



IGU E-NEWSLETTER

Quarterly

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This Newsletter is directly circulated to about 2000 individuals and bodies. Announcements, information, calls for participation in scientific events, programmes and projects are welcome. Please send them to giuliano.bellezza@gmail.com or g.bellezza@homeofgeography.org



CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE

- 1) Remarks from IGU President Yukio Himiyama**
- 2) Minutes of the EC Meeting Galway, 12-15 May 2019**
 - 2a) English Version**
 - 2b) Version Française**
- 3) UNGEGN 1st Session in New York, UN Headquarters**
- 4) In memoriam of Claire Dwyer**

5) International Science Council

6) UN University News December 2018

7) Future Earth Newsletter, December 2018

8) CODATA

9) Forthcoming events



1) REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT YUKIO HIMIYAMA

The first meeting of the IGU Executive Committee this year was held in Dublin and Galway, Ireland, between 13th and 15th May. The meeting in Dublin was at Dublin City University, i.e. the venue for the 2024 IGC. A guided tour of the venue was arranged for EC members, following which we met with the local congress organizers and the staff of the convention company supporting the congress. The main venue is a well-equipped modern building designed to accommodate the major congress events, and there are also many lecture rooms for parallel sessions and other meetings in the adjacent buildings. We expressed our satisfaction in the quality of the venue, and at the same time our concern about the high cost of accommodation in Dublin, in the expectation that reasonably-priced student residences and other more affordable types of accommodation will be available to congress participants.

The latter part of the EC meeting was held at the National University of Ireland in Galway because the 7th EUGEO (Association of Geographical Societies in Europe) Congress was being hosted there and several of the EC members were participating. This gave us a good opportunity to strengthen the IGU's relationship with EUGEO, as we have many interests in common. In fact, as a result of the in-depth conversation between the IGU EC and EUGEO EC, the participation of European geographers in the IGC 2020 Istanbul appears to have been greatly promoted, even involving the organization of special joint sessions. We are grateful to the local organizers

of the IGC 2024 Dublin and the EUGEO Executive Committee for their generous invitation and hospitality. Mutual understanding and cooperation between IGU and each of the parties has been enhanced as a result.

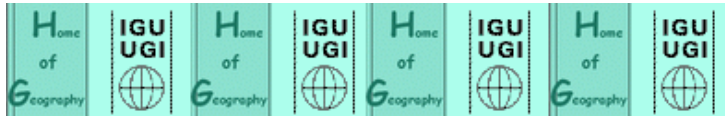
As you see in the minutes of this EC meeting below, the IGU EC faces a diverse array of issues, including those relating to cooperation with other organizations, such as the ISC (International Science Council), UN-GGIM, EUGEO, FIG (Festival International de Géographie) etc. Some EC members participate in meetings of these organizations wherever possible, either on behalf of the IGU or in their own capacities, often voluntarily and with no, or very limited, financial support from the IGU. From time to time the EC requests that someone outside the EC represent the IGU in a meeting where EC member participation is impossible (for example, when the cost of attendance is too high, or if the necessary expertise is unavailable within the EC). I believe that, in order to enhance geographers' contribution to broader society, we need to continue to develop our ability to pursue connections with such bodies.

As you see in his marvelous report below, Professor Cosimo Palagiano, Chair of the ICA-IGU Joint Commission on Toponymy, regularly attends UNGEGN (United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names) meetings held at the UN Headquarters on behalf of the IGU. IGU wishes in future also to send a representative to another important body, namely the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM). The committee's goal is to "promote international collaboration in global geospatial information management and, as the relevant body on geospatial information management in the UN, to report on all matters relating to geography, geospatial information and related topics to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)." Those interested in participating are kindly requested to contact me or any of the other EC members.

Recently I was shocked to discover that I didn't know the 'birthday' of the IGU. So I asked Dr. Bruno Schelhaas of the IGU Archive at Leipzig, who informed me that the IGU was 'born' on 27th July 1922 at the Palais des Académies in Brussels, Belgium, during the second General Assembly of the International Research Council. In commemoration of this, and to aid in the promotion of geography, the idea of establishing an 'international day of

geography' has been raised in the EC. The Night of Geography/Le Nuit de Géographie has now become a fixture in a number of countries, and the IGU Commission on Global Understanding is working hard to realize UN Decade of Global Understanding (IDGU). IGU is also soon to sign a formal MoU with the organizers of the Festival International de Géographie (FIG). Your ideas about these initiatives, or indeed any other related to geography, are most welcome. Let's make our discipline even stronger and more useful for society in this centennial milestone period!

Yukio Himiyama,
President of IGU



2) MINUTES OF THE EC MEETING GALWAY, 12-15 MAY 2019

2a) English Version

International Geographical Union

Minutes of the IGU Executive Committee Meeting Galway 12th to 15th May 2019

Welcome, Meeting Logistics and Introductions

The meeting was chaired by President Himiyama, who welcomed Secretary-General RB Singh, First Vice-President Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn and Past-President Vladimir Kolosov, Vice-Presidents Bojie Fu, Barbaros Gönençgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell'Agnese, Ruben Lois-González and Assistant Secretary-General Mike Meadows.

Adoption of the Schedule and Agenda

The President welcomed all; Meadows pointed out a minor change to the schedule due to the kind invitation of the Geography Department at NUIG to attend a casual reception on Tuesday 13th May 2019 at 17h00.

Minutes

The minutes of the Aligarh meeting in December 2018, previously approved via email, were tabled and, following attention to some additional minor changes, were confirmed. The revised and corrected final version of the minutes are to be forwarded to the *e-Newsletter* editor by the Secretary-General.

Organization and Operations

Executive Committee Member Reports. EC members tendered reports on their activities since the last meeting. Reports were received from all EC members. A summary of all the EC activity reports will be compiled and made available at the General Assembly in Istanbul (2020).

Executive Committee Meeting Calendar 2019 onwards. Gönençgil confirmed Istanbul, Turkey, as the venue for the next EC meeting in September 2019. The originally proposed dates were discussed again as both Fu and Meadows are committed to attending meetings in China around that time. However, arrangements were confirmed as follows: Arrivals Saturday 28th September, EC meeting Sunday 29th and Monday 30th (half day, followed by visit to the conference venue), departures Tuesday 1st October 2019. dell’Agnese (Italy), Lois González (Santiago de Compostela) and Singh (Kolkata) indicated their willingness to host an EC meeting in 2020 or 2021. It was agreed that the first meeting of 2020 should be in Rome, at the end of March 2020. Arrivals Tuesday 31st March, EC meeting 1st and 2nd April, excursion 3rd April, participation in ‘Notte della Geografia’ on evening of 3rd April, departures 4th April 2020. The EC will then convene in association with the Istanbul 34th IGU Congress. Arrivals 14th August, EC meeting on 15th and 16th; participate in the Congress opening ceremony on 17th August 2020. The November 2020 meeting will to be held at Santiago de Compostela (Spain); dates can only be confirmed following the outcome of EC elections at the Istanbul General Assembly.

Executive Committee individual responsibilities 2018-20. These were tabled and allocated following updated details as per the revised Appendices A and B attached.

IGU Executive transfer to Delhi. Singh noted that he remains reliant on Meadows who is assisting with many activities. The IGU website can be migrated to Delhi; Singh needs to ensure that his assistant contacts Meadows to arrange this. Regarding finances, Singh has suggested Meadows continue in the *de facto* role as Treasurer for the time-being but with a commitment to plan for the transfer of the finances in due course, and definitely a plan needs to be in place by the time of the next General Assembly. Himiyama requested Singh to hasten the whole transfer process.

Amendment to IGU Statutes. The amendment deemed necessary due to the establishment of the ISC and associated merger of ICSU and ISSC still needs to be approved by the General Assembly by way of an e-ballot (Singh). Meadows agreed to provide Singh with a list of national members deemed to be in good standing to facilitate this. The amendment also requires to be translated into French (Lemarchand).

IGU Financial Report and Projection. Meadows presented a brief update on the financial situation in the three IGU accounts held in Cape Town. Comparing the total balance of funds held for the same period each year (in this case end-April), it is clear that the financial position remains relatively sound. It was agreed that, when claiming funds for the current year, Commission and Task Force chairs should be prompted to indicate how the previous year's funds were expended (Meadows, Singh). Himiyama noted that he has approached a bank in Japan with regard to reinvesting the Promotion and Solidarity Fund. It is feasible to hold the funds provided there is no operational need for regular access. The current interest rate in such an account is in the order of 0.25%. It was agreed to pursue this offer further and to seek clarity on the issue of a second signatory on the account (Himiyama).

