



A New Commission for 2016-2020

Maybe not a surprise considering the numerous activities during the last years, the Commission for the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change has been approved for a new 4-year term by the IGU General Assembly during the International Geographical Congress in Beijing. The decision enables a further effort to develop tourism geographies and enhance global comparative research.

Since many of the members of the previous commission had served for 8 years, they had to resign in accordance with the IGU-regulations. Hence the new commission includes several new members that were chosen with respect to equal numbers of men and women, geographical representation, and language. As a result, the commission is composed in the following way:



Dieter K. Müller (chair)
Department of Geography and Economic History,
Umeå University, Sweden



Tim Coles
University of Exeter Business School, UK



Julie Wilson
Faculty of Economics and Business Studies,
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain



Maria Gravari-Barbas
Institut de Recherche et d'Études Supérieures du
Tourisme, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University,
France



Marek Więckowski
Polish Academy of Sciences
Poland



Velvet Nelson
Department of Geography and Geology, Sam
Houston State University, USA



Rita de Cássia Ariza da Cruz
Department of Geography, University of Sao
Paulo, Brazil



Gustav Visser
Department of Geography and Environmental
Studies, Stellenbosch University, South Africa



Xu Honggang
School of Tourism and Management, Sun Yat-Sen
University, China



Theano Terkenli
Department of Geography, University of the
Aegean, Greece



Joseph M. Cheer
Australia & International Tourism Research Unit,
Monash University, Australia

New honorary members of the commission

During the commission business meeting in Beijing it was decided that the commission further should appoint past members as honorary members of the commission. Hence, the commission is completed by the following honorary members:

- Alan A. Lew, Department of Geography, Planning & Recreation, Northern Arizona University, USA
- Carolin Funck, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Hiroshima University, Japan

- Anne-Marie d'Hautserre, Department of Geography, Tourism & Environmental Planning, University of Waikato, New Zealand
- Jie Zhang, Department of Land Resource and Tourism, Nanjing University, China
- Sanette Ferreira, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Alison Gill, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University, Canada

Another honorary member is previous commission chair Jarkko Saarinen, University of Oulu, Finland, who stepped down from being vice-president of the IGU.

The appointment of honorary members should be seen as a measure to increase the organization's continuity, but also as an expression of gratitude for the input that the honorary commission members had on the activities of the organization.

Hence, on behalf of the commission, a great thank you to our new honorable members.

Conference report



International Geographical Union Pre-Congress Symposium Geography and Planning: Creating a New Tourism Landscape

15-18 August 2016, Nanjing and Suzhou, China

IGU Pre-Congress Symposium entitled **"Geography and Planning: Creating a New Tourism Landscape"** was held in Nanjing and Suzhou of China on 15-18 August 2016 organized by the IGU Commission on Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change, the Geographical Society of China Commission on Tourism Geography, the Institution for Tourism Research, School of Geographic and Oceanographic Sciences of Nanjing University, Northern Arizona University, USA and University Technology MARA, Malaysia.

The theme of the symposium was **"Geography and Planning: Creating a New Tourism Landscape"** with 9 subtopics: The tourism landscape as a storytelling, Challenges and best practices of tourism planning, Sustainable tourism policy and planning, Governance in urban tourism destinations,



*Group photo on the opening ceremony
at the Porcelain Tower Monument Park in Nanjing*

Theme park: the landscape of dreamlands and imagined worlds, Globalization, culture landscape and tourism, Big data and geographical analytics in tourism geography, Methodological issues in tourism geography and planning, and Future trends in tourism geography and planning.

The symposium participant number reached 92 with 28 foreign scholars, among which 8 participants were from Malaysia, 7 from Japan, 4 from USA, 3 from Poland, 3 from Russia, 1 from Brazil, 1 from New Zealand and 1 from Thailand.

