



ISISA

Newsletter

Volume 7 Number 2 December 2007

Published by the International Small Islands Studies Association

Islands of the World X Globalizing Islands; Sustainable Culture, Peace, Resources and Sustainability

Jeju Island, South Korea,
25 - 29 August 2008

www.worldpeaceisland.org

Call for Papers

Scholars, experts, and activists who study issues and problems concerning small islands will make presentations, lead discussions, and interact with international colleagues. The general theme of the World X is 'Globalizing Islands; Sustainable Culture, Peace, and Resources'.

The Jeju Island venue is Seogwipo KAL Hotel convention halls, surrounded by breathtaking sceneries of Mt. Halla (South Korea's highest peak at 1,950 m), the Pacific Ocean, sandy beaches, subtropical plants, and surrounding islets.

There will be an emphasis on the interconnected topics of 'Moon Wha' (culture), 'Pyung Wha' (peace), and 'Jawon' (resources) for the creation of Island Cultural Waves for island societies.

It is hoped that discussion of these thematic topics will contribute to our understanding of not only islands' physical worlds but also toward a realization of the inner world of 'leo-do' (an ideal island society on the Earth taken from the myth of Jeju Island). Additionally, the Islands of the World X conference hopes to project the uniqueness and vitality of island societies and their peacefulness for the conservation of precious resources and environments for people everywhere. To emphasize this notion of it being a conference based on Jeju and drawing on Jeju culture and history it is built around the basic interconnected themes.

We can taste cultural identity through creation of Somryu (Island Cultural Waves by islanders for islanders) together with events such as the Peace Island School Workshop (August 19 -25, 2008) and the 1st World Islands Film Festival : WIFF (August 23 - 25, 2008) at Seogwipo city.

Proposals for papers should be sent to the conference papers and panels committee, via kwonsc@cheju.ac.kr

Proposals should be in English language, between 250-300 words in length and should include professional or academic affiliation.

Proposals for panels are also welcome.

An early acceptance programme is now open. The final deadline for proposals is April 1st, 2008.

Accommodation and travel options will be posted on www.worldpeaceisland.org in mid-December and will be updated regularly in the lead-in to the conference (krmcleod@gmail.com).

General News & Events

Competitive Strategies for Small States

The Islands and Small States Institute will be organising a training workshop on Competitive Strategies for Small States in October 2008. For more information please contact Isabelle Vella at isabelle.vella@um.edu.mt

Details about the institute are available at <http://home.um.edu.mt/islands/overview.html>. Please note that the Islands and Small States Institute is now based at the University of Malta

Update on the 2007 ISIC 3/PEI Conference Proceedings

Dr Irene Novaczek of the Institute of Island Studies (University of Prince Edward Island) reports that the review process for papers submitted to the 2007 Conference Proceedings is now complete and writers are preparing their final manuscripts. These will be in before Christmas, and copy edited by the New Year, for online publication in February. inovaczek@upei.ca

Anthropology Fieldwork class visit 'Eua Island, Tonga

Grant McCall took his annual anthropology fieldwork class to 'Eua Island, Tonga, for three weeks. The class is a course at The University of New South Wales and as far as Grant knows is unique in Australia, except for a companion one in Pacific History that runs from the Queensland University of Technology. Students live with local families, doing what they do and researching their topics depending upon their interests. The group meets periodically to discuss research progress and encourage cooperation in data gathering and analysis. Students present their field notes and diary and write a 3500 word min essay for their assessment.

Last year Grant took his class to Rabi Island, Fiji, and next year the plan is Soso Village, Naviti Island, also Fiji. 2008 will see the fieldwork class include attending the conference of the Pacific History Association, to take place at Lautoka, Fiji.

The course has run since 1997, taking students to Fiji, New Caledonia, Samoa, Vanuatu as well as Tonga.

Webbing the Islands

<http://www.webbingtheislands.com/>

Webbing the Islands aims to provide to people with a passion for islands - especially teachers, students and community workers - a range of exciting and interesting island studies, activities and resources, and to offer this space online for you to share your work on islands with others around the world.

