

**IGU & IUHPST COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF GEOGRAPHY
REPORT FOR 2012-2013**

**Prof. Jacobo García-Álvarez¹
Chair of the Commission
Madrid, 14 December 2013**

A. MEMBERSHIP

a) Commission's Steering Committee members

The current Commission's Steering Committee (henceforth CSC), which was partially renewed in August 2012, comprises two Honorary Chairs (Professors Anne Buttimer and Vincent Berdoulay), a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, and eight other members.

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**b) Members of the Commission (apart from the Steering Committee's members)
as of 1 December 2013**

When the Commission on the History of Geography adopted its current name (approved on August 2008, on the occasion on the 31st IGC), Prof. Berdoulay (Commission Chair from 1996 to 2004) kindly provided the current CSC with a list of nearly 300 members of the former Commission on the History of Geographical Thought) as of August 2004. Since August 2008, this list has been updated and extended with 249 new members, reaching a total of 526 members (as of 1 December 2013), including the CSC's members (see Table 1). The list includes members from 81 different countries, whose regional distribution is as follows:

Region	A: Number of members as of August 2004	B: Members added since 2008	Total (A+B)	% of the total	Most represented countries by region
Europe	138	121	259	49,2	Spain (71); France (49), Italy (23), UK (23), Germany (21)
Asia	48	40	88	16,7	Japan (32), Israel (14), China (17)
Latin America	26	58	84	16	Brazil (50), Mexico (9)
USA & Canada	38	13	51	9,7	USA (40), Canada (11)
Africa	18	13	31	5,9	Cape Verde (11), Morocco (5)
Oceania	11	-	-	2,1	Australia (7), New Zealand (4)
Russia	9	4	13	2,5	Russia (13)
Total	288	249	526	100	

Table 1. Members included in the distribution list of the Commission, as of 1 December 2013

As indicated in previous reports of this Commission,² this list has been mainly built on the basis of attendance at the meetings held by the Commission since 1968, in order to disseminate information on the Commission's initiatives. It should be considered not as a list of "official" corresponding members, but as a valuable directory of scholars interested in the Commission's activities, that can be used as a distribution list.

A list of official corresponding members is currently being prepared by the CSC on the basis of more selective and systematic criteria. This network seeks to reach the world community of geographers interested in the History of Geography, and will be structured at three different spatial levels, namely: 1) Seven *macroregions* (Europe, Asia, Latin America, USA & Canada, Africa, Oceania and Russia); 2) Forty-two *mesoregions* (coherent sub-divisions of the aforementioned macroregions); 3) The 193 UN member states existing at present (which, exceptionally, may coincide with mesoregions, as for Mexico, Brazil, Turkey, Russian Federation, Australia, New Zealand, United States and Canada). Two examples of this three-scale system used for building the network can be seen in Table 2, taking the cases of the European (Table 2-A) and Latin American (Table 2-B) macro-regions. Ideally, each of the spatial units considered in the network should have at least one corresponding member, although the final number of members appointed by country will depend on the existing community of historians of geography which is geographically very unequal. The CSC expects to have this network of official corresponding members completed for the next International Geographical Congress (August 2016).

² See, especially, *IGU & IUHPS Commission on the History of Geography: Report of the activities carried out in 2008-2012 and Work Plan for 2012-2016* (submitted to the IGU Executive Committee in February 2012 and approved by this Committee in the framework of the 32nd IGC, held in Cologne in August 2012).

MESOREGIONS	COUNTRIES
GERMANIC EUROPE	Germany Austria Liechtenstein Switzerland
BENELUX	Belgium Luxembourg Netherlands
NORDIC COUNTRIES	Denmark Finland Iceland Norway Sweden
BALTIC COUNTRIES	Estonia Latvia Lithuania
BRITISH ISLES	Ireland United Kingdom
LATIN EUROPE	Andorra Spain France Italy Monaco Portugal San Marino Vatican City State
CENTRAL EUROPE	Czech Republic Slovakia Hungary Poland
BALCANS	Albânia Bosnia-Herzegovina Bulgaria Croatia Slovenia Macedonia Montenegro Romania Serbia
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN	Cyprus Greece Malta
TURKEY	

Table 2a. Mesoregions and countries being used as the spatial basis for building the Commission's corresponding members network in the macro-region of Europe

MESOREGIONS	COUNTRIES
MEXICO	Mexico
CENTRAL AMERICA	Belize Costa Rica Guatemala Honduras Nicaragua Panama El Salvador
GREATER ANTILLES	Cuba Haiti Jamaica Puerto Rico Dominican Republic
LESSER ANTILLES	Antigua and Barbados Barbados Dominica Grenada Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago
VENEZUELA AND GUYANAS	Guyana French Guyana Surinam Venezuela
ANDEAN AMERICA	Bolivia Colombia Ecuador Peru
BRAZIL	Brazil
‘SOUTH CONE’	Argentina Chile Paraguay Uruguay

Table 2B. Mesoregions and countries being used as spatial basis for building the Commission’s corresponding members network in the macro-region of Europe

B. MEETINGS

a) Meetings organised in 2012-2013

Table 3 summarizes the basic details of the five meetings that have been organised and held by the Commission in 2012 and 2013:

