

# INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNION COMMISSION ON GENDER AND GEOGRAPHY

NEWSLETTER NO. 38

APRIL, 2007

## Message from the Commission Chair

Dear Colleagues: I take this opportunity to introduce some of the activities of the IGU Commission on Gender and Geography in 2007 and 2008. Of course each of you is welcome to suggest more activities in the future:

### 2007 Symposia

#### June 1-3, 2007

*Sustainable Public Places: Feminist perspectives on appropriation, representations and planning of public spaces.* To be held at the Department of Geography, University of Zurich, Switzerland. Organizer: **Elisabeth Buehler** ([buehler@geo.unizh.ch](mailto:buehler@geo.unizh.ch)) (See below for further details.)

#### November 23-26, 2007

*Transnational Lives: Feminist Perspectives on Citizenship, Home and Belonging.* To be held at Department of Geography, National Taiwan University, Taiwan, Republic of China. Deadline for submitting abstracts: June, 31<sup>st</sup> 2007. Organizer: **Nora Chiang** ([nora@ntu.edu.tw](mailto:nora@ntu.edu.tw))

### 2008

**Saraswati Raju** has expressed interest in organizing a meeting in **New Delhi, India** towards the beginning of 2008. We will inform you once these plans become certain.

**31<sup>st</sup> IGU Conference in Tunis, Tunisia**. Projected dates are **12-15 August, 2008**. We have begun to plan a pre-meeting in Tunis using some existing contacts of American scholars with Tunisian academics. These preliminary activities are carried out by Janice Monk.

I would also like to inform you that the Commission is now registered as an associate member of the **European Platform of Women Scientists (EPWS)**. The aim of this platform is: to support the work of a whole range of existing national, European and international networks of women scientists from **all disciplines** (natural, medical and social sciences, engineering and technology, the humanities and arts). Furthermore, the Platform aims to make women scientists better understand the role they can play in the research policy debate and how to fully benefit from these opportunities by bundling their powers and forces. For more details please visit the website: [www.epws.org](http://www.epws.org)

This group can be another means for our members to expand our international networks regarding gender research and studies.

I hope to see you at one of our events and please feel free to contact me if you have new ideas regarding the Commission's activities.

**Tovi Fenster**, Chair

## **STRONG PROGRAM PLANNED FOR COMMISSION'S PROGRAM IN ZURICH**

The Commission's meeting scheduled for Zurich, June 1-3 on "Sustainable Public Spaces: Feminist Perspectives on Appropriation, Representations, and Planning of Public Spaces" promises to offer stimulating and diverse presentations. Some 33 abstracts have been received with authors representing approximately 15 countries and presentations dealing with Europe, Asia, Latin America, and North America and with diverse groups of people (e.g., children, migrants) in relation to public spaces. Two days of papers together with a local field trip, and a day-long trip in the Alps have been planned by organizers **Elizabeth Bühler**, **Angela Heule**, and **Nadia Schoch**. For further details contact Elisabeth at [buehler@geo.unizh.ch](mailto:buehler@geo.unizh.ch)

## **NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

The International Geographical Union Commission on Gender and Geography has been accepted for Associate Membership in the European Platform of Women Scientists (EPWS). Located in Brussels, EPWS supports the work of a whole range of existing national, European and international networks of women scientists from all disciplines (natural, medical and social sciences, engineering and technology, the humanities and arts). Furthermore, the Platform aims to make women scientists better understand the role they can play in the research policy debates and how to fully benefit from these opportunities by bundling their powers and forces. To find out more about EPWS, its activities, opportunities to participate in projects, and its forthcoming meetings, see <http://www.epws.org>

The recent expansion of gender studies in Japanese geography is marked by several new publications, especially the *Gender Atlas of Japan* (in Japanese) which contains a

substantial series of maps, some at the prefecture scale and others at the municipality scale. Congratulations to **Yuko Takeda, Reiko Inoshita** and colleagues **Takashi Nakazawa, Yoshiki Wakabayashi, Hiroo Kamiya, Yoshimichi Yui** and **Keiji Yano** on this publication. Also recent publications include the article "Regional Diversity in Women's Participation in the Work Force in Japan" (in English) in *Geographische Rundschau* by **Yoshimichi Yui, Hiroo Kamiya, Yoshiki Wakabayashi** and **Takashi Nakazawa** and a series of articles in *Geographical Review of Japan* (in English). The publication details are provided below in the bibliographic section of this newsletter.

