From the President

I don’t want to advertise a commercial enterprise, but you have to be impressed with a service that provides daily satellite imagery of the entire land area of the planet. If you love geography, then take a look at the website for ‘Planet’. This company provides services that will count all of the containers in a major port - everyday. You can inspect construction of missile sites in Russia, or clearing in any forest. It is banal to say it, but we are living through a geographical revolution. It is a time when the scale of observation and analysis has converged with the human scale of life and decisions. The combination of global positioning systems and smart devices means that for the first time in history much of the world’s population knows exactly where they are on the face of the planet, at any moment. Everything can be mapped, and many can afford to do the mapping via drones. These developments are changing the geography of the world, and the world of geography. What are the opportunities of this moment for geographers, and what are the moral challenges?

The expansion of the spatial sciences has invigorated geography in Europe and the USA. For example, the National Science Foundation in the USA now has a single funding program called Geography and Spatial Sciences within its Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences. My view is that these spatial developments are central to the future of geography. These are not peripheral technical issues. Geographers with GIS skills are in great demand in the work-place. Geographers bring both the technical skills to manage and interrogate spatial data, but more importantly, the intellectual skills to use the data well, and ask the right questions. You may not have used GIS products lately, but they are becoming much more intuitive. They are becoming tools for everybody.
GIS is increasingly finding its way into geography teaching in schools. The new Australian Geography school curriculum emphasises spatial technologies from primary school up. However, spatial analysis is not always an integral part of geography teaching programs at the university level in Australia. Many geography students do not have the opportunity to develop these fundamental skills that would greatly enhance their effectiveness and job opportunities. This is equally true for human and physical geographers. It would not be in the interests of geography in Australia not to capitalize on the geographical revolution that is going on all around us. It would also not be in our interests to ignore the challenges that this new world presents.

Now, onto an important exhortation. As you will see from the newsletter, some positions are opening in the IAG Council in the second half of this year. The existing Council is a strong and dedicated group of geographers, and we invite members to nominate for these important roles. Or why not nominate a colleague who is too bashful to nominate themselves? It might be a life changing gift that you are giving them. I can attest to the fact that it is extremely rewarding working with this collegial and impressive group of colleagues. The following positions are open:

- Vice-President (President Elect)
- Honorary Secretary
- Honorary Membership Secretary
- Two Ordinary Councillors
- One Postgraduate Student Councillor

Details of how to nominate are provided in the newsletter below.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank Dr Jen Carter for her superb work editing and compiling the IAG newsletter. I read every one, and am constantly astonished at the depth and range of activity in our geography community. I find it uplifting. Jen is stepping down from this role. Thanks, from all of us, Jen for your tireless work.

Best wishes,
Ian Rutherfurd,
IAG President
University of Melbourne, idruth@unimelb.edu.au
News from IAG Council

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE IAG CONSTITUTION

All IAG members will soon be emailed a proposal to amend the IAG Constitution to provide for rolling memberships. Rolling memberships are an option that has been requested by members and this proposal to amend the IAG Constitution to provide for such terms is supported by IAG Council. Financial members will have the opportunity to vote on the proposal at the General Meeting in Auckland (at the NZGS/IAG Conference).

IAG WEBSITE UPDATES AND STUDY GROUP ACCESS

The new IAG Website is progressively being updated and developed to maximise its unique potential, including to archive important historical documents such as the minutes of past meetings of the IAG.

The website has fantastic facility to enable study group specific multi-media communications and in order to realise this capacity bespoke training has been organized for all study group convenors.

The training will be conducted online by Leigh from the website company, Telligence. It will take approximately 2 hours and will be arranged within the next few weeks.

The training will enable convenors to manage their own study group areas of the IAG website, including instruction in:

• How to Create/Add Content to Study Group pages (text, images, links, documents, media)
• Using the News Module for Study Group Specific News
• Using/Managing the Forums Module for the Study Group
• Awareness of Email and SMS campaigns for communications
• Awareness of Powerdata Forms capability for workshops etc
• Awareness of the Events Module for Study Group events/workshops

Access to the study group areas of the IAG website, for both convenors and all members, is dependent on being a current financial member of the IAG. For IAG member access to these areas (once they have been developed) please also ensure that you have registered your interest in specific study groups in the membership area, and when commencing or renewing your membership.
NZGS/IAG CONFERENCE 2018 CFP REMINDER

Geographers are advised to submit their abstract via the conference website https://nzgsconference2018.org/ as well as directly to session organizers (if applicable), and please note that there is an option to submit your abstract to “open” sessions via the conference website.

CALL FOR POSTGRADUATE TRAVEL AWARDS TO NZGS/IAG 2018

The IAG supports the active participation of its postgraduate members. To further this aim the IAG provides travel grants to assist eligible Research Higher Degree students to attend the annual IAG National Conference. The following describes the selection criteria and application process for postgraduate members of the IAG who wish to apply for funding to attend:


Eligibility criteria and award conditions

To be eligible for an IAG Postgraduate Travel Grant you must be:

* a current financial member of the IAG (note: applications from student members outside Australia will be considered);
* enrolled in either a Masters degree (Research) or a Doctoral degree on the date you apply for funding;
* presenting a paper at the conference;
* registered to attend the conference for its full duration; and
* able to submit a 500 word ‘reflection’ report to the IAG within 30 days of attending the conference.

Travel grants are awarded at the discretion of the IAG Council. Whilst the total sum awarded is generous, the amount of each individual grant will vary depending on the number and location of applicants as a tiered system of funding is employed according to distance travelled to and from the event. In previous years individual grants have rarely exceeded several hundred dollars per applicant. Students are encouraged to pursue other sources of funding support if required.

How to apply for funding: go to https://www.iag.org.au/travel-grants-for-postgraduates and complete the requirements.

EARLY NOTICE FOR 2019 IAG CONFERENCE

The 2019 IAG Conference will be hosted by the University of Tasmania and will be held in Hobart, Tasmania on 9 – 12 July 2019.
AWARDS OF THE IAG

Please note that the most recent call for awards of the IAG 2018 closed on Fri 30 March 2018, and thanks to all those who have submitted in the current round. The awards sub-committee will be considering these in advance of the NZGS/IAG conference.

Please note that the Awards of the IAG include:

• The GRIFFITH TAYLOR Medal is awarded for distinguished contributions to geography in Australia. The next call will be made in 2019.

• The AUSTRALIA-INTERNATIONAL MEDAL is awarded for outstanding contributions by Australian geographers to geography world-wide, or by geographers outside Australia to the geography of Australia. The next call will be made in 2019.

• The DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIP OF THE INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHERS (DFIAG) is awarded for distinguished service to Australian geography through furthering the aims of the Institute. The next call will be made in 2019.

• The FELLOWSHIP OF THE INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHERS (FIAG) recognizes sustained service to the profession of geography in Australia. The next call will be made in the latter half of 2018.

Further details of all awards, including nomination details and requirements, are available from:


For further enquiries about the awards, please contact either the IAG President, Ian Rutherfurd idruth@unimelb.edu.au or the Secretary, Robyn Bartel, at rbartel@une.edu.au.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next IAG meetings will be the IAG Council meeting and the IAG General Meeting at the NZGS/IAG Conference in Auckland, New Zealand. Time and Venue tba. Please check the conference programme when available for details.

Robyn Bartel,
IAG Honorary Secretary.
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL POSITIONS

At the General Meeting in New Zealand, at the NZGS/IAG Conference, IAG Vice-President (President Elect) Associate Professor Beverley Clarke will become IAG President and Associate Professor Ian Rutherfurd will become Vice President (Immediate Past President). Professor Steve Turton (former Immediate Past President) will leave Council and the role of Vice-President (President Elect) will fall vacant.

Ms Elissa Waters (Postgraduate Member of Council) will retire as a Council member, and is ineligible to stand for re-election as the Postgraduate Member, having completed her doctorate.

Dr Leah Gibbs (elected in 2014 and 2016) will retire as a Council member and is ineligible to stand for re-election as an Ordinary Council Member, having served the maximum two terms.

