



ISISA

Newsletter

Volume 12, Number 2, December
2013

Published by the International Small Islands Studies Association

EDITORIAL

ISISA newsletter is here once again. This issue contains important information about the next ISISA 'Islands of the World XIII' conference, due in September 2014. One can also find various interesting contributions submitted by ISISA members. This newsletter is what you make it, so please keep the contributions coming. Photos, articles, forthcoming publications, upcoming conferences, book reviews and news on 'research in progress', are all more than welcome.

Contributions for the July 2014 issue are to reach me at abaldacchino59@gmail.com by not later than JUNE 15, 2014.

Read and Enjoy. Suggestions for improvement and feedback are always appreciated.

Anna Baldacchino
Newsletter Editor

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of their respective authors and are not necessarily endorsed by ISISA.

ISISA *Islands of the World XIII* ***Small is Beautiful: Island Connections and Innovations***

**Penghu Archipelago, Taiwan
22 to 27 September 2014**

Announcement and Call for Papers

Islands are bodies of land surrounded by water; albeit well connected via the waves of ocean, movements of people and flows of technology. Smallness is both aesthetically pleasing and intensely practical. There are increasing challenges for small islands in our connected planet with the added risk for some of mounting global warming. This conference welcomes the presentation of research and reflection to address the nature of islands from the past to the future, to achieve a better understanding of the uniqueness, connections, cultures, ethics, technologies, innovation and sustainability for the many possible futures of islands and archipelagos. Sub-themes proposed are as follows:

1. Small is Beautiful: Literature, poems, island diversity.
2. Small is Dangerous: history, heritages, culture and nature.
3. Small economy as a virtue: traditions, innovations and sustainability.

4. New wind for islands: innovations, green energies and island power
5. New waves in the ocean: cross-jurisdictional challenges and collaborations
6. Island communities: people, livelihood, rights and governance
7. Island resilience: challenges and responses to global events
8. Island nature: formation, processes and change
9. Island indigenous knowledge and the role of young islanders
10. Youth Forum: Presentations on island futures and connections

Exhibitions:

- Island Communities and Sustainability Fair
- Poster Exhibition – 20 years of ISISA: From Okinawa to Penghu

Call for papers

The conference organisers invite researchers, academics, community and business interests, government authorities and interest groups to participate in the conference. The event offers an opportunity to present papers and posters, discuss issues and developments on a wide range of subjects, and identify common themes affecting small islands throughout the world.

Abstracts should be submitted by January 31, 2014, and are to include the following sections: *Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, References*. Please indicate the contributing sub-theme. We also invite prospective participants to submit proposals for complete sessions with papers to the organiser. There will be a peer review process.

Key Dates

Deadline for paper abstracts:	January 31, 2014
Notification of acceptance:	February 28, 2014
Registration due (early bird rate):	May 1, 2014
Full papers due:	August 15, 2014
Pre-conference excursion/reception	September 20-21, 2014
Conference date	September 22-27, 2014
Post-conference excursion	September 28-29, 2014

Fees

- (1) Early bird delegate registration fee: US\$ 300 (including a round trip ticket for flights from Taipei City to Penghu Archipelago, boat trip to Chi-Mei)
- (2) Full delegate registration fee: US\$ 350
- (3) The registration fee includes ISISA membership fee US\$ 20
- (4) Fee includes all conference meals, refreshments, banquets, and organised island visits and social events.
- (5) Fee does not include post-conference optional tours (to be announced), the transportation and accommodation fee in additional packages or local transportation (other than organised events)
- (6) Accommodation
 - Single room (US\$140/night) □ Twin beds, shared room (US\$70/night/person)

Conference registration

Further conference registration details, programme, tour possibilities and accommodation options will be available soon on the conference website (to be made available at:

<http://2014isisa.npu.edu.tw>)

Abstracts and papers should be sent by e-mail to: wwang@ntnu.edu.tw (Prof. Wen-Chen Wang)

Venues

The Conference will be held in Penghu Islands, Taiwan, from September 22 to 27, 2014 at:

(1) **Convention Centre**, Magong City, main island of Penghu Archipelago, Taiwan



(2) **Chi-Mei Island** (one day meeting on a smaller island)



<http://www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw/user/Article.aspx?Lang=2&SNo=03000105>

<http://www.world-bays.com/penghu-bay-47-256.html>

Other sites to be visited:

Penghu National Scenic Area <http://www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw/user/main.aspx?Lang=2>

Penghu Islands <http://www.globalislands.net/greenislands/index.php?region=11&c=39>

<http://www.re.org.tw/PengHu/en/index.aspx>

National Penghu University, Penghu Archipelago, Taiwan <http://english.npu.edu.tw/>

Supporting Institutions and Organizations

This conference is conducted every two years under the auspices of the International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA).