IGU National Membership update. Lois-González tabled details on the situation in regard to Latin American countries. Until now only two members from the region are in good financial standing. The process of gaining new members countries (or reinstating those that have lapsed) is slow and sometimes complex due to the number of different constituencies, but there are good prospects of membership fees being paid soon by Ecuador and possibly by Peru and Brazil in September this year. Lois-González noted that Argentina and Colombia both have large and active academic communities in the discipline, but work needs still to be done to formalize their National Committees and to renew IGU affiliation. There are prospects too for Costa Rica and Panama. Lemarchand reported in respect of a part of francophone Africa, there are numerous challenges, including security issues, despite the attraction of meetings where French is the language of communication, although this situation may be changing. The issue of plurilinguality and scientific openness needs to be considered carefully if the IGU is to demonstrate real value to such communities. It was noted that, in the past, papers at IGU meetings were presented in numerous languages. There is a new contact for Madagascar who is enthusiastic about improving the interest in colleagues in participating in IGU events. Hay reported on his approach to Palestine with an initial positive response, although there has been no recent communication. Further attempts are to be undertaken. There is an upcoming conference in Fiji (dell'Agnese and, possibly, Hay, are attending) which represents an opportunity to renew contact. Hay also agreed to explore the possibility of approaching Namibia. Singh is in contact with several other Asian

nations, which sometimes send delegates to the Indian National Association of Geographers in India but do not participate in IGU events or pay memberships.

IGU Commission and Task Force update. Droogleever-Fortuijn had conducted her usual annual review on the basis of the submitted 2018 Commission and Task Force reports. Most of these are active in diverse ways, but a few commissions had not submitted reports while some are incomplete. There are several websites that are not updated, in some cases for several years. Meadows requested that the 2018 reports be made available for uploading onto the website (Singh). The reports are used as a basis for the Commission Excellence Award and the sub-committee (Droogleever-Fortuijn, Hay, Kolosov and Gönençgil) reported on their deliberations. The result would be conveyed to the winning Commission (Urban) in due course (Singh) and arrangements for the payment of the financial award made (Meadows). dell’Agnese reported on the suspended Indigenous People, Rights and Knowledge Commission, the individual approached to consider being the chair is not in a position to take over until such time as her current commitments are completed. The proposed Research Methodology Commission document was discussed; there is broad support for the concept, Hay agreed to continue to liaise with the proposers. Kolosov organised in March 2019 a workshop at the Institute of Geography of Russian Academy dedicated to the memory of former IGU President Bruno Messerli, with the participation of well-known scholars and a member of his family. The restoration of the IGU Commission on mountains promoted by Professor Messerli was discussed. Kolosov will continue to explore this possibility. The putative Ocean Commission remains under discussion; dell’Agnese will continue to monitor the situation and encourage progress. Himiyama emphasized the increasing relevance of this issue and its importance to IGU, especially in the light of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. The Karst Commission has submitted a proposal for a new chair and Dr Eko Haryono is approved to take over as chair of this Commission for the period until the next General Assembly, whereafter he may be re-appointed.

IYGU/SDGU Benno Werlen attempted in April to have the SDGU project endorsed by UNESCO but the attempt was aborted at late notice. The ISC has been approached for support but has not yet responded. Considerable efforts continue to ensure ISC support, without which the chances of UNESCO approval are limited.

IGU Website, social media and IGU publicity brochure. The French and Spanish versions of the IGU website are still rather incomplete. Given the proposed transfer of the website responsibility to the secretariat, it makes sense to try to improve this situation thereafter. Singh and Meadows agreed to liaise over the steps needed in order to facilitate the transfer. Meadows, in consultation with Lemarchand and Lois-González, prepared new pdf versions of IGU

publicity brochure in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. Editorial issues were tabled and will be attended to (Meadows).

IGU Bulletin and IGU eNewsletter. Singh reported on progress regarding Volume 67-68 of the IGU Bulletin (for the years 2017 and 2018); this should be ready for publication within the next few months. The latest issue of the IGU *eNewsletter* was recently circulated. There is also a need to include the comment that IGU was formally represented at the AAG (Gönençgil). These changes are to be made and posted on the website pdf versions (Meadows).

Partner publishing proposal. Hay reported that the commissioning editor, Katy Crossan, contacted all IGU Commissions and there are now three volumes in progress. The issue of publishing in languages other than English had been raised with Edward Elgar but the prospects do not appear to be very promising, since Edward Elgar publishes exclusively in English. There is a need to widen the authorship base to include those who may not be from traditional anglophone countries. Hay noted that these volumes will be referenced in *Scopus*. dell’Agnese again raised the issue of translating major works in other languages into English under the title ‘*World Geography Classics*’ and agreed to continue to explore the possibility jointly with the Chair of the Commission on the History of Geography, Professor Marcella Schmidt di Friedberg.

IGU Archives. Kolosov will visit Leipzig in July. The pre-1986 archives remain missing, apart from some separate documents. The existence of these archives, which are very professionally curated, needs to be advertised and promoted more widely.

IGU ppt. Gönençgil’s sample Powerpoint presentation on IGU has not yet been updated by EC members who are encouraged to send their suggestions by the end of May.

IGU Journals project. Meadows reported that the new design is now live on the website but still has some issues. Instructions as to how to deal with additions and inconsistencies need to be included on the landing page (Meadows). Lemarchand raised the possibility of submitting a panel to the Istanbul Congress on geographical publications and using this as an opportunity to promote the facility; this was agreed (Lemarchand). Meadows will forward the existing database (excel) to Singh who agreed to appoint an assistant to update this without delay. Hay suggested that the database may have commercial value, and it may be possible to sell it to companies who specialize in such data and that this could raise revenue that could be used to help sustain the project; he agreed to make further investigations.

Cooperation and Outreach

Festival International de Géographie (FIG). Lemarchand tabled a draft MoU between IGU and FIG. Following some discussion and attention to editorial issues, it was agreed that the IGU President should sign the document on behalf of IGU without delay. This represents an important step because, from now on, the IGU is to be invited to be a member of the organizing committee. Lemarchand had met with other partners of the Festival and there seems to be an indication that in order to internationalise the festival further, there may in future be a possibility of translating some presentations by non-francophone speakers into French. This year sees the 30th anniversary of the Festival and IGU will have a round table at the event.

Night of Geography. Lemarchand circulated the announcement to all IGU National Committee chairs in 2018 but had only three responses. The Night of Geography was celebrated on 5th April 2019. The events took place in 14 countries included 8 countries in Europe France, Spain, Portugal, Bulgaria, Greece, Lithuania, Croatia, and Ireland and New-Zealand (although the date coincided with the AAG unfortunately). In Africa, six countries were involved, in collaboration with the association “CartONG”, based in Chambéry (France). In addition, the “Missing Map” event was paired with GeoNight events, allowing worldwide exposure. This is an international project that partners up well-established NGOs and local associations with the goal of mapping data coming from satellite images onto OpenStreetMap, a free and collaborative spatial database called “mapathons”. These local initiatives enable mapping of areas that are not well-represented in maps generally. 17 ‘mapathons’ were organised simultaneously at the Université de Saint-Louis (Dakar, Senegal), in Bamako (Mali), in Calavi (Benin), in Lomé (Togo), in Antananarivo (Madagascar), in Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo), in Paris, Lyon, Grenoble, Chambéry, Beauvais, Brest, Besançon, Pau, Perpignan (France), in Heidelberg (Germany), and in Milan (Italy). The 4th edition of the GeoNight will take place on April 3rd 2020.

IGU Representatives on International Bodies. There is nothing to report.

International Science Council. The ISC Draft Action Plan: Himiyama noted that the education component appears to be underemphasized and requires more attention from ISC. The final plan is not yet available, but it is hoped that this point will be taken into consideration.

Nominations for ISC Committees. Two formal nominations have been received, one from South Africa, one from Japan. After discussion, it was agreed to submit the name of Professor Takashi Yamazaki for consideration by the ISC for the Committee on Science Planning.