Dr Tod Jones (elected in 2016) will retire as a Council member and is eligible for re-election.

Associate Professor Robyn Bartel and Associate Professor Aidan Davison will retire as Honorary Secretary and Honorary Membership Secretary respectively. Both are eligible for re-election. Associate Professor Robyn Bartel and Associate Professor Aidan Davison are resigning from their positions and thus both roles will fall vacant.

Financial members of the Institute are therefore invited to nominate candidates for the following positions:

Vice-President (President Elect)
Honorary Secretary
Honorary Membership Secretary
Two Ordinary Councillors
One Postgraduate Student Councillor

Elected councillors, including the Postgraduate Councillor, will hold office until the second succeeding General Meeting following their election, which is normally two years. They shall be eligible for immediate re-election as Councillors but with a maximum period of continuous office up to the fourth succeeding General Meeting after their initial election.

The President shall hold office until the second succeeding General Meeting, and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election. The Vice-Presidents shall hold office until the second succeeding General Meeting after their election.

The Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer and the Honorary Membership Secretary shall hold office until the second General Meeting after their election, and shall be eligible for immediate re-election to office.

The closing date for nominations is **Monday 7 May 2018**. Nominations must be received in writing using the form attached, and should be emailed to Professor Steve
Turton (Vice President, Immediate Past President), who will be the Returning Officer, at s.turton@cqu.edu.au

Should an election be required, ballot papers will be emailed to financial members, who will have until **Monday 25 June 2018** to return them by email to Professor Steve Turton (Vice President, Immediate Past President).

Results will be reported at the General Meeting in New Zealand.

**INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHERS INC**
**NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL 2018**

I, _______________________________ (the proposer)

being a financial member of the IAG, do nominate

______________________________ (the nominee) of

________________________________________________________________________

______________________________ (address of nominee)

and

I, _______________________________ (the seconder)

being also a financial member of the IAG do second the nomination of

______________________________ (the nominee)

to the position of ____________________________ of the IAG.

Signed (proposer): Date:

Signed (seconder): Date:

I, _______________________________ (the nominee) accept this nomination and if elected will serve the IAG as set out in the Constitution.

Signed (nominee): Date:

**Brief biographical statement of nominee** (maximum 200 words):
Treasurer’s Report

It is pleasing to note that the draft audit report for 2017 showed the Institute ending the year with a small surplus (+$8,348). This was a change from 2016 where, mainly due to expenditure on setting up of the IAG website and on-line membership portal, the Institute accumulated a deficit of $21,301. The first quarter report, 2018, shows the IAG to be tracking on budget.

Overall, the IAG appears to be in a stable financial position. This is due to prudent management by the Committee, with particular thanks to my predecessor, Robert Gale. The stable financial position is occurring during a period of low rates of return on our not insignificant capital investments. Unfortunately, this means that at present the Institute is only maintaining par with its expenditures, leaving limited room for increasing support for initiatives such as Study groups and postgraduate support. This was the focus of particular discussion at the Committee’s April meeting.

In order to maintain our current level of support, or to develop initiatives, the Committee resolved in April to investigate ways to save costs and to increase returns on existing capital. Any change in investment strategy would be in ethical investments and subject to further scrutiny by the Committee.

It has been a rapid learning curve for me, coming into the role six months ago. I thank Robert and the Committee for their warm welcome and guidance during this period.

Paul McFarland
Hon. Treasurer

New Members

The IAG welcomes the following new members:

Xuegang Fan, Kaye Follett, Nancy Hudson-Rodd, Makrita Solitei, Ville Santala, Yingyu Feng, Lana Hartwig, Anisah Madden, Bill Lewis, Isabel Cornes, Bronwyn Bate, Francisco Gelves-Gomez, Ember Parkin, Vanessa Cavanagh, Claudia Franca de Abreu, Glenn Morrison, Mary O’Halloran, Jeremy Walker, Dave Kendal, Frank Thomalla, Katharina Waha, Victoria Radnell.
Expressions of Interest - IAG Equity Reference Group

In response to suggestions by members, the Institute of Australian Geographers has determined that it will establish an Equity Reference Group. The IAG is seeking Expressions of Interest for members of the Equity Reference Group.

Terms of Reference
The Institute of Australian Geographers Equity Reference Group (IAG-ERG) provides advice to the IAG council on equity issues related to the Council’s operations.

The IAG-ERG will play a key role in the development of the IAG’s Equity and Inclusion Strategy.

The IAG-ERG will provide a forum for IAG members to discuss equity and inclusion issues and strategies designed to support the IAG council to implement its Equity and Inclusion Strategy.

Line of Reporting
IAG president receives reports from IAG-ERG chair, for discussion by Council.

Membership
Chair – current or past member of the IAG council
Secretary – IAG financial member
4 IAG financial members

The IAG-ERG will have an initial lifespan of 2 years, and be charged with the immediate goals of finalising the TOR, informing the IAG strategic plan and addressing specific equity issues that have arisen recently concerning gender.

EOIs should be sent to the Secretary of the IAG, Assoc. Prof. Robyn Bartel (rbartel@une.edu.au) by 5pm Thursday, 17 May 2018. EOIs should include a brief biography and explanation of interest and/or experience working around the issues of concern to the Group. Interest in particular roles within the Group (Chair, Secretary, ordinary member) may be indicated in EOIs. Applications should be no more than 250 words. Applicants must be financial members of the IAG for the duration of their term on the Reference Group.

EOIs will be assessed by three members of the IAG Council. Determination of membership will be made prior to the IAG/NZGS 2018 conference, with a view to the IAG-ERG hosting its first meeting at that conference. Members unable to attend the Auckland conference are eligible to be part of the Group, and efforts will be made to arrange teleconference or other means of inclusion in the first meeting. Chair and Secretary of the IAG-ERG will be determined by the members of the Reference Group at its first meeting; that decision should be communicated to the President of the IAG within one month of the conference ending.
Honorary Life Members of the IAG

IAG Members of over 50 years are invited by IAG Council to become Honorary Life Members. In this edition we feature Murray Wilson (Life Member) whose biography is below.

Murray Wilson was born in Titoki (Northland, NZ) and educated in a variety of schools in Auckland and, latterly, New Plymouth, where he sat the University Entrance Scholarship examination. Despite a disastrously poor grade in Geography, he attended the Auckland University College on a Department of Education Secondary Teaching Bursary, graduated BA (1953) then MA (Hons) (1955) in Geography - with a thesis on the “Extractive Industries of the Huntly Region”, concurrently completing the one-year graduate program at the Auckland Teachers’ College. Mid-way through enjoying his first year as a country High School teacher he was released from the bursary’s bond conditions to accept a Teaching Fellowship in Geography at the newly established Newcastle University College of the then NSW University of Technology (teaching to syllabuses designed and “second-marked” by staff at the University of New England), and initiated research into the social and economic geography of the coal industry and its associated communities. In 1958 he was awarded a Rotary Foundation Fellowship to support an academic year at the University of Wisconsin, from which he graduated with a further MA before returning to a lectureship in Newcastle. In 1960 he accepted a lectureship in the University of Melbourne’s newly established Geography Department, where he introduced an advanced undergraduate course in Population Geography and completed a doctoral thesis on “The Coalfields of Eastern Australia”. In 1964, he accepted a Senior Lectureship in the fledgling department at Monash University, a position he held concurrently with the Wardenship of Farrer Hall, the second of the university’s Halls of Residence. During 1968 he held
sessonal teaching appointments at the Pennsylvania State University and the University of Iowa and a visiting position at the University of Michigan. During 1969 he was promoted to Associate Professor. In 1973, during a 3-year leave of absence from Monash, he took up the position of Professor of Geography and Population Studies and Head of the School of Social & Economic Development at the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji, but after only 18 months returned to NSW to occupy the Foundation Chair in Geography at the soon-to-be-autonomous Wollongong University College of the UNSW, in which position he became far too heavily involved with the administrative activity associated with establishing a new university whilst working to get the Geography Department firmly established and fully functional. In 1976, during a study leave at the University of Glasgow, he was the recipient of a Polish Government Distinguished Visitor Award to visit with Professor Andrzej Jagielski, Distinguished Professor of Population Geography at the University of Wroclaw. In 1982 he was asked to assume the additional responsibilities of Dean of Students, a position he held until 1992 when, to the surprise of many, including himself, he was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Science, a position he held until his retirement at the end of 1995.