Students interested in graduate studies on the spatiality of gender and sexuality issues at the new Okanagan campus of the University of British Columbia are encouraged to contact **Lawrence Berg** to discuss opportunities for interdisciplinary graduate study in the Community, Culture & Global Studies Unit. Lawrence can be reached at: [Lawrence.Berg@ubc.ca](mailto:Lawrence.Berg@ubc.ca). He reports that two new graduate students are working on geography and gender issues in this program. **Cindy Holmes** is undertaking a PhD study of "Homonormativity, Space, and Intimate Partner Violence Among Lesbian Couples." She will be presenting some of her earlier work on white homonormativity at the San Francisco AAG meetings. **Sheila Lewis** is working on a MA study of the "Marginalisation of Aboriginal Women in the Urban Housing Market, Kelowna, BC, Canada". Sheila is recipient of a fellowship from the UBC Centre for Human Rights, Diversity & Identity.

**Ellen Hansen** has been honored as the 2007 recipient of the Ruth Schillinger Award at Emporia State University, Kansas. The award annually recognizes a woman faculty member who has made extraordinary contributions to the women of Emporia State over a sustained period. Congratulations Ellen!

Presentations are planned at the Nordic Geographers Meeting, Bergen, Norway, 15-17 June 2007 <http://www.uib.no/ngm/> on the theme Decolonized Methodologies: Participatory Research on "Women in the Margins." The purpose of this interaction is to explore decolonized methodologies or to find post-colonial ways for participatory research and participatory planning where women can influence both research agendas and politics. For further information contact either **Juan Velasquez**, Stockholm University [juan.velasquez@kvinfor.su.se](mailto:juan.velasquez@kvinfor.su.se) or **Carina Listerborn**, Lund University [carina.listerborn@keg.lu.se](mailto:carina.listerborn@keg.lu.se)

**Michaela Schier** reports that the archive of "Feminist Geo-RundMail" (the Newsletter of German speaking feminist geographers) can be accessed at [www.ssg.geo.uni-muenchen.de/gender/rundmailindex.html](http://www.ssg.geo.uni-muenchen.de/gender/rundmailindex.html)

Congratulations to **Lynda Johnston** who was recently promoted to Associate Professor at the University of Waikato (New Zealand). As of January 2007 she became chairperson of the department. Lynda and **Robyn Longhurst** are collaborating on a book provisionally entitled 'Space, Place and Sex: Geographies of Sexualities' with the

US publishers Rowman and Littlefield. With **Elsie Ho** they also have a new research project "We are where we eat': food, place and identity for new migrant women."

**Polly Vauquiline** was awarded a Doctoral degree in March 2007 by the Department of Geography, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, India ([www.nehu.ac.in](http://www.nehu.ac.in)) for her thesis on "Gender-Related Crimes in Greater Guwahati Urban Area" under the supervision of Prof.A.C.Mohapatra. Guwahati, with a population of about one million, is the capital city of the State of Assam.

**Anne Buttimer**, past President of the International Geographical Union, is now the liaison for the IGU Executive Committee to the Commission on Gender and Geography. She has two recent publications dealing with international perspectives in geography a book dealing with geography in Sweden (see below) and a co-edited special issue of *Geographical Review* (2006) commemorating the 200th anniversary of Humboldt's visit to Philadelphia.

**Yoga Rasanayagam** (Sri Lanka) has retired from her position as Professor of Geography and Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Colombo and is working as Academic Advisor at the National Institute of Social Development in Colombo. She is co-author of a recent article on gender equity in Sri Lankan higher education (see below).

**Nancy Lewis** (East-West Center, Hawaii) delivered the Evelyn Pruitt Lecture March 30, 2007 on "Is Globalization Good for your Health"? at Louisiana State University, USA. The annual lecture, funded by a bequest from the late Evelyn Pruitt, a geographer with a long and distinguished career in the US government focusing on coastal studies, supports a presentation by a senior woman geographer. Ms. Pruitt also endowed grants for research by women students awarded the Society of Woman Geographers. Nancy is also involved with preparations for the 21st Pacific Science Congress which will be held in Okinawa, June 12-18, 2007. The Congress theme is "Diversity and Change: Challenges and Opportunities form Managing Natural and Social Systems in Asia-Pacific".

