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# COASTAL LETTERS



NEWSLETTER OF THE COASTAL AND MARINE GEOGRAPHY SPECIALTY GROUP OF THE  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS

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## **Membership Renewal Reminder**

Don't forget to renew your membership in the Coastal and Marine Geography Specialty Group. When you renew your membership with the AAG, update your E-mail address as well –remind your colleagues as well! Dues have not changed from 2002-03. Membership dues for the Specialty Group are currently \$1 for students and \$5 for regular and associate members.

## **Editor's Comments and Election Results**

- 1) We have now fully converted to an electronic format for the newsletter – however, if you want a hardcopy please send a note to the Secretary-Treasurer at the address on page 1.
- 2) Have you been getting E-mails? We are continuing the ongoing process of culling bad e-mail addresses from the member list, and have added the latest list from the AAG database. We have not removed old addresses that don't appear on the current AAG list, on the assumption that some members may not have renewed memberships yet. If you would like to be removed from the mailing list please contact the secretary-treasurer.
- 3) The 2003 business meeting in New Orleans brought several changes in the specialty group leadership. The changes were as follows:

**Patrick Hesp** was voted in as Vice-Chair

**Doug Sherman** was voted in as Member of the Board of Directors

**Dawn Wright** was voted in as Member of the Board of Directors

- 4) Thanks go to Klaus Meyer-Arendt for his leadership as past-Chair of the specialty group, Michael Craghan for serving as a member of the Board of Directors, and Rich Daniels for his continued work as newsletter editor and previous service as Secretary-Treasurer. Your work has been very much appreciated!
- 5) Welcome to all of you who have recently joined the Coastal and Marine Geography Specialty Group (COMA).
- 6) If you have announcements or other items to be distributed via the e-mail please forward them to Steve Namikas.

Steve Namikas, Editor ([snamik1@lsu.edu](mailto:snamik1@lsu.edu))

## **Musings from the Chair – Diane Horn**

Dear CoMa members,

I'm writing my first contribution to the Chair's column from the University of Queensland, where I'm on sabbatical for a term in the Department of Civil Engineering (a bit different for a geographer). I'm sure that, amongst other things, a term in an engineering department will highlight the differences from a geography department. One difference that's immediately apparent is that there are a lot more women in geography than there are in civil engineering! After a hectic month of getting ready to leave, including not only packing up my flat but also my office and our hydraulics lab, and moving into a building site, I find myself facing 4 months of 'free' time to do research. It's not entirely easy shifting mental gears from teaching and admin to research – I suspect by the time I've done it properly, it will be time to go back to London. This experience does make me think about the multiple demands on our time as academics, and how rare it is just to have time to think about our subject. When I first started as a research student, physical geographers used to go to human geography research seminars, and vice versa. Now we barely seem to have time to attend seminars which are directly related to our research, much less those which are completely unrelated. The CoMa sponsored sessions are one of the few times that I get to hear papers on a wide range of topics – which leads neatly to a plea for papers for the Philadelphia AAG.

In recent years the CoMa sponsored sessions seem to have been dominated by physical geographers, particularly coastal geomorphologists. Looking back through past newsletters, I noticed that many past chairs have commented on this too. Joann Mossa advocated that we create and develop linkages with other specialty groups with common interests, including those with which we haven't had prior interactions. Paul Gares commented that in recent years our specialty group has moved away from the interaction between physical, human and techniques and expressed his regrets at getting away from the cross-disciplinary approach. Rich Daniels pointed out that in 1989 the sessions were split equally between geomorphology and coastal hazards/social interactions with the coastal zone, whereas by 1998 four out of five sponsored sessions were physical geography.

It seems to me that the meeting in 2004 is a good time to try to do something about this, particularly since many of the geomorphologists may be at the Coastal Symposium in Brazil, so I emailed the chairs of a number of other specialty groups to see if there was any interest in sponsoring joint sessions. I've been amazed at the response – we may end up with a lot of co-sponsored sessions. Some sessions on coastal and marine topics have already been organised, and CoMa will be co-sponsoring these. A number of other specialty group chairs are very interested in trying to organise co-sponsored sessions. Calls for interested participants are going out in the newsletters and mailing lists of each of these specialty groups, as well as this newsletter, and we're hoping for enough response to organise at least some of these. These topics cover virtually everything in the coastal and marine environment, so there should be plenty of scope for people to get involved. The details of these possible co-sponsored sessions are given in the 'Call for Papers' section of this newsletter, but I'll give you a summary here.