GeoUnions. With regards to the ‘mapping SDGs’ against IGU Commission activities, the Secretary-General had circulated the Commissions but received a rather muted response. It was suggested that the Secretary-General send a further

reminder and that this be supported by communication from the respective IGU EC member responsible for individual commissions (Singh). Given the importance of the SDGs and the potential role of Geography in working towards the associated targets, IGU Commissions should be requested to include comment on the SDGs in their forthcoming 2019 annual reports. The most recent GeoUnions meeting had taken place in Beijing and summary minutes were submitted. The position of IGU within the GeoUnions was discussed; Himiyama noted that it is important that the IGU profile within the GeoUnions be improved as the group is a powerful lobby within ISC. One possibility would be to suggest inviting GeoUnions to hold one of its meetings around the time of one of the IGU EC meetings. Former GeoUnions chair and ICSU Board member, Orhan Altan is to be invited to meet with the IGU EC in Istanbul in September 2019.

CODATA and WDS. Given the importance of data in Geography, especially – but not exclusively - big data, it is clear that IGU needs to cooperate more with CODATA and WDS, which are extremely active within ISC. The possibility of establishing a Task Force in relation to data was again raised; the alternative is to request existing IGU Commissions, emphasising the importance of their involvement in CODATA and WDS. The latter strategy was agreed for now and Singh is to take leadership in it (Himiyama, Singh).

CIPSH. Kolosov reported on an International Science Forum that had been convened in December 2018 by CIPSH in Moscow. He had organized a special session at the forum dedicated to the memory of former IGU President Bruno Messerli, with the participation of well-known scholars and a member of his family. There is some concern as to whether the concept of CIPSH Chairs conflicts with the UNESCO Chairs but it is clear that IGU needs to continue to engage with CIPSH.

EUROGEO, EUGEO. Several co-sponsored IGU-EUGEO sessions are planned for the Galway EUGEO conference. The Galway conference represents an excellent opportunity for IGU to network with the EUGEO executive and to promote the idea of co-hosting sessions at the Istanbul 2020 Congress. Kolosov suggested to make sure the representation of IGU EC at the congresses of EUGEO and EUROGEO. Other possibilities under consideration include the idea of a ‘meta-journal’, with papers in several languages; discussions are ongoing. A EUGEO-IGU business meeting is scheduled during the EUGEO conference on Thursday at 17h30. Kolosov, Lemarchand, dell’Agnese and Droogleever Fortuijn will attend. The next EUGEO congress is scheduled to be held in Prague in August 2021. Lois-González reported on the desire of EUROGEO to have closer relations with IGU and also with EUGEO (possibly even a joint conference). The next EUROGEO conference is in Slovenia in late August 2019.

EGAL/UGAL Lois-González had attended EGAL in Quito with 1400 participants. Cooperation with IGU appears to be strongly improved.

Relations with other organizations. Gönençgil attended AAG and organized the IGU booth which frequently visited. This facility will be again in place for AAG 2020, and is especially important due to changes in the leadership as the current Executive Director is stepping down. The Asian Geographical Association (AGA) was formally established at a founding meeting in Guangzhou in December 2019. Bojie Fu submitted a report which points to a very promising start of this organization; the next AGA council meeting takes place in Beijing at the end of September.

UNESCO-Japan prize. Deadline for submission of nominations for the 2019 prize was 30th April 2019. Given that IGU itself would not appear to be in a position to make nominations directly, Meadows agreed to approach the ISC President regarding the possibility of making a nomination for the 2020 prize and to explore the nature of the relationship between ISC and UNESCO more generally.

First Session of UN Group of Experts on Geographical names. No report received to date.

International Geographical Congresses, IGU Regional Conferences and Thematic Conferences

IGU Congress 2020 Istanbul. Gönençgil presented a brief progress report. The announcement inviting session proposals has now been circulated widely and the Young and Early Career Task Force has already responded. Five keynote speakers have now been secured and a sixth invited recently. The two Commission winners of Excellence award (for 2017 and 2018) should be added to the list of keynotes and invited by Gönençgil. The second circular is available in four languages and has been widely distributed.

IGU Extraordinary Congress, Paris 2022. Lemarchand reported on organizational arrangements and the establishment of four committees dealing with various operational aspects. The French National Library has agreed to organize an exhibition to coincide with the Congress. There has been a suggestion to establish a ‘Year of Geography’ from 2021-22 with several associated initiatives. The MOU needs still be finalized and signed; this is planned for September at the next EC meeting in Istanbul. The decision regarding the venue is not yet completely finalized but there is strong support for the idea of the Paris Sorbonne playing a central role.

IGU Congress Dublin 2024. The EC had an opportunity to examine the proposed venue in Dublin (Dublin City University). The high quality of the venue impressed, but there is concern around the high cost of accommodation in Dublin, including in the student residences. The MOU is drafted but comment from the LOC is still awaited.

IGU Thematic Conference, Koper, Slovenia, September 2019. Some 70 abstracts have been submitted to date. The main conference themes/sessions include: Heritage of lost landscapes: identification, reconstruction and presentation; Past and present land degradation in the Mediterranean and other environments; Land management practices and global change; The challenges regarding the planning and organization of the cultural landscape; Functions of the cultural landscape in local and regional development; The concepts and tools in landscape transformation research; Transformation of traditional landscapes; Response of Mountain Ecosystems to Climate Change; Conservation of Biodiversity in Changing Environment.

IGU Thematic Conference Lecce, Italy. dell’Agnese noted that the second circular is now available, and the website is operational; publicity should be available on the website (Meadows). Dates as follows: May 31st to 2nd June 2020.

IGU Thematic Conference, Mexico. There is a proposal to hold a thematic conference in Mexico City under the theme: Governance in Historical Cities, (with the support of several IGU Commissions including Governance, Geoheritage, Urban, Latin American Studies) in August 2021. The formal proposal will be presented later.

IGU Congress 2028. Hay noted the Institute of Australian Geographers is contemplating making a bid for the 2028 IGU Congress.

IGU Centennial Publication. Kolosov reported on preparations in relation to the Centennial publication. The contract has been signed with Springer and, for a fee, the book can be made Open Access. It has been decided that there will be only one volume, with the previously planned first volume being incorporated as the first 80 pages or so of the publication; section editors and several chapter authors have already been identified. The discussion will be continued in the next EC meeting in Istanbul.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12h32 on 15th May 2019.



IGU EC components with Irish hosts - Les membres du Comité UGI et les hôtes Irlandaises.

2 b) Version Française

Union géographique internationale

Procès-verbal de la réunion du comité exécutif

Galway, Irlande

12 au 15 mai 2019

Bienvenue, réunion logistique et présentations

La réunion a été présidée par le président Himiyama, qui a accueilli le secrétaire général RB Singh, la 1^{ère} Vice-présidente Joos Droogleever-Fortuijn et le président sortant Vladimir Kolosov, les vice-présidents Bojie Fu, Barbaros Gönençgil, Iain Hay, Nathalie Lemarchand, Elena dell’Agnese, Ruben Lois-González et le secrétaire général assistant Mike Meadows.

Adoption de l'annexe et de l'ordre du jour

Le président souhaite la bienvenue à tous ; Meadows signale une modification mineure au calendrier en raison de l'aimable invitation du département de géographie de NUIG à assister à une réception le mardi 13 mai 2019 à 17h00.

Procès-verbal

Le procès-verbal de la réunion d'Aligarh de décembre 2018, préalablement approuvé par courriel, a été déposé et, après avoir pris connaissance de quelques nouveaux changements mineurs, est confirmé. La version finale révisée et corrigée du procès-verbal doit être transmise par le Secrétaire général à l'éditeur du bulletin d'information électronique.

Organisation et opérations

Rapports des membres du comité exécutif (CE). Les membres du CE ont présenté des rapports sur leurs activités depuis la dernière réunion. Des rapports ont été reçus de tous les membres du CE. Un résumé de tous les rapports d'activité du CE sera compilé et mis à disposition lors de l'Assemblée générale à Istanbul (2020).

Calendrier des réunions du Comité exécutif à partir de 2019. Gönenggil a confirmé Istanbul, Turquie, comme lieu de la prochaine réunion du CE en septembre 2019. Les dates initialement proposées ont de nouveau été discutées car Fu et Meadows se sont engagés à assister aux réunions en Chine à peu près à la même époque. Toutefois, les dispositions suivantes ont été confirmées : Arrivées le samedi 28 septembre, réunion du CE le dimanche 29 et le lundi 30 septembre (demi-journée, suivie d'une visite au lieu de la conférence), départs le mardi 1er octobre 2019. dell'Agnese (Italie), Lois González (Santiago de Compostela) et Singh (Kolkata) se sont déclarés prêts pour accueillir une réunion du CE en 2020 ou 2021. Il a été convenu que la première réunion de 2020 devrait avoir lieu à Rome, fin mars 2020. Arrivées mardi 31 mars, réunion du CE les 1er et 2 avril, excursion le 3 avril, participation à 'Notte di Geografia' le soir du 3 avril, départ le 4 avril 2020. Le CE se réunira ensuite en association avec le 34e Congrès de l'UGI à Istanbul. Arrivées le 14 août, réunion du CE les 15 et 16 ; participation à la cérémonie d'ouverture du Congrès le 17 août 2020. La réunion de novembre 2020 se tiendra à Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle (Espagne) ; les dates ne pourront être confirmées qu'après les résultats des élections du CE à l'Assemblée générale d'Istanbul.

