

Greetings friends and colleagues,

Since our last newsletter on June 24, 2016, many exciting developments have taken place. We now have two new Regional Action Centers in Skopje and one in Warsaw, and are developing plans to establish many more RACs.

Keep reading to go over the latest and upcoming events, updates, and developments for the IYGU!

Best wishes,
Benno Werlen, IYGU Executive Director

Regional Action Center update

- Since our last newsletter, we have established two new exciting RACs. Dr Biljana Apostolovska Toshevskaja will run the RAC for Macedonia in Skopje, which will be hosted by the Macedonian Geographical Society. The Polish RAC will be hosted by Collegium Civitas, in Warsaw, and run by Dr. Katarzyna Iwińska. Plans to establish RACs in Praia (Cape Verde), Tundavala (Angola), Bamako, Dubai, Tbilisi, Lancaster, Lausanne, Quito, Lima, Havana, San Jose, Bogota, Hong Kong, Dublin, Malmö, and Seoul, to name but a few, are underway. Click [here](#) to get an overview of the active RACs and contact details, [here](#) for an upcoming events calendar, and [here](#) to see a world map showing activities in your area. Click [here](#) to meet the people behind the RACs and hear more about their institutions and projects.
- Three of the six [IYGU Open Access Springer](#) books [Eating, Drinking, Surviving \(Peter Jackson, Farhana Sultana and Walter Spiess\)](#) [Working, Housing: Urbanizing \(Allen Scott, Peter Taylor and Jennifer Robinson\)](#) and [Communicating, Networking, Interacting \(Margaret Robertson\)](#), will be available online shortly. The books were presented by Margaret Robertson during the 33rd International Geographical Congress in Beijing, August, 2016.
- The Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts, at the University of Ljubljana dedicated the 2015-16 summer semester to the IYGU, looking at how individuals are involved on the local level. Geography students were asked to document good practice examples from various regions and fields, and to capture them in words and pictures, in order to present them to Slovenian as well as an international audience. Please click [here](#) for some of the wonderful examples that they have recorded.

- On September 22 the Brazilian Chamber of Industry (CNI) will host an IYGU Opening Ceremony for Brazil in Rio de Janeiro. Prof. Benno Werlen will take part in a panel titled 'How socio-environmental values influence production and consumption patterns'. Other participants are Klaus Toepfer (IYGU Patron), Gordon McBean (IYGU Steering Committee), Walter Dissinger (President of Votorantim Ciment), Ulisses Sabará (President of Beraca, Brazil), Isabella Wanderley (Vice President of New Channel Development at Grupo Boticário, Brazil), and Marcos Troyjo (Director of BRICLab at Columbia University, Brazil). For additional information click [here](#)
- The [UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development \(MGIEP\)](#) is developing an exciting new project, Project Scopex, with the [Friedrich Schiller University](#) of Jena and the [Leuphana University](#) of Lüneburg, Germany. The first meeting will take place in Paris, from the 4 - 5, October.
- The Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO (ASPnet of UNESCO schools), in collaboration with CIPSH and the IYGU Iberian Regional Action Centre, is celebrating the IYGU by organizing the 8th edition of Portuguese ASPnet Schools contest, which will be launched among the secondary schools next October in Portugal.

To find out more, please contact your [national UNESCO commission](#) or the [CIPSH secretariat](#)

- The Summer-School "[Political Ecology and the Spatial Turn. From 'Living Spaces' to Global Understanding](#)" is currently being held at the [Friedrich Schiller University](#), Germany, in collaboration with the [University of Buenos Aires](#), the [University of Chile at Santiago de Chile](#) and the RACs for Argentina and Chile. Students from Germany, Argentina, and Chile will attend lectures, workshops, and field trips from the 1-10, September.
- The Patagonia project works with transnational change, using the example of Patagonia. With eight participating universities, the Thematic Network deals with social inequality, intercultural exchange, aesthetic expressions. Partners include [Friedrich Schiller University](#), Germany, [Universidad de Buenos Aires](#), [Universidad Nacional del Comahue](#), and [Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia San Juan Bosco](#), Argentina, and [Universidad de Chile](#), [Universidad Austral de Chile](#), [Universidad de Concepción](#), and [Universidad Católica de Temuco](#), Chile

Co-operation

- has been strengthened with ESRI, the leading international supplier of geographic information system (GIS) software, web GIS and geodatabase management applications. ESRI co-founder Jack Dangermond, ESRI Chief Scientist Dawn Wright and others at ESRI are collaborating with IYGU on setting up the [Story Map competition](#). ESRI has also been a sponsor of the IYGU opening ceremony
- Another local co-operation has been formed with [JENA-GEOS®-Ingenieurbüro GmbH](#) that engages in complex geo-scientific research and consulting in Germany and abroad. Prof. Benno Werlen also addressed attendees at a conference organized by JENA-GEOS®.
- Partnership with the [Taihu World Cultural Forum \(Macao\)](#) has been established. Chao Gejin, Luiz Oosterbeek, and Benno Werlen have been appointed Members of Council of World Cultural Forum (Taihu, China), enabling a long-term partnership with the IYGU network.
- Collaboration with Future Earth and the MacArthur Foundations [100 & Change program](#): Based on the IYGU Arts related activities (in cooperation with CIPSH, the global Action Center for Arts in Paris and the Glastonbury Festival) IYGU has been invited by Paul Shrivastava, Future Earth Executive Director, to participate in a discussion to launch a major project that was originally focused on “arts and science” and evolved into a transversal humanities, sciences and arts project, with the tentative title “Sea Change: Catalytic Conversion of Water Culture and Infrastructure”. The project will be presented to major research funding agencies and, namely, to the MacArthur 100 & Change competition for a 100 million USD grant.