Co-sponsored sessions which have already been organised:

1. GIScience and Coastal Environments, jointly with the Remote Sensing Specialty Group
2. Remote Sensing and GIS for Estuarine and Coastal Ecosystem Analysis, jointly with the Remote Sensing Specialty Group
3. Hurricanes, jointly with the Biogeography and Climate Specialty Groups

Planned co-sponsored sessions (see call for papers in this newsletter):

4. Applied Coastal and Marine Issues, jointly with the Applied Geography Specialty Group
5. Coastal and Marine Transportation, jointly with the Transportation Specialty Group

There has also been interest in co-sponsored sessions with the following specialty groups. If we get enough participants, we will organise co-sponsored sessions.

6. Biogeography Specialty Group (proposed topic: biogeomorphology)
7. Climate Specialty Group
8. Cultural Geography Specialty Group
9. Economic Geography Specialty Group
10. Environmental Perception and Behavioral Geography Specialty Group
11. GIS Specialty Group
12. Hazards Specialty Group
13. Human Dimensions of Global Change Specialty Group
14. Recreation, tourism and sport Specialty Group
15. Spatial Analysis and Modelling Specialty Group
16. Urban Geography Specialty Group
17. Water Resources Specialty Group

If any of you are working on topics that would fit into any of the categories above, please send an expression of interest (and eventually an abstract) to me. I am particularly encouraging human geographers and those of you who have not presented in a CoMa sponsored session to send an abstract in this year. Also, you do not have to be a CoMa member to present in one of our sessions, so if you know anyone who is submitting an abstract on a coastal or marine topic, please forward this email to them.

I would also like to remind you about the student paper competition. The award consists of a \$100 grant as well as an award certificate. Up to three awards may be given in any given year (best illustrated paper, best paper - physical geography, and best paper – human geography). Information about the awards is given in the 'Call for Student Papers' section below. If you are a student, please think about submitting your paper or illustrated paper for this competition. If you are a supervisor, please encourage your students to submit their papers.

The deadline for submission of abstracts to the AAG for papers and illustrated papers is 9 October. However, it would be useful to have some idea of who will be participating in the Philadelphia meeting and how many CoMa-sponsored sessions there will be. If you can get your abstract in by 30 September, that would be a big help. Otherwise, if you are going to be submitting an abstract by the deadline, I would appreciate it if you could let me know your title so I can start thinking about sessions.

We are also asking for nominations for the RJ Russell award. This specialty group award is presented in recognition of an individual's major contributions to the field of coastal or marine geography. These contributions may be in research, teaching, public service, and/or service to the specialty group. Nominations for the R.J. Russell Award should be directed to the Vice-Chair, Pat Hesp (pahesp@lsu.edu). Nominations for the current year should be made at least 2 weeks prior to the annual AAG meeting. An example letter of nomination can be found on the CoMa web site. Details of past winners are also on the CoMa web site.

Finally, we are hoping to organise a one-day coastal field trip to Sandy Hook, New Jersey, in association with the 2004 AAG. (The 2005 AAG is in Denver, so there won't be coastal field trip that year!) We are hoping to have the 2004 CoMa sponsored sessions on Thursday or Friday, 18 and 19 March, with the field trip on Saturday 20 March. I will email you with more details once the details of the field trip are finalised, but in the meantime, please put this date in your diary and plan to join us for a fun trip to a famous part of the US coastline.

Hope to see you in Philadelphia!

Diane Horn, Chair ([d.horn@bbk.ac.uk](mailto:d.horn@bbk.ac.uk))

## **Great Gulf Coast Field Trip a Success**

Approximately 25 people participated in a five-day field trip along the northern Gulf coast following the New Orleans meeting. The trip was jointly sponsored by CoMa and the IGU Coastal Commission.

Day 1 featured an excursion from New Orleans through the largest wetlands in the US to the Louisiana coast. Several stops along the way highlighted a variety of management strategies and cultural adaptations for dealing with the complex and unique hydrology of the region. Following an overnight stay at Grand Isle, LA the group returned to New Orleans for a lecture and slide show outlining the development of the delta region and the major problems it currently faces. An afternoon drive along the Mississippi Coast terminated in Biloxi, MS where the group spent the second night at one of the many casinos that have come to dominate the local economy. Day three included a number of stops along the Alabama and western Florida coastal barriers, and included extensive discussion on the origin (and appropriate nomenclature) for the beach ridge/foredune features that are prominent in this area. The morning of day four was spent examining a variety of coastal features, problems, and restoration works on Santa Rosa Island and Pensacola Bay, while the afternoon was spent at Chevron's created wetlands near Pascagoula, MS. Day five saw the weary, but happy group head back to New Orleans.

