From the President

Dear Geographers

This is my first report as in-coming president of the IAG. I take up the presidency of a vibrant group of geographers involved in a vibrant institution. A relative told me on the weekend that she had decided to do an Honours degree in Geography rather than continue with Law. Her reasons reminded me why we pursue this discipline – she was inspired by good teachers, she was attracted by the broad perspective on real problems of society, and she felt it would lead to a more rewarding and interesting career. All good reasons. And such reasons are being laid out now in the Strategic Directions for Geographical Sciences document which is being led by A/Prof Alaric Maude. The drafts of this document show that Geography is having a resurgence in Australian schools with the arrival of the national curriculum, that there are about 200 geographers working in 25 university institutions that offer an undergraduate major in Geography, and a further 100 or so geographers working in other academic departments. Geography performs above its weight in ERA and other measures. Of course there are plenty of challenges, and we will pursue these, but I look forward to working with the 300 or so members of the IAG over the next two years that I act as president.

I should introduce myself. I am in the School of Geography at the University of Melbourne, where I have been since 2000, bar a five year stint in the Victorian Government working in environmental policy. My research area is physical processes in rivers, as well as their management and restoration.
For those of you who don’t know how it is structured, vice-presidents of the IAG serve their apprenticeship for two years, then two years as president, then two years as immediate past president – providing sage advice to the incoming president. Thus, a six year appointment. I would like to sincerely thank Prof Phil McManus who has now completed his six years of service. He is calm, wise and a passionate geographer, and he has contributed mightily to the IAG in his presidential roles. I hope that he can continue to do so. I also thank Professor Steve Turton for his last two years of leadership, and I look forward to working with him for the next two. It has been a pleasure acting on the committee with our outgoing members (listed below in the newsletter), and I also welcome the new committee members who we will all get to know in many enjoyable meetings.

In terms of my presidential duties … we are working to formalise relationships with geographical societies in other countries (e.g. to attract discounts at the AAG meetings). I met recently with the President of the Chinese Institute of Geographers, Professor Bojie Fu. There are abundant opportunities for collaboration with the Chinese – their institute has over 10,000 members. I am also attending the Beijing International Geographical Congress in late August where we will present our formal bid to hold the 36th IGC in Melbourne in 2024. For the many Australian geographers attending this event, make sure you drop in at our booth (I acknowledge the support of the Victorian government in mounting this bid).

Finally, can I urge geographers to nominate their colleagues for awards of all sorts, this is great for collegiality, but also for the recognition of the discipline. Why not start with nominating somebody for a Fellowship of the Institute of Australian Geographers (FIAG) which is awarded for sustained service to the geography profession in Australia.

Best wishes,

**Ian Rutherfurd, IAG President**

University of Melbourne,
[ir@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:ir@unimelb.edu.au)
News from IAG Council

IAG CONFERENCE 2016

Thanks to our Adelaide-ian contingent for a very successful IAG conference, the programme demonstrated a healthy diversity and vibrancy in the discipline and on behalf of our members our thanks go to the organizers!

IAG AWARDS 2016

The IAG conference dinner, appropriately located at the National Wine Centre, saw the presentation of three of the awards of the IAG.

The IAG Australia-International medal for 2016 was accepted on recipient Emeritus Professor Ralph Gerard Ward’s behalf by his two daughters Assoc Prof Lesley Ward and Dr Alison Ward. The citation for this award is now available on the IAG website.

Also honoured at the conference dinner were Professor Lesley Head and Professor Steve Turton, who were each recognised with a Distinguished Fellowship of the IAG.

Congratulations to all of the award recipients.
IAG TRAVEL AWARDS 2016

Over twenty postgraduate students received travel awards to attend the IAG Conference in Adelaide and the travel awards for the IGU IGC in Beijing have been announced recently. More details, including reports, to follow in the next newsletter.

SCIENCE MEETS PARLIAMENT

IAG Members Amy Griffin (UNSW) and Kuntala-Lahiri Dutt (ANU) attended Science Meets Parliament this year and their report appears later in this newsletter.

STUDY GROUPS

Aidan Davison and Ian Rutherfurd have prepared a discussion paper proposal for refining the administration and oversight of IAG study groups, including funding of conference keynote speakers, which will be developed with the input of study group convenors and members and a revised draft incorporating all feedback will be prepared and circulated later in the year.
NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following new members are congratulated and welcomed to their new roles which were announced at the General Meeting on Wed 29 June:

Ian Rutherfurd (UMelb) is the new President (previously Vice President-Elect);
Bev Clarke (Flinders) is the new incoming Vice President (President-Elect);
Aidan Davison (UTas) takes on the new official position of Membership Secretary;
Tod Jones (Curtin) joins Council as the new Councillor; and
Elissa Waters (UMelb) joins Council as the new Postgraduate representative.

Robert Gale (Treasurer) and Robyn Bartel (Secretary) have been re-appointed to their positions. Jen Carter (Newsletter Editor) and Julie Kesby (Web Secretary/Public Officer) also continue in their roles. Leah Gibbs and Hugo Bekle also continue in their roles on Council.

Warm and heartfelt thanks were given to Vice President Phil McManus, Councillor Tom Measham and Postgraduate representative Rachel Chapman for their contributions to Council. Thanks also to Steve Turton as President, who now assumes the role of Vice-President (Past President) and is also taking on the role of editor of GeoView.
THANKS TO OUTGOING PRESIDENT PROFESSOR STEVE TURTON

We thank outgoing President Steve Turton for his excellent contribution to the IAG during his two-year term as President. Professor Turton has led by example in bringing an inclusive and open approach to the IAG and his work and tireless enthusiasm for the discipline is renown. Steve does not get to rest on his laurels, but will continue for another two years on Council in the role of Vice-President (Immediate Past President) and is the new editor of the IAG’s undergraduate journal, GeoView.

THANKS TO OUTGOING VICE PRESIDENT PROFESSOR PHIL MCMANUS

We thank outgoing Vice President Phil McManus (USyd) for his sterling contribution to the IAG during his six-year term as Vice-President, and President. Professor McManus has instituted several important initiatives during his term in office that have contributed significantly to Council governance and service to our members. Phil’s generosity and professionalism is well known and his contributions will be of long-lasting benefit to both Council and the wider membership.