After retirement he remained involved with teaching, research and student affairs, becoming the first Resident Director of a student exchange program through the Council on International Educational Exchanges and co-authoring several major research consultancy reports under the auspices of the Illawarra Regional Information Service (IRIS) across topics ranging from Barriers to Vocational Education Participation among Non-English Speaking Communities in the Illawarra (1998) to Waste Reduction and Recycling in Office Towers (2001), the latter for a major metropolitan waste disposal agency. In 1996 the University awarded him an Emeritus Professorship and the School of Geosciences an Honorary Professorial Fellowship.

He was a founder member of the IAG, served one term as a Councillor during the late 1970s, and chaired the organising committee for the IAG’s 1975 conference in Wollongong. For several years he was also a member of the NSW Department of Education’s HSC Geography syllabus committee.
Call for Volunteers

Following the creation and launch of the new IAG website, Council is calling for volunteers to create and develop content across various multi-media and social media formats such as blogs, podcasts, videos and twitterfeeds which will be available to all members. Please send all content to the Website Editor, Julie Kesby, on iagjak16@gmailcom

National Committee for Geographical Sciences Update

The Strategic (Decadal) Plan for Geographical Sciences will be launched in Canberra this spring (date TBA).

As part of the roll out of the Strategic Plan, a series of Policy Briefs targeting different areas of government, will be produced.

Through the Academy of Science, the NCGS have prepared a submission to the House of Representatives inquiry into the management and use of Commonwealth environmental water.

The NCGS will conduct a face-to-face planning day to coincide with the release of the Strategic Plan. The focus will be on where to from here in terms of prioritising the recommendations from the Plan.

The International Geographical Union recently held the General Assembly e-Ballot for the position of Secretary-General and three Vice-President positions on the IGU Executive Committee. The new Secretary-General and Treasurer for 2018 - 2022 is Professor RB Singh who will take up office at the conclusion of the Quebec Regional Conference in August 2018. Mike Meadows has been appointed by the Executive Committee as Assistant Secretary-General and Treasurer for this period, and Professors Elena dell’Agnese, Iain Hay, and Bojie Fu (China-Beijing) are elected as Vice-Presidents. The Kyrgyz Republic was also elected as a new full member country of the International Geographical Union.

Steve Turton,
Representative,
National Committee for Geographical Sciences.
Dr Lukar Thornton

Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition (IPAN), Deakin University, Co-convenor of the Health Geography Study Group

Science meets Parliament 2018 was held in Canberra in February. Along with over 200 other Australian scientists, I was fortunate enough to attend this event and I would like to thank the IAG for the opportunity.

Day one of the event was held at the National Gallery of Australia. Attendees heard from a number of Australia’s leading voices in science include Australia’s Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel, and the Chief Executive of the CSIRO, Dr Larry Marshall. The highlight for me was the session on ‘Making you mark at Parliamentary inquiries’ run by Ms Catriona Jackson, Deputy Chief Executive of Universities Australia.

Day one concluded with a dinner held at Parliament House. Speakers during the event included Bill Shorten and Senator Michaelia Cash. The dinner was a great opportunity to mingle with attendees in addition to many politicians and senior scientists. This included everyone from 2018 Australian of the Year Michelle Simmons to Pauline. I was seated President of the Senate Scott Ryan and was mostly chatting about his work life balance which, as you could imagine, was mostly just work.

Day two was held at Parliament House with many attendees coming in and out of sessions due to scheduled meetings with various politicians. Two particular speakers of interest on Wednesday morning were Dr Sue Barrell (Chief Scientist, Bureau of Meteorology) and Dr Adam Lewis (Acting Chief Scientist, Geoscience Australia). During the day I met with Federal MP Tim Wilson and it was good to hear his
enthusiasm for ensuring we design environments that support health behaviours. Due to the meeting I was unable to attend the National Press Club address by President of Science and Technology Australia, Professor Emma Johnston. However, having since watching the speech online, I would encourage all with an interest in the promotion of science to take the time to watch this

(http://www.abc.net.au/news/programs/national-press-club/2018-02-14/national-press-club-emma-johnston/9447140). After lunch we had the opportunity to spend an hour watching question time which seemed to be comprised of a lot of questions aimed at one person – Barnaby Joyce (and we all know how that story ends). My final highlight was the speech made by Senator Kim Carr, a long-term supporter of science in Australia.

On a personal note, one of the biggest things I will take from Science meets Parliament was the opportunity to connect with other attendees. In particular, I drew the most inspiration from the younger researchers there – those who were not long out of their PhD with ambitions to run their own laboratory within a few years and a clear idea of how they plan to get there. This type of desire reinforced the key messaging throughout the event, being that science matters and Governments must continue to invest in the future of Australia.

Finally, I would like to once again thank the IAG for their support and also Science & Technology Australia for hosting such a fantastic event.

Science meets Parliament 2018: Photos above and right by Mark Graham
Awards Received

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

**Dr Arif Budi Rahman** (Curtin) completed his PhD titled ‘Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation in a Developing Country Context: and Indonesian Case Study’, supervised by Tod Jones and Amanda Davies

**Dr Kelly Duckworth** (Curtin) completed her PhD titled ‘Citizens contesting science: a case study of public participation in the management of a contaminated site in Western Australia’, supervised by Laura Stocker and Amanda Davies

**Dr Reuben Wanobo Sengere** (Curtin) completed his PhD titled ‘The Rise, Fall and Revival of the PNG Coffee Industry’, supervised by George Curry and Gina Koczberski. Reuben graduated with a Letter of Commendation from the Chancellor of the University.

**Dr Freyja Bottrell** (Curtin) completed her PhD titled ‘All in the Family: A Comparative Study of Identity and Place-making in the Chinese and Jewish Diasporas’.

**Dr Charles Gillon** (UOW) completed his PhD (supervisors **Dr Leah Gibbs** and **Prof. Chris Gibson**). Charlie’s thesis is entitled ‘Houses built on sand: Rethinking cultures of homemaking, nature and finance in a coastal master-planned estate’.

**Dr Elyse Stanes** (UOW) completed her PhD (supervisors **Prof. Chris Gibson** and **Dr Natascha Klocker**). Elyse’s thesis is entitled ‘Young adults, consumption and material-cultural engagements with clothes’.

**Dr Susannah Clement** (UOW) completed her PhD (supervisors **Prof. Gordon Waitt** and Prof. Ian Buchanan [Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts]). Susannah’s thesis is entitled ‘Walking and family lives’.

Congratulations to the following who recently received awards:

**Kevin Dunn** received the Geographical Society of NSW MacDonald Holmes Award for service that has made a distinguished contribution in the field of geographical education in Australia. Information about the award and what was said about Kevin on the night can be found here: [https://www.geogsoc.org.au/site/index.cfm?display=288314](https://www.geogsoc.org.au/site/index.cfm?display=288314)
The top Geography students in 2016 at Western Sydney University were awarded the Geographical Society of NSW University Prizes:

1\textsuperscript{st} year student prize winner: \textbf{Surreti Bajwa}
2\textsuperscript{nd} year student prize winner: \textbf{Liam Butler}
3\textsuperscript{rd} year student prize winner: \textbf{German Nkomo}

The \textbf{Challenging Racism Project} team were awarded funding for measuring the impact of their Islamophobia work. The project was titled ‘Everyday experiences of Muslims in Australia: Challenging Islamophobia’ and was completed in 2017.