The symposium opening ceremony was held in the Porcelain Tower Porcelain Tower Monument Park in Nanjing and hosted by Professor Jie Zhang and Professor Jinhe Zhang of Nanjing University. The keynote speeches were given by **Professor Alan A. Lew** of Northern Arizona University, USA, the vice-president of Commission on Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change Geographical of International Geographical Union, **Professor Carolin Funck** of Hiroshima University, Japan, **Professor Honggang Xu** of Sun Yat-sen University, China, **Professor Guoqing Du** of Rikkyo University, Japan, and **Associate Professor Nor'ain Othman** of University Technology Mara, Malaysia. The symposium received 65 abstracts/full

papers and 43 oral presentations. Both the keynote speeches and session presentations are successfully.



Commission member and local organizer Prof Jie Zhang, Nanjing University and commission vice chair Alan A. Lew, NAU

The commission would like to express its gratitude to our local organizers and friends for facilitating such a great event in China.

IGC Beijing - Shaping Our Harmonious Worlds

Tourism geographies were also a major contribution during the IGC in Beijing. The massive number of delegates in Beijing implied a new record for the IGU; 262 sessions were organized during the congress; 156 of these had been proposed by 41 IGU Commissions; 2600 presentations were made. In parallel to the oral sessions, 1200 posters were presented.

The tourism commission was responsible for 16 sessions and thus, the most active commission during the event. Moreover, it can be noted that sessions were well attended and the quality of presentations was persistently very good. Not least many young Asian Ph.D.-students presented excellent work in a very convincing manner.

IGU News

During the IGC in Beijing the general assembly of the IGU met and appointed a new leadership. Many familiar names discontinued their engagement for various reasons and hence, the commission lost its previous vice-president Jarkko Saarinen, but also a great supporter of the commission, 1st vice president Dieter Soyez, University of Cologne, resigned from his appointment. As a result of an election held at the Beijing General Assembly, Professor Yukio Himiyama, Hokkaido University of Education, was unanimously elected as IGU President for the period 2016 to 2020. More information on the IGU business and the new members of the IGU leadership can be found on the [IGU-web page](#).

Among the new vice-presidents Prof Rémy Tremblay, TÉLUQ, Université du Québec, has been appointed for maintaining the liaison to the commission. The commission sees forward to cooperate with Rémy not least considering the 2018 IGU event in Quebec City.

Upcoming meetings

Geographies for Peace – IGU Thematic Conference, La Paz, Bolivia, 23-25 April 2017

The IGU Commission is happy to be able to be represented at the first IGU Thematic Conference on the topic of geographies for peace to be held in La Paz, Bolivia. The Commission is co-sponsoring two sessions;

- *International Tourism and Cultural Diplomacy*, organized by Fabio Carbone (Coventry University) and Gian Luigi Corinto (University of Macerata)
- *Mobilities and Geographies of Peace*, organized by Edward Jackiewicz (California State University, Northridge)

More information about the conference and how to register can be found on the [IGU-webpage](#). The conference will be held in conjunction with the “[EGAL, XVI ENCUESTRO DE GEÓGRAFOS DE AMÉRICA LATINA](#)” (EGAL The 16th Meeting of Latin American Geographers), which will take place from 26 to 29 April in the same city.



AAG Boston, April, 5th – 9th 2017

Even in 2017 the IGU Commission continues their cooperation with the AAG and their Specialty Group on Recreation, Tourism and Sports currently led by Dr Patrick Brouder (Brock University). In Boston commission members and researchers with interest in the commission will offer sessions on the following topics:

- *Lifestyle Mobilities and Local Communities* (Xu Honggang & Kou Lirong)
- *Tourism and the Politics of Wilderness Management and Governance* (Jarkko Saarinen, Elizabeth Vidon, & C. Michael Hall)
- *Transnational Cultural and Natural Heritage in Asia: Contours of Boundary-Transgressing Memoryscapes* (Rudi Hartmann, & Dietrich Soyez)
- *Using qualitative methodology in tourism research* (Anne-Marie d’Hautesserre)
- *What tourism development for developing areas/regions/countries* (Anne-Marie d’Hautesserre)

For more information, please visit the [web page](#) of the AAG-RTS Study Group



The IGU Commission also continues its cooperation with the Nordic Geographers Meetings, this time to be held in Stockholm, June 18th–21st 2017. During this conference the following sessions are organized by commission members:

- *Critical geographies of tourism development in the Nordic peripheries* (Gunnar Thór Jóhannesson, Edward H. Huijbens, Dieter K. Müller & Jarkko Saarinen)
- *The Inequalities of Tourism: The Unequal Distribution of the Costs and Benefits of Tourism and Mobility Capital in the Twenty-First Century* (C. Michael Hall & Jarkko Saarinen)

For more information on the conference, please visit the [NGM-web page](#).