THANKS TO OUTGOING COUNCILLOR ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR TOM MEASHAM

We thank outgoing Councillor Associate Professor Tom Measham for his time on Council, during which he co-organized the IAG Conference in Canberra in 2015 and led several new initiatives, including founding the Friends of Geography scheme which has added a new avenue for promotion of the discipline. Thanks also to Rachel Chapman for representing all of our postgraduate members on Council for...
Thanks also to Associate Professor Jennifer Carter and Ms Julie Kesby, IAG Newsletter and Web Secretary/Public Officer respectively. Thanks also to Ms Kirstie Petrou for administrative support. Last but not least thanks to Dr Robert Gale for continuing in the role of Honorary Treasurer. You all do a marvellous job!

CALL FOR AWARDS OF THE IAG - Rd 2 2016

Members are invited to nominate their esteemed colleagues for the following awards:

**Fellowship of the Institute of Australian Geographers (FIAG):**
This award recognizes contributions to the profession of geography. Nominations are currently now open for this award, which has two calls per year.
Further details are available from:

The closing date for nominations is Friday 25 November 2016.

Please note that the Griffith Taylor Medal is only awarded every second year and nominations will next be called in 2017. Nominations for the Australia-International Medal and Distinguished Fellowship of the IAG will also next be called in 2017.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL

The next meeting of council will be a combined planning and business meeting of Council and the agenda includes initiatives to improve membership management and the website. Dates and venue TBC.

**Robyn Bartel, IAG Honorary Secretary.**
For the second year, IAG sent representatives to Science Meets Parliament. This annual event is a major opportunity for scientists to directly engage with Parliamentarians and to learn more about the dynamics of political decision making processes. In addition to a series of sessions about the role of the media in politics, the policy development process, and science communication, it also provided an opportunity to meet directly with one or more Members of Parliament. A long-term objective of the event is to improve support for science among Members of Parliament.

We found the experience of attending the event to be generally positive. It gave us an opportunity to explain the relevance of Geography to the MPs we met. Kuntala met with Senator Larissa Waters, a Greens Senator from Queensland, and Amy met with Chris Back, a Liberal senator from Western Australia. One of the things we had the opportunity to do was to discuss the fact that geography is the only secondary school subject to holistically consider the environment, and to relate the central importance of the discipline to developing environmental awareness among students. We went armed with some statistics about the great need for recruiting degreed geographers for secondary teaching of geography, which might improve the pathway from secondary school to university level geography. While many MPs are aware of the shortage of trained mathematics teachers, few are aware of the even greater shortage of trained geography teachers.

A few interesting observations we made included:

1) Adam Bandt, Greens MP, noted that when he went to university, he wasn’t sure what to study, and that Law was recommended to him as a good generalist degree, so that is why he studied it. This begs the question about why Geography doesn’t more aggressively market itself as an even more effective generalist degree: we teach both quantitative and qualitative ways of understanding the world, and the ability to see the world both systematically and holistically. As an Institute, we might benefit from helping students to better understand the generalist skills that they can build with a degree in Geography.

2) Paul Bongiorno, the well-known political journalist, told us that the real purpose of Question Time is not to communicate with the general public, but to the backbenchers of the respective parties. This made the antics of Question Time, which was quite rowdy on the day we attended it, make much more sense.
An added benefit was meeting other scientists who were representing a range of professional associations and science organisations. It was interesting being some of the few social scientists among a sea of physical scientists.

We urge the IAG to continue to make this opportunity available for IAG members, both to improve the visibility of the discipline among Members of Parliament and to improve geographers’ understanding of how political processes operate and interact with science and scientists.

News of interest to geographers

The new UK PM is a Geography graduate (from Oxford)! Whether that has made her a right–wing follower of Margaret Thatcher is hard to say.

Sadly she follows rather less than illustrious company. Jacques CHIRAC DID HIS PH.D IN GEOGRAPHY - ON THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS – and Augusto PINOCHET, the appalling Chilean dictator, WAS THAT LATIN AMERICAN VARIETY OF ENGINEER-GEOGRAPHER.

John Connell
Grant and Award Opportunities

Grant and Award Opportunities

Griffith Taylor Medal
The medal is awarded for distinguished contributions to geography in Australia. No more than one medal is to be awarded in each two year period.

Distinguished Fellowship of the Institute of Australian Geographers
The Fellowship is awarded for distinguished service to Australian geography through furthering the aims of the Institute. The award was called the ‘Fellowship of the Institute of Australian Geographer’ prior to 2008.

Australian-International Medal
In recognition of either outstanding contributions by Australian (or Australia-based) geographers to the advancement of Geography worldwide or of outstanding contributions to the understanding of the geography of Australia by geographers permanently residing outside Australia. No more than one medal is to be awarded each year.

Fellowship of the Institute of Australian Geographers
Is awarded for sustained service to the geography profession in Australia

Past Winners

Griffith Taylor Medal
- Mrs Ann Marshall 1989
- Dr Les Heathcote 1997
- Dr Joe Gentilli 1998
- Professor Fay Gale 2001
- Professor Bruce Thom 2004
- Emeritus Professor John Holmes 2006
- Professor Joe Powell 2008
- Professor Michael Webber 2011
- Professor Jim Walmsley 2013
- Professor Arthur Conacher 2015

Australia - International Medal
- Professor Janice Monk 1999
- Professor Reginald Golledge 2000
- Professor Tom McKnight 2001
- Emeritus Professor Harold Brookfield 2005
- Emeritus Professor Ian Douglas 2006
- Professor John Connell 2009
- Professor Katherine Gibson and Professor Julie Graham 2010
- Associate Professor Louise Johnson 2011
- Professor Graeme Hugo 2014
- Professor Gordon Clark 2015
- Emeritus Professor Ralph Gerard Ward

Recipients of the former Fellowship of the IAG
- Professor Murray McCaskill 1989
- Professor Bruce Thom 1992
- Professor John Holmes 1997
- Associate Professor Arthur Conacher 1998
- Mr Laurie Olive 1999
- Dr Morgan Sant 2001
- Associate Professor Richard Howitt 2004