\section*{IAG Award Opportunities}

Full details of all IAG Award recipients and their citations can be found at the following link: \url{https://www.iag.org.au/awards-of-the-iag}

\section*{Grants Received}

\textbf{George Curry, Gina Koczberski} and \textbf{Tim Sharp} (Curtin), in collaboration with \textbf{Mike Webb} (CSIRO) and \textbf{Reuben Sengere} (PNG Coffee Industry Corporation), were successful in securing an Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research grant for the project \textit{Improving Livelihoods of Smallholder Coffee Communities in Papua New Guinea} (4 years, $1.5 million). This project examines the socio-economic and agronomic dimensions of coffee production and processing, with a particular focus on technology adoption, intercropping and agricultural extension.

\textbf{Gina Koczberski} and \textbf{George Curry} (Curtin), in collaboration with PNG Oil Palm Research Association, PNG Cocoa and Coconut Institute, PNG Coffee Industry Corporation, and CARE International (PNG), were successful in securing an Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research grant for the project \textit{Identifying opportunities and constraints for rural women’s engagement in small-scale agricultural enterprises in Papua New Guinea} (4 years, $1.25 million). \textbf{Tim Sharp} has joined the team as a co-investigator.

\textbf{Andrew Warren} (UOW) has been awarded a DECRA. His project is titled: ‘Economic geographies of transition: beyond Australian automotive production’. Using a
comprehensive survey and ethnographic methods this project will trace structural changes in the downstream auto industry, and document experiences of transition in affected local workshops. Results will provide an evidence-base to support policy aimed at securing Australia's industrial future.

**Pauline McGuirk** (UOW) was successful in securing a UOW University Internationalisation Committee grant for her project with Trinity College, Dublin, entitled ‘Alternate urbanism: An international comparative study’.

**Michael Adams** (UOW) has secured the following funds for undergraduate student fieldtrips.

- $33,000 Western Ghats India – February 2019 – 10 students
- $49,500 Bali, Indonesia – June/July 2018 – 15 students
- $49,500 Coromandel Coast, India – June/July 2019 – 15 students
- TOTAL $132,000


**Leah Gibbs** (UOW), with a large interdisciplinary group of researchers, has been successful in securing funding through the Department of Primary Industries Shark Management Strategy. Gorkin R, Adams K, Li W, Gibbs L, Broad A, Berryman M, Perez P, Davis A, Aubin S, ‘Shark Eye: Realtime Smartwatch alerting through aerial surveillance’, $42,000.

PhD student **Vivian Pham** (UOW) was awarded a 2018 Endeavour Research Fellowship. This award enables Vivian to spend 5 months working and studying at University College London in 2018.

**Andrew Warren** (UOW) was jointly awarded the 2017 UOW Faculty Research Committee Early Career Researcher prize.

**Charlie Gillon and Laura Hamersley** (UOW) received the 2017 *Geographical Society of NSW Post-Doctoral Scholars Award*. 
Ilan Wiesel (Melbourne) with three other colleagues based at Melbourne and La Trobe was successful in his bid for an ARC Discovery Project ‘The disability inclusive city’.

Wolfram Dressler, (Melbourne) was part of a successful bid for an ARC Discovery project on ‘Governing the blue economy in maritime Asia-Pacific’.

David Kennedy (Melbourne) was part of a successful bid for an ARC Discovery project on ‘The role of vegetated foreshores in stabilising Australia’s shorelines’.

Michael-Shawn Fletcher (Melbourne) was part of a successful bid for an ARC Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities project on ‘A national facility for the analysis of pyrogenic carbon’.

Michele Lobo (Deakin University) was awarded a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade-Australia-India Council Grant ($50,000) along with colleagues Prof David Lowe and Dr Liudmila Kiritchenko. The project explores Australia-India student mobility and analyses the preliminary outcomes of the New Colombo Plan. It focuses on the role of students in public diplomacy, highlights barriers/strategies for intercultural exchange and aims to strengthen education outcomes. 
Twitter: @ausindmobility. Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/837348479770880/

Fiona Miller (Macquarie University), together with Emily Potter (Deakin University) and Eva Lövbrand (Linköping University) were awarded a grant for a research collaboration by The Seed Box: A Mistra-Formas Environmental Humanities Collaboratory entitled: The Shadow Places Network: collaboration to re-imagine and co-produce connections for justice in an era of climate change. They will be launching the network in May 2018.

A NSW Environmental Trust Grant was awarded for the 'Darug Caring-as-Country - Creating Local Environmental Stewards' project to Sandie Suchet-Pearson (Macquarie University), Uncle Lexodious Dadd (Darug custodian), Paul Glass (NSW NPWS), Paul Hodge (University of Newcastle), Marnie Graham (Stockholm University and Macquarie University), Emilie Ens (Macquarie University) and Sara Judge (Macquarie University)., February 2018 - February 2021 $141024.
News from the Geographical Society of New South Wales

A big thank you to Natascha Klocker (University of Wollongong), Claudio Minca (Macquarie University) and Dallas Rogers (The University of Sydney), panellists at the Q&A session on publishing in the field of geography that was held, 19th March 2018 at the Royal Hotel in Darlington.

Also, thank you to Garth Lean (Western Sydney University) for Chairing the session. The event was hosted by the Geographical Society of New South Wales and targeted HDR students. The event was well received with over 30 students attending. Attached are some photos taken on the day.

Should any HDR students in NSW have missed out but want to become connected to the GSNSW and other students, they are welcome to email Bronywn Bate, Executive Officer for the Geographical Society of NSW on: b.bate@westernsydney.edu.au
News from Geographical Research

The new year has started well and productively for the journal. Members will recall from the December 2017 newsletter issue that the new editorial team for *Geographical Research* is Elaine Stratford, Amanda Davies, Steve Turton, and Danielle Drozdzewski. We met as a group in Melbourne on 23 February to plan the new year and provide an orientation to Steve and Danielle. We are also working closely with members of the new editorial board to ensure that they have opportunities to review papers, write book reviews, and contribute commentaries to the journal on a regular basis.

The publisher’s report provided at that meeting by Chloe Chadwick from Wiley revealed that nearly fifty per cent of papers in the journal involve contributors from overseas—we are confident in our claims to be an international journal. The Altmetric impact of a number of papers is noteworthy and growing. Your “tweets” and contributions to public debate, including public policy, are so useful for the discipline, and, by extension, the journal. If you haven’t followed us yet, we can be found @GeogResearch.

This year, Wiley has provided a new website for the *Geographical Research*. We think it is looking refreshed, but inevitably there are teething problems with these changes, so we will welcome your feedback on how the site is working for you.

As with 2017, at the joint conference in Auckland in July, we will be announcing the “editors’ pick” paper/s. We would also like to flag the intention to breathe new life into the journal’s honours and postgraduate prizes, which fell into abeyance some time ago. A revised framework will be completed this half year, with a view to properly reinstate the prize in 2019, so please do let students know about this opportunity. We will let members know more once the framework is finalized.

Finally, in relation to the 2018 conference, Elaine has partnered with colleagues from other journals to organize a round-table discussion on publishing. She looks forward to seeing as many of you as possible at that event—it will be you, as much as or more than us, who make it a lively and interesting discussion.

On behalf of the team,

Elaine Stratford, Editor-in-Chief
NZGS/IAG Conference

‘Creative conversations, constructive connections’
July 11-14 2018, University of Auckland, New Zealand.

The Auckland joint IAG/NZGS conference is coming together. We have received more than 250 abstracts and multiple requests to extend the abstract deadline. The deadline is now extended until April 27. Those who have already submitted their abstracts will receive notification that their abstracts have been accepted by April 20th. The conference will kick off with Study Group meetings on the 11th July and a late afternoon conference opening plenary and keynote. This will be followed by a reception for early career researchers.

Parallel sessions will commence on the Thursday morning of July 12 and run through to early afternoon on Saturday the 14th. The conference dinner will take place on the Friday night at the Viaduct Harbour. With dinner included in the registration fee, we expect an exciting and inclusive occasion. As yet field trips beyond the city have not been planned, but walking tours of the city and several Study Group tours have been planned for the pre-conference day.