The 13th *Islands of the World* conference is supported by the local government, institutions, universities, schools, including:

- Penghu County Government (major host local government)
- National Penghu University (major host university)
- National Taiwan Normal University, National Taiwan University and other universities in Taiwan (Academic Programs)
- National Science Council, Taiwan
- National Penghu Scenic Areas, Tourist Bureau
- Marine National Park
- Local Community Associations
- Islands Networks: There are 11 groups of small islands in Taiwan with various geo-formations, ecosystems, cultures, and communities.

Contact Persons

Wen-Cheng Wang, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan: wwang@ntnu.edu.tw

Beate Ratter, Universität Hamburg, Germany: ratter@geowiss.uni-hamburg.de

Huei-Min Tsai, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan: hmtsai@ntnu.edu.tw

Shi-Liang Yu, National Penghu University, Taiwan: slyu@gms.npu.edu.tw

Jiawei Tang, National Penghu University, Taiwan: jiawei@gms.npu.edu.tw

Daniel Tung-Lin Hung, Penghu County Government, Taiwan: hdldid@ms12.hinet.net

A Taiwanese heart for island studies

By Ilan Kelman <http://www.ilankelman.org>

For tourists, Taiwan is labelled as the “Heart of Asia”--fair enough when considering the Pacific--but it could equally be suggested as the “Heart of Asian islands”. Taiwanese islands lived up to that reputation during the first week of October for the conference of the International Geographic Union’s Commission on Islands. Subtitled, “Island Development - Local Economy, Culture, Innovation and Sustainability”, delegates from nearly two dozen countries converged on the Penghu Archipelago to discuss islands and islanders around the world.

A packed programme kept us intensely busy. Eight keynotes spread across the days covered subjects from indigenous culture to participatory processes to sustainable design. Two tracks for concurrent sessions led to difficult choices including selecting amongst sustainable island economies and island life stories. Case studies were as diverse as Lakshadweep, India and the Isles of Scilly, U.K.

Local involvement was prominent, with notable talks from Taiwanese participants and about Taiwanese islands. That placed our collective international experience in context, localising island experiences and providing comparators from our hosts.

But we were not always sitting in lecture halls accompanied by the chimes of Big Ben! Two field trips introduced us to local landscapes and cultures. We spent one afternoon driving the islands connected by bridges and causeways. We wandered around a wind farm, munched local ice cream, were regaled by entertainment at a temple, and enjoyed a beach barbecue.

Then, an all-day field trip to outer islands tested our mettle regarding island life. A typhoon on the other side of Taiwan led to strong winds and choppy seas around Penghu. Should the boat trip go ahead? In the end, a compromise was reached. We travelled on the boats but the trip was curtailed, visiting only three islands. When landing on the first proved to be too difficult, that was abandoned leaving more time for the remaining two. Despite some seasick faces and others being soaked by waves leaking into the boats' cabins, it was exciting to see more of Penghu and to compare the various islands.

The days were impeccably organised, with our tireless leaders attending to all our needs and requests. They could not have slept much, yet always had a smile and a kind word. They were the meeting's heroes! As we continually ate, experimenting with the endless variety of tasty dishes, we were given clear instructions where to be and when. The word "hospitality" was defined by example.

Does it sound idyllic, even "islandly idyllic"? If you missed out on this one, do not despair. ISISA's next conference "Islands of the World XIII" will be held 22-27 September 2014 on Penghu. Another chance to leave your heart in Taiwan.



Pyrotechnics at the local temple on Penghu. Photo: Ilan Kelman

Establishing the National Development Plan and setting Nation Building in Motion within the Virgin Islands

By Dana Lewis-Ambrose

National development is the ability of a country or territory to improve the social welfare of its people. Nation building complements this by building a common identity across citizens and residents within a given country or territory. These two efforts require the actions of all stakeholders within the Virgin Islands' society and are requisite in its futuristic growth.

When establishing national development as a major course of action, the construction of a National Development Plan proves to be a useful exercise in communicating the goals and objectives to all stakeholders involved. Leslie Larson (undated) defined a National Development Plan as a large scale investment project to develop the infrastructure of a country. According to him, "it requires central planning and monitoring on a national level and implementation on a micro, local level".

Furthermore, adequate funding from government agencies, as well as support from citizens, will allow short, medium and long term goals to be met. Of course, in most instances this initiation must be led by the political will of the country first, but must then be energized by the masses, taking on an all-inclusive approach, to capture the thoughts and ideas of every citizen.

A National Development Plan is not a convenient document presented to the masses, but rather it is a living embodiment of the intended desires of the people of that country (E-How, 2011). Put differently, a National Development Plan gives a country focus and direction to move away from the four to five year planning cycle, as is the case in most governments (Lewis-Ambrose, 2013). It does this by extending the period for growth up to ten to twenty years of actions. This realignment to a longer time period will remove the ad-hoc development by governments and replace it with systematic strategies for the entire country or territory to embrace.