In their work in 2007, the Webbing the Islands team has partnered with the Tasmanian Department of Education's Centre for Extended Learning Opportunities to create a wonderful program of learning opportunities in island studies. Each year they explore one theme related to islands; this year that theme is Sense of Place. Nine new units of learning have been developed and are available for download <http://www.webbingtheislands.com/program.html>

Island Geographies - New Horizons of Geographical Research **Report on the Inaugural Meeting of IGU Commissions on Islands**

October 29-November 3, 2007

Chang-Yi David Chang, National Taiwan University, Eric Clark, Lund University, Sweden, Sue-Ching Jou, National Taiwan University, Jiun-Chuan Lin, National Taiwan University, Huei-Min Tsai, National Taiwan Normal University

What can we learn from peripheral island geographies about key issues at the core of societal dynamics? Some would argue this question is itself yet another example of colonial exploitation on the part of continental centres of power. Island geographies have repeatedly figured as pathway to geographical knowledge of relevance far beyond the unique contexts of small peripheral places. The new IGU Commission on Islands represents an ongoing resurgence of interest in core-periphery dynamics and in seeking knowledge for achieving sustainability for our island Earth, linking local and global processes. The tensions in thought and action this resurgence builds upon provided energy and focus for the inaugural meeting of the commission held at National Taiwan University in Taipei from October 29 to November 3, 2007.

Over 300 people, including students, lecturers and members of the Taiwan public, with visitors from 22 foreign countries, attended the conference. A number of ISISA Executive Committee Members attended the conference as well.

The first day of the conference focused on new horizons of island geographical research, conceptions of island studies, and social and political dimensions of island geographies. Running parallel with the Inaugural Meeting of the IGU Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights Commission, the opening sessions joined the two conferences, drawing connections between island geographies and issues surrounding biocultural diversity. The meaning of studying islands 'on their own terms', the importance of avoiding the 'local trap', and reimagining the ocean-island interface gave the conference a kick-start of lively debate. This was followed up with examples of island studies highlighting uneven development, the impacts of tourism and mobilities, and embodied geographies of borders.

The second day included sessions on island responses to global change, island cultures and identities, island tourism, island landscapes and heritage, and island vulnerability and resource management. Ethnobiobiodiversity and local empowerment were just a couple of many aspects of island development that effectively crossed the nature-society divide. Day three focused on issues and strategies for sustainable island development, drawing on experiences from around the world, not least Taiwan's efforts to localize development strategies for its highly diverse off-shore islands.

After three days of animated discussion on island geographies, exchange of thought continued in the field, bringing together the delegates of both IGU conferences in a three day fieldtrip to Hualien and Taroko National Park. Day two of the fieldtrip included a field seminar on the struggles of the indigenous Taroko people.

A post-(post-conference fieldtrip) fieldtrip took a smaller group of commission members to the Penghu Islands in the Taiwan Strait, where again a field seminar was arranged. Penghu University hosted the seminar, which included lively discussion on issues of tourism and small island development.

Details of the conference program including abstracts are available at the commission's website:

<http://igu-islands.giee.ntnu.edu.tw/>

Many of the papers presented at the conference will be published in various journals and books in the coming year.

Future activities of the IGU Commission on Islands include

- Organizing sessions at the upcoming IGU Conference in Tunis, August 2008
- Organizing sessions at the ISISA (International Small Island Studies Association) conference, Jeju Island, August 2008
- Workshops in Tasmania and Bornholm, 2009 (preliminary)

These and other activities can be followed at the commission's website. The commission has a very international and transdisciplinary profile and welcomes new members and participation in its efforts to develop new horizons of geographical research through focusing on islands. We hope ISISA and the new IGU Commission on Islands will mutually benefit in coming years through various forms of collaboration and cross-fertilizing each others' activities.

Call for papers and Conferences

Islands of Competence: Branding Identities in a Globalized World

2nd Annual conference of the Aland International Institute of Comparative Island Studies (AICIS)

Aland Islands / Mariehamn

10-11 June 2008

AICIS invites scholars, students, policy-makers, officials, representatives of the business community and cultural institutions to a conference on various island-related topics. Scientific papers and/or oral contributions (summarised in written form) on the following topics are most welcomed:

1. The island and other geographical metaphors. Their use within the social sciences and literature.
2. The branding of islands, regions, cities and nations in an international context.
3. The meaning of human space and political borders in a world of virtual spaces.
4. Branding, identity and identification. The concepts and their meanings in an increasingly globalized world.
5. The competitiveness of islands and other small scale societies in world of scale economies.
6. Island studies. Contributions to a multi-disciplinary understanding of the world's island societies.

