

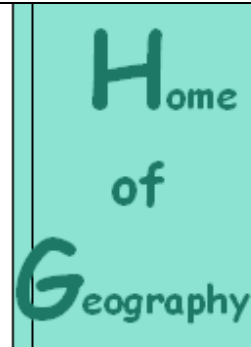


IGU E-Newsletter

Quarterly

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10

October

2007

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This Newsletter is circulated to more than 1000 individuals and bodies. Announcements, information, calls for participation in scientific events, programmes and projects are welcome.

Please send them to <g.bellezza@homeofgeography.org>

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Home of Geography Update



1) MESSAGE ON BEHALF OF IGU ACTING PRESIDENT, JOSE LUIS PALACIO PRIETO

Discussion following the recent appointment of a new Rector in the Universidad de Mexico turned out to be so demanding for IGU Acting President José Luis Palacio Prieto that even in the next days he will be unable to write the usual Message to open our Newsletter. So, on his behalf, I pass on all of you his wishes to continue your activities of research and teaching in the most satisfactory way. As there is not a general update on the IGU, he agreed with my proposal to begin the Newsletter with what is usually the final point, i.e. an update on the Home of Geography.

I start with some lines from the previous issue: *Sadly, the Executive Secretary of the Home of Geography, Dawn Bissell, is leaving her position, and indeed Rome, at the end of July. She has been of incredible help for almost two years.* One of her main area of contribution was the amendment of my written English (and that of many other scholars, who asked the Home of Geography for this kind of support: actually, over the course of the last year the Home of Geography was skipped altogether, as scholars were seeking help with Dawn directly). Thus, and until we could employ a new English native-speaking Secretary, a part of the next issues will be written in my Italian/Engalian. I want to thank former President Anne Buttimer, who guaranteed me to revise my texts, but for the following lines there is no time: this Newsletter is already two weeks overdue, and needs to be distributed tomorrow at the latest.

Over the last summer months, there has been no much activity at the Home of Geography. I have been busy with a field work in Cappadocia (Central Turkey) with my Department: these are, in my opinion, the best moments of our activity. On the other hand, I could not attend the Festival Internationale de la Géographie in Saint Dié des Vosges (please find Anne Buttimer's report further below). Soon after I had the opportunity to participate in the joint Meetings of the IGU Commissions C04.35 and C04.36 (see below).

Following are the Home of Geography's most recent activities:

a) following a proposal of Prof. Antoine Bailly, consolidation of our relations not only with FIG, but also with the organizers of Festa da Geografia in Mirandela (Portugal), and communications with local Public Authorities, in order to organize a similar initiative in the Roma Province or Region;

b) thanks to Anne Buttimer the Home of Geography maintains with the Herodot group coordinated by Prof. Karl Donert contacts began in the CCHD Workshop of December 2005, that was held at our site. We will probably host a meeting of the group in the 2008 springtime. I suggest our readers to have a look at the interesting website:

<http://hopelive.hope.ac.uk/international/karld/> ;

c) the Volume VIII of the Home of Geography Series I, *Migration in a New Europe: People, Borders and Trajectories* will appear between the second half of December 2007 and the first of January 2008. The book, which deals with migration issues in an enlarged Europe, is edited by Ton van Naerssen and Martin van der Velde:

d) We confirm that, as published in the previous issue, special rates for some top-of-the-range Italian hotels have been secured from an Italian company for friends of the Home of Geography. The quality hotels in this first agreement are all located in Sicily and offer the highest standards of comfort and quality (see the complete list and how to book in Newsletter #9). Please note that the discounted rates are valid until *31 December 2007*, but we are now managing to renew the convention obtaining even more convenient rates.

To quote Martin Luther King's famous words, I also have a dream: my one concerns the Home of Geography, and I'll use an exemple to explain it. As you will see, this Newsletter deals largely with the joint Meetings of two IGU Commissions C04.35 (Commission on Indigenous People's Knowledges and Rights) and C04.36 (Commission on Islands): an interesting experience, with great participation and success, demonstrating the amount of work already done by the two most recent IGU Commissions. I asked the organizers to send me some written reports as soon as possible: I came back to Rome on 8th November, and in the following days I received reports and photos. I converted all this material to Web format for the Newsletter, and added some more photos which I took during the excursions.

