

International Geographical Union

2019 – 2020

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2019 – 2020

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Table of Contents

Editorial	1
The IGU Executive Committee, 2018 – 2020	2
Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meetings 2019 - 2020	3
IGU Commission and Task Force Reports 2019 – 2020	48
IGU Commissions Excellence Awards 2019 – 2020	188
2019 Annual Report of the International Geographical Union	189
2020 Annual Report of the International Geographical Union	195
IGU Statutes	203

Table des Matières

Éditorial	1
Comité Exécutif de l'UGI 2018 – 2020	2
Procès-verbal des Réunions du Comité Exécutif de l'UGI 2019 - 2020	3
Groupe de Travail et de la Commission de UGI Rapports Annuels 2019 – 2020	48
Attribution Commissions de l'excellence 2019 – 2020	188
2019 Rapport Annuel de l'Union Géographique Internationale	189
2020 Rapport Annuel de l'Union Géographique Internationale	195
Statuts de l'UGI	203

Editorial

I am pleased at last to bring you Volumes 69-70 of the IGU Bulletin which documents activities of the Union over the period 2019-20. Of course, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted our activities hugely. The much anticipated XXXIV International Geographical Congress in Istanbul was postponed (although we did manage to hold the General Assembly online). Many other activities were postponed or held online as most countries went into some form of lockdown. The 2020 Congress did see the election of a new President and several new Executive Committee members. This Bulletin contains summaries of Commissions and Task Force activities, annual reports including financial statements, and the minutes of our General Assembly deliberations.

Éditorial

J'ai enfin le plaisir de vous présenter les volumes 69-70 du Bulletin de l'UGI qui documentent les activités de l'Union au cours de la période 2019-20. Bien entendu, la pandémie de COVID-19 a énormément perturbé nos activités. Le très attendu XXXIVe Congrès géographique international d'Istanbul a été reporté (même si nous avons réussi à tenir l'Assemblée générale en ligne). De nombreuses autres activités ont été reportées ou organisées en ligne alors que la plupart des pays ont adopté une forme de confinement. Le Congrès 2020 a vu l'élection d'un nouveau président et de plusieurs nouveaux membres du Comité exécutif. Ce bulletin contient des résumés des activités des commissions et des groupes de travail, des rapports annuels comprenant des états financiers et les procès-verbaux des délibérations de notre Assemblée Générale.

ME Meadows

Cape Town, South Africa

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Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meetings

National University of Ireland, Galway

13th to 14h May 2019

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The meeting was chaired by President Himiyama, who welcomed Secretary-General RB Singh, First Vice-President Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn and Past-President Vladimir Kolosov, Vice-Presidents Bojie Fu, Barbaros Gönençgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell'Agnese, Ruben Lois-González and Assistant Secretary-General Mike Meadows

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The President welcomed all Meadows pointed out the minor change due to the kind invitation of the Geography Department at NUIG to attend a casual reception on Tuesday 13th May 2019.

Minutes

The minutes of the Aligarh meeting in December 2018, previously approved via email, were tabled and, following attention to minor changes, were confirmed. The revised and corrected final version of the minutes are to be forwarded to the e-Newsletter editor by the Secretary-General.

Organization and Operations

Executive Committee Member Reports. EC members tendered reports on their activities since the last meeting. Reports were received from all EC members. A summary of all the EC activity reports will be compiled and made available at the General Assembly in Istanbul (2020).

Executive Committee Meeting Calendar 2019 onwards. Gönençgil has offered Istanbul, Turkey, as the venue for September 2019. These dates were discussed again as both Fu Bojie and Meadows are committed to attending meetings in China around the time of the original dates. However,

arrangements were confirmed as follows: Arrivals 28th Saturday September, Meeting Sunday 29th and Monday 30th (half day, followed by visit to the conference venue), departures Tuesday 1st October 2019. dell'Agnese (Lecce, Rome or Milan), Lois Gonzalez (Santiago de Compostela) and Singh (Kolkata) indicated their willingness to host an EC meeting in 2020 or 2021. It was agreed that the first meeting of 2020 should be in Rome, at the end of March 2020, using Villa Celimontana as the meeting base. Arrivals Tuesday 31st March, meeting 1st and 2nd April, excursion 3rd April, participate in 'Notte di Geografia' on evening of 3rd April, departures 3rd April 2020. The EC meeting in association with the Istanbul Congress. Arrivals 14th August, meeting on 15th and 16th and Congress opening on 17th August 2020. November meeting to be held at Santiago di Compostela (Spain); dates to be confirmed following the EC elections at the Istanbul General Assembly.

IGU Executive transfer to Delhi. Singh noted that he is remains reliant on Meadows who is assisting with many activities. The IGU website can be migrated to Delhi; Singh to ensure that Pankaj Kumar contacts Meadows to arrange this. Regarding finances, Singh has suggested Meadows continue in the de facto role as Treasurer for the time-being but with a commitment to plan for the transfer of the finances in due course.

Amendment to IGU Statutes. The amendment as tabled needs to be circulated to the General Assembly for formal by way of e-ballot (Singh). Meadows agreed to provide Singh with a list of national members deemed to be in good standing to facilitate this. The amendment also needs a French translation (Lemarchand).

IGU Financial Report and Projection. Meadows presented a brief update on the financial situation in the three IGU accounts held in Cape Town. The balance continues to remain reasonably consistent

from year to year and the likely scenario is that this will continue through to the end of the current year at least. It was agreed that, when claiming funds for the current year, Commission and Task Force chairs should be prompted to indicate how the previous year's funds were expended (Meadows). Himiyama noted that he has approached a bank in Japan with regard to reinvesting the Promotion and Solidarity Fund. It is feasible to hold the funds provided there is no operational need for regular access. The current interest rate is in the order of 0.25%. It was agreed to pursue this offer further (Himiyama) and to seek clarity on the issue of a second signatory on the account.

IGU National Membership update. Lois-Gonzalez tabled in his EC member report details on the situation in regard to Latin American countries. Until now only two members for the region are in good financial standing. The process is slow and sometimes politically complex due to different constituencies, but there are good prospects of membership fees being paid by Ecuador, soon, and possibly for Peru and Brazil in September. Lois-Gonzalez noted that Argentina and Colombia both have large and active academic communities in the discipline but work needs still to be done to formalize National Committees and renew IGU affiliation. There are prospects too for Costa Rica and Panama. Lemarchand reported in respect of francophone Africa on the difficulties of obtaining and maintaining reliable contacts. There is a new contact for Madagascar who is enthusiastic about improving the interest in colleagues in participating in IGU events. In Benin, Cote d'Ivoire and Haiti there are numerous problems, including lack of security and the attraction of meetings where French is the language of communication, although this situation may be changing. This highlights the issue of plurilinguality and openness, which needs to be considered carefully if we are to reaffirm the value of the IGU. It was noted that, in the past, papers at IGU meetings were presented in numerous languages. Hay reported on his approach to Palestine with an initial positive response, although there has been no recent communication. Further attempts are needed. There is an upcoming conference in Fiji (dell'Agnese and, possibly, Hay, are attending) in Fiji which may represent an opportunity to renew contact. Hay agreed to explore the possibility of approaching Namibia. Singh is in contact with several other Asian nations, which sometimes send delegates to the Indian National Association of Geographers in India but do not participate in IGU events or pay memberships. Continued efforts to control.

IGU Commission and Task Force update. Droogleever-Fortuin had conducted her usual review on the basis of the annual reports. Many Commissions are active but a few commissions had not submitted reports while some are incomplete; websites are not always updated. Meadows requested the 2018 reports to be made available for uploading onto the website. The reports are used as a basis for the Commission Excellence Award and the sub-committee (Kolosov, Droogleever-Fortuin and Gonencgil) reported on the outcome of their deliberations. The result would be conveyed to the winning Commission (Urban) in due course (Singh) and arrangements for the payment of the financial award made (Meadows). dell'Agnese reported on the suspended Indigenous People, Rights and Knowledge Commission, the individual approached to consider being the chair is not in a position to take over until such time as her current commitments are completed. The proposed Research Methodology Commission document was discussed; there is broad support for the concept, Hay agreed to continue to liaise with the proposers. The putative Ocean Commission remains under discussion; dell'Agnese will continue to monitor the situation and encourage progress. Himiyama emphasized the increasing relevance of this issue and its importance to IGU. The Karst Commission has submitted a proposal for a new chair. There is agreement that the individual (Dr Eko Haryonoo) is approved to take over as chair of this Commission for the period until the General Assembly.

IYGU/SDGU. Benno Werlen had attempted to have the SDGU presented to UNESCO but the attempt was aborted at late notice. The ISC has been approached for support but has not yet responded.

IGU Website, social media and IGU publicity brochure. The French and Spanish versions of the IGU website are still rather incomplete. Given the impending transfer of the website responsibility of the website to the Secretary-General, it makes sense to try to improve this situation thereafter. Meadows, in consultation with Lemarchand and Lois-Gonzalez, prepared new pdf versions of IGU publicity brochure in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. Editorial issues were tabled.

IGU Bulletin and IGU eNewsletter. Singh reported on progress regarding Volume 67-68 of the IGU Bulletin (for the years 2017 and 2018); this should be ready for publication within the next few months. The latest issue of the IGU eNewsletter was recently circulated. Lemarchand reported that an

issue involving the Night of Geography requires correction and she agreed to communicate this to Bellezza. There is also a need to include the comment that IGU was formally represented at the AAG (Gonençgil). These changes are to be made and posted on the versions posted on the website.

Partner publishing proposal. Hay reported that the commissioning editor, Katy Crossan, has communicated with the Commissions and there are now three volumes in progress. The issue of publishing in languages other than English had been raised with Edward Elgar but the prospects do not appear to be very good since Edward Elgar publishes exclusively in English. There is a need to widen the authorship base to include those who may not be from traditional anglophone countries. Hay noted that these volume will be referenced in Scopus. dell'Agnese again raised the issue of translating major works in other languages into English under the title 'World Geography Classics' and agreed to continue to explore the possibility.

IGU Archives. Kolosov will visit Leipzig in July. The pre-1986 archives are still missing, apart from some separate documents. The existence of these archives, which are very professionally curated, needs to be advertised and promoted more widely.

IGU ppt. Gönençgil's sample Powerpoint presentation on IGU has not been updated by EC members who are encouraged to send their suggestions to him by the end of May.

IGU Journals project. Meadows reported that the new design is now live but still has some Information as to how to deal with additions and inconsistencies should also be included on the landing page (Meadows). Lemarchand raised the possibility of submitting a panel to the Istanbul Congress on geographical publications and using this as an opportunity to promote the facility and Lemarchand agreed to do this. Meadows agreed to send the existing database to Singh who agreed to appoint an assistant to update this. Hay suggested that the database is valuable and it may be possible to sell this to companies who specialize in such data and that this could raise revenue that could be used to help sustain the project; he agreed to make further investigations.

Cooperation and Outreach

Festival International de Géographie (FIG). Lemarchand tabled a draft MoU between IGU and

FIG. Following some discussion and attention to some editorial issues, it was agreed that the IGU President should sign the document on behalf of IGU. This represents an important step because from now on, the IGU is to be invited to be a member of the organizing committee. Lemarchand had met with other partners of the Festival and there seems to be an indication that in order to internationalise the festival further, there may be a possibility of translating some presentations into English. This year sees the 30th anniversary of the Festival. IGU will have a round table at the event.

Night of Geography. Lemarchand circulated all IGU National Committee chairs in 2018 but had only three responses. The European Night of Geography was celebrated on 5th April 2019. The events took place in 14 countries included 8 countries in Europe France, Spain, Portugal, Bulgaria, Greece, Lithuania, Croatia, and Ireland and New-Zealand (although the date coincided with the AAG unfortunately). In Africa, six countries, in collaboration with the association "CartONG", based in Chambéry (France). In addition, the "Missing Map" event was paired with GeoNight events, allowing worldwide exposure. This is an international project that partners up well-established NGOs and local associations with the goal of mapping data coming from satellite images onto OpenStreetMap, a free and collaborative spatial database called "mapathons". These local initiatives allow mapping areas that are not well-represented. 17 mapathons were organised simultaneously at the Université de Saint-Louis (Dakar, Senegal), in Bamako (Mali), in Calavi (Benin), in Lomé (Togo), in Antananarivo (Madagascar), in Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo), in Paris, Lyon, Grenoble, Chambéry, Beauvais, Brest, Besançon, Pau, Perpignan (France), in Heidelberg (Germany), and in Milan (Italy). The 4th edition of the GeoNight will take place on April 3rd 2020.

IGU Representatives on International Bodies. There is nothing to report.

International Science Council. The ISC Draft Action Plan; Meadows met with the ISC President and commented that the education component appears to be underemphasized. The final report is not yet available but it is hoped that these comments will be taken into consideration.

Nominations for ISC Committees Two formal nominations have been received, one from South Africa, one from Japan. After discussion, it was agreed to submit the name of Professor Takashi

Yamaguchi for consideration by the ISC for the Committee on Science Planning.

GeoUnions. With regards to the ‘mapping SDGs’ against IGU Commission activities, the Secretary-General had circulated the Commissions but had received a rather muted response. It was suggested that the Secretary-General send a further reminder and that this be supported by communication from the respective IGU EC member responsible for individual commissions. Given the importance of the SDGs and the potential role of Geography in achieving them, there should also be a requirement that Commissions include comment on the SDG in the 2019 annual report. The most recent Geounions meeting had taken place in Beijing and summary minutes were submitted. The position of IGU within the Geounions was discussed; Himiyama noted that it is important that the IGU profile within the Geounions needs to be improved. One possibility would be to suggest inviting Geounions to hold one of its meetings around the time of one of the IGU EC meetings. Orhan Altan to be invited to meet with the IGU EC in Istanbul.

CODATA and WDS. Given the importance of data in Geography, more especially big data, it is clear that IGU needs to cooperate more with CODATA, which is extremely active within ISC. The possibility of establishing a Task Force was again raised; the alternative is to request existing IGU Commissions, emphasizing the importance of their involvement in CODATA.

CIPSH. Kolosov reported on an International Science Forum organized by CIPSH in Moscow. He organized a special session at the forum dedicated to the memory of former IGU President Bruno Messerli (22 April 2019) with the participation of well-known scholar and a member of his family. There is some concern as to whether the concept of CIPSH Chairs conflicts with the UNESCO Chairs.

EUROGEO, EUGEO. There are number of co-sponsored sessions at the Galway EUGEO conference. The idea of a ‘meta’journal’ with papers in several languages has been mooted but remains work in progress. Lois-Gonzalez reported on the desire of EUROGEO to have closer relations with IGU and also with EUGEO (possibly even a joint conference). The next EUROGEO conference is in Slovenia in late August 2020. The Galway conference represents an excellent opportunity for IGU to network with the EUGEO executive and to

promote the idea of co-hosting sessions at the Istanbul 2020 Congress.

EGAL/UGAL Lois-Gonzalez had attended EGAL in Quito with 1400 participants. Cooperation with IGU appears to be strongly improved.

Relations with other organizations. Gocengil attended AAG and organized the IGU booth. This will be necessary again for AAG 2020, especially important due to changes in the leadership as the current Director is stepping down. The Asian Geographical Association was established at a founding meeting in Guangzhou in December 2019. Bojie Fu submitted a report; the next council meeting takes place in Beijing at the end of September.

UNESCO-Japan prize. Deadline for submission of 2019 was 30th April 2019. Meadows agreed to approach the ISC President regarding the relationship of ISC and UNESCO with a view to ensuring that nominations for 2020 are facilitated.

First Session of UN Session Group of Experts on Geographical names. No report received to date.

International Geographical Congresses, IGU Regional Conferences and Thematic Conferences

IGU Congress 2020 Istanbul. Gönençgil presented a progress report. The announcement inviting session proposals has now been circulated. Five keynote speakers have now been secured and a sixth invited recently. The two Commission winners of Excellence award should be added to this list. The second circular is available in four languages and has been widely distributed.

IGU Extraordinary Congress, Paris 2022. Lemarchand reported on organizational arrangements with four committees dealing with various operational aspects. The French National Library has agreed to organize an exhibition to coincide with the Congress. There has been a suggestion to establish a ‘Year of Geography’ from 2021-22 with several associated initiatives. The MOU needs still be finalized and signed in September in Istanbul. The decision regarding the venues is not finalized. Kolosov reported on preparations in relation to the Centennial publication. The contract has been signed with Springer and, for a fee, the book can be made Open

Access; this matter to be discussed further in Istanbul. There will be one volume; several authors have already been identified.

IGU Congress Dublin 2024. The EC had an opportunity to examine the proposed venue in Dublin (Dublin City University). The MOU is drafted but comment from the LOC is still awaited.

IGU Thematic Conference, Koper, Slovenia, September 2019. Some 70 abstracts have been submitted to date. The main conference themes/sessions include: Heritage of lost landscapes: identification, reconstruction and presentation; Past and present land degradation in the Mediterranean and other environments; Land management practices and global change; The challenges regarding the planning and organization of the cultural landscape; Functions of the cultural landscape in local and regional development; The concepts and tools in landscape transformation research; Transformation of traditional landscapes; Response of Mountain Ecosystems to Climate Change; Conservation of Biodiversity in Changing Environment.

IGU Thematic Conference Lecce, Italy. dell’Agnese noted that the second circular is now available and the website is operational; publicity should be available on the website (Meadows). Dates as follows: May 31st to 2nd June, 2020.

IGU Thematic Conference, Mexico. There is a proposal to hold a thematic conference under the theme: Governance in Historical Cities, (with the support of several IGU Commissions including Governance, Geoheritage Urban, Latin American Studies) in August 2021. The formal proposal will be presented later.

IGU Congress 2028. Hay noted the Institution of Australian Geographers is contemplating making a bid for the 2028 IGU Congress.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12h32 on 15th May 2019.

Istanbul, Turkey

28th September to 1st October 2019

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The meeting was chaired by President Himiyama, who welcomed Secretary-General RB Singh, First Vice-President Joos Droogleevers-Fortuijn and Past-President Vladimir Kolosov, Vice-Presidents Barbaros Gönençgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell’Agnese, Ruben Lois-González and Assistant Secretary-General Mike Meadows. Academician Bojie Fu tendered his apologies. Professor Giuliano Bellezza, as editor of the IGU e-Newsletter, was in attendance by special invitation.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The President welcomed all and asked Professor Bellezza to say a few words who warmly thanked the EC for the invitation to attend. The agenda was duly adopted and Gönençgil explained the schedule and detailed the arrangements for the meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of the Galway meeting in May 2019, previously circulated via email were approved.

Organization and Operations

Executive Committee Member Reports. EC members tendered reports on their activities since the last meeting. Reports were received from all EC members. A summary of all the EC activity reports will be compiled and made available at the General Assembly in Istanbul (2020).

Executive Committee Meeting Calendar 2019 onwards. The first meeting of 2020 is scheduled for Rome, Italy, as follows: arrivals Tuesday 31st March, EC meeting 1st and 2nd April, excursion 3rd April, participation in ‘La Notte di Geografia’ on evening of 3rd April, departures 4th April 2020. The EC meeting in association with the Istanbul 34th IGU Congress is scheduled as follows: arrivals 14th

August, EC meeting on 15th and 16th; participation in the Congress opening ceremony on 17th August 2020. The November 2020 meeting will to be held at Santiago de Compostela (Spain); dates and details to be confirmed following the outcome of EC elections at the Istanbul General Assembly.

IGU bank account transfer and possible separation of Treasurer tasks. For a variety of reasons, it was agreed that Meadows should continue as de facto IGU Treasurer until the next General Assembly in Istanbul, Turkey. The possibility of separating the duties of Secretary-General and Treasurer, due to the volume of work involved, was discussed. There is broad agreement that this is necessary. Any change requires General Assembly approval. It was agreed that a proposal should be drafted in time for the next EC meeting and, following EC approval, be tabled at the Istanbul General Assembly (Singh).

Amendment to IGU Statutes. The amendment deemed necessary due to the establishment of the ISC and associated merger of ICSU and ISSC has been approved by the General Assembly by way of an e-ballot. The Statutes/Statuts need to be formally amended and noted as ‘Revised to 6th July 2019’ (Singh to amend the formal version of the Statutes/Statuts document).

IGU EC Elections. The elections for IGU President and four Vice-Presidents will be held during the Istanbul General Assembly. The call for nominations is to be distributed on 15th November 2019, with a closing date of 15th March 2020 (Singh, in consultation with Meadows).

Operations

IGU Financial Report and Projection. Meadows presented a brief update on the financial situation in the three IGU accounts held in Cape Town. Comparing the total balance of funds held for the same period each year (in this case end-September), it is clear that the financial position remains positive. The fact that no IGU Regional Conference, with associated costs, was held in 2019 has resulted in a larger balance in the current account compared to the same period over the last three years.

Transfer of Promotion and Solidarity Fund. Himiyama reported on the possible transfer of the Promotion and Solidarity Fund. Hay noted that there are several variables that need to be considered, including interest rates and minimum

investment term (returns), currency stability, trust and enduring connections with IGU. These issues can be very effectively addressed through the transfer to a bank account in Japan under the curatorship of Himiyama; it was therefore agreed to put in place the necessary procedures to relocate the balance in the fund from the United States, while noting the need for a failsafe mechanism to be established, and approved by the EC, in the event that the account signatory is indisposed (Himiyama). There was considerable discussion regarding the precise legal status of the IGU, which does needs to be clarified; Hay agreed to explore this issue and report.

IGU National Membership update. Proposals for National Committee membership has been received from Namibia and Iran. The former, as a new application, needs to be formally approved following a General Assembly by e-ballot to be administered within the next month (Singh). dell’Agnese reported that she had engaged with geographers from Fiji and noted the technical difficulty of IGU membership arising from the fact that the University of the South Pacific represents an agglomeration of island nations and therefore would seem to necessitate a type of ‘regional’ membership. dell’Agnese suggested that the 12 island nations could affiliate to IGU as a single representation, with one vote and one membership fee; such a situation would not appear to require a change in the Statutes. She agreed to pursue this idea with her contact from Fiji and encourage the proponents to bring a proposal to the Istanbul General Assembly. Hay reported on efforts to foster membership from Palestine, but following initial progress there has been no further development. Lemarchand has successfully opened up contact with Madagascar and Bénin and will continue to pursue the possibility of formal membership. Communication and representation issues concerning national committee contacts was discussed at length. The question of what to do with lapsed member countries, in particular whether or not they should remain listed as ‘member countries’ on the website, was discussed. It is clear that there are a number of countries and contact persons listed on the website (and in the IGU database) for which there has been no meaningful communication, in some cases for many years. Each EC member is requested to write to the national committee chairs for which they have liaison responsibilities and check the status of communication (All). The outcome is to be reported to Singh by end-October, who will then consolidate and circulate a membership list indicating this status. The list is to be tabled at the next EC meeting with a view to classifying into national membership as

‘active and in good standing’ (Full Member), ‘active but not in good standing (Observer Member) or ‘inactive’ (Membership lapsed)’. Himiyama reported on the proposal received from the chair of the Czech Republic requesting that the country be referred to in conventional IGU documentation as Czechia. This was approved.

IGU Commission and Task Force update. Hay noted that the putative Commission on Research Methodology had intended to formally present their application but there had been some delays; the proposal can be expected shortly. dell’Agnese reported that the proposed new Commission on Oceans has not yet made significant progress. A proposal was tabled for the re-establishment of a Commission on Mountain Studies from Professor Fausto Sarmiento. This was approved; Meadows suggested the name of a possible steering committee member from Africa and will forward the details to Kolosov as EC liaison member. Singh noted that two existing IGU Commissions had not submitted 2018 annual reports (Karst and Modelling). Himiyama recently met the chairs of the IGU Commissions on Hazards and Risks, and Land Degradation at the Koper thematic conference and both have provided input to the International Science Council call for comments on its first draft of the ‘Hazard List’. He encouraged EC members also to study the document and convey any comments to him for forwarding to the ISC Secretariat by mid-October. IGU Commissions still need to be encouraged in respect of mapping their activities against the SDGs (Singh).

IGU Honors and Awards. The Honours and Awards Committee Guidelines document was tabled for review. A call for nominations must be made in good time before the Istanbul Congress, preferably before the end of the year. The chair of the committee, Professor Ruth Fincher, is to be requested to organize the call and also to consider the composition of the committee, as terms of office are expired. It was agreed to allow the existing membership to continue until the Istanbul Congress and administer the next call. The committee should be asked to review the situation regarding the Mattei Dogan prize, since this has not been awarded for many years. Fincher had, in fact, in 2017 suggested the establishment of a number of possible new IGU awards but this suggestion had not been discussed at an EC meeting. Himiyama (with the assistance of Singh and Meadows) is to write to Fincher and convey the various issues regarding awards.

IDGU. Benno Werlen sent a report concerning developments in the International Decade of Global Understanding. Werlen noted that there are several possible ways forward, including partnership with existing initiatives. Lois-González reported that he and Werlen had recently engaged with the Spanish representative to UNESCO in regard to this. Singh noted the importance of linking IDGU directly with the SDGs. The Executive Committee expressed its ongoing support for Werlen’s continued efforts to develop IDGU.

IGU Website, social media and IGU publicity brochure. The IGU website is in the process of migration to Delhi and a proposal from a commercial company has been accepted. Regarding finances, Meadows will arrange transfer of the necessary funds. One of the initial tasks will be to improve the level of information on the French and Spanish versions of the IGU website. The link to the Facebook page needs to be maintained under the new management. Meadows, in consultation with Lemarchand and Lois-González, along with editorial inputs from others, have finalized new pdf versions of IGU publicity brochure in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, which need to be made available on the website (Meadows, Singh).

IGU Bulletin and IGU eNewsletter. Singh reported on progress regarding Volume 67-68 of the IGU Bulletin (for the years 2017 and 2018); he has requested Meadows for assistance in the final editorial process and this is underway. Hay suggested that all previous versions of the Bulletin be scanned and made available on the IGU website as a historical resource (Singh). Bellezza commented on the IGU eNewsletter and noted that he is happy to continue to edit this and manage the Home of Geography website. There needs to be clarification, both on the IGU and Home of Geography websites, and in the eNewsletter, regarding the nature of the relationship between IGU and Home of Geography. Appropriate text needs to be drafted (Bellezza) and circulated among the EC members for comment. Bellezza suggested sending an email to all IGU Commission, Task Force and National Committee chairs to solicit any relevant news for the next eNewsletter and for posting on the website (Singh). The publication date of the next eNewsletter issue is 31st October 2019; the draft is to be forwarded to Himiyama, Singh and Meadows at least five days ahead of the proposed publication deadline.

IGU Springer and Edward Elgar Series. Hay reported that there are currently three volumes in various stages of production; a proposal has been received regarding a possible volume on Environmental Problems in Africa, but this needs considerable revision. Dell’Agnese suggested that the idea of a series entitled ‘World Geography Classics’ is still under discussion with the Chair of the Commission on the History of Geography, Professor Marcella Schmidt di Friedberg. Singh reported that there are two IGU Springer series, Advances in Geography and Environmental Sciences and Sustainable Development Goals now regularly producing volumes.

IGU Archives. The IGU archives continue to be collated professionally by Dr Bruno Schelhaas, who deals with queries from a range of sources very efficiently and quickly. While it is considered desirable to hold a future EC meeting in Leipzig, there is currently no EC member from Germany to facilitate logistics. Kolosov will explore this possibility, and/or the idea of holding a workshop on the IGU archives, with Sebastian Lenz who is visiting him in Moscow in the next few months.

IGU ppt. Gönençgil’ agreed to circulate a draft ppt, including a version in French, for EC members to respond by not later than 31st October 2019.

IGU Journals project. Meadows reported that the new design/structure is live on the website and is also now available in French. Instructions as to how to deal with additions and inconsistencies are to be sent to the new website management (Meadows), along with the most recent versions of the journals database. Singh had communicated the need to provide updated journal lists to all IGU National Committees and will do so again (Singh). Lemarchand has convened a panel on geographical publications for the Istanbul Congress.

Cooperation and Outreach

Festival International de Géographie (FIG). Lemarchand circulated a further version of the draft MoU between IGU and FIG. It is suggested that signing of the MOU be postponed until the new FIG President is in position. The most appropriate time would seem to be around the time of the EC meeting in Rome, March 2020.

Night of Geography. The 4th edition of an international ‘GeoNight’ is scheduled for April 3rd 2020. The aim is to include as many nations as

possible, and Lemarchand emailed all National Committees to share information about their proposed initiatives. Information and publicity about the 2020 event should be circulated early in the new year.

IGU Representation on International Bodies. Professor Cosimo Palagiano again attended the recent United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) meeting on behalf of IGU and tabled a report, which had been previously circulated and published in the IGU e-Newsletter. The outcome of IGU’s nomination of a Chinese colleague to attend the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Assembly is not yet known.

International Science Council. The latest ISC President’s letter had been circulated widely. The ISC Action Plan indicates that the organization acknowledges the importance of education. Geography is one of the few disciplines represented in the ISC that has a real focus on education, from primary level through to higher education. The IGU Charter on Geographical Education is a valuable document in this regard. The question as to how the IGU should engage with ISC around the issue of education was discussed. One possibility would be to propose the establishment of an ISC committee with a focus on education. Education is vital to sustainable development in the context of the SDGs, and the ISC should be encouraged to embrace this. The first opportunity to propose such a committee would be at the next ISC General Assembly scheduled for Oman in 2021. Hay suggested that Himiyama write to the two geographers on the Governing Board asking them how best the IGU could engage with ISC (Himiyama, Hay).

IGU nominations to ISC Committees. The outcome of the IGU nomination for the Committee of Freedom and Responsibility in Science is still awaited.

GeoUnions. The position of IGU within the GeoUnions was discussed; Himiyama again emphasised the importance of IGU engagement with the GeoUnions as the group is a powerful lobby within ISC. The Deep-Time Digital Earth initiative of IUGS/IUGG is supported by IGU. Singh noted the draft proposal to establish a ‘Mini-Earth Theme Park’ that has the potential to reach policy-makers and the general public. Dubai has indicated some interest in this idea, but it appears to require further development before warranting IGU support.

CODATA and WDS. Singh has assumed responsibility to liaise with these initiatives.

CIPSH. Kolosov had circulated a report about the latest developments in CIPSH. In summary, the report indicates that the CIPSH chairs programme is a success, that the Global History of Humanity project has reached consensus regarding its structure, the World Humanities Report is making progress, and the preparation of a new UNESCO initiative/programme, anchored in the Humanities, is underway.

EUROGEO, EUGEO. It should be confirmed if Zoltán Kovács (EUGEO) has offered a session for the Istanbul Congress and, if not, he should be invited to organize a joint IGU session and to be offered a booth at the Exhibition (Kolosov, Gönençgil). Hay agreed to encourage participants at the upcoming Geographical Education Conference that he is attending to propose education-related sessions for Istanbul 2020. EUROGEO met in Slovenia in August and will have its next conference in Madrid, Spain, in April 2020. Lois-González remains in good contact with this group and will attend the conference.

EGAL/UGAL. There is a conference of the Departments of Geography of Argentina Universities in October 2019. Lois- González will attend and use the opportunity to continue his efforts to liaise with Latin American geographers.

Relations with other organizations. AAG has invited IGU to open a booth at their next annual meeting. Given the timing, it is difficult for EC members to participate but individuals who are attending can be invited to run the booth on behalf of IGU (All). Relationships with the Asian Geographical Association are very positive; Himiyama and Meadows will both attend the conference scheduled for Beijing in early November. The International Cartographic Association (ICA) successfully held its 29th ICC in Tokyo in July 2019. Gönençgil suggested that he will send a personalized invitation to the chairs of relevant GeoUnions (including ICA) encouraging their participation in Istanbul 2020.

UN-GGIM. The sixth High Level Forum of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) will be held in Windsor, United Kingdom, in April 2020. Hay agreed to explore the possibility of his participation and study

the possible effect of IGU's deeper involvement in UN-related meetings such as UN-GGIM

Support for Bilim Akademisi, Turkey. Having been approached to provide a letter of support for the membership of this organization to the ISC, Himiyama has already done so on behalf of the IGU.

Day of Geography. Discussion on this item was held over to next EC meeting.

UNESCO-Japan prize. Meadows confirmed that he will contact the ISC President regarding a possible nomination for the 2020 prize.

International Geographical Congresses, IGU Regional Conferences and Thematic Conferences

IGU Congress 2020 Istanbul. Gönençgil noted that session proposals had opened in March and the deadline was extended to 9th August 2019. In total, some 165 sessions have been proposed and more than 30 Commissions have indicated their participation. Abstract submission is now open on the website in a very easily accessible format (closing date is 13th January 2020, which allows sufficient time for authors to apply for travel grants etc. following acceptance. The 'earlybird' registration deadline date is 6th April 2020. The announcement of the IGU travel grant programme is to be made soon (Droogleever-Fortuijn in consultation with Gönençgil). The two winners of the IGU Commission Excellence award (for 2017 and 2018, viz. Urban, and Tourism) must be added to the list of keynotes and invited by Gönençgil. The iGeo website is now fully operational, indicating a diverse programme of activities. The iGeo medal ceremony will take place in association with the Istanbul Congress Opening Ceremony.

IGU Extraordinary Congress, Paris 2022. Lemarchand reported that the draft design for the conference flyer is under review. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) is now established under co-chairs (Lemarchand and Le Blanc). Each team member has a clearly stated mission. The LOC has already conducted a site visit to the Sorbonne/Société de Géographie/Institut de Géographie venues to plan locations for sessions, posters, General Assembly, and Commission chairs meetings etc. The LOC is exploring the possibility of an event/exhibition in the Bibliothèque Nationale de France. Lemarchand then presented the draft

MOA which had been previously circulated. Following discussion and amendment, the document was signed by the relevant parties (Lemarchand on behalf of the LOC, and the IGU President and Secretary-General). Kolosov reported on progress regarding the Centennial Task Force and the planned publication; he presented an outline of the proposed chapters with editors and authors. Several suggestions were made regarding additional or alternative contributors. Open access arrangements could be made at a cost of around Euros 15,000; a decision on this needs to be made at a future EC meeting. It was agreed that limited IGU funding be made available to subsidise the next meeting of the Task Force.

IGU Congress Dublin 2024. The proposal of the LOC to change the identity of the theme to ‘Celebrating a World of Difference’ was accepted. Some edits to the MOA are necessary and the draft is to be returned to the Dublin LOC for comment. (Himiyama).

IGU Regional Conference 2026; IGU Congress 2028. The call for proposals for these two meetings will be distributed in October (Singh).

IGU Thematic Conference, Koper, Slovenia, September 2019. Himiyama recently attended the

conference and anticipates that the LOC will submit its report in due course, hopefully in time for publication in the IGU e-Newsletter

IGU Thematic Conference Lecce, Italy. This is scheduled for May 31st to 2nd June 2020. The conference website is operational and session proposals and abstracts are already being received.

IGU Thematic Conference, Mexico. Under the theme: ‘Governance in Historical Cities’, (with the support of several IGU Commissions including Governance, Geoheritage, Urban, Latin American Studies) this is planned for August 2021. There is EC support for the idea; a formal proposal is due for presentation around 12-18 months before the agreed date.

IGU Thematic Conference, Quito, Ecuador. Lois-González had previously circulated a proposal for this thematic conference and, while there is merit in the idea, a formal proposal can only be tabled within 12-18 months of the suggested date.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 18h00 on 30th September 2019

Zoom Meeting

1st, 2nd, 6th, and 9th April 2020

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The meeting was chaired by President Yukio Himiyama, who welcomed Secretary-General R. B. Singh, Past-President Vladimir Kolosov, Vice-Presidents Barbaros Gönencgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell’Agnese, Bojie Fu, Ruben Lois-González and Assistant Secretary-General Mike Meadows along with Dr Pankaj Kumar as special invitee to take care of minutes. First Vice President Joos Droogleever Fortuijn joined the meeting on 6th April, 2020. The Executive Committee meeting started sharp at 7.30 GMT. The EC meeting was originally planned to be held in Rome, then later in Istanbul, from 1st–2nd April 2020, but was actually conducted using Zoom

meeting platform because of the difficulty in holding a face-to-face meeting due to the rapid spread of COVID-19 pandemic throughout the world.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The President welcomed all, introduced Dr. Pankaj Kumar to the EC members and asked all EC members to present their views about the schedule, agenda and COVID-19 pandemic for a few minutes each. After listening to the views of each EC member, President Himiyama suggested that the agenda items be prioritised. The agenda was duly adopted and Barbaros Gönencgil screen-shared this and supporting documents during the meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of the Istanbul, Turkey, EC meeting, held from 28th September to 1st October 2019 and previously circulated via email were approved.

Organization and Operations

Executive Committee Member Reports. All EC members tendered reports on their activities since the last EC meeting. A summary of Executive Committee Member Reports for the years 2016-2020 will be sent to all Commission Chairs and National Committee members through email.

Executive Committee Meeting Calendar 2020 onwards. Zoom meetings are scheduled on 20th May and 17th - 18th June. A face-to-face meeting will be held in Istanbul from 20th - 21st August 2020 if the situation allows; if not, the meeting will be held by Zoom. Further EC meetings will be decided in consultation with newly elected members.

Executive Committee individual responsibilities 2018-20. These were tabled but no revision was found necessary to the existing allocations of individual responsibilities.

IGU Promotion & Solidarity Fund bank account transfer. Himiyama presented details of the transfer of USD 102,993.06 being the balance of the IGU Promotion and Solidarity fund from Johnson Bank Racine Branch, USA to IGU account in Hokuyo Bank Shunko Branch safely. Out of this total an amount of USD 493.06 was deposited in JPY 52,589 to Hokuyo Bank to handle commission service charges. Himiyama also explained how the account will be handled and the balance transferred in the event of his indisposition. These new arrangements were all approved by the EC. The Executive Committee would like to express its heartfelt thanks to Professor Ronald Abler for his taking care of the IGU Promotion & Solidarity Fund up to its transfer to Japan in March 2020.

IGU bank account transfer and separation of Treasurer tasks. The EC proposes to put the matter of separation of the Secretary-General and Treasurer tasks and formal creation of the position of Treasurer to the General Assembly scheduled in Istanbul in August 2021. This proposal requires a change to the Statutes. If the General Assembly approves the proposal, then the Treasurer will officially take full responsibility of finance with effect from August 2022. Until then, Himiyama and Singh proposed a

sequence of interim arrangements which were considered and approved by the EC. Vice President Iain Hay is to be nominated in May 2020 as interim Assistant Secretary General and Treasurer in charge of finance. This will enable the transfer of IGU operating funds from South Africa to Australia in good time before the upcoming EC elections. (As per IGU Statutes, opening an account in the name of IGU and transfer of funds requires only EC approval.) The interim role as Assistant Secretary General and Treasurer in charge of finance would prevail until the General Assembly in Istanbul in August 2021 when formal separation of duties, and establishment of the position of Honorary Treasurer as a full member of the EC, would be proposed. Assuming the proposal for a stand-alone Treasurer is accepted by the General Assembly, Hay would fill that position on an interim basis until the conclusion of his term as Vice President in August 2022. At the Extraordinary IGC in Paris 2022 EC will recommend Iain Hay as Treasurer for 2022-2024, with the possibility of re-election for four more years? Hay agreed to consider his position on these proposals and report back at the next EC meeting.

IGU EC Elections: Nominations. After deliberating the issue, consensus was reached that the elections for IGU President and four Vice-Presidents for 2020-2024 will be held through e-ballot due to postponement of the 2020 General Assembly to 2021. The e-ballot for voting is to be distributed on 1st May 2020, with voting closing on 30th June 2020 (Singh). Tellers should be appointed soon by the Secretary General in consultation with the President. Secretary-General Singh is responsible for administering the e-ballot and agreed to identify and contact suitable tellers (Singh). The last date of the originally scheduled Istanbul Congress, (21st August 2020), is the final date of for the current President and EC members. Lemarchand suggested that the list of member countries eligible to vote needs to be updated (Meadows).

IGU legal status. Hay and Lemarchand reported on progress regarding their exploration of the legal status of the IGU. Hay noted that IGU currently appears to hold de facto legal status as an 'unregistered contract'. Past-President Kolosov suggested that we should not neglect the matter of legal status of IGU, as it is an important one. After deliberation, the EC decided to continue for the present with the current status of IGU but revisit the issue regularly. Lemarchand agreed to continue exploring the historical record, bearing in mind Extraordinary International Geographical Congress, Paris 2022.

Review of National Membership status. Secretary General and Treasurer Singh noted that updating of the national membership list is an ongoing process. The current list was tabled, having been checked by Singh and Meadows and all communications received from National Committees incorporated to date. dell’Agnese placed information that Congo and Tanzania have no contact. Meadows also reported that there is no contact/email information for Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Mauritania and Niger. Namibia has been formally accepted as IGU national member following election by e-ballot. There was discussion regarding the IGU membership list. The Statutes allows for four categories of membership, viz Full membership (pay dues regularly), Associate Membership (do not, or have not paid fees, but are representatives of their national geographical association and are regularly in contact with IGU); Corresponding member (contact, usually via email, who is not formally representing geographers in their country); Corporate membership. Meadows and Singh agreed to use these categories to revise the list on the website and database and to present the proposed list for approval by the EC at the next meeting (Singh, Meadows). Lois-Gonzalez reported on the possibility of a membership application from the Caribbean. Himiyama suggested adding the date on membership files to avoid confusion.

Operations

IGU Financial Report and Projection. Assistant Secretary General Meadows presented a brief update on the financial situation of the three IGU accounts held in Cape Town. Comparing the total balance of funds held for the same current period, it is clear that the financial position remains positive. The fact that no IGU Regional Conference, with associated costs, was held in 2019 has resulted in a larger balance in the current account compared to the same period over the last three years. Meadows projected some decline in annual fees coming to IGU in 2021 from member states as a result of the COVID-19 global financial crisis. The EC approved the transfer of funds to the Secretary General for sundry Secretarial expenses and to maintain IGU website.

IGU National Membership update. EC members reported that as follow up to earlier EC decision, each EC member wrote to the national committee chairs for which they have liaison responsibilities and came out with the status of communication. Hay, Lemarchand, dell’Agnese noted that national committee communication and representation issues remain a big issue. It is clear that there are a number of countries and contact persons listed on the

website (and in the IGU database) with which there has been no meaningful communication, in some cases for many years (Meadows). It came to light that some countries have not paid membership fees for many years. The question of what to do with lapsed member countries, in particular whether or not they should remain listed as ‘member countries’ on the website, was discussed. Meadows tabled the list of current IGU member states and suggested limiting ‘active and in good standing’.

IGU Commission and Task Force update.

Secretary General Singh tabled a detailed report on IGU Commission and Task Force prepared by Droogleever Fortuijn. A summary was also circulated with the agenda documents. Singh reported on the decision of Commission Excellence Award Committee. The Commission Excellence Award for the year 2019 goes to the Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity, approved by the EC. Singh noted that two existing IGU Commissions had not submitted 2019 annual reports (Karst and Modelling). Singh noted the poor reporting record of the IGU Commission on Modeling Geographical Systems. Himiyama requested Singh to again write to the Chair and Steering Committee members of this Commission to ascertain their future intentions. Himiyama also requested Kolosov to write to the Karst Commission in the same vein. Kolosov contacted the former Chair of Karst Commission to make sure that it remained active. Its recently elected Chair from Indonesia should submit his report soon.

IGU Honours and Awards. The Honours and Awards Committee proposal document was tabled for review. The EC supports the establishment of new awards as suggested by the committee, but : proposals require further discussion. The list of nominees for the 2020 Lauréat and Planet and Humanity awards was tabled; it was agreed that Singh contact the chair, Professor Ruth Fincher, to confirm specific recommendations for approval.

IGU Commissions involvement in COVID-19 monitoring and research.

President Himiyama reported that some IGU Commissions such as IGU Commission on Health and the Environment, Governance, and Geographical Information Science have initiated research activities in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak. IGU must indeed support these activities. Himiyama suggested that other Commissions also be encouraged to take initiatives to contribute in this regard. In his view geography and geographers can contribute in many issues

pertaining to COVID-19 monitoring and research. Past-President Vladimir Kolosov suggested that a new session on COVID-19 be offered at the IGC in Istanbul 2021. Barbaros Gönençgil accepted this proposal. Meadows reported to the EC that he had been updating the IGU website in relation to COVID-19 news and developments.

IGU Website and Social Media, incl. LinkedIn, IGU Brochure. The issue of bandwidth limitation of the IGU website came into light. Pankaj, as webmaster, informed EC of the purchase of additional space on the website host portal and that bandwidth limit should be increased to at least 6 GB to resolve the issue. Singh noted the need to update the list of EC members, Commission and Task Force and National Committee members on the webpage. Lemarchand noted the need to update her email contact details on the list of Executive Committee members on the website. Hay noted that the IGU's new LinkedIn site is now available to help disseminate news of IGU activities.

IGU Bulletin and e-Newsletter. Meadows informed EC that IGU Bulletin for 2017-2018 is still not published. Singh noted that Volume 67-68 is almost ready but needs editing and will be published by August 2020, and that Volume 69-70 (2019-2020) would be published in 2021. Following discussion, the EC decided to send minutes of EC meetings to the editor of e-Newsletter only after their formal approval.

IGU Series and Partner Publisher. Hay noted the expression of interest received from MDPI to establish a publishing partnership between the IGU and MDPI. The IGU Commission on Geography for Future Earth currently partners with Elsevier to publish *Geography and Sustainability*. Meadows noted that IGU has a strong publication record with Springer-Nature in terms of edited volumes and monographs and there is also the Elgar series. It was agreed that the possibility of IGU publishing journals in partnership with a major publishing house is worth exploring further. Himiyama suggests support for high quality journals that are less expensive for both authors and readers, and any effort towards such direction is welcome. Commission and TF chairs will be requested to utilize such facilities through these series. Hay agreed Hay agreed to contact MDPI to see what their expression of interest might involve.

IGU Archives. Kolosov informed that everything is fine now it is time to go for electronic archives.

Himiyama was in favour of holding a future EC meeting in Leipzig. Because of COVID-19 this will not be possible before 2021. Kolosov suggested combining editorial board meeting with EC meeting in 2021.

IGU ppt. Discussion on this item was held over to next EC meeting.

IGU Journals Project. Nothing new to report on this matter (Meadows)

Japan UNESCO Prize. Meadows confirmed that Japan UNESCO prize is not being awarded this year. He will contact the ISC President regarding a possible nomination for the 2021 prize. ISC did not nominate any candidates for the 2019 prize.

Cooperation and Outreach

Festival International de Géographie. Lemarchand stated that the signing of MoU between the Presidents of IGU and FIG marked a new beginning of the two organizations.

Night of Geography. The fourth edition of an international 'GeoNight' was scheduled for April 3rd 2020 but the coronavirus situation resulted in cancellation, although several countries had hosted virtual celebrations. The report on this is to be submitted at the next EC meeting session (Lemarchand).

ISC, incl. ISC President letter, Action Plan. Himiyama noted that there are frequent mails from ISC with important information and/or requests these days that are shared in the EC, and requested EC members to give this more careful consideration in future so that he can respond to ISC in more thoughtful and convincing ways. Discussion on this item is to be continued at the next EC meeting.

GeoUnions incl. SDG mapping project; Deep-time Digital Earth, IUGG, IUGS. IGU has an important role in the GeoUnions and it would be useful if we could further strengthen this. The usual GeoUnions meeting for 2020 has been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Himiyama stressed that it is important for us to participate in meetings/conferences of GeoUnions and Geospatial societies. Discussion on this item was held over to next EC meeting.

UN-GGIM, UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies, High Level Forum on UN-GGIM. The forthcoming meetings have been postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Discussion on this item was held over to the next EC meeting.

CODATA, WDS. Singh has assumed responsibility to liaise with these initiatives. Discussion on this item will be held over to the next EC meeting.

CIPSH. On behalf of IGU Kolosov sent the proposals regarding the scientific programme of the European Humanities Conference scheduled in Lisbon on 5-7 May 2021 which promises to become an important interdisciplinary academic forum. Discussion on this item will be continued at the next EC meeting.

EUROGEO, EUGEO. Kolosov reminded the EC about the formal agreement between IGU and EUGEO to coordinate their activities and in particular the dates of their main meetings. EUGEO is upset because the new IGC dates in Istanbul clash with the scheduled EUGEO 2021 Congress and regrets that IGU EC did not consult them. To avoid a conflict, EUGEO now has to delay its Congress.

EGAL/UGAL. Vice President Lois-González reported that there is some break in establishing contact with these countries due to Coronavirus crisis. A membership proposal from the Caribbean Geography Association is anticipated in the near future, along with other possible applications.

Relations with other organisations (incl. AAG, AGA, RGS, ICA, UNESCO, AIGF). Discussion on this item held over to the next EC meeting.

Day of Geography. Discussion on this item was held over to the next EC meeting.

International Geographical Congresses, IGU Regional Conferences and Thematic Conferences

Istanbul, Turkey, International Geographical Congress 2020. Vice President Barbaros Gönençgil, who is the Chairperson of the 34th IGC 2020 Istanbul Organizing Committee, reported that following the spread of the coronavirus pandemic and its current trajectory, it had become clear that it would not be possible to hold the 34th IGC in Istanbul in August this year as originally planned.

Gönençgil, on behalf of the Local Organising Committee, proposed to postpone the IGC 2020 İstanbul for one year, and the IGU Executive Committee agreed to it unanimously. The 34th IGC İstanbul will now take place from 16th to 20th August 2021. All registration fees received, abstracts accepted, travel grants awarded, and the conference programme already developed for this year will be carried over to 2021. Any delegate who has already paid the registration fee may use that fee to participate in the Congress in August 2021 and, if desired, submit a new paper for the August 2021 Congress. Apart from immediately placing the postponement decision on IGU and IGC 2020 web portal, EC members also suggested sending emails to all participants who have registered and/or submitted abstracts. The EC agreed that travel grants awarded remain valid for the IGC 2021. Kolosov asked about the IGU Thematic Conference scheduled in Mexico during 17-22 August, 2021 that now clashes with the revised IGC dates. The General Assembly sessions scheduled in the 2020 IGC will be postponed to the 2021 IGC, but some of the planned agenda items need to be executed without delay electronically. The schedule of the execution of main items of agenda was agreed as follows:

- Election of the IGU President and Executive Committee Members for 2020-2024 (1st May – 30th June 2020)
- Appointment of Tellers for Election (April 2020)
- Approval of new National Members (June – August 2020)
- Approval of amendment in Statutes (June-August 2020)
- Approval of Commissions, Task Forces, and their Chairpersons for period 2020-2024 (June – August 2020)
- Report of the President for the Period 2016-20 (June – August 2020)
- Report of the Secretary General and Treasurer for the Period 2016-2020 (June – August 2020)
- Selection of the proposal for 37th International Geographical Congress (June – August 2020)
- Announcement of IGU Honours and Awards (June – August 2020)
- Discussion of IGU Priorities and National Committee suggestions (June – August 2020)
- Appointment of Finance Committee (2021)
- Report of the General Assembly Finance Committee (2021)

President Himiyama's term of office ends on 21st August 2020, i.e. the last day of the postponed 34th IGC 2020. An EC meeting will be held in Istanbul, if possible, on 20th - 21st August 2020 to wrap up

the mission of the four years' term. A follow-on meeting of the EC members for 2020-2024 will then be held immediately after conclusion of the wrap-up EC meeting.

Extraordinary International Geographical Congress, Paris 2022 (incl. Centennial Task Force report). Lemarchand reported that the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) is now established under co-chairs (Lemarchand and Le Blanc). The LOC has already conducted a site visit to the Sorbonne/Société de Géographie/Institut de Géographie venues to plan locations for sessions, posters, General Assembly, and Commission chairs meetings etc.

Dublin, International Geographical Congress, 2024. Discussion on this item was held over to the next EC meeting.

Thematic Conference, Heritage Geographies, Lecce, 29th May to 2nd June 2020. This conference has been postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Thematic Conference, Mexico, 17th to 22nd August, 2021. Vice-President Ruben Lois-González placed details of proposal of Thematic Conference,

Mexico, 17th to 22nd August, 2021. In light of rescheduling of IGC Istanbul, August, 2020 to August 16th to 20th 2021, EC requested Ruben Lois-González to communicate to the local organising committee of Thematic Conference, Mexico to reschedule dates of the conference preferably in the beginning of the year 2022 or 2023 to avoid conflict.

Call for Nominations: IGC 2028. After full deliberation on the matter, the EC considered the Melbourne bid proposal for IGC 2028. EC decided to inform Melbourne local organizing committee that it will recommend Melbourne be invited to host the 2028 Congress; this formally requires ratification by the IGU General Assembly. Due to the coronavirus pandemic and the postponement of the Istanbul Congress to 2021, the e-ballot will be opened from 1st May to 30th June in order to ratify this recommendation.

Other Business

There was no other business item to discuss in the EC meeting.

Adjourn

The Zoom meeting adjourned at 12:00 GMT on 9th April, 2020.

Zoom Meeting

20th May and 3rd June, 2020

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The meeting was chaired by President Yukio Himiyama, who welcomed Secretary-General RB Singh, Past-President Vladimir Kolosov, First Vice-President Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn, Vice-Presidents Barbaros Gönençgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell'Agnese, Bojie Fu, Ruben Lois-González and Assistant Secretary-General Mike Meadows along with Dr Pankaj Kumar as special invitee to take care of minutes. The Executive Committee meeting started sharp at 7.30 GMT on 20th May, 2020.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The President welcomed all the EC members to the meeting. The leftover agenda of Zoom meeting 1st, 2nd, 6th and 9th April 2020 was duly adopted; Gönençgil shared his screen to show the agenda and supporting documents during the meeting.

Minutes

Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meeting, Zoom Meeting held on 1st, 2nd, 6th and 9th April 2020 and previously circulated via email, are to be approved on 17th rd June 2020.

Organization and Operations

IGU Commissions and Task Forces. Singh informed EC members that he has sent a request mail to IGU Commission and Task Force Chairs to submit a two to three pages activities plan for 2020-24 before 31st May 2020 for discussion by IGU EC in order to determine continuation for 2020-24. The plan should incorporate: i) composition of the current and proposed committee for 2020-24, ii) present objectives of the commission and proposed objectives for 2020-24, iii) list of five major achievements for 2016-20 and five major activities to be undertaken during 2020-24. Singh mentioned that six Commissions had already submitted their plans. Droogleever-Fortuijn agreed to review the plans, especially with regard to the proposed chairs and steering committee members in light of the IGU Statutes. It was recognized that the report deadline may need to be extended in some cases.

IGU Honors and Awards. Himiyama presented detailed historical documents on IGU Honors and Awards. Among the three eminent IGU awards, Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize in Human Geography, which has been dormant for over a decade, has been formally discontinued. Following a lengthy discussion and considering past recipients of the IGU awards, it was decided to revise the guidelines for consideration byfor the Honors and Awards Committee as detailed below:

(Draft)

Guidelines for the International Geographical Union Honors and Awards Committee

(revised on 3rd June 2020)

The IGU Honors and Awards Committee shall be responsible for receiving and evaluating the nominations of individuals for:

- 1. The IGU Lauréat d'honneur,*
- 2. The IGU Planet and Humanity Medal, and*
- 3. Such other awards as the IGU may from time to time establish.*

The committee shall consist of six internationally prominent individuals drawn from countries that are members in good standing of the IGU, one of whom shall chair the committee. The members of the committee will be appointed by the IGU Executive Committee, which shall also designate the committee's chairperson. Committee member terms shall be four years in length, with the possibility of renewal for one additional term only. When possible, three members of the committee

shall be former recipients of the Lauréat, or the Planet and Humanity Medal.

The Honors and Awards Committee will normally conduct its business via e-mail and internet conference calls but may meet in person at IGU Conferences and Congresses at the discretion of its chairperson. The deliberations of the committee shall be confidential. Committee records shall be lodged in the IGU Archives under seal for 25 years from the conclusion of each round of the committee's deliberations. The committee shall conduct its deliberations independent of the IGU Executive Committee, which shall decline a recommendation of the Honors and Awards Committee only for compelling reasons.

The committee shall transmit its recommendations to the IGU Executive Committee well in advance of each International Geographical Congress and each International Geographical Union Regional Conference. The number of Lauréats awarded shall not exceed three in each two-year period. The number of Planet and Humanity Medals awarded shall not exceed two in each four-year period. No IGU Honor or Award shall be conferred posthumously, with the exception of nominees who decease between the date of their selection by the Honors and Awards Committee and the event at which the Honor or Award is to be formally conferred.

The IGU Secretary-General shall work closely with the Chair of the Committee, assist and guide him/her, and issue calls for nominations for IGU Honors and Awards in a timely manner that allows adequate time for response from nominators and for deliberate evaluation by the committee. Nominations should be solicited by email circular, on the IGU website, in IGU print media, and/or via other appropriate means. The committee should develop and use standardized nomination forms and clear evaluation criteria to ensure equitable assessment of all nominations. In evaluating nominations, the committee shall use procedures and criteria consistent with those that have heretofore guided the selection of honorees, to wit:

- The IGU Lauréat d'honneur was established to recognize individuals who have achieved particular distinction or who have rendered outstanding service in the work of the IGU or in international geography.*
- The IGU Planet and Humanity Medal was created to honor individuals (not necessarily geographers) who have made outstanding contributions to peace, welfare or sustainability.*

The EC agreed to award the IGU Lauréats d'Honneur for the year 2021 to Professor Joos Droogleever Fortuijn and Professor Yoshitaka Ishikawa. The EC approved names of the chair and members of the new Honors and Awards Committee proposed by EC members and compiled by Singh who was asked to propose the chair and the other members of the committee, taking into consideration global representation. These members were approached between sessions of our the extended Zoom meeting and have agreed to serve on the Committee. The committee for the period 2020 to 2025 is as follows:

Honors and Awards Committee-6 members

Prof. Ronald F. Abler, North America, Chair of the Committee

Members:

- Prof. Richard Le Heron Héron, Oceania
- Prof. Yoshitaka Ishikawa, Asia
- Prof. Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn, Europe
- Prof. Irasema Alcántara-Ayala, Latin America
- Prof. Brij Maharaj, Africa

The new committee shall be asked to receive and evaluate additional nominations for the 2021 awards as well as nominations for the 2022 awards and the 2024 awards. The EC also discussed the proposal for the new IGU awards suggested by Professor Ruth Fincher, the out-going Chair of the Honors and Awards Committee. The proposal included three new IGU awards, and the EC decided to accept two of them, namely (A) IGU Early Career Award in Geography and (B) IGU Award for Distinguished Geographic Practice. The new committee will be asked to work at realizing them. The EC will request the new committee to review the criteria for both new awards, paying attention to the following points:

- Are gender and geographical quotas for young awardees appropriate?
- Should the right of nomination be afforded to both National Committees and Commissions/Task Forces?
- IGU financial commitment may be limited.
- What period of time post-PhD in (A) is appropriate?
- Is emphasis on 'collaborative' work in (A) necessary?
- Is emphasis on 'international' in (A) necessary?
- Is 'Geographic' in (B) necessary?

IGU PowerPoint. Gönençgil tabled the IGU ppt and highlighted some of the most important slides. EC members expressed their appreciation for the work in compiling the standard presentation which can be used and amended as needed. Himiyama suggested that the ppt be updated on an ongoing basis. Lemarchand noted her willingness to translate the ppt into French, and suggested that Lois-González could prepare a Spanish version.

Cooperation and Outreach

Night of Geography. Lemarchand tabled a document on GeoNight that comprises general information and guidelines to assist organisers of GeoNight events. This has been distributed to all IGU National Committees and is available in French, English and Spanish. She noted that some 20 five countries had participated in GeoNight events and that UNESCO is very much interested in supporting future GeoNight.

ISC, incl. ISC President letter, Action Plan.

Himiyama tabled a recent letter from the International Science Council (ISC), which had already been shared with the EC, and noted that ISC frequently sends information, proposals, requests etc. He encouraged EC members to send information to him to facilitate timely replies to the ISC. ISC requested that IGU nominate a candidate for a small group of experts that will represent the Council on an international alliance around COVID-19 education entitled COVID-Education Alliance of partners (COVIDEA), and in response, IGU has nominated Professor Eyüp Artvinli, Eskisehir Osmangazi University Faculty of Education, Turkey, who was recommended by Gönençgil. Meadows suggested that the growing number of IGU initiatives in relation to the coronavirus pandemic should be submitted on the ISC web portal established in relation to COVID-19 (<https://council.science/covid19/>). Himiyama noted that IGU recently supported new applications for membership of the ISC from three organizations, and that this has been appreciated by the ISC.

GeoUnions incl. SDG mapping project; Deep-time Digital Earth, IUGG, IUGS.

Himiyama noted the invitation from Prof. Orhan Altan, Honorary Member of ISPRS, to nominate two people from IGU to the ISC GeoUnions ad hoc Committee on Risk and Disaster Management. After discussion and exchange of ideas, it was agreed to nominate Dr. Peijun Shi, President, Qinghai Normal University, China, and Prof. R.B. Singh, Secretary-General and Treasurer of IGU (IGU EC

representative). Singh apprised EC that it is his specialized area and he had been in contact with this committee and had organised its meeting in India in December 2020. Himiyama highlighted a letter written eight years ago by the then IGU President Prof. Ronald F. Abler to Prof. Yuan Tseh Lee, the then President of the International Council for Science (ICSU), which indicates the roles and power of the GeoUnions and its relation with the IGU. Himiyama noted that, because of COVID-19, almost all international meetings planned in April or beyond in this year have been cancelled, postponed, or changed to virtual online meetings, and that the IGU can take advantage of the increase of online meetings as it enables the IGU to participate in the meetings which are otherwise too costly to participate. Meadows stated that online platforms are opportunities to join these meetings but we need to ascertain what specific roles IGU can or should play in those organisations. Lemarchand agreed that it is very important and necessary to maintain such external relationships but that we need to work with GeoUnions strategically. Singh shared this view, mentioning that IGU is participating in UN-GGIM, that UN-GGIM publishes our report and circulates to several UN agencies and globally and therefore it is a great opportunity for IGU to continue working with them.

Hay apprised EC regarding the strategic outreach and timetabling document that he prepared and outlined its two parts. The first part lists details of meetings of the organisations with which IGU EC has indicated its wish to maintain/develop strong connections. The second part is a draft timetable of upcoming meetings of these organisations for 2020-2022, indicating EC member attendance as appropriate. This was circulated to EC members for their input. Himiyama suggested that the timetable be updated keeping in mind cancellation and rescheduling in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. Himiyama further noted that articles I B3 and I B6 of the IGU Statutes clearly note that the purposes of the IGU are to provide for the participation of geographers in the work of relevant international organizations and to participate in any other appropriate form of international cooperation with the object of advancing the study and application of geography. Article I C of the Statutes states that IGU adheres to the ISC and recognizes it as providing a coordinating and representative body for the international organization of natural and social sciences. Himiyama affirmed that these provisions of IGU Statutes should be the basis of our action and engagement with GeoUnions, ISC and UNESCO activities. Gönençgil expressed the view that IGU has to be more visible in the activities of GeoUnions.

Himiyama asked Hay to update the strategic outreach and timetabling document in light of recent EC discussions and to return to EC for action.

UN-GGIM, UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies, High Level Forum on UN-GGIM. Himiyama informed EC that he had been able to attend an online meeting of top officials of UN-GGIM a week ago. The most important work of UN-GGIM is to support developing countries in the field of geospatial data infrastructure. UN-GGIM helps developing countries to prepare standard geospatial data infrastructure projects to obtain support from the World Bank. The International Cartographic Association (ICA) is playing a leading role in this body and IGU is requested annually to send a report to UN-GGIM. It is expected that this year the report for UN-GGIM will be required in August. Himiyama further mentioned that discussion in recent UN-GGIM online meetings included education and science in addition to issues of more practical or industrial concern. In order to go deeper into these issues, UN-GGIM needs subject experts from geography and allied disciplines.

CODATA. Singh reported that the CODATA virtual General Assembly is scheduled for 25th June 2020; Singh has already registered and voted in favor of the postponement of the physical General Assembly to 2021. CODATA now also have a committee based at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) where geographers are also contributing. CODATA is holding a meeting where restructuring of the committee will take place and it is hoped that many geographers from different parts of the world will join CODATA. Together with Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Singh and colleagues organized a CODATA International Training Programme for young geographers at the IGU India conference in Hyderabad. Many participants from South Asian countries participated in the training programme. More recently, a training webinar on Google Earth Engine (GEE) was conducted and many people participated in it. CODATA maintain good contact with different academies of sciences.

CIPSH. Kolosov tabled a letter from the Secretary-General of CIPSH regarding the CIPSH_SDU Conference Announcement. A CIPSH virtual EC meeting will take place within a few days and the physical General Assembly, in Odense, Denmark, is scheduled for 14th and 15th December 2020 if the situation allows. The 'European Humanities and Beyond' conference will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, during 5th to 7th May 2021 and has several sessions

on multidisciplinary humanity and society topics of interest to geographers. The organisers have accepted an IGU request to hold a special session on Sustainability and this information should be circulated to appropriate IGU commissions.

EUROGEO, EUGEO. There is nothing to report regarding EUROGEO as all conferences are cancelled for 2020. EUROGEO Conference 2021 will be held in Madrid, April 22nd to 23rd 2021. The EUGEO Seminar and General Assembly planned in Vilnius, Lithuania, for 23rd to 25th April 2020 have been postponed because of the COVID-19 emergency in Europe. Himiyama asked Kolosov to nominate an IGU liaison officer. Himiyama noted that IGU and EUGEO do not have a formal agreement and Kolosov replied that it will be good to formalize our relations in a form of Special Memorandum that could be signed at the Istanbul 2021 Congress. Kolosov suggested preparing and circulating a draft memorandum among EC members of each organization for comment with a view to formal ratification.

Relations with other organizations (incl. AAG, AGA, RGS, ICA, UNESCO, AIGF). Lois-González reported that the Latin American Conference of Geographers (EGAL) is delayed because of the very serious coronavirus situation in Latin American countries. This may now only be held as late as 2022. Meadows noted that the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) has conferred a prestigious Honorary Fellowship on IGU Vice-President Bojie Fu.

Day of Geography. Himiyama reminded the fact that the first ever International Geographical Congress was held in 1871 at Antwerp and 2021 is therefore the 150th anniversary (sesquicentennial) and therefore a very special year for IGU. It is appropriate that the proposed new awards will be established in 2021 in commemoration. Since the IGU 'birthday' is 27th July, this is an incentive to do something special on 27th July 2021. Lemarchand raised concerns that we have to be careful as the 'Day of Geography' should not be confused with the existing Night of Geography. Gönençgil remarked that the Day of Geography could be like the International Environment Day. Singh noted that it could be entitled 'International Geography Day'. Himiyama has been asked to elaborate on the matter.

IGU Extraordinary Congress in Paris (2022)

Lemarchand and Kolosov presented a list of potential events to be organized at the IGU Extraordinary Congress in Paris (2022). She mentioned the local organizing committee will meet in a few days to discuss congress activities, including launching the congress website and the matter of sponsorship. One of the main objectives of the Extraordinary Congress is to disseminate geographical knowledge and to increase the international visibility of geography and IGU. Therefore, the programme should include more public events profiting from the fact that the venue is one of the most famous global cities and that Paris plays host to a large number of international organizations. Lemarchand suggested inviting high profile political or cultural personalities to the opening ceremony (e.g. Secretary-General of UNESCO) and to organize special sessions on themes such as "Geography and Global Climate Change", "Geography and Diplomacy in the XXI Century", "Geography and Emergencies", "Geography and Business", etc. It is intended that these can take a variety of formats, such as keynote lectures, workshops etc., but panels are likely to be more attractive. It is important to invite not only scholars but interesting public figures engaged in a wide range of activities (leaders or experts from international organizations such as FAO or WHO, diplomats, heads of state and private companies, etc.). Past President Kolosov supported the idea of a special session on "Geography and Diplomacy in the XXI Century" citing that COVID-19 is going to remain a major issue in the year 2021 and suggested that an important task is to find an appropriate panel of speakers to lead the session. Droogleever-Fortuijn suggested also inviting important leaders and people from youth organizations and major social organizations. In response to the suggestion by Singh that the IGU archives could form the basis of an exhibition, Lemarchand noted that there may be constraints relating to transfer of materials between nations and that there are also technical and logistical issues given the nature of the venues. Libraries, including those at the Sorbonne and the National Library of France are available to host exhibitions. Lemarchand raised the idea of a gallery of portraits of IGU past Presidents with some materials about their life and contribution to the development of the discipline. Himiyama suggested approaching IGU national committees for additional exhibition materials. Gönençgil introduced the possibility of producing a video documentary highlighting 100 years of IGU activities and dell'Agnese offered to assist with technical and logistic support for this idea. IGU sister organisations, including ICA, CIPSH and

representatives of the GeoUnions, will be invited to attend although the nature of their respective roles needs to be defined. One possibility would be a brief video message. Himiyama concluded that these matters lie in the purview of the local organizing committee and Lemarchand agreed to present them at their upcoming meeting.

In order to encourage greater participation from young scholars, IGU should consider increasing the financial allocation for travel grants beyond the usual US\$20,000, especially given that Paris 2022 is such a special event.

Other Business

A survey of gender equality in science, coordinated by GenderInSITE (Gender in Science, Innovation, Technology and Engineering) on behalf of the ISC, has a deadline on 6th June 2020 and Himiyama agreed to respond. Kolosov reported that Sebastian Lenz, Director of the Institute of Regional Studies in Leipzig, is prepared to host a session of the EC in Leipzig in May 2021 and that there is a need to inform him of suitable dates.