Distinguished Fellowship of the Institute of Australian Geographers

- Associate Professor Tony Sorenson 2008
- Professor Arthur Conacher 2009
- Professor Kay Anderson 2009
- Adjunct Associate Professor Patrick Armstrong 2009
- Mr Terry Birtles 2009
- Professor Bill Boyd 2009
- Professor Robert Freestone 2009
- Professor Roy Jones 2009
- Professor Brian G. Lees 2009
- Professor Richard Le Heron 2009
- Emeritus Associate Professor Bob Loughran 2009
- Professor Pauline McGuirk 2009
- Professor Phil O’Neill 2009
- Associate Professor Elaine Stratford 2009
- Emeritus Professor Murray Wilson 2009
- Professor Hilary P.M. Winchester 2009
- Dr Robert Burne 2010
- Dr Jocelyn Davies 2010
- Dr Ruth Farmer 2010
- Ms Julie Kesby 2010
- Emeritus Professor Bruce Ryan 2010
- Dr Robin F Warner 2010
- Professor Robyn Dowling 2012
- Dr Ashley Webb 2012
- Professor Chris Gibson 2012
- Associate Professor Deirdre Dragovich 2012
- Professor Jim Forest 2012
- Associate Professor Neil Argent 2012
- Dr Hugo Bekle 2012
- Professor Jim Walmsley 2012
- Dr Scott Mooney 2012
- Dr Ashley Webb 2012
- Mr Graham Pascoe 2014

Citations are available from: https://www.iag.org.au/about/awards-of-the-iag/
Grants and Awards Received

Congratulations to the following who have recently received the award of PhD:

**Petra Bajo** for her thesis investigating the timing entitled “Geochemical investigations of Corchia speleothems: Implications for past climate change”.

**Candice Boyd** for her thesis entitled “Non-representational geographies of therapeutic art making” which was the first PhD in Geography at Melbourne University to contain a creative work component.

**Parastoo Yazdanparast** for her thesis entitled “A long-term historical perspective on environmental changes in the Wimmera of western Victoria, Australia”.

**Mark Vicol** for his PhD thesis entitled “Potatoes, peasants and livelihoods: A critical exploration of contract farming and agrarian change in Maharashtra, India”. Mark is now employed on two research projects (an ACIAR funded project in Indonesia led by Jeff Neilson and an ARC funded project in Myanmar led by Bill Pritchard).

**Jessie Connell** for her PhD thesis entitled “Safeguarding resettlement: Global expectations and local experiences in Cambodia” (supervised by Phil Hirsch). Jessie is currently in Dhaka, working for the International Organisation for Migration.

**Liping Yan** for her PhD thesis entitled “The ethnic and cultural correlates of water consumption in a pluralistic social context – the Sydney Metropolitan Area”.

Congratulations to the following who have received other grants and awards:

**Phil McManus** and **Krishna Shrestha** are members of a multi-national research team (Nepalese, Indian and Australian)) that secured a total of almost $1 million CAD for their project titled Climate Adaptive and Water Management Plans for Cities in South Asia (CAMPS). The research involves two medium sized cities in India, and two medium sized cities in Nepal. It looks at the integration of demographic change, physical changes in the catchment and climate change for safe and reliable water provision in rapidly growing cities. This project is being led by the Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) based in Kathmandu, and was one of four projects awarded funding from 170 eligible applications. The funding program was Cities and Climate Change and is operated by the IDRC / CRDI.

**Tony Bebbington**, who has been awarded an ARC Laureate Fellowship for a project on Mining and society in a changing environment. Tony will commence work in the School of Geography and the University of Melbourne in April 2017.

**Michela Mariani**, who was awarded a prestigious Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering (AINSE) Postgraduate Research Award.

**Gina Koczberski** and **George Curry** have been awarded a research grant from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research for a project on women and agricultural entrepreneurship in Papua New Guinea. The project builds on their livelihoods research in PNG. It is a 4 year project to be conducted in five provinces and is in collaboration with CARE international and four PNG research institutions.
The convenors of the 2017 IAG annual conference in Brisbane are pleased to report that preparations are underway. The event is planned to be held on the University of Queensland’s campus in St Lucia on 12-14 July, with 11 July designated for post-grad day and study group meetings. In due course, the IAG community will be contacted with regard to suggestions for plenary speakers, field trip locations, etc.

**Thomas Sigler**  
Chair, Local Organising Committee
Other Conferences

The ReTES annual scientific conference on: “Re-shaping Territories, Environment and Societies: New Challenges for Geography”, organised by the Human and Economic Geography Department, Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest, will be held from 18-19 November, 2016. The hosting institution aims to organize ReTES as a forum of discussions for geographers and all the specialists in the related fields. The organizers’ main objective is to generate a suitable environment for exchanging ideas and practice between the areas of applied research and teaching in both higher or school education. ReTES is expected to provide the scientific context for debates on: relevant theories related to the current process Geography is undergoing: re-thinking its own paradigm. Therefore, the issues of geographical theory, philosophy or methodology are at the core of the event. In extension debates will focus on: space and place, natural/physical environment, global changes, economic crisis, environmental crisis, water crisis and global warming, policy development, political dimensions in developing societies, development forecasting, project implementation and field educational reform challenges for both, the Romanian environment and other European countries.

The world of cartography and GIS will be in Washington, DC, July 2 to 7, 2017 for the 28th International Cartographic Conference (ICC2017) of the International Cartographic Association. There is currently a call for abstracts, paper submissions or poster abstracts. Join other cartographers and geographic information scientists from across the globe and see the latest innovations and developments in mapping techniques, technological advancements, and current research in cartography and GISCience. The ICC is a unique experience to exchange ideas and encourage collaboration with colleagues from academia, government and industry.

The 2017 IGU-SRS colloquium will be in Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh City) in April 2017 (ca 16th-22nd). This presents a good opportunity for Australian rural geographers to attend.
Energy Impacts 2017 is the first North American conference focused on social science research related to the impacts of energy development - with a goal of synthesis, comparison and innovation among established and emerging energy impacts scholars from North America and abroad. It will be held on July 26-27, 2017 at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, USA. The pace, scale and intensity of new energy development around the world demands credible and informed research about potential impacts to human communities that host energy developments. While a fast-growing body of research addresses social, economic, and behavioural impacts from large-scale energy development for host communities and landscapes, their discoveries are often isolated by disciplinary and geographic boundaries. We invite participation from sociologists, geographers, political scientists, public health specialists, economists, anthropologists, practitioners and other interested parties whose work addresses impacts of new energy development for host communities and landscapes. Call for papers coming soon! Please visit http://www.energyimpacts.org to join a mailing list for future updates, and to add your profile to our growing data base of energy impacts researchers and professionals.

