From the President

Wherever you are, I trust that you are well and happily settled into this year’s activities. It has been a busy time lately for the IAG with a number of initiatives to report on.

I’d like to begin by thanking Drs Tom Measham and Bruce Doran for organising such a fantastic IAG conference at ANU in Canberra last month. Not only were there excellent keynote talks, it was also wonderful to see so many outstanding symposia and open session presentations. Once again, I thank the study group convenors for being so active in organising stimulating sessions and for bringing other high profile speakers to our annual conference. The postgraduate student presentations were of high quality again this year and I thank all our student members for their hard efforts.

The business of the IAG is important to keep our society cohesive and relevant in a rapidly changing world. Council have been busy this year with a number of matters. Necessary changes to our constitution were passed by members at a special meeting in Sydney in May and have received final approval from the ACT Government. A special thankyou to Phil McManus, Robyn Bartel, Robert Gale and Julie Kesby for their roles in finalising these constitutional changes. A sub-committee, comprising of myself, Phil McManus and Ian Rutherford have negotiated a generous (new) 5-year contract with Wiley Publishing to continue to publish our journal Geographical Research, effective in early 2016. Thanks to Tom Measham, Council have embraced the ‘Friend of Geography’ initiative with two honorary geographers joining the elite group to promote our discipline within the broader Australian community. Please check the website for their biographies and if you would like to nominate someone, please contact our Honorary Secretary.

At the conference dinner, I had the honour and pleasure of presenting the Griffith Taylor Medal to Professor Arthur Conacher, one of the ‘stalwarts’ of the IAG for many decades. The Australia-International Medal for 2015 was awarded to Professor Gordon Clark, and we hope Gordon may be able to receive the medal in person next year at the Adelaide IAG Conference.
As reported elsewhere in this Newsletter we welcome Hugo Bekle to Council and say farewell and give thanks to Rae Duffy as she completes her term. I am very grateful to work with such a collegial team on Council and thank them for their efforts in keeping the IAG on an even keel.

I’d like to finish with some personal views about where Australian geographers might actively engage in some current national and global agendas. The Australian Government’s White Paper on the Development of Northern Australia – released in June this year – provides us with an opportunity to contribute constructively towards a more sustainable northern Australia and to advise our policy makers to follow a sensible path and avoid a repeat of the environmental disasters that have been pervasive in southern Australia since European settlement. I recently wrote an article for The Conversation raising concerns that the White Paper has ignored CSIRO’s climate change projections for Australia over this century. This omission serious questions the viability and affordability of many of the White Paper’s programs and plans for the development of the north. The Strategic Plan for Geographical Sciences, spearheaded by Alaric Maude, provides a platform for enhancing our contributions to a sustainable Australia, including the tropical north. At the international level there are many opportunities for Australian geographers to be engaging in climate change agendas ahead of the UNFCCC’s COP21 meeting in Paris later this year. There are other agendas on the horizon, such as the adoption and implementation of the UN’S Sustainable Development Goals that will also provide opportunities for some of us to make a positive impact on the lives of people much less fortunate than ourselves.

Best wishes

**Steve Turton,**
IAG President,
James Cook University,
[steve.turton@jcu.edu.au](mailto:steve.turton@jcu.edu.au)
CONGRATULATIONS TO GRIFFITH TAYLOR MEDALLIST FOR 2015

Professor Arthur Conacher

Our Griffith Taylor Award recipient for 2015 is Professor Arthur Conacher.

Professor Conacher has been awarded the highest honour of the IAG, the Griffith Taylor Medal. The presentation ceremony was conducted during the IAG Conference dinner in Canberra, held at the very capacious National Museum of Australia.

Professor Conacher is an outstanding Australian geographer whose research, teaching, service and leadership has been of enormous influence both nationally and internationally. The full citation (available on the IAG Website) provides highlights and some of the key features of Professor Conacher’s distinguished career. (Please see https://www.iag.org.au/uploads/2015/07/arthur-griffith-taylor-nomination-finalnocv.pdf for the full citation).

Congratulations also to Professor Gordon Clark, who is the recipient of the IAG AUSTRALIA-INTERNATIONAL MEDAL FOR 2015. Professor Clark will be in Australia to receive the award at the IAG Conference in 2016.
CONGRATULATIONS TO POSTGRADUATE SPEAKERS AT IAG 2015

Congratulations to the 21 recipients of the IAG Postgraduate Presentation Awards for 2015 (please see herein for the full list).

WELCOME TO FRIENDS OF GEOGRAPHY

The IAG has launched a new initiative for the promotion of geography, “Friends of Geography”, which will invite high profile individuals with geography backgrounds and interests to promote geography on our behalf. We are very happy to welcome the Honourable Laurie Ferguson MP as our first Friend of Geography. Please see https://www.iag.org.au/uploads/2015/05/friend-of-geography-statement-by-honourable-laurie-fergusson.pdf.

Social commentator and public intellectual Mr Bernard Salt has also recently accepted an invitation to be a “Friend”. Mr Salt is an Adjunct Professor at Curtin University Business School and writes two weekly columns for The Australian newspaper that deal with social, generational and broader demographic matters.

Welcome to both Laurie and Bernard!

Suggestions for new nominations are welcome and may be made in writing to the IAG Council. Please see https://www.iag.org.au/about/friends-of-geography/ for further details.

It is intended that “Friends” will become honorary members of the Institute of Australian Geographers. They will be a select group of prominent public figures from diverse backgrounds, invited on behalf of the Institute in recognition of their long term interest in geography. They will have an understanding and appreciation for the discipline and act as advocates for geography, either based on formal training in the discipline or a strong personal passion for geography (or both).

Thanks to Tom Measham for his work on this important new endeavour.

