

# International Geographical Union

## Task Force for Young and Early Career Geographers

### TASK FORCE ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The IGU Task Force for Young and Early Career Geographers' (IGU-YECG) was launched on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2016 at the 33<sup>rd</sup> International Geographical Congress in Beijing, China with a vision of empowering and nurturing future leaders in Geography. The primary aims of the Task Force are to promote career development for early career Geographers through mentoring, training and sharing; stimulate interdisciplinary, international and inter-generational research conversations between Geographers and acknowledge and elevate the achievements of early career geographers in the Global North and South.

#### A. Membership

##### Steering Committee

###### Chair

###### **Komali Yenneti**

Faculty of Built Environment, University of New South Wales, Sydney-Australia

Email: [k.yenneti@unsw.edu.au](mailto:k.yenneti@unsw.edu.au)

###### Secretary and Treasurer

###### **Gaurav Sikka**

L.N. Mithila University, Bihar (India)

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##### Full Members

- **Jackeline Romio**, Department of Demography, State University of Campinas-Brazil, Email: [jackeline.romio@gmail.com](mailto:jackeline.romio@gmail.com)
- **Milton Milaras**, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of South Africa-South Africa, Email: [milton.milaras@hotmail.com](mailto:milton.milaras@hotmail.com)
- **Dhritiraj Sengupta**, School of Geographical Studies, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China. Email: [dhritirajsen@gmail.com](mailto:dhritirajsen@gmail.com)
- **Yining Tan**, School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, Arizona State University, U.S.A. Email: [yining.tan@asu.edu](mailto:yining.tan@asu.edu)
- **Teresa Graziano**, Department of Agriculture, Food and Environment, University of Catania (Italy) Email: [tgraziano@unict.it](mailto:tgraziano@unict.it)
- **Cadey Korson**, School of People, Environment and Planning at Massey University (Aotearoa New Zealand) Email: [C.Korson@massey.ac.nz](mailto:C.Korson@massey.ac.nz)
- **Pablo Cabrera-Barona**, Department of Geoinformatics – University of Salzburg Email: [pablo.cb@live.com](mailto:pablo.cb@live.com)

##### Task Force Membership

As a 'new' Task Force, efforts are in the direction to increase the number of corresponding members. The Task Force has launched its listserv at [geo-iguyecg@listserv.wvu.edu](mailto:geo-iguyecg@listserv.wvu.edu) to update

geographers about our activities and circulating relevant information. The total members of the Task Force are 159 (as of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018).

## **B. Meetings**

### **a. Meetings organized with basic details**

XI<sup>th</sup> IGU Commission Seminar on Environment and Sustainable Livelihood

Date: 8-10 February 2018

Place: Guwahati, India

Organised by IGU Commissions on Biogeography and Biodiversity, Local and Regional development, Geo Heritage

Host: B. BOROOAH COLLEGE, GUWAHATI, INDIA

2018 International Geographical Union (IGU) Regional Conference – Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG) Annual Meeting

Date: 6-10 August 2018

Place: Quebec, Canada

Host: Department of Geography, Laval University, Quebec

### **b. Brief Summary of the Meetings**

#### **XI<sup>th</sup> IGU Commission Seminar on Environment and Sustainable Livelihood**

Date: 8-10 February 2018, Place: Guwahati, India

After a huge success and warm response at IGU events at Beijing and Hyderabad, IGU Task Force for Young and Early Career Geographers (IGU-YECG) organised a poster competition for **IGU-YECG Late Dr. Manju Singh Memorial Young Scientist (Poster) Award** on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at Guwahati, Assam, India. Komali Yenneti (Chair, IGU-YECG) and Gaurav Sikka (Secretary and Treasurer, IGU-YECG) coordinated the event.