Kolosov tabled the list of chapters with the individuals' assigned responsibility for the forthcoming Centennial Book and noted the need to remind the authors regularly about their commitment to ensure the volumes are published on time. The Centennial Task Force has suggested one of its face to face meetings at the time of an IGU EC meeting in 2021. Kolosov agreed to send an updated version of the tabled document to EC members. Singh shared a letter from Catherine Phillips, representing the local organizing committee of IGC Melbourne 2028, outlining the plans to launch the congress website with a summary of the bid proposal.

Droogleever-Fortuijn inquired about the bid process for the IGU Regional Conference in 2026. Meadows noted that the call should be made some time after the IGU General Assembly in August 2020.

Adjourn

The Zoom meeting adjourned at 12:00 GMT on 3rd June, 2020.

Zoom Meeting

13th June, 2020

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The meeting was chaired by President Yukio Himiyama, who welcomed Secretary-General R.B. Singh, Past-President Vladimir Kolosov, First Vice-President Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn, Vice-Presidents Barbaros Gönençgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell'Agnese, Bojie Fu, Ruben Lois-González and Assistant Secretary-General Mike Meadows along with Dr Pankaj Kumar as special invitee to take care of minutes. The Executive Committee meeting started sharp at 7:30 GMT on 17th June, 2020.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The President welcomed all the EC members to the meeting. The leftover agenda of Zoom meeting 20th May and 3rd June 2020 was duly adopted; Gönençgil shared his screen to show the agenda and supporting documents during the meeting.

Minutes

Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meeting, Zoom Meeting held on 20th May and 3rd June 2020 and previously circulated via email, has been approved after minor correction.

Organization and Operations

Extension of Commission and Task Force 2020-24. Himiyama requested Droogleever-Fortuijn to table the summary of reports of IGU Commissions and Task Forces for discussion and approval of their extension for 2020-2024. A further check to see was still required as to whether or not there are proposed Steering Committee members who are listed in more than one Commissions in contravention of the IGU Statutes. This check can be conducted only after all Commissions have submitted their reports, and thus far, 16 Commissions have failed to submit their reports. Several Commissions propose activities related to Covid-19 and some Commissions and Task Forces have plans for special activities for

young/early career scholars. However, several Commissions and Task Forces propose new Steering Committees that are not in accordance with the Statutes, for example, too many or too few Steering Committee members, two members from the same country, and members serving more than three terms. Several Commissions have a low number of female members; some Commissions do not have Steering Committee members from South/Southeast Asia, Africa or Latin-America, although the Secretary-General asked explicitly to include Steering Committee members from low-income countries. Himiyama mentioned that the EC has to be very strict in following the IGU Statutes. Meadows noted that a former Chair can be associated with the Commission as an honorary member. Singh proposed to check reports of each commission and record detailed comments which can be sent to respective Commissions. Singh highlighted that in a few Commissions, Steering Committee members are more than 10 in number so the number should be reduced. Kolosov favoured encouraging Chairs of Commissions to add more females and people from the global South to Steering Committees. Droogleever-Fortuijn noted also that most Commissions reports can only be approved after they have resolved a number of matters raised in comments and remarks on their reports. Singh restated that 15 of the Commissions have submitted satisfactory reports and their continuation can be confirmed by the General Assembly. In other cases, the anomalous membership/chair issues will need to be resolved before recommendation can be made to continue. A reminder email will be sent to the rest of the Commissions for report submission. Himiyama asked Singh to write letters to all Commissions, Singh agreed, and confirmed that the rest of the missing Commission reports be tabled for discussion in the August EC meeting.

IGU National Membership. An application for new national membership has been received from the Dominican Republic, and an application for renewed national membership has been received from Colombia. The Executive Committee supports these applications, and it was decided to table them in the next General Assembly.

Cooperation and Outreach

IGU Timetabling. Himiyama tabled the draft IGU Timetabling and asked for additional comments on it. He suggested several updates in the meeting timetable of GeoUnions' prospective attendees. He suggested that any suitable person can attend GeoUnions meetings to represent IGU provided this

is approved by the EC. Droogleever noted that it is more effective that the same people among Past President, President and Secretary General attend GeoUnions meetings regularly as it will help to follow up their activities and that only in exceptional cases should other EC members can attend those meetings. dell'Agnese and Kolosov agreed. Lemarchand agreed with Himiyama and pointed that first place should be given to the Past President, President and Secretary General to maintain continuity but in some cases because of budgetary and time constraints it is difficult for one or two persons to follow the same GeoUnions activities. Himiyama mentioned that the situation is in flux due to travel restrictions and that GeoUnions meetings will be held online. IGU should be in a good position to take initiatives. IGU has been promoting the need for education to be considered as an important thrust, as Himiyama and Meadows have frequently emphasized this at both GeoUnions and ICSU meetings. There is a good opportunity for IGU to take the lead in promotion of education in GeoUnions. Hay clarified why the tabled document has two parts. The first part lists details of meetings of the organisations with which IGU EC has indicated its wish to maintain/develop strong connections. The URL of the organization is recorded and a suggested IGU liaison person. This is meant to be a reference document whereby it is possible to add other organizations with which the IGU is willing to maintain/develop strong connections, such as the International Association for the Promotion of Geoethics. The second part of is the working timetable, setting out 2020-2022 meetings scheduled for those organizations with which IGU wishes to maintain its connections and identifying an EC member to participate in those meetings, depending on budget and other support. In this way the EC can know what meetings are forecast, and make plans for those. The first part of the document will probably not change very much but part two is the working part which will change regularly. Hay suggested keeping this document as an agenda item in every EC meeting to facilitate planning for the EC and IGU's future external engagement with its significant partners. Himiyama mentioned that there will be more and more online meetings and the document has to be modified to incorporate changes in schedules. Himiyama mentioned that ICS is proposing to centralize control of the activities of ISC regional offices in order to improve communication. Himiyama also supplied information about the UN-GGIM meeting now scheduled online due to COVID-19, and asked EC members to join the virtual meetings. Himiyama added information about the High Level Forum held on 27th May and 9th June. Droogleever-Fortuijn

mentioned that EUGEO organizes a congress every two years Gönencgil suggested adding activities, such as meetings of Asian Geographical Association (AGA) as they are quite active. Gönencgil with the assistance of Meadows agreed to find information about activities of AGA. It was agreed that the organization be added to the list of organisations with which IGU wishes to maintain/develop strong connections. Hay agreed to update the document and asked all members to pass new information to him.

International Geography Day. Gönencgil tabled a proposal of International Day of Geography. The main idea behind the day is to create awareness about geography at local, regional and global levels. As IGU is the biggest umbrella organization of geography unions at global level IGU could propose to the United Nations the creation of an International Day of Geography. Gönencgil further mentioned that he knows it is a tough task and can take years to realize. It is important to avoid confusion between GeoNight and International Geography Day because both events are of the same nature (local, regional and international). Support for the concept would be needed at national level, from GeoUnions as well as from UNESCO. Gönencgil offered to explore procedures to obtain support from his own country. Himiyama cited his past experience of IYGU and noted that typically such a proposal would have to have the support of the GeoUnions and ISC. It is feasible for the ISC to take it to the United Nations. Kolosov mentioned that it is very long and political process because such proposals should be submitted in practice better by small countries not involved in a big political game. It was suggested that it would be good to start with GeoUnions and ISC and coordinate these activities within IGU as a basis for encouraging different organisations and countries to recognise a Day of Geography.

Himiyama reminded the EC that the 27th July 2022 is the 100th birthday of the IGU. He wished that because IGU is going to complete its 100th year in 2022, and as there is extraordinary IGC in 2022, something can be done to celebrate the 100th Birthday of the IGU. Himiyama suggested that 27th July could be recommended to the UN as International Day of Geography but it will take time. Himiyama also mentioned that the 100th IGU Birthday celebration is the more immediate task. dell'Agnese cautioned while choosing the date for International Day of Geography, it should not coincide with other important international geographical days like GIS Day etc. She added that because 27th July is IGU's birthday other organisations involved may not support this date as

they might associate this day with IGU only. Kolosov mentioned that The Day of Geography is going to be celebrated officially for the first time in Russia on August 18th. Regarding UN International Day of Geography Kolosov mentioned it is very difficult to push it to that level of recognition and it really may out warrant such effort and that UNESCO level will be enough for us. Lemarchand mentioned that Himiyama's proposal for a -onetime celebration on the birthday of IGU is possible at the UNESCO level, and she provided the example of the Mathematics Day celebration. She pointed out that it might be difficult to organize an International Geography Day when many countries already have a Geography Day, or even a week (Geography Awareness Week) and there is already GeoNight. For this reason, Lemarchand and Gönencgil propose to work to form a working group to clearly distinguish the events, to work step by step and to achieve good coordination with international organisations and national committees. Himiyama suggested that if the IGU plans to do something on 27th July 2022, it should announce it in advance to draw attention of people for possible participation and the IGU can use the same date next year in Istanbul to announce events for the year 2022. Gönencgil welcomed this and mentioned that it is possible to have a session/panel discussion on 27th July, 2021 at Istanbul. The discussion will be continued in the next EC meeting.

Other Business

Wrap-up schedule. Himiyama tabled the wrap-up schedule document from the April 2020 Zoom EC meeting minutes and mentioned that it should be made more concrete, as the present EC has only two months left before finishing its term. Singh noted that, thus far, around 30 countries voted out of 54 eligible had voted in the e-ballot and agreed to send out one more reminder e-mail to eligible National Committee chairs. The election ends on 30th June and within one week the results will be ready for announcement. Droogleever-Fortuijn mentioned that the Secretary-General can announce results to candidates and National Committee Chairs after compilation of results around 10th July 2020. After discussion the following schedule of wrap-up was adopted:

Schedule of wrap up. The General Assembly sessions scheduled in the 2020 IGC will be postponed to the 2021 IGC, but some of the planned agenda items need to be executed without delay electronically. The schedule of agenda items was agreed as follows:

- Election of the IGU President and Executive Committee Members for 2020-2024 (1st May – 30th June 2020) Announce result in early July. Send reminder mail...Urgent! 10th of July announce result.
- Appointment of Tellers for Election (April 2020) Done
- Approval of new National Members (June – August 2020) Announce soon.
- Approval of amendment in Statutes (June-August 2020) Already on the Website.
- Approval of Commissions, Task Forces, and their Chairpersons for period 2020-2024 (June – August 2020) Soon (mid July) reminder by Singh.
- Report of the President for the Period 2016-20 (June – August 2020) Draft will be ready shortly and will be shared with EC around 10th July – conclude about 15th July – present to all National Members and others on 20th August)
- Report of the Secretary General and Treasurer for the Period 2016-2020 (June – August 2020) Share with EC about 10th July – conclude about 15th July – present to all National Members and others on 20th August
- Selection of the proposal for 37th International Geographical Congress (June – August 2020) on going – 30th June... Announce the result in early July - 10th of July.
- Announcement of IGU Honors and Awards (June – August 2020) Soon-Today! 17th June...
- Discussion of IGU Priorities and National Committee suggestions (June – August 2020) First announcement of the virtual mini General Assembly will be made to National Members and others on around 10th July... prepare an agenda for GA and send it to NM and others later in July. Send a zoom conference invitation to NM and others a few days before the zoom meeting of 20th August.
- Transfer of IGU account As soon as possible-after 10th July

Adjourn

The Zoom meeting adjourned at 11:00 GMT on 17th June, 2020.

Zoom Meeting

15th September 2020

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The online meeting was chaired by President Mike Meadows, who welcomed EC members, Secretary-General R.B. Singh, Past-President Yukio Himiyama, First Vice-President Iain Hay, Vice Presidents Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell'Agnese, Bojie Fu, Ruben Lois- González, Barbaros Gönençgil, Céline Rozenblat, Holly Barcus, along with, Assistant Secretary-General Pankaj Kumar. The Executive Committee meeting started at 10h00 GMT on Tuesday, 15th September, 2020.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The agenda was duly adopted; Gönençgil shared his screen to display the agenda and supporting documents during the meeting.

Minutes

Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meeting, held online on 20th and 21st August 2020, previously circulated and corrected via email, were approved. Meadows confirmed that Professor Iain Hay is appointed as IGU First Vice-President for the period 2020-22 and indicated that it is his intention to propose Professor Nathalie Lemarchand be nominated to that position in 2022.

Organization and Operations

Allocation of EC member responsibilities. Meadows tabled complete address details of IGU Executive Committee members for final checking and verification. This will be considered as confirmed for internal use by IGU EC members. An edited version is to be posted onto the IGU website (Singh). A document setting out EC Commission & Task Force responsibilities for 2020-2022 was tabled for consideration and adoption. Following

discussion and minor amendments the EC approved the document (Appendix 1). Rozenblat inquired about the roles and responsibilities expected of an EC member in liaising with Commissions/Task Forces. Meadows explained the need to establish a real sense of connection with Commission Chairs and Steering Committee members. The draft list of IGU EC country liaison responsibilities for 2020-2022 was then tabled, with the addition of the Dominican Republic. Following discussion and minor amendments, the EC approved the allocation (Appendix 2). Gönençgil proposed that EC use WhatsApp to facilitate rapid communication. Meadows supported this idea and asked EC members to show their willingness to use WhatsApp, given that it facilitates quick and easy message broadcasting.

IGU communication and information (website and social media etc.). Meadows introduced discussion on IGU communications by stressing the need to have current, accurate and authentic information on the website, Facebook, and other IGU communication networks. Details of all new Commission Chairs and updates from National Committees need to be added to the website as soon as possible. EC liaisons with Commissions, Task Forces and National Committees are important for soliciting updated information. Barcus inquired about the procedure for communicating any changes to the IGU EC. Meadows replied that all such communications should go to the Secretary-General with copies to all other EC members. Meadows asked EC members to communicate to the Secretary-General, and his Assistant any redundant or incorrect information on the website. dell'Agnese suggested placing details of Commission and Task Force steering committee members on the IGU website and it was noted that full contact details of all Commission/Task Force Steering Committee members need to be collected to facilitate this (Singh). Such information should also be available on each Commission or Task Force webpage. The need to update National Commission membership categories on the webpage in respect to IGU classification as Full, Associate and Affiliate members was noted. Each EC member is requested to email all Chairs of Commissions, Task Forces, and National Committees that fall under their responsibility to introduce (or reintroduce) themselves as the appropriate EC liaison. Rozenblat suggested using Dropbox or equivalent for circulating documents among EC members and offered to facilitate this and agreed to investigate a solution that would be accessible to all. If such a system is adopted, there needs to be clear indication on all documents regarding the author and date to

avoid duplication and confusion. Meadows pointed out that the EC also has to focus on updating IGU website information which is made available in Spanish and French as it is not being updated regularly. Meadows also mentioned reinvigorating the IGU's Facebook site to restore the auto update link with the IGU website. IGU also has a presence on other social platforms such as Twitter and LinkedIn and Instagram that will require attention. Rozenblat suggested that the IGU website was in need of restructuring and that she would prepare a summary assessment report on the matter. Singh noted that Assistant Secretary-General Kumar was also preparing such an assessment. Singh also requested that EC members submit a brief one-page CV to Kumar for inclusion on the IGU website. Kumar suggested adding a new section entitled 'Publications' to the IGU website to highlight all IGU publications including the Springer and Edward Elgar series.

IGU Bank Account and Assistant Treasurer. Meadows recalled that, at the last EC meeting, Rozenblat and Barcus had agreed to explore the feasibility of hosting the IGU treasury in Switzerland or the USA respectively. Barcus reported that she had contacted appropriate people in Macalester College and they are willing and able to host the IGU operating accounts. Macalester is able to operate the account as a so-called Agency Fund and can provide extensive support such as periodic account reviews, office support for payments and receipts, maintaining monthly account statements, and annual account audits. A procurement card can also be issued. There is no cost associated with maintaining and running the account, although there would of course be banking costs associated with fund transfers to and from other countries. No interest will be earned on the account. Meadows remarked that this looks to be a very efficient and reliable way of managing IGU accounts. Rozenblat reported that she had visited two banks in Switzerland, UBS and BCB. The UBS situation appears to be very complicated, since in order to open an account, the headquarters of the organization would have to be in Switzerland, as would both the Treasurer and President. UBS also has money laundering concerns about IGU transactions with more than 100 countries. BCB had similar concerns although they require that either the Treasurer or President be in Switzerland. Rozenblat commented that the Macalester proposal seems more attractive and appropriate than that which could be offered by a Swiss bank. Hay observed that his inquiries in Australia with commercial banks on behalf of IGU had yielded similar concerns to those uncovered in Switzerland and added that the

Macalester proposal looks promising. It was agreed that Barcus be appointed as Temporary Treasurer (pending an amendment to the Statutes to formally establish the position of IGU Treasurer separately from the position of Secretary- General). Meadows asked Barcus to engage in more detailed discussions with Macalester to better understand the formalities and documentation required to transfer and operate IGU funds. Meadows thanked Rozenblat for her research with Swiss banks.

Cooperation and Outreach

This item was held over pending discussion of IGU strategy which is scheduled for the next EC meeting in mid-October.

Other Business

No items were tabled.

Adjourn

The Zoom meeting adjourned at 11:45 GMT on 15th September, 2020.

Zoom Meeting

15th October 2020

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The online meeting was chaired by President Mike Meadows, who welcomed EC members, Secretary-General R.B. Singh, Past-President Yukio Himiyama, First Vice-President Iain Hay, Vice Presidents Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell’Agnese, Bojie Fu, Ruben Lois-González, Barbaros Gönençgil, Céline Rozenblat, Holly Barcus, along with, Assistant Secretary-General Pankaj Kumar. The Executive Committee meeting commenced at 10h00 GMT on Tuesday, 15th October 2020.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The agenda was duly adopted.

Minutes

Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meeting, held online on 15th September 2020, previously circulated and corrected via email, were approved. Lemarchand agreed to produce a French translation.

Organization and Operations

IGU Strategy and Priorities 2020-2024. Meadows presented via Powerpoint his perspectives on the IGU strategy and priorities for the period 2020 to 2024. He noted that, according to the IGU Statutes, the purposes of the International Geographical

Union are as follows: to promote the study of geographical problems; to initiate and co-ordinate geographical research requiring international co-operation and to promote its scientific discussion and publication; to provide for the participation of geographers in the work of relevant international organizations; to facilitate the collection and diffusion of geographical data and documentation in and between all member countries; 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; to participate in any other appropriate form of international co-operation with the object of advancing the study and application of geography; to promote international standardization or compatibility of methods, nomenclature, and symbols employed in geography.

In reflecting on this set of purposes, Meadows went on to note that most of these purposes have traditionally been a focus and that, with the possible exception of the point about facilitating the collection and diffusion of geographical data and documentation (which point is not entirely clear), IGU does appear to at least attempt to fulfil most of its obligations. He presented a brief summary of the most prominent tasks in relation to the question, ‘what does IGU do?’ as follows: organizes regular Congresses/Regional conferences/Thematic conferences and IGU-branded meetings; promotes research and teaching in the discipline principally

through its Commissions and Task Forces; connects with and attempts to extend its international footprint through its national membership and via national geographical associations; promotes education, specifically through its adoption of the International Charter on Geographical Education and through the work of the IGU Commission on Geographical Education and the Olympiad Task Force; is active in its membership of ISC (and through this with the GeoUnions specifically and other unions in general) and /CIPSH; through its promotion of research publications, via the Commissions and in developing publication series with both Springer and Edward Elgar, publishes the IGU Bulletin approximately biannually, and the biennial IGU e-Newsletter; engages in public promotion of discipline: in particular through its involvement in the Festival International de Géographie and the Night of Géographie/La Nuit de Géographie; administers awards to deserving candidates via its Honors and Awards Committee; engages from time to time in special projects, such as IYGU, GeoSus and IGU Journals Project; communicates its activities and connects with the membership and community at large via the website, various social media platforms and email. Meadows noted that there are essentially four constituencies with which we need to communicate, viz. IGU Commissions and Task Forces, IGU National Committees and the broader community of geographers, external bodies including ISC (and related unions) and CIPSH, and those bodies that have major political influence in setting the global scientific context and agenda, such as UNESCO.

Meadows went on then to reflect on four issues in relation to the work of the IGU as follows: What do we do well? What do we do less well? Where and how can we improve? What is missing (what should be doing that we are not)? In considering the first of these questions, Meadows noted that, in his view, IGU is reasonably successful in organizing its Congresses, Regional Conferences, and Thematic Conferences. Singh noted that the IGU brand is also prominent in other conferences globally, especially the regular meetings that are held in India which help to promote the IGU name. Himiyama also suggested that, given the current restrictions on travel due to COVID-19, IGU should consider supporting (and even adding our logo where appropriate) other scientific meetings that are being held online and often free of registration fee – a situation that is likely to prevail for some time in the future and one that IGU can take advantage of. Meadows commented that most Commissions and Task Forces are active in promoting research, education and outreach in the discipline, some very strongly so,

and that these bodies lie really at the core of IGU activities. The regular formal review of Commissions and Task Forces, together with the annual Commission Excellence Award help to keep this element of IGU work strong. IGU-related publications (including of course Commission and Task Force research outputs and the various publishing house series, are effective and enjoy a strong reputation. IGU also provides a suitable platform for geographers to participate in international bodies and that we regularly make nominations to, for example, ISC and related committees, albeit not always successfully so. IGU external relations are generally good among the communities associated with organizations such as ISC, CIPSH, and a number of other bodies, including various geographical associations (such as AAG, RGS/IBG among others). Singh noted the strong reputation we have within the UNGGIM. The public profile of IGU, while very limited, is supported by La Nuit de Géographie/Night of Geography initiative and by our improved relationship with FIG. IGU does have the Planet and Humanity Medal and Lauréat d'honneur awards but it the potential role of awards in promoting IGU may have been underestimated and the IGU Honors and Awards Committee has been tasked with making recommendations as to how this may be improved.

In terms of what IGU does less well, Meadows reflected on the limited geographical footprint of membership in Africa and pledged that he would endeavour to improve this situation over the next four years. Lois-González noted that he has recently had very promising discussions with geographers in Mozambique that may yet lead to a membership application from that country. The distribution of countries of domicile of chairs of IGU Commissions and Task Forces also indicates very major gaps across Africa, while the situation regarding steering committee members is somewhat more equitable. In terms of communication, Meadows indicated that he is particularly keen to improve this aspect of the IGU work. The website has an attractive design, but its structure, accuracy and currency require work and, as pointed out by Hay, Rozenblat and Kumar among others, it is difficult to navigate around. IGU engagement with social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, are all in need of more focused attention. In terms of accuracy and completeness, the IGU email database needs to be updated, an ongoing task of course. The IGU e-newsletter has been faithfully produced over many years by former Vice-President Bellezza but there are indications that a facelift is in order and the ongoing confusion over the branding 'Home of Geography' in relation to IGU needs to be addressed.

The IGU Bulletin has fallen well behind its publication schedule. There was some discussion as to whether or not this needs to be published at all but Meadows noted that the Bulletin serves as a formal record of IGU activities and events, and Himiyama noted its importance as a historical archive. It was agreed that we should continue to publish the Bulletin biannually but that in future perhaps a pdf version circulated via email and posted on the website would suffice. Either way, it is imperative that the next issue (for 2017 and 2018) be produced as soon as possible. In terms of what IGU could or should be doing, Meadows raised a number of possible developments. The matter of governance (i.e. who is eligible to cast a vote in the General Assembly) has recently been raised, as indeed has the issue of membership categories and whether or not it would be feasible or desirable to open up individual membership. Lemarchand pointed out that individual membership may result in complications as national membership subscriptions are sometimes collected or subsidised via individual contributions. In any case, without a permanent, paid secretariat, it would be very difficult to administer individual membership. This of course begs the question as to how IGU could increase its funding base to facilitate paid secretarial assistance; the current funding model is certainly not suited to such a possibility. Meadows raised a few other possible initiatives, such as encouraging Commissions and Task Forces to operate a research/publication mentorship programme, whether we should develop an even stronger focus on education, the possibility of a series of online IGU lectures or webinars, whether we should try to coordinate our efforts more precisely on common themes (e.g., the UN SDGs), or develop other strategic projects. Meadows noted that he is very keen to improve communication overall, especially with traditionally non-anglophone communities.

In order to facilitate progress and demonstrate the work of the IGU, Meadows then proposed a list of key 'portfolios' and that EC members, or groups of EC members, take responsibility for these. Meadows suggested the following portfolios with responsibilities as indicated:

- Congresses/conferences
- Treasury
- IGU Congress and Conference travel grants
- Commissions and Task Forces
- Commission review and Excellence Award
- National Committees
- Databases/record keeping etc.
- IGU annual report

- Elections/National Committee applications etc.
- General correspondence
- Website and other social media
- Publications (Series)
- IGU e-Newsletter
- Bulletin
- Awards
- External relations (including ISC, CIPSH, CODATA, UN-GGIM, AAG, RGS/IBG, ICA etc.)
- French/Spanish outreach/translation
- FIG/Night of Geography/International Day of Geography
- IGU publicity brochure
- Governance
- IGU Journals project

Following discussion, the following allocations were agreed:

- Congresses/conferences (Meadows, Singh, EC members as appropriate)
- Treasury (Barcus, Meadows)
- IGU Congress and Conference travel grants (Barcus, Meadows)
- Commissions and Task Forces (Singh, Kumar; others as per list approved at EC meeting of 15.09.2020)
- Commission review and Excellence Award (dell'Agnese; with Lois-González, Gönençgil, Hay)
- National Committees (Singh, Kumar; others as per list approved at EC meeting of 15.09.2020)
- Databases/record keeping etc. (Singh, Kumar)
- IGU annual report (Singh, Meadows)
- Elections/National Committee applications etc. (Singh, Kumar)
- General correspondence (Singh, Meadows)
- Website and other social media (Rozenblat, Kumar, Hay, Meadows)
- Publications (Series) (Singh, Hay, Meadows)
- IGU e-Newsletter (Rozenblat, with former V-P Bellezza)
- Bulletin (Singh, Kumar)
- Awards (Himiyama*)
- External relations (all)
- French/Spanish outreach / translation (Lemarchand, Lois-González, Rozenblat)
- FIG/Night of Geography/International Day of Geography (Lemarchand, Gönençgil)
- IGU publicity brochure (Meadows)
- Governance (Hay, Lemarchand)
- IGU Journals project (Fu)

* This is a change from previous agreement that Singh be the principal liaison with the chair of the IGU Honors and Awards Committee

Discussion followed in which the suggested allocation was accepted. Meadows noted that the intention was that those indicated would report back on their respective portfolios at future EC meetings and that much of the work on these should take place in the background via email, occasional Zoom meetings etc. Although the suggested arrangement does not constitute a new strategy per se, Meadows noted that the hope that it will at least streamline operations and ensure that there will be operational improvements in those areas highlighted as requiring attention. Himiyama noted the particular importance for the IGU of the SDGs, Education for Sustainable Development, and Future Earth and that these are symbolic of the policy context within which we operate. It was agreed that IGU should emphasize these three issues in our operations and to try to ensure that they develop in an integrated way. Meadows concurred that these three broad issues provide an important framework for geographers and agreed to compile a short briefing document on the IGU Strategy in which he would highlight their significance.

Other Business

Lemarchand noted that FIG for 2021 is confirmed and that the theme is "Body" and the invited "country" is 'Europe(s)'. She further noted that the newly elected President of the International Cartographic Association is Professor Phillippe de Maeyer, who is also the former chair of the Belgium's National Geography Committee.

Date of next meeting

Given that it will not be possible to hold a face-to-face meeting in Santiago di Compostela, Spain, in November, as originally agreed, Meadows would circulate a Doodle Poll to schedule two online meetings. The agenda for these meetings would focus on the usual operational items but that the upcoming Congresses in Istanbul and Paris would be given sufficient time during the meeting to ensure their full consideration.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12h00 GMT on 15th October, 2020.

Zoom Meeting

24th November & 8th December 2020

Welcome, Apologies and Meeting Logistics

The online meeting was chaired by President Michael Meadows, who welcomed EC members, Secretary-General R.B. Singh, Past-President Yukio Himiyama, First Vice-President Iain Hay, and Vice-Presidents Elena dell'Agnese, Ruben Lois-González, Barbaros Gönençgil, Céline Rozenblat, and Holly Barcus, along with Assistant Secretary-General Pankaj Kumar. Apologies were received from Vice Presidents Nathalie Lemarchand and Bojie Fu for the meeting of 24th November 2020, and from Vice Presidents Elena dell'Agnese and Holly Barcus for the meeting of 8th December, 2020. The Executive Committee meeting commenced at 10h00 GMT on both Tuesday, 24th November and 8th December 2020.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The agenda was duly adopted.

Minutes

Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meeting, held online on 15th October 2020, previously circulated and corrected via email, were approved. The French version is to be prepared by Lemarchand.

Organization

EC meeting schedule 2021

Meadows noted that two EC meetings were already planned for 2021. The first meeting of 2021 was originally scheduled to be held in Rome at the end of March 2021 but, given the COVID-19 situation, it now seems certain that this will have to be held via Zoom. The EC meeting in association with the postponed Istanbul 34th IGU Congress remains on the calendar for now, pending a final decision on the format of the Congress.

IGU accounts transfer to US

The transfer of operating funds to the new account at Macalester College, St Paul, USA is underway and a portion of the IGU operating funds have already been received under the auspices of the acting Treasurer, Vice-President Holly Barcus. As the IGU account in South Africa is still receiving membership fees from National Committees, the account should remain active. Day-to-day accounting from the Macalester account will commence from January 2021 onward. Barcus noted that the Macalester finance department is working on a system to streamline subscription fee collections and payments.

Operations

IGU Strategy

Meadows tabled a one page draft of IGU strategy and priorities for the period 2020 to 2024. Once finalised, the document will be circulated to the broader community of geographers and posted on the website. There was discussion as to the appropriate length of the document and, while some felt more detail was required (for example by including an indication that the IGU responds to global 'challenges' such as climate risk etc., and indicating the IGU relationship with other GeoUnions) others argued that a more concise description would be more accessible. It was suggested that the proposed strategy should indicate short-, medium- and longer term actions. Meadows agreed to take the points raised into consideration and circulate a further iteration for comment and final decision.

National membership database

Meadows noted that there are new Chairs of the National Committee for Peru and Japan. Kumar thanked EC members for updating the IGU National Committee details for the database and IGU website. Meadows reported that he would be attending a conference in Kampala, Uganda, co-hosted by the IGU African Studies Commission, and hoped to use the opportunity to further develop the limited IGU national membership among African countries.

C&TF updates

Meadows reported that the new chairs of the IGU Commission on Landscape Analysis and Mediterranean Basin had suggested brief online meetings with him to learn more about their responsibilities and that these would take place in the next weeks. Kumar noted that Commission and

Task Force details placed on the website are currently all up to date.

IGU Honors and Awards Committee

Himiyama tabled the latest Honors and Awards Committee guidelines (revised on 15th October 2020) and an email communication from Professor Ron Abler, Chair of the committee. Arrangements for the call for 2021 nominations for the Lauréat d'Honneur and Planet and Humanity Awards were discussed. Himiyama agreed to finalise the call documents in consultation with Abler and that these, along with an accompanying email, would be distributed by the Secretary-General by the end of December with a submission deadline of end-February 2021.

IGU website/social media

Kumar reported on the activities of the IGU website/social media working group, comprising himself, Meadows, Rozenblat Hay and Gönençgil. The group met online on 11th November 2020 and considered a new draft website structure. Kumar tabled the new structure to the EC in the form of a ppt presentation and, following discussion, this was accepted. Rozenblat suggested incorporating a dedicated email address to facilitate the posting of information on the website by the IGU community at large. Meadows agreed to arrange for the new website structure to be developed and published but noted that this would not be possible before January 2021.

IGU Brochure

Meadows agreed to update the IGU Brochure and, with the help of other EC members, arrange for this to be available in French, English, Spanish and Portuguese. It was, however, recognized, that the need for printed copies of the brochure would only become relevant again once face-to-face meetings were re-established.

IGU Bulletin

On behalf Singh, Kumar noted that collation and formatting of the next issue of the IGU Bulletin was nearly finalised and would be sent to Meadows for printing in the first week of December 2020.

IGU e-Newsletter

Rozenblat is the EC member with responsibility for the IGU e-Newsletter and agreed to liaise with its long-term editor, former Vice-President Giuliano

Bellezza, regarding future issues. It was agreed that the newsletter needs to be redesigned to make it more accessible and that careful consideration be given to the nature and relevance of the contents. The EC minutes would no longer be published in the newsletter but would continue to be included in the IGU Bulletin and can be posted on the website.

IGU Journals project

Fu tabled a brief report noting that he has made arrangements for the journals database to be fully updated. Once complete, this will be synchronised with the restructured IGU website.

IGU Publications

Singh reported on the publication of the latest volume in the Springer 'Advances in Geographical and Environmental Sciences' series, entitled Global Geographical Heritage, Geoparks and Geotourism: Geoconservation and Development. The revitalised IGU Mountain Studies Commission has proposed a volume for the Springer Sustainable Development Goals series. Hay suggested that Singh contact Springer to ensure that the 'Advances' series is more clearly associated with the IGU on their website. Hay agreed to contact chairs of all Commissions and Task Forces to compile a list of monographs, edited volumes, journals etc. completed under the auspices of the IGU.

Governance matters

Informal discussion between some EC members had occurred concerning the possibility of extending General Assembly voting rights to Commission and Task Force (C&TF) chairs. The structure of IGU National Committees in some countries is such that the individual(s) concerned may in practice have little involvement in IGU matters and this, coupled with the fact that the C&TFs are at the core of IGU activities, prompts the EC to reflect on IGU governance in general. Hay noted that the matter is not simply one of affording voting rights as such, rather it is to reflect on ways IGU C&TFs can play a meaningful role in governance of IGU affairs in general. Lemarchand pointed out that it is the National Committees that pay fees to the IGU and that this must always be borne in mind. Gönençgil added that the National Committees are the foundation of the IGU, as well as its funders, and that C&TFs, are established by the General Assembly (via the EC) and that they therefore should not be regarded as 'equivalent'. Governance structures within the International Science Council, whereby both Unions and national scientific

associations have equal say in making major decisions, could offer a possible alternative IGU General Assembly voting model. Himiyama cautioned, however, that a direct comparison is inappropriate, since the Unions were the founding members of ICSU and the national associations affiliated subsequently (it is the other way round in the IGU). Moreover, it is entirely feasible for the C&TFs, through their respective chairs, to make representations to the General Assembly at any time through the EC. Singh argued that the current arrangement is functioning well and that the present structure is already sufficiently participatory. Following this lengthy discussion, it was decided not to recommend changes to the IGU structure but rather to try to explain it more clearly in the form of appropriate and accessible text on the website and in the brochure. Rozenblat agreed to draft an organogram to illustrate the current IGU governance arrangements.

IGU Conferences and Congresses

IGC Istanbul 2021

Gönençgil noted that plans remain in place to host the conference in Istanbul in August 2021 and that there are no changes to the important dates and schedule announced. Abstract submissions are still open. Refunding registration fee is possible without difficulty if delegates are unable to attend. The main question concerns the format of the Congress amid the ongoing pandemic. The 34th IGC can be organised either online or face-to-face, and all necessary infrastructure is ready and available as required. Gönençgil commented that the idea of a hybrid meeting had also been raised but that, while this may work well for small meetings, there are logistical challenges in the case of larger events; these will need to be checked. Hay questioned the ways Q&A sessions might be handled in hybrid mode. Singh noted that, considering the present situation, physical meetings are not really feasible and that, even with vaccinations in several countries, travel bans may continue and many people are fearful such that participation may be substantially reduced anyway. Meadows suggested that Gönençgil meet with the local organising committee and conference facilitators to consider the practical and budgetary implications of holding IGC 2021 in online mode and that he report back before the next EC meeting. A final decision on the format of the Congress would be made at the end of February or early March 2021.

Extraordinary IGC Paris 2022

Lemarchand presented a ppt highlighting that the COVID pandemic has some consequences even for the Extraordinary IGC in Paris, 2022. The contract with the original company engaged to assist in hosting the event was terminated in June 2020 and a new contract with a different company was signed in September 2020. There are various budgetary and other implications of the pandemic that have to be dealt with. Online and hybrid options are also being explored. The idea that the Congress is to be held in the 'Time of Geography in the 21st Century' suggests that a novel way of hosting the event as hybrid seems particularly appropriate. Issues such as budget, technology, synchronous or asynchronous presentations, and number and size of venues are all being considered. Changes to scheduled dates, information on the Congress website, calls for session proposals etc. all have to take uncertainty into account. The Local Organising Committee remains committed to hosting a successful IGC Paris 2022 and is willing to take on the challenge. Himiyama noted that, in the present situation, the hybrid mode of conducting conferences seems most feasible. Meadows highlighted the importance of minimising the possible increased cost implications of hosting the Extraordinary Congress in hybrid format.

IGC Dublin 2024

Nothing to report at this stage.

IGU Regional Conference 2026 call

Singh will make a call for IGU Regional Conference 2026 early in 2021.

Cooperation and Outreach

FIG

Lemarchand summarised the announcement and schedule for the next Festival International de Géographie (FIG), which will be held from 1st to 3rd October 2021 under the theme "Bodies" and the invited region of "Europe(s)". The festival is no ordinary scientific conference: more than 150 events will be organized over three days throughout Saint-Dié and in some neighboring towns, in various formats, divided into three main categories: round tables, plenary lectures, geo-café. Proposals for workshops are also welcome, particularly those that focus on the theme, either specifically for teachers to encourage experimentation with pedagogical practices, or aimed at a wider audience. There are also exhibitions of photographs, documents, maps, field visits, in situ observations, collective listening,

moving debates, text surveys - all possibilities are being explored. Meadows thanked Lemarchand for maintaining the important and strong IGU connections with FIG.

Night of Geography/Day of Geography

Lemarchand noted that GeoNight/GéoNuit 2021 will take place on 9th April 2021. She is working this year with Alexis Alamel from France and Massimiliano Tabusi from Italy. Tabusi is planning to develop a website that highlights information, images, videos and other materials about GeoNight/GéoNuit (the suggested title for this event going forwards) under an appropriate domain name. The website will indicate information on location (these will be mapped) and include a link to all online events. A common webform is being developed to make it easier for each local organizer to manage their respective event. Kumar agreed to assist in developing the webform and to share it on the IGU website. Gönençgil continues to explore the idea of the international 'Day of Geography', especially in light of the upcoming IGU Centennial in 2022.

ISC (including GeoUnions, CODATA etc.)

ISC. Meadows noted that the ISC appears to be communicating much more regularly of late. Comments on the 'UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science' were being sought. Given that this is an initiative aimed at democratising science, it is surely something that the IGU should support; Meadows agreed to convey this position. The ISC will hold an extraordinary General Assembly (eGA) from 1st to 5th February 2021 with the main agenda item being ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure. It is essential that the Unions maintain their relative importance in ISC and the proposed changes must be very carefully scrutinized in that regard. Meadows will indicate his attendance as voting member on behalf of IGU, although others may register to attend if they so wish.

GeoUnions. The GeoUnions are scheduled to meet online on 14th December, 2020 to be attended by Meadows and Singh. Singh noted that the GeoUnions ad hoc Committee on Risk and Disaster Management has prepared a policy brief which is being tabled at the meeting. A second, ocean-related, policy brief is being prepared in line with the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. Meadows thanked Singh for his lead role in developing these policy briefs.

CODATA. Singh attended DRUM (Digital Representation of Units of Measure) Ambassadors meeting in November and will attend the CODATA General Assembly scheduled for 15th December 2020.

CIPSH

The CIPSH General Assembly is scheduled for 14th to 15th December 2020, in Odense, in Denmark. but will be attended online by Himiyama, Lemarchand and former IGU Vice-President Kolosov, who is to be re-nominated as Executive Committee member. The IGU has two votes at the meeting.

UN-GGIM

Nothing to report at this stage.

Eurogeo/Eugeo

Lois-González had attended the recent meeting of Eugeo as representative of the Spanish geographical associations. Eugeo is planning a congress in the end of June 2021, from June 28 to July 1, in Prague.

EGAL/UGAL

Nothing to report at this stage.

Other organizations (e.g. AAG, RGS, AGA etc.)

Meadows had met online with the Director of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG). The RGS/IBG is willing to host/co-host an exhibition in line with IGC 2022 events if desired. Singh noted that the AAG celebrated a successful Geography Awareness Week. AAG has proposed a Complimentary Advertising Exchange Program

whereby AAG will promote IGU events, etc. in exchange for IGU promoting the upcoming AAG 2021 Annual Meeting. This was agreed and Singh was requested to convey this to the AAG.

Other Business

Lois-González tabled the draft cooperation framework agreement between the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLASCO) and the IGU. CLASCO is an international non-governmental institution with associate status in UNESCO, created in 1967 and currently brings together more than 660 research and postgraduate centers in the field of social sciences and humanities in more than 50 countries. The purpose of the Agreement is to establish the basis of inter-institutional cooperation to develop, promote and carry out research, publication and training activities in order to engage in concrete actions for the benefit of society. The Institutional Cooperation Framework Agreement will have a duration of five years from the date of its subscription, and may be renewed for a similar period, with the prior agreement of the Parties. Meadows proposed that he sign the agreement on behalf of the IGU and this was approved. The draft MOU received from Standing Committee for Gender Equality in Science (SCGES) was tabled. Several other of the GeoUnions are already co-signatories. It was agreed that Meadows would sign this on behalf of the IGU.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 13.30 GMT on 8th December, 2020.

Union géographique internationale
Assemblée générale virtuelle (AGV)

21 août 2020

Procès-verbal

Informations techniques

Le président Yukio Himiyama invité le Dr Pankaj Kumar à transmettre des informations techniques aux délégués afin de faciliter la participation et la diffusion des débats de l'Assemblée générale virtuelle de l'UGI. Himiyama a exprimé son espoir que la réunion soit exempte de problèmes techniques, l'UGI organisant sa toute première Assemblée générale virtuelle.

Accueil par le Président

L'Assemblée générale virtuelle (AGV) de l'UGI 2020 a été convoquée en ligne et hébergée sur la plateforme Zoom. La session a été présidée par le président de l'IGU, Yukio Himiyama, qui a souhaité la bienvenue aux délégués, observateurs et invités à l'assemblée. L'AGV a débuté à 07h30 GMT.

Appel nominal

Des représentants de 37 pays étaient présents. En outre, environ 700 personnes ont observé la réunion via la chaîne YouTube dédiée.

Pays représentés à l'Assemblée générale virtuelle de l'UGI 2020	
Nouvelle-Zélande	Namibie
Bangladesh	Luxembourg
Inde	Israël
Chine-Pékin	Italie
Japon	Autriche
Afrique du Sud	Finlande
USA	Belgique
Australie	Allemagne
Portugal	Arabie Saoudite
Colombie	Suisse
Irlande	France

Slovénie	Vietnam
Croatie	Russie
Turquie	Espagne
Corée du Sud	Serbie
Pologne	Hongrie
Roumanie	Venezuela
Chine-Hong Kong	Royaume-Uni

Adoption de l'ordre du jour

L'ordre du jour, précédemment distribué aux comités nationaux, est approuvé à l'unanimité.

Annnonce des résultats des élections

Le président Himiyama a annoncé les résultats du récent scrutin électronique pour les postes vacants de président et de vice-présidents pour la période 2020-2024. Il n'y a eu qu'une seule nomination pour le poste de président et, pour les quatre postes vacants de vice-président, un total de cinq nominations a été reçu. Au total, 49 votes ont été exprimés, avec les résultats suivants :

Président	
Afrique du Sud - Prof. Michael Meadows	49
Vice-président	
France - Prof. Nathalie Lemarchand	41
USA - Prof. Holly Barcus	38
Turquie - Prof. Barbaros Gönençgil	35
Suisse - Prof. Céline Rozenblat	35
UK - Prof. Mike Elliot	25

En conséquence, le professeur Michael Meadows a été élu président de l'UGI, et les professeurs Nathalie Lemarchand, Holly Barcus, BarbarosGönençgilet Céline Rozenblatont été élus vice-présidents de l'UGI pour la période 2020-2024. Ce résultat a été noté et approuvé par l'AGV.

Approbation du procès-verbal de l'assemblée générale 2016

L'assemblée a *approuvé à l'unanimité* le procès-verbal de l'assemblée générale de l'UGI qui s'est tenue à Pékin, en Chine, en août 2016.

Approbation des nouveaux pays membres nationaux

Le secrétaire général et trésorier R.B Singh et le vice-président Rubén Lois Gonzales ont présenté les demandes d'adhésion à l'UGI qui ont été reçues des représentants des pays suivants depuis la dernière assemblée générale, à *savoir* Samoa, Chine-Macau, République kirghize et Namibie. Il a été noté que ces quatre pays avaient déjà été formellement acceptés comme membres à part entière de l'UGI par vote électronique. Plus récemment, des demandes d'adhésion nationale ont été reçues de la République Dominicaine et de la Colombie. Le Comité exécutif de l'UGI a recommandé l'adhésion à part entière de la République dominicaine et l'adhésion associée de la Colombie. Himiyama a informé l'AGV des circonstances sous-jacentes à la recommandation provisoire du Comité Exécutif d'accorder le statut de membre associé à la Colombie. L'AGV a *approuvé à l'unanimité les recommandations du CE*.

Approbation des commissions, des groupes de travail, des présidents et des comités directeurs

Le secrétaire général R.B Singh et le premier vice-président Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn ont présenté les

recommandations formulées par le comité exécutif de l'UGI concernant le renouvellement (c'est-à-dire la poursuite des activités) des commissions et des groupes de travail pour la période 2020-2024. Singh a expliqué les recommandations du Comité exécutif dans le document déposé (voir ci-dessous). Droogleever-Fortuijn a noté que de bons rapports ont été soumis par la plupart des Commissions de l'UGI, et toutes les Commissions et groupes de travail ont été recommandées pour être confirmées pour la période 2020-2024. Ceci a été approuvé par l'AGV.

Droogleever-Fortuijn a noté que dans certaines commissions, des ajustements aux comités directeurs seraient nécessaires pour s'assurer que les individus ne poursuivent pas leur mandat en violation des statuts de l'UGI. Droogleever-Fortuijn a également encouragé la représentation au sein du comité directeur des pays du Sud, des pays à faible revenu et à donner la priorité à l'équilibre entre les sexes. Droogleever-Fortuijn a également noté que, depuis la dernière AG, l'UGI a créé plusieurs nouvelles commissions, à savoir la géographie agricole et le génie terrestre, la géographie pour la Terre future, la compréhension globale, les méthodes de recherche en géographie et les études africaines. La Commission sur les études de la montagne a été rétablie avec un nouveau président.

En tant que présidente du Comité des prix d'excellence des commissions (un sous-comité du CE), Mme Droogleever-Fortuijn a annoncé que le prix d'excellence des commissions et des groupes de travail de l'UGI pour l'année 2019 avait été attribué à la Commission de l'UGI sur la biogéographie et la biodiversité.

Actions de l'Assemblée générale 2020 sur les commissions et groupes de travail de l'UGI			
Code	Commission/Task Force	Président 2020-24	Action
C20.01	Etudes africaines	Dr. Inocent Moyo, Afrique du Sud	Renouvelé
C20.02	Géographie agricole et génie rural	Professeur Yansui Liu, Chine	Renouvelé
C20.03	Géographie appliquée	Dr John R. Lombard, États-Unis	Renouvelé ^x
C20.04	Biogéographie et biodiversité	Dr Suraj Mal, Inde	Renouvelé
C20.05	Climatologie	Professeur Jun Matsumoto, Japon	Renouvelé
C20.06	Systèmes côtiers	Professeur Colin Woodroffe, Australie	Renouvelé ^x

C20.07	Régions froides et de haute altitude	Professeur Tatiana Vlasova, Russie	Renouvelé
C20.08	Approche culturelle de la géographie	Professeur émérite Je-Hun Ryu, République de Corée	Nouvellement établi
C20.09	Dynamique des espaces économiques	Dr. Nuri Yavan, Turquie	Renouvelé
C20.10	Évolution de l'environnement	Redzhep Kurbanov, Russie	Renouvelé
C20.11	Genre et géographie : Soins, connexion et changement	Dr. Anindita Datta, Inde	Renouvelé
C20.12	Education géographique	Dr. Chew-Hung Chang, Singapour Michael Solem, États-Unis	Renouvelé
C20.13	Science de l'information géographique	Prof. Fenzhen Su, Chine Dr Daniel Sui, États-Unis	Renouvelé
C20.14	Géographie de la Terre future : Systèmes humains et terrestres couplés pour la durabilité	Professeur Wenwu Zhao, Chine	Renouvelé
C20.15	Géographie de la gouvernance	Professeur Carlos Nunes Silva, Portugal	Renouvelé
C20.16	Géographie de l'information, de l'innovation et de la technologie	Professeur Tommi Inkinen, Finlande	Renouvelé
C20.17	Géographie du tourisme, des loisirs et du changement global	Professeur Julie Wilson, Espagne	Renouvelé
C20.18	Géo patrimoine	Professeur Dongying Wei, Chine	Renouvelé
C20.19	Géomorphologie et société : Passé, présent et futur de la Croatie	Prof. Dr. Margreth Keiler, Suisse Professeur Sonia Faivre, Croatie	Renouvelé
C20.20	Changement global et mobilité humaine	Professeur Josefina Domínguez Mujica, Espagne	Renouvelé ^x
C20.21	Compréhension globale	Professeur Benno Werlen, Allemagne	Renouvelé
C20.22	Danger et risque	Professeur Takashi Oguchi, Japon	Renouvelé
C20.23	Santé et environnement	Professeur Clive Sabel, Danemark Professeur Hellen Gurgel, Brésil	Renouvelé
C20.24	Histoire de la géographie	Professeur Marcella Schmidt di Friedberg, Italie	Renouvelé
C20.25	Îles	Professeur Eric Clark, Suède	Renouvelé
C20.26	Karst	Dr. Eko Haryono, Indonésie	Renouvelé
C20.27	Dégradation des terres et désertification	Dr. Matija Zorn, Slovénie	Renouvelé ^x
C20.28	Analyse et planification du paysage	Professeur Marine Elbakidze, Suède	Renouvelé
C20.29	Utilisation des sols et changement de la couverture des sols	Professeur Monica Ștefania Dumitrașcu, Roumanie	Renouvelé
C20.30	Études latino-américaines et caribéennes	Prof. Géog. Juan Manuel Delgado, Pérou	Renouvelé
C20.31	Développement local et régional	Professeur Jerzy Bański, Pologne	Renouvelé
C20.32	Marginalisation, mondialisation et réponses régionales et locales	Prof. Steve Déry, Canada	Renouvelé
C20.33	Bassin méditerranéen	Professeur Anastasia Stratigeia, Grèce	Renouvelé

C20.34	Modélisation des systèmes géographiques	Professeur Dr. Min Chen, R.P. de Chine	Renouvelé sous une nouvelle présidence
C20.35	Études de la montagne	Dr. Fausto O. Sarmiento, USA	Rétabli
C20.36	Géographie politique	Dr Virginie Mamadouh, Pays-Bas, Professeur Adriana Dorfman, Brésil	Renouvelé
C20.37	Géographie de la population	Professeur Etienne Piguet, Suisse	Renouvelé ^x
C20.38	Méthode de recherche en géographie	Professeur Dan Malkinson, Israël Mme Chiara Giubilaro, Italie	Nouvellement établi
C20.39	Durabilité des systèmes ruraux	Professeur Serge Schmitz, Belgique, Professeur Valerià PAÛLM, Espagne	Renouvelé ^x
C20.40	Toponymie	Professeur Cosimo Palagiano, Italie	Renouvelé
C20.41	Transport et géographie	Dr. Frederic Dobruszkes, Belgique	Renouvelé ^x
C20.42	Commission urbaine : Repenser les villes et l'urbain : du global au local	Professeur Dr. Maria Jose Piñeira-Mantiñán, Espagne	Renouvelé
C20.43	Durabilité de l'eau	Professeur Frank Winde, Afrique du Sud	Renouvelé
T20.01	Groupe de travail sur le centenaire et le sesquicentenaire	Professeur Vladimir Kolosov, Russie	Renouvelé
T20.02	Groupe de travail sur les Olympiades	Mme Susan Lomas, Royaume-Uni Dr Su-min Shen, Chine-Taïpe	Renouvelé
T20.03	Groupe de travail sur les jeunes géographes en début de carrière	Dr Komali Yenneti, Royaume-Uni	Renouvelé
x=	Renouvelé sous réserve de modifications de la composition du comité directeur à confirmer ultérieurement.		

Rapport du président sur la période 2016 -2020

Le président Yukio Himiyama a résumé comme suit les principales activités de l'UGI pendant la période inter-congrès.

1. Réunions du comité exécutif de l'UGI 2016-2020

Le Comité exécutif de l'UGI tient généralement deux à trois réunions par an. Les réunions sont normalement accueillies par l'un des membres du CE ou par les organisateurs locaux d'un congrès/conférence de l'UGI. Les réunions suivantes du CE ont eu lieu depuis le CIG de Pékin de 2016 :

2016-Troisième réunion du CE en 2016 à la Maison de la Recherche, Paris, France, 14-17 novembre.

2017-Première réunion du CE en 2017 au Centre de conférences de Québec, Québec, Canada, 7-11 mai. Deuxième réunion du CE en 2017 à l'Université d'Amsterdam, Pays-Bas, 6-10 septembre.

2018-Première réunion du CE en 2018 à Gakushi Kaikan, Tokyo, et Sendai, Japon, 9-12 avril. Deuxième réunion du CE en 2018 à l'Hôtel Château Laurier, Québec, Canada, 4-6 août. Troisième réunion du CE en 2018 à l'Université musulmane d'Aligarh, Aligarh, Inde, 1-4 décembre.

2019-Première réunion du CE en 2019 à la City Université de Dublin et à la National Université of Ireland à Galway, Irlande, 13-15 mai. Deuxième réunion du CE en 2019 au Point Hôtel Istanbul, Turquie, du 28 septembre au 1er octobre.

2020-Première réunion Zoom EC en 2020, 1er, 2, 6 et 9 avril 2020. Deuxième réunion Zoom EC en 2020, 20 mai et 3 juin 2020. Troisième réunion de la CE en 2020, 17 juin 2020. Quatrième réunion de la CE en 2020, le 20 août 2020.

2. Assemblée générale

Les statuts de l'UGI stipulent : *"L'Assemblée Générale tiendra une réunion ordinaire, normalement environ une fois tous les quatre ans, si possible à la date et au lieu d'un Congrès Géographique International..... La date et le lieu de la réunion sont déterminés par l'Assemblée générale lors de sa réunion précédente ou, s'ils ne sont pas déterminés, arrangés par le Comité exécutif...."* La prochaine AG déterminée par l'AG lors du CIG 2016 de Pékin devait se tenir lors du CIG 2020 d'Istanbul. Comme tout le monde le sait, le CIG d'Istanbul a été reporté d'un an en raison du COVID-19. Cependant, grâce aux récents progrès des technologies de la communication et avec le soutien du comité d'organisation du CIG d'Istanbul, le CE de l'UGI a réussi à organiser une assemblée générale virtuelle à la place de l'AG sur place initialement prévue. Une réunion virtuelle en ligne présente certains avantages, tels que la sécurité face à la pandémie, le coût faible ou nul de la participation et l'absence de déplacement, mais elle comporte également de sérieuses contraintes, telles que des fuseaux horaires peu pratiques et les importantes difficultés entourant la discussion, le vote et le maintien d'un environnement en ligne stable. Certains points de l'ordre du jour régulier de l'Assemblée générale de l'UGI, tels que l'élection du président et des vice-présidents, ont été réalisés par vote électronique. Les points qui nécessitent des réunions en face à face, comme les questions financières, seront présentés à l'Assemblée générale lors du CIG Istanbul 2021.

3. Adhésion nationale.

Les statuts de l'UGI prévoient quatre catégories de membres, à savoir les membres à part entière (paient régulièrement des cotisations), les membres associés (ne paient pas ou n'ont pas payé de cotisations, mais sont des représentants de leur communauté géographique nationale et sont régulièrement en contact avec l'UGI) ; les membres observateurs (contact, généralement par courriel, qui ne représente pas officiellement les géographes de leur pays, ou dont l'adhésion à part entière est devenue caduque) ; les membres corporatifs. Les nouveaux membres à part entière depuis le CIG de Pékin 2016 sont les Samoa, la Chine-Macao, la République kirghize et la Namibie, tandis que le Vietnam a été réactivé en 2018.

4. Commissions et groupes de travail

Les statuts de l'UGI stipulent que *"des commissions seront créées pour l'étude d'un problème spécifique ou pour l'accomplissement d'une tâche qui nécessite une collaboration internationale. Les commissions*

favorisent les travaux de recherche individuels et collectifs, encouragent l'échange de documents et d'informations pertinents et organisent des conférences, des réunions et, le cas échéant, des excursions sur le terrain, tant entre les congrès que pendant les congrès géographiques internationaux." Ainsi, les commissions sont considérées comme les principales locomotives de la recherche et des autres activités de l'UGI.

5. Conférences

5.1. Conférence régionale de l'UGI 2018, Québec

La conférence régionale 2018 de l'UGI s'est tenue conjointement avec les réunions annuelles de l'Association canadienne des géographes (ACG) et du Conseil national de l'enseignement de la géographie (CNÉG) du 6 au 10 août 2018 au Centre des congrès de Québec. Plus de 1 300 participants se sont réunis pour échanger et discuter des dernières avancées en matière de recherche et d'enseignement en géographie. C'était la première fois qu'une conférence de l'UGI se tenait au Canada depuis plus de 45 ans (Montréal, 1972). La 15e Olympiade internationale de géographie (iGeo) s'est tenue à Québec et dans la région de Charlevoix peu avant la conférence. Près de 300 étudiants, chefs d'équipe et bénévoles de 40 pays et 43 équipes ont participé à cet événement prestigieux. L'iGeo a été une excellente occasion de mettre en valeur les compétences et la compréhension de la géographie des meilleurs étudiants en géographie du monde, ainsi que de récompenser l'excellence des étudiants.

5.2. 2020 Congrès géographique international (CIG), Istanbul, Turquie

Le Congrès géographique international (CIG) 2020, Istanbul, Turquie, prévu du 17 au 21 août 2020, a été reporté du 16 au 20 août 2021 en raison de la pandémie de COVID-19.

5.3. Conférence thématique

En 2017, le Comité exécutif a publié des directives officielles pour l'organisation et le déroulement des conférences thématiques de l'UGI, comme suit : *Elle doit être véritablement internationale, doit avoir un thème ou un sujet clair qui présente un large intérêt, et doit impliquer spécifiquement au moins quatre commissions de l'UGI. Le CE doit approuver chaque conférence thématique, et les demandes doivent normalement être faites 12 à 18 mois à l'avance ; tout chevauchement ou conflit, soit en termes de calendrier ou de lieu, avec d'autres événements de l'UGI doit être évité. Une conférence thématique de l'UGI peut être proposée au CE par une ou plusieurs*

commissions et/ou par un comité national ; en effet, l'implication du ou des comités nationaux concernés dans ces conférences thématiques est considérée comme essentielle. Tous les efforts doivent être faits pour encourager une large participation internationale. Il ne devrait normalement pas y avoir plus d'une conférence thématique pendant une année de congrès ou de conférence régionale de l'UGI, et pas plus de deux pendant une année où il n'y a pas d'autre événement majeur de l'UGI.

Les conférences thématiques suivantes ont été organisées depuis 2016 : Conférence thématique de l'UGI sur l'urbanisation, la santé et le bien-être et les objectifs de développement durable, Hyderabad 17-19 mars ; Conférence thématique de l'UGI sur les géographies de la paix, La Paz, Bolivie, 23-25 septembre 2017 ; Conférence thématique de l'UGI sur l'utilisation des terres/les changements de couverture, la biodiversité, la santé et l'environnement, le développement local et régional, Bucarest & Tulcea, 11-15 septembre 2017 ; Conférence thématique de l'UGI sur la géographie pratique et les défis du XXI^e siècle, Moscou 4-6 juin 2018 ; Conférence thématique de l'UGI sur la transformation des paysages culturels traditionnels, Koper, Slovénie, 20-26 septembre 2019.

6. ISC (Conseil international des sciences)

Le président Himiyama et le secrétaire général (de l'époque) Meadows ont participé à la 32^e assemblée générale du CIUS, à l'assemblée générale extraordinaire du CISS, à la réunion conjointe CIUS-CISS et aux événements associés à Taipei, du 21 au 28 octobre 2017. Le jeudi 26 octobre, la réunion conjointe CIUS-CISS a pris la décision capitale de fusionner en une seule organisation pour faire avancer la science et les sciences sociales dans un contexte mondial en évolution. L'assemblée générale fondatrice de l'*International Science Council*, du 3 au 5 juillet 2018, a été suivie par Himiyama, Meadows et la vice-présidente Lemarchand.

7. Autres commentaires

Himiyama a poursuivi en notant que le COVID-19 prévaut toujours dans le monde entier. Aucune réunion liée à l'UGI n'a été possible depuis avril de cette année. Le Comité exécutif de l'UGI avait prévu de tenir sa première réunion de cette année le 1^{er} et 2 avril à Istanbul, mais elle a dû être annulée. À la place, le CE a organisé quatre réunions en ligne en 2020 en utilisant la plateforme Zoom, comme suit : première réunion (1^{er}, 2, 6 et 9 avril), deuxième réunion (20 mai et 3 juin), troisième réunion (17 juin) en 2020, quatrième réunion (20 août). Les réunions

du CE en ligne tenues jusqu'à présent ont été plus efficaces que prévu, bien qu'elles aient été très denses en raison des nombreux points qui devaient être discutés avant la fin du mandat du Comité exécutif 2016-2020, notamment dans la situation difficile causée par le report du CIG Istanbul 2020 à août 2021 en raison du COVID-19.

Parmi les nombreuses questions abordées lors de ces réunions, Himiyama a mis l'accent sur les prix et distinctions de l'UGI. Dans le passé, il y a eu trois prix de l'UGI, mais l'un d'entre eux, à savoir le prix de la Fondation Mattei Dogan en géographie humaine, est resté inactif pendant une décennie et a donc été supprimé. Les lignes directrices du comité des distinctions et des prix de l'UGI ont été révisées et, avec la fin du mandat de sa présidente, le professeur Ruth Fincher, un nouveau comité a été créé sous la présidence de Ron Abler, ancien président de l'UGI. Le Comité responsable des nominations de personnes pour :

1. Lauréat d'honneur de l'UGI, pour récompenser les personnes qui se sont particulièrement distinguées ou qui ont rendu des services exceptionnels dans le cadre des travaux de l'UGI ou de la géographie internationale.
2. La médaille Planète et Humanité de l'UGI pour honorer les personnes (pas nécessairement des géographes) qui ont apporté des contributions exceptionnelles à la paix, au bien-être ou à la durabilité.
3. Tout autre prix que l'UGI peut établir de temps en temps.

Himiyama a annoncé les prix de 2020 comme suit : Lauréats d'honneur de l'UGI aux Professeurs Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn (Pays-Bas) et Yoshitaka Ishikawa (Japon) sur la recommandation du Comité des Honneurs et Récompenses sortant. Le comité entrant est chargé de recevoir et d'évaluer les candidatures supplémentaires pour les prix de 2021, ainsi que les candidatures pour les prix qui seront décernés en 2022 et 2024. Le CE a également discuté d'une proposition de nouveaux prix de l'UGI transmise par la présidente sortante du comité pour les nouveaux prix de l'UGI. Le CE a décidé de créer deux nouveaux prix, à savoir : *Prix UGI de début de carrière en géographie* et *Prix UGI pour une pratique géographique exemplaire*. Il sera demandé au nouveau Comité des Honneurs et Récompenses de les réaliser. Nous espérons que ces prix et distinctions seront dûment utilisés pour promouvoir la géographie et l'enseignement de la géographie.

Himiyama a poursuivi en déclarant que le COVID-19 avait porté un coup fatal aux réunions

internationales et nationales. Toutefois, l'augmentation de la disponibilité des réunions virtuelles en ligne qui en a résulté offre désormais de grandes possibilités aux universitaires et aux étudiants qui ont des difficultés géographiques, financières ou autres à assister en personne à ces réunions. Un nombre croissant de réunions sont devenues disponibles en ligne. Par exemple, le 6ème forum de haut niveau de l'UN-GGIM (United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management), qui s'est tenu au Royaume-Uni en avril, a été remplacé par une série de forums virtuels de haut niveau auxquels il était possible d'assister gratuitement. Ce n'est qu'un exemple parmi d'autres d'une réunion de haut niveau qui devient plus ouverte et accessible au public, ce dont nous pouvons tirer parti dans nos activités. L'UN-GGIM aide les pays en développement à préparer des projets d'infrastructure de données géospatiales standard pour obtenir le soutien de la Banque mondiale. L'Association cartographique internationale (ACI) joue un rôle de premier plan dans cet organisme et l'UGI soumet chaque année un rapport d'activité à l'UN-GGIM par l'intermédiaire de l'ACI. L'inclusion de l'éducation et de la science à l'ordre du jour de l'UN-GGIM est à saluer, notamment en raison de l'intention de contribuer au développement durable en général, et aux ODD en particulier. Les personnes intéressées par une contribution à l'UN-GGIM sont priées de contacter le président de l'UGI.

Enfin, Himiyama a attiré l'attention de l'assemblée sur un autre événement en ligne intitulé « Engaging with Science : Building partnerships for a sustainable future », qui correspond évidemment à l'ODD 17 (Partenariats). Il s'agit d'une table ronde tenue dans le cadre du forum « International Schools Debates » organisé chaque année par Trust for Sustainable Living (TSL), un trust mondial pour l'éducation dont le siège est au Royaume-Uni (<https://trustforsustainableliving.org/about-us>). L'ensemble de l'événement s'est tenu en ligne pour la première fois grâce au COVID-19, mais a permis à davantage d'écoles de participer en éliminant les obstacles tels que les frais de voyage élevés et les restrictions en matière de visa, ainsi qu'en réduisant l'empreinte carbone de l'événement. Le Conseil international de la science (CIS) a désigné le président de l'UGI, M. Himiyama, pour représenter la communauté scientifique en tant que panéliste lors de cette discussion sur l'éducation, la science et le partenariat, qui a été enregistrée sur le site <https://trustforsustainableliving.org/take-part/the-debates>.

Himiyama a exprimé sa profonde gratitude pour l'occasion inestimable qui lui a été donnée de servir l'UGI en tant que 25ème président et a noté avec grand plaisir qu'il continue à servir l'UGI en tant que président sortant pour quatre autres années. Il a appelé tout le monde à continuer à travailler ensemble pour nos intérêts communs en tant que géographes, et à trouver le chemin à travers le monde de la diversité, de l'imprévisibilité, des désastres et de la fascination.

Rapport du Secrétaire général et du Trésorier sur la période 2016-2020

Le Secrétaire Général et Trésorier R.B Singh a présenté son rapport à l'AGV. Singh a souhaité la bienvenue aux membres du CE, aux présidents ou représentants des comités nationaux, aux présidents ou représentants des commissions et des groupes de travail et aux collègues géographes à la AGV. Singh a rappelé les réunions du CE menées au cours de la période 2016-2020 et a présenté les résultats des élections des membres du CE pour la période 2018-2020 et 2020-2024. Il a ensuite résumé les diverses activités entreprises par les membres du Comité exécutif et a informé l'Assemblée générale des diverses responsabilités de liaison des membres du CE avec les commissions, les groupes de travail et les pays.

Singh a noté que l'AG de l'UGI avait approuvé (par vote électronique) l'amendement technique aux statuts résultant de la fusion du CIUS et du CISS et a confirmé que les versions anglaise et française des

statuts révisés ont été placées sur le site Web de l'UGI.

Le prix d'excellence des commissions de l'UGI avait été attribué aux commissions suivantes depuis 2016 : Biogéographie et biodiversité (2019), Défis urbains dans un monde complexe (2018), Tourisme, loisirs et changement global (2017), Bassin méditerranéen (2016).

L'UGI a établi des relations solides avec d'autres organisations internationales et continue de les développer. Singh a représenté l'UGI au Forum culturel mondial de Macao qui s'est tenu sous les auspices du CISS et du CIPSH au cours de l'année 2016. Singh a noté que l'UGI avait rejoint le Conseil international de la philosophie et des sciences humaines (CIPSH) en 2015. Plusieurs membres exécutifs de l'UGI ont assisté à la conférence EUGEO à Bruxelles, en Belgique (septembre 2017).

Un événement conjoint IGU-EUGEO au congrès d'Istanbul 2021 est déjà prévu. La collaboration avec ISC, CODATA, UN-GGIM, et GeoUnions est progressivement renforcée. L'UGI s'engage systématiquement à promouvoir les activités d'autres organismes pertinents, tels que l'AIGU et Future Earth, au sein de ses différentes commissions.

Rapport de la conférence régionale de l'UGI, du 6 au 10 août 2018, Québec, Canada : Le programme de cette conférence comprenait 196 sessions, 1200 présentations orales, 82 présentations par affiches et 9 excursions sur le terrain dans la ville de Québec et la région de Charlevoix. Les participants venaient de plus de 100 pays, la majorité d'Amérique du Nord, suivie par l'Asie (Chine, Japon), l'Europe (France, Royaume-Uni, Pologne, Allemagne, Russie) et l'Amérique du Sud (Brésil). Environ 67 % des participants venaient de l'extérieur du Canada, ce qui en fait une occasion idéale pour les Canadiens de développer des relations importantes avec des géographes du monde entier. Près d'un quart des participants (23 %) étaient des étudiants diplômés. Le succès du Congrès IGU-CAG-NCGE 2018, ainsi que de l'iGeo, est dû à l'étroite collaboration développée entre l'Association canadienne des géographes, l'Université Laval et le Centre des congrès de Québec. Le groupe de travail de l'UGI sur les géographes en début de carrière (IGU-YECG) a organisé une série d'activités lors de la conférence régionale 2018 de l'Union géographique internationale (UGI). Le Dr Komali Yenneti, président de l'IGU-YECG, a coordonné les événements du groupe de travail au Québec. Plusieurs autres commissions, comme la biogéographie et la biodiversité et la commission urbaine, ont également organisé des programmes de formation. L'UGI a attribué la subvention de voyage habituelle pour aider une vingtaine de géographes à assister à la conférence régionale de Québec.