WELCOME TO NEW COUNCILLOR, Dr Hugo Bekle

Welcome Dr Hugo Bekle, who is our new Councillor on IAG Council. Hugo hails from Western Australia and is a keen physical geographer, long-time IAG member and FIAG recipient, amongst other honours.
THANKS TO OUTGOING COUNCILLOR, Dr Rae Dufty-Jones

Thanks to Dr Dufty-Jones. During her four-year term Rae has been instrumental in many IAG initiatives including leading the postgraduate presentations awards programme (please see again elsewhere in the newsletter for full details).


This award recognises contributions to the profession of geography. Further details are available herein and from: https://www.iag.org.au/about/awards-of-the-iag/. The closing date for FIAG nominations (calls are made twice a year for FIAG) is Friday 27 November 2015. Nominations should be sent to the IAG Secretary, Dr Robyn Bartel, at rbartel@une.edu.au.

For further enquiries, please contact either Professor Steve Turton at steve.turton@jcu.edu.au or on (07) 4042 1292, or the Secretary, Dr Robyn Bartel, at rbartel@une.edu.au or (02) 6773 2904.

All other awards will next be called in 2016. Note that the Griffith Taylor Medal is only awarded every second year and nominations will next be called in 2017.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Constitution passed at the Special General Meeting in May 2015 have been accepted by the ACT Office of Regulatory Services, so the IAG can now move forward in clarifying its not for profit status. Thanks to all who have worked on this important enterprise.

UPCOMING IAG CONFERENCES

At the AGM in Canberra in July the following conference schedule was confirmed:

2016 – Adelaide
2017 – Brisbane
2018 - Auckland, New Zealand (combined NZGS/IAG conference).

UPCOMING IAG COUNCIL MEETINGS

The IAG Council will be holding a planning meeting before the end of the year, date and venue to be confirmed.

Robyn Bartel
IAG Secretary.
Report from the Treasurer and Membership Secretary

Figures from the MYOB database show that there were 438 paid members in 2014, and 423 paid members to 31 July 2015. The payment details are as follows. In 2014, 366 members paid for the current year; plus 72 prepayments from the previous year. In 2015, 316 members paid for the current year; plus 71 prepayments from 2013 and 36 prepayments from 2014.

If you have not yet paid your membership subscription for 2015, please contact Kirstie Petrou to renew (kpet5792@uni.sydney.edu.au). Kirstie can also check if you are paid-to-date. We will send out reminder notices in early September.

We note that the 3-year membership option is an important way to secure a core membership and to reduce administrative costs. Members who anticipate an ongoing commitment to geography are particularly encouraged to take advantage of the (discounted) 3-year membership. Maintaining and growing our membership base is crucial to the viability of the journal, study group funding and postgraduate conference travel.

Robert Gale and Aidan Davison

Welcome

The IAG Council welcomes the following new members of the IAG

Yasa Belmar, University of Queensland; Crystal Legacy, RMIT; Margaret Robertson, La Trobe; Stephen Matthews, University College London; Andrew Harwood, University of Tasmania; Brett Bryan, CSIRO; Mark Shepheard, University of New England; Dallas Rogers, University of Western Sydney; Nik Callow, University of Western Australia; Thea Hewitt, University of Melbourne; Caitlin Buckle, University of New South Wales; Robert Coorey, Geospatial Intelligence Pty Ltd; Danielle Taylor, University of Adelaide; Rebecca Campbell, University of Wollongong; David Kelly, Deakin, Sarah Taylor, RMIT, Abdul-Wadood Moomen, Curtin, Lance Barrie, University of Wollongong, Africa Taylor, University of Canberra; Karly Burch, University of Otago, Susan Hobley, University of Sydney; Renee Duarte, ACT Government; Monica Seini, Griffith University; Danny Marks, University of Sydney; Margaret Raven, UNSW; Sarah Robertson, RMIT; Lesley Crowe-Delaney, Curtin; Belinda Jenkin; Graham Thompson, Curtin; Cecily Maller, RMIT; Kathryn Gomersall, University of Melbourne; Kirsten Martinus, University of Western Australia; Melinda McHenry, CQU; Lana Leslie, University of Western Sydney; Luka Thornton, Deakin, Pamela Thomas, ANU.
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 (citation)
- Dr Les Heathcote 1997 (citation)
- Dr Joe Gentilli 1998
- Professor Fay Gale 2001 (citation)
- Professor Bruce Thom 2004 (citation)
- Emeritus Professor John Holmes 2006 (citation)
- Professor Joe Powell 2008
- Professor Michael Webber 2011 (citation)
- Professor Jim Walmsley 2013 (citation)

Australia - International Medal
- Professor Janice Monk 1999
- Professor Reginald Golledge 2000
- Professor Tom McKnight 2001
- Emeritus Professor Harold Brookfield 2005 (citation)
- Emeritus Professor Ian Douglas 2006 (citation)
- Professor John Connell 2009 (citation)
- Professor Katherine Gibson and Professor Julie Graham 2010 (citation)
- Associate Professor Louise Johnson 2011 (citation)

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

Distinguished Fellowship of the Institute of Australian Geographers
- Professor Iain Hay 2008
- Associate Professor Tony Sorenson 2008
- Professor Arthur Conacher
- 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
- Dr Ashley Webb 2012
- 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
Grants and Awards Received

The following have recently received the award of PhD:

**Patrina Dumaru** has been awarded a PhD for her research on The Effects of Community Based Adaptation on Adaptive Capacity: Lessons from the Koro.

**Ashley Macqueen** has been awarded a PhD for his research on Implications of oviposition site selection and habitat limitation for caddisfly populations in sand-bed streams.

**Rebecca McNaught** has been awarded an MPhil for her thesis on Insights into Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation: A Study of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

The following have won research grants and awards:

**Elizabeth Kendall, Francoise Maujean, Anna Stewart, Bonnie Barber, Martin Downes, Jason Byrne, Kym Macfarlane**, $188,028 for their project “Farming 4 Care: Using nature to cultivate resilience in young people”. This research explores using access to nature as a therapeutic intervention for children from disadvantaged and troubled backgrounds.