The conference has been organised to address the conference theme of ‘creative conversations, constructive connections’ – more in the programme design as in the expectation that specific sessions and individual papers will speak directly to the theme. Our hope is to develop the theme through our keynote addresses, the conference dinner, and our efforts to get more delegates into the same place at the same time more often than might sometimes be the case at big conferences. Planning is going well. The organisational details are being taken care of by the University of Auckland’s Events Management Group leaving Karen, Nick and the organising committee to deal with academic and social programme queries – all with a Kiwi personal touch. With everyone back in town after a long summer and the AAG it will be all go from now on.

Many thanks to the session organisers and the Study Groups for helping put the programme together organically. Now we have an email list of delegates, we expect to be in regular contact over the next 14 weeks. Please contact us for any information (conference@nzgs.co.nz) queries about programme development and if you have a friend who has forgotten to submit an abstract or developed a sudden yearning to attend. This is the friendly conference.

Please register as soon as you are able – early bird rates are open for another six weeks.

Nick Lewis and Karen Fisher (for the Organising Committee)
Conferences

An interdisciplinary symposium on *Narratives of Climate Change* will be held at Newcastle Law School, NeW Space Campus, Newcastle on 5-6 July 2018. More information is at:


A symposium on *Eating the Anthropocene: What and how should we eat in a climate changing world?* will be held from April 26-27, 2018, at Macquarie University.

More information at:
https://groundworkgeop.wordpress.com/blog/

The 2018 5th International Academic Conference on Social Sciences (IACSS) will take place from **December 18-20, 2018 in Sydney, Australia.** More information at:
The New Zealand Cartographic Society and Australian and New Zealand Map Society are proud to announce the 9th National Cartographic Conference and 46th Annual ANZMapS Conference: GeoCart’2018! The event will convene on 5-7 September, 2018, and once again be hosted at the National Library of New Zealand in Wellington. The theme is Cartographies of Change: Then, Now and Tomorrow. Preceding the conference on 3-4 September will be a NZCS Map Design Workshop with Dr. Aileen Buckley. On 4 September will be two ANZMapS-sponsored workshops, with Chris Fleet of the National Library of Scotland and the Alexander Turnbull Library Conservators respectively. More information at https://cartography.org.nz/geocart/
The **Urban Theory Symposium** Series is the initiative of the Urban Geography Study Group of the Institution of Australian Geographers and the Australian Cities Research Network. The series explores critical theoretical issues, conceptualisations and analytical tools emerging within urban studies, urban geography and urban planning scholarships. The theme of the third Urban Theory Symposium is “Cities of Care”. Feminist scholarship on the ‘ethics of care’ highlighted the ways in which everyday practices of care for, with and about ourselves and others, and how we give and receive care, should all be recognised as fundamental ethical and moral questions. If we acknowledge that care is critical to how we "maintain, continue, and repair our 'world' so that we can live in it as well as possible" (Fisher and Tronto, 1990, p. 40), then care must also be central to theorisations of the city, and yet has been largely absent in urban studies (Williams, 2017). Thinking about care challenges us to expand the sorts of things that we consider as significant ethical or moral issues. The situated, embodied nature of care also challenges us to think differently about power, justice, productivity, welfare, well-being, bodies, emotions and social relations in cities. The aim of the ‘Cities of Care’ symposium is to explore different ways to address these challenges.

We invite papers that offer new perspectives on care and cities, focusing for example on (but not limited to) one or more of the following themes:

- Geographies of care
- Intersections of care and social justice in cities
- Urban economies of care
- Care and urban governance
- Care and social diversity
- Care in a more-than-human city
- Infrastructures of care
- Politics of care
- Emotional geographies of care in the city

**Please submit your abstracts (up to 200 words) to Ilan Wiesel, ilan.wiesel@unimelb.edu.au**
CIRAD and INRA are delighted to welcome you to the Fourth World Congress on Agroforestry from May 20-25, 2019 in Montpellier, France. The Conference theme is "Agroforestry: Strengthening links between science, society and policy". The Congress is organized with Agropolis International and Montpellier University of Excellence.

The conference will give special attention to vulnerable countries and populations. The overall objective of the Congress is to contribute to the strengthening of agroforestry science and practice in order to provide opportunities for strengthening links between science, society and policy and to bridge the science-policy gap. Plenary and parallel discussion sessions will be devoted to a range of topics, including:

- Agroforestry (AF) and Climate change
- Design and adoption of AF
- AF and poverty alleviation / food security
- Smallholder AF; AF for water quality and watershed restoration
- Successes and failures in AF
- AF landscapes
- AF and desertification / land degradation / soil restoration
- Silvo-pastoral systems
- AF germplasm
- Biophysical modelling of interactions in AF
- Gender in AF
- Mediterranean AF
- AF, agroecology and ecosystem services
- AF in humid tropics and islands
- AF in public policies; AF and business / private sector / finance
- Vineyard and permanent crops AF
- Socio-Economics of AF
- Cereal and annual crops AF
- AF and value chains
- Urban AF/food Forestry
- AF and eco-certification
- AF Mapping
- AF and biodiversity conservation

The call for communications is May 2018, and Registration in June 2018. The deadline for early bird registration is February 2019.

Updates will be posted on the conference web site: https://agroforestry2019.cirad.fr/

Further information is available from George Curry who is on the conference organizing committee: g.curry@curtin.edu.au
There is a Call For Papers for The Second International Conference of the International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Agricultural Geography and Land Engineering on “Policy, research and development trends for rural revitalization in a Post-Rural World”.

The conference will be held at the Jönköping International Business School (JIBS) in Sweden from October 17-19, 2018. The “flight from the countryside” has been going on for generations in the Western world and is now also a megatrend in the developing world. Long-term increasing productivity in agriculture have made it possible for the countrysides to feed ever growing urban populations. However, neither urbanization nor rural shrinkage are processes free from economic, social and environmental problems. The city-close countrysides become integrated in the growing metropolitan regions and lose more and more of their rural character. The vast areas outside the metropolitan regions are still of importance as sources for raw materials and foods, but mechanization, automation and digitization make the need for labor for these activities smaller and smaller, which means depopulation and no potential for endogenous development of these areas. With the words of the French sociologist Henri Lefebvre, these areas are slowly given over “nature”.

Simultaneous with this process, policies for rural development take place across the world. The European Union uses over a third of its budget to “rural development” while urbanization continues. Rural development is also subject to policies in North America, Asia and Africa, with in general weak results. With few exceptions, the only rural regions that can show a positive development trend seem to be those where new forms of land use, i.e. tourism and its side-activities are expanding.

The conference "Policy, research and development trends for rural revitalization in a Post-Rural World" aims at analyzing rural development trends and investigate the relationship between rural transformation and land use with a critical assessment of current rural policies. This conference is the second conference of the IGU Commission on Agricultural Geography and Land Engineering which was formally established in late 2016.

The conference will include plenary sessions and paper sessions. The topics of the conference include but are not limited to:

- Rural transformation and restructuring
- Rural diversity, tourism and development modes
- Rural economy, rural spaces and globalization
- Rural development policies and their effects
- Land engineering and modern agriculture
- Land consolidation and rural reconstruction
- Rural hollowing and land system innovation
- Poverty reduction and rural inclusive growth
- Rural environment and clean production
- Post-rurality and its consequences
Decolonising Settler Cities (DSC) had as its first principle to seek ways to appropriately centre Indigenous experiences, theories, knowledges and perspectives on the Australian city. This required rethinking what an urban theory event was, and who it invited to participate. On the back of many conversations and much reflection, the organizing team (Shaphan Cox, Carol Dowling, Tod Jones, Cheryl Kickett-Tucker, Libby Porter) facilitated an event that was open to Aboriginal voices, experiences and knowledges.