Location (Country and municipality)	Dates	Type of activity and topics addressed	Number of Papers and authors
1.GERMANY (I) Leipzig & Gotha (see Appendix, photos 1-5)	21-25 August 2012	Two main pre-congress activities organised jointly with the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography (Leipzig): 1) Pre-Congress symposium on the topic "Cartography and Geographical Knowledge in the Public Sphere", Leipzig and Gotha on August 21-23, 2012 2) Pre-Congress Field Trip from August 21 to August 26, 2012, including visits to Leipzig, Gotha, Eisenach and the Rhine Gorge, among other locations, with a final rail ride to Cologne.	19 papers (by 21 authors)
2. GERMANY (II): Cologne (see Appendix, photos 6-8)	26-30 August 2012	Paper sessions held within the framework of the 32nd International Geographical Congress. Session topic: "Society and Environment: conceptions and representations of Nature(s) in the History of Geography".	21 papers (by 23 authors)
3. UNITED KINGDOM: Manchester	22-28 July 2013	Symposium on the topic "Geography and its Publics", jointly organised with the History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society & Institute of British Geographers, within the framework of the 24th International Congress of History of Science, Technology and Medicine.	18 papers + 2 keynote lectures and commentaries (by 21 authors)
4. JAPAN: Kyoto (I) (see Appendix. photo 9)	5-9 August 2013	Paper session held within the framework of the International Geographical Union (IGU) Regional Conference, in cooperation with the Geographical Thought Study Group of the Human Geographical Society of Japan. Session topic: "Languages, materiality and the construction of geographical modernities"	21 papers (by 29 authors)
5. JAPAN: Kyoto (II) (see Appendix, photos 10-11)	5-9 August 2013	Paper session held within the framework of the International Geographical Union (IGU) Regional Conference, jointly organised with the IGU Commission on Gender and Geography. Session topic "History of Geography, Geographical Thought and Practice, and Gender"	8 papers (by 8 authors)

Table 3: Meetings organised and held by the Commission in 2012-2013

b) Main topics, findings and conclusions

The main topics of the symposia and paper sessions that have been organised by the Commission in 2012-2013 are as follows:

- The presence and role of geographic knowledge in public sphere throughout history were approached in the two specific symposia organised by the Commission, the first of which was held in Leipzig in August 2013 (under the title of “Cartography and Geographical Knowledge in the Public Sphere”), while the second one (entitled “Geography and its publics”) took place in Manchester within the framework of the 24th International Congress of History of Science. This topic fits one of the main objectives envisaged by the Commission for 2012-2014, namely to *promote a better contextual understanding of the relationship between geography and society, within and beyond the academy*. The meeting at Leipzig (and also some papers presented in the Manchester symposium) focused particularly on the public dimensions and social history of cartography, including the production, trade and consumption of maps; the field and interaction of scientific, commercial, journalistic, military and school cartography; the role of cartography in shaping scientific knowledge, nation building, and education; or the role of indigenous knowledge in pre-colonial and colonial cartography. The symposium held in Manchester did focus, more largely, on the multiple and diversified audiences for geographical knowledge since its institutionalization in the 19th century and how geography has been historically utilized to serve wider political, economic, social and cultural interests beyond the academy. The meeting was organised around three sub-themes of two sessions each, namely ‘Multiple publics’, ‘Geopolitics and exploration’, and ‘Geographical education and knowledge’. These sessions addressed a range of private and public workplaces in which geographical knowledge has been made and used as well as 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 dealt with 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.

- “Society and Environment: conceptions and representations of Nature(s) in the History of Geography” was the topic discussed in the paper sessions organised by the Commission within the framework of the 32nd International Geographical Congress, held in Cologne in August 2012. Contributions presented in the sessions especially dealt with philosophic and scientific conceptions of nature within the history of geography; the geographical roots of nature conservation policies and the idea of sustainable development; Nature control, nature romance and the description of landscapes; conceptions of “Nature” within different cultural, social and political environments; the field and interaction of indigenous, popular and scientific geographical knowledge of nature; and representations of nature within literature and art in connection to geography. The subject of the paper session was proposed along the lines of one of the four key-topics defined by the IGC LOC, namely the relationships between Society and Nature, but also in accordance with other important target pursued by the Commission throughout its recent history, i.e., to deepen our understanding of the utility of geography as a “reservoir” of ideas and experiences with which to address some relevant social and environmental challenges of the contemporary world.

- The first of the two paper sessions which were organised by the Commission in the IGU Regional Conference held in Kyoto last August addressed the topic “Languages, materiality and the construction of geographical modernities”. The aim of this session was to contemplate over how different geographical languages and discourses have been deployed in the material and representational construction of modern spaces and places, and how the materiality of modern social life has in turn shaped those languages and discourses. In this context, the concept of “geographical modernities” referred thus not only to the differentiated modern spaces and places, but also to modern academic and non-academic geographical discourses themselves. Among other topics, contributions to this session approached the relationships between the history of geography and material objects, institutions and localities; critical reflections on various geographical languages (written texts, maps, photographs, paintings, engravings and others); material cultures and the production, circulation and consumption of geographical knowledge; imaginative geographies in academia and broader society; and the role of academic and non-academic geographers in the planning and development of cities, regions and countryside.