A selection of papers presented at the conference will be offered publication in the **Island Studies Journal**. Its editor-in-chief, Professor Godfrey Baldacchino, University of Prince Edward Island and distinguished member of the AICIS Scientific Advisory Board and the Organising Committee of The 2nd Annual Conference of AICIS will chair the selection process.

For full conference details visit the website at

http://www.aicis.ax/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=12&Itemid=30

'Archipelagos: Access, Connection and Separation'

Fourth International Conference on Small Island Cultures

Nagu and Korpo in the south western Finnish archipelago

17-20 June 2008

Proposals are invited for papers to be delivered at The Fourth International Conference on Small Island Cultures being held on Nagu and Korpo in the south western Finnish archipelago (nearest city: Turku) on June 17-20th 2008. The conference is being organised by the Skärgårdsinstitut (Archipelago Institute) of Åbo Akademi University and by the University of Turku, in conjunction with SICRI.

The call for papers is open and an early acceptance program is available. Any enquiries can be addressed to Philip Hayward, SICRI network convenor at phayward@humanities.mq.edu.au

For full conference details visit the website at <http://www.sicri.org/isic4.htm>

Land Use Conflict in Island Jurisdictions: Understanding the Principles and Practice involved in Managing Natural or Cultural Resources

An International Conference organized by the Malta Environment & Planning Agency (MEPA)
Malta
1-3 October 2008

Academic Coordinator:
Professor Godfrey Baldacchino
Canada Research Chair (Island Studies)
University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, Canada
gbaldacchino@upei.ca

"Malta is the most densely populated state in Europe. Awareness of this density and the small geographic scale is basic to understanding the environmental problems facing the Maltese."

Jeremy Boissevain (2004) 'Hotels, Tuna Pens and Civil Society: Contesting the Foreshore in Malta' in J. Boissevain & T. Selywn (eds.) *Contesting the Foreshore*, Amsterdam, Amsterdam University Press, pp.233-260.

This conference will be a pioneer in considering the tensions surrounding land use conflict on island jurisdictions from a multi and inter disciplinary perspective. It seeks to attract presentations from cultural and economic geographers, island studies specialists, civil architects, environmentalists, national trust officers, land use planners, heritage personnel, civil society representatives, and public officers engaged in environmental stewardship and/or development planning.

The purpose of the conference is to critically present, discuss and unpack episodes of tension in land use in island jurisdictions - and especially those with high population densities - where land is a critically more finite resource and where pressures to develop, maintain, restore or rehabilitate 'assets' or 'resources' may therefore be stronger than elsewhere.

A selection of quality papers presented at this conference will also be earmarked for publication (in a stand-alone book or as a specially edited issue of a regular academic journal).

Papers submitted for presentation at this conference will compare the manner in which both **natural and cultural assets and resources** (public space, parks, forests, undeveloped countryside, the habitat of endemic or threatened species, landscapes, seascapes, historic buildings, facades, public squares, streetscapes, monuments . . .) feature in conservation or development planning; how they are threatened by alternative conceptualizations of space; how they connect, benefit from, and feed into a "sense of place" dominant in public sentiment; and how they are dealt with when they are, or are not, presented within a polarized, either/or, conservationist *versus* developmentalist discourse.

A number of papers on this topic have already been commissioned from practitioners and academics based in six island jurisdictions around the world which have very high population densities of *more than 500 persons per square kilometre*: Guernsey, Jersey, Majuro (Marshall Islands), Malta, Mauritius and San Andres (Colombia) - and which will be presented and discussed at the MEPA Conference.

The 3-day Conference will involve two full days of paper presentations and discussions, with the third and final day dedicated to site visits.

