EDITORIAL

The second edition of the ISISA newsletter is here. You will find interesting articles and notices by our members. This newsletter is what you make it, so please keep the contributions coming. Photos, articles, forthcoming publications, upcoming conferences, and news on ‘research in progress’ is more than welcome. Contributions for the June 2013 issue are to reach me at abaldacchino59@gmail.com by not later than May 15, 2013.

Read and Enjoy. Suggestions for improvement are also appreciated.

Anna Baldacchino
Newsletter Editor

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of their respective authors and are not necessarily endorsed by ISISA.

Island specialists meet in Norway

Many places don’t think of themselves as island countries, as was mentioned for Norway in the last Newsletter. When I attended a SICRI conference in Finland, I flew in across the former Soviet Union and as we came into Helsinki in June 2008, I was impressed by how many small islands are scattered about that country.

Norway has a similar landscape, although in both Finland and Norway this islandness is obscured for much of the year by snow and, especially, ice linking those outcrops.

I really don't think that there is any island feeling in Norway, though, that explains why the 9th Conference of ESFO (European Society for Oceanists) is going to be held in Bergen from 5 to 8 December 2012, round about the time this Newsletter appears.

When the hosts, Edvard Hviding and Knut Rio, made the announcement in 2010, I could see the smirk they shared as they invited specialists in the Pacific Islands to come along to a conference in the cold north. I think it was some kind of a Viking challenge!

The programme is coming along very nicely with a number of special features and whilst the welcome might be "warm", as the website says, the sauna and aquavit is going to have to be equally ready for us delegates who like to do our research under swaying palms:


Grant McCall
University of Sydney
Call for Proposals

Calling all west coast BC Islanders and those interested in the study of islands! This is a first call for proposals to participate in conference/forum/dialogue on the complex range of environmental, socio-cultural, and economic challenges that are the daily reality for island communities on West Coast Canada, USA, and elsewhere. Through our invitation we offer a place and time to study, think, discuss, disseminate, hope, vision, and explore islands on their/our own terms.

We are looking for participation from scholars, intellectuals, leaders, community members, activists, and community organizations who:

• have a passion for island communities and sustainability or the study of islands and islanders,
• want to learn from other island experiences and overcome challenges associated with islands and
• wish to network with like-minded and island focused individuals, including members or leaders of island communities (private enterprise, government, community groups, etcetera).

Suggested themes for proposals (not restrictive):

A. Theorizing Island and Archipelagos: Island identity; how are islands and islanders similar/different; islands versus mainland; glocality; hybridity; nano islands

B. Island Natural and Social History: History of island studies (international, local); First Peoples of the West Coast; colonial and white settler past; geology, bio-geography, and archaeology of islands; botany and ethnobotany

C. Island Governance: Community self-governance – whose community?; Indigenous sovereignty; land use, stewardship, and ownership; land protection and conservation; land trusts; Indigenous people/First Nations rights; disaster management; transportation; changing demographics; food security and sovereignty; security (food, water, land, air, fear/safety); security and crime; health and well-being; provision of basic services

D. Island Energies and Environments: Climate change; alternative energy; sharing land and water with non-humans; wilderness, forests and wetlands; fisheries, water use and ground water protection; waste management; recycling and composting; clean air

E. Island Cultures and Communities: Art, Music, Literature of islands; resistance and activism; community building; commons/common resource sharing; conflict/resolution; resilience and hope; communications, media & local news; life of children and youth on islands; aging in place and elder care; recreation and leisure; cultural diversity & social norms/regulatory technologies (racial, sexual, ethnic, able-bodied, class differences); education (formal/non-formal)

F. Island Economics: Sustainable future/s; tourism; finance; information technology; the role of artists, food, and crafts; immigrants; entrepreneurs; economic development; barter; market economy; transition economy; exchange; local currencies; low carbon economies; non-monetary economy; social economy.

G. ISISA: The International Small Island Studies Association (ISISA) will have a panel discussion to share the history and context of how the ISISA sees island studies. We are very pleased to have this conference component.