- The second session held in Kyoto with the participation of the Commission was jointly co-organised with the IGU Commission on Gender and Geography, around the topic “History of Geography, Geographical Thought and Practice, and Gender”. In this joint session, we re-considered the production, transformation and distribution of geographical knowledge – academic and non-academic – from a gender perspective. Taking into account this perspective, papers did tackle, among other aspects, reconsiderations of the history of academic geography and alternative histories of geography; critical reflections on geographical concepts (e.g. place, space, home, boundaries, landscape); and the multiple ways in which geographical knowledge – academic and non-academic – has been produced and embodied in society. The session shed important light on the history not only of feminist geographies, but, more broadly, on the (traditionally unknown or underestimated) role played by women on the history of the discipline in different historical and geographical contexts (such as the colonial enterprise, the academy, geographical school teaching and pedagogy, and government agencies and departments).

c) Meetings planned for 2014 and beyond

Table 4 summarizes the meetings planned by the Commission for the 2014-2016 period. This includes the organization of specific symposia (such as those to be held in Rio de Janeiro, in 2014, and Quebec, in 2015), as well as the participation of the Commission within the next IGU Regional Conferences and in the 33rd International Geographical Congress scheduled for 2016. Details on the meeting topics to be addressed at the 2015 IGU Regional Conference, as well as in the 33rd IGC, are still to be decided.

Location (Country and municipality)	Dates	Type of activity and topics to be addressed
POLAND: Cracow	18-22 August 2014	Paper session on the topic “What (political) geography ought to be? Theoretical approaches to and historical perspectives on geography and geopolitics as instruments of peace”, jointly organised with the IGU Commission on Political Geography, within the framework of the next IGU Regional Conference
BRAZIL: Rio de Janeiro	December 2014 (exact dates still not decided)	Symposium on the topic “The circulation of ideas in the history of geographic knowledge: hierarchies, scales, networks and interactions”, jointly organised with the Brazilian Network on the History of Geography and Historical Geography (<i>Rede Brasileira de História da Geografia e Geografia Histórica</i>)
CANADA: Quebec	2015 (exact dates still not decided)	Symposium on the topic "The historiography of geography: developments, trends and challenges", locally organised by Prof. Guy Mercier (<i>Université Laval</i>)
OTHER MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR 2015-2016: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IGU Regional Conference, Moscow, Russia: dates, topic and type of activity still not decided. ➤ 33rd IGU Congress, Beijing, China: dates, topic and type of activity still not decided. 		

Table 4: Commission Meetings planned for 2014-2016

C. NETWORKING

a) Collaboration with other IGU Commissions during 2012-2013.

Since the last International Geographical Congress, the current CSC has reestablished a policy of cooperation with other IGU Commissions and task forces which used to be very intense and fruitful in previous periods (see Table 5). As a result of it, the Commission organised a joint paper session with the Commission on Gender and Geography within the framework of the Regional Conference held in Kyoto, on the topic “History of Geography, Geographical Thought and Practice, and Gender”. The success of this session, co-chaired by Prof. Tamami Fukuda (on behalf of the Commission on History of Geography) and Prof. Janice Monk (on behalf of the Gender and Geography Commission) was highly remarkable both for the quality of the papers and the large audience which it drew, and promises much for other future joint initiatives involving both Commissions. In this respect, the Commission is planning to include a specific item on “Gender perspectives on the History of Geography” within the call for papers for the Symposium on “Historiography of Geography” scheduled for 2015 in Quebec.

In a similar way, the Commission has proposed a joint session in cooperation with the Commission on Political Geography for the next IGU Regional Conference, to be held in Cracow. The topic of this session, co-chaired by Prof. Toshiyuki Shimazu (on behalf of the Commission on the History of Geography) and Dr. Ellena de Il’Agnese (on behalf of the Commission on Political Geography), will be: “What (political) geography ought to be? Theoretical approaches to and historical perspectives on geography and geopolitics as instruments of peace”.

The CSC is aware that the Commission’s cross-thematic approach lends itself to cooperation with other Commissions and Task Forces, and we will work to foster these developments during the following years, either within the framework of the IGU Regional Conference to be held in Moscow or in the 33rd IGC in Beijing.

b) Collaboration with national organisations and research groups in 2012-2013

As noted in the Commission’s report for the period 2008-2012, the networking strategies followed by the current CSC did put particular emphasis on strengthening and multiplying relationships with national organisations and research groups specifically concerned with the history of geography and cartography. This approach has been fruitfully continued during the current period of activity (2012-2016), as evidenced by the following experiences and initiatives (see also Table 5):

- the two meetings organised in Germany in August 2012 (symposium in Leipzig, papers sessions in Cologne), in cooperation with the history of geography research team of the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography (*Leibniz – Institute für Länderkunde*) of Leipzig;
- two of the three meetings co-organised by the Commission in 2013: the first one in Manchester, in July, in cooperation with the History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers; the second one in Kyoto, in August, in cooperation with

the Geographical Thought Study Group of the Human Geographical Society of Japan.

- the preparations for the Commission symposium planned for December 2014 in Rio de Janeiro, that will be jointly organised with the Brazilian Network on the History of Geography and Historical Geography (*Rede Brasileira de História da Geografia e Geografia Histórica*).

c) Cooperative efforts with International Council for Science (ICSU)

Since 1976, the Commission has acted as an international Commission not only within the IGU, but also within the Division of History of Science and Technology (DHST) of the International Union of the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IUHPST), which, the same as IGU, is part of the ICSU (<https://sites.google.com/a/dhstweb.org/www/>). Careful efforts have been made during the last years to re-establish and normalize the links of the Commission with the IUHPST, which, as noted in previous reports, were interrupted between 2004 and 2008.