Responsabilités individuelles du Comité exécutif 2018-2020. Elles ont été soumises et attribuées à la suite de la mise à jour des renseignements, conformément aux annexes A et B révisées ci-jointes.

Transfert de l'exécutif de l'UGI à Delhi. Singh a noté qu'il reste tributaire de Meadows qui l'assiste dans de nombreuses activités. Le site Web de l'UGI peut être transféré à Delhi ; Singh doit s'assurer que son assistant contacte Meadows

pour organiser cela. En ce qui concerne les finances, Singh a suggéré que Meadows continue à jouer le rôle de trésorier de facto pour le moment, mais avec l'engagement de planifier le transfert des finances en temps voulu, et un plan doit certainement être en place d'ici la prochaine Assemblée générale. Himiyama a demandé à Singh d'accélérer tout le processus de transfert.

Modification des statuts de l'UGI. L'amendement jugé nécessaire en raison de la constitution du CIS et de la fusion corrélative du CIUS et du CISS doit encore être approuvé par l'Assemblée générale au moyen d'un vote électronique (Singh). Meadows a accepté de fournir à Singh une liste des membres nationaux jugés en règle pour faciliter cette tâche. L'amendement doit également être traduit en français (Lemarchand).

Rapport financier et projection de l'UGI. Meadows a présenté une brève mise à jour de la situation financière des trois comptes de l'UGI détenus au Cap. Si l'on compare le solde total des fonds détenus pour la même période chaque année (en l'occurrence fin avril), on constate que la situation financière reste relativement saine. Il a été convenu que, lorsqu'ils demandent des fonds pour l'année en cours, les présidents des commissions et des groupes de travail devraient être invités à indiquer comment les fonds de l'année précédente ont été dépensés (Meadows, Singh). Himiyama a indiqué qu'il s'était adressé à une banque au Japon pour réinvestir le Fonds de promotion et de solidarité. Il est possible de détenir les fonds à condition qu'il n'y ait pas de besoin opérationnel d'accès régulier. Le taux d'intérêt actuel d'un tel compte est de l'ordre de 0,25 %. Il a été convenu de donner suite à cette offre et de rechercher des éclaircissements sur la question d'un deuxième signataire sur le compte (Himiyama).

Mise à jour des commissions et des groupes d'étude de l'UGI. Lois-González apporte des informations détaillées sur la situation en ce qui concerne les pays d'Amérique latine. Jusqu'à présent, seuls deux membres de la région sont en règle sur le plan financier. Le processus d'obtention de nouveaux pays membres (ou de réintégration de ceux qui sont arrivés à échéance) est lent et parfois complexe en raison du nombre de circonscriptions différentes. Mais il y a de bonnes chances pour que l'Equateur et peut-être aussi le Pérou et le Brésil versent bientôt leurs cotisations en septembre de cette année. Lois-González a noté que l'Argentine et la Colombie ont toutes deux des communautés universitaires importantes et actives dans la discipline, mais qu'il reste encore du travail à faire pour formaliser leurs comités nationaux et pour renouveler leur affiliation à l'UGI. Il y a aussi des perspectives pour le Costa Rica et le Panama. Lemarchand a indiqué qu'en ce qui concerne une partie de l'Afrique francophone, les défis sont nombreux, y compris les questions de sécurité, malgré l'attrait des réunions où le français est la langue de communication, bien que la situation puisse être en train de changer. La question du plurilinguisme et de l'ouverture scientifique doit être examinée avec soin si l'UGI veut présenter une réelle valeur pour ces communautés. Il a été noté que, par le passé, les documents des réunions de l'UGI étaient présentés dans de

nombreuses langues. Il y a un nouveau contact pour Madagascar qui est enthousiaste à l'idée d'améliorer l'intérêt des collègues à participer aux événements de l'UGI. Hay a rendu compte de son approche de la Palestine avec une première réponse positive, bien qu'il n'y ait pas eu de communication récente. D'autres tentatives doivent être entreprises. Il y a une conférence à venir à Fidji (à laquelle participent dell'Agnese et, peut-être, Hay) qui représente une occasion de renouer le contact. Hay a également accepté d'explorer la possibilité d'approcher la Namibie. Singh est en contact avec plusieurs autres nations asiatiques, qui envoient parfois des délégués à l'Indian National Association of Geographers en Inde, mais ne participent pas aux événements de l'UGI ni ne paient d'adhésion.

Mise à jour sur les commissions et groupes de travail de l'UGI. Droogleever-Fortuijn a procédé à son examen annuel habituel sur la base des rapports des Commissions et des Groupes de travail soumis en 2018. La plupart d'entre elles sont actives de diverses manières, mais quelques commissions n'ont pas soumis de rapports et certaines sont incomplètes. Il y a plusieurs sites Web qui ne sont pas mis à jour, dans certains cas depuis plusieurs années. Meadows a demandé que les rapports de 2018 soient disponibles pour téléchargement sur le site Web (Singh). Les rapports servent de base au Prix d'excellence de la Commission et la sous-commission (Droogleever-Fortuijn, Hay, Kolosov et Gönençgil) a rendu compte de ses travaux. Le résultat en sera communiqué à la Commission gagnante (Urbaine) en temps voulu (Singh) et les dispositions prises pour le paiement de l'indemnité financière (Meadows). dell'Agnese a fait le point au sujet de la Commission des « Peuples Autochtones, Droits et Connaissances », la personne approchée pour envisager d'assumer la présidence n'est pas en mesure de prendre la relève tant que ses engagements actuels ne seront pas terminés. Le document proposé par la Commission Méthodologie de recherche a fait l'objet d'une discussion ; le concept bénéficie d'un large soutien, Hay a accepté de continuer à assurer la liaison avec les auteurs des propositions. Kolosov a organisé en mars 2019 un atelier à l'Institut de géographie de l'Académie russe dédié à la mémoire de l'ancien président de l'UGI Bruno Messerli, avec la participation d'universitaires de renom et un membre de sa famille. La restauration de la Commission de l'UGI sur les montagnes, promue par le professeur Messerli, a été discutée. Kolosov continuera d'explorer cette possibilité. L'éventuelle Commission océanique fait toujours l'objet de discussions ; dell'Agnese continuera à surveiller la situation et à encourager les progrès. Himiyama a souligné la pertinence croissante de cette question et son importance pour l'UGI, en particulier à la lumière de la Décennie des Nations Unies pour les sciences océaniques au service du développement durable. La Commission Karst a soumis une proposition pour un nouveau président et le Dr Eko Haryono est approuvé pour prendre la présidence de cette Commission pour la période allant jusqu'à la prochaine Assemblée générale, après quoi il pourra être nommé de nouveau.

IYGU/SDGU. Benno Werlen a tenté en avril de faire approuver le projet SDGU par l'UNESCO, mais cette tentative a été interrompue dans les derniers jours de la

procédure. Le CIS a été contacté pour obtenir son appui, mais n'a pas encore répondu. Des efforts considérables continuent d'être déployés pour obtenir le soutien du CIS, sans quoi les chances d'obtenir l'approbation de l'UNESCO sont limitées.

Site Web de l'UGI, médias sociaux et brochure informative de l'UGI. Les versions française et espagnole du site Web de l'UGI sont encore assez incomplètes. Compte tenu du transfert proposé de la responsabilité du site Web au secrétariat, il est logique d'essayer d'améliorer cette situation par la suite. Singh et Meadows ont convenu d'assurer la liaison au sujet des mesures à prendre pour faciliter le transfert. En consultation avec Lemarchand et Lois-González, Meadows a préparé de nouvelles versions pdf de la brochure informative de l'UGI en anglais, français, espagnol et portugais. Des questions rédactionnelles ont été soulevées et seront traitées (Meadows).