To date, National Development Plans have been applied by many developing and developed countries and have been proven to be more stabilizing to the countries than the previous strategies employed. For example, the National Development Plan 2007-2013 of Ireland, entitled *Transforming Ireland: A Better Quality of Life for All*, sets out the roadmap to this country's intended future. It is a €184 billion plan, representing another major milestone in building a prosperous Ireland for all the people, characterized by sustainable economic growth, greater social inclusion and balanced regional development.

Solar Lighting on the Paul Wattley Road, Road Town, Tortola BVI



Source: Adapted from BVI Platinum News (2013)

If a National Development Plan is to be effective, it must be goal directed, it must be overseen by some agency or department, it must be communicated to the citizens of that country, it must have a given timeline for measurement, it must be implemented, it must be funded, and the accomplishments of the plan must be publicized (E-How, 2011). This kind of approach can also be adopted in the Virgin Islands. Such an approach if adopted would truly see progressive changes in its development paths, which are sustainable at all levels. In other words, establishing a National Development Plan is the only way to create any real direction for the government, the business sector and the masses at large.

The National Development Plan can be considered as the structure or map that lays out the direction that the country needs to take. Nation building, on the other hand, is like “adding meat to the bones”, which subsequently allows the desired goals from the plan to be reached.

In October 2009, an article entitled “Nation Building” written in *The Economist* magazine, referred to the military intervention in Afghanistan, as a form of nation building. Similar actions in Nigeria and Australia were also described in this regard.

In the latter case, the Australian Government invested \$36.9 billion on road and rail infrastructure through their Nation Building Program over a six year period from 2008-09 to 2013-14 (The Economist, 2011). This was an unprecedented investment by any Commonwealth Government in land transport.

In Australia, the Department of Infrastructure and Transport delivered this investment through a range of road and rail programs and projects across the National Land Transport Network. The network was based on national and inter-regional land transport corridors that are of critical importance to national and regional growth (The Economist, 2011). For example, there were several components under the Australian Nation Building Program comprising: (1) National Network construction; (2) National Network maintenance; (3) Roads to Recovery; (4) Black Spot; (5) Heavy Vehicle Program; (6) Off-Network projects; and (7) Boom Gates for Rail Crossings (The Economist, 2011).

For all intents and purposes, nation building is an indispensable part of a country's advancement. There is a theory that affirms that a strong state is necessary in order to provide security, that the building of an integrated national community is important in the building of a state, and that there may be social and economic prerequisites or co-requisites to the building of an integrated national community.

In the Virgin Islands there are already efforts of nation building taking place. We see this with the recent adoption of a Territorial Song and dress in 2012. These efforts must continue in order to address the long term development issues that the Territory faces. Simply put, nation building is not an action for governments to perform alone, but must be an achievement worked towards by every citizen or resident of that said country or territory.

In the case of the BVI then, it must be understood that every BVIlander, believer and resident must play a role in the developmental success of the Territory. All stakeholders must therefore work together across political, economic and social barriers to attain true advancement in the best interest of all.

Female Territorial Dress Option #2



Source: Adapted from BVI Hot Press News Online (2012)

Male Territorial Dress Options



Source: Adapted from BVI Hot Press News Online (2012)

Note: This is a revised excerpt taken from *Moving from Infancy to Young Adulthood* by Dana Lewis-Ambrose (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013).

About the Author: **Dana Lewis-Ambrose** is Coordinator, Centre for Professional Development and Community Education, H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, Virgin Islands. She has been involved in education since 1999, in various capacities (teaching, instructional design, student advising, assessment and coordination) and in research since 2000. She has presented academic papers at international conferences across the globe. Her most recognised work to date is her book *Moving from Infancy to Young Adulthood* (2013).

Across the Pacific

The 20th annual conference of the New Zealand Studies Association,
together with the Norwegian Maritime Museum
and the Kon-Tiki Museum, Oslo,
in association with the University of South Australia

Oslo, Norway, 25-28 June 2014

This special 4-day conference marks the centenary of the Norwegian Maritime Museum and of Thor Heyerdahl's birth. It focuses on a range of themes addressing the Pacific, Oceania, New Zealand, Maori culture, ocean and coastal cultures, voyaging and migration, and includes a half-day focus on the Antarctic.