In this respect, during the period reported in this document, it should be noted that the Commission actively participated in the 24th International Congress of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, in Manchester, July 2013. Within this framework, the Commission co-organised (in cooperation with the History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers) a Symposium on the topic “Geography and its Publics”. This included a total of 18 paper presentations and two keynote lectures and commentaries, bringing together 21 authors coming from eleven different countries (the United Kingdom, France, United States, Mexico, Brazil, Russia, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Iraq and Spain).

As for every Commission of the IUHPST, the Commission on the History of Geography has a seat and right to vote in the IUHPST General Assembly (which takes place every four years, within the International Congresses) and submits annual reports for the IUHPST Executive Committee (which are assessed and approved by it). One of the members of the CSC is specifically engaged on keeping and strengthening the relationships with the IUHPST, namely Dr. Jan Vandersmissen, who is currently the Head of the *Centre d'Histoire des Sciences et des Techniques* at the University of Liège and, since December 2012, corresponding member of the International Academy of the History of Science (<http://www.aihs-iahs.org/>).

Type of partner	Country/ Institution/ Group	Summary description of the cooperation
A) OTHER IGU COMMISSIONS	Commission on Gender and Geography	Joint paper session on the topic “History of Geography, Geographical Thought and Practice, and Gender”, held in the IGU Regional Conference at Kyoto (August 2013)
	Commission on Political Geography	Joint paper session on the topic “What (political) geography ought to be? Theoretical approaches to and historical perspectives on geography and geopolitics as instruments of peace”, planned for the IGU Regional Conference at Cracow (August 2014).
B) NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS, ASSOCIATIONS AND WORKING GROUPS	PORTUGAL: University of Lisbon – Centre of Geographical Studies (CEG-UL)	The CEG-UL will publish in 2013 a book based on the IGU-CHG symposium on “History of Geography and Colonialism”, held in Cape Verde in June 2011, which is being co-edited by Joao Carlos Garcia and Jacobo Garcia-Álvarez.
	GERMANY: Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography / Leibniz – Institute für Länderkunde (L-IFL), Leipzig.	IGU-CHG and L-IFL jointly organised, in August 2012, a pre-congress paper session on the topic “Cartography and geographical knowledge in the Public sphere”, as well as a pre-congress field trip, as well as co-planned and co-chair the paper session on History of Geography held at Cologne in the 32nd IGC.
	UNITED KINGDOM: Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) – History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group (RGS-IBG HPGRG)	IGU-CHG and RGS-IBG (HPGRG) jointly organised a Symposium on “Geography and its Publics” held in the framework of the 24 th International Congress of History of Science, Technology and Medicine (Manchester, July 2013).
	JAPAN: The Human Geographical Society of Japan - Geographical Thought Study Group (HGSJ – GTSG)	IGU-CHG and HGSJ – GTSG cooperated in order to organise and chair the paper sessions devoted to History of Geography at the IGU Regional Conference, Tokyo, August 2013.
	BRAZIL: Brazilian Network on the History of Geography and Historical Geography (BNHGHG)	IGU-CHG & BNHGHG will jointly co-organise an international symposium on “The circulation of ideas in the history of geographic knowledge”, scheduled to be held in Rio de Janeiro, December 2014.
C) ICSU	International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IUHPST) – Division of History of Science	<p>The IGU-CHG is full member of the IUHST–DHS since 1976, as one of the Inter-Union Commissions.</p> <p>The CHG co-organised a Symposium on the topic “Geography and its Publics” within the framework of the 24th International Congress of History of Science, Technology and Medicine, Manchester, UK, July 2013.</p>

Table 5: Collaboration of the IGU Commission on the History of Geography (IGU-CHG) with other institutions and groups (2012-2013 and ongoing plans)

D. PUBLICATIONS AND WEBSITE

a) Books and other relevant documents published in 2012-2013

In the last two years, the Commission has issued three different kind of publications (see Table 6), apart from its website. Firstly, the Commission has continued to edit the annual serial collection *Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies* (two volumes published in 2012-2013). Secondly, the CSC prepared an extensive 26-page *Report of the Activities carried out in 2008-2012 and Work Plan for 2012-2016*, submitted to the IGU Executive Committee in February 2012 and approved by it in August 2012. This, due to its particular nature, has been issued online at the Commission's webpage as a kind of replacement for the 2012 and 2013 annual newsletters. Thirdly, two CSC members (Professors Joao Carlos García and Jacobo García-Álvarez) are co-editing a book on the topic "Colonialism and History of Geography", based on the results of the symposium of the same title held in Cape Verdes in June 2012; its publications is scheduled for 2014. Since we have already referred to the symposium which underpinned this monograph, we focus here on the *Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies* series (henceforth *GBS*), the main and most distinctive publication of the Commission since 1977.³

Geographers Biobibliographical Studies is an annual serial publication, produced by the IGU Commission for the History of Geography, and coedited for the Commission by Charles W J Withers (University of Edinburgh) and Hayden Lorimer (University of Glasgow). It is published by Bloomsbury (formerly, until 2011, by Continuum and previously by Methuen). During the period involving this report, *GBS* has successfully reached volume 32 (October 2013). Plans for volume 33 (appearing in September 2014) and beyond are in hand. *GBS* represents a major printed intellectual resource for the history of geography and geographers. There are nearly 500 *GBS* essays extant, to a total of c.2.14 million words.