For questions please call
Gloria Filat at 1-866-213-0941 or 1-250-247-8953
outside Canada and USA, or
Fay Weller at 1-250-247-8120
Childcare available upon request
Wheelchair accessible

www.islandstudiesconference2013.org
Island Studies Journal (ISSN: 1715-2593) was set up in 2006 as a freely downloadable, peer reviewed, scholarly and inter-disciplinary journal dedicated to the study of islands and island life. ISJ is institutionally housed at the Institute of Island Studies, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada: www.islandstudies.com ISJ is now the official journal of ISISA, initially for a trial period of 2 years. Manuscripts to be considered for publication welcome at: isj@upei.ca Website: www.islandstudies.ca/journal

PUBLICATIONS BY ISISA MEMBERS

The book *A TASTE OF ISLANDS* was launched on November 16, 2012 at the Farm Centre in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada. Those present got a taste of some of the dishes in this full-colour collection of recipes and stories. Copies can be ordered online at: https://store.upei.ca/isp/book/taste-islands
Deep Reflections*

Below the ocean ledge
skipjack smoothly pulse
each time sunlight pierces
through patchy cloud debris.

While silver mullet shimmer
a dozen yellowtail slowly
sink toward bottom sand
like a brace of diamond flakes
intact. Tidal rhythms rock sea fans
opening bohemian neighborhoods
of chameleon pipes and blowfish
and one-eyed flounders wavering
in mid-air undisturbed.
A monstrous ray from nowhere
glides the reef to shake
his sabre just for exercise.

Then the stationary barracuda
explodes a school of passing sprat
so fast he’s still standing still.
His jaws close, break the spell, end
the drama without surface traces.

Jerome L. McElroy

*Accepted in Third Wednesday (Summer 2012).

“Honour is like an island, rugged and without shores; we can never re-enter it once we are on the outside.” Nicholas Boileau
Capacity Building for Community Resilience:

Providing Planning Tools that Promote Sustainable Ecosystem and Disaster Resilient Practices at the Village Level

With its proximity to the Pacific Ring of Fire, American Samoa and the whole Pacific region experience frequent seismic activities. The concern about its vulnerability increased after the September 2009 Tsunami; whereas cyclones are recurring events. Death and damage to many communities and the ecosystem highlighted the need to develop planning tools at the local level to reduce the risk to the people and to the place.

The 2011 Fall Practicum is part of a 3 year NOAA project to develop community resiliency through enhanced community capacity building in developing and maintaining resilience and hazard mitigation management system using a sustainable ecosystem framework in American Samoa. Leone and Pago Pago are the pilot villages for community resilience. The practicum will produce a report for the village manual. We will organize key materials for a manual on resource management, hazard mitigation and village community development to be utilized in a resilience planning process.

"Lutia i Puava a e mapu i Fagalele"

It is important to continuously demonstrate how the precautions we take now will make us stronger in the end.

Goal:
Assess traditional and contemporary practices for community resilience to disasters and review existing regulatory framework.

Methodology:
- Document the traditional practices and knowledge of the culturally rooted people for community resilience to disasters.
- Assess strengths and weaknesses of existing regulatory frameworks and develop recommendations for revisions.
- Utilize existing planning tools such as Coastal Community Resilience Guide on building community resilience at the village level.
- Develop a curriculum manual that can be implemented for Samoan villages.

Department of Urban & Regional Planning
University of Hawai‘i
PLAN 751 Practicum, Fall 2011

Practicum Team:
- Gabrielle Sham
- Germaine Salim
- Hoi Van Tran
- Joon Ho Hong
- Neeraj Dangol
- Saleh Azzi
- Farokhales
- Tan Nguyen
- Xiang Hua
- Yi Liang

Background: public and business administration, sustainable development, architecture, civil engineering, economics, rural and regional development, and environmental management.

Instructor: Prof. Luciano Minerbi, Saunders Hall 107, 2424 Maili Way, Honolulu, HI 96826, Ph.: (808) 956-6809, Fax: (808) 956-8870, Email: luciano@hawaii.edu
CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE:
Providing Planning Tools that Promote Sustainable Ecosystem & Disaster Resilient Practices at the Village Level

NOAA Project
Dolores Foley (PI), Luciano Minerbi (CoPI)

Goal:
Assess traditional & contemporary practices for community resilience to disasters & review existing regulatory framework.