Bulletin de l'UGI et bulletin électronique de l'UGI. Singh fait le point sur le volume 67-68 du Bulletin de l'UGI (pour les années 2017 et 2018), qui devrait être prêt à être publié dans les prochains mois. Le dernier numéro du bulletin électronique de l'UGI a récemment été diffusé. Il est également nécessaire d'inclure le commentaire selon lequel l'UGI était officiellement représentée à l'AAG (Gönençgil). Ces modifications doivent être apportées et affichées sur le site Web en version pdf (Meadows).

Proposition de publication en partenariat. Hay signale que la responsable de la publication, Katy Crossan, a contacté toutes les commissions de l'UGI et qu'il y a maintenant trois volumes en cours. La question de l'édition dans des langues autres que l'anglais avait été soulevée avec Edward Elgar, mais les perspectives ne semblent pas très prometteuses, car Edward Elgar publie exclusivement en anglais. Il est nécessaire d'élargir la base des auteurs afin d'inclure ceux qui ne sont pas nécessairement originaires de pays anglophones traditionnels. Hay a noté que ces volumes seront référencés dans Scopus. dell'Agnese a de nouveau soulevé la question de la traduction en anglais d'ouvrages majeurs dans d'autres langues sous le titre " World Geography Classics " et a accepté de continuer à explorer la possibilité conjointement avec la présidente de la Commission d'histoire géographique, la Professeure Marcella Schmidt di Friedberg.

Archives de l'UGI. Kolosov se rendra à Leipzig en juillet. Les archives d'avant 1986 sont toujours manquantes, à l'exception de quelques documents distincts. L'existence de ces archives, dont la conservation est très professionnellement assurée, doit faire l'objet d'une publicité et d'une promotion plus larges.

IGU PPT. L'exemple de présentation Powerpoint de Gönençgil sur l'UGI n'a pas encore été mis à jour par les membres du CE qui sont encouragés à envoyer leurs suggestions avant la fin mai.

Projet de revues de l'UGI. Meadows a signalé que le nouveau design est maintenant en ligne sur le site Web, mais qu'il y a encore quelques problèmes. Des instructions sur la façon de traiter les ajouts et les incohérences doivent être incluses sur la page d'accueil (Meadows). Lemarchand a évoqué la possibilité de soumettre au Congrès d'Istanbul un panel sur les publications géographiques et d'en faire une occasion de promouvoir ce site, ce qui a été accepté (Lemarchand). Meadows transmettra la base de données existante (excel) à Singh qui a accepté de nommer un assistant pour la mettre à jour sans délai. Hay a suggéré que la base de données pourrait avoir une valeur commerciale et qu'il pourrait être possible de la vendre à des entreprises spécialisées dans ces données, ce qui pourrait générer des revenus qui pourraient être utilisés pour soutenir le projet; il a accepté de faire des recherches supplémentaires.

Coopération et communication

Festival International de Géographie (FIG). Lemarchand a présenté un projet de protocole d'accord entre l'UGI et le FIG. après discussion et attention aux questions rédactionnelles, il a été convenu que le Président de l'UGI devrait signer le document au nom de l'UGI sans délai. Il s'agit d'une étape importante car, dorénavant, l'UGI est invitée au Comité d'organisation. Lemarchand a rencontré d'autres membres du Festival et il semble y avoir une indication qu'afin d'internationaliser davantage le festival, il pourrait y avoir à l'avenir une possibilité de traduire en français certaines présentations par des non-francophones. Cette année marque le 30e anniversaire du Festival et l'UGI organisera une table ronde à cette occasion.

Nuit de la Géographie. Lemarchand a fait circuler l'annonce à tous les présidents des comités nationaux de l'UGI en 2018, mais n'a reçu que trois réponses. La Nuit de la Géographie a été célébrée le 5 avril 2019. Les événements ont eu lieu dans 14 pays, dont 8 pays d'Europe : France, Espagne, Portugal, Bulgarie, Grèce, Lituanie, Croatie, Irlande et Nouvelle-Zélande (bien que la date ait malheureusement coïncidé avec celle de l'AAG). En Afrique, six pays ont été impliqués, en collaboration avec l'association "CartONG", basée à Chambéry (France). En outre, l'événement "Missing Map" a été jumelé à des événements GeoNight, ce qui a permis une visibilité mondiale. Il s'agit d'un projet international qui associe des ONG et des associations locales bien établies dans le but de cartographier les données provenant d'images satellites sur OpenStreetMap, une base de données spatiales gratuite et collaborative appelée "mapathons". Ces initiatives locales permettent de cartographier des zones qui ne sont pas bien représentées sur les cartes en général. 17 'mapathons' ont été organisés simultanément à l'Université de Saint-Louis (Dakar, Sénégal), à Bamako (Mali), à Calavi (Bénin), à Lomé (Togo), à Antananarivo (Madagascar), à Kinshasa (République démocratique du Congo), à Paris, Lyon, Grenoble, Chambéry, Beauvais, Brest, Besançon, Pau, Perpignan (France), à Heidelberg (Allemagne) et à Milan (Italie). La 4e édition de la GéoNuit aura lieu le 3 avril 2020.

Représentants de l'UGI dans les organismes internationaux. Rien à signaler.

Conseil international des sciences. Le projet de plan d'action de l'ISC : Himiyama a noté que la composante éducation semble être sous-estimée et nécessite plus d'attention de la part de l'ISC. Le plan final n'est pas encore disponible, mais on peut espérer que ce point sera pris en considération.

Nominations pour les comités de l'ISC. Deux candidatures officielles ont été reçues, l'une d'Afrique du Sud et l'autre du Japon. Après discussion, il a été convenu de soumettre le nom du professeur Takashi Yamazaki à l'examen de l'ISC pour le Comité de la planification scientifique.

GéoUnions. En ce qui concerne la " mise en correspondance des SDGs " avec les activités des Commissions de l'UGI, le Secrétaire général a fait circuler les informations auprès des Commissions mais a reçu une réponse plutôt timide. Il a été suggéré que le Secrétaire général envoie un nouveau rappel et que celui-ci soit appuyé par une communication des membres respectifs du CE de l'UGI responsables des commissions individuelles (Singh). Compte tenu de l'importance des SDGs et du rôle potentiel de la géographie dans la réalisation des objectifs associés, les commissions de l'UGI devraient être invitées à inclure leurs commentaires sur les SDGs dans les prochains rapports annuels 2019. La dernière réunion de GéoUnions s'est tenue à Beijing et un compte rendu succinct a été présenté. La position de l'UGI au sein des GéoUnions a été discutée ; Himiyama a noté qu'il est important que le profil de l'UGI au sein des GéoUnions soit amélioré car le groupe est un puissant lobby au sein de l'ISC. Une possibilité serait d'inviter GéoUnions à tenir l'une de ses réunions à l'occasion d'une des réunions du CE de l'UGI. Ancien président de GéoUnions et membre du conseil d'administration du CIUS, Orhan Altan sera invité à rencontrer le CE de l'UGI à Istanbul en septembre 2019.

CODATA et WDS. Compte tenu de l'importance des données en géographie, en particulier - mais pas exclusivement - des grandes données, il est clair que l'UGI doit coopérer davantage avec CODATA et WDS, qui sont extrêmement actifs au sein d'ISC. La possibilité de créer un groupe de travail sur les données a de nouveau été évoquée ; l'alternative consiste à demander aux commissions existantes de l'UGI, en soulignant l'importance de leur participation à CODATA et à WDS. Cette dernière stratégie a été convenue pour l'instant et Singh doit en prendre la direction (Himiyama, Singh).

CIPSH. Kolosov a rendu compte d'un forum scientifique international organisé en décembre 2018 par le CIPSH à Moscou. Il avait organisé une session spéciale à l'occasion du forum consacré à la mémoire de l'ancien président de l'UGI, Bruno Messerli, avec la participation d'universitaires de renom et d'un membre de sa famille. La question de savoir si le concept de chaires CIPSH entre en conflit avec

les chaires UNESCO suscite quelques inquiétudes, mais il est clair que l'UGI doit continuer à collaborer avec le CIPSH.

EUROGEO, EUGEO. Plusieurs sessions co-organisées IGU-EUGEO sont programmées pour la conférence EUGEO de Galway. La conférence de Galway représente une excellente occasion pour l'UGI de nouer des contacts avec l'exécutif d'EUGEO et de promouvoir l'idée d'organiser conjointement des sessions au Congrès 2020 à Istanbul. Kolosov a suggéré de s'assurer de la représentation du CE de l'UGI aux congrès d'EUGEO et d'EUROGEO. Parmi les autres possibilités à l'étude figure l'idée d'un " méta-journal ", avec des articles en plusieurs langues ; des discussions sont en cours. Une réunion de travail entre EUGEO et l'UIG est prévue pendant la conférence EUGEO le jeudi à 17h30. Kolosov, Lemarchand, dell'Agnese et Droogleever Fortuijn seront présents. Le prochain congrès EUGEO se tiendra à Prague en août 2021. Lois-González a fait part du souhait d'EUROGEO d'avoir des relations plus étroites avec l'UGI et aussi avec EUGEO (peut-être même une conférence conjointe). La prochaine conférence EUROGEO se tiendra en Slovaquie fin août 2019.

