

CONTENT

- Welcome
- Important Announcements
- Future Conferences
- Conference Report
- Publication

WELCOME

Dear Colleague,

2003 has been a quite active year of the Commission. We have had several meetings and many informal contacts. We have also been busy planning the big event of next year, the IGC in Glasgow. We intensified our cooperation with other Commissions of the IGU and scientific associations outside, but we also pushed our own issues and focus forward.

For the next year, we are all waiting for the IGC and I hope we can show there our achievements. I would also like to involve new people in the Commissions work, especially young, non-western and female geographers to become a truly international and inclusive group.

Personally I wish you all a happy Christmas time and a peaceful, healthy and successful new year.

Berne, December 2003
Doris Wastl-Walter

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commission Meetings

The planned and confirmed future commission meeting is:

2004: GLASGOW (UK), at the IGC, August 16-20

Commission Meetings after Glasgow

The Commission is going to plan conferences after the IGC-UK Glasgow 2004. If anyone would be interested to organise a meeting, please contact Prof. Doris Wastl-Walter (dwastl@giub.unibe.ch). Suggestions and volunteers are very welcome.

IGU Commission on Geography and Public Policy

New members and address changes of members

We would be happy to strengthen our contacts to non-western scientists as well as to younger colleagues and female geographers. If anyone knows somebody interested to get the IGU-GAPP newsletter and become involved in our Commission, please speak to them and make the contact.

In case your affiliation or e-mail address changes, please send the new address to Markus Schär (mschaer@giub.unibe.ch), in order to receive the IGU-GAPP newsletter also in the future.

Homepage: New domain name!

The homepage of the IGU Commission on Geography and Public Policy has a new domain name, which is easier to remember: www.igu-gapp.org. If you have any comments or criticism concerning the commission's homepage, please send an e-mail to Markus Schär (mschaer@giub.unibe.ch), the webworker of the homepage.

Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Dartmouth College

Dartmouth College (www.dartmouth.edu/~geog) seeks a Post-Doctoral Fellow in Human Geography for a two-year position. This post-doc is a joint appointment with the Geography Department and the Rockefeller Center for Public Policy. We seek an individual committed to creative scholarship that will augment the Geography department's existing strengths in gender/"race"/ethnicity, political ecology, development, and critical urban studies. We envision this person will contribute intellectually to the department and the Rockefeller Center by organizing interdisciplinary seminars across the social sciences, offering departmental lectures, and teaching one course per year. This position provides considerable flexibility to pursue individual research and other scholarly activities.

Candidates should hold a Ph.D. or be in the final stages of a Ph.D. program. Salary will be \$34,000 with full benefits. Application review by the department will begin January 5, and we will nominate our top candidate to the Rockefeller Center on February 2. The Rockefeller Center will then select up to two Post-Doctoral Fellows from the pool of candidates nominated by the Social Science departments at Dartmouth.

Please send letter of application, e-mail address, vitae, reprints, and names/e-mail addresses of three references. With an even distribution of male and female students and about a quarter of the undergraduate student population members of minority groups, the College is committed to diversity and encourages applications from women and minorities. Dartmouth College is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer.

Apply:

Susanne Freidberg, Department of Geography, Dartmouth College, 6017 Fairchild Hall. Hanover, NH 03755-3571. E-mail: Susanne.E.Freidberg@Dartmouth.EDU

IGU Commission on Geography and Public Policy

FUTURE CONFERENCE

Glasgow, UK, August 16-20, 2004
The 30th Congress of the International Geographical Union
“One Earth - Many Worlds”

The Congress will take place at the Scottish Exhibition Centre in Glasgow and in the nearby Moat House Hotel. For full registration details, information on the academic programme and abstract submission, the academic excursions and social trips, where to stay and how to get to Glasgow, see the IGC-UK 2004 Second Circular or consult the Congress website at www.meetingmakers.co.uk/IGC-UK2004. The call for abstracts deadline is 31 January 2004.

The main Congress theme “One Earth, Many Worlds” has allowed an exciting and wonderfully diverse academic programme to be developed. Particular sections of the academic programme are dedicated to sessions organised by the IGU Commissions.

The Congress will incorporate associated meetings:

- the 2004 Annual International Conference of the Royal Geographical Society (with The Institute of British Geographers),
- a Joint International Geomorphology Conference on Geomorphology and Sustainability,
- meetings of the International Cartographic Association and British Cartographic Society,
- and the Association of Geographic Information.

A choice of academic excursions throughout Scotland, to Iceland, or to Ireland is available, pre-, during, and post-Congress, offering the opportunity to extend academic discussion.

An International Schools' Poster Competition is involving pupils from over twenty-six countries with more entries yet to come.

And a varied programme of one-day academic excursions and social trips, together with drinks receptions and a social programme, has added yet further variety and a chance to unwind to the Congress.

