



**International Geographical Union
Commission on Geographical Education
2016-2020**

Newsletter #8 - April 2019

Welcome to Newsletter #8

Dear friends and colleagues,

On April 15-17, 2019, IGU CGE LONDON Conference was held in London, UK. The conference was held with the theme "Recontextualising geography". The conference focus on one of the central issues in ensuring high quality geography education, how geography's 'big ideas' are recontextualised in schools. As a first keynote speaker, Di Wilmot (Rhodes University, South Africa) presented on the topic of "The challenge of recontextualising geography: Southern Africa perspectives". The second keynote speaker, Matt Finn (University of Exeter, UK) gave a talk on "Geography A-level reform, transition to university and the question of recontextualisation." Approximately 80 delegates from Europe including the UK, Germany, France, Czech and Sweden, Asia, Oceania, Africa, North America and Latin America attended the sessions. A field trips to the UNESCO World Heritage at Greenwich added contributed both to the academic and social aspects of a successful conference. There are plans to document the outcomes of the conference in a book with the Commission's book series with Springer. This conference was hosted by UCL Institute of Education (IoE). A particular note of thanks should be accorded to the organizers of the conference, Clare Brooks, the Commission Co-Chair, Mary Fargher from IoE and graduate students at the Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment department of IoE.

And, the next IGU CGE conference will be held in Prague Czech Republic from August 11 to 14, 2020. Martin Hanus, and his colleagues from Charles University will host this event. The theme is "Making Connections: Cooperation and Networking in Geography Education". More information on this meeting will be available soon.

Clare Brooks, Chew-Hung Chang and Jongwon Lee

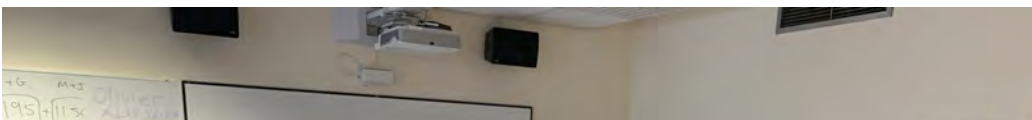




Professor Di Wilmot, Rhodes University, South Africa presenting the opening keynote speech titled "The challenge of recontextualising geography: Southern African perspectives"



Dr Matt Finn, Exeter University, UK giving his keynote speech on "Geography A-level reform, transition to university and the question of recontextualisation"





Steering Committee meeting during the second day of the conference; the Steering Committee shared progress made since the last meeting and agreed on further actions where necessary.



Co-chairs Chew-Hung Chang and Clare Brooks, chairing the commission business

meeting



Martin Hanus from Charles University, Prague introduced the 2020 Conference in Prague

Commission on Geographical Education News

Research in Geography Education

We would also like to remind members on any new research in geography education to be added to our web-based template. This is to collect and collate information on Geography Education MA, MEd, EDD and PhD theses around the world. Creating this collection will greatly enhance our knowledge about geographical and environmental education. The on-line spreadsheet can then be made available for researchers through the IGU-CGE website. We hope that all geography educators with the help of the regional representatives would be able to contribute information on the existing Geography Education theses. (Geography Education Collection:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1nrbVzveqZWDWWdouJfnKAK->

[ctHDdKwOdt7xxt34mee8/viewform?usp=send_form](#))

IGU CGE Conference News

'MAKING CONNECTIONS: COOPERATION AND NETWORKING IN GEOGRAPHY EDUCATION'

August 11-14 IGU CGE 2020 Conference Charles University Prague

Next IGU CGE conference will be held in Prague

- Venue: Albertov, Prague (Campus of the Faculty of Science, Charles University)
- Registration opens: January 10th
- Abstract submission deadline: March 2nd
- Detail information will be available soon

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2020 IGU CGE Conference Prague, Czech, August 2020
- 2021 IGU CGE Conference South Africa
- 2022 IGU International Geographical Congress (100 year anniversary), Paris, France
- 2023 IGU CGE Conference London, UK
- 2024 IGU International Geographical Congress, Dublin, Ireland

Other Conferences

EUROGEO 2019 Conference 'HIDDEN GEOGRAPHIES' in Ljubljana, Slovenia, 29-31 August 2019