Other meetings with IGU-Commission involvement

Currently the commission is negotiating a participation at the 2017 [Annual Meetings](#) of the Canadian Association of Geographers in Toronto, May 29th – June, 2nd. Even a

participation at the [EUGEO](#)-conference in Brussels, September 4th-6th, 2017 is considered.

Furthermore, the commission will probably co-sponsor an tourism geographies event in Spain, October 2017.

Dates and topics for these conferences will be announced in the next newsletter.

IGU meetings beyond 2017

Currently the IGU-calendar comprises the following events;

- 2018 IGU Regional Conference Quebec, Canada
- 2020 IGU International Geographical Congress Istanbul, Turkey
- 2022 IGU International Geographical Congress (100 year anniversary), Paris, France
- 2024 IGU International Geographical Congress, Dublin, Ireland

As usual, the commission will try to organize committed pre-meetings adjacent to these events. For more and updated information on general IGU events please consider the new webpage of IGU igu-online.org

Tourism Geographies.

The International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission for the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change has recently used the opportunity to organize pre-meetings in connection with regional and global IGU-conferences. In particular the meeting in 2004 in Loch Lomond is continuously mentioned as one of the best tourism conferences ever.

The decision of the IGU to organize its regional conference 2018 in Quebec City together with the Canadian Association of Geographers once again creates an excellent opportunity to organize an outstanding pre-meeting. Against this background the Commission is negotiating with the Canadian Association of Geographers’ Tourism and Recreation Study Group and the American Association of Geographers’ Recreation, Tourism and Sports Specialty Group as well as with the journal *Tourism Geographies* in order to organize such an event.

The CAG and the AAG have seen very positive on this proposal and hence the following dates have preliminary been set for the conference.

Date: **2018-08-02 to 2018-08-05**
(Main conference 2018-08-06 to 2018-08-10)

Location: to be decided, but close to Quebec City

Please note these dates already now!



Information on the IGU Regional Conference in Quebec City can already be accessed on <http://igu2018.ulaval.ca/>

Looking for submissions

New book series “Geographies of Tourism and Global Change”

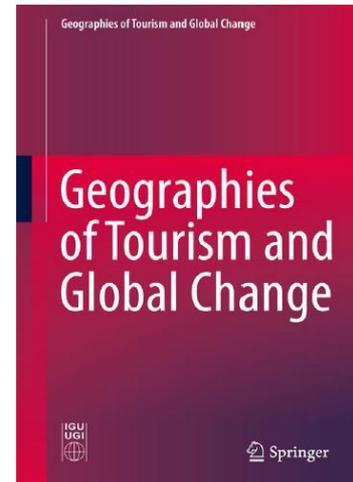
As announced earlier, the Commission has been involved in launching a new book series titled “*Geographies of Tourism and Global Change*” with Springer. A first book *Tourism and Transition* (Müller & Więckowski) based on the outcomes of the IGU-pre-conference meeting in Poland is underway and is expected to be available in early 2017. A second book on rural tourism is currently being negotiated.

The editors of the book series Jarkko Saarinen (University of Oulu), Carolin Funck (University of Hiroshima) and Dieter Müller (Umeå University) are now looking for new exciting proposals for the series. Edited and single authored volumes are equally welcomed.

In order to submit a proposal, potential authors should get into contact with a member of the editorial team;

dieter.muller@umu.se,
jarkko.saarinen@oulu.fi,
funck@hiroshima-u.ac.jp.

or



For more news visit also the commission web page

www.igutourism.org

Please feel free to disseminate this newsletter to interested colleagues!

For joining the IGU Commission’s email list and for receiving continuous information on the Commission’s activities visit the commission web page:

www.igutourism.org

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Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change**
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