Nuit de la Géographie, avril 2019 : La Nuit de Géographie a été célébrée le 5 avril 2019. Bien que l'événement ait coïncidé avec la conférence annuelle de l'Association américaine des géographes, des événements de la Nuit de la Géographie ont eu lieu dans 14 pays, notamment en France, en Espagne, au Portugal, en Bulgarie, en Grèce, en Lituanie, en Croatie, ainsi qu'en Irlande et en Nouvelle-Zélande. En Afrique, six pays ont été impliqués, en collaboration avec l'association "CartONG", basée à Chambéry (France). En outre, l'événement "Missing Map" a été jumelé avec des événements GeoNight, ce qui a permis une exposition mondiale. Lemarchand coordonne ce programme. Le MoU entre l'UGI et le Festival annuel de Géographie (FIG) a été officiellement signé.

Activités de diffusion de l'UGI : L'un des principaux devoirs du secrétaire général de l'UGI est d'agir comme une plaque tournante et un canal de communication et de diffusion. Cela se manifeste de plusieurs façons différentes, notamment par la publication semestrielle du *Bulletin de l'UGI*. Des exemplaires du volume 65-66 du *Bulletin de l'UGI* (pour les années 2015 et 2016) ont été distribués lors de la Conférence régionale de Québec 2018. Les autres communications comprennent le rapport annuel, la lettre d'information électronique trimestrielle de l'UGI (courtoisie de l'ancien vice-président, le professeur Giuliano Bellezza), et le site web de l'UGI <https://igu-online.org/> (Dr. Pankaj Kumar) qui est maintenant partiellement disponible en versions française et espagnole. Les archives de l'UGI et la publication du centenaire de l'UGI sont prises en charge par le Dr Bruno Schelhaas et le Prof. Vladimir Kolosov respectivement. Gönençgil a récemment présenté une proposition pour l'établissement d'une Journée Internationale de la Géographie au CE.

Publications de l'UGI : Singh a souligné un certain nombre de séries de livres Springer ayant une forte pertinence géographique, y compris une série nouvellement proposée sur les objectifs de développement durable (éditeurs de série Singh, Mal et Meadows) ; la série existante World Regional Geography (éditeur de série de Mulder) ; et Advances in Geographical and Environmental Sciences (éditeur de série Singh). Singh a également mentionné que la série Springer intitulée : Advances in Geographical and Environmental Sciences a maintenant atteint plus de dix volumes, la plupart générés par les commissions de l'UGI. Le premier volume de la nouvelle série Springer sur la *géographie régionale mondiale (The Netherlands and the Dutch*, édité par de Mulder, de Pater et Droogleever-Fortuijn) a également été publié ; il porte également le logo de l'UGI. L'UGI a signé un contrat avec Springer pour la publication du Centenaire et, moyennant une redevance, le livre peut être mis en accès libre. Une expression d'intérêt a été reçue du MDPI pour établir un partenariat de publication entre l'UGI et le MDPI. Le vice-président Iain Hay a indiqué que l'UGI a une nouvelle série de livres avec Edward Elgar Publishing intitulée *International Geographical Union Series on Contemporary Geographies - Series Ed : Iain Hay et Mike Meadows*. Trois livres de cette série doivent paraître prochainement : le premier sur le cosmopolitisme, le deuxième intitulé *Geographies of Misinformation* et le troisième sur les applications du Big Data en géographie. La série a également bénéficié d'expressions pour préparer un livre sur les problèmes et enjeux

environnementaux en Afrique et un autre sur la géographie francophone du commerce de détail, et de la consommation. Hay a également mentionné la relance du compte LinkedIn de l'UGI et a encouragé les membres à le rejoindre afin d'améliorer la communication au sein de l'UGI.

Collaboration future : Le secrétaire général Singh a invité les présidents des commissions à collaborer avec l'International Science Council (ISC) sur d'importants projets fondamentaux du ISC: 1. Initiative Terre Future ; 2. Recherche intégrée sur la réduction des catastrophes (IRDR) ; 3. Santé et bien-être urbains ; 4. Comité GeoUnion sur la gestion des risques et des catastrophes. Singh a suggéré que les géographes doivent contribuer aux initiatives internationales appropriées en analysant les modèles locaux, régionaux et nationaux de ressources, la réduction des risques de catastrophe et les objectifs de développement durable (ODD) à l'aide de systèmes d'aide à la décision spatiale.

Tâches en cours et futures : Le Secrétaire général Singh a souligné un certain nombre de tâches en cours et futures, y compris la publication du Bulletin de l'UGI. D'autres tâches consistent à encourager les présidents des commissions et des groupes de travail à augmenter la représentation des femmes et des personnes du Sud dans les comités directeurs et à encourager les commissions et les groupes de travail à développer des activités et des projets communs.

Rapport financier pour la période 2016-2019

Le professeur Meadows, en tant que secrétaire général adjoint et trésorier, a fait un bref rapport sur la situation financière de l'UGI. Compte tenu de la nature en ligne de l'Assemblée Générale, il n'a pas été possible de nommer le sous-comité financier habituel pour examiner le rapport financier et celui-ci a été reporté à la prochaine Assemblée Générale qui se tiendra en association avec le Congrès Géographique International reporté à Istanbul en août 2021. Meadows a noté que la situation financière de l'UGI reste raisonnablement saine ; les dépenses pour les affaires du Comité exécutif de l'UGI ont diminué, et il est prévu que la situation pour 2020 montre de nouvelles réductions des dépenses en raison des restrictions de voyage liées au COVID-19 qui ont empêché toute réunion en face à face pendant 2020.

Le tableau 1 ci-dessous résume les recettes et les dépenses, en mettant en évidence les dépenses du CE et les subventions accordées pour les années 2016 à 2019 ; le tableau 2 présente les soldes des trois comptes de l'UGI détenus à la Standard Bank

of South Africa Ltd (agence de Claremont) au 22 août 2020 en utilisant le taux de change actuel US\$ - ZAR. Le tableau 3 présente les soldes 2016 et 2020 du Fonds de promotion et de solidarité de l'UGI (de facto la dotation de l'UGI), détenu jusqu'à récemment aux États-Unis sous la garde de l'ancien président de l'UGI, le professeur Ron Abler, et récemment transféré au Japon.

Tableau 1 : Résumé des comptes de l'UGI au 21 août 2020

	Income	Expenses	Surplus/Deficit	EC expenses	Grants
2016	144332,02	143689,00	643,02	24387,00	85911,83
2017	177272,22	139493,79	37778,43	41586,97	75360,31
2018	130288,59	127334,43	2954,16	39805,68	71342,17
2019	137539,16	87926,29	49612,87	20912,70	49272,44

Amounts in US\$

Tableau 2 : Soldes des comptes IGU, Standard Bank, Cape Town, au 21 août 2020 ?

	US\$
Current	43264,77
Market Link	102,97
Money Market	145140,93
Total	188508,67

Tableau 3 : Fonds de promotion et de solidarité de l'UGI, au 21 août 2020

2016	2020
70953,54	100968,30

Discussion des priorités de l'UGI, des initiatives de la Commission, etc.

Le vice-président Bojie Fu a présenté son point de vue sur "La géographie : Lutter contre le COVID-19 pour la durabilité". L'académicien Fu a discuté de la propagation mondiale du COVID -19 et de la manière dont elle affecte les Objectifs de développement durable (ODD), car le COVID-19, annule des décennies de progrès en matière de pauvreté, de soins de santé et d'éducation (Rapport 2020 sur les Objectifs de développement durable). La géographie joue un rôle important dans la lutte contre le COVID-19 car les SIG, avec le big data, fournissent des informations géospatiales pour aider à comprendre et à gérer le COVID-19 à différentes échelles. Les éléments géographiques ont des relations étroites avec la diffusion du COVID-19. Selon Fu, la réponse d'urgence nationale de la Chine semble avoir retardé la croissance et limité la taille de l'épidémie de COVID-19 dans ce pays, en évitant

des centaines de milliers de cas au 19 février (jour 50). Fu a également souligné l'importance d'une approche systématique par la coordination, la classification et la collaboration pour contenir le COVID-19 et a suggéré de recadrer les objectifs de développement durable pour l'ère postpandémique de manière à se concentrer sur le domaine clé de la promotion de la géographie pour la durabilité. En tant que rédacteur en chef du Journal of Geography and Sustainability, l'académicien Fu a encouragé les chercheurs à soumettre des manuscrits relatifs au COVID-19 pour publication.

Le Président Himiyama a demandé aux participants de l'Assemblée Générale de partager leurs points de vue sur les initiatives de la Commission et du groupe de travail. Le président sortant Kolosov a félicité le nouveau CE et le nouveau président et a observé que le renouvellement est une bonne occasion de fixer de nouvelles ambitions et de nouveaux objectifs pour l'UGI. Il a noté que le CE a d'importants domaines d'activité traditionnels et vitaux dans lesquels des principes nouveaux et plus élevés sont continuellement développés. Kolosov a suggéré d'actualiser et de mettre en œuvre les stratégies existantes de l'UGI et de redynamiser les projets phares existants, tels que l'Année internationale de la compréhension globale et les villes durables, et de les intégrer dans les activités d'un plus grand nombre de commissions. Kolosov a également suggéré de coordonner les efforts pour étudier la pandémie de COVID, car sa propagation et son contrôle dépendent de plusieurs facteurs géographiques tels que le climat, les voies de passage du virus et la mobilité de la population. Les projets communs coordonnés peuvent être liés à des super-programmes tels que Future Earth. Kolosov a insisté sur la nécessité de refondre et de poursuivre la "Nuit de la Géographie" de l'UGI pour en faire un événement véritablement international. Il a également exprimé son soutien à l'élaboration d'une proposition de "Journée internationale de la géographie" qui contribuera à accroître la visibilité de la géographie au niveau mondial. La lère vice-président Joos Droogleeever-Fortuijn remercié le groupe de travail sur les Olympiades de géographie pour l'organisation réussie des Olympiades à Pékin, en Chine (2016), à Belgrade, en Serbie (2017), à Québec, au Canada (2018), et à Hong Kong (2019). Elle a noté, avec regret, qu'en raison du COVID-19, l'Olympiade de cette année n'a pas pu avoir lieu. Le groupe de travail olympiade a également réussi à augmenter le nombre et la représentation des pays participants. Le professeur Benno Werlen, président de la Commission de la compréhension globale, a mentionné que la Commission souhaite poursuivre l'initiative de l'Année internationale de la compréhension globale et la transformer en

Décennie de la compréhension globale entre la science et l'humanité.

Prochaines réunions

Congrès géographique international, 2021, Istanbul, Turquie

Le vice-président, le professeur Barbaros Gönençgil, président du comité d'organisation local du 34e CIG, à Istanbul, a présenté un rapport sur les dispositions prises pour l'événement de 2021, compte tenu du report forcé du CIG 2020. Il a attiré l'attention de l'AGV sur les dates révisées suivantes:

- Report de l'IGC 2020 annoncé par e-bulletin
2 avril 2020
- "La nouvelle date du CIG 2021 est annoncée dans le bulletin électronique
14 avril 2020
- Appel à propositions de sessions pour le CIG 2021 par e-bulletin
20 avril 2020
- Formulaire de proposition de session
14 nouvelles propositions de sessions
- Nouvelle session pour COVID-19 (Session spéciale)
11 articles jusqu'à présent
- (Nouveau) Soumission des résumés ouverte (nouveau)
2 juillet 2020 à 11 janvier 2021

Gönençgila noté que le comité d'organisation du congrès a reculé à 2021 tous les résumés acceptés (2256) et les inscriptions approuvées pour le CIG 2020. La répartition des soumissions est la suivante : Résumés oraux : 1782, Résumés de posters : 474. Les participants qui ne peuvent pas assister à CIG2021 peuvent demander le remboursement de leurs frais d'inscription.

Les nouvelles dates importantes pour le CIG, Istanbul 2021 pour les participants sont les suivantes:

- Date limite de soumission des résumés pour les communications orales et les posters
11 janvier 2021
- Notification de l'acceptation (nouveaux résumés)
8 février 2021
- Date limite d'inscription des auteurs
5 avril 2021

- Inscription anticipée
5 avril 2021
- Inscription régulière
22 juin – 20 août 2021

Date du congrès

16-20 août 2021

Université d'Istanbul - İstanbul

<https://www.igc2020.org> <https://www.igc2021.org>

Gönençgil a également noté le report de l'Olympiade de géographie 2020 et a fait remarquer qu'une cinquantaine de pays avaient cherché à participer à l'iGEO 2020. Les nouvelles dates pour l'iGEO2021 sont du 10 au 16 août 2021.

En réponse à une question, Gönençgil a répondu que tous les frais d'inscription reçus, les résumés acceptés, les bourses de voyage accordées et le programme de la conférence déjà élaboré pour cette année seront reportés à 2021.

Congrès Géographique International Extraordinaire, 2022, Paris, France

En tant que coprésidente du Congrès géographique extraordinaire, Paris, 2022, la vice-présidente Lemarchand a présenté un rapport sur les préparatifs de l'événement. Le Congrès est organisé par le Comité national français de géographie. L'Institut de Géographie de l'Université de la Sorbonne accueillera le Congrès. Afin de promouvoir la visibilité et le succès des événements organisés par les géographes français entre 2021 et 2022, une Année de la Géographie a été proclamée : elle débutera avec le bicentenaire de la Société de Géographie en décembre 2021 et se terminera avec le FIG (Festival International de Géographie) 2022. Le Congrès du centenaire de l'UGI, qui se tiendra à Paris en 2022, sera l'événement principal de cette "Année de la géographie". La Bibliothèque nationale de France sera également partenaire du congrès et organisera une exposition sur le thème "Explorer le monde au 19^{ème} siècle" pendant le congrès. Le programme du congrès comprendra des conférences données par des scientifiques de premier plan, des géographes et des spécialistes d'autres disciplines, ainsi que par des intervenants issus de milieux non universitaires. Le congrès accueillera également des programmes culturels, des tables rondes interdisciplinaires, un "café" géographique (en anglais, français et espagnol) pour les doctorants et des excursions dans la ville de Paris, sa banlieue et ses régions. Des sessions académiques spéciales sur

des sujets tels que la géographie et la diplomatie au 19^{ème} siècle, la géographie et le changement climatique global, et la publication dans les journaux académiques feront partie du programme. Dans un contexte de restrictions liées à la pandémie de COVID, le comité d'organisation local du CIG extraordinaire 2022 à Paris travaille au mieux de ses capacités pour rationaliser toute la logistique, les infrastructures et le site web du congrès.

Le président sortant Vladimir Kolosov informe l'AGV qu'une monographie du centenaire intitulée A Geographical Century : Essays for the Century of the IGU est en cours de publication par Springer. Il a noté que la monographie comprendra des contributions d'une série d'éminents géographes humains et physiques de toutes les parties du monde. Elle examinera l'histoire et la situation actuelle de la géographie en tant que science internationale et fournira de nouvelles analyses critiques des différentes formes d'internationalisme géographique qui ont émergé au cours du 20^{ème} siècle. En tant qu'éditeur général de la monographie, Kolosov a également indiqué que la publication jetait un éclairage sur la géopolitique de la collaboration géographique internationale et concluait sur les perspectives de la géographie en tant que science internationale du 21^{ème} siècle.

Congrès géographique international, Dublin, 2024, Irlande

En tant que présidente du comité d'organisation local du 35^e Congrès géographique international (CIG) de Dublin, le professeur associé Niamh Moore-Cherry a présenté un bref rapport sur les préparatifs du congrès de 2024. Le congrès est organisé par la Geographical Society of Ireland avec le soutien d'un grand nombre d'autres organisations. Le lieu principal est The Helix, situé sur le campus de l'Université de Dublin. Il offre une bonne infrastructure pour la tenue de réunions, des espaces de mise en réseau, des possibilités d'hébergement et des équipements de loisirs. Moore a souligné que Dublin est bien relié à de nombreuses grandes villes et à des centres de communication du monde entier. Le thème du programme du CIG 2024 est "Célébrer un monde de différence", tout en reliant les sciences naturelles, les sciences humaines et les sciences sociales, en valorisant et en développant la sensibilisation et la compréhension interculturelles, en promouvant la diversité intellectuelle et les perspectives holistiques, et en identifiant et en adoptant les interconnexions complexes entre les personnes, les lieux et l'environnement naturel. Des organisations telles que la Royal Geographical Society (avec l'Institute of British Geographers), la

Regional Studies Association, le Journal of Geography in Higher Education, l'International Network for Learning and Teaching et le Global Network on Financial Geography (FinGeo) coopèrent pour organiser des ateliers communs, des conférences, des événements thématiques, des sessions de commissions croisées, des excursions, des événements de mise en réseau des femmes en géographie, des forums/ateliers pour les chercheurs en début de carrière, des événements de mise en réseau des enseignants, etc. L'Olympiade de géographie est également organisée. Plusieurs excursions scientifiques sont prévues avant et après le congrès. Moore-Cherry se réjouit d'accueillir les participants au CIG en août 2024 à Dublin, en Irlande. Elle a également souligné que de plus amples informations et mises à jour sont disponibles sur le site Web du congrès www.igc2024dublin.org.

Congrès géographique international, 2028, Melbourne, Australie

Le professeur associé Ian Rutherford a présenté un bref rapport sur les préparatifs de l'IGC2028 qui aura lieu du 9 au 14 juillet 2028 à Melbourne, en Australie. Les organisations hôtes sont l'Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG) et l'école de géographie de l'université de Melbourne, avec le soutien d'universités d'Australie et de Nouvelle-Zélande, et en particulier de la New Zealand Geographical Society. Le thème du congrès est "Making Geographical Connections". Rutherford a fait remarquer que le CIG 2028 de Melbourne marque deux anniversaires importants, le premier étant que cela fera 40 ans que le CIG ne s'est pas tenu dans l'hémisphère sud (Sydney, 1988) et le second étant que le congrès aura lieu le jour du 70e anniversaire de la création de l'IAG. Le lieu du congrès sera le vaste centre d'exposition de la convention de Melbourne. Rutherford a également mentionné que le comité d'organisation local a obtenu un nombre important de parrainages, qui seront utilisés pour financer des bourses de voyage pour les participants des pays à faible revenu. Il a poursuivi en informant l'AGV de l'étendue des possibilités d'hébergement à bas prix disponibles dans la ville et dans les collèges universitaires. Le CIG 2028 organise plusieurs visites de terrain avant et après le congrès à Melbourne et dans ses environs, dans toute l'Australie, et en dehors de l'Australie, y compris des visites de terrain potentielles en Nouvelle-Zélande, en Tasmanie et à Fidji. Rutherford a remercié l'UGI d'avoir donné l'opportunité d'accueillir le CIG Melbourne 2028 et a souhaité la bienvenue à tous au Congrès.

Remerciements aux membres du comité exécutif sortant

La vice-présidente Elena dell'Agnesa a présenté une motion de remerciement aux deux membres sortants du CE, le premier vice-président Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn et le président sortant Vladimir Kolosov. Elle a indiqué que c'était un honneur de présenter cette motion de remerciement à deux piliers de l'UGI à l'occasion de l'AGV. dell'Agnesa a brièvement décrit la longue association de Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn avec l'UGI en mentionnant qu'elle avait été membre du comité directeur de la commission sur le genre de 1992 à 2000, puis présidente de la commission de 2000 à 2004. Droogleever-Fortuijn a été élue vice-présidente de l'UGI de 2012 à 2016 et première vice-présidente de 2016 à 2020. Elle a également occupé le poste de webmaster pour la Commission du genre. Elle a joué des rôles clés dans la gestion d'activités importantes de l'UGI, notamment le suivi des activités des commissions, le soutien à l'implication des jeunes et des chercheurs en début de carrière et la promotion réussie de la participation des femmes universitaires et des universitaires du Sud dans les commissions de l'UGI. dell'Agnesa a remercié Droogleever-Fortuijn pour sa compétence, son attitude inclusive, son dévouement et sa diligence et a espéré qu'elle restera toujours impliquée dans les activités de l'UGI. En adressant un vote de remerciement au professeur Vladimir Kolosov, le professeur dell'Agnesa souligné les 30 années d'association du professeur Kolosov avec l'UGI. Kolosov est devenu membre de la Commission de la carte politique mondiale de 1991 à 1996. De 1996 à 2000, il a été le président de la Commission de géographie politique. En 2008, il a été élu vice-président de l'UGI et a été premier vice-président de 2010 à 2012. Kolosov a été président de l'UGI de 2012 à 2016 et président sortant de 2016 à 2020. dell'Agnesa a remercié chaleureusement Kolosov pour les immenses services qu'il a rendus au CE de l'UGI. Le président Himiyama a également remercié les professeurs Droogleever-Fortuijn et Kolosov pour leur service dévoué et a exprimé son espoir qu'ils resteront actifs au sein de l'UGI. Droogleever-Fortuijn et Kolosov ont remercié dell'Agnesa pour le vote de remerciement et ont réitéré leurs ambitions de continuer leur soutien actif à l'UGI dans le futur.

Commentaires du président élu et des vice-présidents élus

Présidentes Meadows, président élu de l'UGI, a adressé ses salutations à l'assemblée depuis Cape Town et a remercié les comités nationaux de lui avoir accordé leur confiance et leur foi en tant que

président de l'UGI pour les quatre prochaines années. Il a noté combien il est important de promouvoir la discipline pendant l'ère pandémique et post-pandémique. Meadows a souligné le besoin permanent de se concentrer sur l'augmentation de l'empreinte de l'UGI, de rendre l'UGI encore plus internationale, et d'être plus accessible, en particulier aux géographes féminins et à ceux des pays en développement. Il a exprimé le souhait d'améliorer la communication avec les commissions, les groupes de travail et les comités nationaux au cours des prochaines années. Il a ensuite exprimé son appréciation aux Commissions de l'UGI pour leur travail très efficace dans le passé et son espoir qu'elles continueront à travailler plus efficacement dans les années à venir. Il a commenté l'extraordinaire privilège de travailler en étroite collaboration avec Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn et Vladimir Kolosov en tant que membres du CE et leur a rendu hommage pour la qualité et le calibre de leur travail, ainsi que pour leur amabilité. Meadows a également offert des expressions appropriées de reconnaissance au Président Yukio Himiyama pour ses excellents efforts, son travail dévoué, sa qualité de leadership et sa vision investie au cours des quatre dernières années, en particulier dans ses efforts pour connecter l'UGI avec les organisations internationales. Il a également exprimé l'espoir de rencontrer tout le monde face à face à Istanbul et de partager de nouvelles idées pour faire avancer l'organisation. La vice-présidente Holly Barcusa transmis ses salutations du Minnesota, USA. Barcusa a remercié les individus, les comités nationaux, les commissions et les groupes de travail pour avoir soutenu sa nomination au poste du CE. Elle a déclaré que c'était un honneur de faire partie du CE de l'UGI et qu'elle se réjouissait de travailler et de soutenir ses objectifs et ses activités. La vice-présidente Céline Rozenblat a également indiqué que c'était un grand honneur d'être élue au CE de l'UGI et qu'elle souhaitait reproduire tout le travail effectué précédemment avec sa modeste contribution et l'expérience acquise en travaillant avec la commission urbaine de l'UGI. Elle espère pouvoir contribuer aux programmes phares de l'UGI, développer l'interaction avec les comités nationaux de l'UGI et assurer la liaison avec les commissions et les groupes de travail de l'UGI, le cas échéant.

Autres

Le président Himiyama demandé aux participants de l'AGV de partager leurs points de vue concernant les activités de l'UGI. Le professeur Cosimo Palagiano et Peter Jordon ont fait des remarques.

Votes de remerciement

Le président Himiyama a remercié le professeur Gönençgil pour avoir accueilli la première AGV de l'UGI et pour ses énormes contributions et son soutien technique. Il a également remercié chaleureusement les membres du secrétariat de l'UGI, le professeur RB Singh et le Dr Pankaj Kumar, pour leur contribution à l'organisation de l'AGV. Himiyama a ajouté que, si les réunions en ligne présentent certains défis, elles offrent également la possibilité d'assister à des réunions de haut niveau sans aucune obligation financière. Selon lui, une fonction importante du CE de l'UGI est de fournir un lien efficace entre les communautés internes et externes de l'UGI. Il espère que des liens encore plus étroits avec les commissions, les groupes de travail et les comités nationaux seront développés. En tant que communauté, nous pouvons faire beaucoup mieux en contribuant aux activités internationales telles que les SDG de l'ONU et COVID-19. Par conséquent, l'ère des réunions en ligne peut être considérée comme un bon début à cet égard. Himiyama a exprimé ses remerciements à tous les participants de l'AGV et à ceux qui ont rejoint la réunion via YouTube. Le secrétaire général Singh a remercié le président Himiyama pour avoir très bien mené la session de l'AGV.

Ajournement

Le président Himiyama a clos la réunion de l'AGV à 10h30 GMT le vendredi 21 août 2020.

IGU Commission and Task Force Annual Reports 2019 – 2020

C20.01 African Studies

A. Introduction

The IGU Commission on African Studies (IGU-CAS) was formed in May 2017. It is headquartered in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Zululand, South Africa. It is a research and scientific body composed of and dedicated to African and Africanist scholars researching on issues around and in Africa, ranging from social sciences to natural sciences, but informed in the main by geographical, multi and interdisciplinary perspectives. This report covers the period 2019-2020. Accordingly, this report focuses on the following, membership, website, meetings, fundraising, networking and publications.

B. Website

The website of the Commission is:

<https://iguafriaccommission.org/>

All events (past, current and planned with be displayed in this website).

C. Membership

The membership of the IGU-CAS can be broken down into two categories, which are the Steering Committee and corresponding members.

D. Steering Committee

Dr Innocent Moyo (Chairperson)

Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
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South Africa
Email: minnoxax@yahoo.com;
MoyoI@unizulu.ac.za

Dr Christopher Changwe Nshimbi (Secretary)

DST-NRF RCA Research Fellow &
Deputy Director: Centre for the Study of
Governance Innovation (GovInn)
Department of Political Sciences, University of
Pretoria
South Africa
Email: csnzed@gmail.com;
christopher.nshimbi@up.ac.za

Dr Alain François Loukou (Deputy Chairperson)

Enseignant - Chercheur, Géographie des TIC /
Lecturer, Geography of ICT
UFR "Communication Milieu & Société"
Université de Bouaké
Côte d'Ivoire / Ivory Coast
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Prof. Kenneth Matengu

Pro-Vice Chancellor: Research, Innovation and
Development
University of Namibia
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Dr Augustin Chabossou

Centre d'Etudes, de Formation et de Recherches en
Développement (CEFRED)
Faculté des Sciences Economiques et de Gestion
Université d'Abomey Calavi
Bénin
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Head of Department
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Dr Ibrahima Sylla

Département de Géographie de l'Université Cheick
Anta Diop
Dakar, Sénégal, Spécialité : Géographie des TIC et
de la Société de l'information.
Geography Department of the University Cheikh
Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal
Email: ibrahima.sylla4818@gmail.com

Professor A.I. Tanko, PhD, FRGS

Dean, Faculty of Earth & Environmental Sciences
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Kano, Nigeria
(2nd Vice President, Association of Nigerian
Geographers - ANG)
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Professor J.A.(Tony) Binns

FRGS, FNZGS, FHEA,
Ron Lister Chair of Geography
Department of Geography/Te Ihowhenua
University of Otago
Te Whare Wananga o Otago, Dunedin
NEW ZEALAND/AOTEAROA
Email: jab@geography.otago.ac.nz

Professor Hazel Barrett

Chair in Development Geography
Centre for Trust Peace and Social Relations
Coventry University, UK
Email: gex037@coventry.ac.uk

E. Corresponding Members

Dr. Madani Azzeddine, Université Djilali
Bounaama Khemis Miliana, Algeria
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madani.azzeddine@gmail.com

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Dr Karl-Heinz Gaudry, University of Freiburg,
Institute for Environmental Social, Sciences and
Geography, Freiburg, Germany
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Professor Tom Dietz, African Studies Centre,
Netherlands
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Professor Prof K Mearns, Department of
Environmental Sciences, University of South Africa
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Professor Melanie Nicolau, Director, School of
Environmental Sciences, University of South Africa
Email: nicolmd@unisa.ac.za

Professor Gijsbert Hoogendoorn, Head of
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Environmental Management and Energy Studies,
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Professor Brij Maharaj, Department of
Geography, University of Kwa-Zulu Natal.
Email: maharajB@ukzn.ac.za

Carlos Nunes Silva, Chair: IGU Commission
'Geography of Governance'. Portugal
Email: cs@campus.ul.pt

F. Summary of Membership

NB: It should be noted that the numbers in the table are undercounted totals because, the number 1, only denotes the person in contact, but the activities of the Commission reach the whole country, of which updated numbers are not currently available. For, example Lesotho has been indicated as showing only one person, but the reality on the ground is that the Commission activities have reached the whole country.

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF MEMBERS
Algeria	3
Benin	1
Canada	11
Cameroon	1
Comoros	1
Egypt	13
England	1
Germany	1
Ghana	7
Ivory Coast	7
Lesotho	1
Namibia	6
New Zealand	3
Netherlands	1
Nigeria	2
Portugal	1
South Africa	25
Uganda	1
Tunisia	2
Zambia	6
Zimbabwe	7
TOTAL	103

G. Meetings

IGU COMMISSION ON AFRICAN STUDIES INAUGURAL CONFERENCE, 17-18 MAY 2018, UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA, NAMIBIA

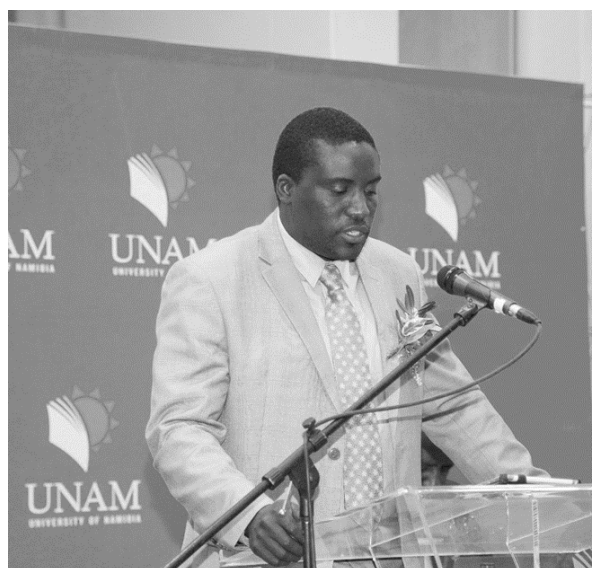
<https://www.unam.edu.na/conferences/igu-2018>

The IGU Commission on African Studies held its inaugural conference on 17-18 May 2018 at the University of Namibia, Namibia. The conference, whose theme was: What is Africa's response on global challenges: Understanding drivers of poverty and reducing inequality? was a huge success and it attracted well over 60 paper presentations as well as posters and panel discussions. The conference began with an address by Professor Kenneth Matengu, Pro-Vice Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Development, University of Namibia. This was followed by an introduction of the Commission by Dr Innocent Moyo (Chair: IGU Commission on African Studies). The major highlight of the conference was when the Minister: Higher Education, Training and, Innovation, Hon. Dr Itah Kandjii-Murangi, launched the Commission, much to the delight of the participants who were drawn from all regions of Africa and beyond such as

Germany, Finland, USA and UK. The parallel presentations were lively and were constituted of papers from the natural and social sciences, which emphasised the nature and scope of Geography as an academic discipline.



Chairperson of the IGU Commission on African Studies during the inaugural launch of the Commission on May 17, 2018, University of Namibia, Republic of Namibia



Professor Kenneth Matengu, Pro-Vice Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Development, University of Namibia, during the inaugural launch of the Commission on May 17, 2018, University of Namibia, Republic of Namibia



Minister: Higher Education, Training and, Innovation, Hon. Dr Itah Kandjii-Murangi, during the inaugural launch of the Commission on May 17, 2018, University of Namibia, Republic of Namibia



Some of the delegates after the inaugural launch of the Commission on May 17, 2018, University of Namibia, Republic of Namibia

**2ND IGU CAS, UNIVERSITY OF ZULULAND,
DATE: 16-19 JUNE 2019**

The IGU Commission on African Studies held its second annual conference on 16-19 June 2019, at the University of Zululand, South Africa. The conference whose theme was *Africa in the global imaginary: Towards competitive science and research*, attracted well over 120 oral paper presentations. The conference started off on a high note with the opening address by the Dean of the Faculty of Science and Agriculture, University of Zululand, Professor Nokuthula Kunene, followed by an address by the Chair of the IGU Commission on

African Studies, Dr Innocent Moyo. There were also three powerful key note addresses by one of the leading Decolonial thinkers Professor Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni from the University of South Africa, University of Cape Town Dean of Science and prominent professor of Geography, Professor Maano Ramutsindela. The third was Professor Richard Grant from the University of Miami. In addition, the Mayor of uMhlatuze, Honourable M Mhlongo also welcomed the delegates to the City by sponsoring a welcome cocktail function at the Council Chambers.



Front seat: Professors Maano Ramutsindela (Left) and Professor Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni (Right)



Dr Innocent Moyo: Chair IGU Commission on African Studies



The Honourable Mayor of uMhlatuze M. Mhlongo



Professor Richard Grant

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCE FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES, ECOSYSTEMS AND LIVELIHOODS UNDER GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE (GORILLA), 3 -5 DECEMBER 2020 KAMPALA, UGANDA
<https://gorilla.mak.ac.ug/about-gorilla-conference>

This conference was organised by the IGU Commission of Biogeography and Biodiversity, the IGU Commission on African Studies, Uganda Geographical Association, IALE African Chapter, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) as well as local stakeholders in Uganda.

H. Fundraising

Through the Chairperson, the IGU Commission on African Studies managed to secure funding for the 2019 Annual Meeting in the amount of US\$ 44 322.62 (R500 000) from the National Research Foundation, Republic of South Africa. This means that, the 2019 meeting of the IGU Commission on African Studies, was funded by the NRF (Republic of South Africa)

I. Networking

The IGU-CAS has established a collaboration with the IGU Commission Geography of Governance. In 2020, the IGU Commission on African Studies worked with the IGU Commission of Biogeography and Biodiversity, Uganda Geographical Association, IALE African Chapter, the National Environment

Management Authority (NEMA) as well as local stakeholders in Uganda in the organisation of the International Conference on Geographical Science for Resilient Communities, Ecosystems and Livelihoods under Global Environmental Change (GORILLA), 3 -5 December 2020 Kampala, Uganda.

J. Productive use of previous IGU grants

The IGU grant has been productively used to support young academics. For example, in the second annual conference of the IGU Commission on African Studies in 2019, a workshop was held for post graduate students. In addition to this, the attendance of post graduate students was subsidised.

K. Future events

The IGU Commission on African Studies, plans to hold its 4th annual meeting in 2021, at the Nelson Mandela University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

L. Publications

IGU Commission on African Studies published a conference proceeding in February 2020. The title is: Africa in the global imaginary: Towards internationally competitive science and research: Proceedings of the IGU Commission on African Studies Annual Conference, 17-19 June 2019, University of Zululand, South Africa. This can be accessed here:

<http://uzspace.unizulu.ac.za/handle/10530/1991>

C20.04 Biogeography and Biodiversity

A. Membership

STEERING COMMITTEE

The following colleagues had been appointed as steering committee members of the IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity for the period 2016-2020:

Dr. Suraj Mal (Chair)

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Dr. Maria Bobrowski (Vice-Chair)

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Prof. Dr. Kazuharu Mizuno

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Prof. Dr. Zerihun Woldu

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College of Natural Sciences

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Email: zerihun_woldu@yahoo.com

Prof. Dr. Ram Prasad Chaudhary

Emeritus Professor, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur (TU), Kathmandu, Nepal.
Coordinator, MAB Committee, Nepal National Commission for UNESCO
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Prof. Dr. John Sinclair

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba
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Dr. Harald Pauli

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Prof. Dr. Monica Dumitrascu

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Email: maksim.kulikov@ucentralasia.org

Dr. Antje Burke

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Windhoek, Namibia.
Email: enviroscience@gmx.com

Prof. B.W. Pandey (Secretary)

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University of Delhi, India
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IGU LIAISONS

Prof. R.B. Singh

Secretary General, International Geographical Union
Department of Geography,
Delhi School of Economics
University of Delhi, India
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Prof. Dr. Udo Schickhoff

Department of Geography
University of Hamburg, Germany
Email: udo.schickhoff@uni-hamburg.de

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Current corresponding members of the Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity are listed below, arranged by countries. This membership list has more than 260 members currently but does not include numerous delegates from respective host countries attending the annual meetings.

Argentina

Alessandro, M.B., Mendoza

Australia

Kull, C.A., Clayton; Millington, A., Adelaide, Carter, J., Queensland.

Austria

Geitner, C., Innsbruck; Grabherr, G., Vienna; Pauli, H., Vienna

Brazil

Melo e Souza, R., Aracaju; Rezende da Silva, S., Sao Paulo; Tavares Rocha, Y., Sao Paulo

Canada

Mitchell, S., Ottawa; Sinclair, J., Winnipeg; Tews, J., Ottawa

Chile

Cabalar Fuentes, M., Santiago; Quintanilla, V., Santiago; Rojas, C., Concepcion

China

Cai, Y., Shanghai; Chen, R., Shanghai; Ming, J., Zhangye; Ren, Z., Beijing; Venevsky, S., Beijing; Zhang, X., Beijing;

Egypt

Moatamed, A., Egypt

Ethiopia

Bekele, T., Shashemene; Desta, H., Addis Ababa; Woldu, Z., Addis Ababa

Finland

Hietala, R., Turku

Georgia

Gegechkori, A., Tbilisi

Germany

Albrecht, C., Giessen; Anhuf, D., Passau; Audorff, V., Bayreuth; Baranova, A., Hamburg; Becht, M., Eichstätt; Beierkuhnlein, C.; Bayreuth; Bittner, T., Bayreuth; Block, J., Erlangen; Block, M., Erlangen; Bobrowski, M., Hamburg; Böhling, N., Kirchheim u. Teck; Böhmer, H.J., Bonn; Borchardt, P., Hamburg; Bräuning, A., Erlangen; Bürzle, B., Hamburg; Chmielewski, F.M., Berlin; Cikovac, P., Köln; Deil, U., Freiburg; Dlugosz, A., Trier; Dotter, D., Regensburg; Dulamsuren, C., Göttingen; Ehlkes, L., Hamburg; Engwald, S., Frankfurt a.M.; Fartmann, T., Münster; Faude, U., Bonn; Feilhauer, H., Erlangen; Filz, K., Trier; Finch, O.D., Oldenburg; Fränze, O., Kiel; Friedmann, A., Augsburg; Gawlik, J., Erlangen; Gebel, M., Dresden; Gebhardt, H., Karlsruhe; Glawion, R., Freiburg i.Br.; Gleich, A., Erlangen; Griessinger, J., Erlangen; Hahn, I., Münster; Harter, D., Bayreuth; Hochhut, E.S., Mainz; Hohnwald, S., Göttingen; Holler, S., Hamburg; Hölzel, N., Münster; Hoppe, F., Hamburg; Jaeschke, A., Bayreuth; Jahan, R., Hamburg; Jedicke, E., Karlsruhe; Jentsch, A., Bayreuth; Jungkunst, H., Göttingen; Jurasinski, G., Rostock; Kappas, M., Göttingen; Karl, H.V., Göttingen; Kiehl, K., Freising; Kreft, H., Göttingen; Kreyling, J., Bayreuth; Krummel, T., Göttingen; Kuhlmann, M., Münster; Kuhn, E., Gackenbach; Küster, H., Hannover; Lange, J., Greifswald; Lembeck, R., Hamburg; le Mellec, A., Göttingen; Lingenhöhl, D., Erlangen; Link, M., Gießen; Löffler, J., Bonn; Loos, G.H., Oberhausen; Lötters, S., Trier; Löw, A., Hamburg; Mahecha, M., Jena; Menz, G., Bonn; Metzger, D., Oldenburg; Meyn, A., Potsdam; Mische, G., Marburg; Mühlner, S., Leipzig; Müller-Hohenstein, K., Bayreuth; Nagy, L., Bayreuth; Najmi, U., Greifswald; Neff, C., Karlsruhe; Nezdal, W., Erlangen; Nüsser, M., Heidelberg; Nutz, L., Karlsruhe; Pape, R., Bonn; Peters, M., München; Peters, T., Erlangen; Platten, H., Koblenz; Poschwitz, H., Frankfurt a.M.; Pott, R., Hannover; Reimer, F., Bonn; Reiss, M., Marburg; Reu, B., Leipzig; Richter, M., Erlangen; Rödiger, D., Bonn; Rollenbeck, R., Mannheim; Runkel, U., Trier; Russow, F., Bensheim; Samimi, C., Bayreuth; Sattler, D., Leipzig; Scheid, A., Karlsruhe; Schickhoff, U., Hamburg; Schiller, H., Eitorf; Schlütz, F., Göttingen; Schmidlein, S., Karlsruhe; Schmitt, T., Bochum; Schmitt, E., Giessen; Schröder, H., Erlangen; Schröder, B., Mannheim; Schröder, B., Rostock; Schulz, E., Würzburg; Schulz, N., Erlangen; Schwab, N., Hamburg; Schwabe, B., Erlangen; Siewert, A., Hamburg; Steinbauer, M., Bayreuth; Steinecke, K., Bremen; Stenzel, S., Bonn; Strewe, R., Bad Zwischenahn;

Sturm, H.J., Frankfurt a.M.; Szarzynski, J., Mannheim; Thannheiser, D., Hamburg; Treter, U., Erlangen; Vanselow, K.A., Erlangen; Vater, G., Berlin; Venzke, J.F., Bremen; Veste, M., Hamburg; Völkel, J., Regensburg; Wehberg, J.-A., Hamburg; von Wehrden, H., Halle/Saale; Wagner, F., Bremen; Wallossek, C., Köln; Weiß, W., Erlangen; Weis, M., Freiburg; Wellstein, C., Bayreuth; Werner, W., Heidelberg; Werner, M., Mainz; Wesenberg, J., Leipzig; Wilmking, M., Greifswald; Wollesen, D., Bochum; Zemmrich, A., Greifswald; Kurse, L., Hamburg.

Great Britain

Hill, J., Bristol; Jones, B., Oxford; Syfert, M., Cambridge

Hungary

Szemethy, L. Hungary.

India

Bhardwaj, M., Lucknow; Bhat, M.S., Srinagar; Chauhan, D., Jaipur; Chauhan, G.S., Bhopal; Das, S.A., Mysore; Deka, D., Guwahati; Eswarappa, B., Bangalore; Fazal, S., Aligarh; Jana, N., Bardwan; Jayakumar, K.V., Kozhikode; Jeet, I., Jammu; Kala, C.P., Kosi-Katarmal; Kanth, T.A., Srinagar; Khuroo, A., Srinagar; Kishan, B., Hyderabad; Kumar, A., Delhi; Kumria, P., Delhi; Maithani, D.D., Srinagar (Garhwal); Mal, S., Delhi; Dehradun; Nagabhushanam, N., Tirupati; Nandeshwar, M.D., Kozhikode; Negi, V.S., Delhi; Pandey, U.N., Bilaspur; Panwar, M.S., Srinagar (Garhwal); Pathak, M., Bhurkura; Prasad, R., Jaipur; Rahman, M.; Gauhati; Sarkar, A., Delhi; Sharma, P., Gauhati; Sharma, V.R., Delhi; Singh, M., Rohtak; Singh, P.K., Lucknow; Singh, R.B., Delhi; Sreelesh, S., Delhi; Srinagesh, B., Hyderabad; Suresh, M., India; Tiwari, V.K., Bilaspur; Wodeyar, A.K., Bangalore; De, J., Calcutta; Shah, M.B., Imphal; Singh, B.V.R., Rajasthan; Biswasroy, M. West Bengal; Upadhyaya, H. Lucknow; Varghese, N. Delhi; Dutta, S. West Bengal; Praveen, U., Delhi;

Hungary

Szemethy, L., Hungary;

Ireland

Taylor, D., Dublin

Japan

Fujita, T., Kyoto; Kimoto, K., Hiroshima; Koarai, M., Tsukuba; Mizuno, K., Kyoto; Teshirogi, K., Tokyo; Kazuharu, K., Kyoto; Wang, R. Tsukub;

Kyrgyzstan

Kulikov, M., Bishkek; Laskov, G., Bishkek; Usupbaev, A., Bishkek

Mexico

Patricia, P., Guadalajara; Velázquez, J.A., Mexico City

Mongolia

Damdinsuren, O., Khovd

Myanmar

Mar Yee, K., Yangon

Namibia

Bethune, S., Windhoek; Curtis, B., Windhoek; Joubert, D.F., Windhoek

Nigeria

M. Fasona, Lados;

Netherlands

Clech, S.C. Wageningen;

New Zealand

Wearing, A., Dunedin

Nigeria

Aweto, A., Ibadan

Norway

Lundberg, A., Bergen; Vetaas, O., Bergen

Poland

Bokwa, A., Krakow; Dudek, A., Warsaw

Romania

Baltescu-Socol, O., Bucarest; Grigorescu, I., Bucarest; Romanescu, G., Iasi

Russia

Alekseeva, N., Moscow; Belonovskaya, E., Moscow; Dikareva, T.V., Moscow; Kharuk, V. I., Krasnoyarsk; Makhinov, A.N., Khabarovsk; Milanova, E., Moscow; Petrushina, M., Moscow; Sorokin, L. V., Moscow; Tishkov, A.A., Moscow; Zolotov, D., Barnaul., Dmitry Ganyushkin, St Petersburg; Marina Petrushin, Moscow;

Slovenia

Valjavec, M.W. Koper; Ribeiro, D. Koper; Zupan, S. Koper

South Africa

Mukwada, G., Phuthaditjhaba

Spain

Infante Fabres, N.O., Barcelona; Lozano Valencia, P.J., San Sebastian

Switzerland

Beck, J., Basel; Brügger, R., Bern; Jeanneret, F., Bern; Nagel, P., Basel; von Fumetti, S., Basel; Vonlanthen, C., Bern; Wolf, S., Zürich, Simon K Allen, Zurich.

Thailand

Schmidt-Vogt, D., Bangkok

Tunisia

Ayache, F., Sousse; Mondher, C., Manouba

Uganda

Benita, R., Kampala

Ukraine

Gerasimenko, N., Kiev

Uruguay

Gonzalez-Gervasio, A., Montevideo

USA

Blumler, M., Binghamton; Hessing-Lewis, M., Corvallis; Mishra, N. B., Wisconsin

Vietnam

Pham Binh, T., Ha Noi

West Indies

J. Jacob, Jamaica

B. Meetings**XIV IGU-INDIA CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURE, FOOD, WATER, BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH IN CHANGING CLIMATE, BURDWAN, INDIA 6th-8th MARCH 2020**

The Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity continues to participate and support IGU activities in India. Therefore, the commission actively participated in the XIV IGU Conference on Agriculture, Food, Water, Biodiversity, and Health in Changing Climate, organized by the Department of Geography, The University of Burdwan, West Bengal in the Association of the Bengal Geographers, India during 6-8 March 2020. The conference focused on critically emerging issues in the developing world, including agriculture-irrigation, ecosystem, and associated modifications in the changing climatic conditions. Besides, IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity, Commission on Land use and Land Cover Change, Commission on Geo-Heritage, Commission on Hazard and Risk and Commission on Climatology and IGU Taskforce for Young and Early Career Geographers also collaborated/supported the conference. Many Indian and International universities, research institutions, NGOs and government official attended the conference and was financially supported by many national and regional level governmental organisations.



*Inaugural Session of XIV IGU-INDIA International Conference
(Source: Conference report)*

Following are the sessions closely related to our commission and their presented papers as per the conference program:

Sub-theme 3: Ecosystem Management, Monitoring, and Modeling

- Establishing Relationships of Cellular Communication Coverage Provided by Governmental and Non-Governmental Companies as a Function of Digital Elevation, Population Density, and Transport Infrastructure in Jodhpur District, Rajasthan by A. Puthukkulam, S. Gaur, T. R. Vinod and A. Plappally
- Spatial Modelling of Landslide Susceptibility Zone of Kurseong in Darjeeling Himalaya, India: Using Probabilistic and Machine Learning Techniques by Anik Saha and Dr. Sunil Saha
- Assessment of Forest Landscape's Capacity to Supply-Demand of Ecosystem Services: A Case Study of Kulik Forest (Raiganj Bird Sanctuary) of West Bengal, Eastern India by Arijit Das
- Paleohydrology in the Gandheswari River of Western Upland region (West Bengal): Emerging Perspectives for Flood Risk Assessment and Management by Arup Kumar Roy and Asrafal Alam
- Impacts of Ayodhya Dam on Ecology, Economy and People by Golam Mostafa, Prasenjit Pal and Tanmoy Dhibor
- Spatial Modelling of Female Male Ratio of West Bengal by Indrita Saha and Ashis Sarkar
- Spatial gully erosion susceptibility mapping using machine learning algorithms in Hinglo River Basin, India by Jagabandhu Roy & Sunil Saha
- A Novel Approach to Modeling Land use Land cover using Image Fusion and Machine Learning Techniques in Siliguri Jalpaiguri Planning Area, West Bengal by Jayant Mondal and Arijit Das
- Hazard and Vulnerability Profile of Coastal India - A Comprehensive Review for Effective Coastal Risk Management by Leo George S. and Balasubramani K.
- Landscape Ecological Analysis and Characterization of Elephant Migration through GIS Application by Nilanjana Das Chatterjee
- Alternative Economy in Wetland: A Study in Purbasthali I and II Blocks of Purba Bardhaman District, West Bengal, India by Payel Das, Sutapa Mukhopadhyay
- An Assessment of Soil Erosion Models in the Gullies of Dwarka-Brahmani Lateritic Interfluvium by Sandipan Ghosh
- Water quality parameters driving the structural variation of zooplankton in selected tidal creeks of Sagar Island, Sundarbans, India by Sanghamitra Basu, Pranab Gogoi and Subarna Bhattacharyya

- Forest health monitoring in the parts of South-Western West Bengal, India using Analytical Hierarchy Process by Shyamal Dutta and Sufia Rehaman
- Modeling Soil Erosion Dynamics in a Rain-Fed River Basin to Identify Priority Areas for Conservation by Sudipa Halder, Malabika Biswas Roy and Pankaj Kumar Roy
- Environmental, Ecological, Socio-economic Study of Khatia: A small Village under Kanha National Park, India by Ujjal Adhikary, Dhruvajyoti Pahari and PijusKanti Samanta
- Land Use and Land Cover Change Dynamics: A Case Study of Pachnoi Watershed, North-East India by Borah Debashree, Lahon Durlov and Bora A.K.
- Intervention of artificial glacier to combat climate change and enhancement of rural livelihoods: An adaptive strategy in the Ladakh Trans- Himalayan Region of Ladakh Union Territory by Chhering Tandup
- Assessment of Land use Land cover changes over time in Asansol City by Disha Sengupta
- Pattern and Trend of Tropical Cyclones in Indian Sub-continent by Deshraj Meena

Sub-theme 6: Land Use Land Cover and Climate Change

- Understanding Climate Variability and Trends in Imphal Valley, Manipur by Abuajma Manglems Singh
- Climate change, food insecurity and migration: A case study of sinking Ghoramara island of Sundarbans by Aditi Matilal
- Statistical Trend Analysis of Rainfall of Lakshadweep Meteorological Subdivision by Amartya Bhattacharya, Iman Pal and Tapati Banerjee
- Urban Land Use Land Cover Change Detection and its Impact on Rajganj Block, Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal by Amit Kumar Adhikari, Tamal Basu Roy and Ranjan Roy
- A Geospatial Investigation of Spatio Temporal Dynamics of Land Use Change in the Context of Climate Change in the Coastal Plain East Medinipur District, West Bengal by Anirban Kundu and Sayani Mukhopadhyay
- Dynamics in Earth Surface Utilization and its Implication on Land Surface Temperature in Lucknow City by Anish Kumar Rai
- Identification of Onset and Duration of Agricultural Drought through Hyper-temporal Satellite Datasets by Arnab Kundu and K. K. Chatteraj
- Challenges of Climate Resilient Livelihoods and an Inquiry of Mitigation Strategies in India by Babita Chatterjee and Amrita Dwivedi
- Climate Change, Tourism and Threat to Indigenous Natural Resource Base by Bela Das
- Land use and Land Cover Change Detection using Remote Sensing: A Case Study of Some Selected parts of Rajpur-Sonarpur Municipality by Bijay Halder and Papiya Banik
- Global Warming and Its Impacts on Sea level by D.P. Kuity
- Landslide Susceptibility Assessment Using GIS-Based Frequency Ratio Model of Lachung River Basin, North Sikkim, India by Indrajit Chowdhuri, Subodh Chandra Pal, Rabin Chakraborty, Sadhan Malik, Biswajit Das, Paramita Roy and Manasree Sarkar
- Temperature and Precipitation Trends in Northern Kazakhstan from 1980-2018 by Ishfaq Farooq, Mujtaba Ismail, Mehraj Ahmad Teeli, NahidaYousuf, Harmeet Singh and Abdul Rauf Shah
- Resilience in the Face of Natural Hazards: A Case Study of Ghoramara Island, Sundarban, India by Karabi Das and Kanailal Das
- Perception and Adaptive Attitudes of Forest Villagers to Climate Change in Himalayan Foothills by Koyel Sam and Namita Chakma
- Assessing the Impact of Climate Variability on Landuse Landcover Change in Jammu District of India by Mansoor Ahmad, Md Masroor and Sarita Nagari
- Land Use Land Cover Assessment Changes in Budgam District, J&K, India by Nusrat Rafique, Durdanah Mattoo and Bilquis Shah
- Effects of Coastal Erosion on Coastal Environment in Coastal Belt between Kalu River mouth and Bologoda River mouth, Sri Lanka by P. Kirishanthan
- Assessing the Landuse Change in Flood Affected Areas of Morigaon District, Assam using Geospatial Technology by Pompei Bora
- Land Use-Land Cover Studies of BAKU Micro-watershed Project of Ausgram- II Block, Purba Barddhaman District, West Bengal by Raj Kumar Samanta and N. C. Jana

- Detection of Land Use Land Cover Changes of Irga River Basin, Part of North-Eastern Fringe of Choto Nagpur Plateau, Jharkhand, India by Ratan Pal and N. C. Jana
- Land Transformation due to Land Use Land Cover Changes in the NCT of Delhi by Sandesh Yadav, Haseena Hashia
- An Analysis of Landuse and Cropping Pattern Change in Kochbihar District by Sangita Karmakar and Ranjan Roy
- A Geographical Analysis of Land use Dynamics and its Determinants: An Ecological Perspective by Shahab Fazal
- Estimation of Temperature and Rainfall over Coastal Areas of Bangladesh in a Predicted Climate Change Condition by Shahana Islam, Md. Moniruzzaman and Md. Abdul Mannan
- Drought Induced Human Mobility in Bankura District, West Bengal: A Geographical Analysis by Shrinwantu Raha and Shasanka Kumar Gayen
- Relationship between Climatic variation and Standard of living through the window of Agricultural economics: A Study on Indian Sub-Continent by Somnath Mandal, Subrata Halder, Anupam Biswas, Sanjit Kundu, Dr. Suman Paul, and Subhasis Bhattacharya
- Impacts of Changing Landuse on the Evolution of Urban Thermal Fields in the Tropical City of Kolkata by Soumendu Chatterjee, Ansar Khan and Apurba Dinda
- Statistical Analysis of Rainfall as a Component of Climatic Variability of the District of Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal by Soumita Banerjee and Gupinath Bhandari
- Impact of EL-NINO and LA-NINA on the Marine Fisheries in Coastal West Bengal by Suvasree Dutta (Dasgupta) and Dinabandhu Kumbhakar
- Perceptions of Climate Change: A Study on Farmers of Murshidabad District of West Bengal by Swati Mollah and Satarupa Dasgupta
- Impact of Landuse and Landcover Changes on Land Surface Temperature: A Study on Asansol Sub-division, Paschim Burdwan, West Bengal by Tanushree Paul and Niladri Das
- Land Use Dynamics and Variability of Local Climate in the Central Region of Bangladesh by Umme Kulsum and Md. Moniruzzaman

Sub-Theme 7: Land Use Land Cover Change and Biodiversity

- Estimating Above-ground Biomass in Bankura North Forest Area by Integrating Multisource Remote Sensing and Ground Data by Abira Dutta Roy and Santanu Mandal
- Impact of Biodiversity on Land Cover Change of Navegaon National park and Nagzira Wildlife sanctuary by Alka Dudhbure
- Statistical Downscaling for Improving Global Model Rainfall Forecasts of Seasonal Rainfall over West Bengal (WB), India by Aminuddin Ali and Tirthankar Ghosh
- Climatic Variability and its Impact on Altitudinal Shifting of Vegetation Cover in Kalpa Tehsil, Himachal Pradesh, India by Amir Khan, Arunava Das, L. N. Satpati and Sk Mafizul Haque
- Determination of the Length of Growing Period and Agroclimatic Potentiality of Gosaba CD Block of Indian Sundarban by Argha Ghosh, Manoj Kumar Nanda, Debolina Sarkar, Sukamal Sarkar and Kaushik Brahmachari
- Assessing Land Surface Temperature Responses to Land Use Land Cover Dynamics Using Landsat Data by Ashique Vadakkuvettil and Aakriti Grover
- Impact of Water Reservoir and Irrigation Canals on Land Use and Land Cover Changes: A Case Study by Piya Bhattacharjee and Debasish Das
- Land Use Change and its Implications on Environment- A Case Study of Giladhari River Basin of North East India by Prasenjit Das
- Unfolding Relation between Soil Salinity and Agriculture: A Case Study of Firozpur, Punjab Ratan Priya and Padmini Pani
- Landuse-Landcover Change along PMGSY Road in Murshidabad District by Rentu Biswas and A K M Anwaruzzaman
- Assessing Anthropogenic Impacts in Coastal Areas through Land Use and Land Cover Changes from 1980 to 2019 Using Remote Sensing and GIS Techniques: A Case Study of Southern Coastal Gujarat, India by Ritika Prasad
- Spatial Detection and Mapping of Land Degradation Status in A Plateau Fringe River Basin: Role of Geo-Environmental and Anthropogenic Parameters by Tusar Kanti Hembram and Sunil Saha

Sub-Theme 11: Tourism Potential of Geo-Heritage Sites in South Asia

- Sustainable Socio-Economic Development through Tourism: An Investigative Study for the Himalayan State Sikkim, India by Debasish Batabyal and Dillip Kumar Das
- Geomorphosite Tourism and its Prospects in Sundarban Delta by Jayanta Gour
- Authoritarianism for the Sustainability of Built-Up Eco-Space of Raj Dynasty in Burdwan Town by Koyel Sarkar and Sanat Kumar Guchhait
- Potential of Tourism in Bangladesh by K. M. Rezaul Karim
- Rural Tourism Favours Societal Development: A Case Study at Amkhohi Village of Illambazar C.D. Block in Birbhum District by Mahuya Sen
- Potentials in Achieving Socio-Cultural Sustainability through Rural Homestay Tourism: An Overview on Chuikhim Village of Bengal Himalaya by Mithun Ray
- Potentials of Tourism Development in the East Sikkim Himalaya along the Old Silk Route by Monikiran Dattagupta
- Application of Multiple Regressions in Prediction of Tourism Behaviour: A Study in Manali Town, India by Partha Das
- Community Perception and Attitudes towards Agriculture at the New Eco-Tourism Centres: A Case Study of Sillery Gaon, West Bengal by Pranab Kr. Das
- Tourism Potentials of Fossil Parks as Geoheritage Sites: A Study in West Bengal by Rahul Mandal and Premangshu Chakrabarty
- Potentiality of Temple Centric Tourism in Indian Sundarbans: A Transport Perspective by Sajal Ghosh and Eshita Boral
- Sustainable Pilgrimage and Religious Tourism: A Case Study in Nabadwip Town, West Bengal by Saswati Das and Premangshu Chakrabarty
- Community based 'Responsible' Tourism Initiatives in the Ziro Valley of Arunachal Pradesh: Scope and Challenges by Soma Sarkar
- Tourism in Ruralscape and Embedded Stakeholders' Power Structure- A Study on Old Silk Route, Sikkim by Subhajit Das1 and Arunima Karali
- Understanding the Environmental Impact and Change in Coastal Ecology for the Promotion of Popular and Eco-Tourism in the Coastal Areas

of East-Midnapore by Tahamina Khatun and Sanat Kumar Guchhait

- Analysis of Tourism Potential: A Study of Darjeeling District by Tuhin Kanti Ray
- Development of Rural Craft Hubs and its Impact on Socio Economic Life - A Case Study of Notungram, Purba Bardhaman by Tuhin Singha
- Heritage and Scope of Tourism Development in Paschim Medinipur District of West Bengal by Uday Chatterjee

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCE FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES, ECOSYSTEMS AND LIVELIHOODS UNDER GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE (GORILLA), KAMPALA, UGANDA, 3-5 DECEMBER 2020 KAMPALA, UGANDA 2020.

As part of our continued efforts to popularize the Geography and IGU in less developed regions of the world, our commission also actively supported and participated in the GORILLA conference since its planning phase. The conference was originally planned to be organized during 28-30 May 2020. However the conference was rescheduled for the first week of December 2020 amid Covid-19 Pandemic and was hosted by Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. Besides our commission, the GORILLA was supported by IGU, and its commissions on African Studies, commission on Geography of Future Earth Commission, International Association of Landscape Ecology (IALE), Uganda Geographical Association. In addition, the conference partners and sponsors were Government of Uganda, Makerere University-Kampala, Uganda, National Environment Management Authority, Uganda, Embassy of Sweden etc. As a complete offline conference was not possible, it was organized in a hybrid mode. Prof. Dr. Udo Schickhoff delivered a key note presentation on "Mountains of the world: Landscapes in Transition".

The main sessions and their presentations of the GORILLA conference that were related to IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity were:

Session 4: Biogeography, Biodiversity and Ecosystem change

- Trends in Extreme Temperature and Rainfall Indices in the Semi-Arid Areas of Western Tigray, Ethiopia - Abadi Berhane Girmay

- Agro - Climatic changes under projected climate scenarios in the Great Rift Valley Basins of Ethiopia - Fitih Ademe Mamo
- Introgression of late leaf spot gene into elite groundnut varieties in Ghana – Franklin Bosompem
- Ecological Assessment of Performance of Tree Species Used in Rehabilitating Degraded Areas of Turkana County, Kenya - Jesse O. Owino
- Ecology and Biogeography of macrophytes in the East African freshwater lakes: From the basic to the applied knowledge - Konrad Hentze
- Above-ground carbon gains in previously logged tropical forests: carbon accumulation rates and the economic case for restoration - Mark E.J. Cutler
- Evaluating land use and land cover change in Mt Kenya and Ngare Ndare wildlife corridor – Mary Kageni
- Floristic composition and structure of the Kibate Forest along environmental gradients in Wonchi, Southwestern Ethiopia - Misganaw Meragiaw Mollaw
- Local Community Perception on the Effectiveness of Ecosystem in Regulating Coastal Disaster Protection in Brebes - Muh Aris Marfai
- Land Use Land Cover Changes and impacts on Ecosystems Services (ESS) n the Nzhelele Catchment Area, South Africa - Nesisa Analisa Nyathi
- Molecular genetic diversity and differentiation of Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*, L. 1758) in East African natural and stocked populations - Papius Dias Tibihika
- Seed Predation and Dispersal of *Acacia seyal* (Mimosaceae) by Olive baboons *Papio Anubis* (L) and its Implication for Tree Regeneration, Sustainable City and Land Management in Sahel, West Africa - Pasquale Moilinga
- Climate Change in Bangladesh: Evidence from Temperature, Precipitation and Rainfall –Syed Shoyeb Hossain
- Population genetics of elephants in Nimule National Park, South Sudan - Thams Lado
- Influence of paper mulberry presence on natural tree species in Mabira central forest reserve - Yamungu Alongo Boniface Byamalong

Session 7 (a & b): Sustainable Land Use Management and Livelihoods

- Catchment-scale soil carbon stock assessment using depth distribution functions, surface measurements and machine learning algorithms in afforested grasslands of Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa - Andrey Rozanov
- Good Practices in Development of Adaptive Integrated Sustainable Livelihood and Social Service Systems Strategies for Prospective Risk Management - Bob Alexander
- Soil properties as affected by continuous application of fertilizer microdosing in traditional leafy vegetable production - Dagnon Didier Llikpete
- Influence of Indigenous Tree Species on Soil and Pasture Nutrient Profiles in Open Grazing Systems in South Western Uganda - Dina Nabasumba
- KRIFS quartet model improving livelihoods and fueling tourism in Kitagwenda district, Western Uganda - Fredrick Ruguma Tumwine
- An Approach to Environmental Conservation and Land Use Planning using PGIS: The case of Animal ,Ài Human Conflict in Elegu Parish - Geoffrey Olok Tabo
- Assessment of the Effects of Land use/cover change on Household Food Security in Mount Elgon slopes; Eastern Uganda - Goretty Mary Nagawa
- Understanding the role of Land uses and cover changes on water level fluctuations in Nyumba ya Mungu Dam Catchment, Tanzania -Halima Omari Mangi
- The Role of Cultural Practices in Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Mountain Elgon Region - Hisinya Fatuma
- RUSLE estimation of the extent to soil erosion risk at micro catchment scale in upper Rwizi catchment, Lake Victoria Basin - Hosea Opedes
- Agro-Ecological framework GIS-DSS for predicting crop yield in Uganda - Ivan I. Vasenev
- Assessing local community opinions towards management regimes for balancing human need and conservation goals in Pendjari Biosphere Reserve (West Africa) -Jesugnon Esther Aldegonde Kpodo
- Community perception of dynamics and drivers of land cover change around Pendjari Biosphere

Reserve in northern Benin (West Africa) - Jesunon Esther Aldegonde Kpodo

- Forest governance and deforestation in Uganda: The role and performance of different forest governance systems - Jon Geir Petursson
- Impacts of REDD+ activities to rural communities: livelihood analysis of Kondo advancing REDD+ in Kolo Hills Forests (ARKFor) Project in Tanzania - Jumanne Moshi Abdallah
- Effectiveness of Climate Variability Adaptation Strategies on Smallholder Farmers Well-Being - Justin Kalisti Urassa
- Levels and performance outcomes of governance in community-based tourism projects in the coastal region of Kenya - Osebe David Abel magiya
- Cleaning the City, Greening the Land: Sustainable City and Land Management in Sahel, West Africa - Oyama Shuichi
- Women farmers in Uganda: Constraints and ways forward - Penninah Twinorugyendo
- Livelihood sustainability under climate change - Sidra Shafaqat
- Feasibility study for a UNESCO biosphere reserve Desa'a Forest – Improved protection of dry Afromontane forests through participatory forest management, stronger integration of local interests and community-based raising of environmental awareness in Ethiopia - Simon Strobelt
- Achieving land degradation neutrality for Shire river catchment area in Malawi – Thokozani Kapichi
- Baseline Information about Agroforestry Practices, Production Constraints and Opportunities I the Eastern Agro-Ecological Zone of Uganda - Twaha Ateenyi
- Impacts of anthropogenic activities on Ewaso Narok wetland ecosystem in Laikipia County, Kenya - Walter Owuor Nyamolo
- How to promote Geography for Sustainability? - Wenwu Zhao
- Spatial distribution of factors affecting the adoption of soil organic carbon enhancements technologies among small scale farmers of Kenya and Ethiopia - Wilson Nguru
- Environmental conservation strategies and sustainability of Community Based Tourism

projects in Kenya: A case of Maasai Mara Conservancies - Winnie Tubey

- The Influence of Monitoring and Evaluation Practices on the Sustainability of Community Based Tourism Projects in Kenya - Winnie Tubey

Session 10: Environmental Geography

- Calibration and Evaluation of the CERES-Sorghum Crop Model in the Semi-arid Northeast Ethiopia – Abebe Misganaw Gedamu
- Characterizing precipitation and stream flow trends of the Great Kei River - Eastern Cape, South Africa - Francis Wasswa Nsubuga
- Vulnerability of smallholder sorghum farmers to climate variability in a heterogeneous landscape of Kigezi Highlands, South Western Uganda - Frank Mugagga
- An appraisal of the Efficacy of Adaptation Measures to Climate Variability by Smallholder Irish Potato Farmers in Rubanda District, South Western Uganda - Frank Mugagga
- Assessment of the carbon sequestration impacts associated with wetland diminution in the Kampala–Mukono Corridor (KMC) wetlands of Uganda - Hannington Wasswa
- Spatial land use pattern analysis and wetland regulatory function recovery: Evaluation of Lugogo Catchment in Central Uganda - James Mbaziira
- Spatial Vulnerability Assessment of River Mitano Catchment to Degradation in SW Uganda-Congo Border - Patrick Musinguzi
- The role of Traditional Authorities, community trustees and local communities in the management and governance of natural resources in South Africa -Sakhile Bongamandla Nsukwini
- Effect of Selective Logging on the Structure and Regeneration of Kakasi Forest in Western Uganda - Twaha Ateenyi

Session 12 (a & b): Technology and innovations for resilient ecosystems and livelihoods and ICTs

- Malo Solid Waste Allocation Application (MALO-APP) - Abel Wilson Walekhwa
- Towards a Predictive Model for Drought Occurrence in Uganda -Aminah Zawedde

- System for tracking breeding traits of improved crops - Bashejja Henry
- Identifying Vegetation Changes and Main Drivers over the Agro Pastoral Ecotone of Northern China -Chansheng He
- A Web-based Decision Support Tool for Estimating Above-Ground Carbon Stock in Mabira Central Forest Reserve - Juma Katongole
- Examining Geo-Enablement as Performance Evaluation Factors for Electronic Health Information Systems: Case of Developing Countries - Margaret Nagwovuma
- The Tigani community adaptability to changes in rural Romania - Mihai Voda
- Towards Climate Resilient Village: SWAC Model, A Reality - Muhammad Abdur Rahaman
- The politics of introducing new sanitation technologies in Kampala: Legitimacy, Access and Benefits of the Gulper - Nakyagaba Gloria Nsangi
- Farmers' resilience under climate change - Pawan Kumar Sharma
- Scarps geological and geomorphological assessment implications in geo-education and geoconservation (case studies in Kyrgyzstan and Romania) - Radu Negru
- Investigating socio-economic impacts on sustainable mountain freshwater ecosystem services in Mt. Elgon watersheds under a changing climate - Susan Wasubire Khaita
- Patterns of infiltration on a bench terraced hillslope of Kigezi highlands - Kisira Yeeko
- Diversity and Distribution of Herptiles and Small Mammals in Namulonge Wetland Agricultural Landscape - Lukwago Wilber
- Modelling infiltration characteristics to improve soil and water conservation in the Lake Victoria Basin of Uganda – Nadhomi Daniel
- Enhancing integrated soil management technologies for increased crop production in Uganda - Pavel Krasilnikov
- Effect of wood ash treated irrigation water on qualities of selected soil chemical properties and yield of maize (*Zea mays*) in Dura Tabia, Central Tigray, Northern Ethiopia – Samuel Tesfay
- Climate-smart agriculture practices for sustainable maize-wheat production: Effects on crop productivity, profitability and irrigation water use - SK Kakraliya
- Local People's Attitude and the Impact of Community-based Conservation Practice at Menz-Guassa Community Conservation Area, Ethiopia - Tilaye Wube Hailemariam
- Assessing resilience of Agricultural Landscapes to Climate Change in Luwero District, Central Uganda - Twaha Ateenyi
- Suitability of arable soils for Maize (*Zea mays* L.) and Cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) Production - Twaha Ateenyi
- Improving Soil Nitrogen Management Under Rice Production in Lowland Eastern Rwanda - Twaha Ateenyi

Session 13: Sustainable Agricultural Landscape

- Sustainable agriculture landscape, case study of Amazonian space, Peru - Ana Sabogal
- Nitrogen deficiency estimation by using free multispectral data in banana cropping system of Eastern DR Congo - Bagula Mukengere Espoir
- Reduced vegetation productivity and flash floods. A long-term effect of wetland encroachment and manipulation quantified by hyper-temporal image analysis - Ellen Jessica Kayendeke
- Sustainable cropping systems for pollinator conservation - Gugulethu Tarakini
- Suitability analysis of neglected and underutilized crop species in South Africa – Hillary Mugiyo

- Assessment of farmers' understanding of the sustainable land management technologies that were implemented in Mabona Ward, Isingiro town Council, Isingiro District - Twaha Ateenyi
- Conceptualizing trade-offs of water conservation strategies in agriculture and unintended consequences using system dynamics approach - Vincent Omondi Odongo

34th INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS (IGC) CONFERENCE ON GEOGRAPHY: BRIDGING THE CONTINENTS, ISTANBUL, TURKEY DURING 17-21 AUGUST 2020

This conference could not take place amid COVID-19 global pandemic, hence was postponed to August 2021.