This conference dedicated to the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Department of Geography at the University of Ljubljana. Save the date! Call begins in November 2018. More on <http://www.eurogeography.eu/2019-conference-slovenia/>

2nd International Congress of Geography Education 'Powerful Geography Education, Powerful Future!' Eskişehir, Turkey, 3-5 October 2019

The 2nd International Congress of Geography Education (ICGE-2019) invites geographers, geography educators and other academics in related fields, social workers, policy makers and other professionals to send

original research abstracts and case studies formatted according to the given format. There is no limitation of topics in the congress although we declare some sub-topics in geography education, physical geography and human geography in this announcement. Moreover, everyone who works or studies in other disciplines of academia or teachers can submit papers. Web: <https://ucek2019.oqu.edu.tr/en>

National Congress of Geography and the Symposium on Geographical Education in Mexico

The Mexican Society of Geography and Statistics (SMGE standing for the Spanish acronym), the oldest of its kind in the whole of the Americas, proudly sponsors and organizes both the National Congress of Geography and the Symposium on Geographical Education in Mexico. Each of these scientific meetings is held bi-annually in different locations around the country. Last year, in the mayan island of Cozumel, not far from the world-famous tourist destination of Cancun, the SMGE organized the XXIII National Congress of Geography, which was attended by more than 300 geographers, many of which dedicate their daily professional activities to the teaching of Geography at different levels of education, from elementary school to College courses. On top of this, the SMGE is currently coordinating the organization of the XI Symposium on Geographical Education in Mexico, to be held in Merida (the economic capital of the Yucatan peninsula) at the end of October 2019. It is hoped this meeting will contribute to strengthen the newly appointed Geography degree courses, at UNAM Yucatan facilities, due to start in August 2019.

Further Announcement on Geographical Education

Trends in International Geography Assessment Study (TIGAS)

To date, the TIGAS study group has completed the following activities:

- A multi-year research methodology for assessment framework validation, item development, and pilot testing based on evidence-centered design.
- Sampling plans for seven participating countries.
- TIGAS assessment framework.
- Item classification on the TIGAS assessment framework.

The TIGAS study group is preparing a TIGAS proposal for formal consideration at the 2019 International Association for the Evaluation of

Educational Achievement (IEA) General Assembly meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia on October 8-11. The IEA General Assembly meets annually to review IEA policies and consider new projects. Michael Solem will present the proposal on behalf of the TIGAS project. The goal is to win the GA's approval to add TIGAS as an optional geography module in the 2023 Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study. A TIGAS progress report will be presented at the 2019 AAG Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 3, from 2:35 PM – 4:15 PM in Wilson A, Marriott, Mezzanine Level. www.tigas2023.com

Powerful Geography

The Powerful Geography project is focusing on three research activities through summer 2019:

A multi-level statistical analysis of restricted-use NAEP Geography data (1994, 2001, 2010, 2014, 2018).

Video and web-based interviews with professional geographers (see recent profiles on the AAG Jobs and Careers website). Piloting student aspirations research surveys and interviews in Texas school districts. A Powerful Geography progress report will be presented at the 2019 AAG Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 4, from 3:05 PM – 4:45 PM in Washington 6, Marriott, Exhibition Level. Drs. Michael Solem and Thomas Larsen will also be presenting the project at the UK CGE meeting in London, April 15-17, 2019. www.powerfulgeography.org

THIRD South African National Geography Olympiad

The Southern African Geography Teachers' Association (SAGTA) and the Society of South African Geographers (SSAG) are proud to announce the THIRD South African National Geography Olympiad! It is an online MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION test for Grades 10 to 12. Enter NOW! Schools must register (at a cost of R50), and learners pay R30 each. Email us on sa.geog.olympiad@gmail.com to express interest. Take part in SANGO this year... it is a national online competition Visit us for more details <http://www.ssag.co.za/category/education/> OR <https://sagta.org.za/Olympiad.php> Find us on Twitter – @SANGO31486795 Find us on Facebook: South African Geography National Olympiad - SANGO

Start of a new degree course on Geography offered by the National University of Mexico (UNAM for the Spanish initials) at the city of Merida in the Yucatan peninsula

As of August 2019, there will be a new professional option in Geography in Mexico, opened to students living in the Yucatan peninsula. This will be the tenth Geography undergraduate degree offered in the country, a

surprisingly low number of Geography degrees for a large and populated country such as Mexico. The official name of the career is B.A. in Applied Geography and consists of eight semesters during which students form, develop and consolidate basic geographical capacities and abilities needed to enter the local job markets in a successful manner, in the context of a technological changing environment. UNAM, whose headquarters are located in Mexico City, runs a campus in the city of Merida and this is where the new Geography career is going to be located. The Institute of Geography of UNAM has significantly contributed to the creation and promotion of this new possibility of professional formation in Geography. Hopefully, the geographical reach of this academic offer will include students coming from places located as far as 400 kilometers from Merida.

