

Call for papers, ICHSTM Manchester 2013, 22-28 July 2013

Conference Symposium on Geography and its Publics

Six 90-minute paper sessions including two keynote lectures by Professor Karen Morin (Bucknell University, USA) and Professor Charles Withers (University of Edinburgh, UK)

Organised by the IGU/IUHPS Commission on the History of Geography and the History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)

1 – Theme

This conference symposium invites papers on the theme of 'Geography and its Publics'. Throughout its history, geography has been utilized to serve wider political, economic, social and cultural interests. Modern nation states, for example, employed cartographers to document geographical features as a basis to information for statistical intelligence and military operations. In the nineteenth century, business and government interests supported the foundation of geographical societies for the co-ordination of exploratory projects, reports of whose work often enthralled or enraged the general public. Since the institutionalisation of geography at the end of the nineteenth century, audiences for geographical knowledge have multiplied and diversified, reflecting a growing awareness of the production and application of geographical knowledge.

The aim of this conference symposium is to bring together scholarship on the nature of geographical knowledge in relation to geography's publics. This includes not only a range of private and public workplaces in which geographical knowledge has been made and used (for example, governmental policy, military strategy, industrial development and the media), but also includes other settings, formal and informal, in which geography has been communicated to the wider public, mainly to shape people's geographical imaginations and understanding. Key questions may thus address the utility of geographical knowledge, the processes and practices that transfer geographical knowledge between different epistemological realms, the nature of a public for geography, and the wider impacts of geographical knowledge on society.

We will organise six 90-minute paper sessions, each of four contributions, including two keynote lectures by Professor Karen Morin (Bucknell University, USA) and Professor Charles Withers (University of Edinburgh, UK).

2 – Organisation

If you wish to present a 20-minute paper on the theme of 'Geography and its Publics' at the Manchester Congress in July 2013, please send an email to Dr Heike Jöns at H.Jons@lboro.ac.uk **no later than 31 October 2012**, providing the presentation's title, the name and affiliation of its author(s) and an abstract of up to 2500 characters (either in English or in French). Please note that individuals can only present or co-present one paper at the Congress but in a range of different languages (English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Chinese, Portuguese, Russian and Arabic). For further details, see <http://ichstm2013.com/>.

We as the organizers are looking forward to receiving your contributions and would be happy to discuss any comments or questions.

Dr Heike Jöns (Loughborough University, UK – Secretary of the History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society with IBG)

Prof Jacobo García-Álvarez (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain – Chairman of the IGU/IUHPS Commission on the History of Geography)

Dr Jan Vandermissen (National Committee for Logic, History & Philosophy of Science, Belgium)