



## **General Meeting of the International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA) – University of Zadar, Croatia,**

**17 June 2022**

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

It is my pleasure and honour to present this, my last report as President of ISISA. Over these past eight years, I have been fortunate to have benefitted from a team of volunteers on the ISISA Executive to help steer the Association forward. For the last four years, this team has included Laurie Brinklow, Adam Grydehøj, Stefano Malatesta, Jonathan Pugh, Beate Ratter, Nenad Starc and Elaine Stratford. Rosie Alexander served as Treasurer, and has since been ably replaced by Andrew Jennings.

Apart from these colleagues and friends, I add my thanks to Anna Baldacchino (Newsletter Editor for 10 years), Bruce Potter (ISISA IO listserv moderator), Bojan Furst from Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada; and, more recently, Anika Čuka and her team @ University of Zadar. Gerard Persoon also stepped in as our Electoral Officer.

Since 2014, ISISA has held physical conferences in Lesvos, Greece; Kangaroo Island, Australia; and Terschelling, The Netherlands. Not to be outdone by the coronavirus pandemic, we held our first-ever global island studies webinar with 61 abstracts in June 2020; and then our first-ever, completely on-line ISISA conference, with 103 abstracts, in June 2021. We thank Mandy Rowsell, Bojan Furst, John Duff and the rest of a remarkable team at the Harris Centre, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, for organizing these two events in an impeccable and professional manner.



16<sup>th</sup> ISISA Islands of the World Conference 2018



# THE CHANGING FUTURES OF ISLANDS

10 - 14 June 2018  
Leeuwarden - Terschelling  
The Netherlands

[www.waddenacademie.nl](http://www.waddenacademie.nl)



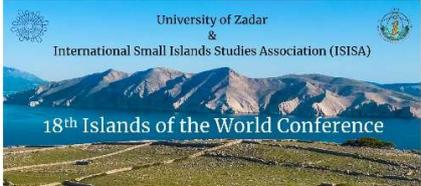

# ISISA 2021

SHARING LESSONS, SHARING STORIES  
14-18 June 2021

<https://www.mun.ca/wearehere/isisa.php>



University of Zadar  
&  
International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA)



18<sup>th</sup> Islands of the World Conference

# ISLANDS: NATURE AND CULTURE

13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Zadar, Croatia  
Opening ceremony:  
Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2022, 09:00 AM  
Aula Magna University of Zadar



WITH THE FINANCIAL HELP OF ZADAR COUNTY



PATRONAGE

Communication is a critical service that ISISA provides to its members and followers at large. Our suite of communication tools now includes a bi-annual newsletter; an ISISA IO list-serve; a Twitter handle (<https://twitter.com/IntSISA>); and a [Facebook group page](#). We continue to support our premier, open access, scholarly journal (*Island Studies Journal*) with its own [Facebook page](#). Moreover, we launched an ISISA website, auspiciously on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016. This is at: [www.isisa.org](http://www.isisa.org)

The ISISA website showcases material from our members (including many photos), historic references to and posters about its major 'Islands of the World' conferences, all its previous newsletters (except those we could not trace!), and is the repository of the documentation that ISISA has notched up over its almost 3 decades of operation. It offers a user-friendly payment system for donations or membership fees.

We continue to encourage members to consider taking out an ISISA LIFE membership. The cost is US\$200: equivalent to ten years of membership fees: this is good value for money for anyone planning to live more than ten years from now. We had 20 such members in 2018; 36 in 2021; and close to 50 at the time of writing. I thank them for their open-ended commitment to ISISA. Life membership also prevents our Treasurer from having to intermittently chase those whose membership fee has lapsed.

With your help, ISISA will continue to offer its services in order to maintain a global preeminence in the promotion of island studies, whether as a scholarly field of academic endeavour, as well as a legitimate focus of public policy.

ISISA has also been visible by collaborating with like-minded institutions, such as GLISPA, the Global Islands Partnership, as well as Island Innovation. Both promote and support initiatives that reinforce or express island resilience in its many forms.

ISISA finances suffered a setback when PayPal froze our account because our association is not registered anywhere. In this age of anti-money laundering measures, banks and other financial institutions may look suspiciously on an organization like ISISA which is not domiciled anywhere, and therefore not subject to the purview to any regulatory authority. The ISISA Executive has discussed this matter at some length and we have agreed to propose to the General Meeting that ISISA be registered in Scotland as a non-profit association. Our finances are in Pounds Sterling and held in a UK Bank, which is why our Treasurer is based in the UK. We have also discussed our potential registration with the Office of the Charity Regulator in Scotland (Shetland Branch), and we have agreed to propose for adoption a new statute/ constitution that meets the requirements of the Office, while respecting the *modus operandi* of ISISA. The main and only substantial change is that a general meeting must henceforth be held annually (rather than biennially). This can be held via a suitable electronic platform. The proposed quorum for such a meeting is 20, so that the attendance must be greater than the full number of members who form part of the Executive Committee.

Meanwhile, ISISA will continue to approach local partners in the very many islands scattered around the world with a view to hosting an ISISA 'Islands of the World' Conference. Having hundreds of island studies scholars from all imaginable disciplines converge on the same island is a terrific experience, for the locals as much as for incoming delegates. We strive to maintain a broad territorial distribution for our conferences, while aiming for a top-quality experience in hospitality, local culture and island studies scholarship.

In the past few years, we have received expressions of interest for hosting our unique conference. One has completed and submitted the proposal bid form and offered to host ISISA 2024: this is a team led by Prof Luky Adrianto, Dean of the Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences at Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia. Sadly, no one from this team has been able to attend this conference in person. There are also (at this point in time) opportunities to consider ISISA 2024 in French Caledonia; as well as Greenland.

I certainly hope that ISISA will, at some point, be able to organize its flagship conference on a French speaking island, in order to facilitate a coming together of the two rich linguistic traditions in island studies.

Meanwhile, my sincere thanks to our splendid hosts at the University of Zadar, Croatia, for this insightful and exciting island conference. Special thank you to Anica Čuka for being such a suave and indefatigable organizer. Kudos to you and your team!

Thank you, and Živjeli (have a long life, in Croatian).

*Prof. Godfrey Baldacchino - ISISA President*

*17 June 2022*