Join the researcher directory!

If you are a researcher examining the social impacts of any energy development from any social science discipline -- including for example, economics, sociology, public health, geography, and more -- please join us in our experiment to network your research with others through our Energy Research directory located at directory.energyimpacts.org

The researcher directory is intended to link and network researchers across academic disciplines in the areas of energy research and social science. The directory is searchable by name, keyword, energy type, location, discipline and more. Creating a profile is quick, easy, and free, and you can divulge as little or as much contact and biographical information as you like. In addition to a summary statement about your work, an link to your faculty page, upload your CV, or upload papers. The directory is new, and your participation and feedback is welcome. Please spread the word about the Energy Impacts Symposium and the Researcher Directory. Learn more about the Energy Impacts Research Coordination Network at www.energyimpacts.org
Geoscience Australia’s 2016 Annual Open Day offers diverse program of free hands-on activities, science displays, talks and fun for all ages! Come along and learn about the exciting and important work carried out by Australia’s national geoscience agency. Find out how earthquakes are detected, learn how agriculture relies on discovery of precious water resources, discover how satellites have revolutionised our ability to access positioning information at the touch of a button, and learn how critical mineral commodities make your smart phone work. Talk to real scientists, learn about geoscience careers and find out how geoscience is important to our everyday life.

Details of the event are:

**When**  
10am - 3pm, Sunday 21 August 2016.

**Where**  
Geoscience Australia, corner Jerrabomberra Avenue and Hindmarsh Drive, Symonston ACT.

**Activities**  
Geoscience Australia’s Open Day offers free hands-on activities, science displays, talks and fun for all ages. Kids activities include:

- Petting Zoo
- Face Painting
- Jumping Castle
- Rock and Mineral identification
- Firefighting display

This year’s Open Day will highlight the impact our work in everyday life, linking to our six strategic priorities.

**Science Talks**  
A range of short 15 minute Science Talks will be presented by various Geoscience Australia experts throughout the day.

**More information**  
From SoCal we drove straight up I-5, then west through the windy and winding Pacheco Pass to meet Highway 101 in Gilroy, then north to San Jose - around 400 miles (no need for those foreign measurements here, but for the rest of the world – 644km).

**Odors and capitals**

This was not a trip through urban smellsapes like Kate Mclean’s sensuous maps of Edinburgh, but rural odors are memorable too (American spelling here).

COWS

On some stretches of “The 5” you must close the air vents as you pass huge feedlots, where cows languish on bare ground in bright sunlight, and the adjacent ponds of their effluent are ripe indeed. Some are dairy cows, giving lie to those advertisements which showed that California cheese is better because the milk comes from happy cows knee-deep in lush grass.
Others are animals such as those of the Harris Beef company, California’s largest producer, are kept well north of the famous Harris Ranch, where you can fly in to dine at their Restaurant, the largest “Farm to Fork” dining destination in the state, or stay to “relax & unwind and pamper yourself” at the 150+ room Hacienda/Inn.

DUST
In the southern part of the Valley, acres of ploughed earth can be stirred into dust by farm vehicles, or work trucks on dusty side roads, not an unpleasant smell. Signs tell passers-by that this is a “Congress created Dust Bowl”. The dust and haze mean that the Sierra Nevadas just to the east are barely visible, except for the clouds resting along the crest of this classic fault-block range. In contrast a pause at the depleted San Luis Reservoir in the Pacheco Pass was brilliantly clear, the wind so strong and cold that refuge was sought in the Visitor Center, where the ground-breaking-visit of JFK is highlighted, and schoolchildren receive information on saving water.
GUM LEAVES
Many locals believe that the Eucalyptus is a native plant, there are so many trees. Brought to the new state by the mid-nineteenth century richest man in the USA, James Lick, eucalypts became very popular for farm windbreaks. You have to leave the Interstate to get the smell that brings back the road to Croajingalong, or the home amongst the gum trees. Some smaller towns have rows of old gums lining residential streets.

THE STINKING WEED
Gilroy calls attention from a distance because of its agricultural specialty. Even in the cherry season in May, you are greeted on the outskirts with an unmistakable odor. You are approaching the self-proclaimed Garlic Capital of the World, where the annual garlic festival includes garlic ice-cream.

THREE CAPITALS
So Gilroy was the first capital of the trip, but San Jose has an interesting story of rise and fall and rise again. When California became part of the USA in 1850, San Jose was the original capital of the state, but not for long. The legislature met in a few other cities till in 1879, the city of Sacramento became the permanent capital of California. But IBM came to San Jose near the end of WW2, and by the Seventies San Jose was the chief city of what became known as Silicon Valley. Now California’s third largest city, San Jose is world famous as the Capital of Silicon Valley. At the Plenary we learned of yet more capitals, but that comes later.

The CGS Meeting
This is always an intimate event, where old friends catch up, and enthusiastic young students present posters and papers and win awards, including travel awards.

Something in the San Jose air led to a procedural reversal – the traditional is a Friday evening BBQ and Saturday evening Banquet. But this year the BBQ was a Luau, held indoors, in the historic San Jose Women’s Club, with a colourful and melodious entertainment of music and dances across the south Pacific, including a Haka.
Figure 4. Heather Ream, California State University, Northridge, with poster Preservation or Acculturation? Ethnic Foodways of Central Valley Sikhs.

Figure 5. Dance and song from the South Seas in the historic San Jose Women’s Club.
The stimulating opening plenary “Place and Power in Silicon Valley” speaker was Dr. Jan English-Lueck, Professor of Anthropology at San Jose State University. She opened with a mock-self-defence, declaring she was a third cousin of geography, since her anthropology professor had been a student of a student of Boaz, a geographer. The theme “Place matters” began with “branding” - nearby Yuba City is famous as the “Prune Capital of the World”, even though the actual product is now marketed as “dried plums”, because of negative connotations associated with prunes. So too the rapid spatial expansion of the “tech” industries led to San Jose becoming the “Capital of Silicon Valley”. This growth can be studied as a topography of power and global connectivity, creating in San Jose a multi-ethnic city with many forms of place attachment. But, it seems that San Jose is again to lose the title of capital, since the “tech” industries have now spread into the Bay area, San Francisco, Oakland, and even further. This concentration extends far beyond Silicon Valley. San Jose may have lost the title of capital, but it seems that the name Silicon Valley, with its connotations of power, wealth, innovation and life-style is held dear. So the new suggestion is now: “Silicon Valley is a State of Mind”.