I consider this as a very good example of how my dream could come true. The aim I am pursuing is to slowly transform the rather impersonal Home of Geography into a more lively Home of Geographers, based on a more bottom-up means of sharing information. (Of course, "up" is the IGU Executive Committee, not the Home of Geography. When I used this idiom speaking to the people participating to the Taiwan Meetings, they immediately understood, and answered enthusiastically).

Success in shifting from Home of Geography to Home of Geographers is directly linked to all of us; I would like to thank those Commissions which, in response to our periodical requests, notify us of their activities. This allows the Home to keep geographers all over the world as informed as possible about the activities carried out by the community.

Of course, keeping the Home informed is not the measure of a Commission's activity; many Commissions, though scientifically active, probably don't consider it particularly important to update their colleagues in other Commissions. This, in my opinion, is a grave error, which goes some way to explaining why public or private entities concerned with territorial planning always consult economists, architects, sociologists, geologists, engineers and many other specialists, whereas the idea of seeking advice from a geographer doesn't even occur to them in most cases.

I am pleased to mention some of the Commissions which are keenest to keep their colleagues informed via the Home: the Commissions e-Archive on our website clearly shows that the Gender and Geography or Geography and Public Policy Commissions (to mention just a couple) are working closely with the Home in this respect.

The best example, to my knowledge, is C04.01: Applied Geography Commission, and a few days ago I received from its Chairman, Antoine Bailly, and its Secretary, Lay James Gibson, their 2007 Report: I invite all readers to have a look at it (on the Commission's website or on www.homeofgeography.org/Commissions-eArchives/C04.01). I am convinced that the widespread diffusion of reports like this one, possibly even out of the Geographer' community, is the best way to convince governments and international entities of the practical importance of professional geographers.

I am certain that other Commissions are working to the same standard, and I simply hope that they will take the opportunity to use our site and newsletter to raise awareness of the results of their activities. I promise to stress this for the last time (in this newsletter, at least): transforming Home of Geography into a Home of Geographers relies mainly on your co-operation.

The first of the Communication of Secretary General Woo-ik Yu published in the previous issue of the newsletter was informing about the recognition of "*a small number of international scholars with the IGU Laureat d'honneur at the 2008 Congress. Nominations from National Committees of individuals to be considered for the Laureat d'honneur are due at the IGU Secretariat by 31 October 2007*". I am not member of the EC, but I heard about some possible nomination. In any case, I want to thank the Egypt National Committee, which correctly wrote to IGU Secretary General and informed also the Home that "*The Egyptian National Committee of the IGU has unanimously nominated its Chairman **Prof. M.S. Abulezz** who is also the President of the Egyptian Geographical Society and Emeritus Professor in Cairo University to the IGU Lauréat d' Honneur award of 2008*". This demonstrate that useful information arrives to the Home even in top-down direction.

Good work and best regards,

Giuliano Bellezza

Director of the Home of Geography

2) COMMUNICATIONS FROM IGU SECRETARY GENERAL, WOO-IK YU

(repeated, due to the importance of the issues,)

A letter was sent in early July from Prof Woo-ik Yu to the IGU Executive Committee and Chairs of the National Committees, and we diffused it in the Issue # 9. All the points were of key importance, and the dead lines for points **1. Laureat d'honneur** and **2. Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize in Human Geography** had already expired. In any case, we consider it useful to publish again all the following, as the dead lines had not yet been reached:

3. Nominations for election to the IGU Executive committee for the period 2008- 2012

Nominations of individuals for election to the IGU Executive Committee for the period 2008 to 2012 are due at the IGU Secretariat no later than **31 December 2007**. All current members of the IGU Executive Committee, except for Professor Anne Buttimer, are eligible for nomination for president. The eligibility of the current members of the IGU Executive Committee is as follows:

- Past President Anne Buttimer will complete her service to IGU in 2008;

- First Vice President and Acting President José Palacio-Prieto has served two terms as Vice President and is not eligible for re-election to a third term as Vice President;
- Secretary General and Treasurer Woo-ik Yu has served one term as Vice President/Secretary General and Treasurer and is eligible for nomination as a candidate for Secretary General and Treasurer;
- Vice President Vladimir Kolossov has served a partial term as Vice President and is eligible for nomination for one additional term as Vice President;
- Vice President Ronald Abler will complete his service to IGU in 2008;
- Vice President Changming Liu has served two terms as Vice President and is not eligible for nomination for a third term as Vice President;
- Vice President Markku Löytönen has served two terms as Vice President and is not eligible for nomination for a third term as Vice President;
- Vice President Lindisizwe Magi has served two terms as Vice President and is not eligible for nomination for a third term as Vice President;
- Vice President Hiroshi Tanabe has served two terms as Vice President and is not eligible for nomination for a third term as Vice President;

Please note that nominations of individuals as candidates for positions on the IGU Executive Committee should be put forward by National Committees, accompanied by a photograph of the nominee, a curriculum vitae, and a statement of intent of no more than 500 words, written by the nominee, describing his or her priorities for the IGU if elected. The photograph should be suitable for reproduction in the *IGU Newsletter*.