**Associate Professor Kate Lloyd, Associate Professor Greg Downey, Dr Rebecca Bilous, Dr Michaela Baker, Dr Felicity Rawlings-Sanaei, Laura Hammersley** and **Eryn Coffey** were awarded an OLT grant for their project “Classroom of Many Cultures: Co-Creating Support Curriculum with International Community Partners and Students”. The project, valued at $348 000, will see new curriculum resources embedded into Macquarie University’s ambitious PACE (Professional and Community Engagement) work-integrated learning program, and prepare students for health, safety and cross-cultural communication challenges. Working with international partners, this project will model intercultural collaboration and the inclusion of diverse intercultural perspectives in the design and development of a new curriculum for outbound international placement students. The project is now underway and is scheduled for completion and dissemination in 2016.
Jason Byrne, Neil Sipe and Jago Dodson’s co-edited book on Australian Environmental Planning won a national award from the Planning Institute of Australia for cutting edge research and teaching: https://app.griffith.edu.au/news/2015/05/14/urban-research-program-wins-pias-top-award/

Professor Andrew Beer, Associate Professor Alan Morris, Emeritus Professor John Martin, Emeritus Professor Christopher Paris, Associate Professor Trevor Budge and partners including the City of Playford, Greater Bendigo City Council, Local Government Association of South Australia, Brimbank City Council, Rural City of Murray Bridge, Waverley Council, Randwick City Council, Berri Barmera Council, City of Mt Gambier and Moonee Valley City Council has been awarded an ARC Linkage project worth $290,132. The project plans to analyse survey data, qualitative interviews and detailed case studies to investigate and theorise trends in the relationship between local government and housing supply and demand.

Ian Rutherfurd, with colleagues from Melbourne University, has been awarded an ARC Linkage Grant to develop tools to evaluate mitigation options that will protect water supplies and increase the resilience of Australian communities to bushfire.

Billy Haworth won the 2015 International Association of Wildland Fire PhD Student Scholarship for US$3,000 to support fieldwork for his research into volunteered geographic information for community engagement in bushfire preparation - see http://www.iawfonline.org/ He also won the 2015 Esri Young Scholars Award - recipient of all-expenses paid trip to attend the Esri User Conference in San Diego, CA, (last week), awarded for his project ‘Spatio-temporal analysis of graffiti occurrence in an inner-city urban environment’ - see https://esriaustralia.com.au/p/news/new-research-to-help-scrub-out-graffiti-nar-273 and the Faculty of Science Postgraduate Research Prize for Outstanding Academic Achievement (AU$500) - awarded from the University of Sydney following his recent paper ‘A review of Volunteered Geographic Information for disaster management’.
The IAG conference was held at Australian National University, Canberra 1-3 July 2015 and was a great success. Despite the cold conditions the conference attracted over 250 participants, bolstered by puffer vests to take part in a lively series of parallel sessions and plenary presentations.

In what turned out to be a genuine application of the conference theme, the opening keynote was given by Professor Patrick Dodson live via Skype from Boome, due to last minute changes to his travel schedule which prevented him coming in person.

Source: T. Measham
Fellow keynote speakers Kersty Hobson (Oxford) Lesley Head (Melbourne), Mark Partridge (Ohio State) and Mark Gahegan (Auckland) all gave excellent and inspiring presentations. Pyone Myat Thu (UWA) delivered a compelling talk about the human geographies of Timor-Leste and the political economy of oil extraction for the Fay Gale Memorial lecture. Alongside the main conference, several workshops were conducted including a post-graduate day and several study group events.

In addition, the ‘Informing Australian Land Use Symposium’ preceded the main conference and brought together an additional line up of great talks in honour of the late Dr Robert Leslie and his contribution to mapping land use and ecological condition.

The Conference dinner was held at the Australian Museum and included the presentation of the Griffith Taylor Medal to Arthur Conacher. It also included some impromptu speeches reflecting on how far geographers have come in terms of gender equality since the early days. The #iag2015Canberra hash tag was highly active in the build up to the conference and throughout the week, supplementing and enhancing traditional question and answer sessions following the talks.

We look forward to another lively conference in Adelaide in 2016.
IAG Outstanding Postgraduate Presentation Awards

This year 21 out of 65 eligible students scored more than 20/25 for their presentation at the IAG conference. These students were awarded an IAG Outstanding Postgraduate Presentation Award.

Congratulations to the following recipients:


Many thanks to all our assessors at each session (listed below):

Andrew McGregor, Brian Cook, Chris Brennan-Horley, Christine Eriksen, Dan Robinson, Danielle Drozdzewski, David Bissell, Donna Houston, Meg Sherval, Elizabeth Taylor, Garth Lean, Ilan Vizel, Kathy Mee, Leah Gibbs, Lesley Instone, Maria Hynes, Michele Lobo, Nick Gill, Phil McManus, Rebecca Cross, Robyn Bartel, Robyn Mayes, Sarah Wright, Scott McKinnon, Shawn Laffan, Steve Turton.

IAG2016 - Hold the date!!!

The IAG will return to Adelaide next June for IAG2016. A postgraduate day will be held on Tuesday 28th June, with the main conference sessions being held from Wednesday 29th to Friday 1st July. IAG2016 is being organised by a consortium of geographers from Flinders and Adelaide University, the University of South Australia, CSIRO and the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia. The lead organiser is Professor Andrew Millington (Flinders University). Our conference theme is being built around ‘frontiers, margins and explorations’ which we encourage IAG members to interpret creatively. At this time, we would like to hear from study group convenors about their plans, and postgraduate members ideas about what they might like to do on the postgraduate day.

Andrew Millington (andrew.millington@flinders.edu.au)
Other Conferences

The Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences; the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development; and Polish Geographical Society have organized the international WARSAW REGIONAL FORUM 2015 conference "Territorial uncertainty and vulnerability as a challenge for urban and regional policy".