EGAL/UGAL. Lois-González a participé à EGAL à Quito réunissant 1400 participants. La coopération avec l'UGI semble s'être fortement améliorée.

Relations avec d'autres organisations. Gönençgil a participé à l'AAG et a organisé le stand de l'UGI qui était fréquemment visité. Cette installation sera de nouveau en place pour l'AAG 2020, et elle est particulièrement importante du fait des changements à la direction exécutive dans le cadre du départ de l'actuel directeur exécutif. L'Association géographique asiatique (AGA) a été officiellement créée lors d'une réunion de fondation à Guangzhou en décembre 2019. Bojie Fu a présenté un rapport qui indique un début très prometteur pour cette organisation ; la prochaine réunion du conseil de l'AGA aura lieu à Beijing à la fin septembre.

Prix UNESCO-Japon. La date limite de dépôt des candidatures pour le prix 2019 était fixée au 30 avril 2019. Etant donné que l'UGI elle-même ne semble pas être en mesure de faire des nominations directement, Meadows a accepté d'approcher le Président de l'ISC concernant la possibilité de faire une nomination pour le prix 2020 et d'explorer la nature des relations entre l'ISC et plus généralement l'UNESCO.

Première session du Groupe d'experts de l'ONU sur les noms géographiques. Aucun rapport n'a été reçu à ce jour.

Congrès géographiques internationaux, conférences régionales de l'UGI et conférences thématiques

Congrès de l'UGI 2020 Istanbul. Gönençgil a présenté un bref rapport d'étape. L'annonce invitant à soumettre des propositions de session a maintenant été largement diffusée et le Groupe de travail sur les jeunes et les jeunes en début de carrière a déjà répondu. Cinq conférenciers d'honneur ont maintenant été choisis et un sixième a été invité récemment. Les deux lauréats du prix d'excellence de la Commission (pour 2017 et 2018) devraient être ajoutés à la liste des orateurs principaux et invités par Gönençgil. La deuxième circulaire est disponible en quatre langues et a été largement diffusée.

Congrès extraordinaire de l'UGI, Paris 2022. Lemarchand a rapporté les arrangements organisationnels et la création de quatre comités traitant de divers aspects opérationnels. La Bibliothèque nationale de France a proposé d'organiser une exposition à l'occasion du Congrès. Il a été suggéré d'établir une " Année de la géographie " de 2021 à 2022, avec plusieurs initiatives connexes. Le protocole d'accord doit encore être finalisé et signé ; cela est prévu pour septembre lors de la prochaine réunion du CE à Istanbul. La décision concernant le lieu de la réunion n'est pas encore complètement finalisée, mais l'idée que la Sorbonne de Paris joue un rôle central bénéficie d'un large soutien.

Congrès de l'UGI à Dublin en 2024. Le CE a eu l'occasion d'examiner le lieu proposé à Dublin (Dublin City University). La haute qualité du lieu a impressionné, mais le coût élevé de l'hébergement à Dublin, y compris dans les résidences d'étudiants, suscite des inquiétudes. Le protocole d'entente est en cours de rédaction, mais on attend toujours les commentaires du comité d'organisation local.

Conférence thématique de l'UGI, Koper, Slovénie, septembre 2019. Quelques 70 résumés ont été soumis à ce jour. Les principaux thèmes/sessions de la conférence sont les suivants : Patrimoine des paysages perdus : identification, reconstruction et mise en valeur ; Dégradation passée et présente des terres en Méditerranée et dans d'autres environnements ; Pratiques de gestion des terres et changement global ; Les défis concernant la planification et l'organisation du paysage culturel ; Fonctions du paysage culturel dans le développement local et régional ; Les concepts et outils dans la recherche en transformation du paysage ; Transformation des paysages traditionnels ; Réponse des écosystèmes de montagne au changement climatique ; Conservation de la biodiversité en milieu changeant.

Conférence thématique de l'UGI Lecce, Italie. dell'Agnese indique que la deuxième circulaire est maintenant disponible et que le site Web est opérationnel ; la promotion devrait être disponible sur le site (Meadows). Les dates sont les suivantes : 31 mai au 2 juin 2020.

Conférence thématique de l'UGI, Mexique. Il est proposé d'organiser une conférence thématique à Mexico sous ce thème : Gouvernance dans les villes

historiques, (avec le soutien de plusieurs commissions de l'UGI, dont Gouvernance, Géohéritage, Urbaine, Études latino-américaine) en août 2021. La proposition formelle sera présentée ultérieurement.

Congrès de l'UGI 2028. Hay a mentionné que l'Institut des Géographes Australiens envisage de se porter candidat pour le Congrès de l'UGI de 2028.

La publication du centenaire de l'UGI. Kolosov a rendu compte des préparatifs relatifs à la publication du centenaire. Le contrat a été signé avec Springer et, moyennant des frais, le livre peut devenir Open Access. Il a été décidé qu'il n'y aurait qu'un seul volume, le premier volume précédemment prévu étant incorporé dans les quelque 80 premières pages de la publication ; les rédacteurs des sections et plusieurs auteurs de chapitres ont déjà été identifiés. La discussion se poursuivra lors de la prochaine réunion du CE à Istanbul.

Levée de la séance

La séance est levée à 12h32 le 15 mai 2019.



3) UNGEGN 1ST SESSION IN NEW YORK, UN HEADQUARTERS



Fig. 1. During the UNGEGN Assembly.

The 1st Session of UNGEGN (United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names) was held in New York from 29 April to 3 May 2019 at the United Nations headquarters. The session was attended by many of the about 250 representatives of 61 state members, and by 2 members of International scientific organizations (ICA, International Cartographic Association and IGU, International Geographical Union). Representatives of member states are collected in 24 geographic / linguistic divisions, while the two scientific organizations are grouped together in the ICA-IGU Joint Commission on Toponymy. The decisions taken were: 1. Issues of publicity for the Group of Experts on Publicity and Funding, 2. Activities on national standardization in Africa (Task Team for Africa); 3. Toponymic Education (Working Group on Training Courses in Toponymy. Welcomed the announcement of two training courses in toponymy by Indonesia and the request for a training course to be held in the Caribbean region by Jamaica and encouraged further exploration of possibilities. These courses proposed at the time by Peter Raper and followed with interest by some countries, such as Brazil and Italy, present some implementation difficulties, both due to lack of funds and to the search for employment prospects. 3. Activities Relating to the Working Group on

Toponymic Terminology. The Working Group is encouraged to continue to addressing proposal for changes and additions to the database of toponymic terminology. 4. Geographical names as culture, heritage and identity, including indigenous, minority and regional languages and multilingual issues. The Working Group is coordinated by Annette C. Torensjö, who held a very well-attended meeting, with interesting discussions.

It should be noted that often the names of cities, regions and streets are not always recognized by the population for their cultural value. I give some examples for Rome. The Termini Station does not have the meaning of term, end, but of baths. Often the meaning of Piazza dei Cinquecento, or of Via dell'Amba Aradam, etc. is not understood. 5. Exonyms. On the very successful meeting of the Working Group the coordinator Kohei Watanabe presented a very detailed report, which I transcribe below. 6. Toponymic data files and gazetteers coordinated by Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu convener of the homonymous Working Group. The Group of Experts expressed appreciation for the information available and the interventions in the plenary session. Observed that most activities in the countries focused on the establishment of National geographical names databases, services and applications to provide geographical names data for a variety of purposes, e.g., land management, health, emergency and other services. Recognized technological methods. Noted that the developments are in line with the UNCSGN recommendations of better integration of geographical names into national and regional spatial data infrastructures. 7. Writing systems and pronunciation. The conveners of the Working Group on Romanization Systems, Peeter Päll and Catherine Cheetham encouraged the member states that do not have a national Romanization system to liaise with the Working Group on Romanization Systems to create an approved system. 8. Cooperation with the United Nations Documentation Division. The Group of Experts encouraged the establishment of a communication channel between the Group of Experts and the United Nations Documentation Division in order to facilitate the exchange of information on the appropriate use of geographical names.