4. Application for the 2014 Regional Conference/2016 IGU Congress

National Committees wishing to host either the 2014 IGC Regional Conference or the 2016 IGU Congress are requested to send their applications to the Seoul IGU Secretariat by **December 31 2007**. The applications must include: a) an official letter of invitation; b) a brief proposal containing information on the invitation background, meeting location, tentative conference theme, available conference facilities, and other matters deemed relevant to the proposal and invitation. The Executive Committee will conduct a preliminary review of applications, and representatives of proposals deemed competitive will be invited to meet with the IGU Executive Committee in March 2008. The final decision on the sites of the two meetings will be made by the IGU General Assembly at the Tunis Congress.

5. Official voting delegates

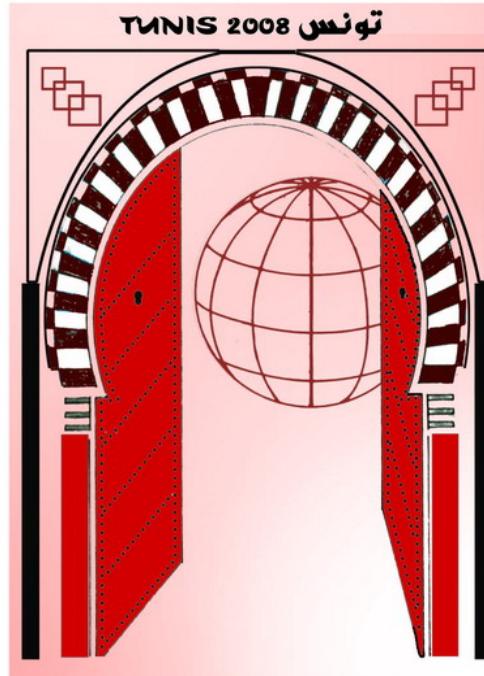
No later than **31 May 2008**, I will need to know the identity of each country's official voting delegate at the 2008 IGU General Assembly. You may, if you wish, designate an alternate to cast your country's vote if the delegate must be absent from a meeting of the assembly.

6. Agenda for the Tunis General Assembly

You will receive the agenda for the Tunis General Assembly on or about 1 April 2008. The Executive Committee will invite your suggestions for items of business to be placed on the agenda in early 2008, but I would be pleased to receive any suggestions for agenda items that may occur to you before then.

Plans for the Tunis congress are well in hand. The congress website is operational, and the local organizers have done an excellent job of attracting Commission and Task Force meetings to be held in the Tunis area in conjunction with the Congress. The second Congress Circular is scheduled for distribution this year.

2) NEXT IGU INITIATIVES: TUNIS CONGRESS 2008 AND TEL AVIV CONFERENCE 2010



the Congress URL is <http://www.igc-tunis2008.com/>

Conference steering committee:

Prof. Daniel Felsenstein, Co-program organizer
Department of Geography, Hebrew University, Jerusalem.
E-mail: msdfels@mscc.huji.ac.il.

Prof. Tovi Fenster, Co-program organizer
Department of Geography, Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv.
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Prof. Aharon Kellerman, Chair
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Department of Geography, Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv.
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Dr. Michael Sofer, Co-local organizer
Department of Geography, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan.
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12-16 JULY 2010
Tel-Aviv

IGU
UGI

International Geographical Union
The Israeli National Commission for Geography

IGU
Regional Conference

The background image shows a city street with buildings and a large circular plaza. The image is in a blue-tinted color scheme.