This year’s Forum will be focused on the concept of territorial uncertainty and vulnerability based on a foundation of different sciences across multiple disciplines (geography, economy, sociology, regional studies, spatial planning, environmental studies, etc.) as well as on the basis of political documents of varied level.

In particular, the Forum 2015 sessions will be built upon the discussions on the following dilemmas and research questions:

- Vulnerability and resilience of cities/towns
- Resilience of natural environment to spatial and economic changes.
- The role of infrastructure in promoting the development and safety in the regions.
- Stability of local development vs. regional and European policy.
- Social transformations vs. instability of development.
- Public management under varied social and economic conditions.

The Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Conference will be held in October 21-24, 2015, in Palm Springs. Huge windfarms usher visitors across the desert to a decadently lush place. As well as a plethora of great geography talks, poster presentations and field trips, you can take a short a cable-car ride from the desert floor to the snow-capped, pine-clad Mount San Jacinto. Or visit a splendid historic Cactarium! Don’t miss the breathtaking Indian Canyons run by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. Not far away at Cabazon is the inevitable outlet shopping on a grand scale. A round of golf at one of the 15 or more courses, where famous golfers and famous old film-stars have swung a club? Architecture, theater, food….there’s far too much to list here. The webpage for the 2015 APCG Conference in Palm Springs is available at: http://www.csun.edu/social-behavioral-sciences/geography/apcg-2015

The Planning and Transport Research Centre (PATREC) Research Forum 2015, will be held at the Esplanade Hotel Fremantle, Western Australia on 16 November 2015. PATREC is positioning itself as the leading research centre for planning and transport in Western Australia. The Forum will host leading international and Australian speakers showcasing the latest the research findings in addressing policy planning issues regarding a Boomtown. The basis for the Research Forum is a book, Planning Boomtown and Beyond, which is primarily about Perth, by Perth-based researchers, with and for Perth transport and urban and regional planning policy-makers and potentially, students. The program is taking shape under the guidance of a Scientific Committee made up of Australian researchers and professionals (industry partners), and will appeal to other academics/researchers, teaching and training professionals, (post-graduate) students, professional policy makers and practitioners from the Perth metropolitan and rural areas, consultants in this field and other PATREC stakeholders.

The fourth ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on the use of GIS in Public Health: HealthGIS 2015 workshop will be held on November 3 Seattle, Washington, USA. Details at this web address http://imsc.usc.edu/healthgis-2015/index.html

The Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER), organizes its 6th Annual International Conference on Urban Studies & Planning, 6-9 June 2016, Athens, Greece. A 300-word abstract is due by 9 November 2015 (email atiner@atiner.com) addressed to Dr. Nicholas N. Patricios, Director, Engineering & Architecture Research Division, ATINER, and Professor & Dean Emeritus, School of Architecture, University of Miami, USA. Should you wish to participate in the Conference as a chair of a session, evaluate papers which are to be included in the conference proceedings or books, contribute to the editing of a book, or any other contribution, please send an email to Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER & Honorary Professor, University of Stirling, UK (gregory.papanikos@stir.ac.uk).
Call for Papers  
Geographical Interactions  

New Zealand Geographical Society Conference  
1-4 February 2016, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand  

The Organising Committee extends a warm invitation to the 2016 Conference of the New Zealand Geographical Society. We invite delegates to present papers on any aspect of Geography, and to address the conference theme (Geographical Interactions) where appropriate. We would like you to consider and comment on the many forms of interactions that characterise Geography, including interdisciplinary research, communicating Geography to different communities of interest, communicating the relevance of Geography, and research that involves collaborations across professional boundaries.  

We welcome those from outside the academic and teaching communities who are interested in the relevance of Geography in contemporary New Zealand society and wish to connect with the geography community. We extend a special welcome to Teachers and students of geography and hope that the special teacher and post-graduate sessions will be of direct benefit to your work. We will ensure you leave Dunedin with good memories of a stimulating conference and southern hospitality. Please visit the Conference website for all information and to submit abstracts: http://www.otago.ac.nz/nzgs-conference-2016.  

We are delighted to announce our keynote speakers: Professor Richard Bedford, President of the Royal Society of New Zealand; Professor Graciela Metternicht, Director, Institute of Environmental Studies, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia; Mr Alan Kinder, Chief Executive, Geographical Association, UK, Professor Eric Pawson, University of Canterbury and Dr Harvey Perkins, Director, People & Places. Further keynote speakers will be announced shortly.  

Abstract submission and registration is now open. Please submit abstracts for oral or poster presentation by the 15th October 2015 via the Conference website. Proposals for themed sessions should be submitted by the 1 October 2015.  

If you have any questions or would like to convene special sessions please contact the conference organisers at: nzgs2016-conference@otago.ac.nz
Geoscience Australia Open Day
Sunday 23 August 2015

Geoscience Australia’s 2015 annual Open Day will offer a diverse program of free hands-on activities, science displays and talks for all ages. Come along and learn about the exciting range of work carried out by Australia’s national geoscience agency. See the robot which helps make your GPS more accurate, find out how earthquakes are detected, pan for gold, check out Australia in 3D, or become a seafloor detective. Have a chat with a real geoscientist and find out what goes on in this mysterious building.

See. Learn. Explore.

**When:** Sunday 23 August 2015, 10am - 3pm

**Where:** Geoscience Australia, Cnr Hindmarsh Dr and Jerrabomberra Ave, Symonston ACT


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**Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) Open Day** will be held on **Saturday, 29 August 2015 from 9.00 am until 4.00 pm** on Northcott Drive in Campbell, ACT.


Open Day at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) is an ideal opportunity for you to experience first hand this unique, world class training and educational facility. If you are interested in combining a challenging and exciting career in the Australian Defence Force with a degree then you should come along and find out more.