Methodology:
Document the traditional practices and knowledge for community resilience to disasters.
Assess strengths and weaknesses of existing regulatory frameworks and develop recommendations for revisions.
Utilize existing planning tools such as Coastal Community Resilience Guide on building community resilience at village level.
Develop a curriculum manual that can be implemented for Samoan villages.

Spring 2011: Graduate Planning Practicum

With its proximity to the Pacific Ring of Fire, American Samoa and the whole Pacific region experience frequent seismic activities. The concern about its vulnerability increased after the September 2009 Tsunami, where cyclones are recurring events. Death and damage to many communities and the ecosystem highlighted the need to develop planning tools at the local level to reduce the risk to the people and the places.

The 2011 Spring Practicum is part of a 3 year NOAA project to develop community resiliency through enhanced community capacity building in developing and maintaining resilience and hazard mitigation management system using a sustainable ecosystem framework in American Samoa. Leone is selected as the pilot village through consultation with Samoan leaders and subject matter experts.

METHODOLOGY

Participatory Learning Approach
Local government cooperation and endorsement
Culturally sensitive respecting the village protocol
Working with Village Champions & existing Committees
Service learning with American Samoa Community College

Identification of issues
Documentation of findings from encounter with Leone village residents and key informants
Identification of issues related to elements of resilience

Guidelines for the development of a manual
Recommendations and considerations for development of a manual on village-level planning for resilience

The Spring Practicum has attempted to capture and retain people’s knowledge and experiences of 2009 Tsunami event and other natural disasters to identify challenged areas and formulate village/local level hazard mitigation strategies. The team collaborated with ASCC through their service learning project on traditional Samoan practices for disaster resilience. In this report, the collected data and key findings from the interactions with residents of Leone village and other informants from various government and non-government agencies are linked with the corresponding issue and identified recommendations for possible future actions. The findings are organized into categories, which are the elements of resilience (Eg: warning system, evacuation, communication, food security, etc.). These elements are an integral part of planning discussions for the Before, During, After, and Adaptation phases for any type of natural disaster.
As ‘island studies’ continues its expansion, so do island-related conferences with their island field trips. They are perfect for seeing more of conference locations while understanding the on-the-ground island realities of the topics which we present on and discuss. This year, I had the privilege of attending three trips.

First, *Islands of the World XII, ISISA*’s conference, was held in May on the sparkling Caribbean isle of Tortola, Virgin Islands. I opted for the pre-conference field trip to Anegada, the territory’s only coral island. We saw several shoreline villas toppled by beach erosion, with sand nourishment ongoing in an effort to save the remaining ones.

Then, on to the Cow Wreck Grill and Beach Bar. According to the owners, it was not named because they serve beef, but because in the nineteenth century, a ship carrying cow bones (used for making various items before plastics were available) sunk nearby, leading to a period of cow bones frequently washing up on the beach.

The next stop was an iguana farm followed by lunch and a lazy afternoon at a beach resort. While the white sand beaches right at the resort were stereotypically tropical, wandering a little way along the shore in either direction revealed a coastline of hard, jagged coral backed by grassed dunes. Never take a small piece of an island to represent the whole.

After ISISA’s thoroughly enjoyable conference, it was several planes to Sydney, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada, for the 8th International Small Island Cultures Initiative (SICRI). The pre-conference field trip was a bus journey along the Cabot Trail around Cape Breton Island. On board, we learned that Cape Breton Island is neither a cape nor an island. It is an archipelago with its Celtic origins being more rooted in Scotland than Brittany. Meanwhile, the archipelago’s central Bras d’Or Lake is actually an inland sea.

At the Gaelic College of Celtic Arts and Crafts, we participated in a milling frolic and were treated to foot-stomping Celtic fiddling. Next up was spectacular coastal scenery, from a shingle beach wild with waves to gorgeous cliffs melting into the mist. Moose sighting occupied us through Cape Breton Highlands National Park on the way to Charlie’s Music Store’s fine collection of Musique Acadienne.

The Wagmatcook Culture and Heritage Centre proudly represented Mi'kmaq culture. Finally, Baddeck’s placid shore permitted us to pay tribute to Alexander Graham Bell who invented the telephone so that Canadians could talk to someone other than their household members during the long winter evenings.

