

The Inaugural Meeting of the IGU *Commission on Islands*

Island Geographies

October 29 - November 3, 2007

Taipei, Taiwan

Invitation and Call for Papers

It is a great pleasure to invite you to the *Inaugural Meeting of the IGU Commission on Islands* to be held in Taipei, Taiwan, from October 29 - November 3, 2007. The theme for the first meeting is *Island Geographies*.

The *Commission on Islands* is a newly established commission within the International Geographic Union (IGU), approved by the IGU Executive Committee at the IGU Brisbane Conference in July 2006.

In recognizing the contribution of islands to an understanding of connectivities and global-local processes over time-space, the first meeting – under the broad theme of *Island Geographies* – welcomes scholars who are interested in a broad spectrum of island studies, geographical regions and disciplines to attend the meeting, present papers, and organize panels. The meeting will include three days of paper sessions (October 29-31) followed by a field seminar to the eastern part of Taiwan Island (November 1-3). The National Taiwan University in Taipei will serve as the venue of the meeting.

Themes

Papers are sought on the following themes and related topics:

- Global Change and Islands
- Insularity and Island Geography
- Island Cultural Geography
- Island Historical Geography
- Island Social Economic Geography
- Geography of Island Children
- Island Biogeography
- Island Vulnerability
- Island Sustainability
- Island Tourism
- Island traditions in a globalizing world
- Isolation and Connections
- Ocean and Islands
- International Island Development Comparison Studies

The deadline for submission of abstracts for conference papers is **May 31, 2007**. The full paper should be submitted by August 31, 2007.

Preliminary Program

Sunday, October 28	Monday, October 29	Tuesday, October 30	Wednesday, October 31	Thursday, November 1	Friday, November 2	Saturday, November 3
<i>Morning</i>						
Arrival of speakers and guests	Welcome* remarks and Keynote speeches	Plenary sessions	Plenary sessions	Island excursion: Northeast Coast, Ilan Plain, East Coast Cliffs	Field discussions: Taroko Gorge, trails, villages, time-space rhythms	East coast, Hua-Lien rural areas
	<i>Refreshments</i>	<i>Refreshments</i>	<i>Refreshments</i>			
	Keynote speeches	Concurrent sessions	Closing remarks			
<i>Afternoon</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>	Lunch
Orientation	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions	Half-day city tour: Including Taipei 101, National Palace Museum	Field discussions: Taroko National Park, nature - culture connections	Field discussions: Island geographies, Indigenous knowledge	Return to Taipei
	<i>Refreshments</i>	<i>Refreshments</i>				
	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions				
<i>Evening</i>	<i>Evening</i>	<i>Evening</i>	<i>Evening</i>	<i>Evening</i>	<i>Evening</i>	<i>Evening</i>
Free time	Welcome banquet	Free time	Social Event	Overnight: Indigenous Lodge	Overnight in Taroko Gorge	Farewell

*Some parts of the *Commission on Islands* meeting and the field excursion will be held in conjunction with another IGU meeting of the *Indigenous People's Knowledge and Rights Commission*

Key Speakers (to date)

Anne Buttimer (Former President of IGU, Professor of Geography, University College Dublin, Ireland): *Sustainable Landscapes and Island Lifeways: Questions of Scale and Appropriateness*

Ronald F. Abler (Vice President, International Geographical Union): *New Dimensions of Geographical Research – Island Geographies and Indigenous Geographies*

Godfrey Baldacchino (Canada Research Chair in Island Studies, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada): *The Study of Islands on their Own Terms: Origins, Challenges and Implications*

Steve Royle (Reader in Geography and Director of Centre of Canadian Studies, Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK): *Insularity and Small Island Geographies*

Beate Ratter (Professor of Economic and Cultural Geography, Johannes Gutenberg-University of Mainz, Germany): *Global Change and its Implication for Small Islands*

Eric Clark (Professor and Head of the Department of Social and Economic Geography, Lund University, Sweden): *Island Gentrification: On Island Social Geographies*

Elaine Stratford (Head of School of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Tasmania, Australia): *The Geography of Island Children- Young Islanders and the Constitution of Sense of Place*

Randy Thaman (Professor of Pacific Island Biogeography, Department of Geography, The University of the South Pacific, Fiji): *Island Ethnobiology: The Foundation for the Survival of Island Life*

Gerard Persoon (Professor and Head of the Department of Environment and Development, Institute of Environmental Sciences CML, Leiden University, the Netherlands): *Managing the Natural Resources of Southeast Asian Islands: Contemporary Perspectives*