Keynotes:

Prof Bjørn L. Basberg
Dr Paul D'Arcy
Thor Heyerdahl Jr
Prof Edvard Hviding
Prof Witi Ihimaera, DCNZM
Prof Helen Lee

Prof Cluny Macpherson
Assoc. Prof Susan Najita
Prof Dame Anne Salmond
Prof Linda Tuhiwai Smith, CNZM
Dr Roy Smith
Prof Paul Turnbull

The New Zealand Studies Association has a long and strong history in promoting New Zealand Studies, which now extends within the region through its twice-yearly *Journal of New Zealand and Pacific Studies*. Building on the successes of previous conferences, this major event will be held at both the Norwegian Maritime Museum and the neighbouring Kon-Tiki Museum, based on the scenic museum peninsula of Bygdøy in Oslo. On the Thursday, there will be a half-day boat excursion into the local fjords followed by a conference dinner.

Proposals for 20 minute papers to be sent by 20 January 2014 to Professor Ian Conrich (ian@ianconrich.co.uk). The papers will consider all themes within any of the following strands: [1] The Pacific Ocean and Pacific Island States [2] Polynesia and Pasifika [3] New Zealand as a Pacific nation [4] Maori culture [5] Ocean and coastal cultures [6] Beaches, harbours and boats [7] Pacific migration, voyaging and exploration (to include, among others, Cook, Tasman, Bering and Heyerdahl) [8] Antarctica. Definitions within these parameters are broad, with the third strand, for instance, covering much of New Zealand Studies and welcoming any papers on New Zealand as a country positioned within the South Pacific, or as a nation with a South Pacific identity. The conference fee will include annual membership to the NZSA, which for 2014 includes a twice-yearly journal, and one book from either the *New Zealand Film Classics* or the *New Zealand Writers* series of monographs. A selection of papers from the conference will appear in the refereed *Journal of New Zealand and Pacific Studies*, published by Intellect.

The conference will accept proposals on a range of subjects, including: literature, history, film, music, art, cultural studies, sociology, geography, tourism, war studies, politics, international relations, identity and multiculturalism, anthropology, Maori Studies, Pacific Studies, archaeology and museum studies.

Sent in by Ian Conrich.

Invitation to contributions: “20 years of ISISA - From Okinawa to Penghu”

Time has flown since the International Small Islands Studies Association ISISA was officially launched at the *Islands of the World IV* Conference in Okinawa in June 1994. Since the meeting in Okinawa, scholars and friends of island studies have come together in Mauritius in 1998, on the Isle of Skye in 2000, on Prince Edward Island in 2002, on Kinmen in 2004, on Maui in 2006, on Jeju in 2008, on Bornholm in 2010, and most recently on Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands, in 2012.

Now, we shall soon meet again for the next (13th) ‘Islands of the World’ ISISA Conference on Penghu, Taiwan, 22 to 27 September 2014. There, we would like to take the opportunity and celebrate 20 years of ISISA island studies work!

Old folks and young ones, scholars and friends: please search your archives, your photo selections and your souvenir shelves and bring as much as you want to share with us in Penghu.

We invite everybody to present a poster or send photos in advance to the organisers of the Penghu Conference in order to put together an exhibition on 20 rich and colourful years of ISISA history.

For further ideas and questions, please contact: Dr Beate Ratter ratter@geowiss.uni-hamburg.de

Announcing NORTH ATLANTIC FORUM (NAF) 2015

By Laurie Brinklow

“The periphery is a place where opposites clash or converge, where creativity and danger are at their most alive” - Kevin MacNeil (2011: xxi)

The Institute of Island Studies at the University of Prince Edward Island (PEI) will host the North Atlantic Forum (NAF) 2015 September 17-19, 2015, in Summerside, PEI. Canada. The theme of the conference is: Building Communities: New Approaches to Governance, Resilience and Culture as Resources.

Organizers invite explorations of how various “dark horses” in the broad North Atlantic – including minorities, small towns, peripheries, aboriginal communities, those with little money, status, voice or political leverage – can rise to the occasion and chart livable futures. The conference will examine opportunities for sustainable living that are more likely to emerge from small and peripheral communities – rural, coastal, or island – that would otherwise struggle in a McWorld driven by scale economics.

NAF 2015 will serve as a platform for the critical and interdisciplinary discussion of experiences where those living “on the edge,” however defined, show unexpected ingenuity and mettle; and respond cleverly to dire economic straits or public policy negligence. Underlying themes include **politically**, by developing suitable governance practices; flexing jurisdictional powers; and engaging in multi-level political and (para)-diplomatic relations; **economically**, by facilitating small-scale entrepreneurship; promoting investment; creating skill-rich jobs; encouraging inward and circular migration; and developing new forms of human-scaled, place-based, no-growth economies, sensitive to environmental needs; and **culturally**, by nourishing strong communities that celebrate traditions and encourage artistic expression; sustaining suitable environmental practices; and welcoming newcomers in their rooted yet routed ways of life.