3) MEETINGS HELD IN TAIWAN (29 OCTOBER-3 NOVEMBER) BY THE IGU COMMISSIONS C04.35 AND C04.36

3.1) Report by Anne Buttimer

On Monday October 29, 2007, the inaugural meeting of IGU's two newest Commissions established in 2006, the Commission on Islands, and the Commission on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights, opened in Taipei's elegant GIS International Convention Center. Over 300 people, including students, lecturers and members of the Taiwan public, with visitors from 26 foreign countries, attended the conference. (Of the 60+ international scholars and speakers, a majority was from Europe, followed by equal numbers from Australia+New Zealand and North America, with a small but quite quite vocal presence from the island Pacific). Exhibits and posters displayed films, books and journals, and information on Taiwan's national parks and offshore islands. The carefully designed programme involved three days of paper sessions, followed by a three day excursion to the beautiful Taroko National Park where encounters with Taroko and Amis people were arranged. The setting was truly cordial and, with voluntary student help available, all procedures were smooth and full copies of conference papers were available at the outset. Much of the credit for this success is due to the Local Organizing Committee, chaired by Professor Chang-Yi David Chang, also Chairman of the IGU Commission on Islands (National Taiwan University), with the impressive support of Commission Secretary Dr. Huei-Min Tsai (National Taiwan Normal University), and Professor Wang (Tibu) as key local organizer for the Commission on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights. The meeting was chaired by Professor Juin-Chuan Lin, President of the Geographical Society of Taiwan. Professor Sue-Ching Jou, Chair of the Department of Geography, National Taiwan University, hosted the business meetings of the two Commissions on Tuesday November 30.

The Opening session began with a welcome message from President Juin-Chuan Lin who invited a minute silence in memory of the late Professor Adalberto Vallega. Representatives of the various sponsoring organisations spoke briefly on the importance of international research collaboration for Taiwan. Anne Buttimer and Ron Abler welcomed the two commissions, commending them as innovators in extending the global reach of IGU beyond the traditional domains of Euro-American dominance. Both were also invited to deliver keynote lectures at the Opening Plenary Session.



Opening Ceremony, tribute to Adalberto Vallega

While each commission had its own distinctive programme, there were occasions for shared agenda. Both attended, and contributed to Opening and Closing Ceremonies. There were speakers who contributed to both symposia and there was much informal interaction throughout the conference days. While the Commission on Indigenous People's Knowledges and Rights held parallel sessions, the Commission on Islands held plenary sessions throughout. Common to both were concerns about global change and sustainable development, ethno- and bio-diversity and traditional ways of life, practical challenges of education, development and conservation of heritage. There were shared epistemological concerns, too, about language, enquiry methods, social construction of knowledges and the de-colonisation of discourse.

On the morning of November 1, a high-speed train sped delegates along the Northeast Coast Scenic Area to Hualien. By afternoon they were treated to the splendour of Taroko National Park and its famous Ching-shui Cliffs, arriving at the Leader (Shan-yueh) Village Taroko (managed entirely by Taroko people) for an overnight stay. On the following morning there was an impressive "field seminar", organized by the Commission on Indigenous People's Knowledges and Rights, which included several presentations by indigenous people, a moving film, and several hours of dialogue. This was largely a sequel to a pioneering project undertaken by William T Hipwell (Victoria University of Wellington) and colleagues on an "Aboriginal Sustainability Network" (ASN) involving five communities: Maori (N.Z.), Mi'kmaq (Canada), Ngarrindjeri (Australia) and the Sou and Taroko nations of Taiwan. The November 2 event revealed many unresolved tensions and persistent challenges of inter-cultural interaction; among the hopeful signs was the evidence of how geographical methods, cartography, GIS and other technologies could be deployed to elucidate details of tribal landscapes and places involved in aboriginal concerns about territory, identity and property rights. Discussions continued over lunch and well into the afternoon, when the group made their way again through the Swallow Grotto and Tiansiang to overnight at Grand Formosa Taroko Hotel. Before leaving Taroko on

Saturday, the entire group formed a circle and each individual was invited to speak, sing or dance: a perfect finale of a splendid experience.



C.Chang and J.Johnson, Commission's Chairs, J.C.Lin, President, A.Buttimer and R.Abler, IGU

A splendid experience indeed, heralding a fresh beginning for practices of geography as well as for IGU itself. For a discipline which has concerned itself primarily with land rather than ocean, with mainland rather than island, with large imperial nations rather than with smaller ones, the programme of this meeting indeed pointed in new directions. From the paradigm-driven approaches so characteristic of conventional academic geography, too, this programme revealed a willingness to explore voices of lived geographical experience, and the varieties of indigenous geographical knowledges. From the IGU vantage point, the welcome expertise from Southeast Asia, Pacific islands and Australasia marked success for a regional network newly launched at Brisbane 2006. And it was splendid for the participants themselves. From the moment they arrived at Taipei International Airport, foreign participants received a cordial welcome throughout their stay. Indeed, given its history and current political climate, Taiwan was the ideal setting for the inaugural meetings of these IGU Commissions on Islands and on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights.