Completing the trio of island conference field trips was Norderney in Germany’s North Sea, following the island sessions at the 32nd Congress of the International Geographical Union (IGU) in Cologne. During the train journey north from Cologne, the trip’s organiser, Beate Ratter, briefed us on the island’s history and human and physical geography. Coastal erosion is common across many islands and beach nourishment was in progress during our time on Norderney.
Our on-island activities included walking barefoot across tidal mudflats to learn about intertidal ecology, playing a match of local street bowling, and partaking in a tea ceremony at a heritage building. We also had a day trip to Norderney's island neighbour, car-free Juist. All our tour guides were local and enthusiastic; and one of the local papers published an article on our visit.

Study islands, and the world is at your fingertips.
Islands experience plenty of migration: in, out, and circular. From the perspective of islanders, there is even an aphorism indicating how islandness stays with the people who leave islands: "You can take the child out of the island, but you cannot take the island out of the child".

Many reasons contribute to islander migration. Family ties and a better life are amongst the most popular cited. Environmental changes influence these decisions, often leading to forced migration. That can be from volcanoes erupting suddenly such as on Heimaey, Iceland in 1973 or from the aftermath of a powerful cyclone such as Heta hitting Niue in 2004.

Debates now ensue about migration from low-lying islands due to climate change. In fact, climate change can dominate island migration discussions even where there is limited empirical evidence to show that climate change is influencing islander mobility.

To fill in this data gap, we have been awarded a grant from the Norwegian Research Council from 1 October 2012 to 30 September 2015. We will interview people on the Maldives and on Lakshadweep, India, to determine their interests and reasons for migrating from their islands.

Other project partners are UNEP/GRID-Arendal, the Ministry of Environment and Energy in the Maldives, the Centre for Earth Research and Environment Management (CEREM) in Kerala, India, and the Universities of Manchester and Reading in England. This project links to UNESCO’s Many Strong Voices which brings together the peoples of the Arctic and Small Island Developing States to meet the challenges of climate change.

For more information, please contact Ilan through: http://www.ilankelman.org/contact.html

The project’s full title and description are:

Perceptions and understandings of climate change and migration: Lakshadweep and the Maldives

It has been long recognized that changes in the environment can influence human movement patterns and behaviour. It is also increasingly being suggested that climate change impacts will induce and increase such movements because migration becomes a potential adaptation strategy. While the term 'climate change migration' implies that a direct causal line can be drawn between climate change and migration, researchers are increasingly questioning that assumption, especially due to poor empirical evidence to support that direct causal line.

This study investigates the assumptions and challenges to the assumptions in work on climate change and migration. It aims to conceptualize and contextualize the relationship between climate change and migration. The first aspect, conceptualizing, refers to the knowledge gaps and the need to understand and detail conceptual issues associated with climate change and migration such as terminology/definitions, links, drivers, thresholds, implications, data requirements, methodological challenges, and other associated complexities. The second aspect, contextualizing, refers to understanding climate change and migration debates within the nexus
of migration, climate change, environment, and social development along with governance and policy perspectives at different scales ranging from international to local.

Some of the project team members, meeting in Oslo, Norway, in October 2012.

**Islands of the World XIII Conference, 2014**

will be taking place at the Highlands College University Centre, Jersey, Channel Islands, British Isles.

27 – 30 May, 2014

**Island Studies:**
West Coast Canada & Beyond: By, For, About Islanders and Islands
Co-organized by:
Athabasca University, Thompson Rivers University and Vancouver Island University
in association with ISISA – May 10-12, 2013
An opportunity to celebrate 25 years of ISISA, and more...

islandstudiesconference2013.org
ISLAND CROSSWORD

Here is another Islands Crossword, designed by Godfrey Baldacchino. All the clues are listed below.

Submissions to be sent to the newsletter editor by January 31, 2013. Late entries will not be considered. A winner will be drawn by lot from any successful entries received, and awarded a book prize.

Winner of the last crossword is GRAEME ROBERTSON of Scotland, who is being sent a complimentary copy of the book A Taste of Islands.