The success of the trip was largely due to the considerable efforts of the organizers -- Norb Psuty and Doug Sherman were the primary motivators for trip, doing considerable background work, arranging funding and recruiting leaders. Denise Reed coordinated the trip, handled local arrangements, and was the primary trip leader. Shea Penland, Klaus Meyer-Arendt, and Greg Stone all contributed their knowledge and leadership as guides for portions of the trip. All of the participants are grateful for their time and effort.



## **Profiles – New CoMa Officers**

### **Patrick A. Hesp, Vice-Chair.**

Patrick's research interests include both process and quaternary coastal geomorphology, with a strong emphasis on all aspects of coastal dunes. He received his BA and MA from Massey University, and his PhD (Geography) from The University of Sydney in 1982. Since then Patrick has held positions at U. Western Australia, WA Dept. of Agriculture, Mcquarie University, Geomarine Consultants, University of Sydney, Rottneest Island Authority, National University of Singapore, and Massey University. In 2003, he joined the Department of Geography & Anthropology at Louisiana State University as a Professor. Current research projects include work on coastal dunes in southern Brazil, Mexico, and Prince Edward Island. More information about Patrick and a link to his home page can be found at: <http://www.ga.lsu.edu/hesp.html>.

### **Dawn Wright, Board of Directors.**

Dawn is a leading researcher in the rapidly growing area of GIS/spatial analysis applications in coastal and marine environments. She received a BS in Geology from Wheaton College, an MS in Oceanography from Texas A&M University, and an interdisciplinary PhD in Physical Geography and Marine Geology from U-C Santa Barbara in 1994. She joined the Department of Geosciences at Oregon State University in 1995, and was promoted to Professor in 2002. Dawn has produced numerous articles and two books, and her scholarly activities have been supported by a wide range of organizations including NSF, NOAA, ONR, USGS, and SEA Grant. Visit her home page at <http://dusk.geo.orst.edu/index2.html> to learn more about Dawn.

### **Douglas J. Sherman, Board of Directors.**

Doug is a process geomorphologist whose research interests focus on the behavior of coastal systems, sediment transport processes and the resulting modification of landforms. Doug received a BA from Sonoma State, MS from Rutgers University, and PhD (Geography) from The University of Toronto in 1983. He spent a year as a postdoc at Woods Hole before joining the faculty at Southern Cal where he remained for some 18 years. In 2001 Professor Sherman joined the Geography Department at Texas A&M as Department Head, his current position. Doug is longtime member and past-Chair of CoMa, and was the 1997 recipient of the specialty group's R.J. Russell Award for contributions to Coastal and Marine Geography. Doug doesn't currently have a web page, but rumor has it that he still believes *Geography is Fun*.

## **News and Views from Members**

*The Phoenix Arises...* The Dept. of Geography & Anthropology at LSU is continuing the process of rebuilding its coastal geomorphology program. LSU G&A has one of the oldest coastal geomorphology traditions in North America, dating back to the hire of R.J. Russell in 1928 as the Department's first chair. Despite many decades of success, retirements and transfers had all but eliminated coastal geomorphology at LSU G&A by 1997. Since then, the Department has been committed to rebuilding a focus in this specialty, beginning with the hire of Steve Namikas in 1999 and the subsequent addition of Patrick Hesp this past Spring. Namikas and Hesp were recently awarded a \$160,000 grant by the Louisiana State Board of Regents to outfit a new laboratory facility, and to purchase a dedicated research boat and ATV. The program is off to a good start, with three new graduate students starting this fall, and we would like to invite applications from students interested in pursuing graduate degrees in coastal geomorphology. Contact Steve Namikas ([snamik1@lsu.edu](mailto:snamik1@lsu.edu)) or Patrick Hesp ([pahesp@lsu.edu](mailto:pahesp@lsu.edu)) for more information.

*Blowin' in the Wind...* According to Reed Stewart, the question of windmills is reaching new heights (or depths), with the consideration of Nantucket Sound and the Boston Harbor Islands as locations for wind farms.

*A New Society?* Klaus Meyer-Arendt reports rumors that a new Gulf Coast Geographical Society may be forming, and invites everyone to participate in the FSG-FGA meetings this January in a show of solidarity. Details and contact info for the conference can be found below in the 'Upcoming Conferences' section

*A Beach Ridge is a Beach Ridge is a Foredune...* Patrick Hesp spent the summer in southern Brazil as a visiting fellow at The Centro de Estudos de Geologia Costeira e Oceanica (CECO) in the Institute of Geosciences, Federal University of the Rio Grande do Sul. In joint studies with Dr Sergio Dillenburg (Director, CECO) and other CECO members, he examined the morphology and evolution of the massive transgressive dunefield barriers of southern Brazil, mapped a range of complex barrier types in Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul states, and continued his long and arduous quest on the definition, initiation and evolution of beach ridges versus foredunes (don't yawn!).