Among the major plans and challenges concerning the future of *GBS* (as indicated in the work plan for 2012-2016), particular mention should be paid to the question of digitalization and on-line delivery of the publication. Possibilities for both exist in two respects. The first is the digitisation of the past stock of *GBS* essays: this would allow the possibility of using *GBS* as a research and teaching resource; customising by theme/period/sub-disciplinary specialisation (e.g., having an online publication of 'French geography and geographers', 'Eighteenth-century geographers', 'African explorers' etc). This matter would involve the destruction of the set of volumes used to generate the on-line resource and any OCR facility (for by-word/topic searching etc). The second matter is the possibility of delivering *GBS*, in the future, as an online resource. This has more major implications: frequency of publication, nature of publication (use of colour etc), range of content possibilities, etc.

³ The comments on *GBS* included in this report mostly owe to Prof. Withers, who is currently a member of the Commission Steering Committee and co-editor of *GBS*. Acknowledgements are due to him and to Dr. Hayden Lorimer (co-editor) for their work for *GBS*. For an account of the history of this series before 2000, see ARMSTRONG, Patrick & MARTIN, Geoffrey (2000): "Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies, 1977-2000", *Geographical Review*, 90 (2), 256-259.

Both issues also need to recognise that, currently, *GBS* volumes since vol. 28 have been available online on the publisher's platform (at a charge to users). Both issues will involve dialogue between the Commission officers (the co-editors especially), the IGU Executive, and the publishers. The cost implications have not been addressed other than to identify a very general figure of 'about £10,000' for the on-line upload of *GBS* vols 1-32. This takes no account of the server issues, hosting, longer-run maintenance, etc. and is simply a per page charge based on number of volumes/words overall. There is no way that the Commission alone could pay this, so facing this major challenge — which the CSC decidedly believes would bring a significant scholarly resource to the community of geographers worldwide— would necessarily require a significant institutional and funding support from both inside and outside the IGU. At the time of writing (December 2013), we have been informed that Bloomsbury Publishers have enthusiastically embraced the idea of a digital resource of *GBS* back numbers: we await further developments.

In any case, the CSC wishes to reiterate its deep gratitude to the IGU Executive Committee for the generous regular contribution of 1000 \$ provided by the IGU since 2006 to assist with the production costs of *GBS*, which remains the only publication devoted to the assessment of scholar's contributions to geography and to geographical knowledge in international context.

b) Commission's Website

Along the lines of the former *Commission on the History of Geographical Thought*, chaired by Prof. Vincent Berdoulay from 1996 to 2004, the CHG relaunched, since August 2008, a website to spread its own works and activities. Its URL is as follows:

<http://web.univ-pau.fr/RECHERCHE/UGIHG/index.html>

Hosted by the CNRS scientific laboratory SET (Society, Environment and Territory) of the University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour and edited by the Commission's Secretary-Treasurer, Prof. Jean-Yves Puyo, the website gives account of the main news and information concerning the Commission's recent life, including not only its activities, newsletters and main publications since 2008 onwards, as well as its work plans for the next years, but also the newsletters and other relevant documents relating the period 1996-2004. The website welcomes any relevant news and meeting announcements about the History of Geography. The website has tried to report in three languages: English, French, and Spanish. This is time-consuming, but we intend to continue this policy as we consider it important and a valuable step in disseminating the Commission's work internationally.

Type of Publication	Title of the publication (complete citation)	Summary of Contents
Book (annual serial collection)	Hayden LORIMER & Charles W. J. WITHERS (eds): <i>Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies</i> , vol. 31, London & New York , 2012, 169 pages. Published by Bloomsbury on behalf of the IGU-CHG. ISBN: 978-1-4411-8624-9.	Editors' introduction + 8 essays on: Eva Germaine Rimington Taylor (1879-1966), Orlando Ribeiro (1911-1997), Aimé Vincent Perpillou (1902-1976), Two Vidalians: Antoine Vacher (1873-1920) and René Musset (1881-1977), Jean Dresch (1905-1994), Andre Cholley (1886-1968) , Daniel Faucher (1882-1970) and Kenneth Cumberland (1913-2011)
Book (annual serial collection)	Hayden LORIMER & Charles W. J. WITHERS (eds): <i>Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies</i> , vol. 32, London & New York, 2013, 173 pp. Published by Bloomsbury on behalf of the IGU-CHG. ISBN: 978-1-4725-1235-2.	Editors' introduction + 8 essays on: Raoul Blanchard (1877-1965), Pierre Monbeig (1908-1987). Emmanuel de Margerie (1862-1953), Charles Robequain (1897-1963), Richard Lawton (1925-2010), William John Talbot (1908-1995), Antonín Strnad (1746-1799) and Sir Arthur de Capell Brooke (1791-1858).
Other relevant documents	<i>IGU & IUHPS Commission on the History of Geography. Report of the activities carried out in 2008-2012 and Work Plan for 2012-2016</i> (submitted in February 2012 to the IGU Executive Committee, which approved it on the occasion of the 32nd IGC).	
FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS		
Book (annual serial collection)	Hayden LORIMER & Charles W. J. WITHERS (eds): <i>Geographers: Biobibliographical Studies</i> , vol. 33, London & New York. Published by Bloomsbury on behalf of the IGU-CHG (to be published in October 2014)	There are essays already in hand on: Jean Tricart (1920-2003), André Guilcher (1913-1993), André Meynier (1901-1983), Pierre Birot (1909-1984), Hugh Prince (1927-2013). Further essays promised for the deadline are on Maurice Zimmermann, Sandor Rador, Oscar Spate, and Olinto Marinelli.
Book (based on Symposium Proceedings)	GARCIA, Joao Carlos & GARCÍA-ÁLVAREZ, Jacobo (eds.): <i>Historia da Geografia e colonialismo / History of Geography and Colonialism / Histoire de la Géographie et Colonialisme</i> , Lisboa, Centro de Estudos Geográficos (scheduled to be published in 2014).	This book is based on a selection of the papers and lectures given during the International Symposium held at Praia, Cape Verde, in June 2011. It will comprise the editors' introduction + 17 contributions (by 22 authors)
Newsletter	IGU - CHG <i>Newsletter / Bulletin</i> for 2014.	