Particular questions to be discussed in this conference include the ones below. Papers submitted to be considered for presentation at this conference are encouraged to address one or more of these thematics, or clearly related themes:

1. Who is the arbiter of last resort in land use conflict? What is the respective role and leverage enjoyed by the state, arms-length development agencies, historical heritage societies, nature trusts and business interests?
2. Why does land use conflict emerge? How do different social coalitions and interest groups conceptualize space differently? What are their respective "emotional geographies"? How are these differences captured and articulated by respective discourses/registerers?

3. What is the role of "public opinion" in land use conflict, both generally and in relation to specific cases? How is such public opinion motivated, managed and/or galvanized to act in particular directions?
4. What is the role, if any, of the media, third parties (such as international organizations) and of leadership figures (such as members of the clergy, local municipal officers, local politicians, charismatic civilians, other public figures) in contributing towards a settlement?
5. What are the immediate and long-term motivations behind the decisions that surround land use conflict settlement?
6. Are there any 'best practices' to follow and analyse in the handling of land use conflict situations? And, if so, how are they best identified and scrutinized?
7. What, if any, is the difference between the principles and the practice of land use monitoring, stewardship and regulatory enforcement? How can, and do, agencies tasked with environmental stewardship protect themselves effectively from undue "interference" and "pressure"?
8. What are the implications of such studies for more effective environmental management, both on islands and mainlands.

Abstracts of around 300 words, clearly outlining the proposed topic of the paper, will be accepted by the Conference Organizers **up to June 30, 2008**. **Full and complete drafts** of Conference Papers will be expected by **September 15, 2008**.

Island Commentaries

Combining indigenous and scientific knowledge for PNG disaster risk reduction

By Jessica Mercer and Ilan Kelman

This research project, for Jessica's PhD, is developing a framework to identify how indigenous and scientific disaster risk reduction practices used on islands may be integrated effectively to improve disaster risk reduction. Field work was completed in three rural villages in Papua New Guinea (PNG), which is a small island developing state (SIDS), to understand the disaster threats which they face, their current coping mechanisms, and ways of improving those. Two papers are currently in press from this work.

The paper for the journal "Environmental Hazards" (Mercer et al., 2007, "The Potential for Combining Indigenous and Western Knowledge in Reducing Vulnerability to Environmental Hazards in Small Island Developing States") identifies the need for a specific framework identifying how indigenous and scientific knowledge bases may be combined to mitigate against the intrinsic effects of environmental processes and therefore reduce the vulnerability of the case study sites. Following a review of work on this topic, the paper concludes that the vulnerability of indigenous communities in SIDS to environmental hazards can only be addressed through using both indigenous and scientific knowledge bases in a culturally compatible and sustainable manner.

The forthcoming paper in the geography journal "Area" (Mercer et al., 2008, "Reflections on Use of Participatory Research for Disaster Risk Reduction") contributes to recent debates over the use of participatory approaches by examining the use of participatory research within disaster risk reduction. Drawing on the field research experiences in which participatory techniques were used with indigenous communities to determine strategies for dealing with environmental hazards, the value of such techniques is critiqued. The significance of participatory research as a research methodology is discussed as is its possible contribution to disaster risk reduction policy.

Two more papers are being prepared, covering a proposed framework for integrating indigenous and scientific knowledge bases and the results from the field work. This work is being completed in the Human Geography Department at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia and is funded by an International Macquarie University Research Scholarship. For more information, please contact jmerc@els.mq.edu.au and see <http://www.islandvulnerability.org/png.html>

Nissologising

In this section we hope to contribute to communication among island scholars, by keeping ISISA members informed of current research projects. The success of this section will rely on you providing the editor with short summaries of your most current research projects.

Brief Introduction of Forest Resources Accounting in Hainan Island in China

Zhang Ying

Professor in Beijing Forestry University,
Beijing 100083, China.

Professor Ying is currently a Fulbright Scholar and a visiting professor in Yale University, New Haven, CT 06511.