Costis Hadjimichalis (Professor and Head of the Department of Geography, Harokopio University of Athens, Greece): *Beyond mass holiday destinations: Mediterranean islands as places of exile and borders/fences*

Philip Steinberg (Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Florida State University, Tallahassee, USA): *Geographic Thought at the Ocean-Island Interface: Beyond "Empty" Oceans and "Insular" Islands*

Jack Williams (Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography, Michigan State University) *Environmental Hazards Management – A Case Study of Mountain Highway Construction on the Island Taiwan*

(Please see website for updates)

Local Organizing Committee

- Chang-Yi David Chang Chair of IGU Commission on Islands; Professor, Department of Geography, National Taiwan University changyi@ntu.edu.tw
- Jiun-Chuan Lin President of Geographical Society of China located in Taipei (Taiwan); Professor, Department of Geography, National Taiwan University jclin@ntu.edu.tw
- Sue-Ching Jou Secretary-in-General, Geographical Society of China located in Taipei (Taiwan); Professor and Chair, Department of Geography, National Taiwan University jouchen@ntnu.edu.tw
- Huei-Min Tsai Executive Secretary, IGU Commission on Islands; Associate Professor, Graduate Institute of Environmental Education, National Taiwan Normal University hmtsai@ntnu.edu.tw

Supported by National Science Council, Geographical Society of China Located in Taipei (Taiwan), National Taiwan University, National Taiwan Normal University, National Kaohsiung Normal University, National Changhwa Normal University, Chinese Cultural University, National Penghu University, National Kinmen Technology University

Registration

The Inaugural Meeting of the IGU Commission on Islands - “Island Geographies” conference

- Date: October 29-31, 2007
- Venue: International Convention Center, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan
- Fee: US\$100 (before June 30) or US\$150
- Includes: conference materials, lunch, refreshments, a welcome banquet, and a half-day city tour
- Please note: Registration does not include accommodation for October 29-31. (Please see the Venue page for a complete listing of accommodation options.)

Field excursion and seminars

- Date: November 1-3, 2007
- Venue: Island nature-culture excursion – Eastern Taiwan (Northeast Coast, Ilan Plain, and Taroko National Park)
- Fee: US\$250 (before June 30) or US\$300
- Includes: three days further discussion and seminars, transportation (tour bus), two nights’ accommodation, meals, and all handout materials, farewell dinner
- Please note: field seminar is limited to 70 places, so please book early

[Register online.](#) Payment can be made by credit card or bank transfer.

Refund and cancellation policy

A full refund will be given for cancellations before August 31. A 50 % refund will apply after August 31.

Accommodation - Taipei (Oct 29-31)

The organizers have negotiated favorable rates at three hotels. Please see below for details. For the Leader Hotel or the Lu-Ming Guest House, please register with the organizers so that we can make a group booking. For the Howard International House, please book directly with the hotel. Places are limited, so please book early.

- ✧ *Leader Hotel Taipei- located at National Taiwan University*
Single: NT\$2,450; Twin: NT\$ 2,850; Deluxe Twin: NT\$3,100 (Room Rate per night, includes breakfast) www.leaderhotel.com/taipei/index.php
- ✧ *Lu-Ming Guest House – located at National Taiwan University*
Twin room: NT\$1,200 (two beds with bath); Quadruple room: NT\$1,400 (4 beds without bath in room) (Rate is per night, breakfast not included)
- ✧ *Howard International House (Taipei)*
Single: NT\$1,800, Twin: NT\$3,300, (Room Rate is per night, includes breakfast, tax and 10% service) Reservation is required and is subject to availability. Please download a [reservation form](#) from the “Venue” page of the conference website, and contact Howard International House Taipei by fax: +886-2-8369-1177 or email: rv-ih@howard-hotels.com.tw before September 30, 2007.
Web: <http://intl-house.howard-hotels.com/?Lsn=2>

Accommodation - field excursion (Nov 1-3)

Accommodation is included in the registration fee for the field excursion from November 1-3. Places are limited, so please register early. Bookings will be made by the organizers. These links for the field excursion are provided for your reference

- ✧ Leader Village Taroko (November 1, 2007)
<http://www.leaderhotel.com/blw/leadervillage/e-homepage.html>
- ✧ Grand Formosa Taroko (November 2 , 2007)
<http://www.grandformosa-taroko.com.tw/>

Contact

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