Table 6: Commission's Publications, 2012-2013 and forthcoming

E. ARCHIVAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Since its renewal in the 31st IGC to the present, the CSC has reported regularly to the IGU Executive Committee on the Commission activities and publications and has transmitted a copy of the last to the IGU Secretary General (initially Prof. Woo-ik Yu; since 2010 Prof. Mike Meadows). An exemplar of the publications edited on behalf of the Commission in 2012 and 2013 (vols. 31 and 32 of *GBS*) has been already sent to Prof. Meadows too, while others relevant material will be sent either together with the document (such as the pictures of the meetings held during this period) or in the coming months. The Commission's website (<http://web.univ-pau.fr/RECHERCHE/UGIHG/>) also hosts an archive of all the Meeting circulars and calls for papers launched by the CHG since August 2008 onwards, as well as of all the Newsletters published since 1996 and several documents relating to the *GBS* series (such as the alphabetical list of subjects covered to date).

Last, but not least, it is worth notice that the Commission work plan for 2012-2016 includes four measures targeted to providing scholars, at an international level, with archival resources and other types of information sources necessary to conduct high quality research on the history of geography (see Table 7):

Targets	Level of achievement (as of 1 December 2013)
Creating an international directory of groups and associations concerned with the history of geography	In progress, although conditioned to the full institutionalisation of an official network of corresponding members
Creating an international directory of archives (both personal and institutional) related to the history of geography	In progress, although this is undertaken with respect to the full implementation of an official network of corresponding members
Introducing some changes in the <i>Geographers Biobibliographical Studies (GBS)</i> series in order to improve its spread and reach among the international community of geographers and historians. Among those changes, the CSC top priorities are: a) to digitise and have available all <i>GBS</i> volumes and essays to date; b) to move <i>GBS</i> from a print-only annual serial publication to an online publication;	In progress. Conversations are continuing between <i>GBS</i> co-editors (Dr. Lorimer and Prof. Withers) and Bloomsbury publishing house officers in order to discuss the legal, technical and economic implications of those targets. Important questions remain to be solved (see <i>item D.a</i>) of this report).
Creating an online archive of biographical interviews to geographers, on the basis of the materials collected within the framework of the <i>International Dialogue Project</i> (1978-1988, A. Buttner & T. Hagerstrand).	Mostly achieved, thanks to the support of the IGU Executive Committee. Contacts with the Lund University Library Media (where the complete original collection is hosted) were initiated in September 2012, after the 32 nd IGC, by Prof. Anne Buttner (one of the two Commission's Honorary Chairs), in cooperation with the CSC and the IGU-EC. In 2013, the IGU acquired the copies of the Lund's collection, which will be issued online on the IGU's website (info provided by Prof. Mike Meadows).

Table 7. Commission's Targets related to Archival and Historiographical Contributions and Resources for Research, 2012-2016

While three of those actions are still work in progress (as far as the measures related to the *GBS* series are indicated, see the information detailed in D.a here), the Commission is very pleased and grateful to the IGU Executive Committee about the results concerning the fourth measure, intended to create an online archive of biographical interviews to geographers on the basis of the precious materials collected within the framework of the well-known *International Dialogue Project* (1978-1988). This project, based at the University of Lund and undertaken by Prof. Anne Buttimer and Torsten Hägerstrand, entailed the conduction of numerous autobiographical interviews to leading international figures within the field, from academia and the profession, who shared insights from their career experiences as well as participated in group discussions on specific issues and periods. More than 200 people from 35 different countries were interviewed, and part of these video interviews were published in various monographs.⁴ Others remain unpublished and even un-transcribed, and are housed mostly in the Lund University Library Media. Counting upon the enthusiastic help of Prof. Buttimer, on September 2012 the CSC started the contacts with the University of Lund in order to make available this resource via its own website. After those first steps, the initiative was generously supported by the IGU Executive Committee, which in 2013 approved the acquisition of a copy of the complete collection existing at the Lund University Library. According to the information personally provided by the IGU Secretary General and Treasurer on the occasion of the Regional Conference held in Kyoto, in the coming months this valuable archival resource for research and teaching on the history of geography is expected to be issued online on the IGU website.