*Movin' on...* Mark Hafen has accepted a position as Instructor in the Geography Dept. at the University of South Florida in Tampa. His new contact info is: Mark Hafen, Dept. of Geography, University of South Florida, 4202 E. Fowler Ave. - SOC107, Tampa, FL 33620, 813-974-2386, [mhafen@cas.usf.edu](mailto:mhafen@cas.usf.edu).

*Suggestions Anyone?* Somrudee Meprasert, a PhD student at the Geosciences Dept, Oregon State University, is looking for researchable issues in coastal/marine ecotourism. Anyone with suggestions can contact him at: [mepraserts@geo.orst.edu](mailto:mepraserts@geo.orst.edu).

*Please send any announcements, updates, reports from the field, job listings, or anything else that might be of interest to the Editor ([snamik1@lsu.edu](mailto:snamik1@lsu.edu)). No need to wait, I'll file things for the January/February 2004 issue.*

## **R.J. Russell Award Winner for 2003**

The 2003 R.J. Russell Award was presented to Dr. Andrew D. Short of the University of Sydney. Chair Meyer-Arendt read the following, which was prepared by Norbert Psuty:

Dr. Andrew Short, this year's recipient of the R. J. Russell Award, is an eminent coastal geomorphologist and surfzone hazards expert. He is currently Professor of Geography and Marine Sciences and Director of the Coastal Studies Unit and Director of the Marine Sciences Centre at the University of Sydney, Australia.

It is very fitting that Andrew Short is recognized by the Coastal and Marine Geography Specialty Group this year, when the meetings are in New Orleans. Andy is a graduate of Louisiana State University. In 1973, he was the first Ph.D. of the newly-established Marine Sciences program at LSU, where R. J.

Russell had previously established the Coastal Studies Institute. Andy's first professional position was as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Marine Sciences, in 1973-75, before returning to Australia.

For the past several decades, Dr. Short has been a world leader himself. He has a world-class reputation in the area of beach and surf zone morphology and dynamics. His interests extend to coastal dunes, coastal stratigraphy, and coastal management. He is a world authority on beach safety, and his ability to integrate beach morphodynamics with swimming safety is without peer.

In his illustrious career, he has succeeded in finding time to produce 6 books, 11 chapters in books, nearly 80 articles or conference papers and an assortment of reports. His posters on swimming safety are outstanding, as are his papers on beach and surfzone morphodynamics.

Similar to Richard Joel Russell, Andy Short has made an impact in Coastal and Marine Geography and it is with pride that we welcome Andy back to Louisiana to receive the R. J. Russell Award.

A plaque was presented to Dr. Short, who thanked the specialty group for the honor.

## **Student Paper Merit Award Winners for 2003**

The Student Paper Merit Award winners from the 2003 Annual Meeting in New Orleans were:

1) **Andreas Baas**, Department of Geography, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. Andreas' paper was entitled: *Formation and Behavior of Eolian Streamers*. It was selected as best paper in the physical geography category.

2) **C. Patrick Heidkamp**, Dept. of Geography, University of Connecticut, for his presentation: *Capital, Gentrification, and Social Change on the Waterfront*. Patrick won for best paper in the Human Geography category.

Congratulations to Andreas and Patrick on a job well done. The award includes a certificate, enshrinement on our page of fame (at our web site), and a \$100 prize. The specialty group would like to thank all of the participating students for their efforts, as well as the reviewers for assisting in the judging process, and we would also like to encourage all participants to try again at Philadelphia in 2004.

## **Call For Papers, Sponsored Sessions in Philadelphia**

In general CoMa is happy to sponsor an organized or special session as long as the following apply:

1. At least one of the presenters is a member of CoMa.
2. At least two of the five papers in the session are related to a coastal or marine subject (e.g., a paper on 'Wetland Loss from Sea Level Rise in coastal Louisiana' would meet this requirement while a paper on 'Wetland loss from urban growth in Iowa' would not.)
3. Contact the current Chair (Diane Horn) to formally request sponsorship.

That's it! Be sure to inform the AAG that your session is sponsored when you submit your paper work for the session.

If you are planning to present a paper at the 2004 AAG Annual Conference to be held March 14-19, in Philadelphia on coastal or marine geography (human, physical, hazards, or techniques) please consider participating in a session sponsored or co-sponsored by the Coastal and Marine Geography Specialty Group (COMA). To present in a CoMa session you must:

1. Register online at the AAG website.
2. Send a copy of your abstract and the manuscript identification number (MIN) assigned to your paper by the AAG to the session organizer.