Anne Buttimer, University College Dublin
Past President of the International Geographical Union

3.2) C04.35 Commission on Indigenous Peoples Knowledges and Rights

It was during the launch of the Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights Commission at the Brisbane meeting of the IGU in 2006 that Prof. Chang-yi David Chang of National Taiwan University proposed a joint meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights and Islands Commissions. His work, along with the efforts of Professor Ming Huey Wang (tibusungu'e vayayana) of National Taiwan Normal University provided the leadership for an incredible meeting for our two commissions. The first three days of our joint meeting was spent at National Taiwan University devoted to keynote and concurrent paper sessions. As Prof. Paul Claval noted in his opening plenary presentation, this meeting marked a clear transition for the IGU into the era of post-colonialism and post-modernism. The conference in Taipei was followed by three days in eastern Taiwan, including visiting Taroko National Park and meetings with the Taroko and Amis Nations.

The keynote and paper sessions within the Indigenous Peoples' Commission portion of conference were comprised of presentations from Australia, Fiji, Germany, Hawai'i, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the United States and included numerous papers from the host country concerning Indigenous Taiwanese topics. As the chair of the Indigenous Peoples' Commission, it was my hope that our group of international scholars would be able to share our knowledge concerning Indigenous peoples' struggles from others parts of the world with those academics in Taiwan studying similar issues for Indigenous Taiwanese communities. Certainly, the members of our commission from various parts of the globe learned a great deal from the Taiwanese academics who presented, aided by the adept skills of the translators. We are currently working on a special edition for *Geojournal* of papers presented at the conference and hope to also have several papers published in a special edition of the *Journal of Geographical Science* published by National Taiwan University.

Following the conference, we travelled to the eastern portion of Taiwan where we spent three days visiting various parts of Taroko National Park and learned about the displacement of the Taroko people from the park lands which bare their name. Perhaps the highlight for many of us of our time in Taiwan was the session organized by Professor Wang (tibu) with representatives from several different Indigenous Taiwanese Nations, including the Amis and Taroko. Their presentations provided insights into the struggles by their nations over issues of displacement, resource extraction, tourism, language preservation and autonomy. It was during this session that we learned about the current and on-going difficulties faced by the Indigenous communities of Taiwan as well as their vision for the future.



Fu-Shih Taroko Elementary School: a class at left, W. Hipwell opening the Seminar at right

One clear message that was conveyed by the representatives of these communities was that they value increased international connections with other Indigenous communities and forums, including the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

To our hosts among the organizing committee, the Council of Indigenous Peoples of Taiwan, and the various Indigenous Nations who welcomed us into their communities we wish to say thank you for sharing with us and for showing us such hospitality.

Jay T. Johnson, Chair, Commission on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights



Field trip of the 2 Commissions in the Swallow Gorge of the high part of the Liwu River

3.3) C04.36 Commission on Islands, Island Geographies – New Horizons of Geographical Research

What can we learn from peripheral island geographies about key issues at the core of societal dynamics? Some would argue this question is itself yet another example of colonial exploitation on the part of continental centers of power. Island geographies have repeatedly figured as pathway to geographical knowledge of relevance far beyond the unique contexts of small peripheral places. The new IGU Commission on Islands represents an ongoing resurgence of interest in core-periphery dynamics and in seeking knowledge for achieving sustainability for our island Earth, linking local and global processes. The tensions in thought and action this resurgence builds upon provided energy and focus for the inaugural meeting of the commission held in Taipei.

The first day of the conference focused on new horizons of island geographical research, conceptions of island studies, and social and political dimensions of island geographies. Running parallel with the Inaugural Meeting of the IGU Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights Commission, the opening sessions joined the two conferences, drawing connections between island geographies and issues surrounding biocultural diversity. The meaning of studying islands 'on their own terms', the importance of avoiding the 'local trap', and reimagining the ocean-island interface gave the conference a kick-start of lively debate. This was followed up with examples of island studies highlighting uneven development, the impacts of tourism and mobilities, and embodied geographies of borders.