During the session the following special presentations have been discussed:

- (a) “UNGEEN, ECOSOC and 2030 Agenda” delivered at the 3rd meeting by the representative of the Office of the Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The presenter responded to questions presented by the Chair and some Divisions. In my opinion, the prospects presented seem very optimistic about the future of our planet. “Second Administrative Level Boundaries” delivered at the 5th meeting by the representative of the geospatial Information Section, Office of the Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development. The Chair, many Divisions and the representative from the International Cartographic Association made comments and questions, to which the presenter responded.
- (b) “Indigenous Issues and Cultural Heritage” delivered at the 7th meeting by the representative of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The

- presenter responded to questions and comments presented by some Divisions.
- (c) “Experiencing Discrepancies in ‘Reputable Data’ in Disaster Management Cycle” delivered in the 9th
 - (d) meeting by the representatives from the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society. The presenter responded to questions and comments presented by some Divisions.

Cooperation and liaison with other organizations.

The Group of Experts noted the reports submitted by the liaison officers of the International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS), Joint International Cartographic Association/International Geographical Union (ICA/IGU) Commission on Toponymy and the International Hydrographic Organization, as well as by the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) recognized that it is important to maintain the relationship between UNGEGN and the organizations with which it has liaison.

During the Assembly there was the change of the Chair William Hughes Watt, South Australian Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure. Chair of the Permanent Committee on Place Names, retired, with the new Chair Mr. Pierre Jaillard, President of the National Commission of Toponymy (CNT) French National Council of geographic information (CNIG).

During the Session 20 events took place. I have already mentioned the Working Group on Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage coordinated by Annette Torensjö. I would like to refer to the Presentation of the Joint ICA / IGU Commission on Toponymy coordinated by Peter Jordan, ICA Chair of the ICA-IGU Commission on Toponymy. The Working Group has been attended by many people. Peter Jordan illustrated the many activities carried out by the Commission and future projects. Only this year 2019 the International Cartographic Conference (ICC) will be held in Tokyo, in July, a seminar in Clarens (South Africa) in September, a congress in Rio de Janeiro, in October, and a conference in Vienna in November.



Fig. 2. The ICA-IGU Joint Commission on Toponymy. Courtesy of Sungjae Choo and Peter Jordan

Kohei Watanabe, coordinator of the Working Group on Exonyms, presented the group's activities:

“22nd (Business) meeting of the Exonyms WG

New York, UN-HQ 2 May 2019 8:15-9:30am

number of participants: 21

(Activities since the last business meeting (Aug 2017) were reported:)

1. The proceedings of the Prague meeting were published as a book (name and place vol 7)
2. Report on the WG meeting in Riga, September 2018.
3. Proceedings from Riga is about to be submitted to the printers to be published as a book (Name and Place vol.8). It should be ready for distribution by July 2019. There is no funds for further book publication (any source of money will be welcomed), but probably the future proceedings papers can be made available on the web.
4. Announcement on the next WG meeting: (12-14 or 19-21) March 2020 Ljubljana. Probably together with WG on terminology.
5. Website - addition of H. Sabbar's book on Nubian names. Decided to make no distinction between “active” members and “corresponding” members - all will be listed together without e-mail addresses. If you have any materials on exonyms (e.g. gazetteer of exonyms) please send URL or file to Matjaz.
6. Report of other activities of members on exonym: As presented in the main meeting, Poland produced a new edition of their exonym list, Finland produced a website on their exonyms.
7. Open discussion on accomplishment of the WG and questions still open:

Peter Jordan provided a summary, and pointed out topics such as:

- 1) exonym / endonym status of transboundary features
- 2) Adaptation of names to various languages (endonymoids)
- 3) Written or spoken exonyms (are exophones exonyms?)
- 4) Are phonetic transcriptions exonyms? (change of written form for better expression of local pronunciation)
- 5) Donor supplied exonyms
- 6) Exonyms for features without endonyms
- 7) History and changes of exonyms
- 8) Does language / officiality matter? can exonyms exist within the same language?

Other participants raised topics such as:

Examples of change of use from exonyms to endonyms (reduction of exonyms)

Difficulties in implementing past resolutions on exonyms

It was pointed out that practitioners would prefer "practical" (e.g. implementation of resolutions) rather than theoretical" (e.g. definition) topics.

9. Announcements on upcoming toponymy events:

15-20 July Tokyo,JP: International Cartographic Conference

3-5 Sep Baia Mare,RO: 5th International Conference on Onomastics

18-20 Sep Clarens,ZA: 5th International Symposium on Place Names

6-8 Nov Vienna, AT: Symposium "place names and migration"

Mar 2020, Ljubljana: Exonym and Terminology Joint Working group meeting".

One of my observations concerned names of characters, such as Washington, who are both endonyms and exonyms. But also other names of cities like Tokyo or states like Kenya are simultaneously endonyms and exonyms. The alternation of *y* and *i*, as Watanabe claims, is simply a graphical allotropy.

Andrea Cantile, coordinator of the Romano-Hellenic Division presented the work of the Division:

"The Romano-Hellenic Division (RHD) met in New York, on 1st May 2019, at 1:00 pm, at UN Headquarter, in the Conference Room 2. Participants were the distinguished representatives of: Belgium, Mr. Jean-Yves Pirlot; Canada, Mme Helen Kerfoot; Cyprus. Mr. Andreas Hadjiraftis; France, Mme Élizabeth Calvarin and Mr. Pierre Jaillard; Italy, Mr. Andrea Cantile (Chairman); Romania, Mme Monica Dumitrascu; Switzerland, Mr. Jean-Christophe Guélat; International Geographical Union, Mr. Cosimo Palagiano. For the meeting, the Representative of Greece, Mr. Charalampos Paraschou, was temporarily absent due to concurrent commitments. In consideration of this absence, the Chair of the RHD, Mr. Andrea Cantile, has previously consulted him on the matters on the agenda and had received full approval from him on all proposals.



Fig. 3. The Romano-Hellenic Division. The first one on the lower left, Mr. Pierre Jaillard, the new UNGEGN Chair.

The Chair welcomed the participants and opened the meeting by presenting the provisional agenda: 1 State of the art in the realization of the Proceedings of the Symposium held in Venezia in 2018; 2. Proposal for the next International Scientific Symposium of the Romano-Hellenic Division; 3. Organization of the Division bureau; 4. Other matters.

1 State of the art in the realization of the Proceedings of the Symposium held in Venezia in 2018.

Mr. Cantile informed the participants that the proceedings of the International Scientific Symposium held in Venezia in 2018 are still being prepared. The volume is edited by Helen Kerfoot and Andrea Cantile and it will be published next autumn by the Italian Geographic Military Institute in Firenze.

2. Proposal for the next International Scientific Symposium of the Romano-Hellenic Division.

Mr. Cantile for the next International Scientific Symposium of the RHD in September 2020, focusing the theme on “Permanence, replacement, transformation and oblivion of geographical names”, and involving all members

of the Division, academics and scholars (linguists, geographers, historians, planners), cartographers and technicians involved in the collection and processing of toponymic data.

Mr. Cantile invited all the countries of the Division to evaluate the possibility of hosting the event and asked that they notify him via e-mail in the coming days of any such possibility. Mr. Hadjiraftis (Cyprus), on behalf of himself and others, expressed his deep appreciation for the organization of the previous symposia held in Firenze and Venezia and hoped that Italy can continue hosting the event in 2020. Mme Kerfoot (Canada) observed that the two previous symposia were characterized by a large and productive participants of Italian academics and scholars and hoped that these meetings could continue in other large Italian cities, to further disseminate the importance of geographical names in the university field. Mr. Cantile thanked RHD members for their appreciation and promised that he would verify the possibility of organizing the symposium in Italy, perhaps in Rome or Naples, and that he would then send an email to everyone with an update on this topic.

Mme Kerfoot also requested that the Chair communicate to UNGEGN Secretariat the address of the Division's website and all news regarding the next symposium.

3. Organization of the Division bureau.

Mr. Cantile informed the participants that Italy is still available to maintain the presidency of the Division, through the service of Mr. Cantile himself, if the Representatives of other countries agree. Moreover, after having consulted separately with the Representative of Greece, Mr. Charalampos Paraschou, and having obtained his favourable opinion, Mr. Cantile proposed the election of Dr. Monica Dumitrascu (Romania) as Secretary of the RHD, to replace Mr. Ioannis Papaioannu (Greece) who has retired. Participants agreed by acclamation to the proposal for the Divisional bureau.