IGU INDIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (VIRTUAL), 2020 ON GLOBAL TO LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY AND FUTURE EARTH, 18-20 DECEMBER 2020

The Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity also participated in this conference as our continued efforts to support and popularize Geography discipline in general and Biogeography and Biodiversity in particular. Other IGU Commissions that participated were, 1) commission of Geography for Future Earth: Coupled Human-Earth Systems for Sustainability, 2) Commission on Local and Regional Development, 3) Commission on Geo-heritage, 4) Commission on Mountain Studies 5) Commission on Karst and 6) Commission on Tourism. As the offline mode for this conference was not possible, it was organized in an online mode. As per the conference report, the conference was joined/attended by about 900 participants from 40 countries. Natural resource management, Biodiversity conservation and eco-tourism, mountain ecosystem and highland and low land interactions were some of the sessions that were closely related to our commission long term study goals. Our commission also organized a panel discussion on the role of sustainability in biodiversity for the future earth.

TRAINING / CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS TO BE SUPPORTED / COLLABORATED BY OUR COMMISSION:

Two-days training on snow cover dynamics and glacier fluctuations in the Himalaya, 7-8 March 2020 supported by igu commission on biogeography and biodiversity, during XIV Iguindia conference on agriculture, food, water, biodiversity and health in changing climate, Burdwan, India

The commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity organized a two-day snow cover and glacier related training for the early stage MPhil/Ph.D. and Master's final semester students given its long term study field 'ecosystem response to the global change'. Prof. R.B. Singh opened the training with his opening remarks, while the hands on training was given by Dr. Pankaj Kumar on snow cover dynamics and by Dr. Suraj Mal on glacier fluctuations in the Himalayas. The hand-on training with some individual case studies and examples allowed learning of state of the art methods to understand high altitude system changes, which lead to cascading impacts downstream. 14 research students and master's students participated in the training program.



Dr. Suraj Mal and Dr. Pankaj Kumar (Trainer) with the participants of Training Programme (Source: Conference Report).

International winter school 2020 on modelling challenges for mountain ecosystems, Hamburg, Germany during 23-28th Feb 2020

The Institute of Geography, University of Hamburg, Germany, organized second winter school on "modelling challenges for mountain ecosystems" during 23-28 Feb. 2020, following a great satisfaction from its first such program in 2019. Our IGU commission also supported/collaborated in this training program. The basic idea of this winter school is to provide hands-on training and exposure to early-career students about the latest datasets and methods using a freely available highly powerful statistical software R regarding climate and ecology and associated challenges in the Himalayas. The training program was led by the researchers (Dr. Maria Bobrowski, Dr. Niels Schwab and Johannes Weidinger) of the Institute of Geography, Hamburg University. Prof. Dr. Jürgen Böhner and Prof. Dr. Udo Schickhoff delivered the keynote lectures in the program. The major topics covered in the training program were 1) statistical modelling of climate parameters and 2) modelling the ecological niche of a treeline species in the Himalayan mountains. About 20 students from 7 countries successfully attended the training program.



Organizers, participants, of the winter school 2020 at the Institute of Geography at the University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany (Source: Training program report by Dr. Maria Bobrowski)

IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity – Google Earth Engine webinar, 11 May 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqyUrPyT0QQ>

We organized a webinar on the application of Google Earth Engine in Geography, Biogeography and Biodiversity applications and many other applications as well. The webinar was well attended by number of participants from across the world in general and from the south Asian countries in particular. Main focus of the webinar was time series analysis, UN sustainable development goals and some key case studies.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES, EVENTS, CAPACITY BUILDING, TRAINING PROGRAMS:

34th International Geographical Congress (IGC) conference on geography: bridging the continents, Istanbul, Turkey 17-21 August 2021

Our commission has been actively participating in the IGC conferences, which are organized every four years. The conference is to be jointly organized by Istanbul University, Turkish Geographical Society and, IGU with a focus on the Geography: Bridging the Continents. This IGC was planned in 2020, but could not be organized amid COVID-19 pandemic situation and hence was rescheduled to 16-20 August 2021 with the hope that the conditions will be better. However, the COVID-19 still continues and thus it is decided to organize this conference purely online.

Our commission has proposed five scientific sessions, which are well accepted in the conference

program, the information which can be assessed from the conference website:
<https://www.igc2020.org>

1. Biodiversity and Land Degradation Neutrality: Dmitry V Zolotov
2. Challenges of Biodiversity Conservation in the Changing World: RB Singh and Suraj Mal
3. Land use/cover change impacts on the mountain landscape: Udo Schickhoff and Monica Dumitrascu
4. Mountain Ecosystem Responses to Climate Change: Suraj Mal and Udo Schickhoff
5. Recent Developments and Expansion in Biogeography: Udo Schickhoff and Niels Schwab

IGC Paris is scheduled be held in Paris-France on 18-22 July 2022

Our commission is planning to participate in the conference.

The planning for IGU India Conference at Prayagraj in 2021 is underway.

In addition we are exploring the possibilities to organize capacity building programs, however as we understand that such training workshops produce better results in an offline mode, we have not been very successful in this regard in 2021 so far due to COVID-19 situations. However, we are looking forward for online mode programs.

C. Networking

During 2020, the Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity cooperated and supported with other IGU Commissions as well as with other international, regional and national scientific and academic organisations/groups. Our commission was engaged in three international conferences in 2020, where many IGU commissions and other scientific bodies participated. In addition, two capacity building programs for students and early career researchers were completed, which provided to engage with emerging young geographers, many of whom desired to be corresponding members of our commission. We are continuously working to engage and collaborate with new scientific organisations, particularly in developing and under-developed countries e.g. in Africa.

D. Publications

A volume titled “Mountain Landscapes in Transition: Effects of Land use and Climate Change, is under publication and should be released soon by the Springer. This volume explores the Climate and Land use effects on the world mountains with specific case studies from across the world mountains. The volume is co-edited by Udo Schickhoff, SB Singh and Suraj Mal. Further information about the publication can be found at:

<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030702373>

We are also in the process of a special issue on Sustaining Himalayan Environment and Future Earth with International Journal of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, where RB Singh, Suraj Mal and Pankaj Kumar are the guest editors. The call for papers will be available soon on the webpage of Journal.

E. Archival contributions

The commission each year prepares and provides an annual report to the Secretary, IGU. Besides, we request the lead or contact person of the scientific activities, conferences, and trainings we support to provide short reports, which are archived on the commission website. These reports can be accessed from the conference website:

<http://www.igubiogeography.com/index.html>

F. Continuation and Productive use of previous IGU grants

The IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity plans to continue to work with a particular focus on the less developed parts of the world during the period 2021-2024. Besides, the scientific meetings and conferences, we have started to engage in training and workshops for early-career scientists from across the world. Our prime objective is to promote biogeography teaching, research, and scholarships with particular focus on the high mountains, e.g., Himalayas. Also, we plan to contribute to research and development in the field of biogeography. In continuation with our long term goals, we aim at particularly three aspects

1) Developments and Expansions in Biogeography, 2) Response of Mountain Ecosystems to Climate Change, and 3) Conservation of Biodiversity, which have been core themes of the scientific meetings and conferences we participate. The research themes of our commission are rather integrative, bridging the gaps between physical and human geography, addressing nature, culture, ecological and socio-economic aspects of biogeography, land use and land cover change, resources and sustainable development, high altitude environment, high-low land interactions, system approaches, etc.

G. Continuation of the Objectives for 2020-2024

- To continue to explore and exploit the diversity of Biogeography as a discipline within Geography, Biology, and allied disciplines, thereby promoting biogeographical teaching, research, and scholarship
- To organize scientific meetings and discussions (i) within the IGU structures, (ii) by group meetings with national geographical bodies, other IGU commissions and other allied disciplines, and (iii) to promote biogeographical research and scholarship by geographers within other international organizations such as the International Biogeography Society (IBS), the International Association for Vegetation Science (IAVS), and other ICSU/IUBS organizations.
- Although, not much progress was made during last years amid COVID-19 pandemic situation, we still managed to hold online meetings and engaged with a large number of scientists across the globe.

C20.05 Climatology

A. Membership

Full Members

Chair:

Jun Matsumoto
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Vice-Chair (Since August 2018):

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Porter School of the Environment and Earth
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Secretary:

Yoshihiro Iijima
Graduate School of Bioresources
Mie University
Japan
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Babatunde Joseph Abiodun
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Science
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HONORARY MEMBERS:

S. Gregory (U. K.), M. Domroes (Germany), L.
Nkemdirim (Canada) and Z. Ustrnul (Poland).

SENIOR MEMBERS:

A. Douguedroit (France), R. Brazdil (Czech
Republic), T. Mikami (Japan), N. Tapper
(Austraria), R. S. Pulwarty (USA)

B. Meetings

CoC BUSINESS MEETING

The CoC business meeting was held on 19 August 2020, from 11.00 pm to 12.00 pm UTC. The meeting was conducted via the Zoom web meeting system due to the influence of COVID-19 instead of meeting in person as originally planned during IGC 2020 in Istanbul. Meeting participants were: CoC SC members: Jun Matsumoto (SC Chair), Hadas Saaroni (Vice-Chair), Zahide Acar, Guillaume Fortin, Francisco Mendoca, Jennifer Salmond, Francisco Mendoca Agnieszka Wypych, Yoshihiro Iijima (Secretary), Observers: Barbaros Gonencgil (Vice President of IGU, Head of LOC 2021 IGC İstanbul), R.B. Singh (Secretary General of IGU).

In the CoC meeting held on 19 August 2020, discussions were held regarding 1) the need for replacement for several SC members in 2022, 2) nomination of honorary senior member, 3) list of members of the CoC and/or climatology researchers in each country or region, 4) current situation and additional plans for the 2021 IGC in Istanbul, Turkey, and 5) other upcoming conference and future activity plans. This was the first on-line business meeting organized totally via Zoom.

First, we noted the need for several new SC members to replace retiring members in 2022, and that we would try to find alternative people in the next 12 months. Roger S. Pulwarty who retired in 2020 was nominated as a “Senior member”. As for the 2021 IGC in Istanbul, abstract submission was extended until 11 June 2021. New sessions on COVID-19 were also announced to be open for abstracts. If some of these sessions fit the climatological themes, the SC members were requested to encourage (or invite) others to submit abstracts. The possibility of publishing a special issue on the proposed CoC session in the IGC Istanbul were discussed. If the IGC Istanbul were to be organized only online due to the prolonged COVID-19 situation, establishment of proper online discussion facilities would be needed. Finally, for future plans, proposal of collaboration with other commission(s) in IGU, summer school in conjunction with Paris 2022IGC, and summer program during the IGC Istanbul for early career scientists were proposed.

CoC Business Meeting will be held in April or May, and in August 2021 during the Istanbul IGC.

In the Istanbul conference, the Commission on Climatology calls for abstract for the following seven sessions:

1. ANTHROPOSPHERE

Chair: Jun Matsumoto

Co-chair: Barbaros Gönençgil

Description

Anthroposphere which is formed by the coming together of the two words; Anthropocene and Atmosphere. We all know that human are affecting the atmosphere negatively. It affects the natural mixture of the atmosphere. We call the age that we are in, anthropocene as human age. In this age, we can open a session using this link to describe changing atmosphere conditions related with human activities. Air pollution, climate change, atmospheric disasters, extreme meteorological events, and all related topics which in some sense related with human activity can be included in this session. Climate change adaptation will also be included in this session.



An online group photo during the CoC Business Meeting on 19 August, 2020 (UTC).

2. CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND CHANGE-FROM GLOBAL TO LOCAL SCALES

Chair: Babatunde Abiodun

Co-chair: Yoshihiro Iijima

Description

The earth's climate system is highly variable, both in space and in time. It operates in a wide spectrum of spatial scales, ranging from thousands of kilometers to a handful of meters. Over the past several decades, regions across the globe have experienced substantial climate variability and change, such as warming surface temperature, prolonged droughts, and increased frequency of floods. The variability and change have had profound impacts on the human, ecological, and physical systems. How the ongoing global warming might influence future climate variability at different scales remains unclear because of the associated complex feedbacks. However, reliable understanding of past climate variability and dependable future climate projections on extreme events are crucial for establishing hazard mitigations plans. This session welcomes contributions that improve quantification, understanding and prediction of earth's climate variability across space and time scales through observation data analysis, case studies, and climate modelling studies that provide insights into past, present and future climate variability and change on global to local scale, and synoptic to orbital timescales.

3. MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE

Chair: Hadas Saaroni

Co-chair: Zahide Acar Deniz

Description

The Mediterranean region located between the subtropics and mid-latitudes, exhibits large climate diversity together with a great social and environmental difference. This region has emerged as the hot spot of global climate change. The session will address questions on the climate of the Mediterranean region, its dynamics, variability, change, and studies of climate related impacts on societies and ecosystems. The session considers different time scales, from paleoclimate to future model projections as well as connections between the Mediterranean and global climate and highlights of sub-regional hotspots and climate processes.

4. SCIENCE-AND-OBSERVATIONS-IN-SUPPORT-OF-CLIMATE-SERVICES

Chair: Roger Pulwarty

Co-chair: Abdullah Ceylan

Description

The Earth's climate has never been constant; a wide range of variations and changes in space and time, often leading to extremes, is its fundamental characteristic. There is now conclusive evidence of anthropogenic warming over the past century occurring at an unprecedented pace. Its implication – in the increased frequency and intensity of extreme events when combined with existing variability– has elevated concerns about the exposure of both developed and developing communities, economies and ecosystems to climate risk. The resilience of society to increased climate risk depends on our ability to improve and integrate the physical and social science underpinning systems that monitor, research, and issue impact-oriented weather and climate services and the uptake of knowledge into decision-making processes. The Global Framework for Climate Services identifies water, agriculture and food security, health, energy and disaster risk reduction as priority sectors in need of improved climate services at global, regional, national and local scales. The priorities cross the goals of the World Meteorological Organization new reorganization along science, observations and services continuum, the UN Disaster Risk Reduction Sendai Framework and the Sustainable Development Goals. Recognizing these urgent needs, this session will elicit papers on the following topics as linked to the priority sectors above:

- Advancing scientific research for impact-based seamless services climate extremes, variability and change
- Enhancing information management, coordination, and communication across international, national and local scales
- Enhancing capacity (including training) for scientific research and observations along the climate science and services supply chain
- Promoting uptake of science-based climate services in planning, decision-making and policy processes

The session will highlight advances and new opportunities in climatology and geographical research for informing the development and implementation of effective and sustained climate services in a changing environment. While special

emphasis will be placed on engaging researchers and practitioners in the Mediterranean Basin, Southern Europe and the Near-East, all relevant papers, especially those drawing lessons from other parts of the world for the region are welcomed.

5. SYNOPTIC CLIMATOLOGY

Chair: Agnieszka Wypych

Description

Atmospheric circulation is unquestionably listed among the fundamental causes of weather and climate. The session is dedicated to all aspects of relationships between large-scale atmospheric circulation and surface climate and environmental variables. Contributions concerning theoretical aspects of circulation classifications development and their application in various tasks (climatological, meteorological, and environmental) and different scales are particularly welcome as well as submissions on recent climate variability and change studied by tools of synoptic climatology.

6. URBAN CLIMATE

Chair: Jennifer Salmond

Description

Urban areas are growing exponentially both in terms of physical area and population density. More than 70% of the global population is expected to live in urban areas by 2050. As a result, understanding and predicting the unique interactions between urban areas and the atmosphere, at a variety of scales, is critical to ensuring sustainable growth of cities. This is especially true in an era of anthropogenically induced climate changes which maybe both caused by, and enhanced by, urbanization. Such changes have the potential to have a disproportionate impact on urban areas, infrastructure and populations. We therefore invite papers on all aspects of urban climate including (but not limited to): urban air pollution, impacts of extreme weather on cities,

urban heat islands and their mitigation, heat stress and urban bio-meteorology, urban design, smart cities and urban energy balances. Papers based on original research from a variety of perspectives (including conceptual, empirical, experimental, theoretical or modelling studies) are welcome.

C. Networking

International Conference on AGRICULTURE, FOOD, WATER, BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH IN CHANGING CLIMATE

The XIV International Geographical Union (IGU)-INDIA held at The University of Burdwan in Bardhaman, West Bengal, India between 6th – 8th March 2020.

This conference is under the auspices of IGU Commissions:

- Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity
- Commission on Land Use and Land Cover Change
- Commission on Hazard and Risk
- Commission on Climatology
- Commission on Geo-Heritage

Prof. Jun Matsumoto, Chair of CoC is serving as a member of Advisory Committee.

More information is available on <https://iguburdwan2020.org/>

D. Publications

CoC Newsletter 2020
(published in December 2020)

The current URL of the commission's website:

<http://www.klimat.geo.uj.edu.pl/CoC.htm>

C20.06 Coastal Systems

A. Membership

The Officers and Steering Committee of the Commission on Coastal Systems are:

Chair/ Président

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Secretary/Secrétaire, Editor of Newsletter

Dr. Margarita Stancheva
Center for Coastal and Marine Studies (CCMS)
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Vice-Chair

Dr. David R. Green
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Department of Geography and Environment
School of Geosciences
University of Aberdeen St. Mary's
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Steering Committee members

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Honorary members

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Prof. Norbert P. Psuty (co-editor Newsletter)
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Number of Commission members in total and by country as of 31 December 2020:

Albania	1
Gabon	2
Peru	1
Algeria	2
Georgia	2
Philippines	2
Argentina	5
Germany	21
Poland	3
Australia	11

Greece	5
Portugal	17
Azerbaijan	1
Hong Kong	2
Romania	10
Bangladesh	2
India	9
Russia	7
Belgium	24
Indonesia	1
Senegal	1
Benin	1
Iran	1
Singapore	1
Brazil	21
Ireland	10
South Africa	7
Bulgaria	6
Israel	3
Spain	19
Canada	17
Italy	15
Surinam	1
Chile	2
Ivory Coast	1
Sweden	3
China	10
Japan	5
Switzerland	2
Colombia	2
Korea	2
Taiwan	5
Cote D'ivoire	3
Latvia	1
The Netherlands	14
Cuba	1
Malaysia	1
Togo	1
Denmark	2
Mexico	2
Tunisia	1
Ecuador	1
Morocco	3
Turkey	7

Egypt	1
New Zealand	10
Ukraine	2
Estonia	5
Mozambique	1
United Kingdom	31
Finland	3
Namibia	1
U S A	93
France	80
Nigeria	4
Uruguay	1
French Polynesia	1
Norway	3
Vietnam	2

B. Meetings

The following meetings were organised, or sponsored, by the Commission on Coastal Systems in 2020 with summary information. Plans for 2021 are also outlined.

MAY 3 - 8 2020, VIENNA, AUSTRIA EUROPEAN GEOSCIENCES UNION (EGU)

Two special coastal sessions, held virtually, at EGU2020 were sponsored by the Commission on Coastal Systems:

GM 6.3 Session: ‘Coastal Morphodynamics: nearshore, beach, and dunes’

The session was successfully conducted for the fourth time (in an online format) and was convened by Derek Jackson (UK), Emilia Guisado-Pintado (Spain) and Irene Delgado-Fernandez (UK). The session chat was scheduled on Friday, 08 May 202, 08:30–10:15 (CEST) and the online chat closed with over 100 participants and there is a wealth of information online.

<https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2020/displays/37488>

GM 6.4 Session: ‘Coastal Zone Geomorphological Interactions: Natural versus Human-Induced Driving Factors’

The session was successfully conducted for the twelfth year in succession at the EGU General Assembly (this year in the online format by showing displays) on 8 May 2020, for more information follow the session link. The session was organised by Hannes Tonnison (Estonia), Margarita Stancheva

(Bulgaria), Andreas Baas (UK), Giorgio Anfuso (Spain) and Guillaume Brunier (France). The session chat was scheduled on Friday, 08 May 202, 10:45–12:30 (CEST), it was joined by 76 active users all around the world with intense discussions and included 15 presented studies on a great variety of coastal zone geomorphology topics including climate change and human-induced impacts.
<https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2020/displays/37494>

6 MAY 2020: INTEGRATING ECOSYSTEM-BASED APPROACH IN MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING: - MSPGLOBAL ONLINE SEMINAR

CCS Secretary Margarita Stancheva participated at the sixth MSPglobal online seminar – the first in English – organised on 6 May 2020, with a theme “How to ensure Ecosystem-Based Approach (EBA) principles in the context of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)”. More than 300 participants joined the online seminar from over 45 different countries and had the opportunity to hear the perspective of five different speakers all across the world.

OCTOBER 27 – 29, 2020: COASTAL HAZARDS IN AFRICA, 2020, DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

The second International Symposium on Coastal Hazards in Africa went virtual in 2020. It was hosted by SAIAB (South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity – Durban, South Africa) in partnership with the University of Stirling, and the Oceanographic Research Institute. Seven sessions were convened over the three days, including one Industry Spotlight and three Keynotes sessions, involving 69 delegates interacting from 13 countries and over 50 institutes. Registered delegates were able to join the scheduled Zoom webinar series, while non-registered parties were able to watch via the live stream on the conference Facebook page.

NOVEMBER 4 - 8 2020: COASTAL TRANSITIONS, NEW HAVEN, CONNETICUT, USA

The conference, a collaboration between the Department of the Environment, Geography and Marine Sciences at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) and the Geography Faculty at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) in the UK opened up a conversation about sustainability transitions in the coastal zone, focusing on the Blue Economy, from an inter- and trans-disciplinary perspective. It was hosted by Southern Connecticut

State University at the Canal Dock Boathouse in historic New Haven and involved online presentations. It was jointly sponsored by the Commission on Coastal Systems and the Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces.

DECEMBER 15, 2020: ESPON PEER LEARNING WORKSHOP: THE ROLE OF MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING IN REDUCING MARINE POLLUTION IN THE BLACK SEA

CCS Secretary Dr. Margarita Stancheva was a key note speaker at ESPON PEER LEARNING WORKSHOP, conducted virtually on 15 December 2020 and presented how the integration of Land-Sea Integrations (LSI) into the MSP can help to reduce marine pollution in the Black Sea.

Postponed meetings

Participation in the following conferences, or convened sessions at congresses, were planned for 2020, but have been postponed to 2021.

AUGUST 16 – 20, 2021: 34th INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS (IGC) “GEOGRAPHY: BRIDGING THE CONTINENTS”, ISTANBUL, TURKEY

CCS plans to convene a session entitled “Sustaining coastal and marine environments in the Anthropocene”.

SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2021 - COASTGIS 2021: "SUSTAINABLE COASTAL PLANNING IN A CHANGING WORLD" RASEBORG FINLAND

CoastGIS will be sponsored by CCS

Additional conference sessions proposed in 2021

APRIL 19-30, 2021. EUROPEAN GEOSCIENCES UNION GENERAL ASSEMBLY VEGU21: GATHER ONLINE (#VEGU21)

GM 6.6 Session: Coastal Zone Geomorphological Interactions: Natural versus Human-Induced Driving Factors

CCS will convene this session for the thirteenth time at EGU2021; this will be a virtual session.

C. Networking and Communication

The CCS has established a new website - <http://igu-coast.org/> in 2020 and set up a Twitter account. It maintained networking and communication through its Newsletter, published twice a year, as well as through special sessions at meetings.

The CCS co-sponsored the Coastal Transitions conference (described above) with the Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces, and has been in discussion about the initiation of a new IGU Commission on the Ocean.

D. Publications

Two Newsletters have been published in 2020; numbers 82 and 83 in January and July respectively. The next Newsletter will appear in January 2021.

The following special issues are in production:

Estuaries and Coastal Wetlands of the Southern Hemisphere – a virtual special issue of Estuarine

Coastal and Shelf Science – completed in 2020. Guest editors, Janine Adams, Debora de Freitas, Kerrylee Rogers, and Colin Woodroffe. This comprises 21 papers, and an introductory overview, based on a session convened by the Commission on Coastal Systems at ECSA57 in 2018.

A special issue on Coastal Hazards in Africa is in preparation for the Journal of African Earth Sciences

E. Archival contributions

Copies of Newsletters are archived with IGU and available on our CCS website.

F. IGU funds

Funds from IGU have been used to contribute to registration for the International Geographical Congress, and to set up the new website.

C20.07 Cold and High Altitude Regions (IGU-CHAR)

A. Membership

The structure of the IGU-CHAR current steering committee, including all names and contact details:

Chairperson

Tatiana Vlasova
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Vice-Chair

Marie-Jeanne Royer
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Honorary members

Nancy Doubleday
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Canada

Dario Trombotto
 Ianigla - CCT Mendoza – Conicet.
 Argentina

Nikolay I. Shiklomanov
 Department of Geography
 George Washington University
 Washington, DC, USA

Jef Vandenberghe
 Department of Earth Sciences, VU University
 Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The counts of IGU-CHAR corresponding members
 by country:

Argentina	22
Australia	2
Austria	1
Bangladesh	1
Britain	19
Canada	20
China	4
Estonia	1
Finland	1
France	6
Germany	37
Georgia	1
Hungary	6
India	3
Ireland	1
Israel	1
Italy	2
Japan	5
Mongolia	1
New Zealand	11
Norway	11
Poland	4
Portugal	4
Romania	6
Russia	17
South Africa	3
Spain	1
Sweden	9
Switzerland	19
The Netherlands	6
Ukraine	1
U.S.A.	16

B. Meetings

In 2020 the huge work on meetings preparation and reorganization of those postponed for 2021 year due to the COVID-19 pandemic was undertaken by the Commission:

34th INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS, 17-21 August, 2021, ISTANBUL:

Four sessions suggested by the IGU-CHAR members were approved by the Congress organizing Committee.

The International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS X) in June 2021, Archangelsk, Russia

3-day International Conference on 'Global Environmental Changes and High Mountains', March 2021, in Nainital, Uttarakhad Himalaya, India organized as the IGU-CHAR event.

Preparation for the 2022 International Geographical Congress:

The main theme of the IGU-CHAR commission to be developed further to this 2022 International Geographical Congress is proposed to be “Polar and High Altitude Social-Ecological Systems Resilience and UN Sustainable Development Goals Implementation: the role of diverse geographical disciplines and approaches”. **This theme is tightly connected with the IGU Strategy 2020-2024 document implementation** highlighting and further promoting the work of IGU Commissions in relation to key global initiatives, including the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Disaster Risk Reduction, Paris Climate Action and Habitat-III, and ISC Future Earth. This theme can be covered only by geography as a broad discipline that includes the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities.

Among **meetings IGU-CHAR commission was engaged in**, it is important to list the Arctic Circle 2019 Conference in which Wieslaw Ziaja, IGU-CHAR SC member from Poland took part, discussing problems of CHAR (including international collaboration in organization of research activities) during several sessions, including the session organized by the Polish Polar Consortium “*Changes of Glaciers and Their Forefields on Svalbard: Environmental*

Consequences in the High Arctic". His oral presentation was titled *New Landscape of Areas Abandoned by Glaciers in SE Spitsbergen after 1900*. This conference is the biggest (c. 2000 participants each) scientific-political conference on the Arctic and is being organized every year in Reykjavik in October.

Weislaw also Co-organized (as a member of the Organizing Committee) of the international conference of the inter- and multi-disciplinary independent scientific company EuroSciCon: 5th World Summit on Climate Change and Global Warming, Theme: Undertaking the Emerging Issues in Climate Change and Global Warming. February 17-18, 2020, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Professor Prakash C. Tiwari, (IGU-CHAR SC member from India) from the part of the IGU-CHAR Commission participated in following International Meetings and Conferences:

- Sustainable Urban Development under Climate Change, Key Note Speaker, International Conference on 'Sustainability in Current Scenario: Challenges and Solutions', Gyan Vihar University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India, 05-07 November 2020
- Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment in Himalaya, National Seminar on 'Adaptation & Resilience Building Challenges for the Himalayan Communities: Climate Change and Covid-19', G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (GBP-NIHE), Kosi-Katarmal, Almora, Uttarakhand, India, 04 September 2020
- Climate Change Adaptation Mainstreaming in Himalaya, Science and Technology Research-Policy-Practice Interface for Climate Risk Management, National Institute of Disaster Management [NIDM], New Delhi, 25-27 August 2020
- Climate Change Adaptation under Covid-19 Pandemic, National Workshop on 'Covid-19: Himalayan Environment', Special Centre for Disaster Research [SCDR], Jawaharlal Nehru University [JNU], New Delhi, 10 May 2020

Dr. Dario Trombotta Liaudat (The IGU-CHAR Honorable member from Argentina) participated in late 2019 with several presentations at the SouthCOP in Queenstown, and in the International Permafrost Association (IPA) Rock glacier inventories and kinematics Workshop in Evolène, Switzerland.

In 2020 several meetings devoted to the mentioned above Sustainability theme, due to the

pandemic were organized online by the commission members. Andrey Petrov organized and Tatiana Vlasova made an Introductory video presentation at the Arctic Council Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) Arctic Resilience Forum's session entitled "Working Together in the Arctic: Respecting Indigenous Engagement, Equity and Sustainability of Knowledge Systems to Support Resilience in the Arctic", held on December 16, 2020.

The **geographical education meetings and activities** (among students and early career scientists) supported by the IGU-CHAR commission members should be specially underlined. Among the educational initiatives of the IGU-CHAR it is important to name - the Arctic-FROST Annual Meeting and Early Career Workshop, which was held on October 16-20, 2019 in Cedar Falls, IOWA, USA. Andrey Petrov IGU-CHAR SC member from the USA is the leader of this project. Its theme in 2019 was Reuniting for Sustainability: Advancing Frontiers of Sustainability Science in the Arctic across Disciplines and Generations. Three IGU-CHAR SC and Honorable members (Andrey Petrov, Tatiana Vlasova and Nikolay Shiklomanov) took active part in it. During the meeting a Field Trip along the high bluffs and lowlands of the Upper Mississippi River Valley and the Effigy Mounds National Monument with the opportunity to see remarkable evidence of mounds been found in the shape of animal effigies. The place preserves many examples of pre-contact American Indian mounds that provide Woodland period American Indian mound building culture. As one of the results of this workshop it has been decided to make an Arctic Sustainability Knowledge Survey and produce a Sustainability Knowledge Geographical Map putting on it all themes and case study regions of Investigations of the Arctic Frost Early Career scientists.

All such wide in area and countries educational activities of the IGU-CHAR commission points on the importance of cooperation with the IGU Education commission which could be interesting for both commissions.

C. Networking

Taking into account the integrative role of Geography, especially IGU-CHAR commission in sustainability research and in building resilient Arctic socially-ecological systems, it is especially needed to point on our commission participation in international Networking projects, uniting activities of several countries, such as:

- 'Sustainable Natural Resource Use in Arctic and High Mountainous Areas' with twelve institutions from Europe, Russia and India (Professor Prakash C. Tiwari)
- 'Urban Growth, Land-Use Change, and Growing Vulnerability in the Greater Himalaya Mountain Range Across India, Nepal, and Bhutan' with Yale University, New Haven, USA; University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada and ICIMOD, Kathmandu, Nepal. Project funded by NASA, USA (Professor Prakash C. Tiwari)
- 'Climate Smart Agriculture in South Asia' with New Castle University, Newcastle, UK and University of Paradanya, Kandy, Sri Lanka. Project funded by Royal Society, UK (Professor Prakash C. Tiwari).
- "Arctic Sustainability: Synthesis of Knowledge" supported by the Belmont Forum, the world's largest consortium of transdisciplinary global change and sustainability research funders? Uniting researchers from 7 Arctic States (Andrey Petrov – Principle investigator, Tatiana Vlasova- Co-principle investigator).

One of the IGU-CHAR Commission priorities (as it was underlined in the previous IGU-CHAR commission reports), is to provide institutional and intellectual support for interdisciplinary, international connectivity through active cooperation with professional associations belonging to Arctic Council observers, such as International Arctic Social Science Association (IASSA), International Permafrost Association (IPA), International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), University of the Arctic, Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS). Mechanisms of network cooperation include cooperative agreements, co-organized conferences and shared networks. IASSA and IASC are members of the International Science Council (ISC)

The IASSA cooperation with our IGU-CHAR commission has a long history. The USA IGU-CHAR SC member Andrey Petrov is the president of IASSA and the IGU-CHAR Chair Tatiana Vlasova is the Councilor of IASSA. Nowadays this cooperation is especially important due to the rapid process of the new Arctic Sustainability Science development.

IGU-CHAR works closely with IASC and its Working Groups to foster interdisciplinary collaboration among Arctic countries. IGU-CHAR SC member- Andrey Petrov a chair of Social and

Human Sciences Working Group of IASC in 2019 provided a strong link to that organization. IGU-CHAR also supports the IASC International Science Initiative in the Russian Arctic (ISIRA) which chair is Arkadiy Tishkov who is also the IGU-CHAR corresponding member. ISIRA is well known as an IASC group helping to stimulate international scientific cooperation between Arctic States.

Cooperative efforts of the IGU-CHAR commission with IASSA and IASC are very productive. We have a number of common interests and a solid history of working together in arranging workshops, conferences, and reports on topics of mutual scientific interest. The agreement will also help the communication of scientific output to students and the general public.

It is important to list other numerous polar organizations with which IGU-CHAR is continuing and establishing collaboration. Among them are International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS)- Muci D., American Geophysical Union, American Association of Geographers (AAG)- Petrov A. and Dario Trombotto from Argentina presented the IGU-CHAR Commission as a member in the Climate and Cryosphere (CLIC) Scientific Steering Group (Dario Trombotto).

D. Publications

Arctic Sustainability, Key Methodologies and Knowledge Domains. A Synthesis of Knowledge 1st Edition. 2020. Routledge (Editors: Andrey N. Petrov, Jessica K. Graybil) 1st Edition. Routledge, 150 pages. DOI 10.4324/9780429277016

Tatiana Vlasova, Andrey Petrov. Geography in the Arctic sustainability investigation through international cooperation: the case of IASSA and the IGU-CHAR commission collaboration. Northern Notes. Issue 52. 2020 -P.24

Vlasova, T.; Petrov, A.N.; Volkov, S. Rethinking Sustainability Monitoring in the Arctic by Linking Resilience and Sustainable Development in Socially-Oriented Observations: A Perspective. Sustainability 2021, 13, 177. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13010177>

Special issue of the scientific monography on the Polish national programme of polar research: Lewandowski M., Polkowska Z., Ziaja W., Bialik R., Ewertowski M., Głowacki P., Gotlib D., Goździk A., Grabciec M., Jankowska K., Luks B., Łuszczuk

M., Majewski W., Migala K., Nawrocki J., Przybylak R., Pabis K., Sobota I., Strzelecki M., Walczowski W., and Węgrzyn M., 2020. *Polish Polar Research: Green-and-White Paper under the aegis of the Polish Polar Consortium (PPC)*. Publications of the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences, Geophysical Data Bases, Processing and Instrumentation, 431 (P-2), Monographic Volume, 144 pp., DOI: 10.25171/InstGeoph_PAS_Publs-2020-006.

Maciejowski W., Osyczka P., Smykla J., Ziaja W., Ostafin K., Krzewicka B. Diversity and distribution of lichens in recently deglaciated areas of southeastern Spitsbergen. *Acta Societatis Botanicorum Poloniae*, 87 (4): p.18. DOI 10.5586/asbp.3596

Szymański W., Maciejowski W., Ostafin K., Ziaja W., Sobucki M., 2019. Impact of parent material, vegetation cover, and site wetness on variability of soil properties in proglacial areas of small glaciers along the northeastern coast of Sørkappland (SE Spitsbergen). *Catena*, 183: 104209. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0341816219303510>

Ziaja W., 2019. Geographical investigations in the management of the Svalbard environment. *Quaestiones Geographicae* 38(3), 51–57. <https://doi.org/10.2478/quageo-2019-0028>

Ziaja W., Ostafin K., 2019, Origin and location of new Arctic islands and straits due to glacial recession, *AMBIO*, 48(1): 25–34. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-018-1041-z>

Tiwari, P. C. and Joshi, B. [2020]: Challenges of Urban Growth in Himalaya with Reference to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Mitigation: A Case of Nainital Town in Kumaon Middle Himalaya, India, in Dimri, A.P., Bookhagen, B., Stoffel, M., Yasunari, T. (Eds.) *Himalayan Weather and Climate and their Impact on the Environment*, Springer, pp.473-491

Heath, Lance C.; Tiwari, P. C.; Sadhukhan, B.; Tiwari, S.; Chapagain, P.; Xu, T.; Li, G.; Ailikum; Joshi, B. and Yan, Z. [2020], Building Climate Change Resilience by Using A Versatile Toolkit for Local Governments and Communities in Rural Himalaya, *Environmental Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2020.109636>

C20.09 Dynamics of Economic Spaces

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

The Steering Committee of the IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces (CDES) consists of eleven members from different countries. The steering committee contains three women and eight men and has representatives from Europe, North America and Asia. The current members of the Steering Committee are listed as follows:

Chair: Nuri Yavan
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Email: nuri.yavan@ankara.edu.tr

Vice Chair: Eva Kiss
RCAES Geographical Institute, Budapest, and Sopron University, Alexandre Lamfalussy Faculty of Economics

Sopron, HUNGARY
Email: kisse@helka.iif.hu

Harald Bathelt
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Özge Öner
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Economy
Cambridge, UK
Email: oo263@cam.ac.uk

Piotr Pachura
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Faculty of Engineering
Czestochowa, POLAND
Email: piotr.t.pachura@gmail.com

b. Commission Members:

The IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces (CDES) does not have a formal membership base. Our ‘membership’ list we use to distribute information consists of 625 active email addresses from all over the world (Figure 1). Although the commission currently has 36 member countries, half of the members (52%) are from United Kingdom (23%), USA (16.8%) and Germany (12%). When we add Canada (7.7%), Australia (6.1%) and New Zealand (4.5%) to this rate, 70.1% of the member are from Anglo-American countries (except Germany).

B. Meetings

During 2020 period, the Commission held its traditional annual mini conference on 4-8 November 2020 via the online virtual platform, Whova in New Haven, Connecticut, USA. The Virtual conference was organized by the Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) under the supervision of Dr. Patrick Heidkamp as well as Dr. John Morrissey from Liverpool John Moores University and Dr.

Celine Germond-Duert from MIC University of Limerick. In total, 330 tickets were sold for the 4 day event to attendees from 14 different countries in the Coastal Transitions 2020 Conference. The academic portion of the conference consisted of a collection of 28 papers organized into 7 paper sessions spanning the first 3 days of activities. The goal of the paper sessions was to explore the multi-scalar complexities of the Blue Economy development initiatives in academic discourse while catalyzing and mobilizing emerging knowledge on coastal and marine governance, technology development, and policy practices for transitioning to a just Blue Economy. The conference aim was to foster direct dialogue and engagement between the scientific research community, government officials, NGO representatives, and the business community through a transdisciplinary discourse.

The Whova platform was key for sparking attendee engagement as participants were encouraged to partake in the conference offerings by downloading the Whova app or using the web app for easy and convenient virtual participation. Sixty-six percent of the total number of participants downloaded the Whova app, and over the course of the event, attendees uploaded 168 photos to the photo gallery and shared 205 community board messages in addition to sending 154 private messages using the virtual profiles that allowed for convenient networking opportunities. Bolstering attendee’s engagement was a key initiative. Attendees with the highest level of engagement were awarded prizes and full conference participants were sent an advent calendar-style surprise box that included individual boxes and envelopes with themed gifts and goodies to open on each day. Virtual field trips, work life balance yoga and meditation, and mingling sessions provided participants with levity. To further the transdisciplinary aims of the conference, each morning began with a reading of a nautically themed Poem of the Day followed by a discussion led by SCSU Professor Brian Johnson. An art exhibition was also held to engage with the humanities and broaden participants’ visual perspectives and put them in a “blue” frame of mind. Furthering transdisciplinary concepts, the intersection of history and its broader impacts on questions surrounding the Blue Economy was explored with participants through a presentation on oystering led by Professor Jason Smith of SCSU.

Dr. Emma McKinley, who has been a research fellow at Cardiff University for the past four years, opened the academic sessions with a keynote lecture. In her keynote address, McKinley placed people at the center of the Blue Economy agenda as

she highlighted the diversity in the marine social science disciplines and their application as a catalyst for progress and positive change. Dr. McKinley advocated for the inclusion of marine social sciences within the decision making for the United Kingdom's marine and coastal environment and called for the creation of a strong global mandate for transdisciplinary and cross policy collaboration to move toward a sustainable Blue Economy.

The keynote address provided a nice segue into the first paper session, which focused on conceptualizing Blue Growth in marine spatial planning. This session also addressed the socio-economic extent of various definitions of the Blue Economy while considering the governance of the Blue Economy from the perspective of developing countries. These papers provided regional, national, and international perspectives, which was a theme that continued into the subsequent paper sessions. Presenters considered the burgeoning role of Blue Carbon in the Blue Economy discourse, how to enhance the economic productivity and environmental performance of blue wealth in Ghana, and the diversity in fisheries and waterways in Bangladesh.

Other regions of Blue Economy development included the agenda in the Baltic Sea, maritime clusters in Turkey, and a case study of the Iceland Ocean Cluster in Reykjavik. Contested spaces in working waterfronts were also considered alongside harbor projects and transition pathways toward sustainability in ports and shipping. From a policy standpoint, the limitations and implications of the Blue New Deal were considered along with the overarching themes of Blue Growth and Blue Justice. The socio-environmental impacts of technologies from desalination to blue energy in addition to evolving media coverage were also presented. The academic paper sessions concluded with another keynote address given by Andri Magnasson on his new book *On Time and Water*. This work examines our collective relationship to time in the midst of a growing global environmental crisis and is framed by Magnasson's trademark storytelling. Full conference participants enjoyed a "fish and chips" banquet dinner complete with seaweed salad to punctuate three busy and productive academic days.

The final day of the conference focused on entrepreneurship and featured a keynote address by Dr. Thor Sigfusson, founder of the Iceland Ocean Cluster. Sigfusson shared how he created the Iceland Ocean Cluster to bring together various fishing industry stakeholders to utilize one hundred percent of the cod fish, which is the backbone of the Icelandic fishing industry. After his address, seven

SCSU student innovation teams pitched their start-up companies in a Shark Tank style competition and responded to questions from judges in business, non-profit, and academic sectors. Presenting entrepreneurship ideas focused on increasing the use of kelp in the Blue Economy, student initiatives focused on everything from food products and cosmetics to an ocean data app and an annual kelp festival. The winning pitch was delivered by the Crystal Blue team, which received acclaim for the development of their citizen science app called Sound Scavenger.

Coastal Transitions 2020 concluded with a panel discussion highlighting the key findings of the conference. Among the topics discussed were the need to assure just transitions and the importance of transdisciplinary approaches for stakeholder engagement. Leading to a special issue in the *Journal of Geography* and an edited volume by conference organizers Dr. John Morrissey, Dr. Celine Germond-Duert and Dr. Patrick Heidkamp for publication in the *IGU Dynamics of Economic Spaces Series* (Routledge), these overarching conference themes aim to progress research in the emerging Blue Economy. Research findings, developing ideas, and collaborations were able to reach a broader audience due to the virtual nature of the conference. The responses to a post-conference survey revealed that moving forward, attendees of future Coastal Transitions conferences would prefer both in-person and virtual attendance options.

Further planned meetings:

34th IGU International Geographical Congress 2021, Istanbul, Turkey, 16-20 August 2021.

IGU CDES Mini-Conference on Investment Risks, Environmental Risks and Risks in Global Production Networks, University of Osnabruck, Osnabruck, Germany, June, 2022.

6th Global Conference on Economic Geography, 7-10 June 2022, Dublin, Ireland.

IGU Regional Conference, Paris, France. 18-22 July, 2022.

C. Networking

The IGU CDES engaged in collaboration with other IGU Commissions, which was the Commission on Coastal System during 2020. The CDES collaborated with the Commission on Coastal System for scientific meeting on Coastal Transitions 2020 Conference held at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) from November 4th to

November 8th via the online virtual platform, Whova.

However, the IGU CDES has not collaborated with other international, intergovernmental, and inter- and multi-disciplinary groups in 2020 period. Also the CDES had no cooperative efforts with either the International Social Science Council (ISSC) or the International Council for Science (ICSU) and International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH) programs during 2020.

D. Publications

Regular Publications:

Since long time, CDES has a very good reputation in publishing edited book and special issues in international peer-reviewed journals. CDES conferences typically result in the publication of one edited book (sometimes two) that is published as part of Routledge's (formerly Ashgate) Dynamics of Economic Spaces series. The Commission has already published more than 20 edited books in the series.

In 2018, CDES has renewed its contract with Routledge to publish Commission's series of Dynamics of Economic Spaces. Thus, now CDES has continued its very successful publishing relationship with Routledge Publishers. The book series is entitled The Dynamics of Economic Space (see <https://www.routledge.com/The-Dynamics-of-Economic-Space/book-series/ASHSER1030>) and the Chair of the Commission serves as the Series Editor.

In 2020, two books were published in the book series of the Commission although one of this books are not an outcome of the direct activity of the commission, actually collaborated with and supported by the commission. Citation of this book are following:

- Pezzi, M. G., Faggian, A., & Reid, N. (2020). Agritourism, Wine Tourism, and Craft Beer Tourism: Local Responses to Peripherality Through Tourism Niches. London: Routledge

Another book published in 2020 by Commission's Routledge book series as outcome of the previous year the commission conference is following:

- Kratzer, A. and Kister, J. (Eds.). (2020). Rural-Urban Linkages for Sustainable Development, Routledge: London.

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE BOOK

1. Rural-Urban Linkages for Sustainable Development – An Introduction Armin Kratzer, Jutta Kister

Part 1: Transitions, Transformation and Rural-Urban Linkages

2. Rural-Urban Linkages, Agri-Food Sustainability, Ethics and the Circular Economy Damian Maye
3. Agribusiness, Rural-Urban Relations and Social-Ecological Transformation: The Case of the Sinop Region in Northern Mato Grosso Martin Coy, Tobias Töpfer & Frank Zirkl
4. The Challenges Posed by UN-Habitat's Rural-Urban Linkages in a Sustainability Transition Agenda: The Case of the Christchurch, New Zealand Rebuild Gordon M. Winder & Sahar Hofmann

Part 2: Rural-Urban Differences

5. Rural-Urban Differences in Online Advertisements of Second-Hand Goods. The Case of Dutch People on Marktplaats Joris Galema and Eveline van Leeuwen
6. Urban and Rural Labour Markets in Andalusia: Are They So Different? Mercedes Rodríguez, José A. Camacho and Jesús Molina
7. What Kind of Space Matters in Urban – Rural Heterogeneity? Managing Space in Organizational Entrepreneurship Piotr Pachura

Part 3: Rural-Urban Linkages and Their Impacts

8. The Rise of Craft Beer and Its Impact on Demand for Local Hops Neil Reid, Stephan J. Goetz, Elizabeth Dobis, Paul D. Gottlieb, Anil Hira
9. Development of Alternative Food Networks in the Peri-Urban Areas of Istanbul Senem Kozaman, Ebru Seçkin
10. Role of Rural-Urban Linkages in Local Development: A Comparative Study on Two Rural Settlements in Bangladesh Md. Zakir Hossain, Abu Sayed and Md. Ashiq Ur Rahman

Part 4: Governance and Rural-Urban Linkages

11. 'Smart Region' as Governance for Innovation: Cooperative Approaches in Hamburg-Southern Elbe Region Galya Vladova & Jörg Knieling
12. A Critical Analysis of Rural Tourism Policy: Niksar-Çamiçi Plateau Secondary Residential Area (Turkey) Fadim Yavuz & Rahman Öncür

13. How Do Beneficiaries Perform Rurality and How Does It Become Economy-Dependent?
Marcin Wójcik & Oskar Wolski

14. Conclusion Jutta Kister, Armin Kratzer

For the outputs of the last year the IGU CDES Budapest mini conference, the selected papers were published as the special issue of a peer-reviewed journal of Hungarian Geographical Bulletin (indexed by Scopus) in Vol. 69, No. 2, July 2020. This special issue is focus on “the fourth industrial revolution in economic geographical approach” based on the IGU-CDES Conference held in Budapest, 2-4 October 2019.

CONTENT OF THE JOURNAL HUNGARIAN GEOGRAPHICAL BULLETIN

Fourth Industrial Revolution in Economic Geographical Approach: This special issue is based on the IGU-CDES Conference held in Budapest, 2–4 October 2019

- Johannes Winter: The evolutionary and disruptive potential of Industry 4.083
- Éva Kiss and Erzsébet Nedelka: Geographical approach of Industry 4.0 based on information and communication technologies at Hungarian enterprises in connection with industrial space99
- Martin Haider: Electrifying Times: restructuring and decision-making in an automobileconcern in the 21st century: The case of BMW Group.....119
- Ernő Molnár, Gábor Kozma, Márk Mészáros and Éva Kiss: Upgrading and the geography of theHungarian automotive industry in the context of the fourth industrial revolution137
- Csongor Nagy, Ernő Molnár and Éva Kiss: Industry 4.0 in a dualistic manufacturing sector: qualitative experiences from enterprises and their environment, Eastern Hungary157

Commission website:

The commission’s current website is accessible under the following address:

<http://igu-cdes.ankara.edu.tr/>

E. Archival contributions

CDES has not provided any archival materials available but would be willing to do so.

F. Productive use of IGU grant

During the period of 2020, the Commission did not use IGU grants. However, we support applications by young scholars and researchers representing “low-income countries” for financial support for participation of our mini conferences.

Annex

Photo 1 and 2: Some of the participants of the IGU CDES Virtual Conference in New Haven, Connecticut, USA, 4-8 November 2020.

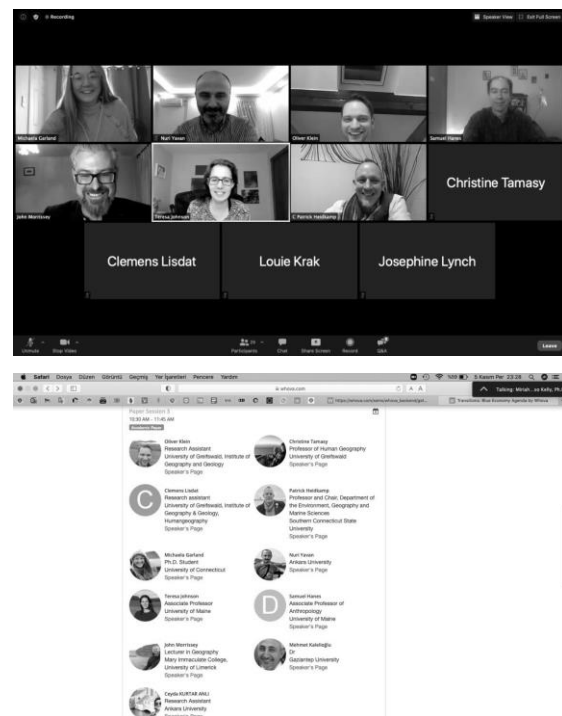


Photo 3: One of the keynote speaker of the IGU CDES Virtual Conference in New Haven, Connecticut, USA, 4-8 November 2020.



Photo 4: A Presentation in one of the sessions of the IGU CDES Virtual Conference in New Haven, Connecticut, USA, 4-8 November 2020.

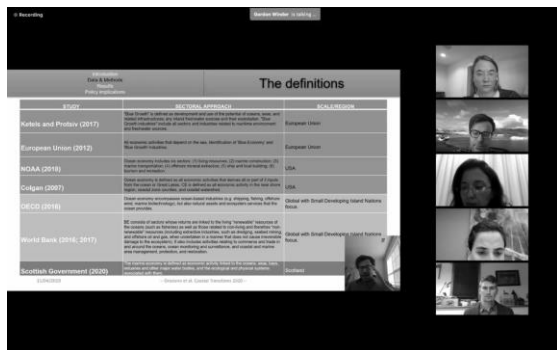
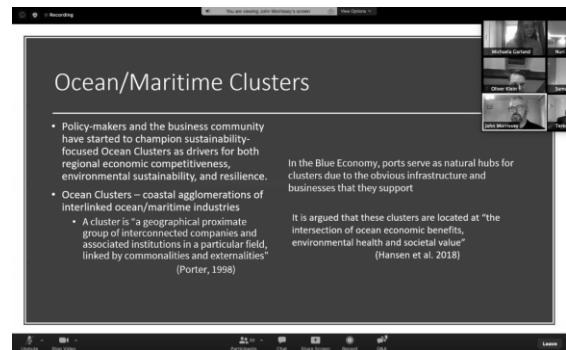


Photo 5: The Second keynote speaker of the IGU CDES Virtual Conference in New Haven, Connecticut, USA, 4-8 November 2020.



Photo 6: A Presentation in one of the sessions of the IGU CDES Virtual Conference in New Haven, Connecticut, USA, 4-8 November 2020.



C20.10 Environment Evolution

A. Membership

The structure of your current steering committee, including all names and contact details. The number of Commission/Task Force corresponding members (i.e. your 'membership' - circulation - list, in total and, if at all possible, by country as of 31 December 2020). The counts of members by country are exceedingly helpful in documenting to the International Science Council (ISC) and other international organizations the IGU's extensive reach.

The Chair of the Commission

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The number of commission members in total and by country as of 30 December 2020:

Russia	145
Belarus	8
Ukraine	8
Kazakhstan	3
Azerbaijan	3
Estonia	1
Lithuania	3
Kirgizstan	1
Turkmenistan	1
Germany	15
Czech Republic	3
Poland	3
Japan	7
China	25
Israel	1
Australia	1
Great Britain	3
Canada	1
USA	6
Netherlands	2
India	3
Chile	1
Turkey	2

B. Meetings

a. Meetings the commission organized in 2019-20:

The 5th International Conference and young scientist school “Ecosystem dynamics in the Holocene” Moscow, Russia, 11-15 November 2019; 172 participants

The 5th International Conference and young scientist school “Ecosystem dynamics in the Holocene” was organized by the Commission on Environment Evolution together with the Russian Academy of Science. The chair of the organizing committee of the Conference was Dr. Elena Novenko (the chair of the Environment Evolution Commission). The conference was structured to promote the discussion and debate of key scientific questions focused on the long-term studies of ecosystem dynamics, climate changes and human activity in different geographical regions during the Holocene (the last 11700 years) as well as on new methods and approaches for reconstructions of the past environmental changes. It provided unique opportunities for scientists to introduce novel ideas and studies in the following topics: i) Dynamics of marine, fresh water and terrestrial ecosystems in the Holocene; ii) Holocene landscape and climate changes; iii) Natural and anthropogenic factors in the Holocene ecosystem dynamics; iv) Environment condition and human occupation in the Holocene; v) Ecological modeling and forecasting; and vi) Methods of ecosystem studies. The program of the conference included 90 oral and 72 poster presentations, 172 participants took part in the meeting. Presentation demonstrated that the expertise of the modern state of natural ecosystems and projections of their future changes is quite impossible without comprehensive understanding of the past environment and climate dynamics and ecosystem functioning including its adaptation to human impact. Oral and poster presentations introduced new results of the experimental and theoretical studies of ecosystem dynamics in the Holocene based on various methods and information including detailed palaeoecological data (pollen, plant macrofossil, diatoms, testate amoebae, etc), radiocarbon dates, evidence about beginning of human activities and archeological findings. Particular attention in the Conference was paid to the questions of the human – environment interactions and ecosystem responses to human impact in the past epochs. One of the sessions in a frame of the conference was devoted to wildfire as a global phenomenon during the Holocene. A series of presentations demonstrated evidence of landscapes dynamics and fire frequencies in the past revealed from pollen, plant macrofossils, macro-charcoal

records from peat and lake sediments and soils charcoal data.

The Young scientist school was organized on the last day of the Conference. The program of the school consisted of 6 lectures and 3 workshops for the most important methodological problem of palaeoecology, 67 master and PhD students and early career researchers attended on the meeting.



Participants of the 5th International Conference and young scientist school “Ecosystem dynamics in the Holocene”

The special session of the Commission in frame 1st IALE-Russia International Online Conference «Landscape Science and Landscape Ecology: Considering Responses to Global Challenges», Moscow, 14-18 September 2020, online. Session title: “Wildfire as a global phenomenon: long-term fire dynamics, ecosystem response and fire management”, 27 participants

The special session “Wildfire as a global phenomenon: long-term fire dynamics, ecosystem response and fire management” in frame 1st IALE-Russia International Online Conference «Landscape Science and Landscape Ecology: Considering Responses to Global Challenges», Moscow, 14-18 September 2020, online.

The session was devoted to fires as a major factor strongly influencing all natural, economic and social processes. The session was focused on the following resect topics: 1) fire frequencies and environmental changes in different regions during the Holocene and the recent past; 2) human impacts on landscapes and fires in different time periods, including historical time; 3) satellite monitoring of forest fires; 4) landscape factors of fire spread and containment; 5) ecosystem dynamics under different natural and human-driven fire regimes; 6) post fire vegetation recovery, forest management and biodiversity conservation. The session included 16 oral and 12 flash presentations.

b. Future Meetings

The Environment Evolution Commission will organize 2 special sessions on the 34th International Geographical Congress (16-20 August 2021, Istanbul, Turkey):

Session 1 Environment Evolution and Human Activity from the Holocene to Anthropocene

Climate change is a major factor strongly influencing all natural, economic and social processes, and varying enormously across space and time. The aim of this session is to bring an up-to-date perspective on environmental and climatic change and its impact on landscape dynamics and land use. We invite experts from such fields as paleogeography, geology, archaeology, ecology and biology to make presentations that convey and exchange academic viewpoints on any aspects of the field. The proposed session will focus on the following resect topics: 1) environmental changes and climate variability during the Holocene and Anthropocene; 2) human impacts on landscapes in different time periods, including historical time and recent past; 3) use of paleoanalogues to develop prognostic scenarios of geosystem dynamics.

Session 2 Climate-vegetation interactions under present and projected future climate conditions

The session is aimed to bring together the specialists working in the fields of climate, vegetation and land use changes. Modern climate changes have significant impact on growth and functioning of the different plant community. On the other hand, the climate is very sensitive to land cover and vegetation changes. What are the main mechanisms of climate - atmosphere interactions, how the vegetation and land use changes influence the climate system and what is the response of the different plant communities to climate change are key questions for discussions in the session. We invite to take part in the session the specialists working in the different scientific areas including geography, meteorology, climatology, ecology, remote sensing, mathematical modelling, etc. The main topic of the session: 1) land use and vegetation changes under altered climate conditions; 2) climate - vegetation interaction in past, present and future; 3) the climate regulation functions of terrestrial ecosystems; 4) fluxes of greenhouse gases in terrestrial ecosystems: field measurements and numerical simulations.

The second International Conference "Pathways of Evolutionary Geography" dedicated to the 90th anniversary of Professor A.A. Velichko, the first Chair and founder of the IGU Commission on Environment Evolution, November 23-25, 2021, Moscow, Russia.

The Conference will be forum for geographers from evolutionary geography, palaeogeography and geomorphology. The conference will include oral and poster presentation and give a possibility of research collaborations of specialists in co-evolution of human societies and natural environment to present the new results of studies and ideas. The program of the conference will be focused on four major issues of evolutionary geography: 1) Actual problems of the palaeogeography. Multiscale landscape and climate changes of the Earth the Quaternary period. 2) Paleogeographical basis of modern landscapes. Assessment of modern state of landscapes using retrospective analysis. 3) Geoarchaeology: Environmental forcing of human society formation during the Pleistocene and Holocene. 4) Quaternary geochronology. Application of different methods of dating in palaeogeographic reconstructions.

The Commission will organize special sessions in a frame of the extraordinary congress in Paris, France in 2022 and in 35th International Geographical Congress (2024, Dublin, Ireland).

We have also plan to organize and take parts in preparations of 4-5 online and off-line workshops and trainings for young scientists during the period 2021-2024.

C. Networking

a. Collaboration with other IGU commissions and Task Forces

Commission's corresponding members and the members of Commission's Steering Committee had numerous individual contacts with the members of other Commissions IGU, such as IGU Commission of Cold Region Environments (C12.06) and IGU Commission of Karst (C12.23) especially during the IGU scientific actions.

b. Collaboration with other IGU commissions or other international, intergovernmental, or inter- and multi-disciplinary groups

The activities of the Commission are carried out in close cooperation with the Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnership Initiative (NEFI-NEESPI

<http://nefi-neespi.org>) that is aimed at developing an enhanced understanding of the interactions between the ecosystem, atmosphere, and human dynamics in northern Eurasia.

In 2020 the Environment Evolution Commission continued the tight collaboration with the IALE-Russia is a regional chapter of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE) (<https://iale-russia.ru/index.php/en/>) with aim to stimulate active cooperation among scientist deal with landscape ecology, biodiversity, land use history, agriculture and nature conservation.

The Environment Evolution Commission has permanent relationship with Commission of Physical Geography of 'Russian Geographical Society', All-Russian non-governmental organization (<http://www.rgo.ru/ru>).

The Environment Evolution Commission has relationship with INQUA - International Union for Quaternary Research, Commission on Palaeoclimates (<http://www.inqua.org/>).

D. Publications

The Commission on Environment Evolution organized and published 3 special issues in high-level per-review journals abstracting in databases Wed of Science and Scopus

Special issue of the Journal "Quaternary International" (Q1 journal, impact factor 2.19)

"Climate change and human-environment interaction from Neolithic to historical times"

Edited by Elena Novenko, Pavel Tarasov, Lyudmila Shumilovskikh

Volume 516, Pages 1-214 (20 May 2019)

The special issue dedicated to the topics of Commission's session in frameworks of The 33rd International Geographical Congress in Beijing.

The special issue includes 13 papers.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/quaternary-international/vol/516/suppl/C>

Special issue of the Journal "GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENT, SUS-TAINABILITY"

"Climate - vegetation interaction: natural processes vs human impact"

Edited by Elena Novenko, Pavel Tarasov, Alexander Olchev

Vol 12, No 2 (2019), p.128-281

(open access)

The special issue aggregates the key scientific presentations in the commission session at the IGU Thematic Conference dedicated to the centennial of the Institute of Geography of Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow, Russia, 4-6 June 2018).

The special issue includes 12 papers.

<https://ges.rgo.ru/jour/issue/view/45/showToc>

Special issue in the Journal: IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science, Volume 438, dedicated to the 5th International Conference "Ecosystem dynamics in the Holocene" 11–15 November 2019, Moscow, Russian Federation

Edited by Elena Novenko and Alexander Olchev

The special issue contains of 27 papers focused of the most important problems of modern palaeogeography, palaeoecology and palaeoclimatology.

(open access)

<https://iopscience.iop.org/issue/1755-1315/438/1>

The current (accurate) URL of the commission's website: <http://eecom.org>

E. Archival Contributions

Materials and publications transmitted to the IGU archives by your commission. Copies of all newsletters, monographs, special journal issues, etc. should be sent to the IGU Secretary General upon publication for forwarding to the archivist. Photographs from your meetings, field excursions, or other events that you are willing to share are especially gratefully received and will be included in the IGU e-Newsletter.

Publications of the Commission, photos.

F. Use of IGU grants

Organizing of the Young scientist school in a frame of the 5th International Conference "Ecosystem dynamics in the Holocene" (Moscow, Russia, 11-15 November 2019) and participation of 67 master and PhD students and early career researchers from Russia were supported by the Environment Evolution Commission.

C20.11 Gender and Geography

A. Membership

Our new Steering Committee for 2020 - 2024 represents a diversity of feminist scholars from the global South as well as non-anglophone locations. The details of our Steering Committee are below:

CHAIR

Assoc. Prof. Anindita Datta
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TREASURER

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Dra Joseli Maria Silva
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Prof Yoko Yoshida
Division of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nara Women's University
Kitauoyanishi-machi
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Dr Elena Vacchelli
Department of History, Politics and Social Sciences
University of Greenwich
UNITED KINGDOM
e.vacchelli@gre.ac.uk

In addition to the above, the Commission initiated the Young and Early Career Scholars (YES!). YES! mirrors the Youth Task force forming at the IGU level and acts as a networking, sharing and mentoring platform for early career feminist geographers. The intent is to use the taskforce to build a platform for networking, sharing and peer-peer mentoring, while also connecting to the resources of established feminist geographers who can be mentors and allies for early career feminist geographers. YES! promotes new membership in the Commission from early career scholars and fosters transnational collaborative networks. Details of our YES! Committee:

Co-Chair
Dr Kamalini Ramdas
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National University of Singapore

Singapore
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Co-Chair
Menusha De Silva
Department of Geography
National University of Singapore
Singapore
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The Commission's Young and Early Career (YES!)
Steering Group:

Milena Janiec
School of Geosciences
University of South Florida
USA

Anjeline de Dios
Department of Cultural Studies
Lingnan University, Hong Kong
anjelinededios@ln.edu.hk

Membership to the Commission on Gender and Geography is through the mailing list maintained by our commission. As of 31 Dec 2020, our mailing list consisted of over 800 members. Many members use Gmail addresses to subscribe. We are in the process of ascertaining country wise membership based on institutional affiliations.

Our focal theme for 2020-2024 is Care, Connection and Change.

B. Meetings

a. Meetings and Conferences held in 2020

Specialist session: Gender and feminist geographies: Developments, directions and tensions at the New Zealand Geographical Society Conference 2020 organized by Prof Lynda Johnston and co-sponsored by The New Zealand Geographical Society (NZGS) Women and Gender Geographies Study Group; The Women and Gender Geographies Research Network (WGGRN); The IGU Gender and Geography Commission Young or Emerging Scholars (YES!) together with IGU Gender and Geography Commission.