The Banquet and awards were conducted on a glorious summery evening on the lawn at San Jose State University, near the picturesque Tower Hall.

Next year the CGS meeting moves south to Grossmont College, near San Diego. Why not join us?

Figure 6. Tower Hall, banquet to the far right (CGS 2016).
The National Library of Australia has now scanned and placed online all its series mapping of New Guinea that is out of copyright (>50 years old). These series, sorted by date, can be viewed here:


We are now moving on to digitise out of copyright series mapping of Indonesia. Progress to date can be viewed here:


The National Library’s Map Section has also just completed a 3-year renovation programme, including replacing its compactus of 1000 map cabinets. Besides requesting to view maps in the Special Collections Reading Room (where material is delivered 3 times a day), high-intensity users of maps can now also make use of facilities in the staff work area, where staff can more rapidly retrieve material for them and provide more focussed assistance. For more information contact the Map Section maps@nla.gov.au or ph 02 6262 1469.
Study Groups

Rural Geography Study Group:

Women leading from the front

Very exciting things have been happening for many of our female colleagues in 2016 and the Rural Geography Study group congratulates these members on their achievements. They have been at the forefront of establishing international networks and ensuring that Geographers have an active presence in what Castree (2016) has called ‘global change research’.

As previously reported, Dr Amanda Davies (Curtin University) has been selected to participate in the international ‘Homeward Bound ‘program – a global leadership and strategy program for women in science. The program for 2016 is the first year of a ten-year outreach initiative to build a 1,000 strong global collaboration of women in science, which culminates with an expedition to Antarctica in December. Amanda will be participating in the program as well as studying the other participants (from each state in Australia, Costa Rica, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, USA and UK) - extending her work on rural leadership in context with leadership in science and sustainable futures. The program aims to enhance the influence and impact of women in science by providing them with an opportunity to engage with a strong, purposefully developed network that will enable them to impact policy and decisions into the future. It is forced on women specifically because it is recognised that “Globally, women have been excluded from equal participation in science and leadership” whilst at the same time, young women and girls have been “opting out of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) based subjects and careers”. This program hopes to work towards changing this. At sea for twenty days, a large part of the program is also to make a documentary (60 minute multi-media release) which follows the journey and explores the role of women in our world. Specifically the film will chart the lives, achievements and challenges facing six female scientists along with 78 of their peers, as they make the epic journey to Antarctica – a place that sharpens our focus on what is at stake, and provides a spectacular background to why opportunity and equality are so important. The documentary will be directed by Ili Bare (director of The Silent Epidemic) and produced by Greer Simpkin (producer of The Secret River, Hiding, The Code, Please Like Me, The Slap and many others). See: https://homewardboundprojects.com.au/about/
Dr Sonia Graham, (University of New South Wales), has recently run an international transdisciplinary workshop in Alberta, Canada, on invasive plant species. This was the third workshop in a series of thought-provoking and productive workshops that sought to bring disciplines together to debate real-world weed problems. Thirty-two participants, including natural and social scientists, agronomists and consultants, from seven countries met in Canada, to explore the ways in which scientists, government and local communities can work more effectively to manage invasive plants. Local ranchers, consultants, municipal and provincial weed managers, conservation groups and NGOs also attended the workshop and provided invaluable perspectives on the biophysical and social complexity of weed dynamics. Feedback from participants indicated that the workshop challenged them to question their understandings about what transdisciplinarity is, and also gain a new appreciation of the need to, and value of, working across the natural-social science divide. See: http://www.pincher creekvoice.com/2016/06/weeds-and-castle-crown.html

PhD student Diane Luhrs (Monash University), who is in the final stages of writing up her PhD thesis will be presenting her research on farm succession and farming families at the Royal Geographical Society- Institute of British Geographers (RGS-IBG) conference in London this August in a session on ‘New and Emerging Research within Gender and Feminist Geography’. She will also be presenting her research on family farms through the lens of Lefebvre at the Australian Sociological Association Conference in Melbourne in November.

Dr Meg Sherval (University of Newcastle) also as reported previously, has been awarded a prestigious Visiting Academic Fellowship to St. Marys College at Durham University (UK). The neoclassical St Marys College was established in 1899 and was originally founded to offer women a chance to attend university. The college today houses 750 undergraduate students and 150 postgraduates of both genders. Meg will be playing an active part in college life whilst she is there. The purpose of the fellowship is to provide an opportunity for women scholars to conduct research at Durham University in conjunction with staff within a Durham academic department or Research Institute. The focus of the research may be in any area or discipline, but the output of the fellowship must be of direct benefit to women in the Fellow’s own country or beyond. The first Australian to be awarded this Fellowship, (previous awardees being from Azerbaijan, India, and Egypt), Meg will be working closely with Professor Gavin Bridge in Durham’s Geography department and participating in its dynamic Culture-Economy-Life research cluster from September to December 2016. She, like Diane, will be presenting the initial findings of her research on Coal Seam Gas communities in NSW at the RGS-IBG conference in London in August in a session on ‘Energised Rural Geographies’.
Adelaide to Victor Harbour and the Fleurieu Peninsula Field trip