UNSW Canberra actively welcomes postgraduate applications from non-military applicants. Defence Force Recruiting will also be at the Open Day to answer questions and help you with an application to join the Navy, Army or Air Force.
The California Geographical Society met at Humboldt State University in Arcata 1-3 May 2015, with a program of 80 papers and 3 workshops. As the name suggests, much of the work presented was regional and local; papers did include Peru, Cuba, Jamaica and Mozambique, but Australia was notably absent. My own interest this year was the name Humboldt, place-naming as messages from the past, creating controllable landscapes of power, and the consequent decimation of indigenous people and their place-names. So for readers Down Under I provide a few comments here, starting with a sartorial memories. At the banquet prize-winning student Ms Amber Salmon from Cosumnes River College wore a striking cartographic frock [Figure 1 & 2].

1. Ms Salmon in cartographic frock

2. Not often do we see Australia so close to Greenland
The men too dressed for the event: Bill Bowen’s tie vividly showed the San Andreas Fault, and Bob Voeks’s special tie reminded us of the major agricultural product of the north of the state. Fig 3 & 4]. The Keynote address by Mourad Gabriel from the Integral Ecology Research Center (http://www.ierceology.org/) revealed the perils of uncontrolled illegal growth in the northern State Forests and Tribal forests - environmental devastation and the spread of lethal poisons throughout ecosystems.

The trip to the Deep North included a visit to Bodega Bay (where Hitchcock filmed “The Birds”) and to nearby Fort Ross, the southernmost settlement of the Russians as they came south from New Archangelsk (Sitka) seeking sea otter and farmland [Figs 5 &6].
A Friday field trip around Humboldt May on the century-old vessel “Madaket” provided not only great views and extensive narrative, but the chance to enjoy a beverage at the smallest licensed bar in the state of California [Figs 7 &8].

Abundant lumber, delicious organic produce, local artisan cheeses, not to mention various craft breweries, all make this part of California a special place to visit. Just north of Arcata is Trinidad (not the island – a Spanish voyager passed there on Trinity Sunday). Here is more spectacular coast, more redwoods, the famous Humboldt fog, and a small church redolent of many small North Queensland towns (Fig 9 & 10).

The combination of scholarship, camaraderie and student enthusiasm makes California Geographical Society meetings special; you know you are among friends whose interests and enthusiasms are similar to yours, and the locations are always remarkable. Humboldt State University provided a splendid venue.

Why not join us next May in San Jose (http://www.csun.edu/~calgeosoc/)?

Ray Sumner
Study Groups

The Critical Development Study Group (CDSG) had a great IAG this year in Canberra with four well attended sessions including two penal sessions; one on theoretical interventions, the other on pedagogy in development studies. With IAG support we were also very lucky to have May-an Angela Villalba from the Philippines join us for our various activities and sessions during the conference. The CDSG committee would especially like to thank May-an and Ann Hill for delivering the study group’s Leading Insight presentation at the conference. The conversational style of the presentation was well received and novel amidst the usual one-way knowledge flow – well done and thank you! The CDSG is pushing ahead with a range of ideas coming out of the study group meeting held during the conference including ways of engaging broader policy and public debates in the field of development studies. We also began discussions on the possibility of a study group symposium in early February. We’re looking forward to a busy and productive 2016! Why not join the Critical Development Study Group? Send us an email at paul.hodge@newcastle.edu.au or sarah.wright@newcastle.edu.au

Health Geography Study Group: The inaugural meeting of the IAG HGSG took place during a 1 day workshop on the 30 June 2015 at UNSW Canberra. A special thanks goes to Dr Amy Griffin for pulling this workshop together. More details of this meeting and other interests of this IAG study group can be found in the HGSG newsletter at: https://www.iag.org.au/uploads/2015/07/iag-hgsg-newsletter-july-2015.pdf

To support the potential for collaboration we will be adding a directory of expertise to the study group’s webpage within the IAG main webpage. If you would like to be listed, please send an email to Amy Griffin (a.griffin@adfa.edu.au) with the following information:

1) Name; 2) Affiliation(s); 3) Email address (if you want it listed); 4) homepage (if you want it listed); 5) A short statement of your current/past projects and methodological expertise (a paragraph at most, but a few sentences and/or keywords will suffice); 6) A photo (if you want one on the website).
Indigenous People's Knowledges and Rights Study Group:

The Giving Back workshop, jointly hosted by the IPKR Study Group and AIATSIS, was a successful pre-IAG event. Nearly 30 participants, including researchers and community members, contributed to a day of reflection and planning on how geographers can, have and should work collaboratively with Indigenous peoples. A workshop report is being drafted and will hopefully be published in the near future.

It was great having Prof Jan Monk visit from the University of Arizona and contribute to the workshop and the IAG conference in Canberra with her 'Leading Insight' presentation. We were honoured that Prof Monk was able to share her wisdom and reflections gathered from over fifty years of research.

The IPKR study group sessions on the Wednesday of the IAG conference involved excellent presentations and some great discussions. Many thanks to all presenters and participants for their contributions to the conference.

Dr Pooja Agrawal from Harvard University is demonstrating hands on exercise on field survey methods
Legal Geography Study Group

THANKS TO EVERYONE … for several great days of Legal Geography at IAG Canberra! Thanks to our Session Presenters: Sopheak Chann, Sil Lanckriet, David Turton, Paul McFarland, Tayanah O'Donnell, Lauren Butterly, Lesley Crowe-Delaney, Meg Sherval, Jasmyn Lynch, Daniel Robinson, Ellen Van Holstein, Jessica Weir, Maozeng Jiang and Robyn Bartel.