The first **Meeting of the Southern Feminist Geographies Network** was held online (Google Meet). It was organized by Astrid Ulloa (Universidad Nacional de Colombia), Diana Ojeda

(Universidad de los Andes) and Luna Cárdenas (Colectivo de Género Francia Márquez) on 16th and 17th September 2020. The central theme of the meeting was “Dialogues between feminist geographies and black, indigenous and decolonial geographies”. Twenty-one feminist researchers from several countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru took part in it. During the meeting, specificities of the Latin American feminist geographies were addressed. The next meeting will be held in Ecuador in 2022 and Sofia Zaragocin from the University of San Francisco - Quito is in charge of it.

b. Events to be held in 2021

4th International Congress on Gender and Space, to be held between 19th and 23rd April 2021, on the Virtual Platform of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (National Autonomous University of Mexico). This meeting is organized by Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (National Autonomous University of Mexico), Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (Metropolitan Autonomous of Mexico University), Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México (Autonomous University of Mexico State) and Universidad Veracruzana (Veracruzana University). Steering Committee Member Prof Joseli Maria Silva is involved in supporting this conference.

The V Latin American Seminar on Geography, Gender and Sexualities to be held in Santiago, Chile at Chile University from 7th to 10th September 2021. It will be organized by Martin Ignacio Torres Rodriguez. This conference too will have the active involvement of our Steering Committee Member Prof Joseli Maria Silva.

c. YES! Online Meetings held in 2020

Inaugural Online Meeting hosted by Kamalini Ramdas and Menusha De Silva on 25th June 2020. YES! members discussed how to better support each other during the time of pandemic. A statement of solidarity was drafted and shared on the YES! blog page at:

<https://igugender.wixsite.com/igugender/yes-blogs>

Fieldwork in the context of Covid-19 hosted by Balawansuk Lynrah and Ananya Bhuyan on 29th July 2020. YES! Members met to discuss fieldwork ethics during the time of the pandemic. A summary

of the discussion can be read at <https://igugender.wixsite.com/igugender/yes-blogs>

Movie Meetup on the Netflix series 'Indian Matchmaking' hosted by Kanchan Gandhi on 28th August 2020. At the meeting, a discussion on the themes of gender, marriage and patriarchy in the Asian context based on the Netflix series 'Indian Matchmaking' was conducted. Themes which emerged out of the discussion are shared at <https://igugender.wixsite.com/igugender/yes-blogs>

'Living a Feminist Life' hosted by Kamalini Ramdas on 19th November 2020. The meeting focused on discussing the value and challenges of developing a feminist voice/philosophy when writing research and teaching statements.

C. Networking

In 2020 our networking was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and had to shift to online spaces. Members of the Commission participated in online webinars and conferences in their individual capacities in most cases as participation in conferences and networking events shifted from in person to online.

As part of our initiative to visibilize the work of early career as well as feminist geographers from less represented regions, we have begun a mentorship program named after Prof Janice Monk. Details of the Mentorship can be found on our website.

a. Collaboration with other IGU commissions and task forces

Planned sessions at IGC Istanbul in collaboration with the Commissions for History and Politics

D. Publications

a. Special journal issues

GeoAgenda (the information/research communication journal of the ASG Association of Swiss Geography) published a special issue on ongoing research in the area of feminist geography: Landolt, Sara and Marina Richter (eds.) (2019) Feministische Geographie - géographie féministe - feminist geography, special issue of GeoAgenda, 1/2019 (papers in English and German).

Other special issues from the German speaking feminist geography community are Feministisches

Geo-RundMail 78: Sommerschule Gender and Space. January 2019 <http://ak-geographie-geschlecht.org/rundmail/>

Chen Misgav and Gilly Hartall are guest-editors of a new special issue of *Geography Research Forum* (2019, 39: 1) on "Queer urban movements from the margin(s): activism, politics, space". The papers in the special issue discuss LGBT activism from diverse perspectives, contributing to the growing scholarship on geographies of sexualities. The perspective on activism comes from the urban margins – the periphery, the socio-cultural margins, the suburban, the political margins or marginality within LGBT and queer communities.

Gender, Place & Culture (2019, 26, 7-9) published a special issue 'Country and region reports', edited by Marianne Blidon and Sofia Zaragocin, to mark the 25th anniversary of the journal

Gender, Place & Culture (2019, 26:12) published a themed section on "Mentoring and difference in feminist geography", edited by Karen Falconer Al-Hindi

Gender, Place & Culture (2020, 27:1) published a themed section on (En)countering sexual violence in the Indian city, edited by Atreyee Sen, Raminder Kaur and Emilija Zabiliūtė

Gender, Place & Culture (2020, 27:3) published a themed section on "Populationism", edited by Anne Hendrixson, Diana Ojeda, Jade S. Sasser, Sarojini Nadimpally, Ellen E. Foley and Rajani Bhatia

GeoHumanities (2019, 5:2) published a special issue on "Auto-methods in feminist geography", edited by Pamela Moss and Kathryn Besio,

Human Geography (2020, 13:1) published a special issue on "Women's resistance against the extractive industry: embodied and water dimensions", edited by Martina Angela Caretta and Sofia Zaragocin

Gender, Place & Culture (2020, 27:5) published a special issue on "Everyday geographies of family: feminist approaches and interdisciplinary conversations", edited by Anna Tarrant and Sarah Marie Hall

Journal of Geography in Higher Education (2020, 44:2) published a Symposium section on 'Teaching geographies of sexualities: 20 years on', edited by Martin Zebracki and Joseph J. Hall

Feministische Geo-RundMail (September 2020, 83) published a special issue on "Feminist Research Practice in Geography: Snapshots,

Reflections, Concepts", edited by S. Klosterkamp and A. Vorbrugg,

Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography (2020, 41:3) published a special lecture article with commentaries on Yvonne Underhill-Sem's 'The audacity of the ocean: gendered politics of positionality in the Pacific'

Social & Cultural Geography (2020, 21:s1) published a virtual special issue on "Sexualities and gendered intersectionalities", edited by Gavin Brown & Avril Maddrell

b. New books

Cookson, Tara Patricia (2019) *Unjust Conditions: Women's Work and the Hidden Cost of Cash Transfer Programs*. Oakland: University of California Press.

Johnson, Jennifer L. and Christen Johnson (eds.) (2019) *Maternal Geographies: Mothering in and out of place*. Bradford, ONT Canada: Demeter Press

Kinyanjui, Mary Njeri (2019) *African markets: utu-ubuntu business model. A perspective on the informal economy*. Cape Town: African Minds

Ng, Isabella (2019) *Hong Kong Rural Women under Chinese rule: Gender Politics, Reunification and Globalization in Post-colonial Hong Kong*. London and New York: Routledge

Colombara, Mónica (2019) 'El aborto en la agenda feminista de América latina. Estado de la cuestión. El caso de Argentina' presentado en el Eje Temático 6: Lugar, subjetividad, territorios y espacios de identidad, *Geografía Feminista en el XVII Encuentro de Geógrafos de América Latina*. Quito, Ecuador. <https://www.puce.edu.ec/>

Colombara, Mónica (2019) 'La Geografía de Género en Argentina: Breve Panorama', presentado en el VII Congreso Nacional de Geografía de Universidades Públicas y XXI Jornadas de Investigación y Enseñanza en Geografía, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, La Plata

Das, T., R. Bhattacharyya, F. Alam and A. Parvin (2020) *In-depth Semi-structured Interviewing: Researching Domestic Violence as a Public Health Issue in Bangladesh*, SAGE Research Methods Cases Medicine & Health, Disciplines: Public Health, Online ISBN: 9781529719840, DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781529719840>

Kinyanjui, Mary Njeri (2019) *The Sweet Sobs of Women in Response to Anthropain*. New Castle Upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Press

Lund, Ragnhild, Kyoko Kusakabe, Nitya Rao and Nireka Weeratunge (in press) *Fisherfolk in Cambodia, India and Sri Lanka: Migration, Gender and Well-being*. India: Routledge

Brickell, Katherine (2020) *Home SOS: Gender, Violence and Survival in Crisis Ordinary Cambodia*. London, Royal Geographical Society-IBG Book Series

Datta, Anindita (ed.) (2021) *Gender, Space and Agency in India: Exploring Regional Genderscapes*. Oxon, New York, Routledge

Guberman, Daniela (2019) *Perspectivas de género en geografía: aportes para la renovación de la enseñanza de la geografía escolar*. Buenos Aires, Universidad de Buenos Aires

Datta, Anindita, Peter Hopkins, Lynda Johnston, Elizabeth Olson, and Joseli Maria Silva, eds. *Routledge Handbook of Gender and Feminist Geographies*. Routledge, 2020

Huang, S. and K. N. Ruwanpura (eds.) (2020) *Handbook on Gender in Asia*. Edward Elgar

International Handbooks on Gender Series. Cheltenham, Edward Elgar

Pulla, V., Bhattacharyya Rituparna and Bhatt Sanjai (2020) *Discrimination, Challenge, and Response: People of North East India*. London, Palgrave Macmillan

Uteng, Tanu Priya Uteng, Hilda Rømer Christensen and Lena Levin (eds.) (2020) *Gendering smart mobilities*. London, Routledge

c. Online

The current (accurate) URL of the Commission's website: <https://igugender.wixsite.com/igugender>

Twitter handle of the Commission: @IgUgender

E. Archival Contributions

Archival material including our biannual newsletters and selected reports are available on our website <https://igugender.wixsite.com/igugender>

C20.12 Geographical Education

A. Membership

The statutes of the IGU state that Commissions should consist of a Chair and Steering Group of ten members plus a Secretary. Given the size and complexity of the Commission on Geographical Education, the proposal accepted by the IGU Executive for the renewal of the Commission for the period 2020 – 2024, included a) joint chairs, and b) a concept of a steering committee of “10+” in order to recognise the on-going and significant role played by former Chairs and Steering Group members and c) the concept of Regional Contacts who are publicly identified with the role of facilitating effective communication and outreach between the CGE and specific regions of the world. As approved by the Executive Committee of the IGU in 2020, the effective Steering Group of the Commission may therefore be considered as a core of 11 people consisting of two co-chairs plus nine other members including the Secretary, supported by a panel of twelve long standing former Steering Group members and linked closely with 65 regional contacts who are asked to ensure that local information on research and developments in geographical education are reported to the Commission Secretary for inclusion in the CGE

Newsletter and that information provided to the international community through the CGE Newsletters are disseminated through local and regional networks.

The formal statutory 2020 – 2024 Steering Group therefore consists of:

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Dr. Michael Solem (Co-Chair)
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Professor of Geography, Texas State University
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Dr. Jongwon Lee (Secretary)
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Dr. Kathrin Schulman (Treasurer)
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The active Advisory panel (10+) of former Chairs
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Regional contacts: The location and contact details of the 65 regional contacts may be found in the CGE website at <http://www.igu-cge.org/> where there is an interactive map to assist those interested in the Commission to locate their nearest contact.

Members: The Commission on Geographical Education has members through a) those who attend its Symposia and IGU regional conferences and congresses; b) corresponding members who while unable to attend regular meetings, participate in the various publishing and research activities; and c) those who participate in the work of the Commission through the Commission Journal, International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education (IRGEE). The annual changes in membership and spatial distribution are as follows.

The Commission currently has regular communication with 1,151 people in 84 identified countries.

Year	Number of memberships
2016	777
2017	915
2018	958
2019	1,104
2020	1,151

United Arab Emirates	2	Kyrgyzstan	1
Albania	2	Cambodia	1
Armenia	1	South Korea	17
Angola	1	Kazakhstan	2
Argentina	11	Sri Lanka	1
Austria	8	Lesotho	2
Australia	49	Luxemburg	1
Azerbaijan	2	Latvia	1
Bangladesh	2	Morocco	1
Belgium	6	Mongolia	14
Bulgaria	5	Malta	3
Bolivia	1	Mexico	6
Brazil	33	Malaysia	6
Belarus	2	Nigeria	8
Botswana	2	The Netherlands	33
Canada	20	Norway	7
Switzerland	18	Nepal	1
Chile	12	New Zealand	22
China	52	Oman	2
Coast Rica	2	Philippines	2
Cuba	1	Pakistan	3
Cyprus	1	Poland	17
Czech Republic	20	Puerto Rico	2
Germany	79	Portugal	13
Denmark	9	Romania	8
Spain	15	Russia	10
Ethiopia	4	Sweden	18
Finland	23	Singapore	19
France	13	Slovenia	3
Gibraltar	1	Slovakia	2

Greece	7	Thailand	3
Hong Kong	11	Tunisia	1
Hungary	18	Turkey	29
Indonesia	19	Trinidad and Tobago	11
Ireland	6	Ukraine	14
Israel	13	United Kingdom	107
India	31	United States	109
Iran	3	Venezuela	2
Iceland	2	Vietnam	2
Italy	18	South Africa	29
Jamaica	3	Zimbabwe	1
Japan	35	Unknown	50
Kenya	3	Total	1,151

B. Meetings and programmes of work

- a. **The meetings organized by the Commission on Geographical Education 2016 - 2020** with information on their locations, dates, and numbers of participants.

The Commission on Geographical Education engages with its constituency through five forms of meetings:

1. Special sessions arranged with local organisers as part of IGU Congresses and Regional meetings;
2. Symposia arranged by local organisers from within the Commission specific to the Commission;
3. Face to face meetings of the Steering Group (+10) to which all interested parties are invited to attend conducted at an appropriate time during or immediately before or after IGU Congresses or Conferences and Commission Symposia;
4. Virtual meetings conducted primarily for the Steering Group, Sub-committees of the Steering Group and Advisory Panel using various forms of internet collaborative software; and of particular note in the current reporting period;
5. Special meetings with other organisations and working parties for specific purposes.

IGU CGE Prague Congress for 2020 has been postponed until 2021 due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

e-Symposium – “Future Teachers for the Planet. Building Powerful Knowledge for Better ESD in Teacher Training” Organized by Péter Bagoly-Simó and Jeana Kriewaldt in partnership with the International Geographical Union’s Commission for Geographical Education (IGU-CGE), this e-symposium focuses on the imperative to build powerful knowledge of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in teacher preparation. Drawing upon current debates in Geography Education around powerful (disciplinary) knowledge and adjectival educations, particularly ESD, the e-symposium puts teacher training into the spotlight and explores how future Geography teachers can be best equipped with knowledge to organize deep geographical learning based on expert knowledge with strong cross-curricular components. Interactive sessions will take place on December 5, 2020 and January 23, 2021.

Virtual meetings of the Steering Committee were held in September and December 2020. The Steering Committee shared the five key activity area of the Program of Work for the Commission 2020-2024, set up sub-committees including (1) out research & engagement, (2) research collaboration, and (3) publication, and discussed the current issues such as fund-raising projects, the Commission’s next conferences.

b. Progress on Programmes of Work established in 2016-2020

This programme of work also includes the main issues discussed during the meetings of the Commission.

Increase the visibility of the CGE. The Commission performs a vital function to support international collaboration, to act as a network for geography education researchers and as an outlet for geography education research. The Commission has established a foundation for strong online and social media presence. The Commission has newly designed its website to increase the visibility of the CGE. The Commission has also been working on Wikipedia and is taking forward developing podcast for geography education community. The 2020-2024 Commission will develop ways of ensuring that the visibility and accessibility of the commission are shared with a wider audience. The Commission will do this by building on the work of the 2016-2020 Commission and the established Regional Contacts and strengthen dissemination forms such as social networking and maintaining an even stronger digital presence.

Develop the CGE network. The 2016-2020 Commission has greatly widened the reach and draw of the Commission and the IGU. In addition to maintaining a network of Regional Contacts who are clearly identified on our website (www.igu-cge.org) and who act as local hubs for this virtual community, the CGE has established a Facebook page. To date there are 523 regular followers, and the number is growing steadily. The potential for outreach through social media is another way that the Commission is raising its visibility. You can find it here: <https://www.facebook.com/igucge/>. The Commission has also started a Twitter account ([igu_cge](https://twitter.com/igu_cge)). The 2020 - 2024 Commission will seek to develop this network further. We will continue to work with early career researchers to enable them to join the current CGE network and we will continue to build on the network of Regional Contacts to spread the work of the Commission and disseminate its activities to a wider group.

Enhance the quality of geography education research. The Commission maintains a Geography Education Collection (<https://goo.gl/e8bvpq>) that collects information on Geography Education MA, MEd, EDD and PhD theses around the world. The on-line database is made available for researchers through the IGU-CGE website. In addition, the International Charter on Geographical Education has outlined the key areas of geography education research based on an extensive collation from existing literature and consultation with major stakeholders in geographical education. The Charter has been translated into French, Dutch, Chinese, Spanish, German, Portuguese, Lithuanian and Russian. There are plans to translate the Charter into more languages such as Japanese, Slovenian, Czech, Korean and Turkish so that this will have an international reach. The 2020 - 2024 Commission will continue to encourage high quality research collaborations with existing research networks in the various regional networks in places like North America, East Asia and Southeast Asia, on themes as described in the Research agenda section of the Charter.

Diversify the possible outlets for geography education research. The Commission's flagship journal IRGEE, has steadily improved in metrics and the Commission is committed to support the sustained development of the Journal. In addition, the Commission has supported a range of other publications, notably the Springer Book Series. The Commission book series "International Perspectives

on Geographical Education" with Springer has published four books since 2017 and new books in the series planned on the 'Recontextualisation of Geography' and 'Geography Teacher Education and Professionalization'. The book series plays an important role in making geography education research accessible to the global community. The 2020 -2024 Commission will seek to diversify the range and opportunities for the publication and dissemination of geography education research, including exploring opportunities for Open Access, as well as more through the Commission Book Series.

Further attend to the application to practice. There is an increasing diversification of research applicable to geography education. However, criticisms have noted that there is a widening gap between the relevance and applicability of this research to the concerns and realities of practitioners. The 2020 -2024 Commission will seek to support the teaching of geography around the globe, through developing researcher-practitioner partnerships, stronger links with local and regional professional associations, working with researchers to consider contextual issues that may affect applicability to practice, and encouraging the wider dissemination of practitioner research through the international communities.

c. Additional Projects of the Commission in 2019/20

An international geography assessment project: The Trends in International Geography Assessment Study 2023 (TIGAS 2023) is an international effort to design and develop a geography assessment based on the successful model used by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) for the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). Major collaborating organizations include the Commission and the IEA/TIMSS. The initial funding for this project is being provided by the Geography Education National Implementation Project and the U.S. National Center for Research in Geography Education. On 8 October 2019, Joe Stoltman and Michael Solem presented a proposal for the international geography assessment at the 2019 IEA General Assembly in Slovenia. The IEA GA consists of representatives from ministries of education, known as National Research Coordinators (NRCs), who make decisions about IEA policies and future IEA projects. Additional information is available at <http://www.tigas2023.com>

Work begins on geography curriculum analysis:

A research plan aim to develop a framework to describe and analyse school geography curriculum around the world has been approved by the NCRGE awarding program. The research will have an opportunity to bring practioners together and possible international comparative analysis as well. Chew-Hung Chang, Co-Chair of the Commission, will lead the project. The NCRGE (National Center for Research in Geography Education) is a research consortium committed to the advancement of basic and applied research in geography education at all levels.

Podcast for geography education: The social media team of the Commission is working on podcast for geography education community and are planning to interview with renowned researchers in geography education. On 20 November 2019 the first episode of the podcast to interview Simon Catling was produced and posted on the CGE website. They are planning 6-8 programs (one researcher for one program) and each program will have its own unique topic (e.g., teacher education).

Digital learning material for COVID 19: The commission has collected and shared digital teaching and learning resources to help geography education community respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission asked colleagues who have resources or online learning packages to share them and created a list of resources collated from commission members' input of digital learning materials for geography (<http://www.igu-cge.org/2020/05/covid-cge-resources/>). The list was shared to the wider IGU community (through the IGU newsletter) so that colleagues working in other areas in Geography will also have access.

C. Networking

Continued Support to the Society for Environmental Map Education through the 29th Asahikawa Children's Environmental Map Contest in September 2020. The Commission supported the event through the IGU-CGE Awards for Environmental Map Education, for children who win the contest (<http://www.environmentalmap.org>).

D. Publications

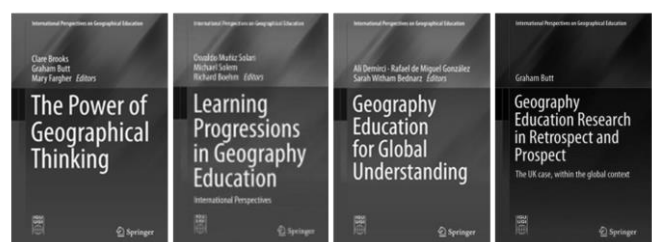
The Commission published regular newsletters by the WordPress and lodged them on the Commission website (www.igu-cge.org).

The Commission continues to publish International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education (IRGEE) through Taylor & Francis. ISSN: 1038-2046. IRGEE is published four times a year and serves four major purposes:

- to promote an expanded international interest in research in geographical and environmental education;
- to provide a forum for the critique of research studies and the discussion of relevant research issues in geographical and environmental education;
- to encourage the international dissemination of research in geographical and environmental education; and
- to demonstrate the relevance of research studies to good professional practice in geographical and environmental education.

The Commission publishes a book series "International Perspectives on Geographical Education" through Springer. ISSN: 2367-2773. There are currently four titles in the series:

- Brooks, C., Butt, G., & Fargher, M. (Eds.). (2017). *The Power of Geographical Thinking*. Springer.
- Solari, O. M., Solem, M., & Boehm, R. (Eds.). (2017). *Learning Progressions in Geography Education: International Perspectives*. Springer.
- Demirci, A., Miguel González, R., & Bednarz, S. W. (Eds.) (2018). *Geography Education for Global Understanding*. Springer.
- Butt, G. (2020). *Geography Education Research in the UK: Retrospect and Prospect – The UK Case Within the Global Context*. Springer.



E. Archival contributions

All publications of the Commission, including all newsletters, monographs, and issues of International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education are sent to the IGU Secretary General soon after publication. See also the website www.igu-cge.org for Newsletters of the Commission.

The current accurate URL of the commission's web site: The current web site of the Commission on Geographical Education may be found at: <http://www.igu-cge.org/> The website includes archived Newsletters as well as current details of all projects, publications and proposals.

F. Future meetings

CGE Prague, Czech Republic 2021 IGU-CGE conference is scheduled to be held in Prague, Czech Republic with the theme "Making connections: Cooperation and networking in geography education". With this theme, the organising committee intends to support one of the main goals of the Commission on Geography Education – the networking of researchers from all around the world investigating geographic education from different perspectives. The conference schedule and method are subject to change depending on situation of COVID-19 pandemic.

CGE Paris 2022. 2021 CGE conference will be held in Paris, France. More details will be announced soon.

C20.13 Geographical Information Science

A. Membership

We restructured the steering committee in the year of 2020. The current steering committee consist of 2 co-chairs and other 9 members. The commission recruited new members in 2020. Currently, the commission has 26 members from 16 countries.

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The following list provides the members' names, institutional affiliations, and countries of other steering committee members:

Andrej Medvedeff
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Russia

Evelyn Uemaa
University of Tartu
Estonia

Shoaib Khalid
Government College University Faisalabad
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Lars Brabyn
University of Waikato
New Zealand

Marco Helbig
Utrecht University
The Netherlands

Shawn Laffan
University of New South Wales
Australia

Masoud Minaei
Ferdowsi University of Mashhad (FUM)
Iran

Serafeim Alvanides
Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne
Germany

Motti Zohar
University of Haifa
Israel

B. Event: Fighting against COVID-19

The outbreak of 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) at the end of 2019 seriously affected human life during the past year and has caused globally widespread concern. GIS and spatial big data technology can play an important role during the fight against COVID-19. Our commission members proposed ten challenges in using GIS with spatiotemporal big data and worked on rapid responses and analyses of dynamic epidemic information by solving these problems.

From the perspective of GIS technology, this study revolutionized the data acquisition methods through big data technology which achieved rapid data acquisition, constructed an analysis platform for timely epidemic analysis, and produced epidemic maps allowing timely dissemination of epidemic dynamic information.

From the perspective of spatial simulation and analysis, we calculated the overlap between the spatial tracking of the virus and that of patient trajectories via text spatialization technology, estimated population flow and spatial distribution, and then simulated the spatial transmission process.

The results of this work provided good references for the government in making strategic decisions against COVID-19. Our work was highly recognized by IGU and was distributed to the geographical society of each country.

C. Meetings

a. Celebration of GIS Awareness Week and World GIS day

The 5th Celebration of GIS Awareness Week and World GIS Day (2020) was held online at the Department of Geography, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, on December 17, 2020. It was jointly organized with the GIScience Commission of the International Geographical Union (IGU) and the Remote Sensing and GIS Association of Iran and in cooperation with FUM-GeoforAll, the Student Scientific Association of Geography and the Association of Geography Teachers of Khorasan Razavi Province.

The scientific secretary of this conference was the steering committee member, Dr. Masoud Minaei. The main purpose of the ceremony was creating more links between GIS and its sub-fields including GIS, remote sensing, cartography, etc. with the activities carried out in Iran. The conference began with a speech by Dr. Ehsan Ghabool, Director of International Academic and Scientific Relations and International Student Affairs, and Dr. Khoshsaligheh, Deputy for Research at the Faculty of Letters and Humanities. The session was continued with Dr. Mottakan's speech; while welcoming the online participants, he introduced the Iranian Remote Sensing and GIS Association and provided a report on the activities and history of this association. The keynote speakers of this conference were Dr. Seyed Kazem Alavi Panah, Professor of Remote Sensing and GIS, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Dr. Jun xu, Professor of the Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research at Chinese Academy of Sciences, Dr. Masoud Irannejad, Researcher at SUSTech, China and Oulu University in Finland, Dr. Babak Mirbagheri, faculty member at the Remote Sensing and GIS Center of Shahid Beheshti University, and member of the board of directors of the Remote Sensing and GIS Association of Iran, and finally Dr. Masoud Minaei. The speakers delivered the following speeches:

- Iranian association of GIS and Remote Sensing.
- Spatial Semantics on the Qinghai- Tibetan Plateau Based on Social Media Data.
- World Consciousness: has Every Actions Thermal Reaction Which can be Remotely Sensed.
- Remote Sensing of arctic Zombie Wildfires.
- GIS from University to Industry.
- GIScience and Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

The participants of the conference were informed about the progress of this applied science and related issues in the world and in Iran. Finally, the conference ended with the call of the Department of Geography of Ferdowsi University of Mashhad for expanding voluntary activities in the field of free training of remote sensing and GIS via open-source software under the supervision of FUM-GeoforAll with the aim of creating a sustainable future for the planet earth.

b. Forthcoming Meetings

We planned to continue the International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling (SDH) series in 2020. However, it was postponed to 2021 because of COVID-19. We plan to hold the 9th SDH will be held in Sakarya, Turkey on August 13-14, before the IGC. The theme of the symposium is “Spatial data handling for smart cities and earth system”. We have updated the website of the symposium at <https://sdh2021.sakarya.edu.tr/>.

D. Networking

It is the tradition that we have long cooperation with the IGU commission on Modelling Geographical Systems and Commission II of the International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS). In 2020, the commission cooperated the activity of GIS Awareness Week and World GIS Day at Department of Geography, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad. In the future, we shall establish and cooperate with local sub-committees in each member country, and we shall have more cooperation with other scientific groups.

E. Publications

a. Paper

The work of COVID-19 was published as journal paper:

Zhou C.H., Su F.Z., Pei T., Zhang A., Du Y.Y., Luo B., Cao Z.D., Wang J.L., Yuan W., Zhu Y.Q., Song C, Chen J., Xu J., Li F.J., Ma T., Jiang L.L., Yan F.Q., Yi, J.W., Hu, Y.F., Liao Y.L. and Xiao H. 2020. COVID-19: Challenges to GIS with Big Data. *Geography and Sustainability*, 1: 77-87. doi: 10.1016/j.geosus.2020.03.005

b. Website

The website of the commission is <http://igugis.lreis.ac.cn/>. 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 <http://igugis.lreis.ac.cn/igu6.html>.

c. Newsletter

We published the website of the symposium of SDH 2021 and posted the CFP and posters of the SDH 2021 on Google group. The commission members will help spread the symposium information in their countries.

C20.14 Geography for Future Earth: Coupled Human-Earth Systems for Sustainability

A. Steering Committee

The IGU Commission on Geography of Future Earth: Coupled Human Earth Systems for Sustainability (IGU-GFE) has been formally established in October 2017 and its second term started in 2020. IGU-GFE focuses on human-land systems and their interfaces with the coast, the ocean, and the atmosphere. It aims to promote a wider analysis and innovative thinking about global land sustainability through the bridging and synthesis of physical geography, human geography, ecology, hydrology, atmospheric, climate, and social sciences. It provides a platform for communication among geographers globally to promote research and innovation about sustainability. The steering committee structure of IGU-GFE is as follows:

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Chair

Dr. Prof. Wenwu Zhao
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Vice-Chair

Dr. Prof. Mark Stafford Smith
Chief Coordinating Scientist Institute of Land and
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Chair of Science Committee, Future Earth
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Members

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B. Meetings 2020**The Second Ecosystem services, Academic Writing and Editing Workshop**

“The Second Ecosystem Services, Academic Writing and Editing Workshop” for training young scientists and students on scientific writing and sustainability science was delivered online via Zoom from June 22nd to 26th 2020. The workshop was co-organized by Beijing Normal University, the journal Geography and Sustainability, IGU-GFE, and the Working Committee for Young Geographer of the Geographical Society of China. Prof. Dr. Paulo Alexandre da Silva Pereira was the lecturer of the workshop. The workshop was freely open to all international audiences through live streaming and attracted more than 300 experts, scholars, and students.

The Third International Workshop on the Human-Earth System Dynamics and Modelling

On November 3rd, 2020, the Third International Workshop on the Human-Earth System Dynamics and Modelling was held online. This workshop was hosted by the State Key Laboratory of Earth Surface Processes and Resource Ecology, and the Center for Human-Environment System Sustainability of Beijing Normal University, and IGU-GFE. The workshop attracted nearly 100 participants. The speakers discussed four main aspects of the Human-Earth System Model and Simulation, including Earth Surface System Modelling and Land-Use/Land-Cover Change (LUCC), the Human-Earth

System Dynamics, Bi-directional Coupling of Earth System Models and Socio-economic Models, Linkages and Dynamics among Ecological Processes, Services, and Human Well-being, and Coupled Human-Earth System and Sustainable Development.

Geography and Sustainability Workshop 2020

From November 30th to December 1st, 2020, Geography and Sustainability Workshop 2020 was jointly held by IGU-GFE and Geography and Sustainability via zoom. The workshop attracted more than 40 participants from Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA), University of Padova, Mykolas Romeris University, Beijing Normal University, and the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research of Chinese Academy of Sciences. On the first day, the participants had discussions on spatiotemporal dynamics of vegetation in the middle to high latitudes, the impact of livestock and wild herbivores on Norwegian forest ecosystems, impacts of grazing exclusion across Tibetan Plateau and sustainable management, sustainable road network, ecosystem services, and its influencing factors, ecosystem carbon storage and adaptive management, etc. Presentations on the second day included pressures and drivers on ecosystems, ecosystem state assessment, effects of multiple stressors on ecosystem quality and biodiversity, impacts of multiple pressures on ecosystem services, and mitigation strategies of ecosystem pressure under a changing environment. At the end of the conference, the participants had in-depth discussions on international cooperation, international courses, and exchange funding, which provided a solid foundation for further cooperation.

The Thematic Forum of the IGU India International Conference (Virtual) 2020

From December 18th to 20th 2020, the thematic forum of The IGU India International Conference (Virtual) 2020 was held by the IGU-GFE Commission with a themed session of “Geography Future Earth: Coupled Human-Earth Systems for Sustainability”. Prof. Wenwu Zhao, the chair of IGU-GFE Commission, and Dr. Prof. Mark Stafford Smith, the vice-chair of IGU-GFE Commission attended the Panel Discussion and contributed to frontier topics such as global sustainable development, geography and sustainability, arid region ecosystem and sustainability during the COVID-19 pandemic, etc.

C. Publications

a. Loess Plateau: from degradation to restoration

Prof. Paulo Pereira, Prof. Wenwu Zhao, Prof. Yang Yu, and Prof. Juan Francisco Martinez-Murillo organized a special issue on Loess Plateau: from degradation to restoration in *Science of The Total Environment* in 2019. Twenty-eight papers have been published on this issue.

(<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/science-of-the-total-environment/special-issue/10P5TMNL3SQ>)

This special issue aimed to quantify the effects of vegetation restoration on soil quality, soil fertility, land production, hydrological conditions, and ecosystem services and assess the policy implications on ecological management. It discussed the significance and problems under “Grain for Green Program” (GFGP) implementation in Loess Plateau.

b. Global Ecosystems Restoration for SDGs: Implications on soil and water conservation

Prof. Paulo Pereira, Prof. Damia Barcelo, Prof. Panos Panagos, and Prof. Wenwu Zhao will organize a special issue on Global Ecosystems Restoration for SDGs: Implications on soil and water conservation in *Environmental Research* from 2020 to 2021. The special issue kindly invites submissions from various disciplines and is open from September 1st, 2020 to April 30th, 2021. The special issue will mainly address the following scientific issues:

- Ecosystem restoration in, but not limited to warfare affected areas, urban, industrial, mining and agricultural
- Techniques applied for restoration
- Implications of restoration on soil and water ecosystem services
- Implications of soil and vegetation restoration in SDG’s achievement

c. Geography and Sustainability—the official journal of IGU-GFE

Geography and Sustainability, an international journal sponsored by Beijing Normal University and IGU-GFE, is jointly published by Beijing Normal University Press and Elsevier. Prof. Bojie Fu, dean of the Faculty of Geographical Science of Beijing Normal University and vice president of IGU, serves as the chief editor of the journal.

The first issue of *Geography and Sustainability* was published in March 2020. At present, 37 papers have been published in the journal with an average publishing time of 3 months. The journal has been selected as a high-quality journal catalog in the field of geographical resources in China on November 14th. On November 20th, 2020, *Geography and Sustainability* was indexed by the Scopus database.

The articles published in *Geography and Sustainability* have been cited 194 times by Google Scholar, 110 times by Scopus, and 70 times by Web of Science in total (by January 6th, 2021). Among the published articles, 48.6% of articles are from the international institutes. The journal is open to submission. Scope of the journal includes:

- Geographical processes
- Human-Environmental Systems
- Ecosystem services and human wellbeing
- Sustainable development
- Geo-data and model for Sustainability.

For inquiry and paper submission issues, please contact the editorial office: geosus@bnu.edu.cn.

(<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/geography-and-sustainability/>)

D. Other information

In May 2020, Prof. Bojie Fu, the distinguished chair of the IGU-GFE, was named an honorary fellow of the Royal Geographic Society (with the Institute of British Geographers).

Prof. Mike Meadows and Prof. Celine Rozenblat, members of the IGU-GFE were elected as the president and vice-president of the International Geographical Union (IGU) for 2020-2024.

The Research plan for 2020-2024 was made by the IGU-GFE committee. The plan includes the following areas: 1) promote the new journal *Geography and Sustainability* for a wider international audience and while increasing the international influence, 2) regularly organize sessions on the coupled human and natural system and sustainability in international conferences, 3) organize new special issues in prestigious journals, 4) and launch a special working group for youth and early career scientists under IGU-GFE.

C20.15 Geography of Governance

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

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b. Number of commission members

The list of corresponding members has been updated in 2020. As the recruitment is done mainly during the conferences the increase has been small during 2020 compared with past years. In December 2020, the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance has 632 members, from 70 countries, of which 617 are corresponding members.

Albania	1	Japan	10
Algeria	1	Kenya	1
Angola	1	Latvia	1
Argentina	4	Lesotho	1
Australia	11	Luxembourg	1
Austria	7	Mexico	1
Belgium	4	Morocco	1
Bolivia	1	Mozambique	1
Botswana	2	Namibia	1
Brazil	6	Nepal	1
Bulgaria	2	Netherlands	14
Canada	21	New Zealand	6
Cape Verde	9	Nigeria	5
Chile	3	Norway	15
China	8	Oman	2
Colombia	1	Poland	38
Croatia	8	Portugal	11
Cuba	1	Romania	8
Czech Republic	19	Russia	13
Denmark	3	Sao Tome And Principe	8
Estonia	1	Senegal	2
Etyopia	2	Slovakia	10
Finland	14	Slovenia	2
France	11	South Africa	30
Germany	41	South Korea	4
Ghana	1	Spain	15
Greece	4	Sweden	9
Hong Kong	2	Switzerland	15
Hungary	32	Tanzania	1
India	3	Taiwan	1
Iran	1	Turkey	9
Ireland	10	United Kingdom	57
Israel	13	Usa	45
Italy	42	Zambia	1
Jamaica	1	Zimbabwe	1

B. Meetings

Members of the Steering Committee have been active, during 2020, in the organization of scientific meetings focused on themes pertaining to the core subject of the IGU Commission Geography of Governance, as well in the planning of other meetings in the following years. However, due to the restrictions to onsite/in-person meetings and to international travels, almost all these meetings had to be cancelled and postponed. Therefore, part of the activity planned for 2020 had to be rescheduled and previously planned meetings will take place in 2021, if the conditions allow it.

a. Meetings in 2020

XXI April International Academic Conference on Economic and Social Development, Moscow, April 6-10, 2020. The conference was cancelled due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. For more information, see Newsletter 2/2020 and the Commission website.

The 5th International Conference '**Urban e-Planning**', Lisbon, Portugal, 6-7 April 2020. The conference was cancelled and postponed to 2021 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. For more information, see Newsletter 2/2020 and the Commission website.

IGU Thematic Conference, Lecce, Italy, 29 May - 2 June 2020. The conference was cancelled and postponed to 2021 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. For more information, see Newsletter 2/2020 and the Commission website.

Quality Network for Sustainable Tourism – QNeST Project . Adriatic Programme international workshop, Lecce, Italy, May 2020. The conference was cancelled due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. For more information, see Newsletter 2/2020 and the Commission website.

The 3rd **World Conference of the Society for Urban Ecology** - 'Cities as social and ecological systems', Poznań, Poland, 6-8 July 2020 - <https://www.sure2020.org/> Workshop: "Cities between Sprawl and Compaction". The conference was cancelled due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. For more information, see Newsletter 2/2020 and the Commission website.

34th International Geographical Congress, 2020. The congress was cancelled due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. For more information, see Newsletter 2/2020 and the Commission website.

Interdisciplinary Scientific Conference - "**Metropolises in comparison**" - The Metropolitan Institute (Gdańsk, Poland), 15 October 2020: <http://im.edu.pl/konferencjametropolitalna/en/progr/programme/> Participation of IGU CGoG members: Łukasz Mikuła, PhD (Faculty of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań) - "English and German inspirations – the experience of Hanover and Manchester and building metropolitan management structures in Poland"; Prof. Tomasz Kaczmarek, PhD (Faculty of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management, Adam Mickiewicz University Metropolitan Research Centre in Poznań & member of the IGU CGoG Steering Committee). Expert panel.

Conference '**Regional Scenarios in Hungary**', November 2020. The Conference organised by CERS, HAS, took place on 09.11.2020. Ilona Pálné Kovács (Institute for Regional Studies, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary), and member of the IGU-CGoG Steering Committee, was engaged in the organization of the conference.

New Zealand Geographical Society 2020 Conference, 25-27 November 2020. The New Zealand Geographical Society held its 2020 Conference on 25-27 November 2020, in Wellington, New Zealand. Notably, 70% of attendees were in-person, the remainder connecting via Zoom. Among the wide-range of panels were: Politics of water governance; Governance. Jeffrey McNeill, member of the IGU CGoG Steering Committee, co-presented a paper.

Webseminar on "**Quality Network for Sustainable Tourism Network Project- QNeST**" (ADRIATIC-IONIAN PROGRAMME INTERREG V-B TRANSNATIONAL 2014-2020 Axis II SO 2.1) - 14.12.2020, starting from 8.30am to 2.00pm (CET, Rome Time). Organized by the Department of Cultural Heritage - University of Salento, Lecce, Italy. Anna Trono (University of Salento, Lecce, Italy & member of the IGU CGoG Steering Committee) was engaged in the organization of this webinar.

b. Brief summary of the topics addressed

In the period 2016-2020, the aim of the Commission was to explore, although not limited to, the following themes in its conferences, workshops, and panels. The same happened in all meetings planned for 2020 and organized or co-organized by members of the Commission.

- Administrative decentralization and multi-layered governance
- Local and regional government / governance
- Urban and metropolitan governance
- Local and regional government reforms
- Administrative fragmentation and merger reforms
- Decentralized cooperation and development
- Inter-municipal cooperation
- Cross-border municipal and regional cooperation
- Governance of spatial planning processes
- Governance of complex environmental systems
- Governance in conflict and post-conflict areas
- Citizen participation in local and regional government
- Age-, disabled- and gender-responsive approaches in urban, local and regional government policies
- Administrative systems and local public service delivery
- Local government finance systems
- Local Government, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Habitat-III New Urban Agenda
- Anthropocene: changes and challenges for urban, local and regional governance
- The use of ICTs in urban, local and regional governance: e-Government, e- Governance and Citizen e-Participation
- Transparency, accountability and good governance in local and regional government
- Big Data and new digital research methods in urban governance

c. Meetings planned to be held in 2021 and later years

The meetings planned for 2021 are dependent on the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic. Several scenarios have been considered: on-site; hybrid; and on-line meetings. The final decisions will be taken near the date of each event taking into account the recommendations and norms defined by the relevant health authority.

Interdisciplinary Scientific Conference “The modeling of metropolitan self-government”, The Metropolitan Institute (Gdańsk, Poland), 25-26 February 2021. Prof. Tomasz Kaczmarek (Faculty of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management, Adam Mickiewicz University Metropolitan Research Centre in Poznań & member of the IGU CGoG Steering Committee) is member of the Scientific Council responsible for interdisciplinary scientific conference “The modeling of metropolitan self-government”, during which invited guests – scientists, experts and officials – will present the concepts of functionality of metropolitan government, including catalogs of public tasks or competences for their implementation. All this is done in order to introduce new content to the scientific circulation and to provide the necessary knowledge to the legislator facing the necessity of reform. Program: 25 February 2021, “Own tasks of the metropolitan government”; 26 February 2021, “Competences for the implementation of the metropolitan government’s own tasks”.

AAG 2021 Annual Meeting - Seattle, USA - April 7 - 11, 2021. Carlos Nunes Silva, chair of the IGU CGoG, organizes 6 sessions under the title "Local Governance and the COVID-19 Pandemic: impacts, challenges, responses" (I to VI). The session 'Local Governance and the COVID-19 Pandemic: impacts, challenges, responses' aims to examine and discuss the impact of the pandemic on central-local government relations and on local government policies, on public services, housing, social services, mobility, and spatial planning. It discusses the actions taken by local government towards the COVID-19 pandemic, and its outcomes and impacts, during the first and second waves of the pandemic, as well as lessons for the future. These sessions are associated with the Action Plan developed by the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance - 'IGU-CGoG COVID-19 Action Plan' (<https://sites.google.com/view/igucgog-covid19/home>). More information, here: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/next-conferences>

IGU Commission Geography of Governance Annual Conference - June 2021. The 2021 Annual Conference of the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance on "New Challenges of Local Governance in Times of Uncertainty and Complexity", organized in collaboration with the Adam Mickiewicz University, will be held in Poznań, Poland, on 23-25 June 2021. More

information:
<https://sites.google.com/view/geogov2021/home>

IGU Thematic Conference, Lecce, Italy, May 2021. The IGU Thematic Conference, to be held in Lecce, Italy, on 26 - 28 May 2021, is co-organised by the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance and five other IGU Commissions. The Conference theme is "Heritage Geographies: Politics, Uses and Governance of the Past". The IGU Commission Geography of Governance proposed 4 sessions.

34th International Geographical Congress, 2021. The IGU Commission on Geography of Governance participates with 9 sessions in the 34th International Geographical Congress "Geography: bridging the continents" to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 16 - 20 August 2021. More information: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/home> .

The 5th **International Conference 'Urban e-Planning'**, Lisbon, Portugal, 2021. The 5th International Conference 'Urban e-Planning', takes place in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2021 (exact date dependent on the evolution of the pandemic restrictions). The Conference addresses 3 main themes: 1. Governance and Planning of Smart Cities; 2. Citizen E-Participation in Urban Governance; 3. Urban e-Planning and the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Conference is endorsed by the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance. More information: <https://sites.google.com/view/uep2020-conference/home>

The **III International Conference on Urban Planning in Africa**, Lisbon, Portugal, 2021. The IGU Commission on Geography of Governance will be associated with the AUPRN - African Urban Planning Research Network in the organization of the III International Conference on Urban Planning in Africa to be held in 2021 in the University of Lisbon (exact date dependent on the evolution of the pandemic restrictions).

IGU-UGI Paris 2022: 100e anniversaire de la fondation de l'UGI / 100th IGU anniversary - 'Le temps des géographes' - 'Time for geographers', Paris, 18-22 July 2022. The IGU Commission on Geography of Governance will participate.

Plan for other meetings (workshops / conferences / panels). We also aim to take part in other meetings in Europe (RGS-IBG, AESOP, etc.), North America (AAG, UAA, etc.), South America (e.g., Latin America Geographers), Asia (e.g., China, Japan), Oceania (e.g., NZGS-IAG), and in Africa (North and sub-Saharan).

C. Networking

Networking activities during 2020 were strongly limited due to the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. We expect to return to normal activity during 2021.

The IGU Commission launched, on 25 March 2020, a collaborative Action Plan and research project focused on the 'Local Government response towards the COVID-19 Pandemic' (more information: <https://sites.google.com/view/igucgog-covid19/home>)

D. Publications

The list of publications pertaining to the theme of the Commission on Geography of Governance, authored or edited by members of the Steering Committee is below. Some of the collective works listed engage also corresponding members and some are fully based on initial contributions presented in meetings or sessions organized or endorsed by the Commission in previous years.

a. Newsletters

IGU CGoG (C16.12) IGU Commission Geography of Governance - Newsletter 1/2020 (January-June 2020)

IGU CGoG (C20.15) IGU Commission Geography of Governance - Newsletter 2/2020 (July-December 2020)

b. Books

Pálné Kovács, Ilona (2019). A középszintű kormányzás helyzete és perspektívái Magyarországon (State of the art and perspectives of meso-level governance in Hungary). Budapest: Dialóg Campus, 222 pp.

Silva, Carlos Nunes & Trono, Anna (eds.) (2020). Local Governance and the New Urban Agenda. Springer (Local and Urban Governance Book Series, ISBN 978-3-030-47134-7).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.) (2020). *Citizen-Responsive Urban E-Planning: Recent Developments and Critical Perspectives*. Hershey-New York: IGI Global (ISBN 9781799840183).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.) (2020). *Contemporary Trends in Local Governance - Reform, Cooperation and Citizen Participation* Springer (Local and Urban Governance Book Series, ISBN 978-3-030-52515-6).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.) (2020). *Routledge Handbook of Urban Planning in Africa*. London/New York: Routledge (ISBN 9781138575431).

Trono, Anna & Ruppi, Francesca (eds.) (forthcoming). *Sustainable Tourism and Cultural Routes In the Ionian and Adriatic Regions*. Panico Publisher.

Trono, Anna, Rizzo, Luca Simone & Mansfeld, Yoel (eds.) (in preparation). *Sustainable Tourism And Cultural Routes In The Ionian And Adriatic Regions*. World Scientific.

Trono A., Servantie A. & Sánchez García E. (eds) (forthcoming). *Emperor Charles V and the beginnings of globalization. The Mediterranean, The Kingdom of Naples and Terra d'Otranto on a New World Stage*, Tabpublisher.

c. Book chapters

Bennett, Robert J. (2020). 'Regions in the UK'. In: Jordi Marti Henneberg (ed.). *European Regions (1870-2000)*. Palgrave.

Maeda, Yosuke (2020). *Community and crime prevention (community policing)*. In: Editorial Board of The Encyclopedia of New Geopolitics (eds.) *The Encyclopedia of New Geopolitics*. Maruzen Publishing, Tokyo, pp. 26-27. [Japanese]

Maeda, Yosuke (2020). *Development of intra-municipality decentralization systems in Japan*. In: Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.) *Contemporary Trends in Local Governance: Reform, Cooperation and Citizen Participation*. Springer.

Maeda, Yosuke (forthcoming). *Changing Community Governance in the Coastal Fishing Regions*. In: Ikeguchi, Akiko, Yokoyama, Takafumi & Sakita, Seishiro. (eds.) *Adaptive fisheries governance in changing coastal regions in Japan*. Springer.

Pálné Kovács, Ilona (2020). 'Changing Paradigm of Local Governance in Hungary'. In: Carlos Nunes Silva & Anna Trono (eds.). *Local Governance in the New Urban Agenda*. Springer.

Pálné Kovács, Ilona (2020). 'Governance without power? The fight of the Hungarian counties for survival'. In: Carlos Nunes Silva (ed.). *Contemporary Trends in Local Governance*. Springer.

Silva, Carlos Nunes & Trono, Anna (2020). 'Local Governance in the New Urban Agenda: An Introduction'. In: Carlos Nunes Silva & Anna Trono (eds.). *Local Governance in the New Urban Agenda*. Springer.

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). 'Decentralization and the New Urban Agenda: The Case of Angola'. In: Carlos Nunes Silva & Anna Trono (eds.). *Local Governance in the New Urban Agenda*. Springer.

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). 'Ancient, Colonial and Post-Colonial Urban Planning in Africa - An Introduction', In: Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.). *Routledge Handbook of Urban Planning in Africa*. London/New York: Routledge (ISBN 9781138575431).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). *Citizen Participation in Spatial Planning in Portugal 1920-2020. Non-Participation, Tokenism and Citizen Power in Local Governance*. In Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.) *Contemporary Trends in Local Governance - Reform, Cooperation and Citizen Participation* Springer.

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). *Global Trends In Local Governance*. In Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.) *Contemporary Trends in Local Governance - Reform, Cooperation and Citizen Participation* Springer.

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). *Introduction: Smart Digital Technologies and the 'Ladder' of Citizen-Responsive Urban E-Planning*. In Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.). *Citizen-Responsive Urban E-Planning: Recent Developments and Critical Perspectives*. Hershey-New York: IGI Global, p.1-12.

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). 'Local Governance and Urban Planning: Centralization, De-Concentration and Decentralization in Africa' In: Silva, Carlos Nunes (ed.). *Routledge Handbook of Urban Planning in Africa*. London/New York: Routledge (ISBN 9781138575431).

d. Articles in peer-reviewed international journals and Conference presentations

Maeda, Yosuke (2020). *The annual review of political geography in Japan*. *Japanese Journal of Human Geography* 72 (3): 228-231. [Japanese]

McNeill, Jeffrey (2019). *Benefiting from the regional problem: the politics of 60 years of regional*

development. *New Zealand Geographer*, 75(3) doi.org/10.1111/nzg.12237

Asquith, A., Stockley, E., & McNeill, Jeffrey (2020). Amalgamation and Auckland City: A New Zealand success story? *Australian Journal of Public Administration* 10.1111/1467-8500.12457

Razin, Eran (2020) Checks and balances in centralized and decentralized planning systems: Ontario, British Columbia and Israel, *Planning Theory and Practice* 21: 254-271.

Razin, Eran; Anna Hazan & Osnat Elron (2020): The rise and fall (?) of public-private partnerships in Israel's local government, *Local Government Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/03003930.2020.1832892

Schmitt, Peter (2020). 'Learning from elsewhere? A critical account on the mobilization of metropolitan policies', in: Zimmermann, K.; Galland, D. & Harrison, J. (eds.). *Metropolitan Regions, Planning and Governance*. Springer: Berlin, New York, pp. 79-95.

Schmitt, Peter & Smas, Lukas (2020). Dissolution rather than Consolidation - Questioning the Existence of the Comprehensive-Integrative Planning Model, *Planning, Practice and Research*, DOI: 10.1080/02697459.2020.1841973.

Lukas Smas & Peter Schmitt (2020). Positioning regional planning across Europe, *Regional Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/00343404.2020.1782879

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2021). Urban E-Planning and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Public Health Response and Transformative Recovery. *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 10 (2).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2021). A decade of Urban e-Planning. In: *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 10 (3).

Cerutti, Stefania, de Falco, Stefano, Trono, Anna (2020). Europe without barriers: accessible tourism between places and projects, *J-Reading-Journal of Research and Didactics in Geography*, 1, 9, June 2020, pp. 115-127.

Trombino, Gabriella & Trono, Anna (2020). 'Smart mobility and sustainable tourism in urban areas: two case studies in the south of Italy'. In: Carlos Nunes Silva & Anna Trono (eds.). *Local Governance in the New Urban Agenda*. Springer, pp. 349-363.

Trono, Anna (2019). Designing cultural tourism experiences as a self-reinforcing system. In: Daniela Angelina, Jelinčić, Yoel, Mansfeld (eds.). *Creating and Managing Experiences in Cultural Tourism*. World Scientific, pp.121-136.

Trono, Anna (2020). 'Regional reorganisation in Italy: challenges and changes'. In: Carlos Nunes Silva & Anna Trono (eds.). *Local Governance in the New Urban Agenda*. Springer, pp. 179-200.

Trono, Anna (forthcoming). RST and sustainable development In Daniel H., Olsen, Timoty, Dallen (eds). *Handbook of Religious and Spiritual Tourism*. Routledge.

Trono, Anna, Duda, Tomasz & Schmude, Jürgen (eds.) (in preparation). Over Tourism and "Tourism Over". *Recovery from COVID19 Tourism Crisis in Regions with Over and Under Tourism*. World Scientific.

Trono, Anna, Mastronuzzi, Giovanni, Ruppi, Francesca (2019). "Strutture termali nel Salento dal passato al presente. Un caso di studio", in *Geotema*, 60, pp. 89-102.

Trono, Anna, Oliva, Luigi (forthcoming). The Via Francigena del Sud towards Rome: for an innovative spiritual vision, *Bollettino della Società Gografica Italiana BSG*.

e. Book reviews & Conference Reports

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). Book review 'Participatory Design Theory: Using Technology and Social Media to Foster Civic Engagement'. In: *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 9 (2).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). Book review 'Space and Planning in Secondary Cities'. In: *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 9 (3).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). Book review 'The Virtual and the Real in Planning and Urban Design'. In: *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 9(1): 87-88.

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). Book review 'Urban Planning in the Digital Age'. In: *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 9 (4).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2020). Conference Report "International Conference 'Local and Urban Governance. Trends, Challenges and Innovations in a Globalizing World'". In: *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 9(2).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2021). Book review 'Planning for Climate Change'. In: *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 10 (1).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2021). Book review 'Planning History'. In: *International Journal of E-Planning Research*, Vol. 10 (3).

Silva, Carlos Nunes (2021). Book review 'Planning Theory'. In: International Journal of E-Planning Research, Vol. 10 (4).

f. Working papers

Finta, István; Kovács, Katalin & Pálné Kovács, Ilona (2020). The Role of Local Governments in Control the Pandemic in Hungary . In IGU Commission Geography of Governance (2020). Local Government Response Towards Covid-19 Pandemic: a Worldwide Survey and Comparison.

g. Special Issues in peer-reviewed international journals

Carlos Nunes Silva edited a Special Issue on Urban E-Planning and the COVID-19 Pandemic in the International Journal of E-Planning Research, Vol. 10 (2), 2021.

Two special issues/sections are being prepared in the journal 'People, Place And Policy', due to be published at the end of 2020 and in 2021, both co-edited by Tony Gore (University of Sheffield, UK) and Carlos Nunes Silva (University of Lisbon, Portugal):

- People, Place And Policy (PPP) , Vol. 14 (3), 2020 - Special issue on Urban and Local Governance
- People, Place And Policy (PPP) , Vol. 15 (3), 2021 - Special Section on Local and Urban Governance: Trends, Challenges and Innovations in a Globalizing World

E. Commission Website

The current accurate URL of the commission's web site is this: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/>

Besides information about current and future activities, the site serves also as on-line archive of the Commission with all newsletters and information on past steering committees, meetings, publications, and photo galleries related to the commission activities.

The Commission is also associated with a blog and a mailing list focused on issues of local government and local governance:

The blog address is: <http://igugeogov.blogspot.pt/>

The mailing list address is:

<https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/mailling-list>

F. Archival Contributions

All newsletters, flyers, conference programs were sent to the IGU Secretary General and also to the IGU Archive at the University of Leipzig. We use our Commission web page as an archive of the Commission. It provides online open access to all newsletters, photo gallery of our meetings, to the list of conferences and publications, membership, its aims and research themes, as well as an historical overview of the Commission.

C20.16 Geography of Information, Innovation and Technology

The Commission on Geography of Information, Innovation and Technology has had a productive period during the past two years 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.

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

Chair:

Tommi Inkinen, University of Turku, Finland

E-mail: tommi.inkinen@utu.fi

Vice-chair:

Kenji Hashimoto, Waseda University Tokyo, Japan

E-mail: hashimoto@waseda.jp

Executive Secretary:

Philippe Vidal, Université du Havre, France

Email: philippe.vidal@univ-lehavre.fr

Steering Committee Members:

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Emmanouil Tranos, University of Birmingham, UK
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Tan Yigitcanlar, Queensland University of
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b. Honorary members

Aharon Kellerman, University of Haifa, Israel
Email: akeller@univ.haifa.ac.il

Andreas Koch, University of Salzburg, Austria
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Becky Loo, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Email: bpyloo@hku.hk

Maria Paradiso, Università degli Studi del Sannio,
Italy
Email: maria.paradiso@unimi.it

Mark Wilson, Michigan State University, USA
Email: wilsonmm@msu.edu

c. Corresponding members

Currently, there are 116 members on the Commission mailing list. The locations include United States (26), France (10), United Kingdom (8), Germany (8), Japan (7), Italy (7), Korea (5), Greece (5), Australia (4), China (4), Finland (4), Sweden (4), Israel (3), Netherlands (3), Canada (2), India (2), Austria (1), Belgium (1), Czech Republic (1), Cyprus (1), Greenland (1), Ireland (1), New Zealand (1), Nigeria (1), Poland (1), Singapore (1), South Africa (1), Spain (1), and unknown (2).

B. Meetings

With the move to annual IGU meetings the Commission has been able to develop sessions annually. In general, if the large meeting schedule principle continuous to be every two years, we plan to hold our own meetings in non-IGU years. The Commission has been able to include dedicated sessions at other conferences to maintain interest and access to the Commission's core focus on information society, at AAG and Regional Studies events during 2019.

a. Past and future meetings

2019 July – Commission organized a researcher meeting and roundtable discussion in Milan

8.7.2019. The title of the event was “**About Innovation: The Geographies of Disruptions**”. The seminar was the second of the cycle about Urban Innovation. Place and Policy Making for Production and Consumption, promoted by DASTU (Politecnico di Milano) around features and challenges of urban and regional innovation processes. The meeting was organized in collaboration with the Milan Polytechnic. Number of participants: 12.

2019 July – Commission organized a roundtable session as a part of the AESOP 9.–13.7.2019 (Association of European Schools of Planning) global congress in Venice, Italy. The meeting was organized in collaboration with the Commission and Milan Polytechnic. Number of participants: 23.

b. Cancelled meetings in 2020

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak the year 2020 was an unexpected exception in the history of the Commission. Our plans for the year 2020 included the following meetings:

2020 April – Commission support for a session as part of the AAG annual meeting in Denver, Colorado.

2020 June – Mobile Tartu, Commission supports the international conference in Estonia, Tartu, initiated by our past steering group member, Prof. Rein Ahas.

2020 July - the Commission organizes session(s) for the International Urban Planning and Environment Conference to be held in Tartu, Estonia, July 20–23, 2020.

2020 August – Commission organizes/co-organizes three (or up-to five sessions) in the 34th IGC in Istanbul. Three sessions have already been accepted by the local organizers. We expect around 20–30 commission members to participate the event.

None of these events realized. There were free-of-charge webinars substituting the real-life meetings, but their participation is unknown to us as the sessions were reorganized by the local committees. Our main task for 2021 will be in organizing in the 34th IGC the three to five sessions that are allocated to us for the canceled 2020.

C. Networking

Collaboration occurs with scholarly groups and with two journals. Details include:

- IGU collaboration has been with a number of Commissions members including commissions such as Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change, Urban Geography, and the Mediterranean Basin.
- *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.

D. Publications

Information is disseminated regularly to Commission members via e-mail, 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-informationssociety.org (or alternatively <https://journals.openedition.org/netcom/2512>).

Commission has continued to update its website in 2019 with a historical background of the 30-year evolution of the field (and commission itself). The website is also used to disseminate information regarding our up-coming sessions in IGU events.

Commission members have published extensively in the leading journals of the field during 2019–2020. The members have also published books with leading publishers such as Routledge and Springer; and they work actively as editors, editorial board members and reviewers in numerous international journals. Commission members have published a significant amount of scientific books during the period. Selected references to these publications are:

Author: Tan Yigitcanlar & Tommi Inkinen
Book title: Geographies of Disruption
Year of publication: 2019
Publisher: Springer
ISBN: Print 978-3-030-03206-7; Online 978-3-030-03207-4

Editor(s): Tommi Inkinen, Tan Yigitcanlar & Mark Wilson
Book title: Smart Cities and Innovative Urban Technologies
Year of publication: 2020
Publisher: Routledge/Taylor & Francis

Author: Aharon Kellerman
Book title: The Internet City: People, Companies, Systems and Vehicles
Year of publication: 2019
Publisher: Edward Elgar
ISBN: 978 1 78897 358 8

Author: Aharon Kellerman
Book title: Globalization and Spatial Mobilities
Year of publication: 2020
Publisher: Edward Elgar
ISBN: 978 1 78990 121 4

Author: Joana Maria Seguí
Book title: La Geografia dels transports i de les mobilitats al segle XXI
Year of publication: 2019
Publisher: Institut d'Estudis Catalans
ISBN: 9788499654973

Editor(s): Mark Wilson & Stefano di Vida
Book title: Planning and Managing Smaller Events
Year of publication: 2020
Publisher: Routledge/Taylor & Francis
ISBN: 9780367218157

E. Archival Contributions

Our website includes a short description and evolution of the Commission during its 30-years of history. The website also includes the names of successive chairs of the Commission. The history is available at <https://journals.openedition.org/netcom/2512#tocto1n2>

C20.17 Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change

Mission

The Commission's objective is to examine the geographical nature of tourism, leisure and global change. Tourism and leisure are seen as deeply geographical phenomena that do not happen in a socio-spatial vacuum. They are understood as social and cultural activities occurring in space and time. Therefore, tourism and leisure are placed within wider societal contexts and human mobilities at local, regional, national and global scales. The current processes of globalization or global change in tourism geographies affecting communities and environments in different places are not seen as one dimensional but as interactional and interrelated; globalisation and related mobilities in tourism and leisure are also mediated by local and regional factors creating unique outcomes in different places.

The overall objectives of the Commission will be pursued over the life of the Commission through a set of research tasks that are defined through discussions with members and modified as appropriate during Commission meetings and via collaborative publications and other activities.

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

In 2020 the Commission underwent a change of leadership and composition of the Steering Committee members. The new committee lineup (listed below) comprises 6 women and 5 men and has representatives from Europe, Africa, North America, South America, Asia and Oceania. Moreover, between ordinary and honorary members, the Commission works in a diversity of languages (English, German, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Polish, Chinese, Afrikaans, Swedish, Greek, Icelandic, Dutch, Croatian, Japanese and Finnish). In comparison to the commission lineup for 2016-2020, the commission has four new members (*) representing Canada, The Netherlands, Ireland and Croatia. The replaced members of the commission include the chair of the commission Dieter K. Müller (Sweden), and members Tim Coles (UK), Maria Gravari-Barbas (France) and Marek Wieckowski (Poland).

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The commission also has a number of honorary members (previously full members):

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Prof. Sanette Ferreira Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Stellenbosch University, South Africa, slaf@sun.ac.za

Prof. Carolin Funck, Department of Integrated Global Studies, Hiroshima University, Japan, funckc@hiroshima-u.ac.jp

Prof. Jie Zhang, Department of Land Resource and Tourism, Nanjing University, China, jiezhang@nju.edu.cn

Prof Alison Gill, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University, Canada, agill@sfu.ca

Assoc. Prof. Anne-Marie d'Hauteserre, Department of Geography, Tourism & Environmental Planning, University of Waikato, New Zealand, adhautes@waikato.ac.nz

Prof. Jarkko Saarinen, Department of Geography, University of Oulu, Finland, jarkko.saarinen@oulu.fi

Professor Dieter K. Müller, Department of Geography, Umeå University, Sweden, dieter.muller@umu.se

Professor Maria Gravari-Barbas, Institut de Recherche et d'Études Supérieures du Tourisme, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, France, maria.gravari-barbas@wanadoo.fr

Professor Marek Wieckowski, Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Warsaw, Poland, marekw@twarda.pan.pl

Professor Tim Coles, University of Exeter Business School, UK, T.E.Coles@exeter.ac.uk

b. Corresponding Members

Since 2008 and until December 2020, the Commission corresponding member directory was based on the Commission IGUST -listserv: <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/TourismGeography/>, which substituted a manual listing. Unfortunately, the listserv information was unable to support country based member listing, as it is based on members' names and email addresses only. In 2013 a manual inventory was made allowing to identify 631 individual addresses, of which 526 could be related to 67 countries. An update was

made in 2018, with 730 corresponding members in 70 countries listed.

It is important to note that the GoogleGroups service (host platform for the Commission's listserv) ceased to operate in December 2020 and as such, the steering committee are in the process of securing a new host server – with personalised subscription options. In the interim, and considering the reduced emphasis on listservs in academic communication more widely, the Commission has appointed Professor Joseph Cheer as communications manager and his efforts have been key in creating a strong social media presence for the Commission, including new handles on Twitter and Facebook for the dissemination of relevant material.

c. Commission Web Page

The Commission maintains a web page at: www.igutourism.org

This web page will be renewed in 2021 once a new server has been identified. Its content and structure will be reviewed and reconfigured as necessary, taking into account the increased social media presence of the Commission and the new steering committee's goals for 2020-2024. The possibility of creating a simple intranet function will be explored.

B. Meetings

a. IGU meetings 2020

The circumstances deriving from the global Covid19 pandemic has meant that the Commission's face to face activities in 2020 were severely affected and in several cases, cancelled altogether:

IGU Meeting AAG 2020, Denver, 6-10 April 2020 – Cancelled.

IGU Thematic Conference Heritage Geographies: Politics, Uses and Governance of the Past, Lecce, Italy, 29-31 May 2020 – Postponed until May 2021.

34th IGC, Istanbul, 17-21 August, Turkey – Postponed until August 2021 (virtual meeting).

That having been said, the following meetings were able to take place in 'blended' and/or virtual format, in spite of restrictions due to Covid19:

XVII International Colloquium on Tourism AGE in cooperation with the IGU Commission, Barcelona and Maó (Menorca), 5-9 October 2020 (Programme)

b. Sponsored meetings (conference and session sponsorship)

IGU India Panel Session 'Tourism Geographies: Exemplifying Interdisciplinary Research in Geography' – 9th December 2020, convened by Dr Joseph Cheer (Wakayama University, Japan); part of the IGU India International (Virtual) Conference 2020 on Global to Local Sustainability & Future Earth. This panel was a collaboration between the IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change and the AAG Recreation, Tourism and Sport Specialty Group and the session was recorded and streamed via Youtube live.

c. Brief Summary of Activities

An important point of departure for the work plan is that tourism is inherently a geographical phenomenon with social, cultural, economic, political, and environmental significance. Tourism creates links between people and places and connects different cultures and environments. Moreover, tourism is a major force for global change. It creates geographical imaginations, human mobilities and flows of culture, ideas, values, commodities, and capitals, and influences society far beyond the immediate tourism industry. At the same time tourism is embedded in other global processes creating constraints and opportunities for its development. Furthermore, tourism is an important cause for global environmental change.

In a geographical tradition the commission addresses these issues with an integrated approach acknowledging the interrelationship of tourism to wider processes within society and environment. This is done at local, regional, national, and global scales demonstrating links between these scales as well as outcomes of global change for individuals, communities, and societies. Current processes of global change in tourism geographies affecting communities and environments in different places are also mediated by local and regional factors. This creates unique geographical outcomes and contributes to the transformation of place. The commission applies a truly global perspective highlighting development in different parts of the world and through that acknowledging tourism as a formative cause for societal and environmental change in an increasingly interconnected world.

These ambitions can be summarised in a number of objectives to be addressed in the period until the next IGC in 2021. In accordance a set of research 'tasks' were defined as result of the outcomes of previous conferences and will be maintained in 2021:

Task 1: Interpreting the role of tourism and leisure as an agent of and tool for regional change and community development in rural and urban environments, not least as response to global change

Task 2: Examination of the tourism – physical environment nexus, and particularly tourism's interrelationship with global climate change

Task 3: Examination of the interrelationship of tourism, peace, violence, ideology, and political change

Task 4: Understanding tourism's and leisure's role for sense of place, identity, culture, citizenship, and global awareness

Task 5: Bridging the gap between tourism geography and other geographies

Task 6: Contributing to relevant international research programmes such as the IYGU associated with the aims and objectives of the commission

These tasks will be discussed and examined during the whole Commission time span. The table below (covering major meetings with Commission involvement) outlines the comparative international studies that have been undertaken through the various meeting activities outlined above in relation to the goals and objectives of the Commission. The table indicates the extent to which the Commission has embraced particular tasks (T1–T6) through its various meetings as well as ensuring that specific research outputs such as proceedings and other publications are clearly tied to the Commission's objectives and goals.

The Commission intends to extend its collaboration with tourism-related interest groups of national geographical associations during the 2021-2024 period, via co-organisation of events but also via other bilateral initiatives.