During the XI<sup>th</sup> IGU Commission Seminar 2018, IGU-YECG aimed to present a special poster award, to foster the excitement of young scholars in presenting their work in the form of a poster. Therefore, posters were invited from young scholars on the theme and sub themes of this conference. The award is instituted in the memory of Late Dr. Manju Singh, daughter of Prof. RB Singh (Vice President, International Geographical Union). Dr. Manju Singh, a young and dynamic academic did her M.Sc. from USA and PhD in nanotechnology from Italy. She left for her heavenly abode after a prolong illness on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Prof. RB Singh has been generous enough to provide financial support for this award.

Fifteen poster presentations were made in this competition. The jury for the award competition comprised of: Prof. Yukio Himiyama (President, IGU), Prof. Elena dell' Agnese (Vice President, IGU) and Prof. Monoj Hazarika (Cotton University, Guwahati). Awardees were selected on the site by jury and award recipients were announced during the valedictory session of the conference. The award in research scholar category included a certificate of merit and monetary award of Rs 5100/-. Two cash prizes of Rs 2100/- and Rs.1100/- were also given to the Masters

students alongwith certificate. The award in Research Scholar category was bagged by Tejpal from Department of Geography, Kurukshetra University, Haryana for his poster on “Impact Assessment of Watershed Development Programme using RUSLE and Geospatial Techonology: A Case Study of Dohan Watershed”. The two prizes in Masters Students category was won by Pavan Kumar and team from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and Kaushik Kharghoria and team from Dibrugarh University, Assam respectovely. The event was hailed by entire geographers’ community and appreciated by the young scholars. The deliberations during the poster session has encouraged young scholars to participate in IGU events with a great zeal.

### ***Glimpses of the IGU-YECG Poster Session, Guwahati 2018***



## **IGU-YECG Events at 2018 IGU Regional Conference, Quebec, Canada**

The IGU Young and Early Career Geographers' Taskforce (IGU-YECG) organised a series of activities at the recently concluded 2018 International Geographical Union (IGU) Regional Conference – Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG) Annual Meeting held in Québec, Canada from August 6th to August 10th. Dr. Komali Yenneti, Chair, IGU-YECG coordinated the task force events at Quebec. Mr. Falguni Dey from University of Calcutta, India supported IGU-YECG in organising the events.

### **IGU-YECG Activities at the 2018 IGU Regional Conference, Québec**

**I. Networking Event** – The IGU-YECG activities started with the meeting-cum-networking event held on August 7th, 2018 from 7pm-9pm. The event began with presentation by Dr. Komali Yenneti, Chair IGU-YECG on the progress of the task force followed by self-introductions around the table. The event ended with a networking event over drinks and nibbles. The event was a unique occasion at the conference to get to know 'young' and 'young at heart' geographers as well as to stimulate discussion and collaboration between like-minded researchers. In line with the conference theme, Appreciating Difference or Apprécier la différence, the event had witnessed participants of diverse age groups, nationalities, cultures and geographical interests. An important outcome of the networking event is IGU-YECG's future collaboration with the International Geo Olympiad (iGeo).

**II. Representation at the IGU Commission Chairs Meetings** – The Chair, IGU-YECG participated at the IGU Commission and Task Force Chairs and Chairs of National Committees meetings held at the Congress Venue. The first meeting took place on the August 7th from 15h30 to 17h00, and the second (August 8th) from 15h30 to 17h00. At these meetings, the Chair had an opportunity to introduce the IGU-YECG, its current and past activities and opportunities to collaborate with other commissions. The topics discussed at the meetings include:

1. Mapping the SDGs
2. CODATA
3. La Nuit de Géographie/Night of Geography project
4. IGU archives
5. TROP-ICSU project
6. OSGeo
7. International Conference on Silk Road Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development
8. Upcoming Congresses (especially Istanbul 2020) and Thematic Conferences

**III. IGU-YECG Paper Sessions 1 and 2** – The other main activities at the conference were the two oversubscribed paper sessions. The first one took place on the August 8th from 10h30 to 12h00, and the second (August 9th) from 15h30 to 17h00. Each of the paper sessions had five speakers presenting on diverse areas of geographical (physical and human) interests. Below are the details of the sessions. The sessions garnered extensive discussion and opportunities for young scholars from different parts of the world to present in a relaxed environment.