**Teresa Vicente Mosquete** reports on two programs held in March at the University of Salamanca which brought together Spanish and Italian geographers. "Mujer y Sociedad," coordinated by the Department of Geography for the Interdepartmental Doctorate in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies, featured **Rachelle Borghi** (Universidad Ca' Foscari, Venecia, Italia) speaking on women and public spaces in Morocco, **Marcella Schmidt di Friedberg** (Universidad Milano-Bicocca, Italia) on the critical discourse on nature, gender, and ecofeminism, **Rocío Sánchez Ameijeiras** (Universidad Santiago de Compostela) on feminine bodies and body metaphors: a new look at medieval art, and **Begoña San José** (Forum de Política Feminista} on maternity, paternity, employment, and parity of representation. Rachelle Borghi and Marcella Schmidt di Friedberg also participated in a methodological seminar that addressed perspectives on gender, feminism, environment, and postcolonialism.

**THANK YOU!**

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the editors of *Gender, Place and Culture*, Linda Peake, Deborah Dixon, Robyn Longhurst and Brenda Yeoh, to the publishers, Taylor and Francis, to my colleagues Sallie Marston and John Paul Jones III, who initiated the Janice Monk Distinguished Lecture Series in Feminist Geography (to be given at the University of Arizona, at a major conference, and published in *Gender, Place and Culture*), to Ruth Fincher for her insightful inaugural lecture and article, and to Tovi Fenster, Maria Dolores Garcia-Ramon, Susan Hanson, Richard Howitt, and Toni Luna-Garcia for their generous essays in *Gender, Place and Culture*, 14(1), 2007. Additionally I offer my appreciation to the many colleagues whose support for this project and whose friendship, collegiality, and persistence over decades in feminist geography and activism have made this endeavor possible and my life so rewarding. - Jan Monk

## **NEW BOOKS**

Aguiar, Luis and Andrew Herod. 2006. *The Dirty Work of Neoliberalism. Cleaners in the Global Economy*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Barry, Kathleen. 2007. *Femininity in Flight: A History of Flight Attendants*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Buttimer, Anne and Tom Mels (eds) 2006. *By Northern Lights: On the Making of Geography in Sweden*. Aldershot: Ashgate 2006.

Chant, Sylvia. 2007. *Gender, Generation and Poverty: Exploring the 'Feminisation of Poverty' in Africa, Asia and Latin America* (Cheltenham/Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar) (456pp).

Ghorra-Gobin, Cynthia. (ed.), *Dictionary of Globalizations (Dictionnaire des Mondialisations)*, Paris, Colin, 2006. (Entries with a gender focus include attention to gender parity issues in employment, development, education, political status, property rights, and sexual exploitation in migration.)

Longhurst, Robyn. 2007. *Maternities: Gender, Bodies and Space*. London and New York: Routledge.

Lukic, Jasmina, Joanna Regulaska, and Darja Zavirisek. (2006). *Women and Citizenship in Central and Eastern Europe*. Aldershot: Ashgate.

Hussain, Shahnaz, Amanat Khan and Janet Momsen 2005. *Gender Atlas of Bangladesh*. electronic version at <http://ws.univdhaka.edu>. Dhaka: USAID

Royal Town Planning Institute (2007) *Good Practice Note on Gender and Spatial Planning* produced by Dr. Dory Reeves, Reeves Associates with input from the Women's Design Service.

Samarasinghe, Vidya. 2007. *Female Sex Trafficking*. London and New York: Routledge.

Takeda, Yuko, Reiko Inoshita, Takashi Nakazawa, Yoshiki Wakabayashi, Hiroo Kamiya, Yoshimichi Yui and Keiji Yano. 2007. *Gender Atlas of Japan*. Tokyo: Akashi.

Vernooy, Ronnie. 2006. *Social and Gender Analysis in Natural Resource Development: Learning Studies and Lessons from Asia*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Wright, Melissa. 2006. *Disposable Women and Other Myths of Global Capitalism*. London and New York: Routledge.

### **SPECIAL JOURNAL ISSUES**

*Geojournal* 65 (4), 2006, guest-edited by Fran Klodawsky and Valerie Preston, features the papers given at the IGU Gender Commission symposium “Placing Gender /Making Policy: held in Toronto in June, 2002. For individual articles, see below.

*Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*, 28(1), 2007, guest edited by Janet Henshall Momsen, is a special issue devoted to gender and agricultural biodiversity. Articles (listed below by author) address contexts in Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

*Women’s Studies International Forum* 29(6) 2006 is a special issue examining gender in higher education in Commonwealth nations. It includes studies on Nigeria, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda as well as overview pieces on approaches to interpreting gender equity in higher education.

*Geographical Review of Japan* 79(12) 2006 has a theme section with an article and three research notes on “Residential Choices and Housing Problems of Working Women in Tokyo” (see below for complete titles).