Preliminary Work Plan and proposed objectives, 2021-2021

An important point of departure for the commission's objectives is that tourism is inherently a geographical phenomenon with social, cultural, economic, political, and environmental significance. Tourism creates links between people and places and connects different cultures and environments. Moreover, tourism is a major force for global change. It creates geographical imaginations, human mobilities and flows of culture, ideas, values, commodities, and capitals, and influences society far beyond the immediate tourism industry. At the same time tourism is embedded in other global processes

creating constraints and opportunities for its development. Furthermore, tourism is an important cause for global environmental change. In a geographical tradition the commission addresses these issues with an integrated approach acknowledging the interrelationship of tourism to wider processes within society and environment.

Against this background the Commission for the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change plans to focus particularly two interrelated topics during the period 2020-2024:

1. Recovery for Reformation: During the recent COVID19 pandemic tourism is among the most impacted sectors of society. The outbreak of the virus and its global dissemination entailed a situation where almost all tourism was paused on a global level. Pandemics, as for example the SARS-crisis, and other crisis have occurred earlier and research has assessed the impact of such events on tourism. However, the global dimension of the current crisis and its anticipated long-term impacts on the economy, imply that the topic will dominate the debate on tourism for the entire lifespan of the proposed commission. In this context the commission's objectives are:

- Analyzing the impact of the pandemic and other crisis on tourism as an economic activity
- Understanding community responses on tourism decline and develop models for a post-pandemic governance of tourism
- Assessing the impact of the pandemic on individuals and their tourism practices
- Analyzing the dissonance entailed by stakeholders interests for quick short-term recovery and long-term reformation of tourism, respectively

2. Tourism and Agenda 2030: Facing the global challenges to humanity, for example caused by climate change, the Commission will scrutinize how tourism geographies relate to the global sustainable development goals (SDGs). Tourism geographies do not approach tourism as an industry only, but have a long tradition of highlighting other aspects of tourism, also acknowledging planetary boundaries. Hence, the relationship of tourism to economy, society and biosphere have all been addressed previously. Indeed tourism is related to all 17 SDGs and thus, achieving the ambitious goals requires an engagement with tourism geographies. However, the pertinent challenge for the upcoming years is to develop knowledge on how to take action in order to reform tourism and turn it into a positive force

enabling the achievement of the SDGs. Hence, the objectives of the commission in relation to the Agenda 2030 are:

- Analyzing how tourism relates to the 17 SDGs and their sub-goals
- Developing and proposing new business and governance models for aligning tourism with the Agenda 2030 objectives and the SDGs
- Analyzing the interrelationship of tourism and parts of society, economy and the biosphere
- Bridging the gap between tourism geography and other geographies and sciences in order to contribute to a comprehensive understanding of complex challenges

This is a preliminary work plan. The new commission will develop a final version of the objectives and work plan to be implemented in the period 2021-2024.

d. Future Meetings

The Commission plans to organise, sponsor or co-sponsor the following meetings during 2021:

AAG 2021, Online, 7th-11th April 2021 (AAG-RTS specialty group and tourism sessions)

IGU Thematic Conference: Heritage Geographies: Politics, Uses and Governance of the Past, Lecce, Italy, 26th-28th May 2021. Several sessions have been organised by the IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change:

1) Traditional agricultural landscapes, between Heritagization, Commodification and Tourism Sustainability (Chair: Elena Dell'Agnese).

9) Education 'on the move': Exploring the heritage-tourism nexus (Chairs: Chiara Rabbiosi & Alessia Mariotti).

10) Heritage Geographies of Tourism: prospects and challenges (Chairs: Jarkko Saarinen & Velvet Nelson).

17) Heritage, tourism & ICTs in rural/marginal areas. A critical perspective (Chairs: Valentina Albanese & Teresa Graziano).

34th IGC, Istanbul (Online), August 2021 (rescheduled from 2020). The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change will co-organize a number of sessions at this online meeting, including:

- Big data and tourism (Chair: Dieter Müller / Tim Coles)
- Economic geographies of tourism (Chair: Dieter Müller / Tim Coles)
- Evolving geographies of Chinese outbound tourism (Chair: Joseph Cheer / Tim Coles)
- P2P accommodation and tourism destinations beyond metropolitan areas (Chair: Czeslaw Adamiak)
- Overtourism: A contemporary geography of excess and counterprotest (Chair: Joseph Cheer / Claudio Milano)
- Tourism and climate interrelationships (Chair: O. Cenk Demiroglu / Daniel Scott / Michelle Rutty / David R. Perkin)
- Tourism and the Sustainable Development Goals (Chair: Jarkko Saarinen)
- Tourism shaping places (Chair: Velvet Nelson / Marek Wieckowski)

International webinar: Tourism, Space and the Body, May 2021 (provisional title, dates tbc): (organised by Dr Maartje Roelofsen and Dr Julie Wilson, NOUTUR Research Group, Open University of Catalonia in collaboration with the IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change). Online event, free of charge. Web tbc: Info: Maartje.Roelofsen@uoc.edu

Nordic Geographers Meeting 'Multiple Nordic Geographies' (7th – 10th of February 2022), Joensuu Finland. <https://www.ngm2021.fi/> The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change will co-organise a number of sessions at this meeting, including "Tourism and Biopolitics" organised by Maartje Roelofsen, Joseph Cheer and Ben Laquinto and others to be confirmed Deadline for abstracts: August 2021 (the CFPs will be circulated soon).

2022 IGU International Geographical Congress (100 year anniversary), Paris, France: The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change will co-organize a number of sessions at this meeting, as well as a Commission pre-meeting (host / dates tbc).

2024 IGU International Geographical Congress, Dublin, Ireland: The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change will co-organize a number of sessions at this meeting, as well as a Commission pre-meeting (host / dates tbc).

C. Networking

a. Collaboration with other IGU Commissions

During 2020, the Commission collaborated with the Association of Spanish Geographers (AGE) Group 10 on Tourism Geography on the meeting 'International Colloquium on Tourism' AGE in cooperation with the IGU Commission, Barcelona and Maó (Menorca), 5th-9th October 2020 (Programme)

b. Collaboration with other organizations

The Commission co-organized meetings or sponsored sessions in cooperation with the following organizations:

- AAG
- Nordic Geographers Meeting

The Commission intends to extend its collaboration with tourism-related interest groups of national geographical associations during the 2021-2024 period, as reflected in the above work plan.

D. Publications

The Commission is involved in the production of three regular publications:

Tourism Geographies: The scientific journal Tourism Geographies was developed based on the IGU commission collaboration and the commission has a representative position in the editorial board. Former commission chair Alan A. Lew and commission member Joseph Cheer are Editors in chief. A position as consulting editor is reserved for the chair of the commission. Furthermore several commission members are resource editors for Tourism Geographies.

Geographies of Tourism and Global Change: In 2016 several former commission members launched a new book series titled "Geographies of Tourism and Global Change" with Springer edited by commission chair Dieter K. Müller (Umeå University), former commission chair Jarkko Saarinen (University of Oulu) and former commission member Carolin Funck (University of Hiroshima). The series is published in cooperation with the IGU Commission of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change and additional members of the commission are represented on the advisory board of the book series.

Commission Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change Newsletter: The commission newsletter has been published online since 2012

with two issues annually. It is also sent to all corresponding commission members.

Besides these regular publications of the commission a number of ad-hoc publications have been outcome of the events organized by the commission:

Wilson, J. and Müller, D. (2022, forthcoming, eds.). *The New Routledge Handbook of Tourism Geographies*. London: Routledge. This new edition of the handbook will include chapters from several commission members and corresponding members and as such, it is envisaged as an important vehicular project for the Commission.

Chapter: Wilson, J. (2022) Geographical perspectives on tourism, leisure and global change. In: Jerzy Bański (ed.) *Research issues and achievements of modern geography* (Springer IGU Series). Cham: Springer.

Müller D.K. (ed.) (2019). *A Research Agenda for Tourism Geographies*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

Koster, R. L., & Carson, D. A. (2019). *Perspectives on Rural Tourism Geographies*. Cham: Springer.

Mayer, M., Zbaraszewski, W., Pieńkowski, D., Gach, G., & Gernert, J. (2019). *Cross-Border Tourism in Protected Areas*. Cham: Springer

C20.21 Global Understanding

In August 2020, the IGU Commission C16.18 on Global Understanding was successfully extended until 2024. As part of the extension of the Commission, the Steering Committee was also reconstituted. I am very pleased that four new colleagues have agreed to serve on the Commission. The Steering Committee is now even more diverse in regional, generational, and gender regard. Its four new members also bring in fresh expertise and new topics.

Due to the Corona pandemic, most activities of the commission have been performed in form of online conferences, workshop and committee meetings in 2020. Despite these difficult circumstances in the six months of running time of the commission, a quite considerable number of important results could be achieved, and the newly constituted steering committee set a challenging agenda for the years to come, encompassing two main fields: Global Understanding of the urbanization process, and Global Understanding as a basic concept for the implementation of the SDGs.

Benno Werlen (Chair)

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

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b. Corresponding members

The commission's newsletter has a total number of 1,495 subscribed contacts.

Nationalities are as follows:

Argentina	6	Italy	21
Australia	13	Japan	36
Austria	14	Korea (South)	10
Belgium	21	Luxembourg	6
Brazil	32	Netherlands	13
Canada	13	New Zealand	7

Chile	5	Norway	8
China	20	Poland	9
Czech Republic	8	Portugal	10
Denmark	6	Russia	11
Finland	6	South Africa	211
France	33	Spain	11
Germany	279	Sweden	11
Hongkong	9	Switzerland	32
India	9	Taiwan	22
Israel	4	United Kingdom	32
		Unknown	566

B. Meetings and Events

UN & WAAS Conference “Global Leadership in the 21st Century. Strategies for Transformative Global Leadership”, June 15-19, 2020

Benno Werlen delivered two presentations on Global Understanding at the UN & WAAS (World Academy of Art & Science) Conference “Global Leadership in the 21st Century. Strategies for Transformative Global Leadership”. The presentations were held in the panels on “Civil Society and Youth: New Strategies for Transformative Impact” and “Master Degree Program for Global Transformative Leadership”.

UNESCO MOST/BRIDGES Online Workshop, July 6-7, 2020

The paper “Global Understanding as a Research Paradigm” was given by Benno Werlen at a UNESCO online workshop within the MOST/BRIDGES program, an alliance under the auspices of the human and social science sector of UNESCO. The presentation focused the basic program of a possible UN Science Decade of Global Understanding.

Online Conference “Humanities and Social Sciences for Sustainability”, October 21-22, 2020

The online conference “Humanities and Social Sciences for Sustainability”, organized by Benno Werlen, was held from October 21-22, 2020, at the virtual Dornburg Palaces (Jena, Germany). Under the auspices of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, 24 speakers and discussants from all parts of the world debated new strategies to strengthen humanities and social sciences perspectives in sustainability research and policies. The conference offered a broad variety of topics

relevant to different groups, from researchers in the social and natural sciences and the humanities, to decisionmakers in science policy, leaders of scientific institutions, or social activists and artists. The online event was broadcast live and attracted almost 1.000 views during the two days and dozens of comments and questions in the digital live chat. Partners of the conference included the German Commission for UNESCO, the World Academy of Art & Science (WAAS), the Academia Europaea, The Club of Rome, the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH) as well as the International Geographical Union.

One of the conference's recurring key topics were the epistemological limits of many of the established approaches to sustainability research. Mamphela Ramphele, Copresident of The Club of Rome, called for a shift from the current paradigm of universality to a "pluriversal perspective." This change of perspective towards pluriversality could help overcome the top-down logic of current sustainability strategies and promote culturally and regionally differentiated paths to global sustainability. Another thematic focus was the production and the role of knowledge in processes of social transformation. In particular, the problem of co-production of knowledge together with non-scientific actors was discussed. There was a great consensus that in order to address concrete social problems successfully, a shift from the role model of the expert (authority) to the participant on equal footing (authenticity) is necessary. Furthermore, it was pointed out that (scientific) knowledge alone is not sufficient for motivating far-reaching change. Amongst other things, art was discussed as a way to create resonance among the broad public and foster understanding for the need to change everyday practices. Finally, a series of papers drew attention to the current conditions of multi- and transdisciplinary research. It was suggested that funding policies, career tracks, or publication systems should be reorganized in order to increase funding of research beyond established disciplinary silos, and beyond the boundaries of Academia. Given the cultural and social nature of the sustainability crisis, the social sciences and humanities need to be given greater weight in transdisciplinary research projects, the discussants argued.

The results of the conference will be summarized and published as the "Jena Declaration" in early 2021. In addition to the IGU and individual signatories, support from CIPSH, WAAS, The Club of Rome, and the Academia Europaea is sought for the declaration.

C. Networking

Collaboration with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

The commission established a new collaboration with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) on the topic of knowledge mobilization. Benno Werlen (commission chair) together with Karsten Gaebler (commission secretary) and Joanne Kauffman produced the thought leadership paper "Future Knowledge Mobilization for Deep Societal Transformations" on behalf of SSHRC and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. The paper was published as part of a whole series on knowledge mobilization that addressed topics such as open education, geographically embedded knowledge, or intercultural and international research with Indigenous and rural peoples. The project undertaken by Werlen, Gaebler and Kauffman developed guidelines for knowledge mobilization based upon a series of interviews with experts in the field of transdisciplinary sustainability science and science policy. The results will not only stimulate debate on how to successfully disseminate scientific knowledge and co-develop sustainable futures but also on ways to promote diversity in knowledge production and foster more inclusive perspectives.

Fellowship of the World Academy of Art & Science (WAAS)

On June 29, 2020, commission chair Benno Werlen was appointed as Fellow of the World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS). Under the motto "Leadership in thought that leads to action," the Academy brings together more than 700 scholars and artists from all fields to address global challenges and "serve the common good of all humanity." In the past decades, the Academy has emerged as an important voice of transdisciplinary, socially responsible research. The fellowship will be used to facilitate a closer cooperation of the commission with UN Organizations in the fields of education and research, as well as strengthening the awareness for the need of geographical perspectives for the big challenges of the present.

Collaboration with the International Council for Philosophy and the Human Sciences (CIPSH)

The commission chair Benno Werlen was appointed as member of the scientific committee of the European Humanities Conference (EHC) 2021, scheduled for May 5-7 online from Lisbon. The EHC is co-organized by CIPSH and UNESCO's

Social and Human Sciences Program. The contribution includes a programmatic proposition entitled ‘Alliance for Global Understanding – A new Mindset to Sustainability’, also presented in form of a short video to the general public.

D. Publications

Vintar Mally, Katja (2020): The environmental price of socio-economic development: worldwide trends from 1990 to 2016. In: European journal of geography 11, 2, pp. 137-153.

Vintar Mally, Katja (2020): The performance of European Union countries in decoupling socio-economic progress from environmental impacts. In: Dela, 54, pp. 105-123.

Werlen, Benno; Kauffman, Joanne; Gaebler, Karsten (2020): Future Knowledge Mobilization for deep societal transformations. In: Canadian Commission for UNESCO (Ed.): Imagining the future of Knowledge Mobilization. Perspectives from UNESCO Chairs, pp. 113-126.

Werlen, Benno & Blumenthal, Howard (2020): “Global Understanding, Education, and Sustainability.” In: UNESCO Education Sector (Ed.): Humanistic Futures of Learning. Perspectives from UNESCO chairs and UNITWIN networks. Paris: UNESCO, pp. 87-90.

Commission website

<https://iguglobalunderstanding.jimdofree.com>

C20.22 Hazard and Risk

A. Membership

The following 10 people are the current members of the steering committee (SC):

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There is 122 corresponding members who regularly receive information via e-mail. The members are from the following countries (number of people in parentheses): Bangladesh (1), Brazil (1), Cameroon (1), Chile (2), China (34), China (HK) (1), Fiji (1), France (3), India (16), Indonesia (1), Iran (2), Iraq (1), Israel (1), Italy (3), Japan (13), Kuwait (1), Mexico (1), Myanmar (1), Nepal (1), Oman (1),

Poland (1), Portugal (1), Romania (4), Russia (1), Singapore (2), Slovenia (1), Spain (1), Taiwan (5), Turkey (1), UK (2), USA (8), and Vietnam (1)

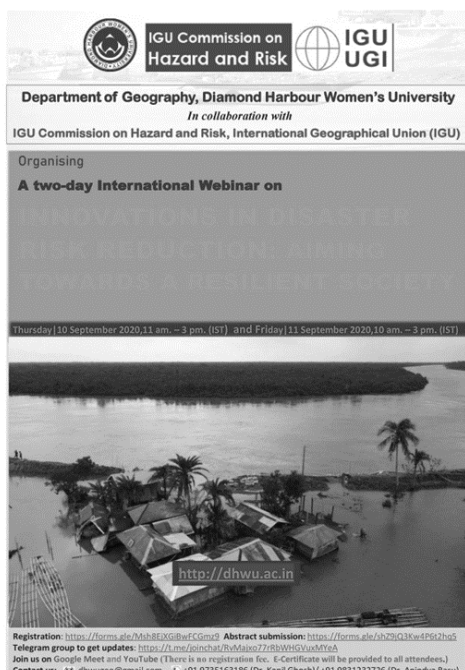
B. Meetings

a. Meetings and Events 2020

1. Co-organizing the **IGU Thematic Conference on Agriculture, Food, Water, Biodiversity and Health in Changing Climate**, at Bardhaman University, Bardhaman, India, on March 6–8, 2020

This thematic conference was organized by the Department of Geography, the University of Burdwan, India, along with the five IGU Commissions: Biogeography and Biodiversity, Climatology, Geo-heritage/Geo-parks, Land use and Land Cover Changes, and our Hazard and Risk commission. More than 200 papers were presented during the conference. Participants were from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Australia and Sri Lanka. Although the chair of our commission, Takashi Oguchi, tried to attend the conference to deliver a talk at a plenary session, he could not get a visa to enter India due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, he sent the video file of his talk, and it was played at the session.

2. Co-organizing the two-day international webinar: **Innovations in Disaster Risk Reduction: Aiming towards a Resilient Society**, on Sept. 10–11, 2020.



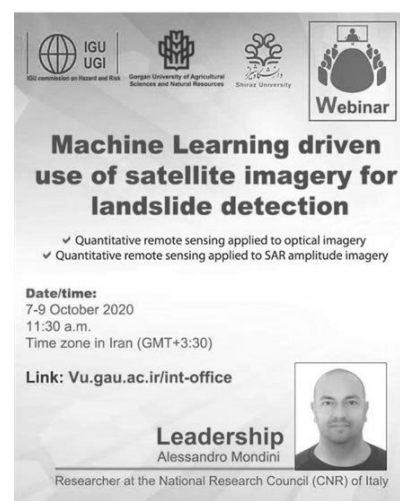
Poster of the webinar organized by DHWU and our commission

This webinar focusing on disaster risk reduction was organized by the Department of Geography, Diamond Harbour Women's University (DHWU), India, with our commission. About 70 papers were presented in two plenary sessions and six technical sessions, and presenters were from India, Bangladesh, Italy, Japan, Poland, and South Africa. Three SC members of our commission, Takashi Oguchi, Alessandro Mondini, and Veena Joshi became resource persons of the webinar, and they gave talks at plenary sessions. In addition, three other SC members of our commission, Masumi Zaiki, Jr-Chung Huang, and Edilia Jaque Castillo became members of the Advisory Committee of the webinar.



Screenshot of the webinar. Veena Joshi (upper left) and Takashi Oguchi (upper right) were from our commission. Sujit Mandal (lower left) from DHWU was the main convener of the webinar.

3. Supporting the three-day online seminar: **Machine Learning Driven Use of Satellite Imagery for Landslide Detection**, on October 7–9, 2020



Alessandro Mondini, a steering committee member of our commission, became the academic

leader of this thematic online seminar organized by Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Iran. He gave a series of talks on quantitative remote sensing applied to optical and SAR amplitude imagery. Our commission became an official supporter of the seminar.

4. Co-organizing the **IGU GeoNight Event** in Japan on December 19, 2020

As one of IGU GeoNight events in 2020, our commission organized the Workshop on Disaster Reduction and Digital Maps in collaboration with the Japan National Committee for IGU, Outreach Research Group of the Association of Japanese Geographers, and the Center for Spatial Information Science, the University of Tokyo. It was an online event because of COVID-19. Eighteen people including high school and university students, graduate students, high school teachers, researchers, and governmental officials attended the event. At the beginning, the chair of our commission, Takashi Oguchi gave a lecture. Then PhD students of his laboratory conducted online exercises of digital mapping in relation to natural hazards.

2020/12/19 IGU GeoNight

防災×デジタル地図

講演 「GISの防災分野への貢献」
C SIS 小口高 東京大学 空間情報科学センター 教授

ワークショップ 「GISで防災情報をみてみよう！」
実習

身近な地域や世界のいろいろな地域の自然環境や人間生活の情報を、デジタルの電子地図にして分析するコンピュータのソフトをGIS(地理情報システム)とよびます。このプログラムでは、防災でのGISの活用事例を紹介したり、実際に防災情報をGISで利用する方法を実習形式で解説します。

プログラム概要

- 日時: 12/19 17:00~19:00
- 開催方法: オンライン(Zoom)
- 対象者: どなたでも可 (デジタルマップ初心者、GISに関心のある方)
- 難易度: 高校生~大学1、2年生レベル
- 定員: 50名

参加希望者は、12/11までに、下記より申し込みください
<https://forms.gle/7EoyGRdzHFFnZQH99>

主催: 日本学術会議地理学委員会GIS分科会、日本地理学会地理学のアウトリーチ研究グループ、国際地理学連合(GSI)ハザードリスク委員会、東京大学空間情報科学センター

b. Future Meetings and Events

1. Co-organizing the webinar: **Geospatial Technology for Sustainable Development** on February 5 and 6, 2021.

The Department of Geography, University of Mysore, India, plans to have the GIS-related webinar in collaboration with some IGU commissions including ours. Details of the webinar will be announced soon. The chair of our

commission, Takashi Oguchi, will be one of keynote speakers.

2. Co-organizing the **ICEO & SI Conference** in 2021

The ICEO & SI Conference has been held annually by TGEO (Taiwan Group on Earth Observations) and our commission was a co-organizer of the ICEO & SI in 2019. Our commission was supposed to be a co-organizer of the ICEO & SI in 2020 at National Central University, Taoyuan, Taiwan, on June 21–24, 2020. However, the conference was cancelled due to COVID-19. If the ICEO & SI will be held in 2021, our commission is likely to be a co-organizer.

3. Official partner / sponsor of the **Geomorphometry 2021 Conference** in Perugia, Italy, on September 6–10, 2021

The Geomorphometry Conference, focusing on quantitative land surface analysis, is usually held every one or two years. The 2020 conference was planned to be held by the Research Institute for Geo-Hydrological Protection of the Italian National Research Council (CNR IRPI) and the Department of Physics and Geology of the University of Perugia, but was postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19. Our commission is an official partner of the conference. Alessandro Mondini, an SC member of our commission, is working for the CNR-IRPI, and has been negotiating with the conference organizing committee as a representative of our commission.

4. Session at the **34th International Geographical Congress** in Istanbul, Turkey, on August 17–21, 2021.

For the IGU Congress in Turkey, our commission has proposed a session “Contribution of Geography to Understanding Natural Disasters: Research, Education, and Society”. The session will be chaired by two SC members of our commission: Takashi Oguchi and Marie-Jeanne Royer.

C. Publications

URL of the website of commission:

http://oguchaylab.csis.u-tokyo.ac.jp/IGU_Hazard/index.html

C20.25 Islands

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

Chair: Huei-Min Tsai, Professor
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Vice Chair: Annette Breckwoldt, Researcher
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Executive Secretaries:

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Su-Hsin Lee, Professor
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Steering Committee Members:

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Tessa Minter, Assistant Professor
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b. 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
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c. 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:

- 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.)
- Steering Committee meeting via webinar at Jan 11, 2021. (Participants:10 Steering Committee members and executive secretary)
- 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.
- 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.
- 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)

- 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)
- 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**:

- Strengthen communication networks among island geographic researchers and island communities, primarily through the Island Commission website, Facebook, and newsletters.
- 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
- 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.
- 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.

- 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.
- 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 context’s 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.

D. Publications

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)

Journal of Marine and Island Cultures / International open access journal, SCOPUS / Website: <http://jmico.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)

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>

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/>

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>

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.

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>

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

C20.25 Commission's website:

<http://geogsoc.org.tw/IGU-Islands/>

Commission's Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/IGU_Islands-293879944568925

C20.26 Karst

A. Membership

Steering Committee

Chair: Prof (Associate) Dr. Eko Haryono
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Vice Chair : Prof. Junbing Pu
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Corresponding Members

Total corresponding Members of KC-IGU is 279
from 35 countires. The number of members by
countries is shown in the following table.

Australia	5	Israel	1
Austria	6	Italy	19
Belgium	12	Japan	4
Bermuda	1	Poland	9
Bosnia	1	Portugal	4
Basil	3	Korea	2
Bulgaria	2	Romania	1
Canada	4	Rusia	15
China	27	Serbia	3
Croatia	15	Slovakia	5
Czech Republic	6	Slovenia	17
French	33	South Africa	2
Germany	11	Spain	11
Greece	3	Turkey	2
Hungary	15	UK	7
Indonesia	10	Ukarine	1
Iran	1	US	20
Ireland	1	Total	279

B. Meetings

a. Previous Meetings

18-20 August 2020:

*International Conference on Conservation of
Fragile Karst Resources – A Workshop on
Sustainability and Community in support of
UNESCO science programs (karst2020.com).*

The conference was hosted by former KC member
(Prof. Dr. Cristopher Grove) and present IGU-Karst
Commission Committee member (Dr. Lee Anne
Bledsoe) and, Western Kentucky University in
collaboration with Karst Commssion-IGU, Man

and the Biosphere (MAB), World Heritage Convention (WHC), Global Geopark Network (GGN), UNESCO/IUGS International Geoscience Program Project #661 (IGCP), International Association of Hydrogeologists Karst Commission (IAH KC), International Research Center on Karst under the auspices of UNESCO (IRCK), World Karst Aquifer Map (WOKAM) Program, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), IUCN Cave and Karst Working Group.

The purpose of this meeting is to enhance communication and the sharing of ideas and resources between major international conservation and science programs that protect, study, or manage cave and karst resources. The meeting brought together (virtually) a diverse group of managers, scientists, educators, and community partners to share successes and challenges in promoting sustainability and community involvement while protecting fragile karst ecosystems.

20 December 2020:

Karst session at the *International Conference on Global to Local Sustainability & Future Earth* organized by Department of Geography, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, India.

Karst session was assigned to discuss sustainable management of karst. During the discussion four panelists were invited representing India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Eastern Europe.

October, 10 Nov 2020 , and 11 Jan 2021:

CaveMAB series virtual meeting hosted by Dr. Lea Anne Bledsoe (Western Kentucky University) to discuss road map to discuss activities road to International Cave and Karst Year 2021.

The meeting discussed a cave clean up movement plan. How to promote and awareness raising, how to inventory with the help of geography students (mapping) and of the wider publics; how to organize of volunteers: collection of applications – because people from all over the country wanted to participate; defining of garbage collection spots/sites according.

b. Future Meeting Plans

2021:

Serial virtual talks ‘Road to International Cave and Karst Year 2021’. Held on March up to June 2021

The meeting will invite steering committee members and partners to give talk in promoting better cave and karst protection and management. Among the theme will be scheduled are:

- Disseminate and discussion on new-published Guidelines for Geo-conservation in Protected and Conserved Areas published by IUCN. The guideline was prepared by Cave and Karst Working Group IUCN where some members are former and present KC-IGU steering committee.
- Disseminate and discussion on revised Guidelines for Cave and Karst Protection. The book is prepared by Prof. Dr. David Gillieson, one of KC-IGU steering committee from School of Geography, Faculty of Science The University of Melbourne.

Karst session on 34th International Geographical Congress 2021, 16-20 August, Turkey.

KC-IGU will host two topics:

- Global Karst Critical Zone (KCZ) chaired by Prof. Dr. Jianhua Cao from International Research Centre on Karst, China. The session will discuss the nature of Karst Critical Zone that is the most susceptible to environmental change and disturbances. The discussion seeks to have better understanding of KCZ in order to anticipate and mitigate karst environmental deterioration.
- Land Use Planning in Karst Region, Chaired by Dr. Eko Haryono from Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia. The session invites karst scientist to share and discuss best practice on karst zonation for better karst management.

18th International Congress of Speleology, 21-31 July, Lion France.

The International Cave and Kart Year (ICKY 2021) will be inaugurated in the conference. KC-IGU is one of the patronage in the initiation of ICKY-2021. The ICKY 2021 will be launched in the 29th Januari 2021. KC-IGU will contribute a serial activities heading to conference in July.

2022-2023:

Currently there are regular Regional Geographical Conferences. Karst Commission will host a session within these following regional conferences:

- Asian Geographical Congress

- American Geographical Congress
- Euro-Geography Conference

2024:

35th International Geographical Congress

Karst commission will host two sessions, the topics has not been decided yet. It will be decided during the meeting in 2023.

C. Networking

KC-IGU is actively communicating with KC-International Hydrogeologist Association, International Union of Speleology, European Federation of Speleology, Asian Union of Speleology.

D. Publications

Newsletter

KC-IGU will prepare a monthly Newsletter starting from January 2021.

Monograph

Karst commission is planning to publish book chapter, entitled:

World Subterranean Heritage diversity organized by Elena Trofimova, the former chair of KC-IGU. Sixteen manuscripts have submitted and edited. The book is now in the final editing.

Land use planning in karst landscape. The book is planned to be published in 2024. The book is planned to share best practices in karst zonation for better karst management.

Website

KC-IGU is preparing a website and will be launched in the end of January 2021. The website is intended to share information and to promote international research collaboration of the members as well as other institution.

Karst Geo-Portal

KC-IGU plan to establish karst Geo-Portal to store karst data base of the world. By having geo-portal, information on karst of the world can be assessed easily to facilitate karst zonation and karst management. The lack data is one main constrain in understanding karst environmental setting and in managing karst area.

C20.27 Land Degradation and Desertification (COMLAND)

Purpose and Scope of Comland

Most environments are affected by common factors that 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.

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

Chair:

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Secretary:

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Associate Prof. Andrea Vacca
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Associate Prof. Lea Wittenberg
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University of Haifa
Haifa, Israel
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Steering Committee Changes:

Associate Prof. Andrea Vacca retired from the Chair
position after 4 years and resumed his position as a
Steering Committee member.

Dr. Matija Zorn was nominated and approved by the
Executive Committee to the Chair position after
Assoc Prof Vacca's tenure.

New Steering Committee members were welcomed:

- Prof. Sunil Kumar De (India)
- Dr. Chiaki T. Oguchi (Japan)

Dr. Gregor Ollesch (Germany) retired from the
Steering Committee after his term expired.

b. Corresponding Members

Unknown	30	Korea, Rep.	3
Australia	27	New Zealand	3
USA	22	Slovenia	3
Poland	18	Canada	2
China	17	China, Rep. (Taiwan)	2
United Kingdom	15	Thailand	2
Israel	13	Albania	1
Germany	12	Algeria	1
Iceland	11	Argentina	1
Brazil	8	Belgium	1
Italy	8	China (Hong Kong)	1
India	8	Greece	1
Netherlands	6	Iran	1

Portugal	6	Ireland	1
South Africa	6	Mexico	1
Spain	6	Mongolia	1
Austria	5	Nigeria	1
France	5	Romania	1
Hungary	5	Russia	1
Japan	5	Singapore	1
Armenia	3	Sweden	1
Chile	3	UAE	2
Finland	3	TOTAL	274

People are welcome to join COMLAND by sending their name, affiliation, country and email via the “Contact” page on the www.comland.org website. Members will be sent emails on an irregular basis advising of meetings and other relevant matters including messages from the IGU.

B. Meetings and Activities

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, publications, awards, and in the addition of new Members and Steering Committee Members.

2020

COMLAND’s direct face to face activities in 2020 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The membership is optimistic that previously scheduled and new face to face meetings will occur during 2021.

34th International Geographical Congress (IGC 2020) in Istanbul Turkey. August 2020

Scheduled COMLAND Session titled “Land degradation and desertification: new research and its implications for monitoring and mitigation”. Proposed papers by several COMLAND Members. Proposed Scheduled COMLAND Business Meeting. Proposed support to Organisers to assist some young researchers attend the Congress. All activities were cancelled and are planned for the deferred Congress in 2021.

International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) Conference on Geomorphology in Coimbra Portugal. September 2020

COMLAND was considering its participation which included papers, a Business Meeting, field activities

and support to Organisers to assist young scientists attend the Conference. Development of proposals were deferred for consideration in 2021.

C. Networking and Collaboration

Cooperation with ISC (International Science Council) and UNDRR (UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction)

COMLAND cooperated in the UNDRR/ISC Sendai Hazard Definitions and Classification Review reviewing the Hazard Information Profiles (HIPs) of some geohazards and some environmental hazards.

Other IGU Commissions

COMLAND has an active working relationship with the Commission on Hazard and Risk and is developing such relationship with the Commission on Land Use and Land Cover Change.

Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ)

Following the successful Tasmanian Meeting and field trip (October 2014), COMLAND has maintained irregular liaison with the EIANZ with the view to investigating the potential for future collaborative events.

South African Association of Geomorphologists (SAAG)

COMLAND cooperated with SAAG in the organization of the Biennial Conference 2019 and maintains active liaison through cross-membership at Steering Committee level.

D. Publications

COMLAND continues to publish papers from its sponsored sessions and conferences, with most appearing in international peer reviewed journals. This is on an opportunistic basis.

The COMLAND website is maintained by the COMLAND Secretary and operational costs are covered through IGU grants. The COMLAND website contains information that includes upcoming and past meetings, the Steering Committee, awards, reports and publications. The website contains all of COMLAND’s available archival information.

Web URL: www.comland.org

COMLAND Members receive occasional emails that publicise upcoming COMLAND and some IGU events. Members are referred to the COMLAND website for the latest information on matters. This communication takes the place of newsletters.

E. Archival Contributions

Archival material is available from the Commission's Annual Reports. These usually include relevant photographs from meetings, field excursions and other events.

F. Use of IGU Grants

The IGU Grant to COMLAND is used for operational expenses in maintaining the COMLAND website on a commercial platform (www.comland.org) which includes domain registration expenses, website hosting and internet access charges.

COMLAND has also supported events / conferences that are relevant and/or advantageous to COMLAND's interests. The COMLAND Steering Committee has agreed that these funds are allocated

to events to support the active attendance of young scientists. It is usually at the discretion of the event organisers on who and how these funds are allocated or pooled. This means that any COMLAND funding support is usually to event organisers and not directly to individuals. COMLAND seeks recognition through verbal acknowledgement and use if its logo where possible.

Events proposed for financial support in 2020 were cancelled or postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is expected that these and other events will be reconvened in 2021.

G. UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

U.N. Sustainable Development Goals are addressed here:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

The COMLAND Steering Committee has analysed its Objectives and activities with reference to the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals and Targets. At the request of the IGU Executive Committee, it has identified specific Goals and Targets where COMLAND can and could contribute.

C20.29 Land Use and Land Cover Change

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

August 2016 - August 2020

Matej Gabrovec (chair)

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Ján Feranec (vice-chair)

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Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy
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Mehtab Singh

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Koichi Kimoto

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Secretary and web page administrator

Matjaž Geršič
Anton Melik Geographical Institute
Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of
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August 2020 - August 2024

Monica Ștefania Dumitrașcu (**chair**)
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Secretary and web page administrators

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Honorary members

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Prof. Ivan Bičík
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b. Corresponding Members

There are 184 corresponding members in the Land Use/Cover Changes IGU commission. We can find out the country origin for 76% of them.

Japan	20	Afghanistan	1
Czechia	18	Australia	1
Italy	9	Bulgaria	1
Romania	9	Brazil	1
Slovakia	8	Canada	1
Austria	7	Ecuador	1
China	7	Finland	1
Germany	6	France	1
South Africa	5	Greece	1
Poland	3	Iran	1
Portugal	3	Israel	1
Slovenia	3	Jamaica	1
Taiwan	3	Mexico	1
Turkey	3	New Zealand	1
India	3	Spain	1
Indonesia	2	Sri Lanka	1
Ireland	2	Switzerland	1
Nigeria	2	Thailand	1
Russia	2	United Kingdom	1
Netherlands	2	Zambia	1

B. Meetings

a. Previous Meetings

SLOVENIA, Koper/Capodistria, 24.–26. 9. 2019

From 24th to 26th of September, the IGU Thematic Conference titled Transformation of Traditional Cultural Landscapes was held at the premises of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Primorska in Koper, Slovenia. The Thematic Conference was organized by the Anton Melik Geographical Institute of the Scientific Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, and the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Primorska with cooperation of the Association of Slovenian Geographers. The initiative for the conference came from the Land Use and Land Cover Change Commission, with participation of additional four IGU Commissions: the Biogeography and Biodiversity Commission, the Local and Regional Development Commission, The Mediterranean Basin Commission and the Land Degradation and Desertification Commission. As a result of this cooperation between the five IGU Commissions, the conference topics were the following:

Transformation of Traditional Cultural Landscapes; Mediterranean Landscape: Transitions, Prospects and Challenges; The Challenges Regarding the Planning and Organization of the Cultural Landscape; Land Management Practices and Global Changes; Conservation of Biodiversity in Changing Environment; Heritage of Lost Landscapes: Identification, Reconstruction and Presentation; Past and Present Land Degradation in the Mediterranean and Other Environments; The Concepts and Tools in Landscape Transformation; Land Use Data Sources from 19th Century; and Functions of the Cultural Landscape in Local and Regional Development.

Cultural landscapes are multifunctional landscapes which reflect a complex correlation between natural, historical, political, and cultural factors. Traditional cultural landscapes are shaped by traditional land management practices. The loss of these management practices leads to ecosystem change, which successively is likely to lead to the loss of important biological or cultural values. The extent of integration between environmental (ecological) and socio-economic functions of the landscape depends on the patterns and intensities of land use. Traditional land use is disappearing due to the intensification of agricultural production on the one hand and the retreat of agriculture from unfavourable areas on the other hand. Sustainable development and the conservation of biological and landscape diversity depend on the continuation of human intervention. In this way the traditional and highly valued landscapes can be maintained whilst also assisting economic and social sustainable development. Unsuitable management practices could be the cause of increased soil erosion and natural disasters. Appropriate policies should be applied to decrease such negative impacts on cultural landscapes. The role of landscape parks, as areas with high conservation value and high development appeal, is also important. They can be promoted as specific development areas while contributing to the maintenance of the cultural landscapes and biodiversity. The study of the links between landscape features and regional development is relevant for the development of policies related to land use and regional development, such as agricultural policies, regional policies and spatial planning policies. Cultural interpretation and significance of landscape can be also of controversial and object of disputes under circumstances of conflicts and political struggles. Thus issues of fair perception and valorisation of cultural heritage can be of special significance for geographical studies. Due to the location of the conference part of the sessions were devoted to the Mediterranean cultural landscapes.

The conference, which represented this year's largest event of the International Geographic Union, was attended by over 70 participants from 23 countries and five continents. With the financial help of the Commission on Land Degradation and Desertification and the IGU seven young scientists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Romania, Japan, Algeria and India could join the conference and present their work.

The conference consisted of two parts: lectures held during the morning and thematic excursions held during the afternoon. At least one plenary lecture was scheduled each day; the remaining lectures were divided into parallel sections. The participants presented a total of 60 oral presentations and 6 poster presentations on the conference topics. The afternoon excursions were related with the central theme of the conference. The first excursion took place in the Sečovlje Saltpans, where the participants learned about the importance of salt production in the past and its current situation. The second excursion was dedicated to exploring the geographical features of the coastal hinterland, partly terraced cultivated landscapes with vineyards and olive groves, and preserved mixed culture or *cultura mista* where orchards and other cultures were on the same land plot. We ended the day with a visit to the Rodica Wine Cellar, where we learned about organic wine production. The last excursion was dedicated to exploring the Slovenian coastal towns.

After the conference, a two-day post-conference excursion took place (27th and 28th of September). The first day was dedicated to Kočevje region where we had opportunity to see an abandoned cultural landscape due to German emigration during WWII. The second day was dedicated to Bela Krajina, a cultural landscape in peripheral karst area. With this we concluded an one-week thematic conference and post-conference excursion organized in the frame of the International Geographical Union.

Selected papers from the Thematic Conference was published in the special issue under the frame of the Open Geosciences Journal (<https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/geo>).

b. Forthcoming Meetings

TURKEY, Istanbul, August 2021

The LUCC commission is going to organize 4 sections in frame of IGU 34th Geographical congress which will held on Istanbul from 16th till 20st August 2021. Information is available on <https://www.igc2020.org/en/default.asp>

and <https://www.igc2020.org/en/LAND-USE-AND-LAND-COVER-CHANGE.html>

The sections are titled as follows:

1. Change in land systems and its implications on ecosystem and environment in high Asia
2. Driving forces of land-use changes
3. Land cover/land use and its change data-valuable source of information about landscape dynamics
4. Long-term land-use and land-cover changes



C. Networking

The LUCC commission collaborated with the commissions on Local and Regional Development, Biogeography and Biodiversity, Mediterranean Basin and Land Degradation and Desertification.

Collaboration with IGU Commissions:

- Commission on Local and Regional Development
- Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity
- Commission on Mediterranean Basin
- Commission on Land Degradation and Desertification

Other institutions:

- Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy
- Anton Melik Geographical Institute, Slovenia
- Charles University, Prague, Czechia
- Institute of Geography, Slovak Academy of Sciences
- Hokkaido University of Education
- National Institute for Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- Journal - Open Geoscience
- Journal - Romanian Journal of Geography
- India Geographical Society

Website of the commission's: <http://lucc.zrc-sazu.si/> updating and addition of new material.

D. Publications

The majority of LUCC Atlases have been published on-line. They are available on LUCC Commission website (<http://lucc.zrc-sazu.si/>)

In 2019 was published IGU LUCC - Volume XIV

Editors: KUPKOVÁ Lucie, BIČÍK Ivan, CHROMÝ Pavel | Charles University, Prague, Czechia

Contents:

I. Disappeared Landscapes of Czechia (Kupková, L., Lipský, Z., Šifta, M., et al.)

Chapter 1 Disappeared Landscapes of Czechia: Introduction and Evaluation Methods

Chapter 2 Boletice: How Rural Landscape in the Borderland was changed into Military Training Area

Chapter 3 Kačina: Traces of Aristocratic-style Man-made Landscape

Chapter 4 Krkonoše: Disappeared Landscape of Mountain Farming

Chapter 5 Kutnohorsko: Mining Landscapes of the Past

Chapter 6 Podbořansko: Peripheral Landscapes with Intensive Hop Farming

Chapter 7 Rosicko-Oslavansko: Former Mining and Industrial Landscapes

Chapter 8 Střední Povltaví: Disappeared Landscape of Deep Vltava Valley

Chapter 9 Suburban Landscape in the Hinterland of Prague: Disappeared Landscape of Intensive Agriculture

II. International Contributions

Illarionova, O., Klimanova, O. - Green Infrastructure and Land Cover Transformation in Latin American Cities

Kopecká, M., Szatmári, D. - Agricultural Landscape Changes based on LPIS Data in the Pezinok and Senec Districts, Slovakia

In 2020 was published the Special Issue of IGU Thematic Conference, Koper – 2019 in Open Geoscience, 12 (1)

Edited by: Daniela Ribeiro, Matej Gabrovec, Primož Gašperič, Matjaž Geršič, Miha Koderman

Issued by: ZRC SAZU Anton Melik Geographical Institute | Matija Zorn

Articles published:

Spreizer, A. J., & Kolega, N. (2020). Canal of St. Bartholomew in Seča/Sezza: Social construction of the seascape, *Open Geosciences*, 12(1), 1224-1236. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1515/geo-2020-0023>

Gomiršek, T. (2020). Cultural landscape of the Gorica Hills in the nineteenth century: Franciscan land cadastre reports as the source for clarification of the classification of cultivable land types, *Open Geosciences*, 12(1), 1392-1405. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1515/geo-2020-0191>

Naumov, A., Akimova, V., Sidorova, D., & Topnikov, M. (2020). Agriculture and land use in the North of Russia: Case study of Karelia and Yakutia, *Open Geosciences*, 12(1), 1497-1511. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1515/geo-2020-0210>

Gekić, H., & Bidžan-Gekić, A. (2020). Traditional agricultural landscapes in Uskopaljska valley (Bosnia and Herzegovina), *Open Geosciences*, 12(1), 1573-1588. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1515/geo-2020-0024>

Ribeiro, D., Visković, N. R., & Čarni, A. (2020). Landscape dynamics at borderlands: analysing land use changes from Southern Slovenia, *Open Geosciences*, 12(1), 1725-1735. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1515/geo-2020-0212>

C20.31 Local and Regional Development

The Commission on Local and Regional Development IGU is a dedicated group of scholars aiming to advance international knowledge of a variety of issues concerning local and regional development. The Commission's activities involve cooperation between scientists representing academic centres from different parts of the world, organizing meetings and expanding its intellectual network through academic conferences, publications, newsletters and its website. The basic mission is to advance international research and knowledge in a variety of domains concerning local and regional development through 1) the development and dissemination of theoretical, conceptual and methodological frameworks concerning local and regional development, 2) the discussion of wide range of empirical and policy issues, 3) to widen of the scope of the debate on the topics of "local and regional development" in different national and institutional contexts.

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

(The composition of the new Steering Committee will be agreed at the IGU Congress in Istanbul)

Chair: Jerzy Bański

Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization
Polish Academy of Sciences
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Vice Chair

2019: Benjamin Ofori Amoah
Department of Geography
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2020: Ines Grigorescu

Institute of Geography
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inesgrigorescu@yahoo.com

Steering Committee Members:

2019: Peter Baklanov
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Vladivostok, RUSSIA
pbaklanov@tig.dvo.ru

2019: Ton Dietz

African Studies Centre Leiden, Faculty of Social Sciences
RB Leiden, THE NETHERLANDS
dietzaj@ascleiden.nl

2019: Ines Grigorescu

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2019: B. Srinagesh

Department of Geography,
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2019-2020: Michael Sofer (honorary member)

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2019-2020: Atsushi Taira

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2019-2020: Eberhard Weber

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2019-2020: Carmen Vazquez Varela

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2020: Ashley Gunter

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2020: Boian Koulov

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2020: Tony Sorensen
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b. Corresponding Members

Currently, the Commission on Local and Regional Development counts a total of 316 members from 47 countries, plus 16 members (e-mail address does not allow identification of the country). However, there are far fewer active members. The head of the committee estimates that there are about 40-50 active members (participating in the tasks of the Commission). Unfortunately, the remaining members are only a statistical supplement. It should indicate the unfavorable phenomenon of the small number of members from Africa and South America.

B. Meetings

a. Meetings organized during the period 2019 – 2020 and a brief summary of the topics addressed

Annual meeting of IGU Commission on Local and Regional Development, June 25 – July 3, 2019, Suva, FIJI

The conference was organized by the Commission on Local and Regional Development, IGU and the University of South Pacific in Suva. It took place in two stages: the first stage of the conference entitled Development challenges in rural and urban areas consisted of papers delivered by 23 speakers representing 11 countries. The session took place on 25-28 June and was preceded by a meeting of Commission members and key organisers on 24 June. The papers were devoted to education in rural areas, challenges of rural development in the face of climate change, tourism, spatial planning and local and regional resources. The second stage of the conference (29 June - 3 July 2019) was field studies in Nalotu on Kadavu Island. The participants of the studies had several meetings with the local people and authorities, especially with farmers, during which they got acquainted with the problems of functioning of peripherally located villages and the methods of land cultivation and types of crops. During their stay, the participants visited the local school and the neighbouring hills where cassava and kava are grown.



Fot. Suva – CLRD IGU conference participants

Transformation of Traditional Cultural Landscape - IGU Thematic Conference, September 23 – 26, 2019, Koper, SLOVENIA

The conference was consisted of 13 thematic sessions, plenary sessions and 5 thematic field studies. The subject matter of the papers concerned primarily changes in land use and landscape and the resulting consequences. The papers concerned various spatial scales and methodological issues. The conference drew attention to the rapid changes in the rural landscape caused by human activity, including the impact of global climate change. However, public awareness of this issue is growing and there are increasing efforts to protect the landscape and traditional land use patterns and to increase biodiversity. During the meeting of the committee, I discussed its plans related to the organization of future conference meetings and the publication of Challenges of the local and regional development.

IGU India: Implications of Covid-19 on Local and Regional Sustainable Development – A Global Perspective, June 27 – 28, 2020, e-conference

b. Future Meetings

August 2021: Commission annual meeting, Bulgaria, Sofia, or Varna

Organizer: National Institute for Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Commission on Local and Regional Development IGU

August 2021: 34 IGU Congress, Istanbul, Turkey

Commission session and technical meeting

Organizer: IGU and Commission on Local and Regional Development IGU

2022: Commission annual meeting

Pretoria, South Africa

Organizer: University of South Africa, Commission on Local and Regional Development IGU

2023: Commission annual meeting

Peru (TBC)

Universidad Católica del Peru, the Commission on Local and Regional Development

C. Networking

a. Collaboration with other IGU commissions

- Commission on Land Use and Land Cover Change

(co-organization IGU Thematic Conference, 24-26 September 2019, Koper, SLOVENIA, jointly with Commissions: Biogeography and Biodiversity, Land Use and Land Cover Change, Mediterranean Basin, Land Degradation and Desertification).

- Commission on Geography of Governance

(participation International Conference, Local and Urban Governance: Trends, Challenges and Innovations in a Globalizing World, University of Cabo Verde, Praia, 4-7 September 2019).

- Commission on Agricultural Geography and Land Engineering

(participation, 3 International Conference of the International Geographical Union Commission on Agricultural Geography and Land Engineering, Rethinking the Impact of Urbanization on Agriculture and Land Use, 22-24 October 2019, Bogor, Indonesia).

- Commission on Marginalization, Localization, and Regional and Local Responses

(bilateral cooperation)

b. Other collaborations

Selected institutions and bodies cooperating with the commission during the period 2019-2020: The University of the South Pacific (FIJI), Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences (POLAND), National Institute for Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BULGARIA), Mendel

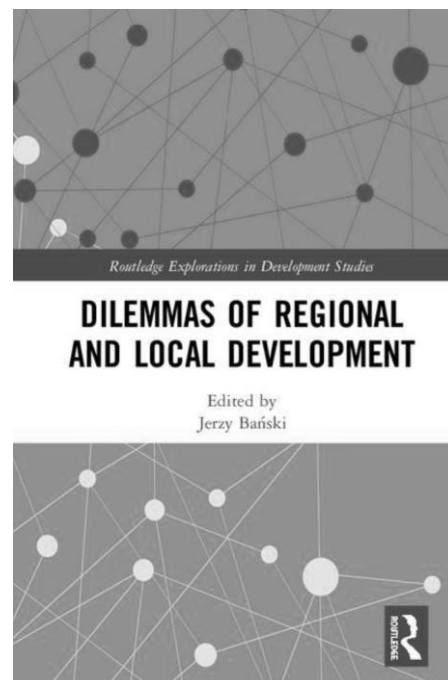
University (CZECHIA), University Primorska (SLOVENIA), India Geographical Society, Routledge Publishing House.

D. Publications

Bański J. (ed.), 2020, *Dilemmas of regional and local development*, Routledge, London-New York.

<https://www.routledge.com/Dilemmas-of-Regional-and-Local-Development/Banski/p/book/9781138359154>

The book's subject matter covers theoretical, methodological and practical groups of problems, which are discussed in two separate parts. The first part of the book (Development Concepts and Planning) concentrates on the basics of regional and local development planning, including theoretical solutions and approaches to development policies, as well as methodological aspects. Whereas the second part (Development Challenges and Opportunities) has an applicative character, since it presents practical aspects of problems and challenges associated with regional or local development, as well as providing instruments for regional planning.



The authors of the book are mainly committee members: T. Sorensen (AUSTRALIA), J. Bański (POLAND), G. Cotella and E. Vitale Brovarone (ITALY), T. Nurlambang (INDONESIA), B. Ofori-Amoah (USA), M. Mazur and D. Mazurek (POLAND), C. Vázquez-Varela and J. M. Martínez-Navarro (SPAIN), P. Elias (NIGERIA), P. Churski,

B. Konecka-Szydłowska, T. Herodowicz, R. Perdał (POLAND), B. Mitrică, I. Grigorescu, R. Săgeată, I. Mocanu, M. Dumitrașcu (ROMANIA), A. Gunter (SOUTH AFRICA), A. Taira (JAPAN), B. Srinagesh (INDIA), M. Sofer and N. Ganayem (ISRAEL).

Book submitted for publication: Bański J. (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Small Towns*

The book is devoted to the role and functions of small towns in the local development of areas representing different socio-economic categories and located in countries with different levels of development and economic systems. Particular attention is paid to issues: theoretical background and research methodology, functional structure of small towns and their role in the urban system, relations between small towns and rural areas and the challenges of spatial planning in the context of shaping the development of small towns. The thematic scope of the book is covering theoretical, methodical and practical issues related to small towns and rural development. However, the spatial scope has a very wide dimension because it takes into account the subject of small towns issues in 25 countries. The authors of the book are mainly committee members.

SECTION 1. SMALL TOWNS – THEORETICAL BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH ISSUES

J. BAŃSKI (POLAND) - The functions and local linkages of small towns – a review of selected classifications and approaches to research;

E. KORCELLI-OLEJNICZAK (POLAND) - Small towns in settlement systems: a return to the foreground?

B. OFORI-AMOAHA (USA) - Small Towns. Theoretical Background and Research Issues - Perspectives from the United States;

Ch. DEMAZIÈRE (FRANCE) - Small towns – theoretical background and research issues. Exploring the diversity of small towns in France;

C. VÁZQUEZ-VARELA, J. M. MARTÍNEZ-NAVARRO (SPAIN) - Spanish Small towns: evolution, functional structure, and characterization;

M. ALTANBAGANA, B. SOLONGO, B. MUNGUNCHIMEG (MONGOLIA) - Determining villages status and their economic functions: The Case of Mongolia;

SECTION 2. THE ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF SMALL TOWNS IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

I. IANOS (ROMANIA) - The small Romanian towns – from creative destruction to destructive creation and back?

M. AMADO, F. POGGI (PORTUGAL) - From informal to formal: towards the Sustainable Transformation of Small Towns in Africa; A. TAIRA (JAPAN) - Small but resilient: A case study of the town of Utazu, Kagawa, Japan; J. BAŃSKI, W. KAMIŃSKA, M. MULARCZYK (POLAND) - The natural and migration movements versus population ageing in Poland's small towns;

L. NOVOTNÝ, M. KULLA, J. NESTOROVÁ-DICKÁ, L. PREGI, S. CSACHOVÁ (SLOVAKIA) - Performance of small towns in economically lagging region: A case study of the Spiš region, Slovakia;

F. POGGI, A. FIRMINO, M. AMADO (PORTUGAL) - Small towns in the Energy Transition Era: local drivers for Climate Change adaptation?

B. KOULOV, Ch. MLADENOV (BULGARIA) - Contemporary Status of Small Towns in Bulgaria: Functions and Role in the Development of Rural Regions;

SECTION 3. SMALL TOWNS IN RURAL SPACE

M. SOFER, L. APPLEBAUM, I. AMIT-COHEN, N. COHEN, I. SHMUEL, Y. SHAUL (ISRAEL) - Perspective on Urban-Rural Relations in Israel's Periphery;

I. KRISTENSEN, E. SLÄTMO (SWEDEN) - Urban-rural linkages: an inquiry into second-home tourism in the Nordics;

K. P. SCHUMACHER, K. M. BORN (GERMANY) - New rural-urban relationships of small towns in north-western Germany;

W. LEIMGRUBER (SWITZERLAND) - Small regional centres at the periphery of Switzerland: Porrentruy and Brig-Glis;

A. VAISHAR, J. ZAPLETALOVA (CZECHIA) - Small towns in rural space - the case of Czechia;

A. COPUS (UK) - Urban Growth Engines or Relational Proximity? An assessment of enterprise population and business demography indicators in the context of rural and small-town Scotland; E. NEL (NEW ZEALAND) - The role of farmers in small town community development in an age of austerity: reflections from Australasia;

R. MCAREAVEY (UK) - Agri-food workers: transnational connections in small towns and rural areas.

SECTION 4. THE SMALL TOWNS PLANNING CHALLENGES

G. COTELLA, E. BERISHA (ITALY) - Inter-municipal spatial planning as a tool to prevent small towns' competition. The case of the Emilia-Romagna Region;

E. MARUNIAK, L. RUDENKO, S. LISOVSKYI, O. DRONOVA, A. MOZGOVYI (UKRAINE) - Ukrainian small cities in the perspective of sustainable spatial planning;

A. SORENSEN (AUSTRALIA) - Small Town Survival in Rural Australia: A New England Case Study;

S. TSHABALALA, A. GUNTER (SOUTH AFRICA) - Technologies of Government and Policy implementation

in Small Towns Economic Development Plans in Mpumalanga South Africa;

B. OFORI-AMOAHA (USA) - Small Towns in Planning System: The Experience of the United States;

E. WEBER (FIJI), C. KOTO (MARSHALL ISLANDS) - Disturbing the creation of a spatial system – Outside intervention and urbanization in the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

A. SABOGAL DUNIN BORKOWSKA (PERU) - Challenges of local planning in Peruvian small towns on example of Alexander von Humboldt town in the Amazonian basin;

Commission website

<http://igu-clrd.igipz.pan.pl/home.html>



E. Archival Contributions

Copies of all materials and publications sent to the IGU Secretary General.

F. Productive use of previous IGU grant

In the period 2019-2020, the Commission did not use IGU grants. However, we support applications by young scientists and scientists representing 'low-income countries' for financial support for participation in international conferences. It is also a constant practice to differentiate the registration costs of our Commission's conferences, which is promoted by the above-mentioned groups of members.

C20.32 Marginalization, Globalization, and Regional and Local Responses

A. Membership

a. Steering committee 2016-2020

Chair of the commission

Prof. Steve Dery,
Université Laval, Département de géographie
Québec, Canada
E-mail: Steve.Dery@ggr.ulaval.ca

Commission Secretary

Prof. Emeritus Walter Leimgruber
Université de Fribourg/CH, Département de
Géosciences, Unité de Géographie
Fribourg, Switzerland
E-mail: walter.leimgruber@unifr.ch

Steering committee members

Ass. Prof. Firuza Begham Binti Mustafa
Deputy Dean (Undergraduates), Faculty of Arts and
Social Sciences, University of Malaya
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
E-mail: firuza@um.edu.my

Prof. Borna Fuerst-Bjeliš
University of Zagreb

Faculty of Science, Department of Geography
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Prof. Ruth Kark
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Sciences, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
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Prof. Claudio Urrea Coletti
Instituto de Geografia, Facultad de Filosofía y
Letras, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo
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b. New Steering committee 2020-2024

The virtual General Assembly of 21 August 2020 renewed the Commission with the new SC that had been proposed in the renewal proposal. The current circumstances make it difficult to have a clear view of this, hence we include the new SC with this report.

Chair

Prof. Borna Fuerst-Bjeliš
University of Zagreb
Faculty of Science, Department of Geography
Zagreb, Croatia
E-mail: bornafb@geog.pmf.unizg.hr

Commission Secretary

Prof. Emeritus Walter Leimgruber
Université de Fribourg/CH, Département de
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Steering committee members

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Departamento de Políticas Públicas
Natal, Brazil
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Prof. Alain François Loukou
Université Alassane Ouattara
Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire
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c. Corresponding members

As of December 2020, we have 352 members (3 more than last year) from 56 countries (same as last year) on our member list, of which there are at least 102 female persons.

Algeria	1	Malaysia	4
Argentine	16	Mexico	3
Australia	4	Namibia	1
Austria	3	Nepal	25
Bangladesh	2	Netherlands	2
Bosnia	2	New Zealand	5
Brazil	2	Nigeria	1
Canada	7	Norway	3
Chile	2	Poland	15
China PR	5	Portugal	10
China Taipei	4	Qatar	1
Côte d'Ivoire	1	Romania	5
Croatia	20	Russia	1
Czech Republic	7	Saudi Arabia	1
Denmark	1	Slovakia	1
Ethiopia	1	Slovenia	9
Finland	7	South Africa	6
France	8	South Korea	4
Germany	8	Spain	30
Hong Kong	1	Sweden	15
Hungary	3	Switzerland	12
Iceland	1	Tunisia	1
India	17	Turkey	10
Indonesia	1	UK	14
Iran	1	USA	18

Israel	6	Vietnam	1
Italy	9	Vietnam	1
Japan	11	Zimbabwe	1
		Total	352

B. Meetings

The COVID-19 pandemic has completely upset all plans and no meetings could be held. Our annual Commission conference, planned for August 9-14 in Cluj-Napoca (Romania) was postponed to 2021, 9 - 13 August in the week preceding the IGC. We shall also participate in the IGC (16-20 August) with a session within the special COVID-19 session.

Situation permitting, we shall hold future meetings on the following occasions:

- Paris, France (2022) – IGU regional Congress (100th anniversary of the IGU)
- Malaysia (2023)
- Dublin, Ireland (2024) – IGU Congress

C. Publications

a. Newsletters, special journal issues, and books

We issue two Newsletters annually, one in June/July, the second in December. In addition, six short NewsFlashes were sent to our members in 2020. They are a means to maintain contact and rapidly inform members of specific events or new publications.

b. Books and other publications

The fifth and sixth volumes of our series “Perspectives on Geographical Marginalization” (<https://link.springer.com/bookseries/15046>) have been published by Springer this year.

- Stanko Pelc and Etienne Nel (editors), Responses to geographical marginality and marginalization - From social innovation to regional development; Perspectives on Geographical Marginality, vol 5. Springer, Cham, xiii + 183 pp. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-51342-9>.
- Borna Fuerst-Bjeliš and Walter Leimgruber (editors), Globalization, marginalization and conflict – Political and social processes; Perspectives on Geographical Marginality, vol 6. Springer, Cham. xvii + 202 pp. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-53218-5>

The next volume is in preparation and should be published in 2021 or early 2022.

Members keep signalling individual publications at irregular intervals. The list can be consulted from the regular newsletters.

c. Commission website

Our website address is:

<https://sites.google.com/view/igugeographicalmarginality/geographical-marginality>

It has been set up and is maintained by our member and former chair Stanko Pelc (University of Primorska, Koper, Slovenia) in 2010.

C20.33 Mediterranean Basin (COMB)

A. Membership

Current Steering Committee

New COMB Chairperson

Anastasia Stratigea (2020-)
National Technical University of Athens, Greece
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Honorary Chair

Maria Paradiso
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Mohamed Alouat

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Maria Sala
University of Barcelona, Spain
sala@trivium.gh.ub.es

COMB counts for 216 members. Their origin country is shown in the following table:

Germany	11	Portugal	8
Spain	19	Cyprus	1
France	51	Lebanon	1
Ireland	1	Japan	4
Italy	21	Singapore	1
United Kingdom	5	Finland	2
Luxemburg	1	Australia	1
Israel	6	Hungary	1
Slovenia	3	Russia	2
Netherlands	1	Algeria	1

Serbia	1	Greece	8
Turkey	5	Unknown	61

B. Meetings

a. COMB was co-organizer of the following Conferences / Workshops

2019: IGU Thematic Conference on the “Transformation of Traditional Cultural Landscapes”, Koper, Slovenia, 24–26 September 2019.

The Conference was organized by the following IGU Commissions: Land Use and Land Cover Change, Biogeography and Biodiversity, Local and Regional Development, Mediterranean Basin and Land Degradation and Desertification.

The Conference had attracted about 70 participants, 60 oral presentations and 6 poster contributions.

The focus of the Conference was on the study of the linkages between landscape features, their fair perception and valorisation on the one hand and their relevance for the design of policies related to land use and regional development, such as agricultural policies, regional policies and spatial planning policies.

2020: 20th International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA) – Cagliari, July 1-4

Organized by Chiara Garau (DICAAR, University of Cagliari), Anastasia Stratigea (COMB Chair - National Technical University of Athens), Paola Zamperlin (University of Pisa) and Francesco Scorza (University of Basilicata)

The session attracted 25 participants and 10 oral presentations of papers. Papers presented were also published in O. Gervasi, B. Murgante, S. Misra, Ch. Garau, et al. (2020), Computational Science and Its Applications – ICCSA 2020, Proceedings - Part VII (Lecture Notes in Computer Science), Springer Nature Switzerland, ISBN 978-3-030-58819-9, <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-58820-5>.

At the core of discussion in this workshop were laid developmental issues of island regions, mainly regarded as lagging-behind due to insularity repercussions. Territorial cohesion issues were raised as well as competitive advantages of such regions to be used for featuring sustainable future development pathways.

2020: 4th Euro-Mediterranean Conference on “VISIONING MED 2020+/Mediterranean in Transition: Preserving the Past - Preparing for the Future” (<http://www.smartbluecity.com/>) – Athens, October 9-10

Organized by the National Technical University of Athens and the Smart City Mediterranean Cluster, in cooperation with, among others, IGU Commission Mediterranean Basin.

The Conference has attracted 120 participants and 74 paper presentations. A number of publications (Special Issues and Edited Volumes) are under preparation stage.

At the heart of the conference were laid themes related to smart, resilient and sustainable pathways, data management and smart urban development, cultural resource management, etc. of Mediterranean regions. Also the Conference organized special sessions for the presentation of the EU ‘Green Deal’ strategy and the ‘Climate-neutral and Smart Cities’ initiative; and an expert panel workshop on “Visualizing the MED beyond 2020: Downscaling the Green Deal and the Climate-neutral and Smart City Strategic Mainstreams”, elaborating on the barriers applying to the implementation of the above EU future orientations in the Mediterranean Region.

b. Future meetings

2021: 21st International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA), Cagliari, Italy, July 5-8
“Smart and Sustainable Island Communities” (SSIC), <https://iccsa.org/workshops> (Workshop No 48)

Organized by Chiara Garau (DICAAR, University of Cagliari), Anastasia Stratigea (COMB Chair - National Technical University of Athens), Paola Zamperlin (University of Pisa) and Francesco Scorza (University of Basilicata)

At the core of this discussion lay developmental issues of island regions, as lagging behind regions due to insularity repercussions. Issues incorporated are as follows: Smart Islands, Smart Cities, Smart Regions, Smart governance, Smart Communities, Urban and regional growth, Open and Big Data, Cultural Heritage Management, Intelligent Transport Systems, Sustainability, Competitiveness, Cohesion.

2021: 21st International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications

(ICCSA), Cagliari, July 5-8 “Cities, Technologies and Planning”, <https://iccsa.org/workshops> (Workshop No 20)

Organized by Malgorzata Hanzl (Lodz University of Technology) Beniamino Murgante (University of Basilicata) Ljiljana Zivkovic (Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure/Institute of Architecture and Urban & Spatial Planning of Serbia), Anastasia Stratigea (COMB Chair - National Technical University of Athens), Giuseppe Borruso, (University of Trieste) Ginevra Balletto (University of Cagliari)

The future of cities is the focus of this workshop. Issues raised incorporate: Open Government; Open Data; Resilient cities; Smart cities and Sustainable Urban Development; GIS-based mobile applications for Smart Cities; Planning 2.0; Participation 2.0; Urban social networks, Urban sensing; E-democracy, E-participation, Participatory GIS; Social networks and collaborative/participatory approaches; etc.

2021: 34th International Geographical Congress (IGC), Istanbul Turkey, August 17-21

A COMB session will be organized comprising 6 papers to be presented by COMB members.

C. Networking

a. Collaboration with other IGU Commission and Task Forces

COMB cooperates with C16.13 Geography of Information, Innovation and Technology, chaired by Tommi Inkinen.

Discussions are also on the way for future cooperation with the C16.12 Geography of Governance, chaired by Carlos Nunes Silva

b. Collaboration with other groups

Collaboration of COMB members with members of the EU Mission Board regarding the “Climate-neutral and smart cities” strategy. Three members of this Board (Chrysses Nicolaidis, Maria Vassilakou and Anna Lisa Boni) contributed to dedicated workshops of the 4th Euro-Mediterranean Conference on the peculiarities of the Mediterranean Region and the bottlenecks that may appear in implementing this strategy in this part of the EU.

D. Publications

a. Books/Special Issues

Kellerman, A. (2019). *The Internet City: People, Companies, Systems and Vehicles*. Edward Elgar Publishing Limited, Glos, UK, ISBN-13: 978-1788973588, ISBN-10: 1788973585, DOI: 10.4337/9781788973595

Paradiso, M. (2019) (Ed.), *Mediterranean mobilities - Europe's changing relationships*, Springer, Cham, Print ISBN 978-3-319-89631-1, DOI <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-89632-8>, Online ISBN: 978-3-319-89632-8, <https://rd.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-89632-8>.

Stratigea, A. and Argyropoulos, V. (2019) (Eds.). *Linking land and underwater cultural heritage management to technology in smart cities and communities*. Special Issue, *Heritage*, https://www.mdpi.com/journal/heritage/special_issues/smart_cities_communities.

Stratigea, A. and Murgante, B. (2019) (Ed.), *Potential of participatory urban planning and governance*, *International Journal of Electronic Governance (IJEG)*, Special Issue, Vol. 11, No. 1, <https://www.inderscience.com/info/inarticletoc.php?jcode=ijeg&year=2019&vol=11&issue=1>

Stratigea, A. and D. Kavroudakis (Eds.) (2019), *Mediterranean Cities and Island Communities: Smart, Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient*, Springer Nature Switzerland, ISBN 978-3-319-99443-7.