A very successful field trip was undertaken by nine intrepid travellers post -IAG Conference. The trip began in deep fog on Saturday morning July 2 as the group were picked up from their various hotels in Adelaide and driven to the first stop – historic Hahndorf where a sumptuous and warming breakfast was had by all. After an hour exploring the village, the group headed south west through the wine region of McLaren Vale to Mt Compass and Parry Estate Winery. Several enjoyable hours were spent learning about the intricacy of grape growing and wine production and tasting the fine wines of the Estate’s collection. The group are very grateful to the vigneron - Peter and Denise, for their generous hospitality and time. The evening saw us arrive in Victor harbour (our home away from home for the next 2 nights). Day 2 of the trip saw us catch the Cockle Train which travels along the oldest steel railed railway in Australia dating back to 1887 from Victor Harbor to Port Elliot where we visited local farmers markets. From there it was off to Goolwa and the Murray Mouth via the Hindmarsh Bridge. That night, some of the group trekked to Granite Island at dusk to see the fast disappearing little penguin colony. It was hoped that Whales would also be seen, but it was reported that they had been sighted heading for the waters off Sydney! Day 3 of the trip saw us begin the day at Finnis Lodge (a 500 acre horse-breeding and training facility) situated in the small township of Finniss on the Fleurieu Peninsula. Hosts Jenny and Wayne Francis gave us a guided tour around the property and generously provided morning tea for us at the Finness General store and Fodder shop (previously ‘the Old Post Office’). After this, we took the scenic route back to Adelaide via the coast and Glenelg before we each headed off to our home destinations. On behalf of the group, I would like to sincerely thank Wayne Deller our local tour guide and the Institute of Australian Geographers for their generous financial support for this fieldtrip. It was a wonderful way to get to know colleagues (both national and international) in a more relaxed manner.

A last word

After 5 years, Meg Sherval is stepping down as convenor of the Rural Geographers Study Group. Sonia Graham at UNSW will be taking up the mantle this month. Meg would like to thank all the members of the study group for their support during this time.

Meg Sherval,
Convenor
Legal Geography Study Group:

The Legal Geography Study Group has welcomed Dan Robinson as its new convenor after the 'retirement' of founding convenor Robyn Bartel.

Dan Robinson led the most recent study group workshop at UNSW earlier this year and has several further initiatives in mind so watch this space! Articles from previous workshops held at UNE (led by Robyn) and UTS (led by Nicole Graham) will appear in a forthcoming special issue of Geographical Research. The Legal Geography study group organized two paper sessions at IAG Adelaide and it was exciting to see so much activity in the applied planning arena which is something that the study group will also be keen to support further into the future. If you would like to join or find out more about this study group please visit our website at https://www.iag.org.au/study-groups/legal-geography-study-group/.

Robyn Bartel,
Outgoing convenor

Environmental Sustainability Study Group:

This study group has been recently 'reignited' by Robyn Bartel as interim convenor and via a special paper session focusing on the Anthropocene at IAG Adelaide at which new study group members were welcomed. If you would like to join, or rejoin this study group please email Robyn on rbartel@une.edu.au and/or visit our website at https://www.iag.org.au/study-groups/environmental-sustainability-study-group/.

Robyn Bartel,
Interim Convenor
News from AGTA
Susan Caldis, Secretary AGTA, President GTANSW

The design and implementation of teacher professional learning opportunities and educational resources to support the implementation of the Australian Curriculum: Geography across the country continues to be core business for AGTA Board members and associates at both a state and national level in 2016.

Dr Grant Kleeman (AGTA Chair) has been instrumental in leading the development of AGTA’s latest resource, Geography Skills Unlocked. This textbook has been designed for use both in the classroom and as a teacher resource to enhance understanding and practice of geographical inquiry, tools and skills.

Geography for an interconnected world is the theme for the 2017 AGTA Conference to be held in Victoria at the University of Melbourne between 9 – 12 January. As with previous AGTA Conferences there will be pre-conference study tour, fieldwork days, keynote speakers and a variety of workshops. For 2017, the AGTA Board is delighted to welcome Dr Rachel Carey, Professor William Cartwright, Professor David Lambert, Dr Michael Solem and Professor Bruce Rasmussen as the keynote speakers. A committee from the Geography Teachers Association of Victoria (GTAV) are convening this conference.

The AGTA Roadshow was a national teacher professional learning initiative designed to promote awareness about best-practice geography teaching at primary and secondary stages of schooling in response to the Australian Curriculum: Geography. The AGTA Roadshow was conducted between May 2015 and May 2016 and the team comprised of Dr Grant Kleeman (AGTA Chair), Malcolm McInerney (Immediate Past AGTA Chair), Susan Caldis (AGTA Secretary), John Butler OAM (primary geographical education consultant) and Mick Law (GTAQ Councillor).

Our current area of work is aligning the Professional Standards for the Accomplished Teaching of School Geography [GEOGStandards] (see http://www.geogstandards.edu.au/) with the AITSL Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (see http://www.aiatsl.edu.au/australian-professional-standards-for-teachers) so the AGTA Board can produce a document with specific guidance to teachers about how they can work towards and achieve the standards using their geography teaching as one of the contexts. The AGTA Board are very appreciative of the opportunity to work with John Butler OAM in the initial stages of this project.

For further information about AGTA activities please refer to the website http://www.agta.asn.au/
University of Wollongong School of Geography and Sustainable Communities

The University of Wollongong is preparing to launch its new degree, the Bachelor of Geography, and will welcome its first cohort in 2017. This is Australia’s only Bachelor of Geography currently, bringing together cross-faculty teaching between the School of Geography and Sustainable Communities and School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, which enables students to develop a holistic view and diverse skill set across human and physical geography.

This session the School of Geography and Sustainable Communities launched two new subjects:

• GEOG123 Indigenous Geographies: Questioning Country, coordinated by Vanessa Cavanagh

Since the establishment of the School of Geography and Sustainable Communities, we have commenced a new subject 'Indigenous Geographies: Questioning Country' with 180 new enrolments. In 2016 we are very pleased to have this subject coordinated by ECR Vanessa Cavanagh, who completed her BSc (Hons 1) at UOW, writing about her mother’s people in Bundjalung Country, northern NSW. Vanessa has worked as a Research Officer at NSW NPWS and in the Law School at UOW with Prof. Elena Marchetti, and brings unique knowledge and cultural skills to the subject.

• GEOG231 Spatial Technologies for the Social Sciences, coordinated by Dr Chris Brennan-Horley

This subject shifts the focus of introductory GIS teaching away from physical and environmental processes toward a social data approach. The student cohort is diverse, including those majoring in human geography, public health and criminology. Students are learning the fundamentals of cartography and spatial analysis via webmapping tools, GPS apps and open source GIS. Leading portals including AURIN, the National Map and BOCSAR are being used for generating relevant social datasets.