Your materials (registration and abstracts) must be submitted to the AAG by **09 October 2003** for oral and illustrated paper presentations, or **30 October** for poster presentations. However, in order to allow time for organization it would be very helpful if you could send your abstract and MIN to the session organizer a week or so in advance. The following is a list of the currently

proposed sessions. Please note that most organizers have set deadlines for submission of papers that fall **BEFORE** the AAG deadline. Contact the session organizers for further information or to reserve your spot.

**Note:** Starred sessions are definitely planned; others will be organized if there are sufficient participants

### ***\*Coastal Geomorphology***

sponsor: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group  
session organizer: Diane Horn (University of London)  
e-mail abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***\*Coastal and Marine Student Paper Session***

sponsor: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group  
session organizer: Diane Horn (Birkbeck College, University of London)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***\*GIScience and Coastal Environments***

sponsors: Remote Sensing Specialty Group and Coastal and Marine Specialty Group  
session organizers: Thomas Allen (Old Dominion University) and John Althausen (Salem State College)

Please note that the session organizers are inviting speakers for this session, so there will be no general call for papers.

### ***\*Remote Sensing and GIS For Estuarine and Coastal Ecosystem Analysis***

Topics considered will include (but are not limited to): Characterization, analysis, and modeling of changing estuarine landscape structure and patterns; Coastal wetland mapping and change detection; Pollutant load modeling and prediction at coastal watershed level; Remote sensing of coastal water bio-optical properties (chlorophyll, turbidity, salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen...); Mapping of seagrass, littoral aquatic vegetation, and benthic habitats; and Linking conditions in upstream watersheds to downstream estuaries for integrated assessment of the estuarine ecosystems.

sponsors: Remote Sensing Specialty Group and Coastal and Marine Specialty Group  
session organizers: Xiaojun Yang (Florida State University) and Luoheng Han (University of Alabama)  
email abstract and PIN number to: xyang@fsu.edu or lhan@bama.ua.edu  
deadline for abstracts: 7 October 2003

### ***\*Applied Coastal and Marine Research Issues***

Sea level rise, floods, hurricanes and typhoons, El Niño, oils spills, offshore oil drilling, destruction of coral reefs, beach erosion, threatened shrimp beds, fish farming and aquaculture, coastal over-development, marine pollution, loss of coastal habitats, wave and tidal energy, effects of dams on coastlines, coastal tourism, marine parks and no-take zones, port development, sea-bed mining, territorial waters, maritime transportation, coastal megacities - what do these topics have in common? They all involve applied research issues in the coastal and marine environment.

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Applied Geography Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Barry Wellar (University of Ottawa)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***\*Coastal Impacts of Hurricanes***

Papers relating to all aspects of tropical cyclone activities in different parts of the world are welcomed. Topics may include, for example, the climatology of tropical cyclone formation and tracks, historical and proxy records (paleotempestology), ecological impacts, coastal morphodynamics, and societal response.

sponsors: Biogeography Specialty Group and Coastal and Marine Specialty Group  
session organizer: Kam-biu Liu (Louisiana State University)  
email abstract and PIN number to: kliu1@lsu.edu  
deadline for abstracts: 25 September 2003

### ***\*Coastal and Marine Transportation***

Papers are sought on topics such as port development, maritime transportation, maritime environmental matters such as hazardous materials transport and oil spills, or any other related coastal/ marine issues.

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Transport Geography Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Jean-Paul Rodrigue (Hoffstra University)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Coastal Biogeography and Biogeomorphology***

Papers are sought on biogeomorphology, particularly in the coastal environment, but also in areas such as riparian zones. Research on topics such as coastal wetlands, coral reefs, salt marshes, or any other related coastal biogeography issues is also welcome.

sponsors: Biogeography Specialty Group and Coastal and Marine Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Tony Stallins (Florida State University)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Cultural Geography at the Coast***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Cultural Geography Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Derek Alderman (East Carolina University)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Economic Geography on the Coast***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Economic Geography Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Eric Sheppard (University of Minnesota)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Coastal Hazards***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Hazards Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Jerry Mitchell (Bloomsburg University)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***GIS in Coastal and Marine Environments***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and GIS Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Tim Nyerges (University of Washington)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003



### ***Global Change on the Coast: Management and Policy***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Human Dimensions of Global Change Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Susi Moser (National Center for Atmospheric Research)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Recreation, Tourism and Sport on the Coast***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Recreation, Tourism and Sport Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Deborah Che (Western Michigan University)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Remote Sensing of Coastal and Marine Environments***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Remote Sensing Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Jerry Griffith (University of Southern Mississippi)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Spatial Analysis in Coastal and Marine Environments***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Spatial Analysis and Modelling Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and David Wong (George Mason University)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Urban Coastlines***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Urban Geography Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Geraldine Pratt (University of British Columbia)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

### ***Water Resources Issues on the Coast***

sponsors: Coastal and Marine Specialty Group and Water Resources Specialty Group  
session organizers: Diane Horn (University of London) and Allen James (University of South Carolina)  
email abstract and PIN number to: d.horn@bbk.ac.uk  
deadline for abstracts: 30 September 2003

There are also possibilities for joint sessions with the following specialty groups, if we get any papers that fit these topics.