Kellerman, A. (2020). *Globalization and spatial mobilities: Commodities and people, capital, information and technology*. Cheltenham UK and Northampton MA, US: Edward Elgar, ISBN-13 978-1789901214, ISBN-10 1789901219.

Leuenberger, C. & Schnell, I. (2020). *The politics of maps - Geographic constructions of Israel/Palestine*, Oxford University Press.

b. Book chapters / Proceedings

Panagiotopoulou, M., Somarakis, G. and Stratigea, A. (2019). *Participatory Spatial Planning in Support of Cultural-Resilient Resource Management: The Case of Kissamos-Crete*. In Stratigea, A. and D. Kavroudakis (Eds.), *Mediterranean Cities and Island Communities: Smart, Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient*, Springer Nature Switzerland, ISBN 978-3-319-

99443-7, Doi 10.1007/978-3-319-99444-4_8pp. 181-211 (Chapter 8).

Marava, N., Alexopoulos, A. and Stratigea, A. (2019), *Tracking paths to smart governance: The case of Korydallos Municipality, Greece*. In Stratigea, A. and D. Kavroudakis (Eds.), *Mediterranean Cities and Island Communities: Smart, Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient*, Springer, ISBN 978-3-319-99443-7, DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-99444-4_4, pp. 81-112 (Chapter 4).

Koutsis, D. and A. Stratigea (2020). *Leveraging underwater cultural heritage (UCH) potential for smart and sustainable development in Mediterranean islands*. In: Gervasi O. et al. (Eds.) *Computational Science and Its Applications – ICCSA 2020*. *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, Vol. 12255, pp. 237-252. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-58820-5_19.

c. Articles in peer-reviewed international journals

Garau, Ch., Desogus, G. and Stratigea, A. (2020). *Territorial cohesion in insular contexts: assessing external attractiveness and internal strength of major Mediterranean islands*. *European Planning Studies* 28(12), November 2020, pp. 1-21, DOI: 10.1080/09654313.2020.1840524.

Koutsis, D. and Stratigea, A. (2019), *Unburying Hidden Land and Maritime Cultural Potential of Small Islands in the Mediterranean for Tracking Heritage-led Local Development Paths - Case Study Leros / Greece*, *Heritage* 2(1), pp. 938-966; <https://doi.org/10.3390/heritage2010062>.

d. Commission Website

<http://igu-mediterraneanbasin.org/>

E. Archival Contributions

Materials and publications transmitted to the IGU archives by your commission. Copies of all newsletters, monographs, special journal issues, etc. should be sent to the IGU Secretary General upon publication for forwarding to the archivist. Photographs from your meetings, field excursions, or other events that you are willing to share are especially gratefully received and will be included in the IGU e-Newsletter.

C20.34 Modelling Geographical Systems

A. Membership

The MGSC consists of chair, secretary, honorary advisory members and steering committee members. There are 22 members in our commission. All members are listed as follows:

Chair:

Prof. Min Chen, chenmin0902@163.com, China

Secretary:

Dr. Xintao Liu, xintao.liu@polyu.edu.hk, China

Honorary Advisory Members:

Prof. Tony Jakeman, tony.jakeman@anu.edu.au, Australia

Prof. Josef Strobl, josef.strobl@sbg.ac.a, Austria

Prof. Guonian Lu, gnlu@njnu.edu.cn, China

Prof. Jinfeng Wang, wangjf@Lreis.ac.cn, China

Prof. Mei-Po Kwan, mpk654@gmail.com, China

Prof. Xin Li, xinli@itpcas.ac.cn, China

Prof. R.B. Singh, rbsgeo@hotmail.com, India

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Prof. Luc Anselin, anselin@uchicago.edu, USA

Prof. Stewart Fotheringham, sfotheri@asu.edu, USA

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Dr. Manish Kumar, manish.ks@cuh.ac.in, India

Prof. Tao Cheng, tao.cheng@ucl.ac.uk, UK

Prof. Paul Torrens, torrens@geosimulation.com, USA

Members by country:

Australia	2
Austria	2
Bulgaria	1
Canada	1
China	6
Czech Republic	1
France	1
Germany	1
India	2
UK	2
USA	3

B. Meetings

There is 1 meeting organized by our commission in the year 2019, details are as follows:

a. Meeting Info

The 2nd Water Information Modeling and Comprehensive Simulation Forum

Location: School of Geography, Nanjing Normal University, China

Date: 12/26/2020

Numbers of participants: 80

b. Summary and Conclusion

Brief summary: This forum discusses the cutting-edge progress and scientific breakthroughs related to water information modeling and comprehensive simulation, and provides researchers in this field with a platform to display scientific research results, exchanges academic ideas, inspires research thinking, enhances academic friendship, and strengthens inter-university cooperation.

Conclusions: This forum enhanced the communication of scholars in the field of water information modeling and promoted the sharing of hydrological models.

c. Future Meetings

The 2nd National Geographic Modeling and Simulation Forum

Location: Xianlin Hotel, Nanjing Normal University, China

Dates: 01/16/2021-01/17/2021

Topics: Developing localized geographic analysis models, building an autonomous model system ecosystem

C. Networking

Five international organizations collaborated with our commission during 2019-20:

1. International Society of Urban Informatics (Hong Kong)
2. Commission on Geospatial Analysis and Modelling of International Cartographic Association (ICA)
3. International Environmental Modelling and Software Society (iEMSs)
4. Young Geographer Working Group (YGWG) of Asian Geographical Association (AGA)
5. Education and Capacity Building for Digital Earth Committee of International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE)

D. Publications

a. Special journal issue

Open Geographic Modelling, Annals of GIS

Brief Introduction: This special Issue targets on modelling our world based on an open idea, which means the modelling methods could be interdisciplinary or the modelling related resources could be open source.

Guest Editors:

Prof. Daniel P. Ames

Prof. Barry Croke

Dr. Songshan Yue

There is 1 paper has been published in the special issue online and 6 papers are under reviewing. The published paper is:

Yang, Lin, Yehua Sheng, Anping Pei, and Yi Wu. "3D spatial morphological analysis of mound tombs based on LiDAR data." Annals of GIS (2020): 1-11.

The papers in the special issue have not been cited yet.

b. Commission Website

<http://www.igu-geomodeling.com/>

E. Archival Contributions

There are not any materials and publications transmitted to the IGU archives by our commission in the year 2019.

** Since the term change of chair and committee of MGSC just came into effect from Aug, 2019, there are very few information we obtained from last term.*

C20.35 Mountain Studies

A. Membership

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B. About the Commission

The Commission of Mountain Studies (CMS) was approved for creation in 2019, after a meeting of mountain geographers during the Word Conference on Mountains in Innsbruck, Austria 2019, who wanted to activate the Commission of Mountain Responses to Climate Change that ceased to operate.

Goal: To bring together the IGU community working in mountain areas to promote mountain research, disseminate and exchange of knowledge and experience between researchers from different

countries and scientific schools in the field of mountain geography research. Priority pillars are the strengthening of the role of geography as cross-cutting transdisciplinary research and the scholarly exchange of knowledge between different regions of the world.

Together with partners from in- and outside the scientific community, and with different levels of academic standing, the IGU_CMS aims to:

- Closely interacting with interdisciplinary foci, developing geographic tools, and promoting its use in transdisciplinary research;
- Promoting a more balanced study of the world's mountain socioecological systems;
- Informing other members about their work via networking;
- Establishing scholarly exchanges to allow for active recruitment of more geographers into the discipline of mountain geography;
- Contributing to sharing wisdom and transfer of knowledge among mountain scholars of different academic backgrounds and methodological affiliations;
- Enhancing opportunities for global engagement in active scientific networks of North-North, North-South, and South-South cooperation.
- Advising public and private groups on the advances of Montology as a way to integrate the geographic sciences with the humanities and the arts.
- Provide opportunities for young researchers and career training options for more young faculty and seasoned colleagues.

For the first period (2020-2024) this double orientation on interdisciplinary research and transfer of knowledge/wisdom sharing will be of even greater importance, as montology, the transdisciplinary science of mountain studies grows and establishes with new peer-reviewed publications, international fellowships, advanced degree offerings, scientific conferences and public events to highlight mountain themes.

In the field of interdisciplinary research:

- Cooperation of the natural, social and human sciences in the field of mountain studies, GMBA, GLORIA, IPBES; SATOYAMA
- Mountainscape transformation and global land cover project, PAGES;

- Mountain governance and environmentality, MRI, FAO, Mountain Partners;
- Mountain socioecological production systems and poverty alleviation, UNU, IGES, Aichi targets, UN-SDG.

In the field of the knowledge transfer/wisdom sharing:

- Research in cooperation with the regional networks (Andes, Himalayas, Atlas, Caucasus, Alps, Appalachians, Sierras, Afromontane, etc) and coordination with geographic societies elsewhere (Home of Geography, AAG, LAG, CAG, etc.)
- Participation in and organization of international conferences, thematic workshops, virtual coffees, webinars, etc...

Note: The Commission of Mountain Studies is newly constituted, therefore, we offer ten prospective activities for membership engagement:

- 1) Launching of the Commission of Mountain Studies during the IGC 2021 in İstanbul “Geography: Bridging the Continents”.
- 2) Organizing an international symposium on Mountain Studies and Satoyama Landscapes, during the 34th IGU Congress
- 3) Select manuscripts from the Symposium to be submitted for a special issue of the Journal of Mountain Sciences.
- 4) Website development within the IGU portal and maintaining a presence in cyberspace as a research coordinating network.
- 5) Producing a biannual newsletter featuring achievements in mountain geography and networking with established mountain research groups.
- 6) Compile a bibliographic data-bank as a teaching resource for Mountain Geography and Mountain Studies at large, a-la Oxford-Bibliography
- 7) Publish an edited volume (with Routledge) that could be used as an undergraduate textbook for Mountain Studies.
- 8) Organize an International State of the Art Conference on Mountain Studies as a preparatory venue for the 35th IGU Congress.

- 9) Organize a training workshop for capacity building for young career scholars, teachers of geography and other mountain stakeholders.
- 10) Catalyze the preparation of grant proposals for mountain donors (e.g., Belmont Forum) to catalyze the Commission membership in international research.

C. Commission Actions

a. Past actions undertaken during the period 2000-2020

IGU Commission on Mountain Studies (IGU_CMS) inherits the traditions of the mountain commissions of the past decades, starting with the Commission on High-Altitude Geoecology (1968-1976). Since then, we have noted a clear trend towards the interdisciplinarity of mountain research. In this regard, in the 1990s, the commission was re-named Mountain Geoecology and Sustainable Development. A recent development in the 2010s re-named it to the Commission of Mountain Responses to Climate Change.

At present, mountain geography needs to study complex relationships in socio-ecological systems, and to cover various aspects of the relationship between man and nature in the mountains at the local, regional, and global levels. Strengthening interdisciplinary approaches to the study of mountains is very important to respond to current challenges – landscape transformation, climate change, regenerative development, etc. However, the use of interdisciplinary approaches is very uneven when studying mountain systems in the world: some mountain systems are studied in more detail and comprehensively, others are weak or one-sided, or by a different methodology. By having the overarching theme of transdisciplinary Mountain Research and Innovation, we suggest that our IGU_CMS will create a long-lasting effort to recruit and engage mountain geographers the world over, helping bridge the North-South divide and the generational chiasm among mountain researchers and practitioners.

b. Proposed actions to be undertaken during the period 2020-2024

- Developing a working website to activate the network and increase visibility of the organization by the number of mountain geographers applying membership at CMS
- Developing an edited book series on Montology, with the contract with Springer

Nature/Switzerland to produce four impending volumes.

- Organize an international symposium on Mountain Studies for the 34th ICG in Istanbul, Turkey. Launching of the edited book series on Montology
- Organize an international symposium on Mountain Studies for the IGU-Paris conference in Paris, France. 2022. Launching of the first volume of the series Montology
- Organize an international symposium on Mountain Studies for the IGU-Ecuador conference in Quito, 2023. Launching of the second volume of the series Montology
- Catalyze the creation of regional organizations working as networks to promote mountain geography themes. For instance, we will facilitate and stimulate the creation of the Latin American and Caribbean Mountain Research and Innovation Network (LACMONT) in 2020. We also helped with the organization of LACMONT first international meeting, in Brazil, May 2021.
- We are contemplating activate mountain research networks for prospective research proposals to work on ecological restoration. Our target colleagues are listed in The Mountain Research and Development (MRI), the FAO Mountain Alliance, the UNESCO World Heritage Center, the International Terraced Landscapes Alliance (ITLA), the International Network of Mountain Indigenous Peoples (INMIP) and the American Association of Geographers (AAG) Mountain Geography Specialty Group (MGSG).

The Commission of Mountain Studies promote mountain transdisciplinary studies, disseminate and exchange of knowledge and experience between researchers from different countries and scientific schools in the field of mountain geography research and outreach. Priority pillars are the strengthening of the role of geography as cross-cutting transdisciplinary montology and the scholarly exchange of knowledge between different regions of the world.

- 1) Closely interacting with interdisciplinary foci, developing geographic tools and promoting its use in transdisciplinary research;
- 2) Promoting a more balanced study of the world's mountain socio-ecological systems;

- 3) Informing other members about their work via networking and incubating research initiatives;
- 4) Establishing scholarly exchanges to allow for active recruitment of more geographers into the discipline of mountain geography;
- 5) Contributing to sharing wisdom and transfer of knowledge among mountain scholars of different academic backgrounds and methodological affiliations;
- 6) Enhancing opportunities for global engagement in active scientific networks of North-North, North-South, and South-South cooperation.
- 7) Advising public and private groups on the advances of Montology as a way to integrate the geographic sciences with the humanities and the arts.
- 8) Provide opportunities for inclusion of diverse young researchers and offer career training options for faculty and seasoned mountain researchers.

D. Publications

A list of the publications of some of the CMS members on mountain issues is reported hereby:

Ruiz-Cortés N.S., Alcántara-Ayala I. (2020). Landslide exposure awareness: a community-based approach towards the engagement of children. *Landslides* 17, 1501–1514, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10346-020-01391-w>

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Haller, A. & D. Branca (2020): Montología: una perspectiva de montaña hacia la investigación transdisciplinaria y el desarrollo sustentable. In: *Revista de Investigaciones Altoandinas* 22 (4), pp. 313–322. <https://doi.org/10.18271/ria.2020.193>

Polderman, A., A. Haller, D. Viesi, X. Tabin, S. Sala, A. Giorgi, L. Darmayan, J. Rager, J. Vidovic, Q. Daragon, Y. Verchère, U. Zupan, N. Houbé, K. Heinrich, O. Bender & Y. Bidault (2020): How can ski resorts get smart? Transdisciplinary approaches to sustainable winter tourism in the European Alps. In: *Sustainability* 12 (14), pp. 5593. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12145593>

Haller, A., W. Andexlinger & O. Bender (2020): City profile: Innsbruck. In: *Cities* 97, pp. 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2019.102497>

Nakileza, B. I co-authored a paper on Modeling the glaciers on the Rwenzori Mountain <[https://doi.org/10.1130/2020.2548\(09\)](https://doi.org/10.1130/2020.2548(09))>. and another on Topographic influence of landslide characteristics and implications for Risk Management in Mt. Elgon <<https://doi.org/10.1186/s40677-020-00160-0>>.

WE also participated in the International Year of Mountains Online interactions with UN Mountain Partnership and The University community from Western Colorado University. I am currently

involved in drafting the Mountain Research Strategy in Uganda.

Sarmiento, F.O. 2021. Critical Biogeography of Neotropical Mountains: A Panoptic Approach for Biocultural Microrefugia Conservation. *Biodiversity Online*, 1(3): 1-7. <https://crimsonpublishers.com/boj/pdf/BOJ.000515.pdf>

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Sarmiento, F.O. and G. Kooperman. 2019. A Socio-Hydrological Perspective on Recent and Future Precipitation Changes Over Tropical Montane Cloud Forests in the Andes. *Frontiers in Earth Sciences*, 7, Article 324. <https://doi.org/10.3389/feart.2019.00324>

Sarmiento, F.O., J.A. Gonzalez, E.O. Lavilla, M. Donoso and J.T. Ibarra. 2019. Onomastic misnomers in the construction of faulty Andeanity and weak Andeaness: Biocultural Microrefugia in the Andes. *Pirineos, Journal of Mountain Ecology*, 174, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.3989/pirineos.2019.174009>

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C20.36 Political Geography

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University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

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Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain

Sang-Hyun Chi
Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea

Sara Koopman
Ohio State University, Ohio, USA

b. Corresponding Members

In December 2020 there were 187 subscribers to the mailing list and 346 to the Facebook page of the Commission on Political Geography. There were 171 and 345 in 2019, 179 and 345 in 2018 and 165 and 341 in 2017. No significant change to the geography of membership compared to the previous years. In 2018 and 2017 we had scrutinized in details the origin of the members of the mailing list, and in 2017 of both lists (and the overlap between them), see list below:

	2018 List	2017 List	2017 FB	2017 Total
Italy	43	39	55	94
USA	23	24	29	53
France	12	10	10	20
Poland	10	10	24	34
India	7	6	38	44

United Kingdom	7	10	34	44
Spain	7	6	6	12
Switzerland	6	6	5	11
Japan	6	5	5	10
The Netherlands	5	3	5	8
Finland	5	6	13	19
Germany	5	4	8	12
Israel	4	4	5	9
Canada	3	3	12	15
Hungary	3	2	4	6
Russia	2	3	2	5
Sweden	2	2	3	5
Turkey	2	1	4	5
Austria	2	2		2
New Zealand	2	2		2
Iran	2		1	1
Australia	1	2	4	6
Brazil	1	1	5	6
China	1	1	3	4
South Africa	1	1	3	4
Egypt	1		3	3
Romania	1	1	2	3
Slovakia	1	1	2	3
Singapore	1	1	1	2
Slovenia	1	1	1	2
South Korea	1	1	1	2
Uruguay	1	1	1	2
Croatia	1	1		1
Lebanon	1	1		1
Luxembourg	1	1		1
Mexico	1	1		1
Yemen	1	1		1
Pakistan			6	6
Nigeria			4	4
Argentina			3	3
Czech Republic			3	3
Nepal			3	3
Norway			3	3
Bangladesh			2	2
Belgium			2	2
Bosnia			2	2
Chile			2	2
Denmark			2	2
Greece			2	2

Algeria			1	1
Cambodia			1	1
Ecuador			1	1
Estonia			1	1
Georgia			1	1
Iraq			1	1
Jordania			1	1
Lithuania			1	1
Malaysia			1	1
Marshall Islands			1	1
Portugal			1	1
Qatar			1	1
Syria			1	1
Taiwan			1	1
Tunisia			1	1
Uganda			1	1
Viernam			1	1
Zimbabwe			1	1

NB : There is some overlap between the two groups since some individual members registered to both the mailing list and the facebook page. Facebook subscriptions not specified in 2018. Top 5 countries were Italy, India, the United Kingdom, the United States and Poland.

B. Meetings

a. Meetings organised, co-organised and sponsored by the commission

Most large conferences scheduled in 2020 were postponed to 2021 (see below), including two main IGU conferences.

- Webinar COVID-19 and the Rebordering of EU Spaces, organized by Ben Gurion University/ISAEI/Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Tuesday, June 16, 2020
- 17th International ‘Łódź’ Conference on Political Geography: Rivers in the lives of nations in their economy and politics, Kostrzyn nad Odrą, Frankfurt/Oder (Niemcy), 16-18. 09. 2020.
- ABS Webinar: (RE)PENSAR LAS FRONTERAS LATINOAMERICANAS Y CARIBEÑAS orgnaized by Association of Borderland Studies/ Umbral Fronteiras- Octobre 29 -31, 2020

- Webinar, meeting of the steering committee of the IGU Commission on Political Geography, 22 October 2020
- Second World Political and Economic Geography Conference was held during November 11-12, 2020 at Jiangsu Normal Univeristy, Xuzhou, Jiangsu province, China.
- Brazilian Congress and Latin American Meeting of Political Geography, Geopolitics, and Territorial Management / IV Congresso Brasileiro de Geografia Política, Geopolítica e Gestão do Território, Rio de Janeiro , Brasil, September 2020 was postponed and eventually four online debates were organized in in November and December 2020 to replace IV CONGEO organized bu PPGG-UFRJ UFF and UnB (Brazil)
- 1st roundtable: Prof. João Ferrão (Universidade de Lisboa), Prof. Rubén González (Universidade de Santiago de Compostela), mediator: Prof. Antônio Ângelo Martins da Fonseca (UFBA)
- 2nd roundtable: Prof. Cutberto Hernandez (Universidad de Taumalipas - México) e Prof. Mario Martinez (Universidad de los Andes – Venezuela), mediator Prof. Augusto César Pinheiro da Silva (PUC-Rio)
- 3rd roundtable: Prof. Kevin Cox (Ohio State University - EUA) e Prof. Clive Barnett (University of Exeter – UK), mediator Prof. Daniel A. de Azevedo (UnB)
- 4th roundtable: Prof. Stéphane Rosière (Univ. de Reims Champagne-Ardenes - France) e Prof. Arnaut Brennetot (Université de Rouen - France). Mediator: Prof. Iná Elias de Castro (UFRJ)

These roundtables can be watched at REBRAGEO channel on Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPYDdfFUWrIK0KqYKljwBunA>

b. A brief summary of the topics addressed at each meeting

- COVID-19 and new border policies at the internal and external borders of the European Union
- Rethinking borders in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 2020-2024 Programme of the Commission
- Second national conference in China on political and economic geography

- Online lectures on political geography
- c. Future events (more detailed information about future events can be found on the IGU CPG website)**
- IGU Thematic Conference Heritage Geographies: Politics, Uses and Governance of the Past, Lecce, Italy 29-31 May 2020 postponed to 27-29 May 2021 and virtual
 - 34th International Geography Congress Geography, Bridging the continents, Istanbul, Turkey 17-21 August 2020. Postponed to 16-20 August 2021
 - Webinar Un monde de frontières, Association des géographes français, 23 janvier 2021
 - Webinar Regards actuels de géographes sur les fronts et les frontières (Commission de géographie politique et de géopolitique du CNFG) 5 février 2021
 - Doctorales de la Commission géo/pol du CNFG Les cartes dans l'analyse politique de l'espace, Paris, 12 June 2020 postponed to 18 June 2021
 - Sessions at 2021 EUGEO Conference Sustainable geographies in the heart of Europe in Prague, Czech Republic, June 28 - July 1, 2021
 - Individual participations at the 2021 AAG Annual Conference in Seattle/virtual in 7-11 April 2021 and the Preconference of the AAG Political Geography Specialty Group (virtual) on 6-7 January 2021, the 2021 ABS Annual Conference 15-17 April 2021 (virtual), the 2021 RGS/IBG Annual Conference in London/virtual 31 August-3 September 2021. Encuentro de Geografías de América Latina (EGAL y el Congreso de Universidades Públicas de Argentina) 30 de noviembre, 1, 2, 3 y 4 de diciembre del 2021.
 - (Extraordinary) International Geographical Congress Le temps des géographes / Time for Geographers Paris, France, 18-22 July 2022

C. Networking

a. Collaboration with other IGU Commissions and Task Forces

The Commission on Political Geography has worked with other IGU Commissions, in order to organise a group of joint sessions at the IGC, the

IGU Regional Conferences and the IGU Thematic Conference, especially History, Gender.

b. Collaboration with other international, intergovernmental, and inter- and multi-disciplinary groups

The Commission on Political Geography has been actively collaborating with other international research groups, such as Commission de géographie politique et de géopolitique du CNFG (France), BRIT (Border Regions in Transition), ABS (Association of Borderlands Studies), Società Geografica Italiana, EuGeo, Association of American Geography Political Geography Study Group, Political Geography research group of the Royal Geographical Society, Research Committee 15 (Political and Cultural Geography) of IPSA (International Political Science Association) and others, in order to co-organise and co-sponsor conference and seminars.

D. Publications

Newsletters are available on the website of the Commission on Political Geography including the newsletter edited in 2020 (nr. 26).

The current accurate URL of the commission's web site:

<http://www.igu-cpg.unimib.it/>

The webmaster is: Anna Casaglia

anna.casaglia@unitn.it

The Commission has also got a mailing list; in order to subscribe to the CPG new mailing list, it is necessary to send an empty email to IGU-CPG-join@list.uva.nl or to send an email to the administrator v.d.mamadouh@uva.nl

The Commission has got a Facebook group:

IGU CPG Commission on Political Geography

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/456054597763023/>

To become a member, it is necessary to join Facebook and to send a request to the group administrator. elena.dellagnese@unimib.it

C20.37 Population Geography

A. Membership

a. Steering committee 2016 – 2020

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b. Steering committee 2021 – 2023

Prof. Martin Bell has resigned for retirement while Prof. Piguet, Yeoh and Shen have to step out according to IGU statute. Dr Nikola Sander has decided to resign as secretary but wishes to remain in the committee. Prof. Darren Smith has kindly accepted to step in as chair for the next period. Other members have been contacted and are considering to step in as vice-chair. Prof. Charles-Edwards Elin (Australia) enters the committee on Jan. 1st and replace Prof. Bell. The new steering committee shall be confirmed at the Business meeting of the Commission in Istanbul.

c. Corresponding members

The commission counted 390 corresponding members as of 15.12.2018 and 391 as of 31.12.2020. The geographical profile remained similar with the UK, US, India, Russia, and China as top origin countries.

UK	43	Serbia	3
USA	31	Slovakia	3
India	28	Unknown	2
Russia	26	Fiji	2
China	25	Greece	2
Poland	22	Iran	2
Germany	17	Mexico	2
Canada	15	Netherlands	2
Australia	14	Senegal	2
Japan	11	Singapore	2
France	11	Taiwan	2
Spain	11	Belarus	1
Sweden	9	Bulgaria	1
Romania	8	Burkina Faso	1
Switzerland	8	Estonia	1
Czech Republic	7	Finland	1
Brazil	6	Indonesia	1
New Zealand	6	Ireland	1
South Africa	6	Korea	1
Hong Kong	5	Latvia	1
Portugal	5	Lithuania	1
Austria	4	Mongolia	1
Cameroon	4	Morocco	1
Egypt	4	Slovenia	1
Italy	4	South Korea	1
Thailand	4	Tunisia	1
Cote d'Ivoire	3	Turkey	1
Ghana	3	UAE	1
Hungary	3	Ukraine	1
Israel	3	Total	391

d. Commission website

The Commission had a specific website <http://www.igu-popgeo.org/>. The website was managed by Nikola Sander. A decision shall be made in 2021 whether the specific website shall be maintained or if enough information is to be found within IGU website.

B. Meetings

a. Meetings organized (or sponsored) in 2020

All activities planned in 2020 were postponed.

b. Meetings and other events planned by the Commission, 2021

The commission is involved in the 34th International Geographical Congress in Istanbul.

There are 5 exciting population geography sessions organized at IGC2021 :

- Session 1: Processes of population change, migration and development
- Session 2: The Challenges of Transnational Migration and Social Diversity
- Session 3: Climate change, migrations and conflicts
- Session 4: Forced displacement, refugees, stranded populations and the “migration crisis”
- Session 5: Short-scale mobilities and the environment: How environmental variability threatens crucial regional, provincial, urban or micro-mobilities.

C. Networking

a. Links with other IGU Commissions and Taskforces

The commission pursue fruitful contacts. Especially with C08.17 Global Change and Human Mobility, C12.10 Gender and Geography and the new Commission on African Studies.

b. Collaboration with other International and Inter-disciplinary Groupings, 2020

The existing collaborations (e.g. with the International Population Geographies Conference series, Population Geography Research Group of the RGS-IBG) will be maintained.

D. Publications

a. Newsletters, Special journal issues and Books

Newsletter

The IGU Newsletter was forwarded to all members of the commission.

Selected Books

The commission see his task as mainly a conference organizer where researchers can meet and discuss results before publication in scientific journals. The commission is not directly involved in publication activities.

Journals

Members of the steering committee are all very active in advisory boards of the best journals in population geography where they also publish regularly.

C20.38 Research Methods in Geography

A. Membership

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There are still no corresponding members, but we will focus on this task as soon as the Commission website is finalized.

B. Meetings

a. Virtual Meetings

Online inauguration meeting (16 April 2020)

All the steering group members attended the meeting. The topics discussed were (I) the composition of the new Commission and its vision, (II) the “Vision and Means” document, (III) strategies to increase the visibility of the new Commission (website, social media, personal networks).

Online meeting (25 June 2020)

Seven steering group members attended the meeting. The topics discussed were (I) the draft for the Commission website (webpages and contents), (II) recruitment of the corresponding members, (III) the Commission inaugural session program at the IGU 34th International Geographical Congress, (IV) the possibility of adding two/three new steering committee members in order to increase the range of geographic areas and research topics within the steering committee.

Online meeting (13 August 2020)

Six steering group members attended the meeting. The topics discussed were: (I) finalizing the Commission’s vision. (II) evaluating means to expose the activities of the Commission. (III) the need to recruit members to the Commission. (IV) the outline and structure of the Commission’s webpage.

b. Program of Work

This program summarizes the topics addressed at each meeting and identifies the main areas of work for the next ones:

- **Improving a transnational critical dialogue on research methods in Geography**

The Commission aims at supporting the development and sharing of knowledge, theories and research methods by involving scholars from different regions and traditions and providing support conditions for academic and scientific cooperation. To achieve this goal the Commission work will focus on (I) the organization of one international online workshop in 2021 to discuss and share conceptual and practical issues associated with research methods in geography and (II) an effective sharing of digital resources on research methodology in geography (e.g., books, journals, blogs) to facilitate the development and diffusion of innovative research methods and approaches.

- **Increasing the Commission's visibility**

In order to promote and support international dialogue on research methods, it is important to heighten the visibility of the Commission. The steering committee recognises the importance of a strong online and social media presence and thanks to an IGU operating grant the Commission has commissioned (I) the design of a website based on CMS Wordpress for both desktop and mobile devices and (II) the creation of an original logo for the Commission. Social media will have a key role within the Commission communication strategy. As soon as the website is available, a Facebook page and a Twitter account will follow.

- **Developing the network**

Website, social media platforms and personal networking are the ground for the development and

implementation of the network. In particular, corresponding members will be recruited by all the members of the Steering Committee.

C. Networking

The Commission recognizes that cooperation with other IGU Commissions and Task Forces is an essential condition to reflect on and share innovative methods and support the conduct of high-quality research. Accordingly, in 2021 the Commission intends to involve the Young and Early Career Geographers Task Force in the organization of an international workshop on research methods in Geography.

During 2021 the Commission's website will also be constructed and used to facilitate recruitment of members and networking with other commissions.

D. Publications

Dickens, L. & Hay, I. 2020, 'Geographers and ethics', Oxford Bibliographies in Geography, ed. Barney Warf, Oxford University Press, New York. (@10,000 words) DOI: 10.1093/OBO/9780199874002-0223

Hay, I. & Dickens, L. 2020, 'Geography and ethics', Oxford Bibliographies in Geography, ed. Barney Warf, Oxford University Press, New York. (@10,000 words) DOI: 10.1093/OBO/9780199874002-0093

Hay, I. 2020, 'Qualitative data' (updated) in The International Encyclopedia of Geography: People, the Earth, Environment and Technology, eds. D. Richardson, N. Castree, M.F. Goodchild, A.L. Kobayashi, W. Liu, & R.A. Marston, Wiley-Blackwell. DOI: 10.1002/9781118786352.wbieg0421.pub2

C20.39 Sustainability of Rural Systems

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

Co-Chairpersons

Serge Schmitz, Belgium
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Secretary

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This structure is the consequence of two successive IGU CSRS Steering Committee (SC) meetings held virtually on 19 May and 11 September 2020. In those meetings, five of the current members were appointed to join the IGU CSRS SC and one of the Co-Chairs and the Secretary were elected. Three issues are highlighted:

- i. Some of the previous SC members had served for eight years and/or had been previous Co-Chairs and in line with the leadership guidelines were required to resign in 2020. A previous Co-Chair, Ana Firmino, unfortunately passed away in May 2020. In recognition of her passionate quest to recruit young PhD students, the SC decided to name the annual IGU CSRS scholarships for participation in colloquia targeting PhD students from UN classified developing countries, the “Ana Firmino Scholarships”.
- ii. Previous Co-Chair Holly Barcus was elected as IGU Vice-President in mid-2020.
- iii. For the approval of the IGU Commissions/Task Forces — and their respective Chairs and Steering Committees — by the IGU Virtual General Assembly held on 21 August, 2020, the IGU sent two suggestions for the IGU CSRS SC composition:
 - Invite members from South/Southeast Asia, Africa and/or Latin America.
 - Observe the gender balance.

b. Corresponding Members

The number of corresponding members of the IGU CSRS is 567 in total from 65 countries as of 4 January, 2021. This is calculated by means of the e-mailing list.

Afghanistan	1	Malaysia	1
Australia	28	Mexico	1
Austria	4	Morocco	1
Bangladesh	1	Netherlands	8
Belgium	7	New Zealand	6
Brazil	21	Nigeria	3
Burundi	1	Others	5
Cameroon	2	Poland	4
Canada	56	Portugal	8
Chile	2	Romania	8
China	17	Russia	3
Columbia	1	Saudi Arabia	1
Croatia	1	Serbia	2
Czech Republic	7	Singapore	1
Ecuador	1	Slovakia	1
Egypt	2	Slovenia	3
Finland	1	South Africa	7
France	18	South Korea	24
Germany	28	Spain	43
Greece	1	Sri Lanka	1
Guinea	1	Sudan	1
Haiti	1	Sweden	5
Hong Kong	1	Syria	2
India	151	Taiwan	2
Iran	6	Thailand	4
Ireland	16	Turkey	3
Israel	4	UK	17
Italy	10	USA	248
Ivory Coast	1	Vietnam	5
Japan	115	Total	566

B. Meetings

The annual IGU CSRS colloquium is the most important activity of the commission since its inception (originally as a Study Group so-called “Rural Systems”) in the IGU Conference held in Washington in 1992. They are a unique opportunity for academic collegiality and the interchange of experiences between worldwide rural geographers. Importantly, they always contain a 4-days fieldtrip developed in rural locations to know initiatives, experiences, economic activities, transformations, conflicts, etc., which are understood as living laboratories to explore and, in parallel, as arena for in situ academic debates regarding sustainability in rural areas. Typically, colloquia are progressively held in a different continent, each year trying to alternate Global North and Global South.

The 27th IGU CSRS colloquium was held in Minnesota and Wisconsin (United States of America) in July 2019 and the 28th was expected to be held in Croatia in August 2020, following the IGU Conference organised in Turkey, the location being chosen, among other reasons, because of the geographical proximity and the good air connections between Istanbul and Zagreb. However, the covid-19 pandemic has caused the postponement of the latter, to be held in 2021, in line with the IGU Conference in Istanbul also being postponed. It is the first time since 1992 that the IGU CSRS annual colloquium has not been held.

Logically, the IGU CSRS also participates in the IGU conferences, commonly by means of special sessions.

a. 27th IGU CSRS Colloquium: United States (2019)

Website: <https://www.macalester.edu/geography/igu-csrs2019/>

This colloquium was themed Sustaining Rural Systems: Rural Vitality in an Era of Globalization and Economic Nationalism. With 55 attendants from 16 countries, it was developed in Minnesota and Wisconsin, en route and with paper presentation sessions held in Saint Paul and Eau Claire. The Co-Chairs of the organising committee were Holly Barcus (Macalester College) and Paul Kaldjian (University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire).



The main aim of the event was to discuss how globalisation and economic nationalism impact rural areas. Although they are quite often understood as contradictory spatial dynamics, they happen in parallel. Additionally, and despite the global and the nation-state scales gaining momentum, the rural local scale remains important. There were four foci of attention:

1. Rural innovation and rural-urban partnerships.
2. Rural demographics, recognising diverse patterns.

3. Rural land-use transitions.
4. Transitions affecting especially the farming sector.



b. 28th IGU CSRS Colloquium: Croatia (2020-2021)

Website: <https://www.pmf.unizg.hr/geog/rural>

This colloquium is themed Rural on the Move: Transitions, Transformations, Mobilities and Resistance. The event is organised by the University of Zagreb and chaired by Aleksandar Lukić. For the planned event in August 2020, there were 85 accepted abstract submissions from 30 different countries. In late 2020, a new call for August 2021 has been opened in order to open the possibility to submit new abstracts and, additionally, all already accepted delegates are kindly requested to confirm their decision to participate.

The main intention is to discuss on the notion of rural change, primarily its dynamics, intensity, persistence and interconnectedness. The countryside will be seen as an area experiencing rapid transitions and transformations (in different domains: economic, social, technological, political, cultural, environmental, etc.), mobilities (traditional and novel) and resistances to change (conservative and progressive).

c. Participation in the IGU Conference in Istanbul (2020-2021)

The IGU CSRS has convened three scientific sessions for the IGU Conference to be held in Istanbul in August 2021, as follows:

1. Food Market: From Global to Local and Vice Versa, chaired by Serge Schmitz and Valerià Paül. The purpose is to document the world diversity of food processing, distribution and consumption patterns, with an increasing disconnection between producers and consumers, but at the same time acknowledging the initiatives “relinking” them.

2. Living in the Countryside in the 21st Century, chaired by Serge Schmitz and Holly Barcus. This session aims to enlighten about the cohabitation of people in the countryside with different migration patterns: those who have chosen to live there but also those who live there but did not chose.
3. Global Countryside and Local Development: Facing Rural Problematics, chaired by Eugenio Cejudo, Ana Nieto and Francisco Navarro. The aim is to discuss on the different practices of rural development according to various spatial contexts, applicable frameworks and underling philosophies.

According to the local organising committee the three sessions have received enough submissions to guarantee their proper development.

d. Participation in the IGU Conference in Paris (2022)

The IGU CSRS has begun to discuss about the participation in this forthcoming IGU centennial conference by focusing on the history of the Rural Geography sub-discipline in the context of the history of geographical thought. It is expected to liaise with the IGU commission of History of Geographical Thought and with the local organising committee to hold session/s on this topic, trying to balance the different national geographical traditions with the global geographical community domain — i.e. discussing if the different cultural/linguistic traditions have led towards the development of various Rural Geography schools (e.g. Anglophone versus Francophone? Western vis-à-vis other trajectories?).

e. Plan for IGU CSRS Colloquia 2022-2024

- The 29th colloquium (2022) will be organised in Egypt.
- The 30th colloquium (2023) will be organised in Poland.
- Currently, there are two bids for the 31st colloquium (2024). The decision will be made in 2022, as usually two years before.

C. Networking

The IGU CSRS collaborates with other IGU commissions and related international, intergovernmental or inter- and multi-disciplinary groups. These include:

- Serge Schmitz is an editorial member of the journal *Geography and Sustainability*, an initiative largely supported by the IGU, and has contributed with a chapter on farming to the book *Geography and Anthropocene*, coordinated by Barbaros Gönençgil, Vice-President of the IGU, to be presented in the forthcoming IGU Conference in Istanbul.
- Since 2019, IGU CSRS corresponding members from Poland are part of the DESIRA (Digitisation: Economic and Social Impacts in Rural Areas) initiative, a EU H2020 Project coordinated by the University of Pisa on improving the capacity of society and of political bodies to respond to the challenges that digitisation generates in rural areas, agriculture and forestry in the next ten years (<https://desira2020.eu/>). The project has been granted for the period 2019-2023.
- In early 2020 a EU H2020 RISE project on sustainable development in mountain areas was granted (<https://www.highlands3.eu/>) for the period 2020-2023 (potentially extended to 2024 due to the covid-19 pandemic). In this project, IGU CSRS corresponding members from different Romanian and Spanish universities cooperate.
- On 22 June 2020, the Alliance of Poverty Reduction and Development (APRD) was officially approved by the Alliance of International Science Organisations (ANSO). This is a non-profit, non-governmental international scientific organisation founded in 2018 by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and 36 other international science and education institutions from around the world. On 17 November 2020, IGU CSRS SC/corresponding members participated in the Inaugural Conference of Alliance of Poverty Reduction and Development, ANSO & International Conference of Global Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development, held in Lincang, Yunnan Province, China, and presented the following keynote addresses:
 - Holly Barcus: “From Local to Global: Considering the Importance of Place and Local Knowledge in Rural Sustainability”.
 - Hualou Long: “How to Measure the Efficiency of Targeted Poverty Alleviation in China: A Perspective of Third-Party Assessment”.

D. Publications and Dissemination

Academic dissemination has been a central concern of the IGU CSRS since its origins. Most of the early colloquia derived in conference proceeding books but some of them took considerable time to publish after the respective colloquia. Furthermore, in many countries a proceedings book is not considered a legitimate scientific publication. For these reasons in previous conferences it was decided that the results of the presentations held in the colloquia might be published by means of peer-reviewed conference proceedings and peer-reviewed papers in ranked scientific journals (commonly, by means of a special issue). The main weakness of the latter is that they appear after the event and they depend on the ex post submission of papers and the reviewing timing of the respective journal.

All these publication systems have been intensively discussed in the last years by the IGU CSRS SC. Hence, the current publications reflect different choices made between the IGU CSRS SC and the respective local organising committees.

a. Publications Derived from Previous Colloquia Appeared in 2019-2020 or in Process of Edition

For the **26th IGU CSRS Colloquium** held in 2018, a book of peer-reviewed short chapters listed in a previous report was published. In addition, a special issue of the journal *Documents d'Anàlisi Geogràfica* — entitled “Rural Landscapes Beyond the Idyll” — was published in 2020 with papers from this event, available at:

<https://dag.revista.uab.es/issue/view/33/showToc>

The introductory section of the special issue: Paül, V.; Tort, J. & Trillo, J. M. (2020): Presentation. Rural Landscapes Beyond the Idyll. *Documents d'Anàlisi Geogràfica*, 66(2): 245–255.

<https://doi.org/10.5565/rev/dag.653>

From the **27th IGU CSRS Colloquium** held in 2019, currently two publications are in process of completion (expected for mid-2021):

- A special issue of the *Geographical Review* entitled “Sustaining Rural Systems: Rural Vitality in an Era of Globalization and Economic Nationalism”, edited by Holly Barcus and William Moseley. The papers are beginning to be available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/utgr20/current>

- A book entitled *Rural Transformations: Globalization and its Implications for Rural People, Land, and Economies*, to be published at Routledge, edited by Holly Barcus, Serge Schmitz and Roy Jones.

Approximately each one contains around 10 individual contributions.

b. Other Publications

The IGU CSRS is a commission where academic collegiality produces outcomes such as publications written in collaboration or cross-changes in different instances well beyond the direct scientific dissemination derived from the organised colloquia. There are different examples of this relevant academic trend; in 2019-2020 two cases in point are as follows:

- Griffin, C. J.; Jones, R. & Robertson, I. J. M. (2019): *Moral Ecologies. Histories of Conservation, Dispossession and Resistance*. Cham: Palgrave.

Included in this book there are chapters from various IGU CSRS corresponding members from Australia and Brazil.

- Since 2017, Valerià Paül is a member of the editorial committee of the *Boletín de la Asociación de Geógrafos Españoles*, the journal of the Spanish Association of Geography. One of the initiatives since then has been an invitation to renowned experts from outside Spain to contribute as invited authors. Two have come from the IGU CSRS, one in 2018 (Guy Robinson) and one in 2020:

Hoefle, S. W. (2020): Conservation Refugees and Environmental Dispossession in 21st Century Critical Geography. *Boletín de la Asociación de Geógrafos Españoles*, 84, 2895, 1–34. <https://doi.org/10.21138/bage.2895>

c. Digital Networking

Website <https://igu-csrs.github.io>

In mid-2020, we set up a new website of the IGU CSRS. Currently (January 2021) is being updated.

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ruralgeography/>

E-mail list igu-csrs@okayama-u.ac.jp

<https://ml.okayama-u.ac.jp/mailman/listinfo/igu-csrs>

C20.40 ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy

A. Membership

As a joint venture of ICA and IGU the Commission is headed by a chair from the ICA side (currently Peter JORDAN, Austria), a chair from the IGU side (currently Cosimo PALAGIANO, Italy) and a common vice-chair (currently Paulo DE MENEZES, Brazil) as well as a steering board comprising the chairs and five additional members from different countries.

Full (steering board) members:

CHOO, Sungjae (Republic of Korea)
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FERLAND, Yaïves (Canada)
yaives.ferland@scg.ulaval.ac

JORDAN, Peter (Austria, ICA chair)
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MENEZES, Paulo de (Brazil, common vice-chair)
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ORMELING, Ferjan (Netherlands)
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PALAGIANO, Cosimo (Italy, IGU chair)
cosimo.palagiano@uniroma1.it

RAPER, Peter (South Africa)
raperpe2@gmail.com

WATANABE, Kohei (Japan)
kw10004@cam.ac.uk

The chairs and all other steering board members are in office since 2012 and will after three terms according to IGU regulations have to be replaced in 2024. Candidates to succeed them have already been recruited and are able and willing to continue the Commission.

In addition, as of 10 January 2021, the Commission has 155 corresponding members from 48 countries and all continents, so in total $8+155 = 163$ full and corresponding members.

Italy	20	France	2
Republic of Korea	17	India	2
South Africa	12	Israel	2
Canada	6	Kazakhstan	2
Hungary	6	Morocco	2

Romania	6	Slovenia	2
Japan	5	Tunisia	2
Netherlands	5	Australia	1
Poland	5	Belgium	1
United Kingdom	5	Columbia	1
USA	5	Indonesia	1
Botswana	4	Jamaica	1
Brazil	4	Moldova	1
China	4	New Zealand	1
Spain	4	Nigeria	1
Algeria	3	Norway	1
Austria	3	Pakistan	1
Czechia	3	Russia	1
Lesotho	3	Saudi Arabia	1
Taiwan	3	Slovakia	1
Zimbabwe	3	Suriname	1
Argentina	2	Sweden	1
Croatia	2	Switzerland	1
Egypt	2	Turkey	1

B. Meetings

a. ICC pre-conference workshop “Role and structure of national place-name boards”, Tokyo [Tōkyō], 15th July 2019

The coincidence of the facts that Japan is in the process of establishing a national place-name board and the 29th International Cartographic Conference (ICC) took place in Tokyo triggered the idea to present in a pre-conference workshop some examples of good practice in other countries to potential members of this board. This workshop was organized by Peter JORDAN and Kohei WATANABE and took place in the main ICC conference building Miraikan. It saw four examples presented: Poland’s national place-name commissions (by Maciej ZYCH, Poland), the Korean Committee on Geographical Names (by Sungjae CHOO and Hyo Hyun SUNG, both Republic of Korea), the Austrian Board on Geographical Names and Germany’s Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (both by Peter JORDAN, Austria). The papers as well as an intensive final debate with the predominantly Japanese audience may have conveyed some useful suggestions how to structure a future board of Japan.

b. 29th International Cartographic Conference (ICC), Tokyo [Tōkyō], Japan, 15-20 July 2019

Session 1: General approaches, Chair: Peter JORDAN (Austrian Academy of Sciences)

WŁOSKOWICZ, Wojciech (Poland): Cartographers and geographers as toponym users, creators, and promoters. A linguistic perspective on cartographic and textual dissemination of geographical names

WATANABE, Kohei et al. (Japan): On the SCJ report "Challenges for the national standardisation of geographical names in Japan"

FERLAND, Yaïves; MOSTAFAVI, Mir A. (Canada): From Spatial to Platial Information Systems: For a Better Representation of the Sense of Place

Session 2: Place names and identity, Chair: Sungjae CHOO (Kyung Hee University Seoul)

ALASLI, Malak (Morocco): Toponyms' contribution to identity: The case study of Rabat (Morocco)

HUANG, Wenchuan (Taiwan): Memory and local Identity: the Persistence of Colonial-Era Street Names in Hong Kong after 1997

BARTOS-ELEKES, Zsombor (Romania): Mapping the core and periphery applied to a choronym (the case of Székely Land)

APRIADSA, Albina et al. (Indonesia): Unveil the "Lost Toponyms" in the Northern Part of the Menoreh Mountains, Java, Indonesia

Session 3: Place names and map design, Chair: Cosimo PALAGIANO (Università di Sapienza)

BINIEK, Sébastien et al. (France): Fifty shades of Roboto: Text Design Choices and Categories in Multi-Scale Maps

SUGA, Masaki et al. (Japan): Multilingualization Experiment of Geographical Name Information Using Vector Tile Format

TINGHUA Ai, YINGZHE Lei (China): Point Label Placement on Hexagonal Map Grids

CAHYONO, Ari (Indonesia): Geographical names to support monitoring of the regional dynamic in Magelang, Central Java, Indonesia

c. 5th International Symposium on Place Names (ISPN) "Recognition, regulation, revitalisation: place names and indigenous languages", Clarens, South Africa, 18-20 September 2019

After four years the small town Clarens in South Africa, located in a fascinating scenery of table mountains near to Lesotho hosted again an event of the ISPN series organized by the Joint IGU/ICA Commission on Toponymy and the Unit for Language Facilitation and Empowerment at the University of the Free State (UFS). ISPN 2019 aimed to explore the link between the processes of researching, maintaining, and restoring indigenous place names, and the preservation and promotion of the indigenous languages from which these place names originate.

The symposium was attended by about 30 linguists, geographers and cartographers from 10 mainly African and European countries, but also from Canada, and saw 20 paper presentations. Keynotes were presented by Peter JORDAN (Austria), who outlined current geographical and cartographic research directions in toponymy, and Charles PFUKWA (Zimbabwe), who highlighted the toponymy of the indigenous languages in his country and beyond. Peter E. RAPER (South Africa) very interestingly addressed Bushman influence on Early Cape names. Name changes and their political background with special reference to urban names was another major topic. Frédéric GIRAUT (Switzerland) presented the commendable initiative of an African neotonymy academic observatory network (<https://neotopo.hypotheses.org/category/african-neotonymy-observatory-innetwork>).



A final highlight of the symposium were papers on the use of place names in the South African sign language presented by Susan LOMBARD, Emily MATABANE and Theodorus DU PLESSIS (all South Africa). Sign languages describe prominent, widely known geographical features by the visual

appearance of a landmark, e.g., Cape Town in South Africa by the Table Mountain, and smaller places by a sign for the first letter of their written name. The symposium witnessed the density of toponymic issues in the southern part of Africa, but also the wealth of toponymic expertise available there.

d. Symposium “Place names and migration”, Vienna, 6-8 November 2019

Migration is a global and all-time phenomenon. Ever since humankind exists, people were migrating – individually or in groups. Concerning place names people can migrate to rather scarcely named areas but also to areas that have a densely and well-established namespace. Especially in the latter case it is interesting to look on how people – often with a different linguistic and cultural background – deal with the situation. Very much depends also on the political background of migration: Does it occur in the context of conquest and colonization or is it not associated with political power? And how do host societies react to the naming practice of migrants?

These and other questions were in the focus of a symposium organized at the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Austrian Board of Geographical Names (AKO) by AKO, UNGEGN’s Dutch and German-speaking Division (DGSD), the Joint ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy, the Austrian Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying (BEV) and the Austrian Geographical Society (ÖGG) in the premises of BEV. 95 toponymists and guests from 19 countries and 5 continents saw 27 paper presentations, among them several current and former UNGEGN members like Sungjae CHOO, Peter JORDAN, Young-Hoon KIM, Ferjan ORMELING, and Cosimo PALAGIANO. The event was honoured by the presence of the former UNGEGN chair Helen KERFOOT as well as the current UNGEGN chair Pierre JAILLARD. Peter JORDAN had the pleasure to invite all participants for a social dinner at the occasion of his 70th birthday.



e. Meetings planned for 2021 and later

IGU Conference on Heritage Geographies: Politics, Uses and Governance of the Past, Lecce (Italy), 26-28 May 2021. Toponymic sessions on the topic “Place names as a part of the cultural heritage” with 25 papers already submitted and accepted. (The conference should have taken place in May 2020 and was postponed. It is now planned as a virtual meeting). Additional abstracts can be submitted by 31 January 2021.

8th EuGeo Congress on the Geography of Europe, Prague (Czechia), 28 June – 1 July 2021. Toponymic session “Minority place-name standardization – A comparison of regulations and approaches in Europe”. The congress is planned as a hybrid event. Abstracts due by 31 January 2021.

34th IGU International Geographical Congress, Istanbul (Turkey), 16-21 August 2021. Toponymic sessions on the topic “Place names as indicators of human perception of space” with 15 papers already submitted and accepted. (The congress should have taken place in August 2020 and was postponed). Additional abstracts can be submitted by 11 January.

6th International Symposium on Place Names “Standardization and the wealth of place names– aspects of a delicate relationship”, Bloemfontein (South Africa), 29 September – 1 October 2021. The symposium is planned as a hybrid event. Abstracts due by 5 March 2021.

“Atlases in Time – National and Regional Issues”, conference at the occasion of 150th anniversary of the Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN), Madrid (Spain), April 2022, in cooperation with the ICA Commission on Atlases. Abstracts for toponymic papers due by 31 January 2022.

C. Networking

As it can be seen from the list of meetings, the Commission cooperates closely with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN). Cosimo PALAGIANO is IGU Liaison Officer to UNGEGN, Peter JORDAN ICA Liaison Officer. The latter is a member of UNGEGN since 1986 and was 2006-2017 convener of its Working Group on Exonyms. Former and current UNGEGN Chairs and Vice-chairs are steering board members of the Commission. The 2nd (new) UNGEGN Session, 3-7 May 2021, will be an opportunity to confirm this cooperation and to report on the activities of the Commission.

The International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS) is the other multidisciplinary

global umbrella organization in the field of geographical names and beyond. Membership of ICOS and the Commission largely overlaps, and many Commission members occupy leading positions in ICOS. Peter JORDAN was scheduled for a keynote at the ICOS Congress 2020, which had to be postponed to 2021 with the same program.

UNEGN as well as ICOS offer the Commission an impact far beyond the limits of geography and cartography and thus the opportunity to present geographical ideas and findings to a wider scientific community, notably linguists, who use to perceive them as most valuable supplements.

Impact on linguists and a fertile exchange of ideas with them is also a main characteristic of the series of symposia in cooperation with the University of the Free State, Faculty of the Humanities, Bloemfontein, South Africa. The series of so far three joint meetings (Clarens 2019, Windhoek 2017, Clarens 2015) will be continued in 2021 (Bloemfontein).

Within ICA and IGU, the Commission's cooperation is closest with the ICA Commission on Atlases (Chair: René SIEBER), earlier chaired by Peter JORDAN, as documented by several jointly organized symposia before 2019 and again a planned common event in 2022 (Madrid). It is almost as close with the ICA Commission on the History of Cartography (Chair: Imre DEMHARDT). Common events have and will also be organized with the IGU commissions on Latin America and Caribbean Studies (Chair: Juan Manuel DELGADO), Political Geography (Chair: Virginie MAMADOUH), Cultural Approaches in Geography (Chair: Je-Hun RYU), History of Geography (Chair: Marcella SCHMIDT DI FRIEBERG), Tourism, Leisure and Global Change (Chair: Julie WILSON) and Geography of Governance (Chair: Carlos Nuñez SILVA).

D. Publications

Proceedings of the two international symposia in 2019 co-organized by the Joint ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy, i.e., 18-20 September in Clarens (South Africa) and 6-8 November in Vienna (Austria), appeared in 2020 and early in 2021. The proceedings of the Vienna symposium were jointly sponsored by IGU and ICA.

Chrismi-Rinda LOTH (ed.) (2020), Recognition, regulation, revitalisation: place names and indigenous languages. Proceedings of the 5th International Symposium on Place Names 2019. Bloemfontein: Sun Bonani Scholar.

RAPER, Peter R.: Bushman influence on early Cape place names

MÖLLER, Lucie A.: Translated toponymic texts: a key to language artefacts

NTULI, Sibusiso: Reflections on place names in indigenous languages

DE LANGE, Jani: The South African Geographical Names Council and the restoration of the South African NBICL

LIEBENBERG, Helena: Indigenous place names in VOC Cape documents

KHOTSO, Palesa; CHELE, 'Mampoi: Attrition of indigenous place names among the Basotho: loss of history and culture

LOMBAARD, Susan: Place names in South Africa: the deaf way

HIEMÄE, Reet: Place names and epidemics: a case study of handling collective fear

REINSMA, Riemer: Looking for the middle of nowhere: nicknames denoting imaginary remote locations and alluding to really existing ones

ZHOU, Sindiso; LANDA Nhlanhla; TSHOTSHO, Baba: In conversation with the socio-economic and socio-political determinants of naming the place in Bulawayo's We Need New Names

LUBBE, Johan: The role of politics, culture and linguistic factors in the naming and renaming of street and suburb names – a case study

MAMVURA, Zvinashe: A gendered analysis of the European place-naming system in Salisbury, Rhodesia, c.1890 to 1980

JORDAN, Peter: Current geographical research directions in toponymy

Allison DOLLIMORE & Peter JORDAN (eds.) (2021), Place Names and Migration. Proceedings of the Symposium in Vienna, 6-8 November 2019 (= Name & Place, Vol. 9). Hamburg: Verlag Dr. Kovač.

Section 1: The research field and trans-continental contacts

JORDAN, Peter (Vienna [Wien]): "Place names and migration" as a research field

ORMELING, Ferjan (Amsterdam): Dutch names worldwide: the naming behaviour of Dutch explorers in the 17th and 18th centuries

LOUATI, Fatima (Tlemcen, Algeria); BOUHADJER, Souad (Saida, Algeria): A

diachronic study of Phoenician place names in the Middle East and North Africa

PALAGIANO, Cosimo; CAPUZZO, Ester (both Rome [Roma]): The transfer of place names from Italy to Latin America

Section 2: Extra-European situations

CHOO, Sungjae; YOON, Jihwan (both Seoul [Sŏul]): A case of the impelled migration before and during the Korean War

LIŠČÁK, Vladimír (Prague [Praha]): Han immigration to Taiwan since the 17th century and changes in place names

HUANG, Wenchuan (Taiwan): Street names embodying colonial legacy and spatial politics in Hong Kong

KANG, Peter (Taipeh [Taipei]): Hokkien toponyms used by Hokkien immigrants in Batavia, Java: Cases from the 18th and 19th centuries

MATTHEWS, Philip (Lower Hutt, New Zealand): The consequences of British colonization for geonames in New Zealand

Section 3: European situations

LUCARNO, Guido (Milan [Milano], Italy); BACHER, Valeria; BACHER, Annamaria (both Formazza, Italy): Toponymy of Walser immigration in the Italian Alps since the 13th century. A survey in the Formazza Valley

POHL, Heinz-Dieter (Klagenfurt am Wörthersee, Austria): Slovenian place names in Carinthia and East Tyrol

WŁOSKOWICZ, Wojciech (Cracow [Kraków], Poland): Migrations as the cause of diachronic toponymic layers in the Polish Beskids

SASI, Attila; MIKESY, Gábor (both Budapest): The Pannonian Basin: at the crossroads of peoples

MANU, Margareta Magda (Bucharest [București]): Ethnonyms used for and by Romanian migrant groups in Transylvania and their reflections in toponymy

FELECAN, Oliviu (Baia Mare & Cluj-Napoca, Romania): Romanian unofficial urban toponyms related to recent migration

MÁCHA, Přemysl (Brno, Czechia): Migrants and migration in the linguistic landscape of Brno, Czechia

CRLJENKO, Ivana (Zagreb): Traces of Croatian migrations in the toponymy of several European countries

HERZEN, Andrey (Moscow [Moskva]): The historical-geographical context of transferred toponyms

E. Use of IGU grants

IGU grants (as well as an equal amount of ICA grants) were used for the technical production (layout, contribution to printing costs) of the book Allison DOLLIMORE & Peter JORDAN (eds.) (2021), *Place Names and Migration. Proceedings of the Symposium in Vienna, 6-8 November 2019 (= Name & Place, Vol. 9)*. Hamburg: Verlag Dr. Kovač. The Commission feels very obliged for this grant.

C20.41 Transport and Geography

A. Membership

At the end of 2020, membership of the IGU Transport and Geography Commission (T&GC) totalled 435 members from 59 countries. Membership includes attendees and participants at T&GC sessions held at IGU Santiago 2011, IGC Cologne 2012, IGU Kyoto 2013, IGU Krakow 2014, IGU Moscow 2015, IGC Beijing 2016, IGU Quebec City 2018 and RGS London 2019, as well as Steering Committee members and self-requests from various colleagues.

Breakdown of Transport and Geography Commission members by country:

108	China*	2	Ghana
39	UK*	2	Hungary
34	Poland*	2	Ireland
23	USA*	2	Israel
22	France	2	Ivory Coast
18	Spain	2	Luxembourg
18	Japan****	2	Peru
14	Hong Kong SAR	2	Slovakia

13	Germany*	2	Sweden
12	Belgium	2	Ukraine
12	Russia	1	Austria
9	The Netherlands	1	Bangladesh
9	India	1	Chile
8	South Africa	1	China
8	Canada*	1	Luxemburg
7	Nigeria	1	Malaysia
5	Brazil	1	Mexico
5	Czech Republic	1	Netherlands
5	Malta	1	Norway
5	Portugal	1	Philippines
4	Australia	1	Romania
3	Italy	1	Saudi Arabia
3	Slovenia	1	Singapore
3	Switzerland	1	Sri Lanka
2	Argentina	1	Taiwan
2	Denmark	7	Unknown
435		TOTAL	

* Including one (or more) member(s) representing two countries

Steering Committee 2020–2024

The new IGU T&GC Steering Committee was supposed to be elected at the 2020 International Geographical Congress (IGC) Meeting in Istanbul, Turkey. Since this meeting was postponed to 2021, we proceeded to online votes. Results are as follows (# means new function within the Steering Committee and * means new member from 2020).

Chair:

Dr. Frederic DOBRUSZKES #
Brussels Free University (ULB–Université libre de Bruxelles), Brussels, Belgium
Faculty of Sciences, DGES-IGEAT
Brussels - Belgium
fdobrusz@ulb.ac.be

Vice Chair:

Pengjun ZHAO #*
Peking University, Beijing, China
Department of Urban and Regional Planning
pengjun.zhao@pku.edu.cn

Secretary:

Dr. Chia-Lin CHEN #
University of Liverpool, UK
Department of Geography and Planning
chia-lin.chen@liverpool.ac.uk

Treasurer ex officio (honorary member):

Professor Andrew Goetz, University of Denver, Colorado, USA
agoetz@du.edu

Other members in the alphabetical order:

Professor Julie CIDELL*, University of Illinois, USA
jcidell@illinois.edu

Professor Claude COMTOIS, Université de Montreal, Canada
claude.comtois@umontreal.ca

Dr. Ana CONDECO-MELHORADO, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
amcondeco@gmail.com

Professor Aisling REYNOLDS-FEIGHAN*, University College Dublin, Ireland
aisling.reynolds@ucd.ie

Professor Tim RYLEY, Griffith University, Queensland, Australia
t.ryley@griffith.edu.au

Professor Koichi TANAKA, Ibaraki University, Japan
gis@mx.ibaraki.ac.jp

Professor Thomas THEVENIN, Université de Bourgogne, France
Thomas.Thevenin@u-bourgogne.fr

Dr. James WANG, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR
jwang@hku.hk

Honorary members:

We are also very keen to welcome two honorary members as a warm thank you for their deep involvement in the life of our Commission over the past decade.

Professor Richard KNOWLES, University of Salford, UK & University of Huddersfield, UK
R.D.Knowles@salford.ac.uk

Professor Andrew GOETZ, University of Denver, Colorado, USA
agoetz@du.edu

B. Meetings

2020 was not only a sad year in health, social and economic perspectives, but also in academic terms with the postponement of many conferences, including the IGC. As a result, no scientific event took place under our auspices in 2020. However, two exciting events are taking place in 2021.

a. Online workshop on “Visualising Transport Geography” & Business meeting in March 2021 (exact date TBC)

While we still trust face-to-face meetings are key and favour social interactions, the still ongoing health crisis and related uncertainties have encouraged us to organise an online workshop and a business meeting at the same time. This will help to keep the link with our members.

The topic will be “Visualising Transport Geography”. It echoes a new section initiated by Frédéric Dobruszkes (Commission’s chair) and Benjamin Steck (U. of Le Havre, France) within the Journal of Transport Geography. The series is made up of short contributions around one single visualisation (usually a map, but not always). The six first authors who have submitted a contribution to this series (and who could be published in the forthcoming weeks or months) would present their work.

Then a commission’s business meeting will take place to avoid a longer gap since the last meeting.

b. International Geographical Congress (IGC) Istanbul, Turkey (16-20 August 2021)

In view of the 2020 IGC, active members of the IGU T&GC Steering Committee and colleagues had convened seven themed sessions and planned a trans-Bosphorus multi-modal urban transport field trip in Istanbul.

1. Transport Geography and Climate Change (7 abstracts)
Tim Ryley t.ryley@griffith.edu.au
Tim Schwanen tim.schwanen@ouce.ox.ac.uk
2. Urban Transport Geography (12 abstracts)
Andrew Goetz andy.goetz@du.edu
Markus Hesse markus.hesse@uni.lu
Becky Loo bpyloo@hku.hk
3. Bridging the Future of Port Geography (6 abstracts)
Claude Comtois claud.comtois@umontreal.ca

4. Transport and Social Equity: Pathways to Fair, Just, Inclusive and Accessible Mobilities (24 abstracts)
Pengjun Zhao pengjun.zhao@pku.edu.cn
Alexandros Nikitas a.nikitas@hud.ac.uk
5. Mobility-as-a-Service: shaping the future of cities (9 abstracts)
Ana Condeco-Melhorado
amcondeco@gmail.com
Juan Carlos García-Palomares
jcgarcia@ghis.ucm.es
Alexandros Nikitas a.nikitas@hud.ac.uk
6. 'Be a hub or die' - The polarizing transport connectivity and its impacts in megacity regions (11 abstracts)
Chia-Lin Chen chia-lin.chen@liverpool.ac.uk
James Wang jimwang@cityu.edu.hk
7. Beyond the traditional regulation of transport services: The penetration of third countries’ markets (2 abstracts, moved to new theme, see below)
Frederic Dobruszkes fdobrusz@ulb.ac.be
Tay T. R. Koo t.koo@unsw.edu.au

Field trip:

8. Multi-Modal urban transport in trans-Bosphorus Istanbul
Ela Babalik-Sutcliffe
ela.babalik.sutcliffe@gmail.com
ebaba@metu.edu.tr

The call of abstracts was a great success considering we received no less than 88 abstracts. Four of them were rejected (and thus automatically converted into posters) and 84 accepted. Among the latter, 69 fitted well with one of the six first themes while the 15 remaining abstracts did not. As a result, new sessions themes have been added as follows:

7. Long-distance travel issues (replaces the original session #7) (4 abstracts)
Frédéric Dobruszkes
8. Transport and the environment (4 abstracts)
Maria Attard
9. Transport-driven spatial and economic effects (3 abstracts)
Tay Koo
10. General session (4 abstracts)
Richard Knowles

All the decisions taken in 2020 have been recorded and maintained in view of the 2021 IGC. In addition, the call for abstracts has been reopened by the conference team. At the time of writing, the number of potential extra submissions was not known yet.

C. Networking

The mission of the IGU Transport and Geography Commission is to share and disseminate transport geography research at a global level in conjunction with national research groups and other IGU Commissions. Our research focuses on transport, mobilities and spatial change and relates to geographic theory. It involves the analysis of transport policies, processes and behaviours that influence the movement of people, goods and information. This research includes all modes of transport, at local, regional and global scales. Environmental, welfare and energy questions, and social, economic and governance dimensions are also addressed. Dissemination of the Commission's work includes books, research journal papers and journal Special Issues.

As a result, the Commission liaises other transport research groups and other IGU Commissions including:

- the Transportation Geography Specialty Group (TGSG) of the American Association of Geographers'
- the Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies (HKSTS)
- the Transport Geography Research Group (TGRG) of the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)
- AK Mobilitat und Verkehr (Germany)
- NECTAR (Network on European Communications and Transport Activity Research)
- EUGEO (Association of Geographical Societies in Europe)
- IGU Commission on Urban Geography

T&GC Steering Committee members and many ordinary Commission members have strong international links, joint research and publications with many other geographers and transport researchers.

D. Publications

Several papers presented at the last IGU Transport and Geography Commission conference sessions have been published in academic journals, although not within specific issues.

Given the amount of papers to be presented within the 2021 IGC, there is great potential for initiating journal special issues in the aftermath. The Chair of this Commission will pay specific attention to encourage session conveners in this way.

In the meantime, our new Secretary Chia-Lin CHEN built, designed and launched a T&GC website, which we had been lacking for a while. The homepage is made up of selected pictures sent by our members. Please view the result at <https://igu-transport.org/>

E. Productive use of previous IGU grants

In 2020 once again, we offered up to three travel grants of maximum US\$800 per candidate. Preference is given to (1) scholars from least developed/developing/emerging countries and (2) young or emerging scholars (up to five years after receiving PhD Awards).

Two candidates were awarded:

- Abdulkadir MUHAMMAD, Associate professor, Kano University of Science and Technology, Kano, Nigeria, matching with criterion #1.
- Amparo MOYANO, Associate professor, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Ciudad Real, Spain, matching with criterion #2.

These grants are maintained in view of the 2021 IGC. If the on-site scheme is eventually confirmed, we will be happy to reopen our call and to offer more travel grants.

C20.43 Water Sustainability

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

In line with requirements of the IGU-statute regarding maximal duration of service some long-standing members of the SC had to be replaced by new colleagues in 2020 taking geographical representativity, age- and gender aspects as well as track records of activities in within the Commission and seniority of the various candidates into account. In order to retain their most valuable input proffs. Frolova and He as some of the longest serving SC-members were appointed as non-executive advisory members.