**IV. IGU-YECG Sponsored Awards** – Last, but not the least, the IGU-YECG had given away three **student fee registration waiver awards** and one **Late Dr. Manju Singh Best Paper Award** for paper presenters at the IGU-YECG sponsored sessions. The Best Paper award of CAD 200 was instituted in the memory of Late Dr. Manju Singh, daughter of Prof. RB Singh (Secretary-General and Treasurer, International Geographical Union). Prof. RB Singh has been generous enough to provide financial support for this award.



The three student fee registration waiver award winners were selected prior to the conference by the IGU-YECG Steering committee, whereas the Best Paper Award winner was judged by a judging committee formed at the conference. The committee included Prof Mike Meadows, Assistant Secretary-General of IGU, Prof. Joos Droogleever Fortuijn, First Vice-President IGU, and Prof Yehua Dennis Wei, University of Utah.

Late Dr. Manju Singh Best Paper Award

Mr. Armand Djoumessi Mouafo, University of Tasmania, Australia

Paper Title: The determinants of inbound open innovation in regional clusters: insights from two Australian maritime clusters

Student fee registration waiver award winners

Mr. Joseph Kangmennaang, University of Waterloo, Canada

Mr. Ulisses Denache Souza, University of São Paulo, Brazil

Mr. Sheyi Aworinde , University of Lagos, Nigeria

**Snippets from the IGU-YECG Events at the 2018 IGU Regional Conference**



**Young Geographers and Senior Mentors at IGU-YECG Networking Event**



**Participants at the IGU-YECG Networking Event**



**Mr. Armand Mouafo, University of Tasmania, Australia Winner, IGU-YECG Late Dr. Manju Singh Best Paper Award**



**Mr. Joe Kangmennaang, University of Waterloo, Canada IGU-YECG Student Registration Fee Waiver Awards**

### **c. Planned Meetings for 2019**

#### **XII IGU India Conference 2019**

Date: 22-24 February, 2019 Place: Panchkula, Haryana (India)

IGU-YECG is officially endorsing the conference and organizing following events:

- A competition for selecting IGU-YECG Late Dr. Manju Singh Memorial Young Scientist Best Paper Award. The award includes a certificate of merit and monetary award of Rs 5100/-
- Introduction to Google Earth Engine Training: Google Earth Engine is a free, cloud based, geospatial remote sensing processing platform.
- Academic Writing Workshop for Young Scholars: To provide some key principles of academic writing as well as demonstrating some practical techniques.

#### **Institute of Australian Geographer's conference 2019**

- IGU-YECG is organising an oral thematic session
- Night of Geography/Geonight event

#### **Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting 2019**

- IGU-YECG Early Career Workshop is being planned at AAG 2019

#### **Society of South African Geography (SSAG) 2019 student conference**

- Academic writing workshop for YECGs
- IGU-YECG sponsored prize for South African National Geography Olympiad top achiever

### **C. Networking**

As part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2017 between the US based International Association of Young Geographers and IGU-YECG, a new domain for the website has been made available for IGU-YECG.

IGU-YECG has developed an understanding with IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity and IGU-YECG is continuously shown as an important link at their official website <http://www.igubiogeography.com/page10.html>

Discussions are also on with Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute, Australia and Map Action, UK to organize events together and introduce collaborative internships.

### **D. Publications**

a. IGU-YECG has decided to come out with an edited book under the Springer Series with the theme "Youth and Geography" (tentative) edited by Komali Yenneti, Gaurav Sikka and Milton Milaras. It is being planned to launch the book at IGU Congress 2020 Istanbul, Turkey.

b. The vision of the task force is empowering and nurturing future leaders in Geography, therefore, the list of the articles and volumes published by the IGU-YECG members in English are the following:

Aru S., **Graziano T.**, Landi F., Magistri P. 2018, *Migrations: between roots and arrivals, beyond barriers*, Memorie della Società di studi geografici, 16, pp. 267-270. ISSN 978-88-908926-2-2.

