



# ISISA

## Newsletter

Special Issue - October 2017

Published by the  
International Small Islands Studies Association

---

**ISISA 'Islands of the World' XVI Conference 2018**

**The changing future of islands**

**10 - 14 June 2018**

**Leeuwarden and Terschelling, The Netherlands**



**Call for Abstracts**

### **Introduction**

The 16th '*Islands of the World*' conference of the International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA) will take place from 10 to 14 June 2018, first in Leeuwarden and then on the island of Terschelling, The Netherlands. The conference will take place in a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the only such site that consists in an aquatic zone shared between three countries (The Netherlands, Germany, Denmark).



The Wadden Sea is the largest unbroken system of intertidal sand and mud flats in the world, with natural processes undisturbed throughout most of the area. In the Wadden Sea, over 6 million birds can be present at the same time, and an average of 10 to 12 million birds pass through the area each year.

The Wadden area includes 25 inhabited islands in three countries and several smaller vegetated islands and barren high sands. The total area of the islands is about 2,000 km<sup>2</sup> and the Wadden Sea itself covers around 8,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The adjoining mainland is one of the oldest and most complex cultural landscapes in Europe and has been inhabited for more than 5,000 years.

The Dutch and German part of the Wadden Sea was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2009. With the extension of the Danish part in 2014, the entire Wadden Sea is now on the World Heritage List.



The conference starts in Leeuwarden. Leeuwarden is a city with a population of about 100,000 inhabitants. It is the provincial capital of Friesland and will be European Capital of Culture (along with Valletta, Malta) in 2018. The oldest remains of houses in the city date back to the 2nd century. Leeuwarden has been permanently inhabited since the 10th century, and it was granted city privileges in 1435. Leeuwarden is the economic hub of the province of Friesland and a former royal residence with an historic centre.

The second part of the conference will unfold on the Island of Terschelling, which is the largest island in the Dutch part of the Waddensea. Besides Terschelling, there are four more Dutch inhabited Wadden islands.

The main source of income on Terschelling is tourism. There is some agriculture, but a large part of the island has become a nature reserve.

## **Themes and Sessions**

### **Theme A: Identity and People**

#### **Sessions:**

1. Living on heritage islands
2. Shared interests and competition between groups of islands
3. Island identities shared across national boundaries
4. Islands and emotions: how does islandness affect people?
5. Islands surrounded by land: the identity of former islands
6. Island photography: visual representation of islands
7. Islands and literature
8. Narrative structures of identity and insular ironies of homecoming

### **Theme B: Geography and Nature**

#### **Sessions:**

9. Unique ecological characteristics of islands
10. Island biogeography and implications for conservation
11. Natural resources on and around islands
12. Infrastructure, transportation and connectivity of islands
13. Remoteness of islands and interactions with the mainland
14. Disappearing islands

### **Theme C: Economic Development**

#### **Sessions:**

15. Entrepreneurship, tourism and economic development
16. Visitor pressure on islands
17. Rethinking models for island development
18. The future of island youth
19. Island agriculture, fishery and conservation
20. Green /Blue Growth, sustainable development and climate change on islands
21. Islands as icons in sustainability discourses and laboratories for innovation

## Theme D: Governance

### Sessions:

22. Colonial and post-colonial islands
23. Islands as contested areas
24. Islands of the future, or artificial islands
25. Island disaster management and social impact analysis
26. Safety and security of islands
27. The legacy of European Capitals of Culture

We also welcome papers that seek to advance island studies theory and discuss the state of (inter)disciplinary island studies.

### Abstracts

We are pleased to accept abstracts of 250 words at most, indicating the theme and session. Please include up to five keywords.

When an abstract is selected for presentation, we encourage authors to submit the final version of the accepted paper after the conference.

Deadline for submissions of abstracts is: **15 December 2017**.

To submit, please go to:

<https://www.waddenacademie.nl/nl/symposiumisisa2018/call-for-abstracts/abstracts/>

All abstract will be reviewed by a board of scholars. Notification of acceptance will be sent before: **1 January 2018**.

### Practical aspects of the conference

Registration for the conference starts on: **2 January 2018**.

Deadline is: **1 March 2018**, including hotel booking.

The early bird registration fee for the conference (registration before 1 March) is **€ 300 (students € 200)**. After 1 March, the registration fee is **€ 350 (students € 250)**.

Participation fee includes conference package, conference dinner, lunches, refreshments, social events and opening reception, transport Leeuwarden – Harlingen –Terschelling and back, and ISISA membership for one year.

Participation fee does not include transport from home to Leeuwarden and vice versa, accommodation and post conference excursions.

You can choose between the following hotels, which we have reserved:

*Leeuwarden:* **Grand Hotel Post Plaza, Eden Oranje Hotel, WTC Expo Hotel:**



*Terschelling:* **Westcord Hotel Skylge, Hotel Bornholm, Hotel Boschrijck:**



Costs: from € 55 (shared room) to € 150 per night

**Accommodation via the organizing committee is not guaranteed after 1 March. After 1 March, registration is still possible but participants of the conference will have to arrange their own accommodation (which will not be easy).**

For more information, please visit the website of the Waddenacademie, <https://www.waddenacademie.nl/nl/symposiumisisa2018/>

The conference is a collaboration of ISISA and Waddenacademie, in association with the University of Groningen, KITLV/Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies, Leeuwarden Cultural Capital of Europe 2018 and Oerol-Sense of Place.