Climate Specialty Group  
Economic Geography Specialty Group

## **Call for Student Papers/Illustrated Papers**

*Eligibility:* Full-time or part-time undergraduate or graduate students may compete for the **Student Paper Merit Award** or **Student Illustrated Paper Award** if they (1) are the first or sole author of an oral paper concerning coastal or marine geography which they will be presenting at the 2004 annual AAG meeting, (2) are a member of the AAG and of the Coastal and Marine Specialty Group, and (3) have submitted to the session organizer the completed application form and accompanying materials, to be received by September 30, 2003 (oral papers or illustrated papers). Poster presentations are not eligible. Papers are judged both

on content and on the quality of the presentation. The award consists of a \$100.00 grant to be used to defray AAG and Coastal and Marine Specialty Group membership dues and travel expenses to the annual meeting as well as an award certificate.

*Instructions:* Follow the program participation guidelines outlined on the AAG website as an individual participating in a sponsored/special paper session. In addition, complete the application form (below) and send it with your abstract and MIN to: Diane Horn (d.horn@bbk.ac.uk).

### **2003 Student Paper/Illustrated Paper Award Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Ph.D., M.A./M.S., or undergraduate student? \_\_\_\_\_

Thesis/project advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of the AAG? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of the Coastal and Marine Specialty Group? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your paper primarily focused on human/social or physical geography? \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Call for Award Nominations: The R. J. Russell Award**

Nominations for the R.J. Russell Award should be directed to the Vice-Chair (Patrick Hesp). This specialty group award is presented in recognition of an individual's major contributions to the field of coastal or marine geography. These contributions may be in research, teaching, public service, and/or to the specialty group. Previous awardees include Jess Walker (1991), Fillmore Earney (1992), Norbert Psuty (1993), Karl Nordstrom (1996), Doug Sherman (1997), Bernard Bauer (1999), Robin Davidson-Arnott (2000), Patrick Hesp (2001), and Andrew Short (2003). The R.J. Russell Award is named in honor of Richard Joel Russell (1895-1971). He founded the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University in 1928, acted as its first Chair, and served as Dean of the Graduate School 12 years. Dr. Russell was an organizer of the Coastal Studies Institute (1954), president of both the Association of American Geographers (1948) and Geological Society of America (1957), and was named to the National Academy of Sciences (1959).

Nominations for the current year should be made at least 2 weeks prior to the annual AAG meeting. Nominations are only accepted from COMA members, but nominees do not have to be members of either the specialty group or the AAG. Two letters of nomination are required for consideration for the Award. At least one of the nominations must include a complete letter of nomination which will include one paragraph describing the nominees contributions to the field of coastal or marine geography and/or to the special interest group and a list of the nominees relevant publications.

## Upcoming Conferences

**APAC2003.** *Second International Conference on Asian and Pacific Coasts.* September 7-11 2003, Makuhari New City, Japan.  
Contact: Prof. Kazo Nadaoka, E-mail: [apac2003sec@wv.mei.titech.ac.jp](mailto:apac2003sec@wv.mei.titech.ac.jp)

**2003 Annual Conference of the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association.** September 21-24 2003, Wilmington, NC. More Info: <http://www.asbpa.org/2003conf.html>

**MEDCOAST '03.** *The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Mediterranean Coastal Environment.* October 7-11 2003, Ravenna, Italy.  
More Info: <http://www.medcoast.org.tr/med03/index.html>

**2003 Canadian Coastal Conference.** October 15-17 2003, Kingston, Ontario.  
More Info: [http://www.cciw.ca/ccsea/cc03\\_1stanne.htm](http://www.cciw.ca/ccsea/cc03_1stanne.htm)

**CoastGIS2003.** *5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on GIS and Computer Cartography for Coastal Management.* October 16-18 2003, Genova, Italy. More Info: <http://www.gisig.it/coastgis>

**30<sup>th</sup> Pacem Maribus.** *PIM 2003 Conference, Ocean Governance and Sustainable Development: Oceans and Coasts – A Glimpse into the Future.* October 27-30 2003, Kiev, Ukraine.  
Contact: Dr. V.N. Radchemko, Director of IOI, E-mail: [raalpin@ibss.iuf.net](mailto:raalpin@ibss.iuf.net)