The program will include a day of excursions to look at businesses and organizations involved in sustainable economic development practices that embody the theme of the conference; potential sites include Slemon Park and PEI’s Evangeline area. Evening events will feature the Island’s culture, showcasing the Island’s best culinary and artistic talent.

The North Atlantic Forum is a fabulous opportunity for people from around the North Atlantic – and peripheral jurisdictions in other parts of the world such as the Caribbean and Tasmania – to get together to share their success stories. There are so many commonalities amongst edge-dwellers that we should be learning and adapting from each other, instead of trying to adopt solutions from the centre. The NAF provides the perfect forum for that.

The program steering committee includes past NAF chair Sheila Downer (2013), Gudrun Helgadóttir (Co-ordinator, NAF 2013), Godfrey Baldacchino (MAIS, UPEI, University of Malta), David Douglas (CRRF), Andrew Lush (IIS Advisory Committee), Edward MacDonald (UPEI), Fred Horne (Culture Summerside), Irene Novaczek (IIS Research Associate), and Emily Thomas (MAIS Student).

This North Atlantic Forum, the 10th, marks a return to Prince Edward Island since the first was held in Charlottetown in 1998 as a wrap-up of the Institute's three-year research project, The North Atlantic Islands Programme. The last NAF was held in Holar, Iceland, in 2013; other locations include St. John's, NL (2011); Bornholm, Denmark (2009); Shetland Islands (2007); Labrador (2006); Twillingate, NL (2004); Sydney, Cape Breton Island, NS (2002); and Corner Brook, NL (2000). Participants include industry practitioners, civil servants, elected officials, academics and students.

Please check <http://upei.ca/iis> for regular updates as they are announced, including the Call for Papers deadline and registration, speaker, program, and accommodation information. For more information, please e-mail naf2015@upei.ca.

Laurie Brinklow - PhD Candidate, School of Geography & Environmental Studies, University of Tasmania, & NAF 2015 Steering Committee Chair.

News from Tasmania

By Elaine Stratford

As I gear down from eight and a half years as Head of School, Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Tasmania, I am pleased to make time to share some of our island news, and hope to be a more regular correspondent in the future. Our School will merge with the School of Agriculture on 1 January 2014 to form a new and much larger School of Land and Food, and I will return to a blended research and teaching appointment. In that role, I hope to be a better champion of island studies at various scales. And so to one piece of news for this end of year newsletter.

Introduction of a new third year subject Geographies of Island Places

Between February and May 2013, twenty-two third year students completed a new subject on the geographies of island places. Students learned about the broad traditions that typify island studies and the methods used to approach rich and detailed case study work, gaining exposure to a range of case studies that illustrate the challenges and opportunities for island futures.

The subject is indebted to insights from island studies and human geography. It is structured according to certain principles underpinning theoretical, methodological and empirical conduct in higher education. Students were asked to work *abductively*. Unlike deduction [theory to specifics] or induction [case to theory], abduction is an 'interpretive tradition and, in particular, the process of *moving between* everyday concepts and meanings, lay accounts, and social science

explanations’.¹ Our approach was qualitative and critical. Content was provided in face-to-face lectures and discussions, and attendance at all sessions was expected.

There were four assessment tasks. In the major project (35%) and project presentation (15%) students were given the opportunity to investigate in some depth a question that was appropriate to the subject, and share with colleagues their final results, emergent questions, and insights about the research process. In lieu of an examination, there was a short-answer in class test (20%) on content, in which students were asked to summarise content, and show evidence of having done readings and participated in discussions. The fourth assessment task was a comprehensive field journal (30%) that recorded student experiences of Bruny Island and a field trip there near the end of the semester (Plates 1 and 2).

Feedback was interesting; students found the high levels of independent thinking and study confronting – yet many agreed after the fact that it had been ‘good’ for them. Universally, it was agreed that time in the field was transformative, and the students reported really being able to come to grips with the significance of islandness and of island studies, and of the many contestations that typify their study.

Elaine Stratford is Associate Professor of Geography and a Deputy Editor of Island Studies Journal (Elaine.Stratford@utas.edu.au)



Plate 1. Sunrise, Bruny Island, Photo by Therese Murphy

¹ (Jennifer Mason (2004) *Qualitative Researching*, 2nd edition. Thousand Oaks, London, New Delhi: Sage Publications, p.180; emphasis added)



Plate 2. Extract from a field journal, Therese Murray

Island Series Accepted

International Publisher Rowman & Littlefield - <https://rowman.com/> - has agreed to launch a new book series that is sure to appeal to island studies scholars and students. This series will be a collection of 10 to 15 books and will energize debates about island places, peoples and issues. It will provide a valuable forum for the development of international scholarly deliberation in Island Studies.