And special thanks to our “Leading Insight” presenter Mr Grant Pink, Commonwealth Department of Environment. And to our Session Chairs: Daniel Robinson, Meg Sherval and Robyn Bartel.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The following members joined the Legal Geography Study Group at IAG Canberra: Lesley Crowe Delaney, Ellen Van Holstein and Oriane Simon. Welcome to the best study group of the IAG! :-)

NOTICE OF NEXT LEGAL GEOGRAPHY WRITING WORKSHOP

The next writing workshop, to follow on from successful workshops at UNE and UTAS, and our Inaugural Symposium at UTS will be … <drumroll> … 28 – 29 January 2016 at UNSW and our workshop leader is Daniel Robinson. Thanks to the IAG for funding and support for this workshop. Pls contact Daniel Robinson for further details at http://www.ies.unsw.edu.au/our-people/dr-daniel-robinson

Military Geography - calling interested people

Stuart Pearson, Jane Holloway and Richard Thackway convened an inaugural Military Geography session at the IAG 2015. Jane Holloway is a geography user working in Defence and is contributing to the Strategic Military Geography research group. This includes a chapter titled 'Strategic military Geography: Climate change adaptation and the military' in the Handbook of Climate Change Adaptation 2015, pp. 493-514.

The session included people from Navy, conservation, education, students, civil and military agencies with research interests in defence, security, the defence estate management and geography interests. There are a few publications and grant applications now in progress. If people would like to join the nascent group please email s.pearson@unsw.edu.au
News from the Field

Sunita Chaudhary, PhD candidate from Macquarie University completed her fieldwork in early March 2015. Her research explores how and why the costs and benefits of ecosystems are distributed to different groups of Nepalese society, characterized by income, gender and caste; and how this shapes the wellbeing of different social groups. Her fieldwork was conducted in Mai Pokhari, a Ramsar site in Nepal, which is situated 85 kilometers south to the Mount Kangchenjunga– the third highest mountain in the world. The site is ecologically rich and culturally diverse with more than seven ethnic communities and other castes. The site also has a sacred pond with high religious value known as Mai Pokhari in Nepalese language (i.e. Mai=Mother, and Pokhari =pond). People in the area are closely linked with nature, especially forest and pond ecosystems, as their main occupation is subsistence agriculture and livestock farming. Following a mixed methods approach, Sunita stayed in the field for more than four months and conducted a total of total of 109 households surveys, 15 key informants interviews, eight focus groups discussions and four participatory resource mapping activities. With this information, she intends to provide in-depth empirical evidence on differentiated relationships between ecosystems and society, and critically explore questions of equity and justice – currently under-researched in ‘ecosystem services’ discourse.

Sunita Chaudhary.

Sunita Chaudhary doing research
Kerryn Higgs will be giving a public lecture at UTAS on 2 Sep, 2015 titled "Can we sustain endless growth on a finite planet?" She is also giving a seminar on Fri 4 Sep at the Institute for the Study of Social Change in Political Science/Arts titled ‘The Consolidation of Corporate Power’. Although there were earlier forms, the modern corporation emerged in late nineteenth century America and rapidly began to develop transnational reach. Corporate power has steadily consolidated since then. Setbacks were overcome, influence institutionalised, and public relations deployed ever more artfully to persuade ostensible democracies to legislate in the corporate interest. Corporate preferences eventually came to dominate international policy bodies as well, especially in the neoliberal phase of the late twentieth century.
Geosciences Nepal Earthquake Forum a success!

More than a hundred students, faculty members and friends attended the School of Geosciences Nepal Earthquake forum at the Old Geology Lecture Theatre on Monday, 25th May 2015. Held in conjunction with Oxfam Australia, Sydney Ideas and the Sydney Environment Institute, the event was hosted by A/Prof Bill Pritchard and included presentations from Professor Geoff Clarke on the geology of the quake, A/Prof Dale Dominey-Howes on disaster planning and management in Nepal, and Wayne Gum, from Oxfam Australia, on current relief efforts. The forum was held with organisational support from Geosciences undergraduate students, and specifically, the Geosciences’ student society GeoSoc. A total of $2,466 AUD in donations was raised for Oxfam’s relief efforts in Nepal. The forum was prompted by Geosciences’ extensive active research interests in South Asia, across all its disciplinary areas of Geology, Geophysics and Geography.

Phil Hirsch delivered the annual Political Geography Elsevier sponsored Plenary Lecture, delivered at the Southeast Asian Geography Association conference in Siem Reap, Cambodia 24-27 November 2014. This was the first time that this sponsored lecture has been held beyond conferences in Europe and North America. The paper on which the lecture was based (“The Shifting Regional Geopolitics of Mekong Dams”) will be published in Political Geography in late 2015, along with written responses by the four discussants.

Sue Hobley presented a paper relating to her PhD thesis research on urban forestry to the 18th European Forum on Urban Forestry "Connecting the Street Tree to the Urban Forestry - Strengthening Nature for Urban Living” in Brussels in June.

Rae Dufty-Jones (UWS) and Mr. George Boughton (from the UK) currently are academic visitors in the School of Geosciences at the University of Sydney.

A workshop on Coastal Remote Sensing was held at the University of Sydney on 22 July 2015 to review opportunities presented by recent advancements in satellite instrumentation in particular CubeSat technology. The workshop was convened by Eleanor Bruce, Ana Vila Concejo and Richard Murphy from the School of Geosciences and funded through Sydney SpaceNet. Speaker presentations can be accessed from the following link http://sydney.edu.au/research/spacenet/news-events/20150429.shtml
Researchers from the School of Geosciences (Eleanor Bruce, Billy Haworth and Stephanie Duce) and Faculty of Agriculture and Environment, USyd (Floris van Ogtrop), School of Earth and Environment, UWA (Bryan Boruff, Natasha Pauli, Julia Horsley), Department of Geography, University of Southampton (Academic Lead - Ellie Biggs, John Duncan) and University of Auckland (Andreas Neef, Kellie McNeill) in collaboration with regional partners, the Asia Pacific Network and International Water Management Institute, have recently completed a WUN funded project involving the development of a spatial framework for assessing environmental livelihood security http://wun.ac.uk/wun/research/view/spatial-framework-for-assessing-environmental-livelihood-security, http://wun.ac.uk/article/ensuring-environmental-livelihood-security.