**Eighth International Conference on Estuarine and Coastal Modeling.** November 3-5 2003, Monterey, Ca.  
More Info: <http://131.128.105.170/ecm8/index.html>

**Fifth International Conference on Asian Marine Geology.** January 14-16 2004, Bangkok, Thailand.  
Contact: Thanawat Jarupongsakul, E-mail: [thanawat@sc.chula.ac.th](mailto:thanawat@sc.chula.ac.th)

**FSG & FGA Joint Annual Meeting.** *The Florida Society of Geographers and Florida Geography Alliance Joint Annual Meeting.* February 6-8 2004, Pensacola Beach, FL.  
Contact: Laurie Molina, E-mail: [lmolina@fsu.admin](mailto:lmolina@fsu.admin)

**100th Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers.** March 14-19 2004, Philadelphia, PA.  
More info: <http://www.aag.org>

**ICS 2004.** *The 8<sup>th</sup> International Coastal Symposium.* March 14-19 2004, Santa Catarina, Brazil.  
More Info: <http://www.cttmar.univali.br/~ics2004>

**19<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Coastal Society.** May 23-26 2004, Newport, RI.  
More Info: <http://www.thecoastalsociety.org/conference.html>

**Littoral 2004.** *7<sup>th</sup> International Conference: Delivering Sustainable Coasts.* September 19-22 2004, Aberdeen Scotland.  
More Info: <http://www.littoral2004.org>

**ICCE 2004.** *29<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Coastal Engineering.* September 19-24 2004, Lisbon Portugal.  
More Info: <http://www.ICCE2004.org>

**FYI:** *Announcements of coastal-related conferences and links to abstracts and proceedings from several recent major conferences can be found at:* <http://www.coastalmanagement.com/interact/conferences.html>

If you know of any related conferences coming up in 2004 or if you have announcements or newsworthy items concerning you, your department, or agency, *please* take a moment to send them to the newsletter editor. Thanks!

# **Minutes of the 2003 Business Meeting – New Orleans**

MINUTES OF THE 2003 SPECIALTY GROUP BUSINESS MEETING--by Klaus Meyer-Arendt

Klaus Meyer-Arendt opened the meeting at 7 pm., Friday 7 March 2003, Hyatt-Regency, with 44 members present. Board member Phil Chaney was absent.

## **1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Unanimously adopted.

## **2. Approval of the Minutes of Last Meeting**

Unanimously approved.

## **3. Announcements**

Chair Meyer-Arendt announced that a record number of sessions were organized or co-organized by the specialty group. All available session slots (18) were used by CoMa. Most of the sessions were within the special IGU-cosponsored Coasts Under Stress II “meeting within a meeting” organized by Norb Psuty, Doug Sherman, and Klaus Meyer-Arendt. A perusal of the AAG program index revealed that those three individuals had the most numbers behind their names of any participant at the meeting.

Following the business meeting, Dr. H. Jesse Walker was to present a talk on Evelyn Pruitt and CoMa members and guests were invited to a reception in a suite in the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Members were reminded of the 4 1/2 day field trip—listed as the IGU CCE field trip—to various venues along the Gulf Coast.

## **4. Treasurer’s Report**

Secretary-Treasurer Steve Namikas presented the treasurer’s report (see copy in 2002-03 CoMa report). A \$600 payment due the specialty group from the AAG central office had not arrived, and Steve stated he would coordinate with Paul Abel to see what happened to the funds. The treasurer’s report was unanimously approved.

## **5. Specialty Group Chairs’ Report**

Diane Horn reported on the main points covered in the specialty group chairs' meeting on March 4. Several of the items discussed were:

### **a. SG Annual Reports 2002**

- Some SG reports still outstanding for 2002, please submit by the end of March 2003 in order to release specialty group funds – outgoing chair should submit the 2002 report
- Reports for 2003 will be due one month after the AAG annual meeting in Philadelphia
- It is vital that these reports are submitted with a financial report, to allow Meridian Place to account for the expenditure of AAG funds
- Several chairs requested that the AAG website support the filing and updating of SG reports, and that they be available to the AAG membership on the site

### **b. SG Financial Management Issues**

- The AAG is reorganizing its schedule for releasing SG funds. Funds will be released to SGs in early fall (mid October), after accounting processes for the end of the fiscal year (August 31<sup>st</sup>) have been completed in the main office.
- Financial reports will also be available from the main office