⁴ The main publications resulting from the project include: BUTTIMER, A. (1983): *The Practice of Geography*, London and New York, Longmans; HÄGERSTRAND, T. and BUTTIMER, A. (1988): *Geographers of Norden*, Lund, Lund University Press; GARCÍA-RAMÓN, M.D., NOGUÉ, J. and ALBET, A. (1992): *La práctica de la geografía en España*, Barcelona, Oikos-Tau; BUTTIMER, A. (1993): *Geography and the Human Spirit*, Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins University Press; BUTTIMER, A. and MELS, T. (2006): *By Northern Lights: on the Making of Geography in Sweden*, Basingstoke, Ashgate.

**APPENDIX: PHOTOGRAPHIC SELECTION FROM THE MEETINGS HELD
BY THE COMMISSION IN 2012-2013**

Sources: Pictures taken and selected by Jacobo García-Álvarez (except for no.1, taken by Dr. J. Faenhdrich, and no.6 , by Prof. Haim Goren).

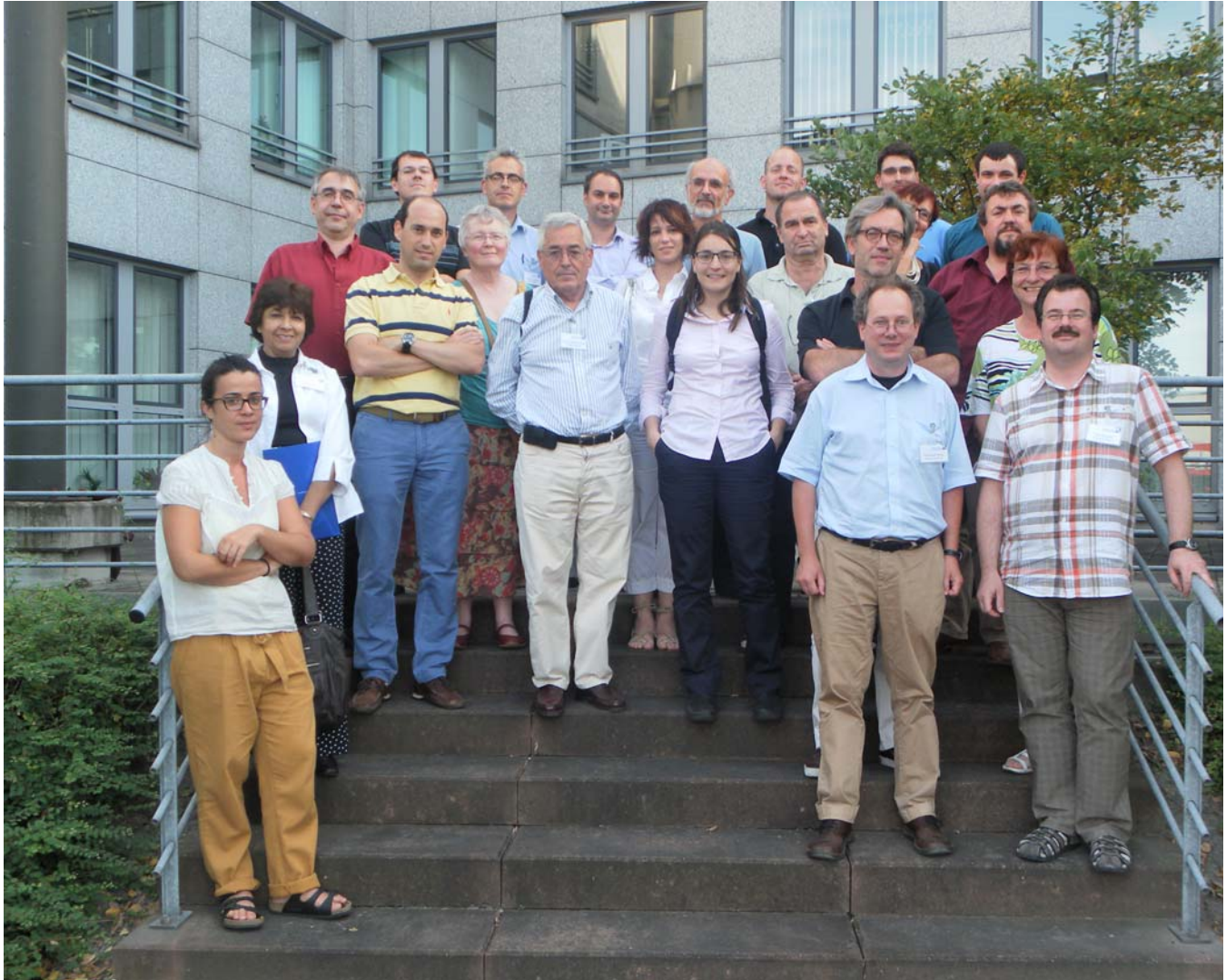


Photo 1. Leipzig (August 2012): Group photo of the majority of symposium participants, in front of the building which hosts the Leibniz – Institute für Länderkunde (IFL)

From left to right: Valentina de Santi, Luz María Tamayo, Heinz Peter Brogiato, Federico Ferretti, Javier Bielza, Karen Cook, Nicolas Verdier, Vicente Bielza, Jacobo García-Álvarez, Carla Lois, Paloma Puente, Vincent Berdoulay, Andreas Cristoph, Haim Goren, Jean-Marc Besse, Bruno Schelhaas, Norman Henniges, Maxime Forriez, Jean-Yves Puyo, Ute Wardenga and Norman Henniges.