4. Other matters.

As there were no other items on the agenda the Chair declared the meeting closed at 1:15 pm”.

The next session of the UNGEGN will be held in New York from 3 to 7 May 2021. Members of Arab countries have pointed out that the dates coincide with Ramadan and therefore go changed. According to the Muslim calendar, Ramadan in the United States in 2021 runs from the evening of April 12th to the evening of May 11th, although they are small regional variations.

Prof. Cosimo Palagiano

IGU Chair of the ICA-IGU Joint Commission on Toponymy

Website: igu-icatoponymy.org.



4) IN MEMORIAM OF CLAIRE DWYER

Dear IGU Gender and Geography Commission members and feminist geography colleagues

As many of you will know, Claire Dwyer passed away on the 14th of July (please see the message below).

We wish to add our message of condolence to Claire's geographical community, close colleagues and loved ones. Claire's influence went far beyond her UK geographical home. She was an internationally renowned feminist geographer who served on the Gender, Place and Culture editorial board. Claire was also a member of the International Geographical Union Gender and Geography Commission Steering Group (2009 - 2012). It was through these networks that we, from Aotearoa New Zealand, met Claire. Her contributions were always thoughtful and vital to our communities. Her strong commitment to social justice, gender equality, diversity, and faith based groups was inspiring. Without a doubt, Claire's scholarship and leadership strongly influenced us here in Aotearoa New Zealand, as well as many many people - academics, students, and activists - from around the globe.

As others have mentioned, not only was Claire an outstanding academic, she was a thoroughly warm and genuine individual who cared deeply about all of those around her. We will miss her.

Moe mai ra e Claire.

Lynda Johnston and Robyn Longhurst

Lynda Johnston / Professor of Geography

Email: lynda.johnston@waikato.ac.nz

Twitter: @Lynda_Johnston

Ooooooooooooooooooooo

From: **Gilbert, D** <D.Gilbert@rhul.ac.uk>

Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2019 at 09:47

Professor Claire Dwyer (1964-2019)

It is a very great sadness to bring news of the death of our dear friend and colleague, Claire Dwyer. She was diagnosed with a rare and serious form of cancer last year, and died peacefully on Sunday afternoon (14th July). She will be missed by so many of us in the geographical community and beyond.

Claire spent most of her academic career at University College London, where she undertook her PhD research on the identities of young British Muslim women. She joined the Departmental academic staff as a lecturer in 1995. However, she was also an international figure – some of the strongest influences on her ideas and interests were formed during her Masters course at

Syracuse, which followed her undergraduate degree at Oxford. She had formal visiting fellowships at York University in Toronto, at UBC in Vancouver, at Uppsala and Utrecht universities, and was a regular speaker at events in the USA and Singapore.

Claire's research made a vital contribution to social geography. Her early focus on gender, religion and ethnicity remained at the core of that contribution, but her work developed in new and distinctive directions, on transnational consumption in explorations of diasporic South Asian fashion, on innovation in qualitative methods, and in the critical analysis of the growth of faith schools in the UK. Throughout her career, her critical feminism underpinned her thinking and her approach. She was one of the co-authors of *Geographies of New Femininities* in 1999, and was active in the growth and success of the RGS-IBG Gender and Feminist Geography Research Group, serving on its committee for fifteen years. Claire's most recent research on the creativities of suburban faith communities played to her strengths. She had a real gift for putting people at their ease, and brought together different publics with artists and other creative professionals in a series of genuinely participatory projects. She was also a great leader of a diverse project team with many different skills and talents. The work drew upon both her academic expertise, but also her religious faith – she had a brilliant capacity to listen and understand the beliefs, practices and creativities of people with different faiths, an empathy that was generous but also critical and questioning.

Claire's career was also marked by a strong commitment to teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels alike. She cared deeply about her students, leading courses in social geography and in migration and transnationalism, and was always in great demand as a dissertation supervisor. She founded and convened a successful Masters programme in Global Migration, linked to the Migration Research Unit, of which she was co-director. She was committed to the development of new generations of scholars in social geography, particularly in issues of migration, diaspora, identity, gender and religion. She had an extraordinary record of PhD supervision, supervising over 20 projects to completion. Many of these PhD students are now significant academics in their own right. Even now, there are 10 further projects in progress at UCL where Claire was either first or second supervisor. The loss of her drive and direction of new scholars is a loss not only to UCL, but also to the wider discipline.

Claire's academic achievements are impressive, but what has been re-emphasized to us all in the short time since she died is how much she meant to people. She combined intelligence with great generosity, a willingness to put others before herself, and an ability to bring out the best in people. Her sound judgment, collegiality and extensive experience meant that she was always a reliable, wise and empathetic colleague to turn to for advice. She was a passionate and critical academic always engaged in the latest work and debates, but also had a life beyond, and a refreshing sense of wider priorities. Her family was at the centre of her life, and particularly she had great love and pride for her

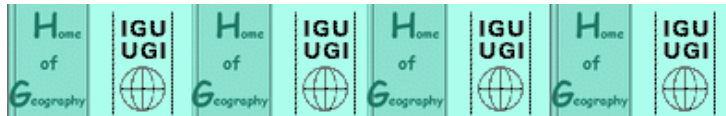
two sons. Our thoughts and for many of us, our prayers, are with them, her husband Paul, and her family.

Claire was awarded a Chair at UCL in 2018, and she was sad that illness prevented her from giving her inaugural and celebrating her career with colleagues and friends. We will now celebrate those achievements in different ways. UCL is organising a website where it will be possible to post tributes and memories of Claire. We will post details of that in due course together with details of events to celebrate her life and work. We will also pass on any messages posted here to Claire's family, or you can send them to b.page@ucl.ac.uk

Ben Page, Geography, University College London.

David Gilbert, Geography, Royal Holloway University of London.

There is now a memorial website and a page to leave memories and tributes at: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/geography/claire-dwyer/>



5) INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENCE

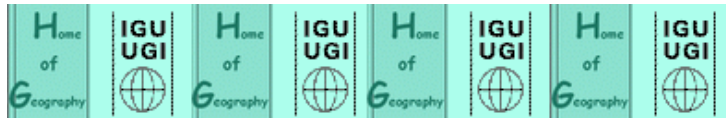


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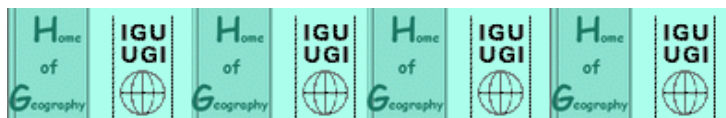


6) FUTURE EARTH

futureearth

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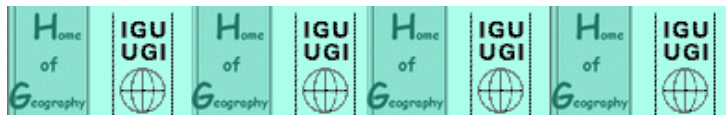
7) UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY



THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE IS: www.unu.edu

FOR THE 2018 ANNUAL REPORT TYPE AND CLICK IN YOUR BROWSER:

<https://inweh.unu.edu/2018-annual.report>



8) COMMITTEE ON DATA FOR SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY (CODATA)



LINK: www.codata.org

BEIJING SEPTEMBER 2019 CONFERENCE TYPE AND CLICK IN YOUR BROWSER

<http://www.codata.org/events/conference/codata-2019-beijing>



9) FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(more information in the Home of Geography website, Events 2019)

- 9.1) Conference in Luxembourg, jointly organised by IGU Comm. on Urban Geography and the University Group of Urban Studies, 4-9 August 2019**
- 9.2) International Cartographic Conference, Tokyo, 15-20 July**
- 9.3) Commission on Geo-Governance, 50 years of Governance, Praia Isla Cabo Verde, 4-5 September**
- 9.4) Mapping Financialised World, Beijing, 18-20 September**
- 9.5) Colloque d'Arlon, Liège, 19-21 Septembre**
- 9.6) Transformation of Traditional Agricultural Landscapes, Koper, 24-26 September**
- 9.7) 2nd Congress of Geography Education, Eskisehir (Turkey), 3-5 October**
- 9.8) Gorakhpur ACLA Conference, 17-19 October**
- 9.9) 14th Medcoast Congress, Marmaris, Turkey, 22-26 October**
- 9.10) Heading toward zero, Conference, Delhi, 19-21 October**
- 9.11) IGU AGLE Commission Conference, Bogor (Indonesia), 22-24 October**