Prof. Noel Castree has been appointed Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Social Sciences. Noel will undertake this new role alongside his existing one as Director of the Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research (AUSCCER).
We congratulated three Higher Degree Research students on successful completion of their degrees:

- Heather Moorcroft (PhD), ‘Coming to terms with the occupation of nature: Engagements between Indigenous Australians and conservation organisations’ (supervisors Prof. Lesley Head and A/Prof. Michael Adams)
- Katie O’Neal (MEnvSc), ‘Improving coastal management outcomes through science and the law’ (supervisors Dr Leah Gibbs and Prof. Richard Kenchington, ANCORS)
- Alison Scobie (MEnvSc), ‘Understanding printing behaviours and paper consumption at the University of Wollongong (supervisor Prof. Lesley Head)

In the spring session the School is hosting Dr Jessica Graybill from Colgate University in New York State. Jessica is leading the Colgate Environmental Studies group, which has been coming to Wollongong for many years. This is an association that has led to research and teaching collaborations and exchanges across geography and earth sciences. Jessica’s research interests span energy use, development and environmental security, urban sustainability, and a longstanding focus on the Russian far east and north, including Arctic areas. More information about Jessica and her work can be found at https://jessicagraybill.wordpress.com/ or http://www.colgate.edu/facultysearch/FacultyDirectory/jessica-graybill. During their visit, A/Prof. Michael Adams will lead local and Central Australia field trips with the Colgate group.

With geographers from around the country, A/Prof. Michael Adams participated in a national workshop in July on India-focused research and teaching, at the Australia India Institute in Melbourne. Outcomes will include a more coordinated approach to India research and teaching, new collaborations, and higher visibility for this work to government.

**Macquarie University**

Dauglas Wafula Juma has been appointed Archiving Officer with the Geographical Society of New South Wales and is looking forward to starting processing the Society’s extensive archives.

Sara Fuller, Lecturer in the Department of Geography and Planning at Macquarie, described her recent participation in a sustainable pathways workshop held in Germany in this blog post https://groundworkgeop.wordpress.com/2016/07/08/trilateral-workshop-sustainable-pathways-and-transformations-of-urban-systems/. Representatives from University of Hamburg, Macquarie University and Fudan University all shared ideas and plans for building sustainable pathways in urban systems.

Sunita Chaudhary, a PhD student, has published peer-reviewed journal articles and a book chapter on ecosystem services and people’s dependency and on biodiversity values in Nepal and India.
The University of Sydney School of Geosciences

New staff member:
Dr. Sophie Webber has been appointed as a Geography Lecturer in the School of Geosciences. Sophie will commence her position in January, 2017. She will add to the School’s internationally recognised teaching and research performance and further develop geography at the University of Sydney. Sophie is presently working on a Post-doctorate at UCLA in Los Angeles. She completed her PhD in Geography at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver, Canada) in 2015. Her dissertation title was “Adaptation Ecologies: Circuits of climate change finance, policy, and science in the Pacific Islands”, for which she received the Best Dissertation award in Economic Geography in 2015 from the Economic Geography Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers. Sophie’s earlier studies include an M.A., Geography, from the University of British Columbia in 2011, a B.A., Geography and French, University of Melbourne (2008) and a B.Sc., Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne (2008).

New job:
Dr. Zoe Wang will be working at the City University of Hong Kong from next semester as the visiting fellow, mainly teaching subjects regarding environmental politics, policy and governance.

Workshop:
Both Krishna Shrestha and Phil McManus attended a joint Inception Workshop in Nepal from 4-6 May for their project titled Climate Adaptive and Water Management Plans for Cities in South Asia (CAMPS), and Phil presented this project on behalf of the team in the “Cities in a Changing Climate” 2nd session at the Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG) Conference in Adelaide on 29 June, 2016. (See Grants and Awards section of the newsletter for more details).
**Postdoc Position**

Danny Marks is completing his PhD thesis and has secured a postdoc position in the Department of Geography at the University of Toronto. He will be working with the Urban Climate Resilience in Southeast Asia Partnership and investigating the politics of drought in secondary cities in Thailand.

**Invitation**

Iris Bergmann has been invited to present at the International Thoroughbred Breeders Federation Conference 2017 in Cape Town. This is newsworthy in so far as it is not often that an industry group reaches out to animal studies scholars whose work is critical of current industry practices. Iris had been invited previously in 2015 to give two presentations at the annual conference of Hippiatrika, the publisher of the German equine veterinarian journal “Pferdeheilkunde”, a conference under the title the “Business and Ethics of Racing and The Role of the Veterinarian”. She had also been invited onto the conference board to contribute to the planning of that 2015 event. Iris is PhD student at the University of Sydney, investigating The Future for Horses in Thoroughbred Racing and the Sustainability of Welfare Concepts. Publication: Bergmann, Iris 2015. Sustainability, thoroughbred racing and the need for change. Pferdeheilkunde 31(5), 490-498.

**Sydney Half Marathon 2016 PB**

Billy Haworth – 1 hour, 46 minutes.

**Whole of School Seminar Series**

In addition to the geography seminar series Thinking Space, the School of Geosciences now has a whole of school seminar series. Following our Big Data and Geosciences seminar series in first semester, we have an expanded 2nd semester series on the theme of Welcome to the Anthropocene. Dale Dominey-Howes has played a key role in putting together an exciting line-up of speakers, including Professor Lesley Head (Melbourne) and Dr. Lauren Rickards (RMIT University). The seminars commence on 2nd August 2016 and run through until October. Visitors are welcome to attend. Details are available at [http://www.geosci.usyd.edu.au/news_events/bigdata.shtml](http://www.geosci.usyd.edu.au/news_events/bigdata.shtml)
We are delighted to welcome our new arrivals:
Ikerne Aguirre Bielschowsky, who commenced work in June as a Postdoctoral Fellow
Olivia Dun, who commenced work as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in early May
Vanessa Lamb, who takes up a lecturing position on August 8.
Celia McMichael, who commenced work as a lecturer in late May
Ilan Vizel, who commenced work as a lecturer in early May

Congratulations to:
• Adam Bumpus, who was named one of the Top 5 under 40 science communicators for Australia in an initiative run by ABC RN and UNSW.
• Michael-Shawn Fletcher, who has been promoted to Senior Lecturer
• Lesley Head on being awarded the Distinguished Fellowship of the Institute of Australia Geographers, a worthy winner indeed!
• Rachel Hughes, who has been promoted to Senior Lecturer
• David Kennedy and Darrn Hocking, who received the 2016 Dean of Science’s award for excellence in Environment, health and safety.