### c. SG Session Sponsorship

- AAG council appreciates the role played by SGs in organizing special sessions for the meetings
- AAG council encourages the SGs to organize sessions that highlight ‘state of the art’ themes and research in their subfield, especially for the centennial meeting
- AAG council encourages the SGs to also organize sessions at the regional meetings throughout the year
- Councilor Vicki Lawson will bring a discussion of costs to non-geography visitors to SG special sessions to council for discussion

## 6. R.J. Russell Award

The R.J. Russell Award was presented to Dr. Andrew D. Short of the University of Sydney. Chair Meyer-Arendt read the following, which was prepared by Norbert Psuty:

Dr. Andrew Short, this year’s recipient of the R. J. Russell Award, is an eminent coastal geomorphologist and surfzone hazards expert. He is currently Associate Professor of Geography and Marine Sciences and Director of the Coastal Studies Unit and Director of the Marine Sciences Centre at the University of Sydney, Australia.

It is very fitting that Andrew Short is recognized by the Coastal and Marine Geography Specialty Group this year, when the meetings are in New Orleans. Andy is a graduate of Louisiana State University. In 1973, he was the first Ph.D. of the newly-established Marine Sciences program at LSU, where R. J. Russell had previously established the Coastal Studies Institute. Andy’s first professional position was as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Marine Sciences, in 1973-75, before returning to Australia.

For the past several decades, Dr. Short has been a world leader himself. He has a world-class reputation in the area of beach and surf zone morphology and dynamics. His interests extend to coastal dunes, coastal stratigraphy, and coastal management. He is a world authority on beach safety, and his ability to integrate beach morphodynamics with swimming safety is without peer.

In his illustrious career, he has succeeded in finding time to produce 6 books, 11 chapters in books, nearly 80 articles or conference papers and an assortment of reports. His posters on swimming safety are outstanding, as are his papers on beach and surfzone morphodynamics.

Similar to Richard Joel Russell, Andy Short has made an impact in Coastal and Marine Geography and it is with pride that we welcome Andy back to Louisiana to receive the R. J. Russell Award.

A plaque was presented to Dr. Andrew D. Short, who thanked the specialty group for the honor.

## 7. Student Paper Awards

Six students had entered the student paper competition this year, but one was unable to attend. Because of the excellent quality of the five papers as well as the diversity of topics covered, two student awards were presented. A check for \$100 each was to be mailed to the recipients.

- a. The Best Student Paper (Physical) went to Andreas Baas, University of Southern California, for his presentation entitled *Formation and behavior of eolian streamers*.
- b. The Best Student Paper (Human) went to C. Patrick Heidkamp, University of Connecticut, for his presentation entitled *Capital, gentrification, and social change on the waterfront*.

The student award winners and Andy Short, winner of the Russell Award, were invited to the AAG banquet by Chair Klaus Meyer-Arendt, and all three accepted the invitation.

## 8. Old Business

There was discussion of doing another CD of coastal slide shows and PowerPoint presentations. The last CD was quite popular and also brought in money to the specialty group. Chair Meyer-Arendt remarked that he would love to have all the PowerPoint talks that were presented at the New Orleans meeting available for use in his Coastal Morphology class. After some discussion, Michael Craghan volunteered to start the ball rolling on this project.

## 9. New Business

- a. Election of Vice-Chair. Klaus Meyer-Arendt's term as chair expires at the end of the AAG meeting (technically at the end of the post-meeting IGU field trip), and Diane Horn will move into the chair's position. Patrick Hesp of Louisiana State University was nominated and voted in unanimously as the new vice-chair.
- b. Election of Board Members. Two board members were needed to replace two (Michael Craghan, Phil Chaney) whose terms were expiring. Doug Sherman of Texas A&M and Dawn Wright of Oregon State (not in attendance, but she had agreed to serve if needed) were nominated and voted in unanimously to 2-year terms.
- c. Newsletter editor. Rich Daniels has edited our newsletter for quite a while, and this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year that he has expressed interest in stepping down. He was thanked by the group for all the effort he has made over the years. Secretary-treasurer Steve Namikas agreed to take over the all-electronic newsletter.
- d. 2004 meetings. There was some discussion about next year when there will be a conflict between the International Coastal Symposium (ICS) in Santa Catarina, Brazil and the centennial AAG in Philadelphia. We agreed that we would have to wait and see how many CoMa members attend the AAG to determine the scope of our involvement in Philadelphia.

## 10. Open Forum

Norb Psuty was thanked for his organizational efforts in putting the Coasts Under Stress II symposium together. Klaus Meyer-Arendt was thanked for organizing all the sessions for the New Orleans meeting.

## 11. Adjournment

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Submitted by Klaus Meyer Arendt – March 26, 2003.