**Graziano T.** 2018, *Minority Language Communities and the Web in Italy*, in Brunn S., Kehrein R. (eds.), *Handbook of the Changing World Language Map*, Springer, Cham, pp. 1-21, DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-73400-2\\_41-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-73400-2_41-1), ISBN 978-3-319-73400-2.

Cirelli C., **Graziano T.** 2018, *On line institutional place branding vs. Bottom-up co-created e-narratives? The case of Mount Etna*, in Albanese V., Greco V., Proto M. (eds) *Geography and the ICT. New Technologies & Geographical Research*, Bononia University Press, Bologna, pp. 151-166. ISSN 2385-1694. ISBN 978-88-6923-327-2.

**Graziano T.** 2018, *E-spaces of migration: Online narratives, digital connections and practices of self-representation among Italians living abroad*, Albanese V., Greco V., Proto M., *Geography and the ICT. New Technologies & Geographical Research*, Bononia University Press, Bologna, pp. 19-32. ISSN 2385-1694. ISBN 978-88-6923-327-2.

**Graziano T.** 2018, *Migratory circular spaces in Southern Italy historical centres*, XIII Rapporto della Società Geografica Italiana – Per una geopolitica delle migrazioni. Nuove letture dell'altrove tra noi, Società Geografica Italiana, Roma, pp. 89-91. ISBN 978-88-88692-96-8.

**Graziano T.** 2018 *Creative industries, cities, imageries. Narratives and territorial effects*, Aracne, Rome. ISBN. 978-88-255-09861

Ruggiero L, **Graziano T.** 2018, *Culture as a common? Strategies of resistance and bottom-up reappropriation in a Mediterranean city*, ACME – An International Journal for Critical Geographies, 7, 2, pp. 292-324. ISSN: 1492-9732.

Aru S., **Graziano T.** 2018, "The European "reception" system for asylum seekers between formal and informal spaces, *Memorie della Società di studi geografici*, 16, pp. 271-278.

**Graziano T.** 2018, *Migrant Religious signs in Catania (Italy)*, in XIII Rapporto della Società Geografica Italiana – Per una geopolitica delle migrazioni. Nuove letture dell'altrove tra noi, Società Geografica Italiana, Roma, pp. 115-117. ISBN 978-88-88692-96-8.

**Graziano T.** 2018, *Interwoven Chaos: mental maps of Italian-speaker migrants*, in XIII Rapporto della Società Geografica Italiana – Per una geopolitica delle migrazioni. Nuove letture dell'altrove tra noi, Società Geografica Italiana, Roma, pp. 119-122. ISBN 978-88-88692-96-8.

**Graziano T.** 2018, *Migrant networks*, XIII Rapporto della Società Geografica Italiana – Per una geopolitica delle migrazioni. Nuove letture dell'altrove tra noi, Società Geografica Italiana, Roma, pp. 122-128. ISBN 978-88-88692-96-8.

Cirelli C., **Graziano T.**, Nicosia E., Porto C.M. 2018, *Retailscape in Marche urban areas between old and new formats: innovation challenges*, Viganoni L. (ed.), *Commercio, consumo e città. Quaderno di lavoro*, Franco Angeli, Milano, pp. 193-201. ISBN 978-88-917-3479-2.

