



Commission
Geography of Tourism, Leisure
and Global Change

Newsletter 2018/1



**Commission on the Geography of Tourism,
Leisure and Global Change is the IGU
Commissions Excellence Award winner 2017**

The IGU Commissions Excellence Award Committee had unanimously nominated the Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change for the IGU Commissions Excellence Award 2017.

According to the award nomination, "The Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change is very active and highly productive. It participates consistently in IGU Congresses and Conferences, organizing successful sessions on processes of global change in tourism geographies affecting communities and environments worldwide. The Commission is exceptionally active, with a total of eight meetings (of its own and cosponsored) in 2017. The Commission has a strong tradition of collaboration with IGU Commissions as well as organisations outside IGU. The Commission collaborated in 2017 with several IGU Commissions in the Thematic Conference on Geographies for Peace in La Paz, Bolivia. Moreover, it co-organized several sessions on tourism in collaboration with AAG, CAG, IAG, Nordic geographers, EUGEO, and the Chinese Tourism Geography Commission. The Commission has developed a diverse way of communication, internally and externally, through its website, newsletter and email list. The Commission is exceptionally successful in publishing. The scientific journal *Tourism Geographies* is initiated by this Commission and the Commission is well represented in the editorial board of the journal. Moreover, the Commission launched a new Springer book series on *Geographies of Tourism and Global Change* in 2016; the first volume to appear in 2018.

The IGU Commissions Excellence Award Committee commends the Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change for its excellent work."

This is of course great news for the commission and its members and an important acknowledgement for the work

award is a recognition of tourism being a significant part of global geographical research.

The Award implies that the Commission will be given the opportunity to organize a presentation at an upcoming IGU meeting, which of course will provide an excellent occasion to highlight the achievements and contributions of tourism geographies, not least in relation to the wider field of geography.

**Conference report: Pre-conference meeting La
Malbaie, Quebec, 2-5 August 2018**



*Conference participants at the pre-conference meeting
in La Malbaie, Quebec*

Some 30 tourism geographers from all continents met at the Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu in La Malbaie; Charlevoix, on the northern shore of the St Lawrence River, Canada. The location in itself carries significant tourism heritage being a summer resort for not least residents from Quebec for more than 100 years. Recently however, the Fairmont Hotel has been the venue for the G7 Summit in June 2018 and indeed the Commission had its meeting in the same room that recently had seen the clash of the heads of states over free trade terms and volumes. Indeed, our meeting has been far more successful and productive.

The meeting offered a great variety of papers addressing current topics of tourism geographies. Many of the contributions addressed issues related to the UN sustainability goals and hence, it became obvious that the goals will

influence the research agendas for tourism geographies in the years to come.

The topics addressed stretched from modern slavery in tourism to tourism development in urban spaces as well as overtourism in Czech rivers and Omani markets.

As often at the Commission pre-conference meetings formal paper sessions were accompanied by field trips and study visits. The excellent hosts of the meeting, professor Laurent Bourdeau, professor Pascale Marcotte and Isabelle Falardeau, all from the Department of Geography, University of Laval, Quebec City, had prepared plentiful perspectives onto the challenges for tourism development in the Charlevoix region. Visits at regional museums, meetings with local entrepreneurs



and backstage experiences at the Fairmont Hotel all contributed to make the conference a very memorable event.

Hence, the commission would like to express the gratitude to the local organizers and particularly Isabelle Falardeau for her assistance with all practical matter even before the meeting.

Local organizer Isabelle Falardeau

Conference report: IGU Regional Conference, Quebec City, 6-10 August 2018

Appreciating Difference had been chosen as topic for the IGU regional conference in Quebec, and indeed the bilingual dimension of the event - papers were presented in English or French - certainly implied a challenge to some of the participants but certainly an opportunity for others.