Hainan black-crested gibbon.
(Xinhua File Photo)

Hainan Island is located in China's southernmost area. In 1999 it announced its bid to become the country's first ecological province, but the tropical island's biodiversity is still under threat. Natural forests are not only being felled for rubber and paper manufacture, but also increasingly to plant commercial fruit trees. In order to improve the situation and raise people's awareness of forest ecosystem protection, a study has been carried through on forest resources accounting in Hainan Island in China, funded by The People's Government of Hainan Province. Professor Zhang Ying in Beijing Forestry University and visiting professor in Yale University from 2006 to 2007 is leading this research program.

(Source: www.chinaview.cn, 2007-10-26)

The Study shows that the stock values of forest lands and stands was 397.58 billion RMB Yuan in 2004 using net present value method, and the flow values of forest lands and stands was respectively 6.70 billion RMB Yuan increasingly and 0.11 billion RMB Yuan decreasingly annually. At one time, the forest ecological services, including water conservation, keep soil, ameliorating forest lands, fixing carbon dioxide, shielding agricultural lands, forest recreation and protection biodiversity was totally 404.58 billion RMB Yuan annually, in which the value of ameliorating forest lands was biggest, and the value of forest recreation was least. Comparing with GDP in Hainan province in 2004, the total value of forest ecological services was nearly that GDP 5 times, but the tropical biodiversity decreased obviously.

The study suggested that the government in Hainan province should take some practicable measures to protect the island's biodiversity, particularly to prevent natural forests are being felled for rubber and paper manufacture, as well as to plant over many commercial fruit trees.

The study also shows that Hainan's path will affect all international islands. Becoming an "ecological inland" should be more than paying attention to managing forest resources. Balancing biodiversity protection and the economy is a challenge for all of islands.

Postgraduate News

In this section we hope to show case research being undertaken by new island scholars. If you are a new island scholar or are supervising a new island scholar and would like your work to be included in this section, please send your name contact details and a brief summary of your research to the editor.

Island Tourism Management Process: Implications for Optimisation Approaches beyond Sustainability

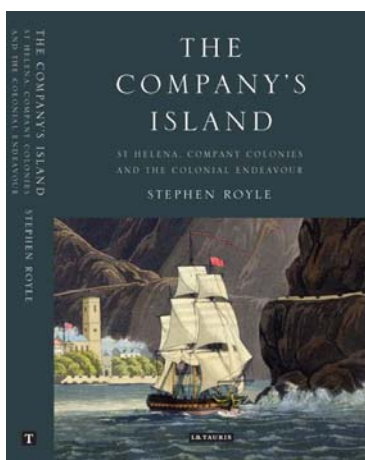
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Sustainable development as it relates to island tourism poses a number of management challenges, despite refinements to the concept since the 1980s. The study aims to identify the current challenges facing the sustainable development of island tourism and to develop a new conceptual approach based upon optimisation. The optimisation process for island tourism proposed through the development of a new life cycle model - the Multi-Functional Interactive Process Cycle (MIPC) that is calibrated using a set of 15 island tourism status indicators (ITSI). The study also seeks to explain how a complex and dynamic tourism system can be developed beyond a sustainable destination towards an optimised destination that satisfies both visitors and the local community. Empirical data were collected through in-depth interviews on Kangaroo Island, Australia and the case study on Jeju Island, Korea in order to identify key research questions related to the optimisation process, such as defining optimisation, identification of island tourism status indicators, understanding of triggers for change and verification of the multi-functional interactive process cycle.

Publications

NEW BOOKS

The Company's Island
St Helena, Company Colonies and the Colonial Endeavour
Stephen Royle



When English adventurer Francis Drake returned from his circumnavigation of the globe in 1580, people marvelled at the fabulous riches that accompanied him homeward. As the new routes discovered by Drake and his contemporaries opened up the possibilities of seaborne trade with Asia and the East, so dreams of untold wealth fuelled the appetites of European nations. To take full advantage of these opportunities a new form of cooperation arose between governments and entrepreneurs - the merchant company. Soon such companies were set up throughout Europe, perhaps the most famous being The Company of Merchants of London Trading into the East Indies, known as the East India Company.

Merchant companies were vital to the entire commercial and colonial endeavour and in return for bearing the financial risks associated with their trading ventures they were granted extensive privileges, including in some cases the right to establish colonies under charter from the sovereign. Part of the story of Empire lies in the outposts they established. Set up with a view to the nation's interests, the story of these company colonies is often fierce and bloody, for it was national as well as

commercial rivalry that drove the companies.