*Development and Change* 38(1) 2007, an interdisciplinary journal, features a collection of articles on gender and development.

*Political Geography* 25(8) 2006 is devoted to the theme of sexual citizenship. An editorial by David Bell and Jon Binnie and five other articles are listed below by author.

*The Professional Geographer* 59(1), 2007 includes a focus section with five articles on “Feminism and Social Theory in Geography” (see below for individual articles).

A double issue of *Women’s Studies Quarterly* 34 (1/2) 2006,(531 pages), edited by Geraldine Pratt and Victoria Rosner is devoted to the theme *The Global and the Intimate*. The journal is published by The Feminist Press, New York. An interdisciplinary collection, it includes essays, poems, field notes, and book reviews, including a number of pieces by feminist geographers.

## RECENT JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Ahmad, Nesar and Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt. 2006. "Engendering mining communities: Examining the missing gender concerns in coal mining displacement and rehabilitation in India." *Gender, Technology and Development* 10: 313-39.

Asiyanbola, Abidemi. 2006. "Residential decision-making and gender in Nigeria." *Geoforum* 37(6):1059-65.

Bain, Alison L. and Catherine J. Nash. 2007. "The Toronto Women's bathhouse raid: querying queer identities in the courtroom." *Antipode* 39(1): 17-34.

Baird, Barbara. 2006. Sexual citizenship in 'the new Tasmania.'" *Political Geography* 25(8): 964-87.

Bavinck, Maarten (2006) Don't be hasty and impetuous. Notes on women in fisheries" *Samudra* 43: 3-5.

Bell, David and Jon Binne. 2006. "Geographies of sexual citizenship." *Political Geography* 25(8): 869-73.

Berg, Lawrence.D. 2006. "Hierarchical Space: Geographers and Neoliberalism." *Progress in Human Geography* 30 (6): 764-769 and 778-782.

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Bondi, Liz. 2006. "Is counseling a feminist practice?" *Geojournal* 65(4): 339-48.

Brown, Michael. 2006. "Sexual citizenship, political obligation and disease ecology in gay Seattle." *Political Geography* 25(8): 874-98.

Buang, Amriah.2007. "Review of Aihwa Ong's *Spirits of Resistance and Capitalist Discipline*." *International Feminist Journal of Politics* , 9 (2).

Capuri, Valentine. 2006. "Women as individuals and members of minority groups: How to reconcile human rights and the values of cultural pluralism." *Geojournal* 65(4): 329-37.

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(<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/genderInstitute/fempov.pdf>)

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----. 2006. "¿Cómo podemos hacer que la 'femenización de la pobreza' resulte más relevante en materia de políticas? ¿Hacia una 'femenización de la responsabilidad y la obligación'?" (How can we make the 'feminisation of poverty' more policy relevant? Towards a 'feminisation of responsibility and obligation'?). In UNFPA/GTZ *Cohesión Social, Políticas Conciliatorias y Presupuesto Público: Una Mirada desde el Género*, UNFPA: Mexico City, pp.201-33.

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(<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/genderInstitute/children.pdf>)

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Chant, Sylvia with Nikki Craske. 2007. *Género en Latinoamérica* (México DF: Publicaciones de la Casa Chata) (Spanish translation of Sylvia Chant with Nikki Craske *Gender in Latin America* -- by Latin America Bureau, London/Rutgers University Press: New Brunswick, New Jersey [520 pp]).

Chiang, Lan-Hung Nora, Ya-Lien Chen, and Yu-Ling Cathy Song (2007) The Meaning of Second Homes to Middle-class Taiwanese Women: A Feminist Perspective, Occasional Paper No. 23, Pingtung, Taiwan: National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, College of Humanities and Social Sciences. (Available in pdf formate from Nora Chiang, [nora@ntu.edu.tw](mailto:nora@ntu.edu.tw))

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Els companys de l'Àrea de Anàlisi de Geogràfica Regional, Universitat de Barcelona. 2005. "Roser Majoral, in memoriam. *Treballs de la Societat Catalana de Geografia* 60: 265-68.

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Esveldt, Ingrid & Tineke Fokkema (2006) "Welk gezinsbeleid leidt tot meer kinderen? Meningen over overheidsmaatregelen onderzocht." (Which family policy results in more children? Studying opinions on government policies). *Demos* 22 (November), 92-96.

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Fenster, Tovi. 2007. "Reinforcing diversity: From the 'inside' and the 'outside.'" *Gender, Place and Culture* 14(1): 43-49.

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