As usual, tourism geographies formed an important part of the conference and without doubt, the tourism commission was among the most prominent in the academic program. In altogether 18 sessions on 14 topics tourism geographers presented roughly 70 papers:

- Gender in Tourism Geography (together with the gender commission)
- Tourism and difficult heritage
- Tourism, public policies and the production of space
- Tourism Spaces and Collaborative Economies
- Indigenous peoples and tourism

- Tourism, environmental change and sustainability (3 slots)
- Overtourism and Tourism-phobia: Excesses, discontents and measures in global destinations (2 slots)
- Destination development
- Tourism and Landscape
- Nowhere Else: Rethinking Marginal Spaces and their Attractiveness (2 slots)
- Second-Home Tourism: Heterogeneity, Diversity, and Complexity
- Counter-Tourism: Place, Displacement, Social Movements and Resistance
- Tourism, community and Identity
- Open Session

Particularly popular were the sessions on sustainability, overtourism and marginal spaces, which attracted many speakers. It is also worth mentioning that all sessions attracted significant audiences, including numerous geographers with other specialties. Even the Commission Business Meeting had a great number of attendees.



The conference provided also plentiful opportunity to intensify tourism networks within the commission and in fact experience large tourism crowds – one may in fact call it overtourism - in the old town of Quebec City.

As a major social event during the conference, the organizer offered a dinner on a cruise boat on St. Lawrence River, followed by dancing and fireworks.



Upcoming IGU Meetings



The [Tourism Commission](#) of the [International Geographic Union \(IGU\)](#) has lent official support to the Tourism and the Sustainable Development Conference 2019 (Tourism4SDGs19) taking place from 24-25 January 2019 at Massey University, Auckland, New Zealand. Tourism4SDGs19 will bring together scholars and tourism stakeholders for critical and constructive conversations on the challenges to tourism contributing to the SDGs, and ways in which tourism can be more inclusive, equitable and sustainable, in line with the values embedded in the Global Goals.

Says Professor Dieter Müller, Chair of the IGU Tourism Commission: *"It is very timely that a conference addresses tourism in relation to the global Sustainable Development Goals. Meeting the SDGs will be decisive for how our common future unfolds. I expect this conference to become one of the most essential academic events outlining debating ways forward and outlining future research agendas for tourism not only for the Pacific region, but the entire globe. Hence, the Commission for the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change within the International Geographical Union (IGU) is happy to be able to support this important conference."*

Professor Regina Scheyvens, Conference convenor and Professor of Development Studies at Massey University adds: *"We are excited to be hosting this conference at Massey University because we feel that the Sustainable Development Goals provide us with a great opportunity to rethink tourism globally. For too long, growth in tourism has been unreservedly praised while associated negative social and environmental impacts have been brushed aside. In this conference, we look forward to debating ideas on ways of transforming tourism to be a more sustainable, equitable industry. The support of the IGU Tourism Commission is indeed an honour for us."*

The conference has lined up three world-renowned [keynote speakers](#), Professor Susanne Becken, Johnny Edmonds and Professor Michael Hall, as well as leading scholars and industry players for the two plenary panels on Partnerships for the

SDGs and Tourism and Indigenous Development, Tourism and the SDGs.

There is still time to submit abstracts in the six conference streams. The deadline for the [Call for Papers](#) is **Friday, 28 September 2018**.

Visit the website <https://tourism-sdg.nz> for information about the conference and follow #Tourism4SDGs19 and [@Tourism4SDGs](#) for announcements.

2019 Main IGU-Commission Event São Paulo, Brazil

The main event for the Tourism Commission in 2019 is planned for late October/ early November 2019 in São Paulo, Brazil. Commission member Rita da Cruz, University of São Paulo, and her colleagues will host this event that brings the IGU Commission back to Latin America the first time since the IGU Regional Conference in Chile in 2011.

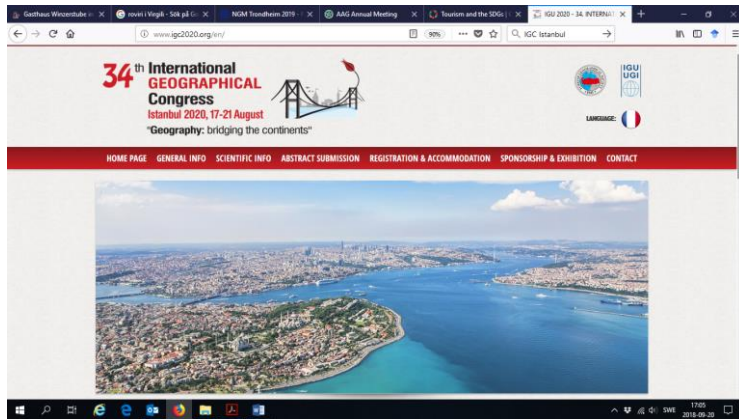
More information on this meeting will be available soon.