Online Spatial Technology Course and Resources

Joseph Kerski developed an online Spatial Technology course for the Geography Teachers Association of Victoria, but is open to all who want a practical hands-on course that immerses them in why and how to teach with geotechnologies: <https://www.gtav.asn.au/news/spatial-technology-an-online-geography-course> The course includes self-assessments, readings, videos, and practical activities covering themes from population change to natural hazards, and much more, from local to global scales.

Got data? See Joseph Kerski and Jill Clark's data blog and book Spatial Reserves <https://spatialreserves.wordpress.com> for sources of spatial data, how to assess its quality, and surrounding societal issues of crowdsourcing, location privacy, and much more.

Emotional Map project

Don MacKeen (Lecturer, City of Glasgow College) is using a Geocapabilities approach to teach a geography to a group of students with Asperger syndrome at City of Glasgow College on a course called Transitions, which is for learners who have become disengaged with formal education. With Dr. Jiří Pánek of Palacky University Olomouc, they've created a travel survey for students and staff at City of Glasgow College, using his "emotional map" concept. You can view the results so far here: <https://www.emotionalmaps.org/glasgow-2019/nahled>

Rafael de Miguel González, IGU CGE member, elected President of EUROGEO

Rafael de Miguel González, active member of the IGU CGE in the last

Conferences, projects, publications and also Regional Contact for Spain has been elected new president of EUROGEO, the European Association of Geographers. EUROGEO Conference 2019, held in Paris on occasion of the 40th Anniversary, has hold Board elections with the result of the designation of Dr. Rafael de Miguel González as his new President, replacing Prof. Karl Donert in this position. IGU CGE wants to thank the hard work and efforts done by Karl Donert for the promotion of geographical education and wishes Rafael de Miguel a great success.

Dr. Sharon Witt, IGU CGE member, awarded an EdD

Sharon Witt (Senior Lecturer in Education (Geography), University of Winchester, UK) has recently been awarded an EdD (a professional doctorate in Education) from the University of Exeter. Her doctoral thesis was entitled: Becoming lost within relational, democratic geographical fieldwork spaces. Congratulation!

Professor Alvaro Sanchez-Crispin, an Economic Geographer of National University of Mexico, received annual award for outstanding scholars

On November 22, 2018, UNAM academic personnel, working in different areas of knowledge, received the National University of Mexico Award 2018. Among the distinguished staff, Professor Alvaro Sanchez-Crispin, a well-known Economic Geographer in the country, received this prize for his professional career in Geography, spanning 40 years. Professor Sanchez-Crispin is an IGU associate member and served as Mexico representative at IGU, from 2002 to 2012. He obtained a scholarship from IGU to participate in two workshops, one on Geography and Sustainability, and another on Educational Geography, held in 2002 and 2005, in Rome, Italy. His contribution to the teaching of Geography includes numerous undergraduate courses on Economic Geography at the UNAM School of Geography, the organization of the UNAM Geography Olympiad (since 2010), and the sponsorship of field-work for Mexican Geography students in different countries of Latin America. This award given by UNAM acknowledges the academic achievements of Doctor Sanchez-Crispin and at the same time is a recognition of Geography as a discipline that significantly contributes to the understanding of our contemporary world.

Inaugural lecture, Professor Béneker, T. (Utrecht University)

Béneker, T. (2018), Powerful knowledge in Geography Education. Inaugural lecture October 16th. Utrecht University, Faculty of Geosciences. <https://www.uu.nl/organisatie/faculteit-geowetenschappen/onderzoek/oraties>

Xiang Xi's new article featured on one of the largest international blogs on educational research

A research paper titled as Exploring and enhancing spatial thinking skills: Learning differences of university students within a web-based GIS mapping environment, was published online in British Journal of Educational Technology, which is a leading educational technology journal. The first author and corresponding author is Xi Xiang from East China Normal University. Please see the website link for details: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/bjet.12677?af=R>

The Department of Geography, Ghent University invites applications for a Professor in Cartography.

