



International Geographical Union / Union Géographique Internationale

Commission on Geography and Public Policy

Newsletter June 2002
June 2002

Dear Colleagues,

It has been a very successful spring and we are happy to report of two interesting meetings and we announce some important meetings coming up.

As you probably know, the IGU has started an initiative Ocean 21. (Oceans 21 was a part of the Rio + 10 conference held in Paris in December 2001). Shortly before the **Regional Conference in Durban**, August 4 - 7, 2002, the UN conference Rio + 10 in Johannesburg offers an opportunity to tie commissions initiatives towards sustainable development of the oceans. If you like to get involved please contact Alain Miossec, Chairman of the French National Committee of Geography, Coordinator for IGU to the program OCEANS 21 alainmiossec@wanadoo.fr, alain.miossec@humana.univ-nantes.fr.

And then there is again an organizational issue: We have in the moment over three hundred correspondents, who receive this newsletter every half a year. But as you can imagine this amount increases our mailing costs, so we changed our delivery to email newsletters. If you still belong to those who have received this newsletter per regular mail, we ask you to send us your email address. So you will get the next newsletter per email. Please send your email to the following address: gapp@giub.unibe.ch. We hope to organize a mailing list, so we can keep you up with information on time. Furthermore we have a Website for the commission. You find it under: www.giub.unibe.ch/sq/igu-gapp.html

I hope to see you at the next meetings and send you the best wishes for a successful summer,

Doris Wastl-Walter

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS: FUTURE CONFERENCES

The planned and confirmed future commission meetings are:

2002	DURBAN (South Africa), August 4 – 7
2003	LISBON (Portugal), April 9 – 11
	MOSCOW and BARNAUL/Altai (Russia), July 20 - 29
	PRAGUE (Czech Republic), autumn
2004	GLASGOW (UK), at the next IGC, August 16 - 20

CONFERENCE REPORTS:

San Diego, California, March 16 – 19, 2002

The Political Geography Specialty Group of the AAG and the IGU Commission on Geography and Public Policy organized a workshop on “**Globalization on our Doorstep**”. The papers presented were focused on Nigeria, Endemic Warfare in Sierra Leone, Geopolitics and the Destruction of the Religious Landscape in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the troping of *September Eleventh* and the Consolidation of Domestic Position in Sri Lanka, San Diego’s Climate IS Superior to Other Climates, Political Geography of Local Government in

Europe, Redistricting Maps and Politics of Mapping, Negotiating the Meaning of Citizenship, Vermont's 2000 Gubernatorial Election and the recommendation of Bowman not to start a Journal in Political Geography.

Rome, Italy, May 29 – June 1, 2002

Cities have been sites of dramatic changes in recent decades. While cities have long been associated with dynamism, recent trends related to globalization, migration, economic and political restructuring have contributed to a sense that the pace of change has increased. **"Rights to the City"** was the title of a conference, organized for the Commissions on Political Geography and Public Policy by Lynn Staeheli, University of Colorado, Lorraine Dowler Pennsylvania State University and Doris Wastl-Walter, University of Bern. It took place at the wonderful Home of Geography, the Villa Celimontana in Rome and this splendid surrounding contributed a lot to the Success of the meeting.

More than 40 papers had been presented regarding the following topics:

- Theoretical Perspectives on Rights and Justice
- Social Geographies of Inclusion and Exclusion
- Structuring the Spaces of the City: Policy and Finance
- Property and the Spaces of the City / New Politics in and of Space / Spaces of representation / Public Spaces of the City
- The Politics of Mobility and Access to the Spaces of the City
- Politics of Difference and Exclusion
- Design and Planning for Justice / Governance

You find the abstracts at: www.giub.unibe.ch/sg/Rom/index.htm

The papers will be published in the new IGU-Series at the Home of Geography and some selected and revised ones in the geojournal.

FUTURE CONFERENCES:

Durban, South Africa, August 4 – 7, 2002

The next regional conference of the International Geographical Union (IGU), hosted by the African Geographical Community, will be held soon at the International Convention Center (ICC) in Durban, South Africa. The conference is open to all scientists across the spectrum of the Earth, Environmental, Developmental and Social Sciences. The challenges facing geography as a discipline, both globally and regionally, are many and varied and are arguably of greater importance at this point in time than ever before. Innovation, new technology and efficient networking are required to face the challenges posed inter alia by globalization, the sustainable and equitable utilization of resources, degradation and global warming.

The conference aims to present a forum at which these challenges can be addressed. Participants can choose from a range of pre and post-conference scientific excursions to some of the exotic destinations in southern Africa.