Upcoming Events

Rio de Janeiro September 6-10: Our RAC in Brazil will be holding an [event](#) together with the Brazilian Academy of Philosophy, and with institutional support from Firjan and ITM and lots of volunteers' hard work. The Vice president of Anprotec, Engineer and Professor José Alberto Aranha will participate as a speaker in this event.

Évora September 5-8: The University of Évora will host their VI International Summer Course [“A Condição Humana e o Entendimento Global: Crises, Diálogos e Diásporas”](#) (The Human and Global Understanding Condition: Crisis, Dialogues and Diasporas)

Kyoto September 10 – 24: [The 55th Map and Geography Exhibition](#) will be held in Kyoto Japan.

Buenos Aires September 12-23: National Week of Science, Technology and Scientific Art, Argentina (IYGU RAC Argentina)

Québec September 21-23: Colloque "[Baie-Saint-Paul: inspirer le monde](#)" (organized by the Ville de Baie-Saint-Paul, in collaboration with the département de géographie at l'Université Laval and the CIRODD).

Malaga September 29-30: [EUROGEO 2016](#) – Story Map competition launch

Kyoto October 2-4: [Science and Technology in Society Forum](#) at the Kyoto International Conference Center Takaragaike, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, Japan

Belo Horizonte October 4-7: Latin American Conference of the Humanities, will prepare for the [World Humanities Conference](#) (organized by CIPSH) at the Federal University of Minas Gerais; one of the topics is Global Understanding

Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil October 17-20: The 26th Anprotec Conference proposes discussing the evolution of support for entrepreneurship and innovation. Science parks, business incubators and accelerators, corporate ventures and coworking spaces need to work in harmony in order to leverage the systematic creation and rapid growth of new projects, thereby contributing effectively to the consolidation of the innovation ecosystem. (RAC Brazil)

Nuremberg-Erlangen October 24: The geography department at the University will be hosting [lectures](#) that focus on Global Understanding during the winter semester 2016/17, with a presentation by Prof. Benno Werlen on Oct 24.

Tell Your Story: Story Mapping the International Year of Global Understanding – update

Exciting developments are underway. Leading up to the [EUROGEO 2016 in Malaga, Spain](#), two categories have been defined:

- i) for university students to present the stories behind their research and
- ii) for school pupils to tell their Global Understanding story.

For each group, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes will be awarded.

1st 1.500€

2nd 500€

3rd 250€

Further information is available [here](#).

At the [33rd International Geographical Congress](#), in Beijing, P. R. China on August 21-25, 2016, the IYGU was presented Tuesday August, 23rd, between 16:30-18:00 in room 311A, where participants were able to listen to a range of presentations made by internationally renowned geographers. Benno Werlen also gave a keynote presentation during the final Plenary Session Thursday August 25th. Additionally a booth was available for all interested parties to visit.

Prof. Dr. Benno Werlen was awarded the prestigious IGU Laureat d'honneur. The Social Geographer from Jena was honoured for his life's work. Werlen accepted the award during the 33rd International Geographical Congress in Beijing. The IGU's Laureat d'honneur, established in 1976, recognizes "[individuals who have achieved particular distinction or who have rendered outstanding service in the work of the IGU or in international geography and environmental research](#)" Click [here](#) for the German press release.

One of the IYGU's proclaiming international councils, the [International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences \(CIPSH\)](#), is in the process to accept as new member the Asian New Humanities Network (ANHN) as a regional member. Established in 2004, the ANHN works their regional network in Asia to share humanities resources, having a major contribution in the ongoing global renewal of the Humanities.

Click on the following links to read about new IYGU publications.

[Arte e Simboli Celtici. Il legno racconta la storia di un popolo. By Adrea Fiorina. With a forward from Luiz Oosterbeek.](#)

Brochure by JENA-GEOS®: "Energy Efficiency in the Neighborhood: An Introduction to the effort-Instrument" (forthcoming in German and English in late 2016)

[Eating, Drinking, Surviving](#) edited by [Peter Jackson, Farhana Sultana and Walter Spiess](#)

[Working, Housing: Uranbizing](#) edited by [Allen Scott, Peter Taylor and Jennifer Robinson](#)

[Communicating, Networking, Interacting](#) edited by [Margaret Robertson](#)

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