2020 IGU Thematic Conference Heritage Geographies Lecce, Italy, April/May 2020

The IGU Commission for the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change will be one of the organizing commissions for the IGU Thematic Conference on Heritage Geographies. The event will be held in southern Italy, in the city of Lecce in April or May 2020.

More information on this event will be made available in due time.



2020 IGC - Geography: Bridging the Continents

Istanbul, August 17th-21st 2020

Istanbul provides the venue for the 34. International Geographical Congress (www.igc2020.org). The available information on the event is so far limited but as usual the IGU Commission intends to offer a great smorgasbord of sessions within the main conference. So far, no pre-meeting is planned for.

The IGC in Istanbul marks also the end of the term of the current commission. Hence, a new commission chair and new some new members have to be appointed at this occasion.

Other supported meetings



Even in 2019, commission members offer a number of sessions at the [AAG Annual Meeting](#) 2019, Washington, April 3-7, 2019:

- Modern day slavery in global tourism supply chains (Joseph M. Cheer, Monash University, Australia, joseph.cheer@monash.edu; Harng Luh Sin, National University of Singapore, hlsin@nus.edu.sg; Jarkko Saarinen, University of Oulu, Finland, jarkko.saarinen@oulu.fi)
- Mountain Tourism in a Rapidly Changing World: International Perspectives (Rudi Hartmann, University of

Colorado Denver, USA, Rudi.Hartmann@ucdenver.edu, Marius Mayer, University of Greifswald, Germany, marius.mayer@uni-greifswald.de, Sanjay Nepal, University of Waterloo, Canada,

- Towards a Geographical Political Economy of Tourism: Critical, Relational, and Evolutionary Approaches to Place-based Development (Salvador Anton Clavé, University of Rovira i Virgili, Spain; Salvador.Anton@urv.cat; Jarkko Saarinen, University of Oulu, Finland, jarkko.saarinen@oulu.fi, Patrick Brouder, Vancouver Island University, Canada, Patrick.Brouder@viu.ca)

Please contact the session organizers as soon as possible for contributing a presentation.

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

The commission does not keep a register of its members and the list is purely used for disseminating information on tourism geographies, related events and publications to the subscribers of the list.

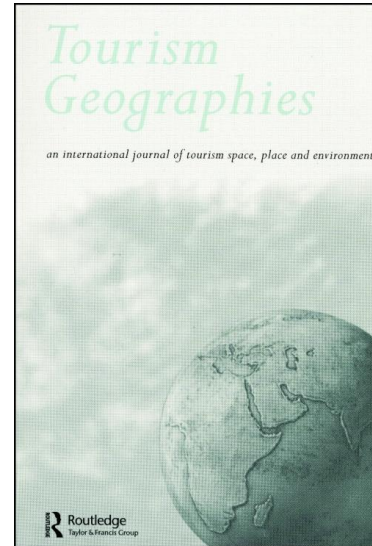
In case you would like to leave the list, send a blank email message to

TourismGeography-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

www.igutourism.org



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



Sustainable Geography – Geographies of Sustainability

8th Nordic Geographers Meeting in Trondheim, Norway, June 16 – 19 2019

The IGU commission will co-organize a number of sessions at this meeting. More information later. More information is accessible at www.ntnu.edu/geography/ngm-2019.



IGU meetings beyond 2018

Currently the IGU-calendar comprises the following events;

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

20th Anniversary Volume Commentaries

Year 2018 marks the 20th anniversary of the journal *Tourism Geographies*, which is closely related to the IGU tourism commission and edited by honorary member Alan Lew. This is celebrated with a set of commentaries authored by various tourism geographers on the state of tourism geographies.

Sets of commentaries on the topic of “Tourism Geographies Today” including contributions from Deborah Che (Australia), David Crouch (UK), Sanette Ferriera (South Africa), Carolin Funck (Japan), Alison Gill (Canada), Dieter Müller (Sweden), Piotr Niewiadomski (UK), Theano Terkenli (Greece) and Dallen Timothy (USA) are now [available](#). They provide interesting personal reflections on the development of tourism geographies so far and on potential ways forward.

International Geographical Union – Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change

www.igutourism.org

Contact:

Dieter K. Müller, Department of Geography and Economic History, Umeå University;
<dieter.muller [at] umu.se>