department of Geography Ohio State University 1036 Derby Hall 154 North Oval Mall Columbus, OH 43210-1361

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## **Secretary**

Jun Xu

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The following list provides the members' names, institutional affiliations and countries.

| Daniel Sui | Division of Social, Behavioral and Economic  | USA   |
|------------|--|-------|
|            | Sciences, National Science Foundation        |       |
| Fenzhen Su | Institute of Geography and Natural Resources | China |
|            | Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences        |       |

| Jun Xu            | Institute of Geography and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences | China                        |
|-------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Francis Harvey    | Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography   | Germany                      |
| Andrej Medvedeff  | Institute for Geographie der Russian Academy                                       | Russia                       |
|                   | of Science   |                              |
| Evelyn Uuemaa     | University of Tartu  | Estonia                      |
| Shoaib Khalid     | Government College University Faisalabad   | Islamic Republic of Pakistan |
| Lars Brabyn       | University of Waikato  | New Zealand                  |
| Stan Geertman     | Utrecht University   | The Netherlands              |
| Shawn Laffan      | University of New South Wales  | Australia                    |
| Itzhak Benenson   | Tel-Aviv University  | Israel                       |
|                   | Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning of                                     |                              |
| Miguel Padeiro    | the University of Lisbon   | Portugal                     |
| Damen P. Dume     | Brown University   | USA                          |
| Felix Kwabena     | University of the Witwaterstrand, Johannesburg-                                    |                              |
| Donkor            | South Africa   | South Africa                 |
| Mohammad Abu      |  |                              |
| Syem              | University of Chittagong   | Bangladesh                   |
| Motti Zohar       | University of Haifa  | Israel                       |
| Mehmet Fatih      |  |                              |
| Döker             | Sakarya University   | Turkey                       |
| Masoud Minaei     | Ferdowsi University of Mashhad (FUM)   | Iran                         |
|                   | Gesis Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences,                                   |                              |
| Serafeim Alvanide | Cologne  | Germany                      |
| Amit Birenboim    | Tellstwet University   | Israel                       |
| Dharmaveer Singh  | Symbiosis International (Deemed University)  | India                        |
| Docent Juri       |  |                              |
| Roosaare          | University of Tartu  | Estonia                      |
|                   | World Wide Fund for Nature, India (IGCMC   |                              |
| Varun Dutta Gupta | Division), Information Officer / GIS Analyst                                       | India                        |
| Jyoti Dahiya      | Haryana, India   | India                        |
|                   | Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural                                       |                              |
|                   | Resources Research, Chinese Academy of   |                              |
| Han Xiao          | Sciences   | China                        |
| Levi Whitley      | Unity College  | USA                          |
| R. S. Ajin        | Kerala State Disaster Management Authority   | India                        |
| Masimalai         | Department of Health Research, Government of                                       |                              |
| Palaniyandi       | India  | India                        |

# 2. Meetings

#### 2.1 SDH&GI2021 (Sakarya, August 13-14)

The International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling (SDH) is the premier long-running forum in geographical information science. The 19<sup>th</sup> SDH was planned in 2020 but was postponed to 2021 because of COVID-19. This year, we changed the title of the symposium to "International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling and Geographic Intelligence (SDH&GI)" to keep pace with the development in GIScience field.

Due to the ongoing epidemic conditions, the SDH&GI 2021 had been organized the online at Sakarya University between 13-14 August 2021. It was co-organized by the Commission on Geographic Information Science and the Commission on Modelling Geographical Systems (C20.34).

Symposium was aimed to bring together all Geographical Information Systems users and researchers to share their experiences in GIS research. The theme that our meeting will focus on this year will be under the heading of "Smart Cities and the World System". In the symposium program there were 5 keynote Speeches, 9 Sessions and 43 oral presentations.

Sessions titled: Historical GIS, Climate Change, Urban Growth, Geographical Knowledge Graph and GeoAl, Remote sensing and GIS Applications in Human Science, Fluvial Geomorphology and Natural Risks, Ecosystems, Tourism and Statistic and GIS.



In opening ceremony: Prof. Dr. Mike Meadows - President of International Geographical Union, Prof. Dr. Barbaros GÖNENÇGİL - Vice President of International Geographical Union, Prof. Dr. Zerrin KARAKUZULU - Sakarya University Head of Geography Department, Prof Dr. Fenzhen Su - Chair of IGU GIS Commission, Assoc. Prof. Mehmet Fatih DÖKER - Conference Local Chair made their speech.

In the following, Keynote speakers; Prof. Dr. Fenzhen Su (Co-Chair of IGU GIS Commission), Prof. Dr. Tahsin Yomralıoğlu (İstanbul Technical University), Barış Uz (Esri Turkey CEO), Dr. Akın Kısa (Ministry of Environment and Urban Planning General Directorate of GIS), Prof. Dr. Mei-Po Kwan (The Chinese University of Hong Kong) made their presentations.

The symposium successfully finished after oral presentations and Prof. Dr. Fenzhen Su made the closing speech by thanking everyone.

# 2.2 International conference of GIScience (Mashhad, December 12)

Professor Masoud Minaei from Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, one of the steer committee members of our commission, helped organize the International conference of GIScience: Basis and Trans/Interdisciplinary Applications". The conference was held on December 20th 2021 in cooperation with Iranian GIS and Remote Sensing Association, which provided platform for researchers, academics, students, innovators, scientists, and industry practitioners to get familiar with current research and developments.



### 2.3 International "Night of Geography"

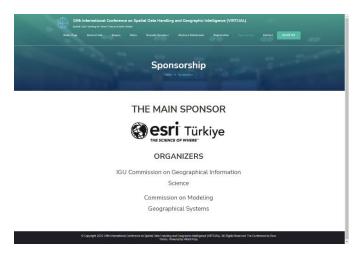
We joined the activity of international "Night of Geography" promoted by EUGEO and IGU. Professor Masoud Minaei organized the GeoNight in Iran. The topic of the GeoNight is "GIS and Biogeography applications in southwest Asia species and endemics conservation". The objective is to introduce geography applications and benefits to societies, e.g., high school teachers and students, university students and other audiences. During the one-hour activity, **Talks** and presentations introducing **FUM** Geography department, GeoNight and Department of Botany and Biodiversity Research, University of Vienna were given. Dr Jalil Nowruzi gave speach about biogeography of southwest Asia flora.



## 2.4 Forthcoming meetings

We planned to continue the International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling (SDH) series and Geographic Intelligence in 2022.

# 3. Networking



It is the tradition that we have long cooperation with the IGU commission Modelling on Geographical Systems (C20.34) and Commission II International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS). Again, commissions C20.13 and C20.16 organized the SDH&GI symposium together this year.

In 2021, the commission also

cooperated with Iranian GIS and Remote Sensing Association in the International conference of GIScience: Basis and Trans/Interdisciplinary Applications.

# 4. Publication

#### 4.1 Website

The website of the commission is <a href="http://igugis.lreis.ac.cn/">http://igugis.lreis.ac.cn/</a>. News about the commission is published on Google group. A frame of google group was embedded in the webpage of the commission, which is located at <a href="http://igugis.lreis.ac.cn/igu6.html">http://igugis.lreis.ac.cn/igu6.html</a>.

The website of SDH&GI: https://sdh2021.sakarya.edu.tr/

The website of Iran GeoNight: <u>GIS and Biogeography applications in southwest Asia species</u> and endemics conservation – GeoNight

# 5. Archival Contributions

During the period in question, no archival contributions have been made. We hope we can post events on IGU website in the future.