The first day was an amazing experience. It began with a long welcome to Noongar country by Noongar elder Noel Nannup. Noel generously explained the history and spiritual significance of Kaarta Gar-up (also known as Kings Park) where we were meeting, and the spiritual strength of that country including its capacity to guide participants if they are open to it. The first event was a Yarning Circle facilitated by Carol Dowling who asked the difficult question of what colonization has done to us. Using Noongar methods of dialogue and conversation opened up the room to voices that are rarely heard at university events, and shaped two days of openness and conversation. I have never attended an event at a university where Aboriginal voices have been as prominent in setting the tone and topic of conversation. A youth panel facilitated by Cheyl Kickett-Tucker provided a range of youth perspectives on the city. A session with Noongar elder and CEO of the Aboriginal Legal Service (WA) Dennis Eggington and Noongar human rights lawyer and academic Hannah McGlade is the most recent intervention in advocating for a treaty process for Western Australia (you can see an excerpt of Hannah’s talk here [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lPV2c8XQ1sw]). Other sessions addressed human rights, alliances between Aboriginal groups and universities, and Aboriginal entrepreneurship.

The second day started with a long session on setting agendas, which ultimately ended with the decision that the group would continue to be a channel for communications, but would not pursue a single agenda. The second day addressed child protection, arts-based practices aligned with urban Indigenous agendas, Aboriginal design, both urban and rural, and Aboriginal engagement in Yagan Square, an urban redevelopment in Perth CBD. We also heard about urban research between the Bunurong people and RMIT, and Oren Yiftachel addressed the Bedouin peoples’ struggle for recognition and land rights in Israel. The Centre for Aboriginal Studies at Curtin University did a marvelous job of hosting the second day. We would like to thank Robin Barrington for her role as a CAS staff member in assisting us to be good and comfortable visitors.

DSC was supported by the Urban Geography Study Group, the Indigenous Peoples’ Knowledges and Rights Study Group, and the Critical Development Study Group. It was funded by:
Oceanic Responsibilities: Collaborative and Creative Approaches to Climate Change, 5/6 February 2018.

This workshop was led by the Cultural Geography Study Group in collaboration with the Environmental Sustainability-Hazards Risk Disasters Study Group and the Critical Development Studies Group. We were delighted to receive the support from the Institute of Australian Geographers and the Faculty of Arts and Education, Deakin University. The starting point for our discussion was recognition of the intricate, deeply entangled relations between the human and nonhuman world, and what this means in the age of Anthropogenic climate change. The workshop developed and strengthened relationships between geographers, key stakeholders and social/environmental stewards. More than 40 people participated over 2 days. Join the network: https://oceanicresponsibilities.wordpress.com/. We look forward to the follow-up session titled ‘Saltwater Country: Difference and Co-belonging in a New Climatic Regime’ at the forthcoming NZGS-IAG Conference, Auckland, July 2018. We continue our ‘thought experiment’ at Newcastle University in November 2018 and welcome your participation. Contact: Michelle.Duffy@newcastle.edu.au

The State of Australian Cities (SOAC) biannual conference was held in Adelaide 28-30 November 2017. There was strong representation from the IAG presenting papers in the conference, the PhD workshop and the ECR 1/2 day gathering. The inaugural Women in Cities Research panel lunch was organised by Professor Nicole Gurran and Dr Crystal Legacy. It was a big success with a packed room and we look forward to more events in the future. A real highlight of the conference was our own Professor Libby Porter who gave a thoughtful, impassioned and provocative keynote for the Public City Lecture entitled ‘From an Urban Country to Urban Country: Confronting the cult of denial in Australian Cities. She deservedly received a standing ovation! Many thanks Libby - it was a very memorable keynote indeed.

Nicole Cook and Charles Gillon (University of Wollongong) convened the Housing Theory Symposium at UOW, 5–6 February, with keynote speakers Prof. Larry Murphy (Auckland) and Prof. Keith Jacobs (UTas).
IAG Study Groups

The Urban Geography Study Group: We are pleased to field a great range of urban geography sessions again this year at the IAG/NZGS conference from 11-14 July at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. Many thanks to all those promoting and participating in these sessions. These include:

- **Contemporary Themes in Urban geography** / Convenors: Libby Porter, Wendy Steele and Dallas Rogers
- **City Materials, Urban Dimensions**/ Convenors: Andrea Connor and Donald McNeill
- **Platform Cities** / Convenors: David Bissell and Alan Latham
- **Valuing Housing, Valuing Home** / Convenors: Emma Power and Nicole Cook
- **Excavating devalorization, Decline in Urban Redevelopment** / Convenors: Craig Lyons and Alistair Sisson
- **Healthy Urban Environments: More-than-human theories** / Book launch / panel proposed by Cecily Maller.

As a study group we are sponsoring three workshops/symposia this year:

- **A PhD/ECR workshop** at the IAG/NZGS conference in conjunction with the conference organisers (please contact Dallas Rogers dallas.rogers@sydney.edu.au if interested in assisting with this).
- **Untaming the Urban workshop** at ANU in December which is a follow up to the successful interdisciplinary more-than-human focussed event held in 2016 (please contact Viveka Hocking viveka.hocking@anu.edu.au).
- **Cities of Care Urban Theory symposium** which will be held at the University of Melbourne from 14-15 June 2018. The call for papers for the Cities of Care Urban Theory Symposium later this year is circulated (see details under Conferences in this newsletter). Abstracts are due 30 April 2018 and keynote speakers include Professor Brendan Gleeson, University of Melbourne, Dr Emma Power, Western Sydney University and Dr Miriam Williams, Macquarie University.

The Environmental Sustainability and Hazards, Risk and Disasters study groups have combined into the new group, the Nature, Risk and Resilience study group. The group is focused on the cross-cutting geographical issues involved in the human-nature relationship including the uneven production, distribution and avoidance of harms and risks to varied environments, species and groups, and possibilities for more positive approaches. The convenors (coordinators?) are Lauren Rickards from RMIT and Amy McInerney from Griffith University.
News from Australian Geography Teachers Association (AGTA)

by Susan Caldis

The most recent meeting of AGTA Board was held on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 October 2017 in Brisbane for their Board meeting and Annual General Meeting. The next meeting of the AGTA Board will be on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 May 2018 in Perth.

AGTA Board

The 2017 – 2018 AGTA Executive and Board are identified below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Trish Douglas (GTAV)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair</td>
<td>Darryl Michie (GAWA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Dr Grant Kleeman (GTANSW)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Anna Griffin (GAWA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immediate Past Chair</td>
<td>Dr Grant Kleeman (GTANSW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointed and Nominated Directors from the Western Australia Affiliate (GAWA)</td>
<td>Anna Griffin; Darryl Michie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointed and Nominated Directors from the Northern Territory Affiliate (GHTANT)</td>
<td>Anna Hind; Julie Hearnden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointed and Nominated Directors from the New South Wales Affiliate (GTANSW)</td>
<td>Lorraine Chaffer; Susan Caldis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointed and Nominated Directors from the Queensland Affiliate (GTAQ)</td>
<td>Jamie Clothier; Anne-Marie Gerlach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appointed and Nominated Directors from the South Australia Affiliate (GTASA)</td>
<td>Joanne Wegener; Elise Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointed and Nominated Directors from Victoria Affiliate (GTAV)</td>
<td>Associate Professor Ian Rutherfurd (until mid-December 2017) Lachlan Zubevic (from mid-December 2017); Trish Douglas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointed and Nominated Directors from the Tasmania Affiliate (TGTA)</td>
<td>Rowan Harris; Dr Greg Calvert</td>
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As a result of changes to the AGTA Board from 2016 – 2017, the AGTA Board farewelled and thanked Peter Mann for his services to the AGTA Board as the nominated Director for GTASA and welcomed Elise Walker to the role. The AGTA Board also welcomed Anna Griffin to the role of AGTA Secretary, and thanked Susan Caldis for her 4-year tenure as AGTA Secretary (2013 – 2017). Susan will continue her contribution to the AGTA Board for 2017 – 2018 as the nominated Director for GTANSW and as the AGTA representative to the IAG. In December 2017 the Appointed Directors for GTAV changed as a result of their AGM. The AGTA Board looks forward to welcoming Lachlan Zubevic at the May 2018 meeting and would also like to thank Associate Professor Ian Rutherfurd for his time and contributions to the Board whilst also offering further opportunities for enhanced levels of collaboration with the IAG.