Our full member **Brij Maharaj** has organized an exciting program for the commission. We will have nine sessions (which is the maximum allowed) with more than forty papers. For a detailed program of the topics and sessions: <http://www.turners.co.za/igu/C-09.htm>
We thank already all presenters for their active participation and we are looking forward to this great conference.

For further information see <http://www.turners.co.za/igu/>

For registration and second announcement brochure download file from:

<http://www.rhodes.ac.za/academic/departments/geography/html/igu2002r.html>

LISBON, PORTUGAL, APRIL 9 – 11, 2003

"Public Administration, Public Policy and Governance: challenges & innovations"

The **aim of the conference** is to address contemporary developments in Public Administration and Public Policy in a period of growing convergence in administrative structures and processes, towards new forms of governance, while on the other side there is a growing consciousness of the different administrative cultures and traditions in the new enlarged Europe. We look to advance our knowledge of government structures and policy-making processes in this new context by investigating the causes, performance and consequences of specific public policies at the local and regional level and through the analysis of intergovernmental relations including, in this respect, how the EU institutions and policies impact on national (regional and local) administrations. We also encourage the submission of papers with a focus on theoretical and methodological issues of public policy. The **working language** will be English.

Deadlines

31 October 2002 – Pre-registration form and abstracts (sent by e-mail)

31 January 2003 – Registration, payment (conference fee) and Hotel reservation¹

1 March 2003 – Papers (sent in digital form by e-mail). Each participant must take copies of his paper to be distributed at the conference.

Preliminary program

April 9

9.00 – Registration

9.30 – Opening session; 10.00/12.30 – 1st panel; 14.00/17.30 – 2nd panel

April 10

9.00/12.30 – 3rd panel; 14.00/17.30 – 4th panel

April 11

9.00/12.30 – 5th panel; 14.00/16.30 – 6th panel; 16.45 – Closing session

Conference fee: 50 Euros

To register, submit the following application form to:

Carlos Nunes Silva, Departamento de Geografia

Faculdade de Letras da Universidade de Lisboa

Alameda da Universidade

1600-214 Lisboa

Portugal

Email: cnsilva@fc.ul.pt

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Institution _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Fax: _____

e-mail _____

Title of Paper _____

Abstract: (attach annex)

Moscow and Barnaul (Altai), July 20 - 29, 2003

International Geographical Union and National Committee of Geographers of Russia with participation of the leading geographical institutions of Russia, IGU Commissions and Working Groups announce a Special International Conference «Society and Environment Interaction under Conditions of Global and Regional Changes» to be held in summer of 2003 in Russia.

Scientific Program of the Conference

The following problems are planned to be discussed at the Conference:

- Biosphere stability under conditions of the anthropogenic effects and transformations of geographic environment
- Regional geographic consequences of global climatic changes
- Transformations of society and world economy as a result of global changes of climate and anthropogenic effect
- Integration and disintegration in modern world
- Change of the part of geography in modern society.
- Geographic problems of Inner Asia

Program of meetings of sections, IGU Commissions and Working Groups will be compiled on the basis of proposals made by Commissions and Working Groups.

Excursions

Depending on the number of participants and membership 2-4 thematic excursions to the Altai will be organized for 3-4 days each.

Preliminary cost of excursions (including transport, hotels, meals, excursion service and reference materials) is about \$ 250-300 .

Preliminary Conference Schedule

July 21	meetings and excursions in Moscow
July 22	transfer to Barnaul
July 23	plenary meeting
July 24	meetings of IGU Commissions and Working Groups
July 25-27	field excursions

Information on Registration

Participants intending to take part in the Conference are invited to send the filled in Registration Form by mail, Fax or e-mail to the address of the academic secretary of the Conference:

Ms. Mokrushina Larisa Sergeevna:
109017 Moscow Staromonetny pereulok 29
Institute of Geography
Russian Academy of sciences
Fax: (095) 050 00 33
Email: igras@igras.geonet.ru

The deadline for receipt of abstracts of papers is December 1, 2002.

Organizing Committee

Academician V. M. Kotlyakov
Chairman, National Committee of Geographers of Russia
Honored President , Russian Geographical Society
Phone: (095) 959 00 32, Fax: (095) 959 00 33
Email: igras@igras.geonet.ru

¹ We'll provide information about accommodation in the 2nd circular (to those that pre-register), in order that all participants stay in the same hotel, if they wish so. Prices, in 2003, are expected to be aprox. 60 Euros/night for a double room, in hotels within a walking distance from the conference center.