

IGU Commission

Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change

Open Business Meeting, IGU Regional Conference Kyoto, 8 August 2013

Minutes

1. Introduction:

Chair Dieter K. Müller welcomed the 24 participants and summarized the pre-conference and the main event in Kyoto as very successful and in line with the IGU-aims. Participants from all continents presented their research during both conferences. During the pre-meeting 28 papers were presented. At the main event in Kyoto the commission had organized 11 sessions featuring approximately 40 papers. In addition the main organizers had added 6 sessions with roughly 20 papers. Hence all in all about 90 papers on tourism geographies were presented during the two conferences. Not least the amount of papers presented by young Asian scholars was high. The integrated pre-conference field trip has been another highlight and Dieter hence expressed the commission's gratitude to all local organizers and commission member Carolin Funck in particular.

2. The Commission:

The chair presented the work of the commission and the commission members 2012-16. All participants at the meeting were invited to join the commission as corresponding members by enrolling for the IGUST-mail list.

3. IGU News:

Dieter and IGU Vice President Jarkko Saarinen reported from the recent IGU chair meeting.

- The IGU is concerned about the low representation from the global south in its 40 commissions. The Tourism commission has in this context a rather good mix of members.
- In order to enhance the work of the commissions the iGU has decided to launch a commission award based on the annual report of the commissions.
- The IGU supports the San Francisco Declaration regarding the misuse of bibliometrics for assessing research quality
- The IGU is a leading part in lobbying for an UNESCO International Year of Global Understanding (IYGU) 2016 based on the work conducted within the Commission for Cultural Geography. A decision on the success of such a proposal will be made during autumn 2013.
- The IGU has a new archive function at Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, Leipzig, Germany.

4. Commission Activities:

A short report was given regarding the IGU involvement in conferences since the IGC in Cologne 2012. The Commission was involved in the organization of the following meetings

- Recreation, Tourism & Sport Specialty Group, AAG Annual Meeting, 9-13 April 2013, Los Angeles, California, USA
- Coastal, Island and Tropical Tourism, 16-18 April 2013, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia
- Sustainable Tourism in Urban Environments, 8-10 May 2013, Hong Kong
- Tourism geography sessions at the 5th Nordic Geographers Meeting, 11-14 June 2013, Reykjavik

For the future the following tentative activities and dates were announced:

- Emerging Landscapes and Frontiers in Tourism Research, 20-22 September 2013, Kanas N.P., Xinjiang, China
- Second Home Tourism, 10-13 June 2014, Stockholm
- IGU Pre Congress Meeting Tourism and Transitions in a Time of Change, 14-18 August 2014, Poland
- IGU Regional Conference Changes, Challenges, Responsibilities, 18-22 August 2014, Krakow, Poland
- IGU Regional Conference 2015 Moscow, Russia
- IGU International Geographical Congress 2016, Beijing, China
- IGU Regional Conference 2018 Lima, Peru
- IGU International Geographical Congress 2020, Istanbul, Turkey
- IGU International Geographical Congress 2022, Paris, France
- IGU Regional Conference 2024 Canada

Since many of the events until the IGC in Beijing are located in Eastern Europe and in Asia, it was noted that additional activities in North America, the Spanish- and French-speaking world are desirable in order to enable tourism geographers from these regions to participate in commission activities. The same can be said about meetings in the global south.

Considering the constant absence of UK-geographers and UK-based publishing houses even a need of organizing a meeting in the UK was discussed.

5. Miscellaneous

- The commission members present in Kyoto discussed the need to launch a series of proceedings from the commission events. Particularly participants from the global south are often required to present their conference contributions in proceedings in order to receive funding. The chair and the vice chair of the commission, Alan Lew, agreed on assessing possibilities to launch such a series. In order to delimit work load an online edition with clear templates and limited review was argued for. This could also serve as documentation of the conferences organized by the commission.
- During the Kyoto conference separate tourism geography sessions had been organized by the main organizer parallel to the sessions organized by the commission. This implied

that some of the meeting's participants felt that they were not included in relevant sessions alternatively in sessions that competed with commission sessions. Although the latter is also a consequence of the popularity of tourism geographies, it was agreed to contact the organizer of the next meetings in order to avoid an open track resulting in competing tourism geography sessions

6. The Business meeting was closed.

Dieter K. Müller

Chair IGU Commission Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change

Present commission members:

Alan A. Lew (Vice chair)

Carolin Funck

Jie Zhang

Anne-Marie d'Hautserre