ACROSS
1. The jewel of biodiversity in the Arabian Sea.
7. Islands visited by naturalist Alfred Wallace.
8. New Zealand flightless birds, now extinct.
10. Researcher on hybridization of Portulaca plant in Hawaii.
11. Extended reach.
14. First name of ‘Koop Island Blues’ performer.
15. Part-name of southernmost island of China’s SAR.
16. A fisherman, who arrives on a deserted island with his wife Telea, in an opera.
17. Major figure of Cuban revolution.
19. Island immortalized by Melville.

DOWN
1. Island Oblast
2. Latitude: 17.083°S, Longitude: 177.3°
3. Known for his books on Macquarie, Kangaroo and King Islands.
4. Full name of ‘space and place’ geographer.
5. In the morning, even in island time.
6. Islands home to the world’s first climate refugees?
9. Means of transport power on La Digue.
13. Pacific linguist; or compiler of ‘The Island Dream’ Remix.
The Network of Island Universities called **Excellence Network of Island Territories (ENIT)**, launched in 2009, held its 2nd International Conference, “**Islands and Sustainability: Identities, Development, Management and Planning**”, on October 19-21, 2012. This conference was hosted by the University of the Aegean at their main campus in Mytilene, Lesvos Island, Greece. The goal of the conference was to provide a mix of theoretical and empirical contributions from researchers around the globe that study islands and insularity and their environmental, economic, social and cultural aspects. Jackie Bourgeois and I were the UPEI graduate student attendees.

The conference was well attended by academics from many of the member universities. A full three day agenda included presentations by faculty, researchers and graduate students alike. The conference was highlighted by a day-long tour of the island of Lesvos, including a fascinating visit to the petrified forest of Sigri and the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest.

**SUMMER SCHOOL**

In conjunction with the conference, ENIT and the University of the Aegean also hosted the second ENIT Summer School in the latter half of the week. This four day summer school entitled, “**Sustainable Development of Island Territories and Identities**”, involved researchers and students representing the Canary Islands (University of Las Palmas in Gran Canaria and the University of La Laguna in Tenerife), Corsica, France (Universitá di Corsica Pasqual Paoli), Prince Edward Island, Canada (University of Prince Edward Island), and the host University of the Aegean, Greece.

Sessions were delivered by faculty from member universities and dealt with a wide range of topics. There was an excellent level of discussion and exchange of ideas between all those who attended. The objective of the Summer School was to analyze the natural, economic, cultural and social characteristics of islands, which form their identity, and discuss how these characteristics can be the basis for their sustainable development.

Highlights included a guided tour of the island capital of Mytilene which involved stops at the Archaeological Museum, the Medieval Castle of Mytilene, and a tour of a local ouzo factory, a staple industry of the local island economy. Additionally, through an integrated session delivered by Dr. Godfrey Baldacchino (UPEI), the international participants were joined by a undergraduate geography class of the host university which included students from many Greek islands (Lesvos, Crete, Milos and others), as well as Cyprus.

These events were a unique and fantastic experience to engage fellow graduate students, researchers and faculty from across the member network. The 3rd ENIT summer school is scheduled to be held at the University of Sassari, Sardinia, Italy in June 2013, followed by the 4th, at UPEI, in June 2014. I highly recommend this opportunity to all members of ISISA involved with ENIT, and hope to see many of you at the 2014 event hosted by the University of Prince Edward Island!
Just arrived is Volume 3, Number 1 (June 2012) issue of the International Journal of Okinawan Studies. This excellent publication is published by the University of the Ryukyus.

Guest Editor, Gary Y. Okihiro (Columbia University) has put together a mix of Nissologists (I would say): those who study islands, including the very senior, such as Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak to a very promising undergraduate (Ida Girma).

The 96 page issue takes up a number of issues that will be familiar to ISISA members:

- Islands (Arif Dirlik)
- Space of Militourism (Ayano Ginoza)
- Rampaging through the "paciifist island" (Masaki Kinjo)
- Island race (Okihiro)
- Vanished (Vijay Prasad)
- String of pearls (Mark Selden)
- Sovereignty and performativity in the wake of a crumbling Japanese empire (Annmria Shimabaku)
- Musing on the World-Island (Spivak)
- A select bibliography (Girma)

Contact details: IJOS

email: ijos@w3.u-ryukyu.ac.jp

Web: www.ijos.u-ryukyu.ac.jp
Coastal, Island and Tropical Tourism: Global Impacts, Local Resilience: 16 to 18 April 2013 - Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia.