**Geographical Education journal**

Geographical Education is the annual peer-reviewed journal of AGTA and it is available online. The current issue, Volume 30, can be accessed via the following weblink and also includes a supplement to celebrate the first fifty years of AGTA


At the end of 2017, the journal editor, Nick Hutchinson, stepped down from the role the AGTA Board extended a formal vote of thanks and appreciation to Nick for his sustained contribution to the journal. In 2018, Dr Rod Lane (Macquarie University) and Dr Theresa Bourke (Queensland University of Technology) will jointly take on the role of journal editor and are framing the 2018 edition around the theme of Assessment in Geographical Education.

**AGTA Biennial Conference ‘AGTA 2019’**

The AGTA Conference is typically held every 2 years and hosted on rotation through the affiliates. GTAQ will be hosting the 2019 Conference and a conference convening team has been appointed. would be appointed and paid an agreed fee to organise conference proceedings. Planning is underway and pending confirmation at the May AGTA Board meeting, the AGTA 2019 Conference will be held in early October at the Gold Coast. The Tasmanian affiliate (TGTA) are prepared to host the AGTA 2021 Conference in Hobart and also proposed the October holidays as being the most suitable time.

Further information about the work of AGTA, including the latest resources and information about the Affiliates, is available via http://www.agta.asn.au/index.php and the newsletter

Curtin University now has a Discipline of Geography in the School of Design and Built Environment. As part of a reorganization of Curtin’s Faculties and Schools at the end of 2017, Geography was given the status of Discipline. Dr Tod Jones is the new Discipline Lead for Geography. This new standing puts Geography in a strong position to pursue new initiatives at Curtin University.

2018 has started well for Geography @ Curtin with two new research staff joining the gang. Stephanie Harris, who completed her honours in 2017, has been appointed as a research associate to work with Gina Koczberski, George Curry and Tim Sharp on their ACIAR funded projects examining sustainable livelihoods in PNG. Mary O’Halloran, who also completed her honours in 2017 and will commence her PhD studies in 2018, is working with Amanda Davies on her Bankwest funded project examining rural volunteering.

Amanda Davies is taking a 3-year break from teaching undergraduate units in the geography program to take up a position as Dean of the Graduate Research School at Curtin. The part-time Dean position will enable Amanda to continue her research on Australia’s rural communities.

In February and March Curtin’s Geographers have been sharing stories of their travels with a broader University audience as part of a lunchtime talk series. Called the ‘Explorer Series’, presentations included: Indonesia’s Built Heritage (Tod Jones); Following Betel Nut Around PNG (Tim Sharp); Post-Earthquake Christchurch (Graham Thompson); The Finnish Business of Christmas (Amanda Davies); Nature-Culture in the Foothills of Mt Everest (Sudeep Jana Thing); Exploration in American Cities: 1969-2019 (Roy Jones).

In collaboration with the School of Spatial Sciences (Associate Prof Cecilia Xia) Lesley Crowe-Delaney has presented three seminars/workshops to industry between late Dec 2017–early Feb 2018 on findings on Chinese Tourist Behaviour. At two of these workshops in Bunbury and Albany, Lesley also developed Xia’s knowledge sharing workshops and conducted surveys to better understand tourist industry players reactions to Chinese tourists and the China Ready Accreditation program.

Curtin University Research Fellowship (sponsored by Professor Dora Marinova, head of Curtin University of Sustainable Policy Institute): Midway in Dr. Lesley Crowe-Delaney’s research fellowship, Professor Cecilia Xia Geographer/Spatial Scientist in the School of Spatial Sciences, now School of Earth and Planetary Sciences, invited Lesley, in her capacity as a Human Geographer and experienced educator, to an advisory position for Xia’s transport research group. This grew into a collaboration on a major report on Chinese tourists’ behaviours (the BCEC report – see Recent Books and Major Reports section), tourism industry engagement in WA’s South West and co-
supervising masters’ research in transportation. The collaboration with Associate Professor Cecilia Xia led Lesley to prepare and disseminate three seminars/workshops to the state’s tourism industry between late Dec 2017-early Feb 2018 on the findings of the research of Chinese Tourist Behaviour. For the Bunbury and Albany Chambers of Commerce and Industry seminars, Lesley also developed Xia’s knowledge sharing workshops and conducted surveys to better understand tourist industry players reactions to Chinese tourists and the China Ready Accreditation program. She also had an interview with ABC Radio Albany on tourism issues in the region. Alongside other writing commitments and international networking, including presenting at the resigning of the University of Hyogo/ Curtin University staff and student exchange agreement, Lesley is working with Professor Ting Liu of the Institute of Remote Sensing and Earth Sciences, Hangzhou Normal University on tourism research for a forthcoming paper. Her collaboration with Professor Fengxia Wang of Hainan University and Dr Xin Liu of CUSP on a local Hainan tourism project is also in its final round of edit. The industry engagement and cross-discipline collaboration between the sciences and humanities, based on her own industry experience, and grant applications, will fulfil the fellowship’s requirements along with the acquisition of a book contract with Palgrave Macmillan.

The University of Tasmania

New appointments

Vanessa Adams (Senior Lecturer in Conservation and Planning) will be commencing in June this year – a valuable addition to our strengths in conservation and socio-natural geographies.

Her research focuses on modelling dynamic social-ecological systems to inform conservation decisions that improve ecosystems and the communities they support. This means her research is broadly aligned with three themes: ecological modelling (to understand dynamic ecosystems, socio-economic aspects of conservation (to understand the human dimensions of social-ecological systems), and conservation decision theory (to inform decision making). Vanessa’s objective throughout her work is to improve the environment and the communities it supports in real and measurable ways. As a result, she often partners with relevant government agencies and NGOs to ensure that her research is relevant to policy makers and is positioned to influence on-ground conservation.

Vanessa was raised in New Mexico (USA) but currently calls Australia home. She has worked in a variety roles ranging from actuarial analyst for global consulting firm Mercer HR to research scientist at universities. She spent a year as a Fulbright scholar conducting research at University of Queensland in 2004 and completed her PhD at
James Cook University in 2011. Since her PhD she has worked as a Postdoctoral researcher at Charles Darwin University and University of Queensland and is currently a Lecturer in Conservation Biology at Macquarie University.

https://theconversation.com/profiles/vanessa-adams-8637

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Vanessa_Adams

Professor Matt King has been appointed to the Australian Academy of Science National Committee for Antarctic Research.

Jason Byrne joined us in January this year as a Professor of Human Geography and Planning. He researches urban political ecologies of green-space, climate change adaptation, and environmental justice. He has over 100 scholarly publications, including a multi-award-winning co-edited book - Australian Environmental Planning: Challenges and Future Prospects (Routledge). Professor Byrne has previously been awarded the Planning Institute Australia’s national award for cutting edge research and teaching, and has twice been awarded the PIA Queensland award in that category – as well as their overall award for planning excellence.

Before joining the University of Tasmania, Jason was an Associate Professor of Urban and Environmental Planning at Griffith University, Gold Coast, Queensland. Jason completed his PhD at the University of Southern California (2007) and was awarded a commendation for his doctoral research on urban and national parks and social disadvantage. Jason was a Senior Fellow at Johns Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies (1999), where he researched environmental inequality. Prior to becoming an academic, Jason worked as a planning officer, environmental officer and policy writer with the Western Australian government. He now provides research consultancy services to the Queensland Government and City of Gold Coast Council. Jason is on the editorial board for Local Environment and Journal of Political Ecology, and has made regular radio appearances on ABC radio, as well as television interviews.

http://www.utas.edu.au/profiles/staff/geography-environmental/jason-byrne

https://theconversation.com/profiles/jason-byrne-6066
Impact and engagement

Dr Emma Pharo (Transport planner) and Professor Jason Byrne have been making waves locally with their article in The Conversation, ‘Growth Pains and Gridlock come to Hobart’. Although congestion may be a familiar issues in some major centres, Hobart’s recent boom is only just starting to reveal some local limitations. As well as transport issues, a housing shortage is emerging – Hobart now has the lowest capital city rental vacancy rate, at just 0.3 per cent. University of Tasmania geographers are engaging directly with industry partners in addressing these and other issues.