The Company's Island focuses upon one such company colony - St Helena. First discovered by the Portuguese on St Helen's Day in 1502, this isolated, uninhabited volcanic island in the Atlantic Ocean was later to gain fame as Napoleon Bonaparte's place of exile. But its strategic importance lay in its position, which made it a vital re-fuelling stop for ships returning to Europe from India and the East. Fought over by the English, the French, the Dutch and the Portuguese, the island became a British possession when it was annexed for the Crown in 1659 by the East India Company.

With no indigenous population on the island, the East India Company had to establish a society from scratch, transferring the morality and manners of seventeenth-century Britain to this new setting. But far from settling 'in love and amity one with another' a repressive and turbulent regime ensued. Tensions between soldiers and settlers, whites and blacks, company interests and the interest of the Crown became unbearable. The civilian population rebelled and the garrison mutinied, assassinating the governor and sailing off with the island's treasure. A rebellion by black slaves was savagely punished while all the time the island was at constant risk from enemy ships. The result is a vivid and compelling tale involving issues of race, morality, gender, trade and defence within the context of Empire.

Drawing on a wealth of archival material, the author sheds new light on an important yet little known aspect of the colonial endeavour. The Company's Island provides the first extended account of the role of company colonies and of the difficulties they faced in meeting the requirements of the Crown whilst simultaneously attempting to run a harmonious and successful community. The book will appeal to historians and geographers and to all those with an interest in the issues of Empire, travel, trade and globalisation.

JOURNAL NOTIFICATION

(Including special issues on islands)

Island Studies Journal

Volume 2 No. 2 is now available online from IslandStudies.ca
<http://www.islandstudies.ca/journal/ISJ-2-2-2007-CONTENTS>

"The island advantage: Practices for prospering in isolation".

Issue 70 of "id21 insights" covering islands is available online at
<http://www.id21.org/insights/insights70/index.html>

Feedback is welcome by emailing insights@ids.ac.uk or by posting through <http://www.id21.org/insights/right-to-reply-form.cfm> so please feel free to comment on the articles or to provide your own island perspectives. Thank you to all contributors.

ISISA Email List

ISISA has established a group email list to facilitate communication among ISISA members and other nissologists. To start sending messages to members of this group, simply send email to ISISA@yahogroups.com

If you do not wish to belong to ISISA, you may unsubscribe by sending an email to ISISA-unsubscribe@yahogroups.com

A word of warning and a request: If you reply to an email from ISISA@yahogroups.com, your reply will go to the whole list. If you only wish to reply to the sender please use their personal email address rather than just hitting the reply button.

If you have problems using the list or unsubscribing from the lists please contact the moderators of the list

Denbeigh Armstrong Denbeigh.Armstrong@utas.edu.au
Bruce Potter bpotter@irf.org

Contributions to ISISA Newsletter

Contributions would be welcome such as short articles, book reviews or news items. Articles can be e-mailed or sent on a floppy disk or CD Rom. Our preferred format is MS Word. Please send all contributions to:

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University of Tasmania
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HOBART Tasmania 7001 Australia
Denbeigh.Armstrong@utas.edu.au

Membership

Membership is open to any individual or institution that subscribes to the objectives of the Association.

Present subscription rates are:
Ordinary Individual Member: £15
Student/unwaged Member: £8

Enquiries about membership, subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer: Dr. Mark Hampton (see below).

Cheques or international money orders should be made payable in British Pounds to the International Small Islands Studies Association.

ISISA objectives

ISISA is a voluntary, non-profit and independent organisation. Our objectives are to study islands on their own terms, and to encourage free scholarly discussion on small island related matters such as islandness, smallness, insularity, dependency, resource management and environment, and the nature of island life.

ISISA pursues its objectives by encouraging the networking of small island communities through international communication systems, such as newsletters and journals and the holding of periodic, multi-disciplinary conferences, employing appropriate technologies to achieve these ends.

For further information about ISISA and for details of past conferences visit the ISISA website at: <http://www.geol.utas.edu.au/isisa/>

Executive Committee Members (2004-2008)

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