Our Commission will hold several sessions together with the Commission for Political Geography and with the Commission for Marginalized Regions with the following topics:

1. The new world order: US hegemony and the marginalization of the world.
Convenor: Prof. Bradley Cullen
2. Strategies at regional levels for coping with economic slowdowns.
Convenor: Prof. Lars Olof Persson
3. Grassroots movements.
Convenor: Prof. Etienne Nel

IGU Commission on Geography and Public Policy

In Political Geography the focus will be "Geopolitical Renaissance" including three sessions:

1. Borders in a borderless world
2. Territory in a deterritorialised world
3. States in a stateless world

We will also have a business meeting, and a session with PSGRG. There will also be some sessions only for our Commission, focusing especially on issues of democratisation and new (urban) governance. The former Chair of the Commission, Bob Bennett, is planning a special excursion for our Commission.

So you see, there is already much going on, but there is still space for your suggestions and initiatives.

"Fractured Polis - Failing Representation"

For the 30th IGU-congress "One Earth - Many Worlds", 15 - 20 August 2004 in Glasgow Wolfgang Zierhofer and Juliet. J. Fall are organizing a session on "Fractured Polis - Failing Representation". We would like to invite papers that critically investigate forms of political representations in an increasingly globalized, nationalistic and post-national, de- and re-territorialized world. These may address the issues in theoretical terms as well as by referring to empirical examples. Draft of abstracts or qualified statements of intention are particularly welcome. Final abstracts should be sent to the following addresses until January 23, 2004:

Juliet J. Fall
Département de Géographie
Université de Genève
"Unimail"
Boulevard du Pont d'Arve 40
CH - 1211 Genève 4
Suisse
Tél +41 22 379 83 43
Fax +41 22 379 83 53
juliet.fall@geo.unige.ch

Dr. Wolfgang Zierhofer
Programm Mensch Gesellschaft Umwelt
Universität Basel
Socinstrasse 59
Postfach
CH - 4002 Basel
Schweiz
Tel +41 61 273 90 46
Fax +41 271 58 10
wolfgang.zierhofer@unibas.ch

For further information get in contact with Juliet Fall (juliet.fall@geo.unige.ch) and Wolfgang Zierhofer (wolfgang.zierhofer@unibas.ch).

Glasgow Travel Grant Application

The International Geographical Union (IGU) announces the availability of travel grants to help defray the costs of participation in the 15 - 20 August 2004 IGC-UK in Glasgow. A total of \$25,000 will be awarded competitively. In selecting applicants to receive awards, preference will be given to new scholars and to those from developing countries. The Travel Grant Application Form including more information is attached to this newsletter.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

Moscow and Barnaul (Altai), Russia, July 20-29, 2003
**"Society and Environment Interaction
under Conditions of Global and Regional Changes"**

During the conference which were both in Moscow and in Barnaul about 170 papers were presented, correspondingly about 200 people took part in different parts of the conference.

Calendar of the Conference events:

July 19-20: Session of the IGU-LUCC Commission in Moscow (Chairman: E. Milanova). 40 papers including posters were given.

July 18: Pre-conference trip of the IGU-LUCC Commission to the Gorky Natural and Historic Open-air Museum.

Within the session on geographic education, which was held in Barnaul, two pre-conference excursions on this topic have been carried out:

July 19: Pre-conference trip of Geographical Education Commission to the school educational field centre in Moscow Oblast (Chairman: V. Gorbanev).

July 20-21: Pre-conference trip of the Commission of Geographical Education to Plyos, Ivanov Oblast (Chairman: V. Gorbanev)

July 22: Opening of the Conference in Barnaul

July 22: Plenary session, Welcome reception

July 23-24: Sectional sessions

Sectional session program:

1. Regional effects of global climate change. Chairman: A. Zolotokrylin. 18 papers were presented.
2. Natural and technogenic hydrological changes and their impact on environment components. Chairman: A. Georgiady. 13 papers were presented.
3. Altai-Sayan Mountain Region in the epoch of globalization. Persons in charge: Yu. Badenkov, Bruno Messerli. 22 papers were presented.
4. Cartography, GIS, remote sensing. Persons in charge: V. Tikunov. 10 papers were presented.
5. Geographical education under global and regional changes. Chairman: V. Gorbanev. 20 papers were presented.
6. Health, environment and development. Chairman: S. Malkhazova. 10 papers were presented.
7. Problems of nature management. Chairman: D. Lyuri. 8 papers were presented.
8. Regional economic and socio-political factors of sustainable development. Chairman: P. Baklanov, V. Kolossov. 20 papers were presented.

The conference included two round-table discussions:

Round-table 1: Transboundary areas under globalization: zones of cooperation or barriers. Chairman: Yu. Badenkov.

Round-table 2: Environmental services: Kyoto Protocol and market of carbon quotas - new alternative mechanisms of sustainable development. Chairman: N. Glazovsky.