Coastal and island environments comprise some of the most sensitive and complex ecosystems on the planet. Especially in tropical locations, they are increasingly impacted by global economic and social forces, including economic development pressures that are often tourism and recreation related, rapid population growth that is driven by economic migrants, major resource extraction in the form of oil and gas drilling and relentless industrial fishing, and global climate change and steadily rising sea levels. These pressures create enormous challenges for coastal and island communities due to the global scope of the problems, an inadequate understanding of the issues, and a paucity of effective management tools.

The objective of this conference is to provide a platform for tourism students and educators, government agency employees, hospitality and tourism industry practitioners, public and private land managers, community development workers, and others interested in these issues to share, exchange and debate ideas and knowledge related to our understanding and management of coastal, island and tropical tourism. Through this, the conference aims to identify practical solutions, chart new directions, and create opportunities for networking on sustainable tourism development in these sensitive environments. More details from: http://geog.nau.edu/igust/Sabah2013/

3rd Island Dynamics Conference – Islands of Culture and Practice: 14 to 18 May 2013 - Gazimağusa (Famagusta), North Cyprus

At the 3rd Island Dynamics Conference, representatives from academia, government, business, and the third sector will explore island issues, past and present, worldwide. Although the conference will cover talks on all aspects of maritime and island studies, this year’s conference theme is islands of culture and practice.

Islands are often home to unique artistic, social, economic, and political traditions. They both preserve traditions that have been lost on the mainland and function as meeting places for traditions, the mingling of which result in new traditional forms. We can even speak of archipelagos of culture and practice, where traditions flourish in dispersed geographical areas. How do traditions develop in such circumstances, and what can island and mainland communities tell us about one another?

Visit http://www.islanddynamics.org/3idc.html for more details.
North Atlantic Forum 2013: 13 to 15 June 2013 – Hólar, North Iceland

From climate change to economic turmoil, our rural communities are facing unprecedented challenges. The 2013 North Atlantic Forum in Hólar, North Iceland, will examine how those challenges impact the development of rural tourism. This is the conference that critically explores ideas, best practices and innovation from around North Atlantic rim.

Call for Papers

In times of global economic turmoil and climate change, this conference will explore the challenges, practices of and the opportunities in smart and sustainable rural tourism. The program will address the development challenges through four interrelated and strategic perspectives - Community, Experience, Economy and the Environment. Through these four interrelated themes and a highly participatory program the conference will critically explore strategic opportunities for innovative, yet concrete and practical solutions for sustainable rural tourism.

For more information about the conference and call for papers, please visit: http://www.naf2013.holar.is/


Call for Papers is now open. Submissions for papers are invited on the following topics:

- The management and development of sustainable tourism on small islands.
- The maintenance and development of the cultural heritage of small islands in an increasingly globalised environment.
- The social practice of food security through agriculture and fisheries.

Papers will be presented in English. Two types of paper will be considered:

- Papers delivered orally – these will be of 20 minute duration and will be programmed in panels.
- Poster papers – which will be displayed together with scheduled discussion times at the main conference venue.

Applicants should indicate which type of paper they are proposing. All paper proposals will be peer reviewed by an international panel. Proposals should include the paper title, applicants name(s), affiliation(s), abstract and keywords. Abstracts for papers should be no more than 300 words. Applicants will be notified within 4 weeks of receipt of proposal of the panel's decision. Deadline for early acceptance program is January 1, 2013, then general submission program ends on March 1, 2013.

Proposals should be sent to: phayward2010@gmail.com

International conference on “Island Development – Local Economy, Culture, Innovation and Sustainability” will be held in Penghu Archipelago, Taiwan, October 1 - 4, 2013.

Call for Papers is now open. Submissions accepted by March 1, 2013.

For more details refer to the conference website at http://island.npu.edu.tw

For more Island News and Conferences, please visit the Global Island Network website at:

http://www.globalislands.net/