The second day included sessions on island responses to global change, island cultures and identities, island tourism, island landscapes and heritage, and island vulnerability and resource management. Ethnobiodiversity and local empowerment were just a couple of many aspects of island development that effectively crossed the nature-society divide. Day three focused on issues and strategies for sustainable island development, drawing on experiences from around the world, not least Taiwan's efforts to localize development strategies for its highly diverse off-shore islands.

After three days of animated discussion on island geographies, exchange of thought continued in the field, bringing together the delegates of both IGU conferences in a three day fieldtrip to Hualien and Taroko National Park. Day two of the fieldtrip included a field seminar on the struggles of the indigenous Taroko people. After one day spent in Taipei, some members of the Commission and participants to the Meeting joined in a field trip to the Penghu Island, in the China Southern Sea.

Details of the conference program including abstracts are available at the commission's website: <http://igu-islands.giee.ntnu.edu.tw/>

Many of the papers presented at the conference will be published in various journals and books in the coming year.

Future activities of the IGU Commission on Islands include

- Organizing sessions at the upcoming IGU Conference in Tunis, August 2008
- Organizing sessions at the ISISA (International Small Island Studies Association) conference, Jeju Island, August 2008
- Workshops in Tasmania and Bornholm, 2009 (preliminary)

These and other activities can be followed at the commission's website. The commission has a very international and transdisciplinary profile and welcomes new members and participation in its efforts to develop new horizons of geographical research through focusing on islands.

Chang-yi David Chang, Juin- Chuan Lin, Sue- Ching Jou , Huei-Min Tsai. Eric Clark



Penghu Island: columnar lava at left, coral fence at right.



4) FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE LA GÉOGRAPHIE SAINT DIÉ DES VOSGES, 4-7 OCTOBER 2007

Report by Anne Buttimer

They came in their thousands as they usually do -academic geographers and students, school teachers and pupils, media experts and publishers, farmers and local entrepreneurs- for this 18th occasion of the Saint-Dié Geography Festival. October 2007 also marked the 500th anniversary of the first map containing the name "America" which was produced in this city by Waldseemüller in 1507. The title, *La Planète en mal d'énergies*, was strongly supported by IGU, given our commitments to the UN Year of Planet Earth (2008), and indeed the impressive work of the French National Committee for IYPE was in evidence throughout FIG 2007.

With the Indian summer weather of October 4-7, there was little lack of energy in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges. Hosts were cordial as ever and the town was festooned with colour. The various *salons* staged innovative displays of film and literature, school texts and learning materials, geomatics and gourmandise. At the Tour de la Liberté was an impressive exhibition of Braque ceramics and throughout the town, in Cathedral and street, were musical performances of superb quality. School children and their teachers were clearly enjoying the displays, colleagues from France and abroad rejoiced in the opportunity for dialogue and refreshment.

The Inaugural Ceremony (October 4) involved presentations by representatives of regional government and national ministries of education and environment. It also welcomed Roumania as special guest country for 2007 and Mme Elisabeth Roudinesco, psychoanalyst and historian, as "grand témoin". Highlights of the session included her fetching "mental map" of Europe and the passionate (one-hour long) speech by Christian Pierret on the central theme of energy. Prizes were

awarded to winners of thesis and poster competitions (organized by the French National Committee for Geography), and Michael Frank Goodchild of Santa Barbara, California was this year's happy recipient of the *Prix Vautrin Lud*.

The scientific programme included round table panel discussions and plenary lectures, the highly popular "cafés géographiques", demonstrations and poster events. Sessions were fully attended and involved stimulating debates. For the first time a non-French person, Professor Bernadette Mérenne-Schoumaker (Université de Liège, Belgium), was invited to deliver the Opening paper on the geography of energy. Throughout the event there were presentations and debates on other aspects of energy and environment, the quest for alternatives to fossil fuels, issues of climate change and global warming, implications for health and welfare, new developments in agriculture, transport and trade.

With characteristic aplomb, Christian Pierret welcomed delegates from Roumania and Cameroon, Germany and Italy and expressed his deep appreciation for IGU and the partnership with FIG. As IGU's sole representative this year I took the opportunity to inform the public about the XXXI IGC in Tunis 2008. Later, at a short meeting with FIG personnel (October 6), the 2006 "Plan d'action" was discussed and details of FIG contributions to the 2008 IGC 2008 were outlined. By then Ali Toumi, Secretary-General for the Congress, had arrived and he described the state of current planning and announced the website which should be fully operational by October 15 (www.igc-tunis2008.com).