Eleanor Bruce, Phil McManus and Derek Wyman (University of Sydney) were successful in the university’s Small Educational Innovation Grant scheme and will receive funding of almost $10 000. The application was titled “Virtual fieldtrips: an experiential learning approach for field-based disciplines”. Three case study virtual fieldtrips (VFTs) will allow trial of alternative modes of delivery across the different field-based disciplines:

1. Upper Hunter VFT (GEOS2121) is organized as a virtual ‘tour’ of the field area imparting a sense of travel, with ‘stops’ to simulate the infield excursion experience [Geography/Environmental Science].

2. Jervis Bay VFT (GEOS3014) an interactive mapping platform will enable students to enter geographically referenced data, a functionality which contributes to the learning experience, provides a method of assessment and allows the collation of longitudinal data for use in future years. [Geography/Marine Science].

3. Geological Field School (GEOS2114) builds on an existing TSP initiative which established the utility of camera equipped drones and 3D terrain reconstructions for virtual field learning. This case study will allow pre-field preparation and post-field data integration. [Geology/Geophysics]

Monash University, Centre for Geography and Environmental Science

Anthony Kent gave a presentation at a workshop convened by the Eastern Regional Organization for Planning and Human Settlements (EAROPH) and Clarence Valley Council entitled ‘Shepparton and SPC - the challenge of change for rural Australia’. The workshop was held in Yamba, NSW on 14 May. A research brief on the presentation can be found on the EAROPH Australia website in the June e-newsletter.
News from the School of Geography at The University of Melbourne

Professor Lesley Head (Australian Centre For Cultural Environmental Research, Wollongong) will begin her new role as Head of School starting in 2016. Dr. Jane Dyson (Geography, Oxford), has been appointed as a lecturer in the School of Geography, commencing in 2016. Dr Dyson was recently awarded a UK Economic and Social Research Council prize for Outstanding International Impact. [http://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2015-06-25-social-geographer-jane-dyson-awarded-outstanding-international-impact](http://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2015-06-25-social-geographer-jane-dyson-awarded-outstanding-international-impact)

Professor Craig Jeffrey (Geography, Oxford), has been appointed as Director of the Australia-India Institute, with an adjunct appointment in the School of Geography. The School has advertised for a number of new Lecturer level B positions, with applications closing in early September. For further information see [http://jobs.unimelb.edu.au/caw/en/listing/](http://jobs.unimelb.edu.au/caw/en/listing/)

The School has also been awarded a 2016 Miegunyah Fellowship to host Professor Sheila Jasanoff from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University

University of Western Sydney

Phillip O’Neill has returned to his post as Director of the Centre for Western Sydney after six months at University College London. Phillip was on study leave and enjoyed a posting as Visiting Professor at the Bartlett School of Planning.
University of Wollongong Human Geography Society (UOW HuGS) established!

The Department of Geography and Sustainable Communities at Wollongong has recently established a Human Geography Society (UOW HuGS) – aiming to bring together staff, postgraduates and the ever-increasing numbers of undergraduate students. The society contributes to the lively sense of community among geographers here at Wollongong and we will be running a range of social and academic events. The society is currently run by:

Sophie-May Kerr (Founder and President)
Carrie Wilkinson (Vice President)
Charles Gillon (Treasurer)
Elizabeth Oliver (Secretary)
Susannah Clement (Postgrad rep)
Emily O’Donnell (Undergrad rep)

UOW HuGS aims to increase networks between students who share similar interests and we look forward to building wider connections with other geography communities. You can become a friend of HuGS by following us on Twitter @UOWHuGS or Facebook: UOW Human Geography Society.

Surfing Places, Surfboard Makers by Andrew Warren and Chris Gibson was shortlisted for the 2015 Hawai‘i Book Publisher’s Association’s Ka Palapala Po’okela Book of the Year Awards, and won the 2015 Australian Society for Sports History Book Award.

Congratulations to Anna de Jong, who has been awarded a Postdoctoral Research fellowship at the University of the Highlands and Islands, Scotland, UK. Anna will be based at the Centre for Recreation and Tourism Research in Fort William, working on an EU-funded project ‘Gastrocert’: a European gastro-tourism study with partners in Sweden, Spain and Italy. Anna is on track to submit her PhD thesis in early August. Her thesis is entitled ‘Rethinking festivals through return journeys to Mardi Gras: unbounding, performing and embodying’, supervised by Profs Gordon Waitt and Chris Gibson.

Congratulations to Katie O’Neal on the completion of her Master of Environmental Science thesis entitled ‘Improving coastal management outcomes through science and the law’. Katie’s interdisciplinary research project has been supervised by Dr Leah Gibbs (Department of
Macquarie University, Department of Geography and Planning

The Department of Geography and Planning is hosting an engaging seminar series with visiting fellows, academics and PhD students all contributing to discussions on teaching and research. For the latest seminar information, please visit http://www.arts.mq.edu.au/news_and_events

Dr Jess McLean has been invited to participate in the ARC Kathleen Fitzpatrick Laureate Fellowship Mentoring Scheme at the University of Melbourne. This scheme is a part of Professor Joy Damousi’s ARC Kathleen Fitzpatrick Laureate Fellowship, and aims to attract outstanding early career female researchers who have completed their PhDs within the past 10 years in the humanities and the social sciences to an intensive mentoring programme.

Congratulations to Laura Hammersley and Marnie Graham who have submitted their PhDs and are now involved in various research projects at Macquarie University.

Ashraful Alam was invited to participate in the Institute of "Humanitarian Response and Post-Conflict Reconstruction: Increasing Effectiveness and Accountability in the Age of Complex Emergencies" at Brown University Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) in the USA from June 6-20, 2015. The Institute was designed as a series of intensive residential workshop programs and included training on research methodologies, research proposal writings for grant applications and presentations and submission of the proposals.