On behalf of the Commission the Chair wishes to express our most sincere gratitude for their unfailing support over many years to Proffs. Natalia Frolova, Chansheng He and Ivan Canjevac.

We congratulate and welcome the following new members of the SC proffs. Danijel Orešić (Croatia), Heejun Chang (USA) and Dr. Marcela Hebe Gonzalez (Argentina). We also congratulate Proffs. Liliana Zaharia and Daniel Karthe to their new appointment as Vice Chairs of the Commission.

The composition of the newly appointed SC for the period 2020-2024 is as follows:

Chair

Prof. Frank Winde
South Africa
North-West University
Geography and Environmental Studies
frank.winde@gmail.com
Portfolio: management, reporting, strategy development, member base and recruitment, website and public visibility

Vice Chair

Prof. Dr. Daniel Karthe
Germany
United Nations University, Institute for Integrated Management of Material Fluxes and of Resources
Dresden, Germany
karthe@unu.edu
Portfolio: co-organize publications over the next 4 years

Vice Chair

Prof. Dr. Liliana Zaharia
Romania
University of Bucharest, Faculty of Geography

zaharialil@yahoo.com; zaharialili@hotmail.com
Portfolio: outreach activities, reporting, archiving, membership recruitment

Member

Prof. Dr. Danijel Orešić
Croatia
University of Zagreb, Department of Geography
Zagreb, Hrvatska (Croatia)
doresic@geog.pmf.hr
Portfolio: Collaboration + outreach

Member

Dr. Lanhui Zhang
China
Lanzhou University
College of Earth and Environmental Sciences
lhzhang@lzu.edu.cn
Proposed portfolio: Publications + reporting

Member

Prof. Dr. Heejun Chang
USA
Portland State University, Geography
changh@pdx.edu
Portfolio: Book publication, collaborative research, outreach, mentoring.

Member

Dr. Marcela Hebe Gonzalez
Argentina
University of Buenos Aires, Department of Atmospheric and Ocean Science – CIMA CONICET.
marcelahebe@gmail.com,
gonzalez@cima.fcen.uba.ar
Portfolio: Collaboration + proposed publications

Advisory member

Prof. Dr. Natalia Frolova
Russia
Lomonossov State University, Moscow
Department of Hydrology, Faculty of Geography
frolova_nl@mail.ru

Advisory member

Prof. Dr. Chan-sheng He
USA
Western Michigan University
Department of Geography
chansheng.he@wmich.edu

Honorary Member

Prof. emer. Tony Jones
UK

Institute of Geography and Earth Sciences
University of Wales, Aberystwyth
tonyandjenjones@btinternet.com

b. Corresponding members

The research profiles of all members are displayed on the Commission's website (<https://igu-water.org/2018/05/14/members/>). In total our 56 members (39% female) represent the following 22 countries: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, China, Croatia, Eswatini (Swaziland), Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA, Zimbabwe. As identified previously, it will be a continued focus of the Commission to further grow the proportion of young scientists among members. Promising examples over the past four years include the attraction of doctoral students or young post-docs from Romania, South Africa, China and Russia to name but a few.

Also, the policy of attracting female scientists and researchers with a non-natural science background as well as practitioners from relevant water sectors will further be pursued. Member from countries facing water scarcity (such as the Middle East, Northern/ Southern Africa for example) are specifically targeted.

Means of attracting members include word of mouth by current members as perhaps most important way, actively inviting identified colleagues to meetings of the Commission, advertising the work of the Commission on the website, providing support in research grant and travel applications etc. In addition, a review of listed members regarding the stipulated 2-year-non-activity rule is to be conducted to avoid accumulating non-active members as happened in the past.

B. Meetings

Owing to Covid-19-related travel restrictions none of the planned physical meetings took place. The IGC in Istanbul was postponed to 2021 as was the 4th Conference on World's Large Rivers in Moscow both originally scheduled for August 2020.

C. Networking

UNESCO:

- Mining impacts on water and health in Africa

- World's Large Rivers Conference

WHO-IARC:

- Zupunski L, Street R, Mathee A, Winde F, Ostroumova E, Nkosi V., Schüz J (2020): Exposure to heavy metals from gold mine tailings in South Africa: health risks and research challenges. In: Society for Environmental Geochemistry and Health, International online conference; SEG Live, June 29 30, 2020, Abstract for oral presentation

IAEA

- Winde F (2020): Extracting uranium from mine waste perspectives on the South African situation. Oral presentation, IAEA: International conference on management of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) in industry, 19 30 October 2020, Virtual event. Virtual workshop: Uranium and other metal resources in mining and milling wastes towards circular material use. Panellist
- Gerstmann B, Fairclough M, Lottermoser BG, Winde F (2020): Witwatersrand gold tailings: opportunities and constraints of uranium recovery. In: IAEA [ed.]: Uranium in Mine Waste: A Problem with an Opportunity. TECDOC SERIES, WEF 200713, Chapter 5, pp. 16
- IAEA Technical Meeting of the Uranium Mining and Remediation Exchange Group (UMREG), 7-9 October 2019, Chemnitz, Germany, hosted by German Government

D. Publications

a. Newsletter and reports

- The annual newsletter has been circulated via e-mail and the Commissions website
- A Quadrennial Research Report for the period 2016-2020 has been submitted to IGU
- A Research Plan for the period 2020-2024 has been submitted to IGU
- 1 x an extended response to a request for feedback on the Quebec conference 2018

b. Special editions

Geography Environment Sustainability (2020): "Special Issue "Water sustainability at global, regional and national levels", 13 (2), <https://ges.rgo.ru/jour/issue/view/49>

Guest editors:

Prof. Natalia Frolova, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia

Prof. Frank Winde, North-West University, South Africa

Prof. Chansheng He, Western Michigan University, USA

Prof. Liliana Zaharia, University of Bucharest, Romania

Dr. Maria Kireeva, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia

c. Papers by members

Winde F (2020). Turning Water Pollution Sources Into Assets: Exploring Innovative Options Of Using Abandoned Mines For Generating And Storing Renewable Energy. *Geography, Environment, Sustainability*, 13 (2), 6-16, <https://doi.org/10.24057/20719388202003>

Ioana-Toroimac G., Liliana Zaharia Gianina Neculau Gabriel Minea (2020): Impact Of Channel Incision On Floods: A Case Study In The South Eastern Subcarpathians (Romania), *Geography, Environment, Sustainability*, 13 (2), 17-24

Magritsky DV Natalia L. Frolova Olga M. Pakhomova (2020): Potential Hydrological Restrictions on Water Use in the Basins of Rivers Flowing into Russian Arctic Seas. *Geography, Environment, Sustainability*, 13 (2), 25-34

Kireeva MB., Ekaterina P. Rets Natalya L. Frolova Timothy E. Samsonov Elena S. Povalishnikov a Andrey L. Entin Ivan N. Durmanov Alexander M. Ivanov (2020): Occasional Floods On The Rivers Of Russian Plain In The 20Th 21St Centuries. *Geography, Environment, Sustainability*, 13 (2), 84-95

E. Archival contributions

News and information on conferences including photos, programmes as well as reports, newsletters etc. are archived at the website of the Commission (www.igu-water.org). Herewith permission is granted to download to IGU archives what is deemed relevant.

F. Productive Use of previous IGU grant

Travel grant applications of two members from resource-limited countries for attending the IGC in Istanbul have been actively supported by the Commission Chair through motivational letters to

the LOC in Istanbul. However, owing to the postponement of the congress this support did not yet materialise.

G. Joint projects and activities

a. Focal areas of future SC work

In support of newly appointed members of the SC a number of focal areas have been highlighted for their future work:

- assisting with organising meetings, especially our own non IGU events,
- initiating, coordinating and leading joint publications in special issues etc.,
- assisting with reviewing abstracts and chairing sessions relating for/at our meetings,
- recruiting new members and introducing students to the Commission incl. attendance of meetings if funds allow.

As newly appointed member of the SC Prof. Heejun Chang proposed the following portfolio for his work at the SC:

1. Meetings: Organizing sessions at non-IGU meetings (e.g., AAG, AGU), reviewing abstracts and chairing sessions at those meetings.
2. Publications: Initiating a joint publication book on SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation (how land use affect water demand and clean water supply) - an initial conversion going on with Springer
3. Collaborative Research: Compile and develop transdisciplinary water research ideas based on the commission interest and societal needs - a working group or task force can be formed with a regular meeting - bi-monthly or quarterly?
4. Membership: Mentoring early career scholars in another country (Ph.D. students and an early career scholar who obtained a PhD in the last 5 years)
5. Outreach: create a database or an interactive website for the IGU commission members. Who is studying where and on what topic. I think we might want to initiate a google drive for the commission so that people can have access to those folders.

b. Textbook on Hydrogeography

Proposed by Prof. Karthe this project is currently still under discussion.

c. Springer book on Physical Geography

Prof. Beckedahl invited members to contribute to a Springer book on Physical Geography he is editing. This invitation received several positive responses in the meantime incl. from Prof. emer. Tony Jones as founding father of the Commission. Work on the publication is in progress.

d. Session on Water Security at AAG Meeting 2021

The Commission agreed to the proposal of Prof. Chang to support the Session "Extreme events, urbanization and water security: Case studies from Global south and north" at the Conference of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) in spring 2021 covering the following topics (as circulated to members).

1. Impacts of extreme events (COVID-19, wildfires, floods) on water infrastructure and use
2. Effects of urbanization on socio-spatial dimensions of water demand and provision
3. Relationship between urbanization and water quality in major world cities
4. Urban political ecology approaches to water infrastructure and drinking water quality
5. Water security as a human right for all city residents
6. Mitigation and adaptation strategies for enhancing resilience in urban water resources

The session is organised by Proffs. H. Chang (Portland State University) and W. Jepson (Texas A&M University). Corresponding to the North-South aspect of the theme the session is co-organised by Dr. Marcela Gonzales from Argentina, who was also recently appointed to the Steering Committee.

e. Flood separation algorithm

Initiated by Dr. M. Kireeva (Moscow State University) members were invited to use their own

data for testing an electronic flood hydrograph separating algorithm developed by her and her colleagues. This project idea is still awaiting implementation.

f. Global ground truthing of satellite data on soil moisture

Based on a presentation of prof. He at our annual meeting in Bucharest 2019 the chair's proposal to invite members for applying the presented ground truthing method to data sets elsewhere in order to increase the robustness and geographical applicability of data converting algorithm was accepted. However, the idea has not yet been implemented.

g. Tentative ideas for future projects

In bilateral discussion with SC members prof. Winde proposed a range of ideas for possible future joint projects of the Commission to be discussed further:

- Compiling a spatially represented database on research projects of Commission members using Google Earth or other-free-of-charge virtual geographic environments including a short project description, linked papers, photos etc. - perhaps with some access restriction on raw data if some feel the need for it
- Conducting a gap analysis of literature and projects on water sustainability to identify topical and geographical niche areas for the Commission.
- Create an archive of open source papers and presentations by members on the website including teaching material on core concepts etc. to develop into a real resource for students worldwide, specifically in low-income countries
- Compile a list of ideas with potential collaboration projects among Commission members

T20.02 International Geography Olympiad (IGEO)

A. Membership

Current Committee (2016-2021)

Co-chair

Mrs Susan Lomas OBE, DL,FRGS (United Kingdom)
sueguides@hotmail.co.uk

Co-chair

Dr Su-Min Shen (Taiwan)
smshen@ntnu.edu.tw

Steering committee member Dr Alexey Naumov (Russia)
alnaumov61@gmail.com

Steering committee member Mr Tomasz Sawicki (Poland)
tomasz.j.sawicki@googlemail.com

Steering committee member Dr Dubravka Spevec (Croatia)
dspevec@geog.pmf.hr

Steering committee member Ms Li Ling Tan (Singapore)
adelene17@gmail.com

Current local organiser Prof Barbaros Gönençgil (Turkey, 2021)
barbaros@istanbul.edu.tr

Past local organiser Dr Alice S.Y. Chow (Hong Kong, 2019)

Future local organiser Mr. Alexis Alamel (France, 2022)
alexis.alamel@univ-lille.fr

Future local organiser Dr Samsul Bachri (Indonesia, 2023)
sambimbo28@gmail.com

Owing to the cancellation of the 17th IGEO which was to be held in Istanbul, the current committee will remain in place for 2021, with addition of a Task Force member from France where the 18th IGEO will be held in Paris.

B. Objectives

The International Geography Olympiad (iGeo) is an annual competition for the best 16 to 19 year-old geography students from all over the world.

The aims of the Olympiad are to:

- stimulate active interest in geographical and environmental studies among young people;
- contribute positively to debate about the importance of geography as a senior secondary school subject by drawing attention to the quality of geographical knowledge, skills and interests among young people;
- facilitate social contacts between young people from different countries and in doing so, contribute to an understanding between nations.

C. Meetings

1st February 2020 Fieldwork Test meeting with convenor and local organisers, Istanbul

2nd February 2020 Task Force representatives and Local Organising Committee, Istanbul

7th December 2020 Local Organising Committee and Task Force online meeting

D. Major Activities

- An increase in the number of countries participating in the competition. In 2010 there were 27 countries taking part; in 2015 this had increased to 40 and by 2019, there were 43 participating countries. 45 were registered, but two countries were not allowed to travel to Hong Kong because of the political situation.
- There were 49 countries registered for the 17th IGEO in Istanbul and we will keep in touch with the team leaders to ensure the continuation of the Geography Olympiad in 2021.
- After extensive discussion and consultation, the Task Force agreed with the Local Organising Committee to postpone the 17th IGEO until 2021. This decision was ratified by the International Board by email. This aligned with the decision of the IGU Executive to postpone the 2020 Congress until 2021. We understand how disappointing this was for the Local Organising Committee and the Task Force would like to record its thanks for all the hard work which went into the preparations for the 17th Olympiad.
- (Update in January 2021: Unfortunately, because of the international situation surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic, it has been

decided to make IGEO 2021 an online Olympiad. This was ratified by an extraordinary meeting of the International Board, held online in January 2021).

E. Future Activities

- We will work closely with the Local Organising Committee of the IGEO 2021 in Turkey to provide a robust and inclusive online competition for 2021.
- We will seek to increase the number of countries and therefore students, who participate in the IGEO. We will do this through links with other IGU Commissions and committees.
- We will continue to seek host countries for the IGEO events that are held in the odd-numbered years when there is no IGU Conference or Congress.
- We will hold a transparent and equitable process to find new members of the Task Force who can continue to guide the IGEO in future years.
- We will continue to review and reflect on our test structures and content to ensure that they are

fit for purpose in identifying the best geographers in the world.

F. Finances

We are grateful for the continued financial support of the IGU. An administrative grant of \$1,500 US is paid to the Task Force, annually. The Task Force also receives a grant from the Local Organising Committee of the Congress or Conference in even numbered years. This currently stands at \$7,500 US

G. Partnership and Networks

The Task Force works closely with the Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the host country from two years' before the relevant IGEO. The Chair of the LOC sits on the Task Force. The Chair of the LOC remains on the Task Force for the year following their IGEO to offer assistance and share good practice.

The Task Force is grateful for the support of Dr. Joos Droogleever Fortuijn, former First Vice President of the IGU. She showed a keen interest in the student and their studies and we were always delighted to welcome her to our Presentation events.

T20.03 Young and Early Career Geographers

The IGU Task Force for Young and Early Career Geographers' (IGU-YECG) was launched on the 22nd August 2016 at the 33rd International Geographical Congress in Beijing, China with a vision of empowering and nurturing future leaders in Geography. The primary aims of the Task Force are to promote career development for early career Geographers through mentoring, training and sharing; stimulate interdisciplinary, international and inter-generational research conversations between Geographers and acknowledge and elevate the achievements of early career geographers in the Global North and South.

A. Membership

a. Steering Committee

Chair

Dr. Komali Yenneti
School of Architecture and Built Environment
University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom
Email: komalirani.y@gmail.com

Secretary and Treasurer

Dr. Gaurav Sikka
University P.G. Department of Geography, L.N.
Mithila University, Bihar (India)
Email: gauravsikkageo@gmail.com

Full Members

- Dr. Gabriela Adina Morosanu, Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy/University of Bucharest, Bucharest Romania.
- Dr. Fernando Barragán Ochoa, Institute for Higher National Studies, Ecuador
- Dr. Melgris José Becerra Ruíz, Working Group on Geographical Issues (GTAG-Venezuela), Universidade Federal do Pará (UFPA), Brazil
- Ms. Sinenhlhla Memela, Rhodes University, South Africa

- Mr. Rui Zhu, Department of Geography, University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), USA

b. Task Force Membership

As a 'new' Task Force, efforts are in the direction to increase the number of corresponding members. The Task Force has launched its listserv at geo-iguyecg@listserv.wvu.edu to update geographers about our activities and circulating relevant information. The total members of the Task Force are 189 (as of 15th January 2021).

B. Meetings

a. Meetings 2020

XIV IGU-India International Conference on Agriculture, Food, Water, Biodiversity and Health in Changing Climate

Date: 6-8 March 2020

Place: Burdwan, West Bengal, India

Host: University of Burdwan, West Bengal, India

Komali Yenneti (Chair, IGU-YECCG) and Gaurav Sikka (Secretary and Treasurer, IGU-YECCG) coordinated the event.

IGU Task Force for Young and Early Career Geographers (IGU-YECCG) organized a paper session for IGU-YECCG Late Dr. Manju Singh Memorial Young Scientist Best Paper Award on 8th March 2020. The award is instituted in the memory of Late Dr. Manju Singh, daughter of Prof. RB Singh (Secretary-General and Treasurer, International Geographical Union). Dr. Manju Singh, a young and dynamic academic did her M.Sc. from USA and PhD in nanotechnology from Italy. She left for her heavenly abode after a prolong illness on 9th December 2014. Prof. RB Singh has been generous enough to provide financial support for this award. Seven oral presentations were made in this competition. The jury for the award competition comprised of: Prof. J.K. Routray (Professor Emeritus, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok), Prof. Anuradha Banerjee (CSRSD, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi) and Prof. L.N. Satpati (University of Calcutta). Awardees were selected on the site by jury and award recipient were announced during the valedictory session of the conference. The award included a certificate of merit and monetary award of Rs 5100/-. The award was bagged by Soumen Ghosh, Department of Geography, University of Burdwan, West Bengal for his paper entitled "Future Implication on Estuarine Environment in Gosaba Island, Sunarban, India".

Glimpses of XIV IGU India International Conference 2020



International Environment Week Seminar. Pestalozzi Institute.

Date: 22nd September 2020, Place: Sao Paulo, Brazil (Virtual google meet)

The event was themed as "The future of the Amazon depends on us." This event was co-organized by the IGU-YECCG, Federal University of Pará and the Pestalozzi Institute, and it was aimed at young students of social sciences from the Pestalozzi Institute in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Its objective was to present the Amazon in its regional context and its importance for the regulation of the global climate, pointing out the threats and impacts generated as a result of anthropic activities.

Dissertation and discussion on "The Amazon in the 21st century, a complex scenario"

Date: 11th November 2020, Place: Bahía Blanca, Argentina (Virtual google meet)

This activity was organized by the Higher Institute of Teacher Training of the University of Bahía Blanca, Argentina and co-organized by IGU-YECCG, CLACSO, GRIAM, GTAG. It was aimed at young students of the Geography and History faculty. Its

objective was to present the complexities of the Amazon extending into different countries and the impacts that are generated in each scenario for the exploitation of its resources.

b. Planned meetings for 2021

34th International Geographical Congress (Postponed) 2021

Date: 17-20 August 2021 Host: Istanbul University, Turkey

IGU-YECG is organizing following events:

- Academic Writing Workshop
- Young and Early Career Geographers Paper Sessions and Award Competition: Jointly sponsored and organized by IGU-YECG and International Association of Young Geographers (IAYG). Two student paper awards of USD 200 each.
- IGU-YECG Master Class- Finding Funding and Grant Proposal Writing
- IGU-YECG Meeting and Networking Event

Society of South African Geographers (SSAG) conference

Date: 6-10 September 2021 Host: Rhodes University (6-10 September), South Africa. IGU-YECG is organizing Young Scholar Best Paper Prize.

Young Geographers Career Workshop

Co-organized with Spatial Studies Center at UCSB and the International Association of Young Geographers (IAYG)

Location: Virtual or Santa Barbara (depending on the situation of the pandemic)

Dates: August, 2021 (specific date to be assigned)

IGU-YECG Online Symposium at EGEA Conference

Date: September 2021 Location: Netherlands

1st Annual IGU-YECG Conference

Date: Not final Place: Sri Lanka/ Bangladesh

C. Networking

As part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2017 between the US based International Association of Young Geographers and

IGU-YECG, a new domain for the website has been made available for IGU-YECG.

Collaborated with EUGEO and AGEI (Italian Association of Geographers) to organize 'Night of Geography' festival in Italy.

IGU-YECG has developed an understanding with IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity and IGU-YECG is continuously shown as an important link at their official website <http://www.igubiogeography.com/page10.html>

Discussions are also on with IGU Gender Commission and IGU-AGLE to organize events together and introduce collaborative internships and field trips. IGU-YECG and IGU Commission on Geography for Future Earth are bringing out special issue with Geography and Sustainability journal.

D. Publications

a. A special IGU-YECG issue is ongoing with Geography, Environment and Sustainability, the official journal of Russian Geographical Society. Guest editors for the issue are G. Sikka, K. Yenneti, R.B. Singh and V. Tikunov.

b. The vision of the task force is empowering and nurturing future leaders in Geography, therefore, the list of the articles and volumes published by the IGU-YECG steering committee members in English are presented here:

(2020, ongoing) Golubchikov, O. and Yenneti, K. (ed.) Smart Cities, Energy and Sustainability: Governing Cities to a Low-Carbon Future, Wiley-Blackwell

(2020, ongoing) Sikka, G., Yenneti, K., Singh, R.B., Tikunov, V. Special Issue – Geospatiality and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Geography, Environment and Sustainability (Official Journal of Russian Geographical Society)

2020: Yenneti, K., Golubchikov, O., and Lamberts, R. Special Issue - The Varieties of Energy Poverty: A Global Perspective, Energy and Buildings

2020: Yenneti, K., Ulpiani, G., Santamouris, M., Ding, L., Paolini, R., Haddad, S. and Prasad, D. Urban overheating and cooling potential in Australia: An-evidence based review. Climate, 8(11),126

2020: Tripathi, S., and Yenneti, K., Measurement of Multidimensional Poverty in India: A State-level

- Analysis. *Indian Journal of Human Development*, 14 (2), 257-274
- 2020: Kantamaneni, K., Rice, L., Yenneti, K., Campos, L., Assessing the Vulnerability of Agriculture Systems to Climate Change in Coastal Areas: A Novel Index. *Sustainability*, 12(11), 4771
- 2020: Santamouris, M., Paolini, R., Haddad, S., Synnefa, A., Garshasbi, S., Hatvani-Kovacs, G., Gobakis, K., Yenneti, K., Vasilakopoulou, K., Feng, J., Gao, K., Papangelis, G., Dandou, A., Methymaki, G., Portalakis, P., and Tombrou, M. Heat Mitigation Technologies can Improve Sustainability in Cities An Holistic Experimental and Numerical Impact Assessment of Urban Overheating and Related Heat Mitigation Strategies on Energy Consumption, Indoor Comfort, Vulnerability and Heat-Related Mortality and Morbidity in Cities *Energy and Buildings*, 217 (110002)
- 2020: Yenneti, K. Measurement of Poverty In: Leal Filho W., Azul A., Brandli L., Lange Salvia A., Özuyar P., Wall T. (eds) *No Poverty. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals*. Springer, Cham
- 2020: Yenneti, K. Genesis and Measurement of Multidimensional Poverty Index. In: Leal Filho W., Azul A., Brandli L., Lange Salvia A., Özuyar P., Wall T. (eds) *No Poverty. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals*. Springer, Cham
- 2020: Sikka, G. Moving Beyond Economic Analysis: Assessing The Socio-Cultural Impacts of Displacement and Resettlement by Sardar Sarovar Project, India in *Geography, Environment, Sustainability*, Vol.13, No.3, pp. 90-101, Russian Geographical Society, <https://doi.org/10.24057/2071-9388-2019-165>
- 2020: Sikka, G. (Co-authored) A Survey dataset to evaluate the changes in mobility and transportation due to COVID-19 travel restrictions in Australia, Brazil, China, Ghana, India, Iran, Italy, Norway, South Africa, United States, Data in Brief, Volume 33, pp 106459 , <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.106459>
- 2020: Sikka, G. (Co-authored) Survey Data Regarding Perceived Air Quality In Australia, Brazil, China, Ghana, India, Iran, Italy, Norway, South Africa, United States Before And During Covid-19 Restrictions, Data in Brief, Vol.32, pp. 106169 DOI : <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.106169>
- 2020: Patra, P., Devi, R. and Sikka, G., *Smart Agriculture- Ancient Wisdom and Modern Technology*, Rawat Publications, India
- 2020: Sharma, M. & Sikka, G. (February 2020) "Taking a Path Less Traveled" in *Teacher Plus*, can be accessed at <http://www.teacherplus.org/taking-a-path-less-travelled/>
- 2020: Sikka, G. as a Contributor in "Covid is a Feminist Issue" (May, 2020) Royal Geographical Society Gender and Feminist Geographies Research Group Blog Post accessed at <https://gfgrg.co.uk/covid-is-a-feminist-issue>
- 2020: Irvine, P. M., Memela, S., Dlongolo, Z.N. and Kepe, Navigating Community and Place through Colloquial Street Names in Fingo Village, Makhanda (Grahamstown). *Urban Forum*
- 2020: Moroşanu G.A., Zaharia, L., Ioana – Toroimac, G., (2020), An integrated methodology to estimate the contribution of environmental factors controlling the spatial variation of total dissolved solids. Application on Jiu River Basin (Romania). Conference paper in CEST2019 Springer Proceedings (in press).
- 2020: Zaharia, L., Moroşanu, G.A., Toroimac, G., Inundațiile din orasul Tecuci: rolul factorilor naturali si antropici. In *Hazard, vulnerabilitate si rezilienta la inundații în Romania*. Abordări la diferite scari spatiale (Bălteanu D., Micu D., Chendeş V. - ed), Edit. Academiei Române, Bucharest.
- 2020: Zaharia, L., Grecu, F., Ioana - Toroimac, G., Moroşanu, G.A., Repères des relations géographiques franco-roumaines en climatologie, géomorphologie et hydrologie à l'Université de Bucarest. *Romanian Journal of Geography/ Revue roumaine de Géographie*, Volume Papers of the Romanian-French Forum (2018) / Études et communications du Forum roumain-français (2018), 105 – 123
- 2020: Cai L., Janowicz K., Mai G., Yan B., and Zhu, R. Traffic transformer: capturing the continuity and periodicity of time series for traffic forecasting. *Transactions in GIS*, 24(3), 736-755.
- 2020: Mai G., Janowicz K., Cai L., Zhu, R., Regalia B., Yan B., and Shi M. SE-KGE: A location-aware knowledge graph embedding model for geographic question answering and spatial semantic lifting. *Transactions in GIS*, 24(3), 623-655.
- 2020: Mai G., Janowicz K., Yan B., Zhu, R., Cai L., and Lao N. Multi-scale representation learning for spatial feature distributions using grid cells. In: *Proceedings of International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR 2020)*. April 26 - 30, 2020, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 2020: Becerra, M. J., Pimentel, M. A., De Souza, E. B., & Tovar, G. I. Geospatiality of climate change perceptions on coastal regions: A systematic

bibliometric analysis. *Geography and Sustainability*, 1(3), 209-219.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geosus.2020.09.002>

c. The current (accurate) URL of the commission's website

<http://igu.younggeographers.org/>

It serves also as on-line archive of the Task Force with all meetings, conference alerts, job opportunities available, as well as photo galleries related to the Task Force activities. The website represents the major tool for exchange of information among the members of the Task Force and other young scholars.

<https://www.facebook.com/IGUYECG/>

IGU-YECG has expanded its online presence through running a fully fledged, active and updated Facebook page. Regular updates on IGU meetings, IGU-YECG events, young scholar competitions, members' updates and other relevant information is uploaded on the page. A Facebook group is also in process to share academic resources useful for early career academics like Teaching materials, geography promotional material and new research.

E. Archival Contributions

All the reports of meetings were sent to IGU secretariat. We use our Task Force website as a kind of archive. It offers all available meeting reports, photo gallery representing our meetings.

IGU Commissions Excellence Awards 2019 – 2020

2019: Commission of Biogeography and Biodiversity

The IGU Commissions Excellence Award Committee unanimously nominates the Commission of Biogeography and Biodiversity for the IGU Commissions Excellence Award 2019.

The Commission of Biogeography and Biodiversity is very active and highly productive. It participates consistently in IGU Congresses and Regional and Thematic Conferences, organizing successful sessions on biogeography and biodiversity at these IGU events and makes important contributions in the debate on climate change. The Commission has a strong tradition of collaboration with other IGU commissions. The Commission collaborated in 2018 with several IGU Commissions in the Thematic Conference in Koper and organized several sessions at that conference. The Commission initiated the Sustainable Development Goals Series and the Advances in Geographical and Environmental Sciences Series, both published by Springer. The Commission is very active in promoting the participation of young and emerging scholars and (co) organizes every year winter schools and other training programs for capacity building of early career scientists, particularly from developing countries. It is successful in organizing scientific meetings in low-income countries such as Uganda and India.

The IGU Commissions Excellence Award Committee commends the Commission of Biogeography and Biodiversity for its excellent work.

2020: Commission on Geography and Governance

For 2020, the winner of the IGU Commission Excellence Awards is:

IGU Commission on Geography of Governance

The Commission “Geography of Governance” is very active and highly productive. It participates consistently in IGU Congresses and Conferences, organizing successful sessions on processes of governance worldwide. The Commission is exceptionally active, has a strong tradition of collaboration with IGU Commissions as well as organisations outside IGU. The Commission collaborated in 2020 with several IGU Commissions in the Thematic Conference on Geographies of Heritage, in Lecce (the thematic conference was later post-poned to 2021, because of the Covid emergence). The Commission has developed a diverse way of communication, internally and externally, through its website, newsletter and email list. The Commission has been also successful in publishing, producing a relevant list of titles, authored or edited by members of the Steering Committee. Moreover, the Commission launched, on 25 March 2020, a collaborative Action Plan and research project focused on the “Local Government response towards the COVID-19 Pandemic”, an initiative of great importance for knowledge and research on public action to spatial reorganisation and disaster containment. The IGU Commissions Excellence Award Committee commends the Commission “Geography of Governance” for its excellent work.

Annual Report of the International Geographical Union 2019

1. Highlights of the IGU Executive Committee meetings of 2019

Two Executive Committee meetings were held in 2019. The first was in Dublin and Galway in May and the second was in Istanbul, Turkey, in September.

The first EC meeting in 2019 was held in Dublin and Galway, Ireland, during 13th-15th May. The meeting in Dublin was at Dublin City University, i.e. the venue for the 2024 IGC. A guided tour of the venue was arranged, following which EC (Executive Committee) members met with the local congress organizers and the staff of the convention company supporting the congress. The main venue is a well-equipped modern building designed to accommodate the major congress events, and there are also many lecture rooms for parallel sessions and other meetings in the adjacent buildings. We expressed our satisfaction in the quality of the venue, and at the same time our concern about the high cost of accommodation in Dublin, in the expectation that reasonably-priced student residences and other more affordable types of accommodation will be available to congress participants.



IGU Executive Committee members with Irish hosts

The latter part of the EC meeting was held at the National University of Ireland in Galway because the 7th EUGEO (Association of Geographical Societies in Europe) Congress was being hosted there and several of the EC members were participating. IGU organized joint sessions with

EUGEO and EUROGEO at the EUGEO congress and strengthened the IGU's relationship with EUGEO, as we have many interests in common. In fact mutual understanding and cooperation between IGU and each of the parties has been enhanced as a result.

The IGU EC faces a diverse array of issues, including those relating to cooperation with other organizations, such as the ISC (International Science Council), UN-GGIM, EUGEO, FIG (Festival International de Géographie). Some EC members participate in meetings of these organizations wherever possible, either on behalf of the IGU or in their own capacities, often voluntarily and with no, or very limited, financial support from the IGU. From time to time the EC requests that someone outside the EC represent the IGU in a meeting where EC member participation is impossible (for example, when the cost of attendance is too high, or if the necessary expertise is unavailable within the EC). In order to enhance geographers' contribution to broader society, we need to continue to develop our ability to pursue connections with such bodies.

The second EC meeting was held at the Point Hotel Istanbul, Turkey, during 28th Sept.-1st Oct. The IGC Istanbul 2020 was less than a year away, so the primary aim of gathering there was to check the venue, situation and preparedness for it. Vice President Gönençgil, who is the Chair of the Local

Organizing Committee, reported that some 165 sessions have been proposed and more than 30 Commissions have indicated their participation already.

Within five years we also have the Extraordinary Congress in 2022 in Paris to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the IGU, as well as IGC Dublin 2024, and the preparations for both are well underway. Vice President Nathalie Lemarchand, who is the Co-chair of the Local Organizing Committee of the Paris Congress, submitted a draft MoA and, following discussion and amendments, this was duly signed by the two parties.

Communication and representation issues concerning national committee contacts was discussed at length. The question of what to do with lapsed member countries, in particular whether or not they should remain listed as ‘member countries’ on the website, was discussed. It is clear that there are a number of countries and contact persons listed on the website (and in the IGU database) with whom there has been no meaningful communication, in some cases for many years. EC members are checking the status of communication. The outcome is to be reported to Singh, who will then consolidate and circulate a membership list indicating this status. The list is to be tabled at the next EC meeting with a view to classifying into national membership as ‘active and in good standing’ (Full Member), ‘active but not in good standing (Observer Member) or ‘inactive’ (Membership lapsed)’.

The 4th edition of an international ‘GeoNight’ is scheduled for April 3rd 2020. The aim is to include as many nations as possible, and Lemarchand emailed all National Committees to share information about their proposed initiatives. Information and publicity about the 2020 event should be circulated shortly. Meadows, in consultation with Lemarchand and Lois-González, along with inputs from others, have finalized new pdf versions of IGU brochure in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, which need to be made available on the website.

The presidential statement below (please see page 179) was sent to the Chairs of National Committees for the IGU following discussion in the second EC meeting on the principle of universality of science, which faced challenges in relation to the 34th IGC at Istanbul. It indicates the strong commitment of the EC to the principle of universality of science, which has been accepted by the world geographic community widely.



Singh, Himiyama and Lemarchand signing the MoA for Paris 2022

2. Report on the IGU Thematic Conference on Transformation of Traditional Cultural Landscapes, 24-26 September 2020

From 24th to 26th of September, the IGU Thematic Conference titled Transformation of Traditional Cultural Landscapes was held at the premises of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Primorska in Koper, Slovenia. The Thematic Conference was organized by the Anton Melik Geographical Institute of the Scientific Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, and the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Primorska with cooperation of the Association of Slovenian Geographers. The initiative for the conference came from the Land Use and Land Cover Change Commission, with participation of additional four IGU Commissions: the Biogeography and Biodiversity Commission, the Local and Regional Development Commission, The Mediterranean Basin Commission and the Land Degradation and Desertification Commission. As a result of this cooperation between the five IGU Commissions, the conference topics were the following: Transformation of Traditional Cultural Landscapes; Mediterranean Landscape: Transitions, Prospects and Challenges; The Challenges Regarding the Planning and Organization of the Cultural Landscape; Land Management Practices and Global Changes; Conservation of Biodiversity in Changing Environment; Heritage of Lost Landscapes: Identification, Reconstruction and Presentation; Past and Present Land Degradation in the Mediterranean and Other Environments; The Concepts and Tools in Landscape Transformation; Land Use Data Sources from 19th Century; and Functions of the Cultural Landscape in Local and Regional Development.

20 November 2019

To the Chairs of National Committees for the IGU

Dear Colleagues,

The 34th International Geographical Congress (IGC) at Istanbul, Turkey, is only nine months away. Starting in 1871 at Antwerp, Belgium, the IGC has been the greatest periodic international event for the world geographic community. It is in fact fascinating to see the progress of the preparations for the 34th IGC, as you see below:

1. The abstract submission platform is now open. There are 32 different Commission topics (with 127 sub-topics) and 12 Task Force & Thematic session topics (with 45 sub categories). The deadline for abstract submission is 13 January 2020. For detail, see <https://www.igc2020.org/en/ABSTRACT-SUBMISSION.html>.
2. As of today there are 6 distinguished keynote speakers who give lectures at the Congress. For detail about them, see <https://www.igc2020.org/en/KEYNOTES.html>.
3. The registration system for the Congress is now open, and we can register to the Congress at <https://www.igc2020.org/en/REGISTRATION-AND-ACCOMMODATION.html>.
4. In order to enjoy the cultural sites and history of Istanbul & Turkey, we have a number of daily and pre-post tour options, as you see at <https://www.igc2020.org/en/DAILY-AND-PRE-POST-TOURS.html>.
5. General Assembly, the prime decision-making body of the IGU, is scheduled on 2nd, 3rd and 4th day of the Congress. Not only the delegates appointed by the member countries, but also all the registered Congress participants may attend it and join the discussion.

The 34th IGC will demonstrate itself as an invaluable place of achieving the objectives of the IGU, which we find in the IGU Statutes at <https://igu-online.org/organization/statutes/>. Needless to say, organizing this congress involves enormous work and comes at a substantial cost, but geographers in Turkey dare to do it because they believe it is of great value to the world geographers and even broader society.

As I mentioned in my Remarks in the latest e-Newsletter (No. 33), IGU adheres to the International Science Council (ISC) and its "Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the Conduct of Science" (CFRS). This committee is the guardian of *the principle of universality of science*, which faces serious challenges in the turbulent world where we live (<https://council.science/topics/cfrs>). Let's work together with our Turkish colleagues to enhance geography through free, responsible and high quality 34th IGC 2020 at Istanbul!

With Best Regards,



Yukio Himiyama, IGU President

Cultural landscapes are multifunctional landscapes which reflect a complex correlation between natural, historical, political, and cultural factors. Traditional cultural landscapes are shaped by traditional land management practices. The loss of these management practices leads to ecosystem change, which successively is likely to lead to the loss of important biological or cultural values. The extent of integration between environmental (ecological) and socio-economic functions of the landscape depends on the patterns and intensities of land use. Traditional land use is disappearing due to the intensification of agricultural production on the one hand and the retreat of agriculture from unfavourable areas on the other hand. Sustainable development and the conservation of biological and landscape diversity depend on the continuation of human intervention. In this way the traditional and highly valued landscapes can be maintained whilst also assisting economic and social sustainable development. Unsuitable management practices could be the cause of increased soil erosion and natural disasters. Appropriate policies should be applied to decrease such negative impacts on cultural landscapes. The role of landscape parks, as areas with high conservation value and high development appeal, is also important. They can be promoted as specific development areas while contributing to the maintenance of the cultural landscapes and biodiversity. The study of the links between landscape features and regional development is relevant for the development of policies related to land use and regional development, such as agricultural policies, regional policies and spatial planning policies. Cultural interpretation and significance of landscape can be also of controversial and object of disputes under circumstances of conflicts and political struggles.

Thus issues of fair perception and valorisation of cultural heritage can be of special significance for geographical studies. Due to the location of the conference part of the sessions were devoted to the Mediterranean cultural landscapes.

The conference, which represented this year's largest event of the International Geographic Union, was attended by over 70 participants from 23 countries and five continents. With the financial help of the Commission on Land Degradation and Desertification and the IGU seven young scientists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Romania, Japan, Algeria and India could join the conference and present their work.

The conference consisted of two parts: lectures held during the morning and thematic excursions held during the afternoon. At least one plenary lecture was scheduled each day; the remaining lectures were divided into parallel sections. The participants presented a total of 60 oral presentations and 6 poster presentations on the conference topics. The afternoon excursions were related with the central theme of the conference. The first excursion took place in the Sečovelje Saltpans, where the participants learned about the importance of salt production in the past and its current situation. The second excursion was dedicated to exploring the geographical features of the coastal hinterland, partly terraced cultivated landscapes with vineyards and olive groves, and preserved mixed culture or *cultura mista* where orchards and other cultures were on the same land plot. We ended the day with a visit to the Rodica Wine Cellar, where we learned about organic wine production. The last excursion was dedicated to exploring the Slovenian coastal towns. After the conference, a two-day post-conference excursion took place (27th and 28th of September).



Thematic excursion to the Koper hinterland

The first day was dedicated to Kočevje region where we had opportunity to see an abandoned cultural landscape due to German emigration during WWII. The second day was dedicated to Bela Krajina, a cultural landscape in peripheral karst area. With this we concluded an one-week thematic conference and post-conference excursion organized in the frame of the International Geographical Union.

Selected papers from the Thematic Conference will be published in the special issue that will be prepared under the frame of the Open Geosciences Journal. (<https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/geo>)



Participants at the plenary lecture



Post-conference excursion to Bela Krajina, at Krupa karst spring

3. Co-operation with other organizations

ISC: The ISC Action Plan indicates that the organization acknowledges the importance of education. Geography is one of the few disciplines represented in the ISC that has a real focus on education, from primary level through to higher education. The IGU Charter on Geographical Education is a valuable document in this regard. The question as to how the IGU should engage with ISC

around the issue of education was discussed by the EC. One possibility is to propose the establishment of an ISC committee with a focus on education. The first opportunity to propose such a committee would be at the next ISC General Assembly scheduled for Oman in 2021.

GeoUnions: The position of IGU within the GeoUnions has been subject of EC discussion; Himiyama has emphasised the importance of IGU engagement with the GeoUnions as the group is a powerful lobby within ISC. The Deep-Time Digital Earth initiative of IUGS/IUGG is supported by IGU.

CIPSH: Kolosov circulated a report about the latest developments in CIPSH. In summary, the report indicates that the CIPSH chairs programme is a success, that the Global History of Humanity project has reached consensus regarding its structure, the World Humanities Report is making progress, and the preparation of a new UNESCO initiative/programme, anchored in the Humanities, is underway.

UN-GGIM: The sixth High Level Forum of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) will be held in Windsor, United Kingdom, in April 2020. Hay agreed to explore the possibility of his participation and sought strategic consideration by EC of ways to enhance IGU's involvement in UN-related meetings such as UN-GGIM.

EUROGEO, EUGEO: EUGEO has been offered a session for the Istanbul Congress and a booth at the Exhibition. Hay offered to encourage participants at the Geographical Education Conference in Turkey to propose education-related sessions for Istanbul 2020. EUROGEO met in Slovenia in August and will have its next conference in Madrid, Spain, in April 2020. Lois-González remains in good contact with this group and will attend the conference.

EGAL/UGAL: There is a conference of the Departments of Geography of Argentina Universities in October 2019. Lois- González attended and used the opportunity to continue his efforts to liaise with Latin American geographers.

4. Forthcoming events

1-3 April 2020: IGU EC meeting in Rome. Arrivals on 31st March 2020, meeting on 1st and 2nd April, excursion on 3rd April, participation in 'Night of Geography' on evening of 3rd April, departures 4th April 2020.

15-16 August 2020: EC meeting in Istanbul in association with the 34th IGU Congress. Arrivals on 14th August, EC meeting on 15th and 16th; participation in the Congress opening ceremony on 17th August 2020.

November 2020: An EC meeting may be held at Santiago de Compostela (Spain); dates and details to be confirmed following the outcome of EC elections at the Istanbul General Assembly.

17-21 August 2020: 34th IGU International Geographical Congress (IGC), Istanbul, Turkey.

5. Communication and outreach

The main communication tools of the IGU are its website, maintained by Secretary---General R.B. Singh and Assistant Secretary-General Mike Meadows, and its quarterly newsletter, compiled by former Vice--- President Giuliano Bellezza. As usual, four issues of the Newsletter were published in 2018 and can be downloaded from the website by following the newsletter link from www.igu--online.org or from www.homeofgeography.org.

The IGU Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/International-Geographical---Union/282917935136850--->) continues to attract 'likes' and the IGU website also attracts many visitors.

IGU Series on Contemporary Geographies: The IGU's new book series with Edward Elgar Publishers (edited by Hay and Meadows) is attracting strong submissions. Three books in the series are nearing completion.

6. Financials

In 2019, IGU had a financial surplus of US\$49,612. The major reason for this was a reduction in expenditure due to: a) The Koper Thematic Conference was the only IGU conference for which travel grants were required; b) the IGU Executive Committee met only twice (because there was no major IGU event); c) there was no meeting of the International Science Council that required attendance by the IGU President and Secretary-General. Expenditure was, therefore, down by almost US\$40,000 compared to 2018, while income (based almost entirely on membership fees) remained reasonably steady. National Committee membership rates therefore can remain unchanged (they were last adjusted in 2008). The Promotion and Solidarity Fund represents the IGU's reserve

and has recently been relocated to an account in Japan and will accordingly accrue a modest amount of interest from now on. It is hoped that a successful Istanbul Congress in August will see this fund supplemented further.

International Geographical Union		
Balance Sheet		
As of December 31, 2019		
		Dec 31 2019
Assets		\$
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
	Johnson Bank IGU Endowm	100 968,32
	Johnson Bank Operating Acc	1 565,91
	Petty Cash	590,95
	SBCT Market Link	139,04
	SBCT Money Market	70087,44
	SBCT Operating Account	86213,99
	Total Checking/Savings	259 565,65
	Total Current Assets	259 565,65
TOTAL ASSETS		259 565,65
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Equity		
	Opening Balance Equity	151 339,52
	Unrestricted Net Assets	58 613,25
	Net Income	49 612,88
	Total Equity	259 565,65
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		259 565,65

International Geographical Union		
Profit & Loss		
January through December 2019		
		\$
		Jan - Dec 19
Ordinary Income/Expenses		
Income		
Investments		
	Banking Accounts Interest	4155,53
Program Income		
	Country Member Dues	133383,63
Total Income		137539,16
Gross Profit		137539,16
Expenses		
	IGU Travel Grants	4824,26
	IGU Commission grants	44448,18
	Membership Dues	7024,36
	EC Travel and Subsistence	20912,70
	IGU Brochure Design	488,78
	Sundry Expenses	927,32
	Secretarial Assistance	1824,03
	IGU Website	4566,03
	Internet access charges	1327,08
	Bank Fees	1583,56
Total Expenditure		87926,29
Net Income		49612,88

Annual Report of the International Geographical Union 2020

1. Highlights of the IGU Executive Committee meetings of 2020

The year 2020 was an extraordinary one for everyone on earth and there were major implications for the International Geographical Union, including the postponement of the 34th International Geographical Congress in Istanbul and the cancellation of the planned IGU Thematic Conference in Lecce, Italy. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact, all IGU Executive Committee meetings during 2020 were held using the online meeting platform Zoom.

The First IGU Executive Committee meeting.

The first meeting of the year was held across 1st, 2nd, 6th and 9th April. The most significant decision made during the meeting was to postpone the 34th IGC 2020 Istanbul by one year to 16th – 20th August 2021, and the associated postponement of the International Geographical Olympiad. All registration fees received, abstracts accepted, travel grants awarded, and the conference programme already developed for this year will be carried over to 2021. Any delegate who has already paid the registration fee may use that fee to participate in the Congress in August 2021 and, if desired, submit a new paper for the August 2021 Congress. Himiyama presented details of the necessary transfer of the Promotion and Solidarity Fund of the IGU from the USA to Japan.

The Second IGU Executive Committee meeting of 2020 was held online on 20th May and 3rd June 2020. There was considerable discussion about the IGU awards as the Honors and Awards Committee has renewed membership under the guidance of recently appointed chair, former IGU President Professor Ron Abler. The Committee will make the call and evaluate additional nominations for awards to be presented at the postponed Congress, and will plan the establishment of two new awards, viz. the IGU Early Career Award in Geography and the IGU Award for Distinguished Geographic Practice.

The Third IGU Executive Committee meeting was held online on 20th and 21st August 2020. The reports of IGU Commissions and Task Forces were tabled for discussion regarding their continuation for

2020-2024; recommendations were confirmed at the virtual General Assembly which followed the meeting (see below).

The Fourth IGU Executive Committee meeting took place on 15th September, 2020, chaired by newly elected President Mike Meadows. Among the agenda items there was discussion regarding arrangements for the relocation of the IGU Treasury. Vice-President Barcus agreed to formally approach Macalester College to ascertain the practicalities of hosting the IGU operating account under its auspices.

The Fifth IGU Executive Committee meeting in the year 2020 held on 15th October, 2020. The main item on the agenda was to agree EC member portfolios and national and Commission and Task Force responsibilities.

Following discussion, the following portfolio allocations were agreed:

Congresses/conferences (Meadows, Singh, EC members as appropriate) Treasury (Barcus, Meadows)

IGU Congress and Conference travel grants (Barcus, Meadows)

Commissions and Task Forces (Singh, Kumar; others as per list approved at EC meeting of 15.09.2020)

Commission review and Excellence Award (dell’Agnese; with Lois-González, Gönençgil, Hay) National Committees (Singh, Kumar; others as per list approved at EC meeting of 15.09.2020)

Databases/record keeping etc. (Singh, Kumar) IGU annual report (Singh, Meadows)

Elections/National Committee applications etc. (Singh, Kumar) General correspondence (Singh, Meadows)

Website and other social media (Rozenblat, Kumar, Hay, Meadows) Publications (Series) (Singh, Hay, Meadows)

IGU e-Newsletter (Rozenblat, with former V-P Bellezza) Bulletin (Singh, Kumar)

Awards (Himiyama*)

External relations (all, as per attached Appendix 1)

French/Spanish outreach/translation (Lemarchand, Lois-González, Rozenblat) FIG/Night of Geography/International Day of Geography (Lemarchand, Gönençgil) IGU publicity brochure (Meadows)

Governance (Hay, Lemarchand) IGU Journals project (Fu)

The Sixth IGU Executive Committee meeting was held over two sessions, on 24th November and 8th December 2020. Developing the IGU Strategy was the main agenda item. Following discussion and further post-meeting iterations, the IGU Strategy was adopted and subsequently distributed and posted on the website in English, French and Spanish. The Strategy is available at: <https://igu-online.org/igu-strategy/>

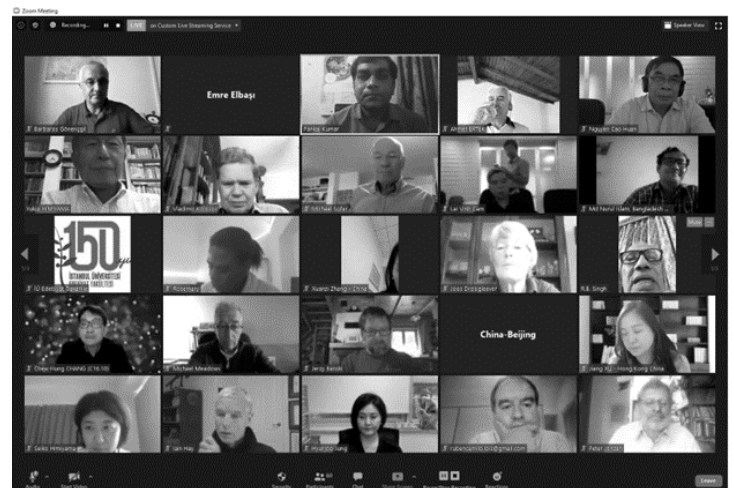
2. IGU Virtual General Assembly (21st August 2020, 7:30-11:30 GMT)

The General Assembly was hosted on the Zoom platform and chaired by President Yukio Himiyama who presided over representatives from 37 IGU National Committees along with 20 or so other online delegates. A further 700 participants joined the General Assembly via the dedicated YouTube channel. The results of the previously held e-ballot for positions on the Executive Committee were announced as follows: Professor Michael Meadows (South Africa) was elected as President; Vice-Presidents Professor Nathalie Lemarchand (re-elected), Holly Barcus, Barbaros Gönençgil (re-elected), and Professor Céline Rozenblat were confirmed as new members of the IGU Executive Committee.

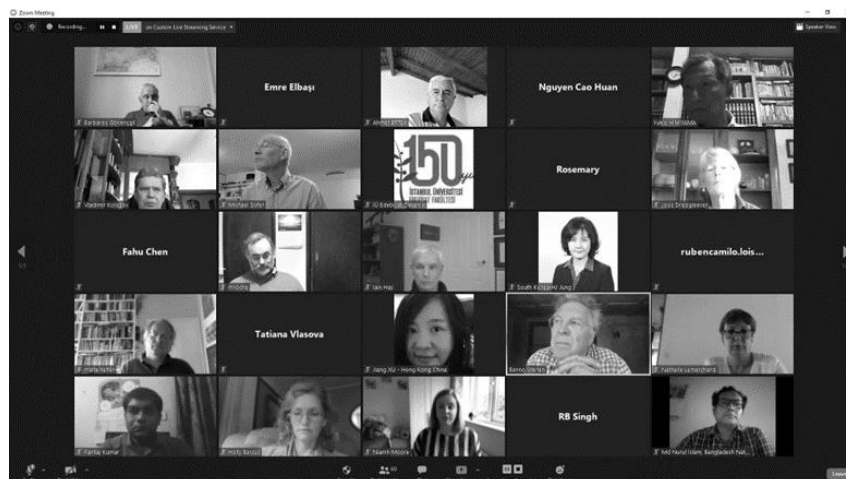
Major items of business at the General Assembly included discussion on EC recommendations for continuation of IGU Commissions and Task Forces.

All were confirmed to continue to 2024 with changes in identities of the chairpersons and steering committee members where this was required according to the IGU Statutes. Two new Commissions, Mountain Studies and Research Methods in Geography were established.

Reports by the President Secretary-General and Acting Treasurer were all accepted by the assembly by consensus. Full membership of the Dominican Republic was approved and the re-application of Colombia was accepted pending clarification of their National Committee membership. A discussion on IGU priorities was followed by items relating to IGU relations with external bodies such as the International Science Council. There were votes of thanks to outgoing members of the Executive Committee, Past-President Vladimir Kolosov, Vice-Presidents Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn and comments by incoming new members who will serve office for the period 2020-24, viz. President Michael Meadows, and Vice-Presidents Holly Barcus and Céline Rozenblat.



Screenshots of Virtual General Assembly



3. Report on IGU-related Conferences

Report on the XIV IGU-India International Conference on “Agriculture, Food, Water, Biodiversity and Health in Changing Climate, 6-8 March 2020

XIV IGU-INDIA International Conference under the auspices of five IGU Commissions: Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity, Commission on Land Use and Land Cover Change, Commission on Hazard and Risk, Commission on Climatology, and Commission on Geo-Heritage was held during 6-8 March 2020. The focal theme of the conference was “Agriculture, Food, Water, Biodiversity and Health in Changing Climate”. This mega conference was organized by the Department of Geography, The University of Burdwan, West Bengal, India in collaboration with Association of Bengal Geographers. The inaugural session started with the Welcome Address by Prof. N. C. Jana, Convener of this conference followed by the Greetings (video message) of International Science Council and Address (audio message) by Prof. Yukio Himiyama, President of International Geographical Union, who was supposed to deliver the Keynote Address as Guest-in-Chief. It may be mentioned in this context that he did not come as his Visa was suspended at the last moment due to worldwide COVID-19 Pandemic. Prof. R. B. Singh, Secretary General & Treasurer, International Geographical Union, and Mr. Shyamal Santra, Hon’ble Minister-of-state in charge of Public Health Engineering & Panchayats & Rural Development, Government of West Bengal addressed the august gathering followed by other dignitaries present on the dais.

436 abstracts had been received and nearly 400 participants presented their papers in 38 parallel technical sessions under the sub-themes: (i) Agricultural Development, Forestry and Biodiversity; (ii) Development and Sustainability; (iii) Ecosystem Management, Monitoring and Modelling; (iv) Environment, Human Health & Well-being; (v) Globalization, Industrialization and Environmental Issues; (vi) Land Use Land Cover and Climate Change; (vii) Land Use Land Cover Change and Biodiversity; (viii) Population Pressure, Natural Resource Use and Climate Change; (ix) Role of GIS Technology; (x) Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Development; (xi) Tourism Potential of Geo-Heritage Sites in South Asia; (xii) Urbanization and Environmental Issues; and (xiii) Water Resource Management. Late Dr. Manju Singh Memorial Young Scientist Best Paper Award 2020 competition was under the auspices of International Geographical Union Taskforce for Young and Early Career Geographers under the leadership of Dr. Komali Yennetti, Chair and Dr. Gaurav Sikka, Secretary General. Two-days software training on Snow Cover Dynamics and Glacier Fluctuations in the Himalaya were organized during 7-8 March 2020, supported by IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity. Prof. R. B. Singh introduced the programme. Dr. Suraj Mal and Dr. Pankaj Kumar of Delhi University conducted the training programme in which there were 14 participants.



Inauguration



Abstract Volume release



Best Paper Awardee



Mr. Shyamal Santra, Minister of state in charge of Public Health Engineering & Panchayats & Rural Development, Government of West Bengal; Prof. R. B. Singh, Secretary General and Treasurer, IGU; Prof. N. C. Jana, Convener, XIV IGU-INDIA International Conference



Participants of Training Programme



Valedictory Session

Glimpses of the XIV International Geographical Union (IGU)- India International Conference

Report on the IGU-India International Conference 2020 on “Global to Local Sustainability & Future Earth, 18-20, December 2020

The IGU-India International Conference 2020 on “Global to Local Sustainability & Future Earth” being organized by the Department of Geography, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, Rajasthan, INDIA on 18-20 December, 2020. The conference was joined by more than 800 of participants from about 40 countries including Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Algeria, Kenya, Argentina, Kyrgyzstan, Australia, Libya, Bangladesh, Lithuania, Benin, Macedonia, Canada, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nigeria, China, Philippines, Egypt, Poland, Ethiopia, Qatar, Haiti, Romania, Hungary, Russia, India, South Africa, Indonesia, Thailand, Iran, United States, Italy, Vietnam, Japan, Zambia, Zimbabwe, etc.

Three days’ conference is held in Mohanlal Sukhadia University, in the meeting hall and other buildings. More than 800 attendees, paper presenters, keynote and numerous panel discussion, academic and social community have benefited in many ways from this conference. More than 200 scientific papers were presented by authors from all participated countries.

This Conference is organized in collaboration with several IGU Commissions such as Commission on Future Earth, Commission on Geo-Heritage, Commission on Tourism, Commission on Local and Regional Development, Commission on Bio Geography and Biodiversity, Commission on Mountain Studies, Commission on Karst.

4. Co-operation with other organizations

ISC: ISC requested that IGU nominate a candidate for a small group of experts that will represent the Council on an international alliance around COVID-19 education entitled COVID-Education Alliance of partners (COVIDEA), and in response, IGU has nominated Professor Eyüp Artvinli, Eskisehir Osmangazi University Faculty of Education, Turkey, who was recommended by Gönençgil. Secretary General Singh is representing in CODATA and ISC Urban Health and Welbeing Programme. Céline Rozenblat is also representing in the ISC Urban Health and Welbeing Programme. The growing number of IGU initiatives in relation to the coronavirus pandemic was noted. The ISC will hold an extraordinary General Assembly (eGA) from 1st to 5th February 2021 with the main agenda item being ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure.



Glimpses of The IGU, India International Conference 2020 on “Global to Local Sustainability & Future Earth

GeoUnions: Himiyama noted the invitation from Prof. Orhan Altan, Honorary Member of ISPRS, to nominate two people from IGU to the ISC GeoUnions Committee on Risk and Disaster Management. After discussion and exchange of ideas, it was agreed to nominate Dr. Peijun Shi, President, Qinghai Normal University, China, and Prof. R.B. Singh, Secretary-General and Treasurer of IGU (IGU EC representative). Singh shared this view, mentioning that IGU is participating in UN-GGIM, that UN-GGIM publishes our report and circulates to several UN agencies and globally and therefore it is a great opportunity for IGU to continue working with them. Singh informed that the GeoUnions Committee on Risk and Disaster Management has prepared a policy brief initiated by Singh which is being circulated at the meeting. A second, ocean-related, policy brief is being prepared in line with the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development on initial draft presented by Singh.

FIG: Lemarchand summarised the announcement and schedule for the next Festival International de Géographie (FIG), which will be held from 1st to 3rd October 2021 under the theme “Bodies” and the invited region of “Europe(s)”. The festival is no ordinary scientific conference: more than 150 events will be organized over three days throughout Saint-Dié and in some neighboring towns, in various formats, divided into three main categories: round tables, plenary lectures, geo-café. Proposals for workshops are also welcome, particularly those that focus on the theme, either specifically for teachers to encourage experimentation with pedagogical practices, or aimed at a wider audience. There are also exhibitions of photographs, documents, maps, field visits, in situ observations, collective listening, moving debates, text surveys - all possibilities are being explored. Meadows thanked Lemarchand for maintaining the important and strong IGU connections with FIG.

Night of Geography/Day of Geography: Lemarchand noted that GeoNight/GéoNuit 2021 will take place on 9th April 2021. She is working this year with Alexis Alamel from France and Massimiliano Tabusi from Italy. Tabusi is planning to develop a website that highlights information, images, videos and other materials about GeoNight/GéoNuit (the suggested title for this event going forwards) under an appropriate domain name. The website will indicate information on location (these will be mapped) and include a link to all online events. A common webform is being developed to make it easier for each local organizer to manage their respective event. Kumar agreed to

assist in developing the webform and to share it on the IGU website. Gönençgil continues to explore the idea of the international ‘Day of Geography’, especially in light of the upcoming IGU Centennial in 2022.

CIPSH: Kolosov tabled a letter from the Secretary-General of CIPSH regarding the CIPSH_SDU Conference Announcement. The ‘European Humanities and Beyond’ conference will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, during 5th to 7th May 2021 and has several sessions on multidisciplinary humanity and society topics of interest to geographers. The organisers have accepted an IGU request to hold a special session on Sustainability and this information should be circulated to appropriate IGU commissions. The CIPSH General Assembly was scheduled for 14th to 15th December 2020, in Odense, in Denmark but will be attended online by Himiyama, Lemarchand and former IGU Vice-President Kolosov, who is to be re-nominated as Executive Committee member.

UN-GGIM: Himiyama informed EC that the most important work of UN-GGIM is to support developing countries in the field of geospatial data infrastructure. UN-GGIM helps developing countries to prepare standard geospatial data infrastructure projects to obtain support from the World Bank. The International Cartographic Association (ICA) is playing a leading role in this body and IGU is requested annually to send a report to UN-GGIM.

EUROGEO, EUGEO: EUROGEO Conference 2021 will be held in Madrid, April 22nd to 23rd 2021. The EUGEO Seminar and General Assembly planned in Vilnius, Lithuania, for 23rd to 25th April 2020 have been postponed because of the COVID-19 emergency in Europe. Himiyama asked Kolosov to nominate an IGU liaison officer. Himiyama noted that IGU and EUGEO do not have a formal agreement and Kolosov replied that it will be good to formalize our relations in a form of Special Memorandum that could be signed at the Istanbul 2021 Congress. Kolosov suggested preparing and circulating a draft memorandum among EC members of each organization for comment with a view to formal ratification. Lois-González had attended the recent meeting of Eugeo as representative of the Spanish geographical associations. Eugeo is planning a congress in the end of June 2021, from June 28 to July 1, in Prague.

EGAL/UGAL: Lois-González reported that the Latin American Conference of Geographers (EGAL) is delayed because of the very serious coronavirus situation in Latin American countries. This may now only be held as late as 2022.

Other organizations (e.g. AAG, RGS, AGA etc.): Meadows noted that the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) has conferred a prestigious Honorary Fellowship on IGU Vice-President Bojie Fu. Meadows had met online with the Director of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG). The RGS/IBG is willing to host/co-host an exhibition in line with IGC 2022 events if desired. Singh noted that the AAG celebrated a successful Geography Awareness Week. AAG has proposed a Complimentary Advertising Exchange Program whereby AAG will promote IGU events, etc. in exchange for IGU promoting the upcoming AAG 2021 Annual Meeting.

5. Forthcoming events

16-20 August 2021: 34th International Geographical Congress, Istanbul, Turkey.

6. Communication and outreach

The main communication tools of the IGU are its website, maintained by Secretary-General R.B. Singh and Assistant Secretary-Dr. Pankaj Kumar, and its quarterly newsletter, compiled by former

Vice--- President Giuliano Bellezza. As usual, four issues of the Newsletter were published in 2018 and can be downloaded from the website by following the newsletter link from www.igu-online.org.

IGU Series on Contemporary Geographies: The IGU's book series with Springer (edited by Singh) and Edward Elgar Publishers (edited by Hay and Meadows) are attracting strong submissions.

7. Financials

The IGU accounts (see below) indicate a surplus in 2020 of more than US\$70,000 due very largely to the fact that all Executive Committee meetings were held in online format during the year. Some airfare costs have been incurred but these are related to flights that are still valid for future travel once the coronavirus travel restrictions are relaxed. Overall the financial situation remains reasonably sound, but it may be anticipated that more national members will struggle to pay their dues in 2021 due to constraints imposed by the pandemic crisis and associated economic recession in many countries. The surplus is, therefore, a useful cushion. Transfer of the IGU operating account (Business Current Account) held in Cape Town to the new account hosted at Macalester College has commenced. Funds in the IGU Promotion and Solidarity Fund have been transferred to a new bank account in Japan under the curatorship of IGU Past-President Yukio Himiyama.

International Geographical Union
Profit & Loss
January through December 2020

	\$
	Jan - Dec 20
Ordinary Income/Expenses	
Income	
Investments	
Banking Accounts Interest	\$3 712,81
Program Income	
Country Member Dues	\$129 913,46
Donation received and Travel Grant refund	\$1 912,80
Total Income	<u>\$135 539,08</u>
Gross Profit	\$135 539,08
Expenses	
MEMBERSHIPS	-\$7 066,39
SUNDRIES (STATIONERY, PRINTER COSTS, SOFTWARE, POSTAGE)	-\$1 099,16
COMMISSION GRANTS (NET)	-\$36 307,76
EC TRAVEL (NET)	-\$10 959,60
HONORARIA (TECHNICAL, SECRETARIAL)	-\$3 335,16
WEBSITE AND INTERNET COSTS	-\$1 645,91
BANK FEES (NET)	-\$1 119,96
Total Expenditure	-\$61 533,94
Net Income	<u>\$74 005,13</u>

International Geographical Union

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2020

	Dec 31 2020
Assets	\$
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
P&S (North Pacific Bank)	\$102 508,41
Macalester College IGU account	\$50 000,00
Japan Operating Account	\$397,92
Cape Town Market Link	\$114,96
Cape Town Money Market	\$140 989,96
Cape Town Operating Account	\$43 173,42
Total Checking/Savings	\$337 184,67
Total Current Assets	\$337 184,67
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$337 184,67</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	\$200 952,40
Unrestricted Net Assets Reserve account	\$62 227,14
Net Income	\$74 005,13
Total Equity	\$337 184,67
<u>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</u>	<u>\$337 184,67</u>

International Geographical Union Statutes

Revised to 6th July 2019

I. Denomination, Objectives and Domicile of the Union

- A. The International Geographical Union, commonly referred to as IGU, is an international, non-governmental, non-profit scientific organization.
- B. The purposes of the International Geographical Union are:
 1. to promote the study of geographical problems;
 2. to initiate and co-ordinate geographical research requiring international co-operation 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 co-operation 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 Science Council (ISC) and recognizes it as providing a co ordinating and representative body for the international organization of science.
- D. 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 the ISC 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 co-operation, 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 re-election 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 re-election 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 Vice-Presidents shall be appointed by the Executive Committee as First Vice-President. 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 re-election 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 Secretary-General or Assistant-Treasurer. The Secretary-General 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 Secretary-General 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 Vice-Chair 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 co-opt 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 sub-committees 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 Secretary-General 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 following scale:

Category	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Units	1	2	3	5	7	9	12	15
Category	I	J	K	L	M	N	0	
Units	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	

- B. Each country applying for membership of the Union shall specify in which category it wishes to be classed. For each country the organization 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:
 1. contributions by members;
 2. subventions from other organizations;
 3. sale of publications;
 4. gifts and donations;
 5. congress and conference registration fees;
 6. 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 co operation with the ISC 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 the ISC, the IGU follows ISC 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 Secretary-General 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 Secretary-General 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.

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.
- 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

- 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 two-thirds 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 6 Juillet 2019

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 de la Science (CIS) et reconnaît qu'il constitue un organe de coordination et de représentation de l'organisation internationale des sciences naturelles et sociales.
- D. 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 pays. Dans ce contexte, un "pays" est un territoire où les discussions scientifiques sont organisées de manière indépendante. L'admission d'un pays comme membre de l'Union ne constitue pas une reconnaissance de son statut politique mais seulement de son statut scientifique. En cas de doute, l'avis du CIS sera sollicité. Chaque pays membre a les mêmes droits et les mêmes devoirs, sauf dans les cas prévus ci-après.
- 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 adhérant 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 adhérant 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 les 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 faites 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 adhérant à l'Union comme membres titulaires sont répartis entre les quinze catégories suivantes. Chaque pays adhérent paie annuellement au minimum le nombre d'unités de souscription correspondant au numéro de sa catégorie, suivant le barème ci-après.

Catégorie	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Unités	1	2	3	5	7	9	12	15
Catégorie	I	J	K	L	M	N	0	
Unités	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	

- 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:
 1. des contributions des membres;
 2. des subventions accordées par d'autres organismes;
 3. de la vente des publications;
 4. de dons et de donations;
 5. de droits d'inscription aux congrès et aux conférences;
 6. 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;

Le coût de la coopération avec le CIS et d'autres organisations, incluant les cotisations.

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. Le coût de la coopération avec le CIS et d'autres organisations, incluant les cotisations.

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.