The *Festival International de Géographie* is a highly important event for French geographers and for many others. The 18th occasion was a resounding success with palpable enthusiasm about fresh ideas in technology, cartography and analytical methods. Tension was high on Saturday evening and when the result of the rugby match between France and New Zealand was announced, the Palais Omnisports Joseph Claudel virtually exploded in delight.

5) HERODOT WORKING CONFERENCE: "Geography for Society: Putting Bologna into Action"

HERODOT held its main 2007 conference in Stockholm, Sweden. More than 70 participants from 22 countries attended the event. This event was a working conference where participants developed the themes of the network through the four HERODOT working groups or thematic pillars, namely:

- Citizenship, Culture, Place and Identity
- 21st century Geography
- Innovative Teaching and
- Lifelong Learning.

Additionally members participated in some parts of the ESRI User conference, taking place in Stockholm at the same time, presenting papers as part of the Education User track.

The HERODOT conference keynote presentations were given by Professor Anne Buttimer, former President of the IGU on "Geography, Dialogue and Social Integration in Europe", and by Julia Gonzalez-Ferreras from the University of Deusto, Spain on "TUNING Educational structures".

The event also marked the launch of two major network reports on the “State of Geography in Europe” and on “TUNING Geography”. This research was undertaken through and with members of the network and provides information on Geography in higher education and also in schools throughout Europe. The reports are available for download from the conference Web pages: <http://www.herodot.net/conferences/stockholm/HERODOT-Stockholm.html>

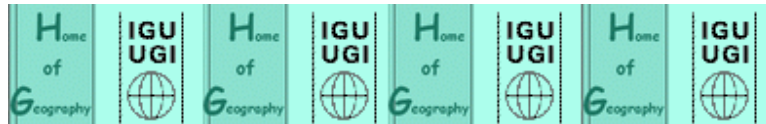


The working groups held their meetings which were aimed at developing publications on learning and teaching about Europe, producing information and guidelines on employability in Geography and establishing a toolkit to promote Geography in Europe, including the development of a GEOcube. To find out more about this see the latest HERODOT newsletter (<http://www.herodot.net/newsletters/hnews16.html>) and visit the HERODOT Web site: <http://www.herodot.net>.

The conference participants also included the prize winners of the first student poster competition. This activity was sponsored jointly by HERODOT, ESRI and Hewlett-Packard. Presentations and papers from this and other events and latest competition and other news can be found on the HERODOT Web site.

The next HERODOT conference will be held in Liverpool (European Capital of Culture) at Liverpool Hope University between September 4-7 2008.

Membership of the network is free. There are currently more than 200 participating organisations worldwide, for more information contact either Karl Donert (donertk@hope.ac.uk) or Glenda Wall (wallg@hope.ac.uk).



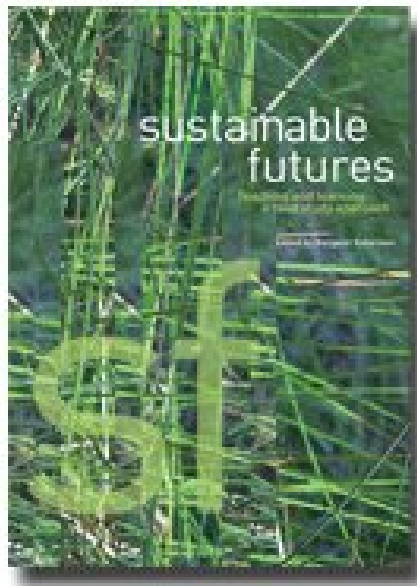
6) SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

A book conceived in the Home of Geography
Edited by Margaret Robertson

URL: <http://shop.acer.edu.au/acer-shop/product/A3048BK>

Publisher: **ACER Press**: 347 Camberwell Rd, Camberwell, VIC 3124, Australia

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(This book has been conceived during a workshop hosted in the Home of Geography, from 13 through 24 June 2005 (see e-newsletter # 1). In the opening days the team enjoyed the presence of Ron Abler, Ashley Kent and Stuart Brooks, while Anne Buttimer joined the group in the last days.)

Sustainable Futures covers cross-cultural understanding, environmental issues and sustainable lifestyles, and is a valuable resource for teachers and students in schools and higher education institutions seeking to expand their knowledge of these areas.

Sustainable Futures is the result of an extraordinary collaboration between ten scientists from around the world. It offers a unique and fascinating approach to sustainable development issues in developing countries.