After the conference all participants took part in Two field trips:

IGU Commission on Geography and Public Policy

1. Trip to Teletskoe Lake: During the trip, participants visited the capital of the Republic of Altai - Gorno-Altaysk, run along the Chuysk Track, saw the "Altai pearl" - Teletskoye Lake, the Biya and Chulyshman Rivers. The following subjects were discussed during the trip: environment conservation, protection of indigenous peoples, their spiritual and cultural traditions, development of recreation and transport networks, land use dynamics and social changes, choice of development strategy and transboundary cooperation.
2. Trip to Aktru-Kosh-Agach Glaciers: The subjects of the trip were the Quaternary mountain glaciation, formation of moraine, glacial lakes, Alpine landforms, high-mountain zones as well as climatic difference of the western and eastern slopes of the Altai Mountains, phenomenon of Alpine steppe, natural and cultural monuments, prospects of the region. The participants also took part in the discussion on environmental consequences of the project of Hydro power station building on Katun River. The main conclusion is that minuses from the building (distruction of the unique mountain region) will be much more sizable than pluses.

Prague, Czech Republic, September 19-20, 2003

“Territorial Administration and Public Policy: Restructuring Big Government, Welfare State and Local Economies”

A recent conference of the IGU commission was organized by Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Science, Department of Social Geography and Regional Development. Local organizers were Petr Dostál (dostal@natur.cuni.cz) and Eva Kuželová (kuzelova@natur.cuni.cz).

Although the meeting was intended to break a new ground through papers and exchanges, it has been sought to keep size of the meeting small (13 papers) in order to facilitate effective plenary discussions. There is also a key aim of the conference to produce a collection of main papers in the form of a book or a special issue of a geographical journal. An outline of the collection will be circulating when the shape of the main contributions is clear.

Friday, September 19, 2003:

The first panel was concerned with theoretical and conceptual issues and chaired by Pieter Saey (Belgium). The panel discussed the following three papers: Max Barlow (Canada): *Metropolitan government re-considered: some reflections on recent developments in the government and administration of large cities*; B. Smith (United Kingdom): *Poverty, empowerment, and decentralization*; and Petr Dostál and Martin Hampl (Czech Republic): *Geography and territorial administration in the Czech Republic: issues of fragmentation and rescaling*.

The second panel was orientated on experiences in different contexts and chaired by Brian Smith (United Kingdom). The panel included papers by E. Razin (Israel): *The agenda of territorial restructuring of local government in Israel: myths and realities*; A. Christopher (South Africa): *Metropolitan integration and ghettos in South Africa*; and P. Saey (Belgium): *Mismatch of geographical development and governmental space: the case of Brussels*.

The chair of the Commission Doris Wastl-Walter informed the conference participants about the activities of the commission and the structure and intentions

concerned with IGU Congress in Glasgow to be held in August 2004. Conference reception and dinner took place on the first day of the meeting.

Saturday, September 20, 2003:

The third panel was concerned with globalization, identity and border issues and chaired by Max Barlow (Canada). The panel debated papers by T. Herrschel and P. Newman (United Kingdom): *Globalisation and the need for developing "workable" forms of city regional governance: a North American – European perspective*; J. Markusse (The Netherlands): *Trans-national border interregional alliances in Europe: are national boundaries of regional identities fading away?*; and Doris Wastl-Walter (Switzerland): *Territorial administration and local self-government in Kosova*.

The last two panels were focused on Czech and Slovak experiences. Slovak developments was chaired Petr Dostál (Czech Republic). Delivered paper were by Pavol Korec and Marcel Hornak (Slovakia): *Regions in depression in Slovakia*; and Ján Buček (Slovakia): *Changes in local public economy in Slovakia*.

Czech developments were chaired Ján Buček (Slovakia), including papers by Jiří Blažek and Petr Brož (Czech Republic): *Czech municipalities and regions and EU economic and social cohesion policy*; and R. Perlín (Czech Republic): *Actors of local development in the Czech Republic: mayors of municipalities in rural areas*.

The conference ended with a summary of the conference (Petr Dostál) and a plenary discussion.

Petr Dostál

PUBLICATION

Special issue of **Belgian Journal of Geography – BELGEO**, volume 3, number 3, 2002, on *Governance and Geography*.
Guest editors: Petr Dostál (Prague) and Pieter Saey (Ghent).

Contents:

- P. Saey and P. Dostál: *Editorial: Geography and Governance* (pp. 213-216).
M. Barlow: *Reflections on the changing nature of administrative space* (pp. 217-226).
P. Dostál: *Territorial government and flexibility: a critical assessment* (pp. 227-241).
M. Loopmans, J. Uitermark and F. De Maesschalck: *Against all odds: poor people jumping scales and the genesis of an urban policy in Flanders, Belgium* (pp. 243-258).
A. Verhetsel, F. Witlox and K. Molenberghs: *Using financial statements data as economic indicators for urban governance: the case of Antwerp* (pp. 259-276).
P. Cabus: *Governance in Flander's regional policy: subregional platforms as development coalitions* (pp. 277-294).
P. Saey: *Spatial planning as large-scale practical project: the problem of effective governance* (pp. 295-310).

All correspondence to BELGEO is to be sent to: BELGEO, W. de Croylaan 42, B-3001 Heverlee (Leuven); Phone: (32)-16322445, Fax: (32) 16322980