The Series is called: **Rethinking the Island: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Island Topologies and Topographies**. The series editors are Elaine Stratford (U of Tasmania), Elizabeth McMahon (U of New South Wales) and Godfrey Baldacchino (U of Malta).

The proposed series aims to revisit established ideas about islands and break new ground, providing opportunities to rethink 'the island' by engaging in a critical exploration of its key topological and topographical properties. We hope to give focus and attention to both *topological* properties—such as singularity, connectivity, insularity, vulnerability, resilience, isolation, spread, reach, access, edge, border, boundary, flow, enclave, territory—and singular and relational *topographical* characteristics—such as water/land, island/mainland, shore, latitude, altitude, reef, lagoon, cay, atoll, islet, eyot, archipelago.

Those proposing books in the series will be asked three questions so that the series central aims are honoured: namely, in the proposed volume:

- How are island geographies used imaginatively to map ourselves, or others, in/to the world ?
- How does 'the island' exploit its centrality to Western conceptions of self, place, and planet, whose idealization is upheld by strong associations between islands' materialities and their status as powerful imaginaries?
- Is there a clear intersection between geography, the humanities, and islands, leading to a complicit domain of inquiry by which islands are understood on their own terms?

Books in this series will be of international interest to scholars and students working in Island Studies, an interdisciplinary domain embracing anthropology, art history and theory, cultural studies, environmental history and studies, human and physical geography, literary studies, music history and theory, politics, policy and government, planning, sociology, and allied fields. The series' primary readership will be academics, postgraduate students, and upper level undergraduates.

*Authors from various disciplines are welcome to engage with key theoretical issues in island studies, and are invited to consider contributing to this series of books which hopes to get to the heart of current thinking about islandness. **Contact any of us if you have exciting book ideas in Island Studies.***

Elaine Stratford – Elaine.Stratford@utas.edu.au

Elizabeth McMahon – e.mcmahon@unsw.edu.au

Godfrey Baldacchino – godfrey.baldacchino@um.edu.mt



Island Studies Journal (ISSN: 1715-2593) was set up in 2006 as a freely downloadable, peer reviewed, scholarly and inter-disciplinary journal dedicated to the study of islands and island life.

ISJ is institutionally housed at the Institute of Island Studies, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada: www.islandstudies.com

ISJ is, since June 2012, the official journal of ISISA, initially for a trial period of two years.

Manuscripts to be considered for publication are welcome at: isj@upei.ca

Website: www.islandstudies.ca/journal

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- **An International Conference on Island Evolution, Ecology, and Conservation**, 7 – 11 July 2014, Honolulu, Hawaii. For more information visit:
<https://sites.google.com/a/hawaii.edu/islandbiology2014/home>
- **The Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States** will be held from 1 to 4 September 2014 in Apia, Samoa, to be preceded by activities related to the conference from 28 to 30 August 2014, also in Apia, Samoa. It will focus the world's attention on a group of countries that remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities. For more information visit:
<http://www.sids2014.org/>
- **Island Cities and Urban Archipelagos**
21-25 October 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark
www.islanddynamics.org/islandcities.html

The importance of island cities

Although islands are often associated with peripherality, over the course of human history, they have also been important sites of urban development. Many major regional cities and global cities have developed wholly or partially on small islands or archipelagos. Physical separation from the mainland and spatial limitations along with a maritime tradition can encourage the transport of products and ideas, improved defence infrastructure, construction of social capital, consolidation of political power, formation of vibrant cultures, and concentration of population. Some such island-based cities were located on inland river islands and have since expanded far beyond their original borders (for example, Paris and Strasbourg) while others are still strongly associated with their island cores (for example, Hong Kong and New York City).

Major population centres located on larger islands and archipelagos represent another type of island city. Each of these cities is affected not just by the dynamics at work in urban areas in general but also by the special functions it gains from acting as a metropolis that provides goods and services to rural island hinterlands.

Call for papers.

This international, interdisciplinary conference will explore how island status influences urban development, common attributes of island cities worldwide, and the opportunities that islandness presents for developing urban cultures and economies. It will also consider how and why different island cities have developed in different ways. The conference will feature presentations on a variety of subjects relating to urban island

culture, government, and economy. Presentations may concern cases from individual cities or take a comparative approach to understanding what it means to be an urban island. To propose a presentation, visit the call for papers (<http://www.islanddynamics.org/islandcities/cfp.html>). The deadline for abstracts is **30 April 2014**. If you have any questions, please contact the organisers at icua@islanddynamics.org.

Publication in collaboration with *Island Studies Journal*.