Providing an illustration of a working model for meeting global targets at local levels, **Sustainable Futures** warmly embraces the need to think globally and act locally. It focuses on educating the next generation of young people about environmental issues with water and forest management as major themes.

Detailed case studies from India, Thailand, China, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Georgia and Portugal reveal the passions and endeavours of local communities seeking to bring about a better way of life.

Case Studies include:

Capacity-building for disaster management in southern Thailand

Water-saving in a city: A case study of Beijing City

Rainwater harvesting in Mumbai

Water resources, tourism and sustainable development in the Tres Palos lagoon area, Mexico

Geography for urban sustainable development: Students' proposals to deal with Santiago de Chile urban sprawl

Community and sustainable development: Sustainability awareness through transportation, food and water in a Buenos Aires neighbourhood

The forest fires issue in Portugal

Geographical perspective on training of students in sustainable development in Georgia

*For individual and local communities, however, the prospects of doing anything toward achieving these ideals in one's own immediate milieu remain opaque. **Sustainable Futures** offers potential solutions to this enigma via local, area-based initiatives by teachers and students.*

Presentation by **Anne Buttimer, University College Dublin**

Past President of the International Geographical Union



7) SUMMARY OF FORTHCOMING 2007 EVENTS

The following are events scheduled for 2007. Clearly the list is far from complete, but we can only publish the ones which were notified to us. To see more details, please follow the links or visit the Home of Geography's website: <http://www.homeofgeography.org/> (then choose *Events 2007*).

November 2007

- IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change: Tourism and Global Change in Polar Regions - An International Conference, Oulu, Finland, 29 November - 1 December; <http://www.geog.nau.edu/igust/meetings.html>
- Spatial Restructuring of Slovenia and Neighboring States: Advantages for Border Regions. Koper-Capodistria, Slovenia, November 30 - December 2. Contact: Prof. Dr. Anton Gosar, email to simon.kerma@fhs.upr.si
- IGU Commission on Gender and Geography, Symposium: Transnational Lives: Feminist Perspectives on Citizenship, Home and Belonging. Taipei, Taiwan, November 23-26, <http://www2.fmg.uva.nl/igugender/activities.html>

December 2007

- 5th International Conference of Critical Geography: "Imperialism and resultant disorder: imperatives for social justice" Mumbai, 3-7 December 2007. <http://www.5thiccg.org>

2008, already received at the Home

- Association of American Geographers Annual Conference, Boston, April 2008. URL: www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2008/index.htm
- Budapest, May 2008: Congress of the International Soil Conservation Organization. URL: <http://www.ISCO2008.com.html>
- Studying, Modeling and Sense Making of Planet Earth, Athens 1-6 June 2008. URL: <http://www.aegean.gr/geography/earth-conference2008> .
- International Conference on Mediterranean Studies, ATHENS 2008. URL: <http://www.atiner.gr/docs/Mediterranean.htm>
- Geographies of Violence, Quebec, 21-24 May 2008. E-mail Jules.Lamarre@ggr.ulaval.ca



Home of Geography Publications Series: Sale

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To obtain copies of the following volumes, please contact Giuliano Bellezza at: g.bellezza@homeofgeography.org. Payment can be made by bank transfer or by credit card (Visa or Mastercard). Costs (incl postage and packing) are as follows:

Vol I - *Human Mobility in a Borderless World?* (2002) Ed: A. Montanari (OUT OF PRINT)

Vol II – *Food and Environment – Geographies of Taste* (2002) Ed: A. Montanari
(EU: €13 / non-EU: €19)

Vol III – *Rights to the City* (2005) Eds: D Wastl-Water, L. Staeheli & L. Dowler
(EU: €18 / non-EU: €24)

Vol IV – *The New Geography of Human Mobility – Inequality Trends* (2003) Eds: Y. Ishikawa & A. Montanari
(EU: €20 / non-EU: €26)

Vol V – *Migrations in Europe – The Four Last Decades* (2004) Eds: C. Vandermotten, G. Van Hamme, P. Medina Lockhart & B. Wayens
(EU: €13 / non-EU: €19)

Vol VI – *Gendered Cities: Identities, Activities, Networks – A Life-course Approach* (2004) G. Cortesi, F. Cristaldi & J. Droogleever Fortuijn
(EU: €20 / non-EU: €26)

Vol VII – *Managing Water Resources in a Changing Physical and Social Environment* (2007)
Eds: P. J. Robinson, J. A. A. Jones & M-K. Woo
(EU: €18 / non-EU: €24)