Photo 2. Leipzig (August 2013): Dr. Bruno Scheelhas presents the collections of the Archive for Geography at the Leibniz – IFL to the Symposium participants.

With 70 bequests by geographers, explorers and institutions, the Archive has a unique collection of items pertaining to the history of Geography since the 19th century, such as letters, diaries, manuscripts and route sketches.



Photos 4a&b: Scenes from the Pre-Congress fieldtrip (August 2012). In the upper picture, the group near the Wartburg castle (Eisenach); in the lower photo, Dirk Hangsen gives an explanation on the morphology of the Niederwald Landscape Park, near Rudesheim am Rhein (Hesse)



Photo 5. Pre-Congress fieldtrip to the Rhine Valley (August 2012). Group photo in the Niederwald Landscape Park.

From left to right: H.P. Brogiato, V. Bielza, J. Faehndrich, T. Shimazu, B. Scheelhas N. Henniges. T. Fukuda, K. Cook, J. Bielza, J. MacDougall, L.M. Tamayo, J.Y. Puyo and D. Hangsen



Photo 6. Commission paper session at the Cologne IGC (August 2012). Opening words by Dr. Bruno Schelhaas and Prof. Jacobo García-Álvarez.



Photo 7. Commission paper session at the Cologne IGC (August 2012). Paper presentation by Norman Henniges on the contributions of Albretch Penck to the emergence of geographical fieldwork in Germany. Acting as session chair, Dr. Ute Wardenga, deputy director of the Leibniz IFL.



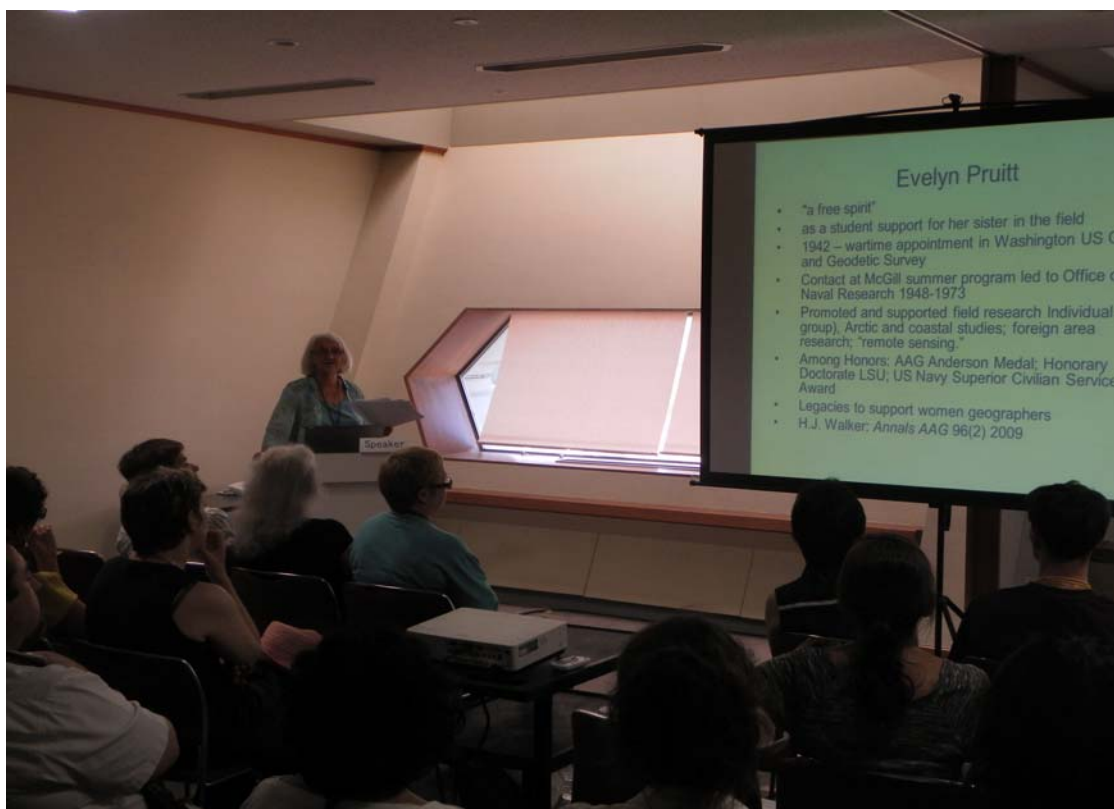
Photo 8. Attendees to the Commission paper session at the Cologne IGC (August 2012). In the center of the picture, Prof. Frauke Kraas (co-chair of the IGC LOC) and Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand.



Photos 9a&b. Commission paper session at the Kyoto Regional Conference (August 2013). Prof. Naoki Oshiro (Meiji University, Tokyo) gives a paper presentation on the topic “Okinawan folk geographies in modernity”.



Photo 10. History of Geography & Gender and Geography Commissions joint session at the Kyoto Regional Conference (August 2013). Paper presentation by Dr. Rosa Cerarols (Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona) on Spanish Women's travel narratives on Morocco (1900-1936).



Photos 11 a&b. History of Geography & Gender and Geography Commissions joint session at the Kyoto Regional Conference (August 2013). Prof. Janice Monk (University of Arizona), co-chair of the session, speaks on the careers of some women geographers in U.S. government agencies between 1914 and the late 1970s.