Island Dynamics and *Island Studies Journal* are collaborating on a publication in association with the conference. *Understanding Island Cities* will represent a selection of peer-reviewed papers that aim to provide an empirical and theoretical framework for analysing urban centres located on islands. The papers will be published in limited edition hardcopy form and as a thematic section of *Island Studies Journal*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (November 2014). To learn more, please visit the call for papers for this publication (http://www.islandstudies.ca/sites/islandstudies.ca/files/CFP-ICUA-ISJ-2013_0.pdf). The deadline for papers is 31 March 2014.

Plenary speakers and conference partners.

Plenary speakers include Saskia Sassen (Columbia University), Godfrey Baldacchino (University of Malta), Jon Pierre (University of Gothenburg), Christian Wichmann Matthiessen (University of Copenhagen), and Brenda S.A. Yeoh (National University of Singapore). The conference is a collaboration of numerous partners, including University of Portsmouth's Centre for Art, Architecture & Design; Memorial University of Newfoundland's Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy & Development; University of the Balearic Islands' Department of Catalan Philology & General Linguistics; Queen's University Belfast's School of Geography, Archaeology and Paleoecology; and Sharing Copenhagen.



Sent in by Dr Adam Grydehøj, Director of Island Dynamics.

For more island news and events, visit the Global Islands Network website at:

<http://www.globalislands.net/>

Islands Crossword No. 4 – compiled by Godfrey Baldacchino

First of all, warm congratulations go to Dr **Ilan Kelman**, currently residing in London, UK, who sent in the winning correct entry to Island Crossword No. 3. He was sent a complimentary copy of the 264-page, ISISA-endorsed food book *A Taste of Islands: 60 Recipes and Stories from our World of Islands* (2012, Island Studies Press).



Our winner – Ilan Kelman enjoying a “Taste of Islands”

A complimentary copy of simply delicious *A Taste of Islands* will be sent to the winner of the first correct entry of Island Crossword No.4, selected randomly from all entries received **by 31 January 2014**. Scan your entries and send to Godfrey at: gbaldacchino60@gmail.com

1		2		3	4	5	6	7	8			
				9								10
11								12		13		
				14								
		15					16	17				
18							19					
		20	21	22								
		23				24	25					
26										27		

ACROSS

- Intrepid French explorer of the Pacific, and island that might secede from PNG (12).
- Adjective to describe Santorini (6).
- Island in Chesapeake Bay (6).
- Small island (5).
- Abd __ Kuri (Arabic: الكوري), off Socotra (2).
- Ile Seguin was home to its factory, employing 30,000 workers at its peak (7).
- Island in the Bay of Biscay, France, bridged since 1988 (2).
- The largest is Ngazida (6).
- Ethnicity of the sole prisoner on Imrali island (4).
- Norwegian island, now home to several pottery artists (3).
- Publishers of 'The Island' newspaper (5).
- Little Diomedé (9).
- In Northern Cape Verde (3)

DOWN

- Effect in chaos theory, where islands can be instructive (9).
- Island artery flap in forearm (5).
- Lombok, Phuket, Cebu ... (5).
- World's only non-tropical or non-temperate small island state (7).
- 'Berkeley's Island' artist (3).
- Top level domain for Phu Quoc (2).
- Three, as Caesar counted (3).
- Staunton Island features here (acronym) (3).
- Island Caravan and Camping Equipment (4. 4).
- Realtor on the US Virgin Islands (3, 4).
- St Lucia (2).
- Legendary lizard-like inhabitants of Crescent Island (5).

- 20. In the Dodecanese (3).
- 21. Baltasound Airport, Shetland (3).
- 22. In Nunavut (3).
- 24. Captain Jat features in its stories (2).
- 25. Davis, Fritz, Jacks and Wade are in this US state (2).

Update: The External Review of the Institute of Island Studies, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada

By Laurie Brinklow

It may not be up there with “Where were you when Neil Armstrong walked on the moon?” But when I received an e-mail on May 22 that the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI) administration had cut the funding for the director’s position at the Institute of Island Studies, I was in the Galápagos Islands. The irony was not lost on me. After all, the Galapagos are, in a way, the “Island Studies motherland.” So much about what we know of the world comes from studying these particular islands.

And so much of what we know about Island Studies has come from the Institute of Island Studies, which, since its humble beginnings in 1982 and formal establishment in 1985, has focused on the culture, environment, and economy of small islands. Since the first international conference, “An Island Living,” held in 1992, activities have put the Institute at the forefront of islands research internationally. Highlights include initiating the North Atlantic Islands Programme (1994-98), the Small Islands Information Network (1994), the North Atlantic Forum (1998), and hosting ISISA’s 7th Islands of the World Conference (2002); becoming the institutional home for Canada Research Chair Dr. Godfrey Baldacchino (2003-2013) and the *Island Studies Journal*; creating the academic minor and master’s programs at UPEI; and publishing reports, books, and videos through Island Studies Press. Closer to home, the Institute has been the leader in community engagement and public policy activities, and has been involved in several research projects focusing on social economy and environmental research. And all this on a proverbial shoestring – the director’s salary, a small administrative budget, and office space – plus whatever dollars the director was able to raise. Visitors would come to the Institute and expect to see an entire building; instead they’d find a couple of offices filled to the brim with contract employees, students, interns, researchers, visiting scholars – each with to-do lists as long as your arm.