Events
There were many Australian geographers in attendance at the Climate Adaptation 2016 conference in Adelaide (July 5-7), including PhD student Svenja Keele, who played a leading role in the early career adaptors workshop on Monday July 4.
On August 30 the school is hosting a one symposium on Geography, Justice and the City to celebrate Ruth Fincher’s contributions to Geography. Speakers at this event will include Professor Brendan Gleeson, Dr Kurt Iveson, Professor Jane Jacobs, Professor Helga Leitner, Professor Valerie Preston, and Dr Ilan Vizel.
A book launch to celebrate Lesley Head’s Routledge monograph “Hope and Grief in the Anthropocene: Re-conceptualising Human–nature Relations” will be on Wednesday August 10.

In the news:
Adam Bumpus was featured on ABC’s Science Show on Radio National on Friday July 8, discussing the importance of understanding emerging waves in clean energy innovation. Link: http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/scienceshow/game-changer-for-new-energy-technologies/7581222
Jon Barnett was interviewed on The World Today on RN on Thursday July 7, discussing climate change adaptation in the Pacific islands. Link: http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2016/s4496216.htm
PhD student Lynda Hanlon was sponsored by the Royal Society of Victoria to attend a one-day workshop yesterday on ‘Media training for Scientists’, so we expect to see her in the news soon!
Curtin University

Geography at Curtin has recently welcomed Jagannath Adhikari as an adjunct research fellow. Jagannath has a strong research background in food security, labour migration and sustainable livelihoods. His most recent work can be viewed in Anthropological Forum 26(3): 1-14.

Roy Jones from Curtin University attended the IGU-SRS colloquium in Liege last week.

Amanda Davies has recently completed a study for Regional Development Australia – Perth examining future planning scenarios for Peri-Urban Perth. The study involved developing population projections and drew on land capacity and land use data as well as climate change models to identify activities and areas under threat from climate change.

Amity James has recently completed a study for the Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre on housing affordability. An article on the study was published by The Conversation (23 June 2016) and provided comment on the topical issues of housing affordability related to members of Generation Y.

Tod Jones was recently elected to the IAG council. This continues Curtin’s strong tradition of active involvement with the IAG, with George Curry, Roy Jones, Amity James and Amanda Davies all previously serving on the IAG council.

Gina Koczberski, George Curry and Simon Foale (JCU) convened a panel on Adaptation, Resilience & Changing Land and Marine-based Livelihood Systems in the Pacific, at the Australian Association for Pacific Studies Conference in April. The conference was hosted by the Cairns Institute and the College of Arts, Society & Education at James Cook University, Cairns. The panel attracted several interesting papers from Melanesia and the Pacific.

RMIT University

Joshua Whittaker is leaving RMIT University to join the Centre for Environmental Risk Management of Bushfire (CERMB) at the University of Wollongong in late August.
In the Field...

The mid winter break saw many staff and students from the School of Geography at Melbourne University head off for fieldwork and field classes. Among these, Drs Michael-Shawn Fletcher and Jane Dyson led a field class to experience Aboriginal life, culture and spirituality in southwestern Victoria and Arnhem Land. The group first explored Budj Bim, the remains of one of the oldest aquaculture systems in the world, and the remains of the Lake Condah Aboriginal Mission. They then went to the Northern Territory where they stayed with an Aboriginal family and experienced what land management means for people in Arnhem Land.

Tod Jones from Curtin University completed fieldwork in Trowulan, East Java, Indonesia on resident regulation, use and relations with artefacts and heritage sites in an archaeological landscape with Adrian Perkasa of Airlangga University. Alois Ndrewou a PhD student in the Department has recently returned from completing five months fieldwork in the East Sepik Province, PNG researching the impact of the Cocoa Pod Borer on cocoa farmers livelihoods and income security.


And Billy Haworth’s new article is not his first published work, but it is his first as a solo author!

Recent Books


Other 2016 books


Phillip O’Neill authored a major research report on behalf of the Western Sydney University’s Centre for Western Sydney. The report examines population and employment trends to paint a grim picture of the future of Western Sydney’s workforce and its transport infrastructure. The report finds the lack of local jobs and increasing population growth will exacerbate transport congestion, place enormous pressure on economic productivity, and generate unsustainable fiscal pressure for governments to fund adequate transport infrastructure. The report generated considerable media attention. It can be downloaded from www.westernsydney.edu.au/cws/policy.
2015 Books

The Peter Underwood Centre for Educational Attainment at the University of Tasmania hosted its inaugural ‘Education Transforms’ symposium in July this year, and a comprehensive e-collection from the symposium is now available at http://www.utas.edu.au/underwood-centre/EducationTransforms2015. The Centre and symposium both highlight the powerful connections that exist between educational outcomes and diverse geographical challenges, questions, and public policy frameworks and solutions, and may be of interest to geographers concerned with questions of social, economic, and cultural change and their relationship to the educational well-being of children and young people. For further information please contact Elaine.Stratford@utas.edu.au.


Rae Dufty-Jones, Dallas Rogers (eds), 2015, Housing in 21st-Century Australia: People, Practices and Policies, Ashgate: Aldershot. (The book will be launched by Prof Peter Phibbs at The State of Australian Cities Conference in Queensland on 10th December 2015.) Available at http://www.ashgate.com/isbn/9781472431134


Ross, A, Hall, R, Griffin, A, 2015 The search for tactical success in Vietnam: an analysis of Australian task force combat operations. Cambridge University Press reporting the results of an analysis of Australia’s participation in the Vietnam War. Full details about the book are available here: http://www.cambridge.org/bn/academic/subjects/history/military-history/search-tactical-success-vietnam-analysis-australian-task-force-combat-operations?format=HB. There is a companion website with an interactive map of all 4600+ combat operations, and aimed at communicating to a lay audience, which can be found at http://vietnam.unsw.adfa.edu.au


2014 Books


Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt 2014 Experiencing and coping with change: women-headed households in the Eastern Gangetic Plains. ACIAR Technical Reports No. 83. Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research: Canberra. 67 pp