Sessions at the IAG Conference 2017

University of Tasmania geographers are convening the following sessions at the upcoming IAG Conference:

**When Disaster Strikes: Insurance in theory and praxis**

Thinking about disasters – bushfires in Australia, earthquakes in New Zealand and flooding in the United Kingdom – how does re-thinking insurance and its geographies influence how and why we might research this key safety net? How can it help us consider the role and function of insurance in disaster events and everyday life? Contact Kate.Booth@utas.edu.au for more information. This session is supported by the Australian Research Council Discovery Programme, DP170100096.

**New frontiers in environmental justice: emotional geographies of place attachment and creative/destructive connection.**

This session explores new directions in environmental justice research. Environmental justice has grown from a United States place-based concern about the disproportionate exposure of marginalised and vulnerable communities to environmental harm (and unequal access to benefits), to encompass an international social movement. Contact Jason.Byrne@utas.edu.au for more information.

Other news

On invitation, Nancy Hudson-Rodd attended the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal on State Crimes Allegedly Committed in Myanmar against the Rohingya, Kachins and Other Groups, at the University of Malaya, Faculty of Law, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (18-22 September 2017).

Nancy gave a paper, "No Safe Place for Rohingya in Burma", as an invited speaker, at the International Conference, "Enduring the Slow Burning Genocide of Rohingyas by Myanmar", hosted by the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) at Dhakka University, Bangladesh. This major conference (29 November- 30 November 2017) was funded by the Euro Burma Office.
University of Wollongong

New appointments / retirements / moves / promotions

The UOW School of Geography and Sustainable Communities is delighted to welcome **Chantel Carr** as a new Lecturer.

The School of Geography and Sustainable Communities at University of Wollongong has welcomed seven new PhD students in February 2018:

- Drauzio Annunciato (supervisors Jenny Atchison + Gordon Waitt)
- Vanessa Cavanagh (supervisors Michael Adams + Laura Hammersley)
- Craig Lyons (supervisors Chris Gibson + Pauline McGuirk)
- Hilton Penfold (supervisors Pauline McGuirk + Gordon Waitt)
- Ville Santala (supervisors Pauline McGuirk + Nicole Cook)
- Makrita Solitei (supervisors Thomas Birtchnell + Tillman Böhme, Faculty of Business)
- Alexandre Yorke (supervisors Thomas Birtchnell + Tillman Böhme, Faculty of Business).

Outreach and engagement

**Dr Christine Eriksen** and **Mrs Shefali Lakhina**’s (UOW) 2017 Community Resilience Innovation Program grant from the NSW Office of Emergency Management has produced the *Co-learning Disaster Resilience Toolkit: A person-centred approach to engaging with refugee narratives and practices of safety*. The toolkit is available as a free online download: [https://www.preventionweb.net/go/57379](https://www.preventionweb.net/go/57379) and further details about the project is available on the PreventionWeb DRR Community Platform: [https://cc.preventionweb.net/illawarra](https://cc.preventionweb.net/illawarra)

**Prof Pauline McGuirk, Chantel Carr** (UOW) and Prof Robyn Dowling (USyd) gave evidence at the House of Representatives Public Inquiry into the Role of the Federal Government, 23 March.

**Dr Chris Brennan-Horley** and Dr Lyn Phillipson (UOW) gave evidence at the House of Representatives Public Inquiry into the Role of the Federal Government, 23 March.

Other news

UOW PhD students **Chantel Carr, Suzannah Clement, Shaun McKiernan, Elyse Stanes, Alex Tindale** and **Justin Westgate** have submitted their theses.
University of Melbourne School of Geography

Late 2017 brought ARC success for four of us here in the School of Geography at the University of Melbourne (see Grants section).

In December 2017, the Australian Mobilities Network Launch Symposium saw two days of great papers and debate. Keynote addresses were given by Professor Mimi Sheller (Drexel) and Professor Peter Adey (Royal Holloway, UCL). All were welcomed to Melbourne by Associate Professor David Bissell, Steering Committee Chair of AusMob. More information on the network is available at: www.ausmob.com.au.

In the new year, we have welcomed academic visitors Dr Phil Jones (Birmingham) and Associate Professor Mike Hilton (Otago). The School also welcomed (or welcomed back) the following staff for 2018: Dr Min Jiang, Dr Svenja Keele, Dr Alex Cullen and Dr Michela Mariani. Dr Tim Edensor has been appointed as a Principal Research Fellow in the School for 2018 and 2019. Happily, more than 20 new Masters and PhD students have also joined us in 2018.

On March 21-23, the School hosted the New Geographies of Global Inequalities Conference, convened by the School’s Professors Uma Kothari and Jon Barnett, along with Dr Elise Klein and Associate Professor Monica Minnegal (Anthropology, Melbourne) and Professor David Hulme (Manchester). The conference’s many themes provoked many excellent papers and rich discussion, covering: Contemporary Understandings of Global Inequalities and Social Justice; Settler Colonialism and Dispossession; Critical Indigeneities and the Politics of Alterity; Migration and Borders: the regulation of bodies and movements; Environmental destruction and renewal; Uneven Capital Flows; and Creativity, Agency and the Politics of Resistance.

On March 26, the School hosted a fabulous engagement event that showcased the work of our inaugural artist in residence, Linda Tegg. A number of the works Linda has made during her residency were exhibited at the event. A large crowd of alumni, staff and students heard from Linda about her experience of working with geographers in the School, before Associate Professor Lisa Palmer and Associate Professor Russell Drysdale had their right of reply! Dr Tim Edensor gave generous reflections as discussant.
Macquarie University

New appointments/retirements/moves/promotions

At the end of 2017, Professor Richie Howitt retired from Macquarie University. As mentor, researcher, teacher and colleague, Richie has influenced and assisted many scholars and teachers at Macquarie, and beyond, in geography and the environmental sciences, providing consistent support and encouragement. We wish him a happy retirement.

Upcoming seminars and conferences

Jess McLean and Margaret Raven are co-chairing the Geographies of Disruption Symposium at Macquarie University on April 19-20th. Scholars from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the UK will participate in this 2 day symposium, funded by the Geographical Society of NSW and supported by Macquarie.

Donna Houston, Andrew McGregor and Margaret Raven are co-chairing the 'Eating the Anthropocene' Symposium at Macquarie University on April 26-27th, featuring keynote speaker Prof Mike Goodman (University of Reading). The symposium will ask what and how should we eat in a climate-changing world?

Details for both events available on the Department of Geography and Planning's Groundwork Blog: https://groundworkgeop.wordpress.com/blog/
Western Sydney University

Professor Katherine Gibson will present the Howard G Roepke Lecture in Economic Geography at the New Orleans AAG meetings. The title is “Economic Geography and Ethical Action in the Anthropocene”. She will receive a Distinguished Scholarship Honor from the AAG at the Awards Ceremony.

Professor Donald McNeill has been appointed as chair of the Urban Studies Foundation. The Foundation funds urban research through various schemes, drawing on income generated by Urban Studies journal. More information: https://urbanstudiesfoundation.org/

School of Geosciences, The University of Sydney

Conference Participation and Organising Sessions:

Dr. Brad Garrett (Sydney) is co-organising two sessions at the Association of American Geographers Conference in New Orleans April 10-14: Dread, Utopia and Survival in Subterranea 1 & 2 (organized with Ian Klinke and chaired by Klaus Dodds and Stephen Legg). He will be presenting ‘Apocalypse Preppers and The Architecture of Dread’ in one of those sessions. In addition, Brad will be participating in an author meets Critic panel for Shannon Lee Dawdy’s new book Patina: A Profane Archaeology.

Early Career Researcher First Publication


Recent books and major reports


Older books and major reports

For a list of older books and major reports written by IAG members, please go to: https://www.iag.org.au/books-by-iag-members