Journal of Transport Geography 73 (2018) 199–200

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Transport Geography

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jtrangeo

Transport geography page

International Geographical Union's (IGU) Commission on Transport and Geography

1. IGU Regional Meeting, Quebec City, Canada: 6–10 August 2018

The Quebec Convention Center in Quebec City was the venue for the Regional Meeting of the International Geographical Union (IGU) of university geography researchers, held jointly with the Canadian Association of Geographers Annual Conference, from 6th to 10th August 2018.

During this IGU Meeting, the IGU Transport and Geography Commission (T&GC) convened a poster session and seven sessions of presentations on five themes on:

1. Big data for mobilities studies: Applications and critical perspectives (Convenor – Ana Condeco Melhorado: 1 session, 5 papers)
2. Relationships between airline networks, distance and technological change (Convenor – Frederic Dobruszkes 1 session, 4 papers)
3. Effects of transport investment on regeneration and social inclusion (Convenors – Richard Knowles and Chia-Lin Chen: 1 session, 4 papers)
4. Impacts of High Speed Rail (Convenors – Andrew Goetz and Chia-Lin Chen: 2 sessions, 9 papers)
5. Open Sessions (2 sessions, 7 papers)

2. Travel Awards

IGU Transport and Geography Commission Travel Awards of $800 each were made to Daniel Mabazza (Philippines – developing country) and Carlos Hugo Soria Caceras (Spain – early in career).

3. IGU T&GC Steering Committee 2016–2020

The current IGU T&GC Steering Committee was elected at the International Geographical Congress (IGC) Meeting in Beijing in 2016 to serve until the next IGC meeting in Istanbul in 2020.

Chair: Professor Richard Knowles, University of Salford, UK.

Vice Chair: Dr. Chia-Lin Chen, London Liverpool University, UK, until September 2018 at Xi'an Jiaotong Liverpool University, Suzhou, China.

Secretary: Dr. Frederic Dobruszkes, Universite Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.

Treasurer: Professor Andrew Goetz, University of Denver, Colorado, USA.

Other members:

Professor Tim Ryley, Griffith University, Queensland, Australia.

Dr. Antonio Nelson Rodrigues da Silva, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Professor Claude Comtois, Universite de Montreal, Canada.

Professor Albert Abane, University of Cape Coast, Ghana.

Professor Koichi Tanaka, Ibaraki University, Japan.

Professor Markus Hesse, Universite de Luxembourg, Luxembourg.

Dr. Ana Condeco-Melhorado, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain.

Dr. James Wang, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR.

Dr. Moshe Givoni, University of Tel Aviv, Israel was elected to join the Steering.

Committee in 2017

4. IGU T&GC Members/Participants

Membership of the IGU T&GC now totals 389 members from 47 countries. Membership include attendees and participants at T&GC sessions held at IGU Santiago 2011, IGC Cologne 2012, IGU Kyoto 2013, IGU Krakow 2014, IGU Moscow 2015, IGC Beijing 2016, and IGU Quebec City 2018 as well as Steering Committee members.

Breakdown of Transport and Geography Commission members by country:

112 China*.
34 Poland*.
21 USA.
18 France.
17 Japan*****; Spain.
15 UK*.
14 Hong Kong SAR.
11 Russia*.
9 India; Netherlands.
8 Germany*.
7 Belgium; Canada*.
6 South Africa.
5 Brazil; Czech Republic; Slovenia.
4 Nigeria*; Portugal.
3 Australia; Israel; Italy; Ukraine.
2 Argentina; Denmark; Ghana; Hungary; Ivory Coast; Luxembourg; Peru;
Slovakia; Sweden; Switzerland.
1 Austria; Bangladesh; Chile; Denmark; Iraq; Malaysia; Mexico
Norway; Philippines*; Romania; Saudi Arabia; Singapore;
Sri Lanka*.
9 country unspecified.
* plus one (or more) member(s) representing two countries.

5. IGU T&GC History

The Transport and Geography Commission C08.35 was established by the IGU in October 2009 and elected a President/Chair, Vice President and Secretary and members from 12 different countries. The IGU re-validated the Transport and Geography Commission for a further four years as C12.38 at the IGC Meeting in Cologne in August 2012. The IGU re-validated the Transport and Geography Commission for a further four years as C16.36 at the IGC Meeting in Beijing in August

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtrangeo.2018.10.012

Available online 03 November 2018
0966-6923

2016. The Commission's Committee Meeting in Beijing re-elected the Commission's Chair (Professor Richard Knowles), and elected a new Vice Chair (Dr. Chia-Lin Chen), a new Secretary (Dr. Frederic Dobruszkes) and a new Steering Committee (see list above).

6. IGU T&GC's Mission

The mission of the IGU Transport and Geography Commission is to share and disseminate transport geography research at a global level in conjunction with national research groups and other IGU Commissions. Our research focuses on transport, mobilities and spatial change and relates to geographic theory. It involves the analysis of transport policies, processes and behaviours that influence the movement of people, goods and information. This research includes all modes of transport, at local, regional and global scales. Environmental, welfare and energy questions, and economic and governance dimensions are also addressed. Dissemination of the Commission's work includes books, research journal papers and journal Special Issues.

7. Future IGU T&GC Meetings

It was agreed at the T&GC Members' Meeting held at the Quebec City Conference that for the next (34th) IGC meeting in Istanbul, Turkey in August 2020, the Transport and Geography Commission would convene sessions on at least four thematic topics and organise a trans-Bosphorus multi-modal urban transport field trip in Istanbul.

A co-convened session on Cities and Networks has been agreed with the Transportation Geography Study Group of the American Association of Geographers (AAG-TGSG) and the IGU Urban Commission for the next AAG Conference in Washington DC in April 2019. Plans are also being discussed for a joint meeting with NECTAR (Network on European Communications and Transport Activity Research) in Finland in June 2019.

The Commission is also discussing joint meetings with other transport research groups at the annual conferences of the Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies (HKSTS), the Transport Geography Research Group (TGRG) of the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers), AK Verkehr (Germany) and EUGEO (Association of Geographical Societies in Europe).

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