When the UPEI administration did not renew the director’s contract – that of Dr. Irene Novaczek, who had been in the position since 2004 – shockwaves were felt on campus, in the

community, and around the world. Their decision to cut the position was part of a significant cut in funding to the Faculty of Arts, provoked by a budget crisis at the University; the job was one of nearly 40 that were eliminated across the entire campus. News about the IIS's situation travelled quickly, resulting in extensive media attention on Prince Edward Island followed by dozens of letters to the UPEI administration – several of which were published online through social media and in Charlottetown's newspaper, *The Guardian*. A total of 611 individuals signed a petition asking UPEI administration to reconsider their decision, citing the Institute's pioneer role in island studies, and, as such, one of the things that makes UPEI distinctive.

Within weeks, in order to “assure stakeholders that the study of islands is an important aspect of the University's programming,” UPEI's Vice-President Research and Graduate Studies Robert Gilmour and interim Vice-President Academic Christian Lacroix called for an external review to look into the future of the Institute. In July and August, three reviewers were tasked with the mandate “to examine the role and governance of the institute in relation to UPEI's Island Studies programs and courses, as well as its connections with the PEI and broader community.” They met either individually or in small focus groups with members of the IIS Advisory Council, the UPEI community, civil servants, Master of Arts in Island Studies students, and the general public. Over 80 people provided their views in two public forums. More wrote letters.

The final report from the panel – Dr. Liette Vasseur of Brock University, Dr. Graham Whitelaw of Queen's University, and Hon. David MacDonald, former Prince Edward Island MP and a former Canadian Ambassador to Ethiopia and Sudan – was presented at a public forum on October 30. The seven-page report included 29 recommendations, looking at administration, governance, educational initiatives, and administrative and financial support. First and foremost, they recommended that the Institute should continue to exist, with its original mandate.

Now it is up to an IIS Futures Committee to determine just how that might happen. The committee, chaired by Dr. Edward MacDonald, Associate Professor of History and former research director of the IIS, consists of former IIS director Harry Baglole, Master of Arts in Island Studies Co-ordinator Dr. Jim Randall, Interim Dean of Arts Dr. Neb Kujundzic, and Chair of the IIS Advisory Council Ann Greyborn. Their job is to review the recommendations, seek input through consultation with colleagues, and make recommendations on how to structure and implement changes to the IIS.

“I take heart from the fact that both the VP Academic and VP Research have expressed a clear commitment to Island Studies,” says Dr. MacDonald. “The challenge facing the Futures Committee is to help translate that abstract commitment into a concrete model that can meet both the University's needs, broadly speaking, and the Institute's mandate. At the same time, we need to find ways to keep the Institute functional while that new model takes shape. None of that will be easy, but it's eminently worth doing.”

Their plan is to meet weekly and submit a report to Drs. Gilmour and Lacroix by end January 2014.

For more information, or to comment on any of the Review's recommendations (see links below), please contact the Island Studies Futures Committee at iisfutures@upei.ca.

LINKS

Institute of Island Studies: - <http://www.upei.ca/iis/>

Friends of the Institute of Island Studies: -

https://www.facebook.com/groups/657337534281338/?ref=br_tf

External Reviewers' Recommendations for the Institute of Island Studies, University of Prince Edward Island (September 10, 2013): -

http://files.upei.ca/publications/iis_external_review_full_report.pdf

"Institute of Island Studies under review" by Ryan Ross, *The Guardian*, July 22, 2013:

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/News/Local/2013-07-22/article-3323541/Institute-of-Island-Studies-under-review/1>

"First meeting held in Island Studies Review" by Ryan Ross, *The Guardian*, July 25, 2013

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/News/Local/2013-07-25/article-3328287/First-meeting-held-in-island-studies-review/1>

"Institute of Island Studies should continue, with changes: review" by Nigel Armstrong, *The Guardian*, October 31, 2013:

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/News/Local/2013-10-30/article-3459346/Institute-of-Island-Studies-should-continue%2C-with-changes%3A-review/1>

"Future of IIS will depend on cold hard cash," Editorial, *The Guardian*, November 2, 2013:

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/Opinion/Editorials/2013-11-02/article-3464062/Future-of-IIS-will-depend-on-cold%2C-hard-cash/1>



Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Isisa-International-Small-Islands-Studies-Association/126009170815354?fref=ts> or visit ISISA Website: <http://isisa.maui.hawaii.edu/>