**Korson, C.** 2018. Global disorder in the undead world: Teaching geopolitics with zombies, *Journal of Geography*. DOI:[10.1080/00221341.2018.1518991](https://doi.org/10.1080/00221341.2018.1518991)

**Korson, C.** 2018. The common destiny framework, citizenship and customary governance in Kanaky/New Caledonia, *Forum for Development Studies*, Special Issue. DOI: [10.1080/08039410.2018.1464058](https://doi.org/10.1080/08039410.2018.1464058)



**Korson, C.** 2018. (Re)balancing inequality through citizenship, voter eligibility and islandian sovereignty in Kanaky/New Caledonia, *Geopolitics*. DOI: 10.1080/14650045.2018.1543270

**Korson, C.** 2018. Framing social rebalancing, national identity, and victimhood in Kanaky/New Caledonia. *Social & Cultural Geography* 19(5): 549-575. DOI: 10.1080/14649365.2017.1286372

Li, W., Bakshi, K., **Tan, Y.**, & Huang, X. 2018. Policies for Recruiting Talented Professionals from the Diaspora: India and China Compared. *International Migration*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/imig.12456>

Li, W., Lo, L., and **Tan, Y.** 2017. Globalization in China and Studying in North America. In *Handbook on China and Globalization*. Edward Elgar

Prasad, D., Ding, L., **Yenneti, K.**, Fan, H., Craft, W., Sanchez, A.X., Li, X., Arnold, P., Bouhmad, K., Earley, R., Wang, Y., Wu, J., Li, F., You, N., Fox, J., Aragon, J.D. (2018). Guidelines for Sustainable Cities and Communities. Policy report for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Jia Cui (China) Environmental Promotive Center. [http://www.lowcarbonlivingcerc.com.au/sites/all/files/publications\\_file\\_attachments/suc-uneep\\_guidelines\\_final\\_22.12.17.pdf](http://www.lowcarbonlivingcerc.com.au/sites/all/files/publications_file_attachments/suc-uneep_guidelines_final_22.12.17.pdf)

**Sikka, G.** & Mathur, V. 2018. Gender Analysis of Post Resettlement Transformation in Livelihood Opportunities at Sardar Sarovar Project Resettlement Sites, India. *Journal of Land and Rural Studies*, Vol.6, No.1, SAGE Publishing, ISSN: 23210249

**Yenneti, K.** 2018 Fostering partnerships for 'climate-smart cities', *Shashwat*, 4 (5): 174-179.

**Yenneti, K.** 2018 Making 'Climate-Smart' Indian Cities. A Very Short Policy Brief, Australia India Institute, 6: 1-16 <https://www.aii.unimelb.edu.au/publications/very-short-policy-brief-volume-6-february-2018/>

**Yenneti, K.** and Kasamsetty, S. 2018 Building Integrated Solar Technologies (BIST) for a City's Best, *Energy Manager*, 10 (4): 6-12.

**Yenneti, K.**, Santamouris, M., Prasad, D., and Ding, L. 2018. Cooling Cities: Strategies and Technologies to Mitigate Urban Heat, Outcomes Document, Cooperative Research Centre for Low Carbon Living (CRCLCL), [http://www.lowcarbonlivingcerc.com.au/sites/all/files/event\\_file\\_attachments/discussion\\_paper\\_cooling\\_cities\\_final.pdf](http://www.lowcarbonlivingcerc.com.au/sites/all/files/event_file_attachments/discussion_paper_cooling_cities_final.pdf)

c. The current (accurate) URL of the commission's website.

<http://igu.younggeographers.org/>

It serves also as on-line archive of the Task Force with all meetings, conference alerts, job opportunities available, as well as photo galleries related to the Task Force activities. The website represents the major tool for exchange of information among the members of the Task Force and other young scholars.

<https://www.facebook.com/IGUYECG/>

IGU-YECG has expanded its online presence through running a fully fledged, active and updated Facebook page. Regular updates on IGU meetings, IGU-YECG events, young scholar

competitions, members' updates and other relevant information is uploaded on the page. A Facebook group is also in process to share academic resources useful for early career academics like Teaching materials, geography promotional material and new research.

#### **E. Archival Contributions**

All the reports of meetings were sent to IGU secretariat. We use our Task Force website as kind of archive. It offers all available meeting reports, photo gallery representing our meetings.

This report is structured following the instructions of the IGU Executive Committee.