See more details [here](#)

Outdoor Study Program and Observation and Research opportunity at Karimun Jawa, Indonesia

Geography Education Department, Universitas Siliwangi run Outdoor Study Program for student reinforcement and application geography content annually in Bali Island, Dieng Plateau, Bandung City and Bromo Mountain. Contact informaiton iman@unsil.ac.id/0852-2306-2335 (Whats Up).

Karimun Jawa is one of the small islands in Central Java Province, Indonesia has underwater beauty with a diverse sea organism. This is interesting location to do research from geographic perspective. Contact informaiton: revim63@gmail.com/0857-9468-5952 (Whats Up)

Some Recent Publications of possible interest to Geography Educators

As ever our thanks go to Professor Simon Catling for assembling such an impressive list! Also appreciate Joseph Kerski and Rafael de Miguel González for their contribution.

Geographical and environmental education

Enser, M (2019) *Making Every Geography Lesson Count*. Carmarthen: Crown House Publishing.

de Miguel González, R., Donert, K., and Koutsopoulos, K.

(Eds.) *Geospatial Technologies in Geography Education*, Springer. This book addresses new pedagogies focusing on the use of geospatial technologies and geomedial in the classroom. Today, geospatial technologies are substantially influencing geography teaching and learning, particularly in secondary education. Web-GIS, virtual globes, storytelling, maps and apps for mobile devices are transforming the nature and design of geography curricula, instructional processes, didactics, resources and assessments.

Balram, S., and Boxall, J. (Eds.) (2019). *GIScience Teaching and Learning Perspectives*, Switzerland, Springer.

Children's geographies

Bartlett, S (2018) *Children and the Geography of Violence: Why space and place matter*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Spyrou, S, Rosen, R and Cook, D (2019) *Reimagining Childhood Studies*. London: Bloomsbury.

Geography, environment and social science

Arias-Maldonado, M and Trachtenberg, Z (Eds) (2019) *Rethinking the Environment for the Anthropocene: Political theory and socio-natural relations in the new geological epoch*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Ash, J, Kitchen, R and Leszczynski, A (Eds.) (2019) *Digital Geographies*. London: Sage.

Abrahamsson, C (2018) *Topoi/Gräphein: Mapping the Middle in Spatial Thought*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press.

Crane, N (2018) *You Are Here: A brief guide to the world*. London: Wiedenfeld and Nicholson.

Evans, D (2018) *Glaciation: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Goldin, I (2018) *Development: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Jazeel, T (2019) *Key Ideas in Geography: Postcolonialism*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Montello, D (Ed.) (2018) *Handbook of Behavioural and Cognitive Geography*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing.

Warde, P, Robin, L and Sorlin, S (2018) *The Environment: A History of the Idea*. Baltimore, MA: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Cartography

Field, K (2018) *Cartography*. Redlands, CA: ESRI.

Harper, T (2018) *Atlas: A World of Maps from The British Library*. London: The British Library.

Thomson, H (2018) *The Map Tour: A History of Tourism told through Rare Maps, from the Grand Tour to Globalization*. London: Royal Geographical Society/Andre Deutsch.

Related to geography

Attfeld, R (2018) *Environmental Ethics: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Franzen, J (2018) *The End of the End of the Earth*, London: 4th Estate.

Jefferson, P (2018) *Poverty: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Moreton-Robinson, A (2018) *The White possessive: Power, property and indigenous sovereignty*. Minnaelopis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

Roller, D (2018) *A Historical and Topographical Guide to the Geography of Strabo*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Steg, L and de GRoot, J (Eds.) (2019) *Environmental Psychology: An Introduction*. (2nd edition) Chichester: Wiley

Sutherland, J (Ed.) (2018) *Literary Landscapes: Charting the Real-Life Settings of the World's Favourite Fiction*. London: Modern Books.

Aallace-Wells, D (2019) *The Uninhabitable Earth: A Story of the Future*. London: Allen Lane.

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