Nicole McNamara, PhD candidate, participated in the 2015 International Graduate Conference at Tsinghua University in early July 2015.
Retirement of Associate Professor Paul Tranter from UNSW Canberra

Associate Professor Paul Tranter retired from UNSW Canberra in July. Paul began his academic career in 1980 when he joined UNSW at the Faculty of Military Studies at the Royal Military College Duntroon. He came from Newcastle University where he did his PhD on Rhythms in Urban Pathological Events. Geography at Duntroon moved next door in 1986 to the newly created Australian Defence Force Academy and Paul was one of the founding members of the Department of Geography and Oceanography, later to become the School of Geography and Oceanography and eventually the Geography Discipline within the School of Physical, Environmental and Mathematical Sciences, UNSW Canberra.

Paul’s contribution to teaching has been prodigious with major contributions to first year Geography, Social Geography and Transport Geography. His excellence and commitment to undergraduate teaching have been acknowledged by a University College Teaching Excellence Award (1992), a Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence (1997) and a Rector’s Commendation for Excellence in Classroom Teaching (2006). These are great achievements but perhaps the thing that Paul will be best remembered for is his ability to memorise the names and faces of our entire Geography student body.

Paul’s service to the university and discipline has been outstanding. His notable roles have included: Head of the School of Geography and Oceanography; Coordinator of Learning and Teaching Development (PEMS/SEIT) at UNSW Canberra; Presiding Member of the Teaching and Learning Committee; Convenor of the ADFA Human Research Ethics Advisory Committee; Undergraduate Education Coordinator (PEMS); Geography Discipline Coordinator (2008-2009); and Editorial Board for the Journal: World Transport Policy and Practice (1995 - present).

Geographers may recognise fellow Geographers: Emeritus Professor Roger McLean (right in photo 1); Associate Professor Paul Tranter (centre) with Julie Kesby (2nd left), Dr David Paull (far right) (photo 2); and Dr Scott Sharpe, Dr Liza Tonkin with Associate Professor Paul Tranter (photo 3) all attending the farewell July 28 2015 at UNSW Canberra
Paul has conducted pioneering research in the areas of child-friendly environments, active transport, and healthy and sustainable cities. He has made important contributions to holistic approaches to road safety research and the concept of effective speed. Other work has focussed on children’s independent mobility, active travel and health, and children’s rights and peak oil.

Paul will be staying on at UNSW Canberra as a Visiting Fellow with short term plans of writing another book. His contribution over 35 years to the Geography community has been outstanding and leaves a legacy of approximately three thousand tertiary Geography students that he has taught.

**Chinese Translation of book by Claire Freeman and Paul Tranter:**

Claire Freeman and Paul Tranter recently received news from the publishers Routledge - Earthscan, that there will be a Chinese translation of their book Children and Their Urban Environment: Changing Worlds, by the publishers Southeast University Press in China. This is largely due to the efforts of Ming Xiao from the Jiangsu Institute of Urban Planning and Design in China, who worked on the translation.

**Postgraduate fieldwork and research**

PhD student Amanda Putri, UNSW Canberra has recently completed fieldwork during which time she collected valuable data for her research on water pollution impacts on poor coastal community in Jakarta Bay, Indonesia. Some initial findings derived from the fieldwork, e.g. about livelihood and occupational adaptation and strategies, were presented at the 2015 IAG conference. She is very excited to explore more and is currently onto the next stage of processing, analysing the data that will involve some statistical analysis and spatial mapping work.


The Event of Research Workshop – expert class by JD Dewsbury

A very successful workshop was held at UNSW at Canberra proudly sponsored by the IAG Cultural Geography Study Group. The workshop was led by JD Dewsbury (University of Bristol) and examined the ethos, objects and politics of research events. Held on the 29th and 30th June, the workshop attracted 26 participants and workshop activities included discussions of some of the key texts in the field of affect studies and non-representational theory, a plenary paper by JD Dewsbury, postgraduate student presentations and a discussion for future work. Some very positive feedback was received regarding the workshop and the organisers would like to thank all participants for their enthusiasm. Special mention should go to JD, of course, and to the postgraduates – many from The Difference Laboratory - for presenting their really exciting work. Clare Southerton (ANU Sociology), who presented at the workshop, then won the Institute of Australian Geographers Postgraduate Presentation Award 2015, for her paper, ‘Smartphone intimacy and the politics of desiring the digital’. The IAG Cultural Geography Study Group would like to thank the Institute of Australian Geographers and the School of Physical, Environmental and Mathematical Sciences, UNSW Canberra for their generous support of this event.

The University of the Sunshine Coast

Roy Sidle is Chief Investigator on the ARC-Linkage project ‘Innovative Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) - enabled technology for monitoring regular and flooded flows in Australian Waters’. The project plans to improve the monitoring of our waterways by developing a novel moving drifter system that takes flow and water quality measurements along the pathlines of the drifters. The project is hosted by QUT and also includes our FoSHEE colleague, Dr Helen Fairweather. Roy has also received a grant from the CSIRO ($380k) to support a post-doctoral researcher for 2 ½ years to develop models that capture the important hydrological processes governing erosion from ‘hot spots’ in rangelands up to small to moderate-sized catchments. This grant is part of collaborative research project between the Sustainability Research Centre and CSIRO with the post-doc primarily stationed at the joint CSIRO/James Cook University research facility in Townsville, Queensland. This research will elucidate how land use in upper catchments draining in the Great Barrier Reef alters storm runoff and sediment production, with an emphasis on adopting improved management practices and evaluating their effectiveness on reducing runoff and improving water quality. A related grant from the CSIRO supports a top-up for a PhD student at USC who will work on sediment issues associated with this collaborative project.
Recent Books


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


2013 Books


Lesley Instone and Kathy Mee (Newcastle) with Palmer J, Williams M, Vaughan N. 2013. Rental housing, climate change and adaptive capacity: a case study of Newcastle, NSW. Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, University of Newcastle.


2012 Books


