

that November is uncomfortable to both Southern and Northern hemispheres academics due to the academic year. I would like to ask you to comment on that offer and to suggest an alternative date.

The Commission on Local Development 2010-2012 working plan

Year	Month	Place	Comments	Theme
2010	July 12-16	Tel-Aviv, Israel	During the IGU congress	Local development in a globalizing world
2011	November?	Possibly - Belo-Horizonte, Brazil	Ahead of the IGU-congress in Chile?	To be decided
2012	August 26-30	Colonge, Germany	During the IGU congress	To be decided

3. **Name change**. During the annual meeting we had a gathering of our steering committee members: Bjorn Asheim, Tony Sorensen, Jerzy Banski and Michael Sofer. We discussed future activities and also the commission's name. We felt that the current name does not distinguish our scholarly interest enough and that we may need a name that will make the commission more distinct. The names that came out are very similar: *Local Development: Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Policy*, or *Regional Development: Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Policy*. I would like to consult our steering committee members about this proposal. I would like to remind you that according to IGU regulations a name change is required once in 8 or 12 years of a commission's activity. If you have another proposal for name please write to me.

4. **New member on the steering committee**.

Suman Sao, Reader, Dept. of Geography & Applied Geography, University of North Bengal, 734430 India sumansao1@yahoo.co.in, replaced Kee-Bom Nahm as a new member of our steering committee. Suman has already been involved in our activities in the Tunis and Warsaw conferences and I am looking forward for her further involvement.

5. **Newsletter**. I am collecting material for our forthcoming newsletter. Please send me any material you think is relevant for our newsletter, including conferences and workshops that you would like to promote. The newsletter is distributed to all our corresponding members.

Best wishes,

Michael Sofer (CHAIR)

IGU, Commission on Local Development

<http://www.biu.ac.il/soc/ge/igucomld/>

31/10/2009

The Commission on Local Development, IGU - Report

Dear Members of the Steering Committee of the Commission on Local Development,

1. **The 2009 annual meeting**. On behalf of the Steering Committee I would like to extend the Commission's gratitude to all those who have contributed to the activities of the commission during the last twelve months. I would particularly like to thank **Jerzy Banski** and his team in the Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, The Polish Academy of Sciences, for the well organized annual meeting and marvellous field trip they managed to put up. I enjoyed the visit to Warsaw and Poland very much.

The annual meeting held a variety of topics derived from participants from 12 different countries. The key note speaker was our steering committee member – Bjorn Asheim. We are expecting to have a publication edited by Jerzy Banski, based on a number of papers presented in the meeting, by the end of this year. The full program of the meeting can be found in the commission web site: <http://www.biu.ac.il/soc/ge/igucomld/>

2. **Updates**. I would like to take this opportunity to update you about the coming activities of the Commission on Local Development and also to consult you on these matters.

The major coming event is the IGU Congress in Tel-Aviv, Israel on July 12-16, 2010 under the title: ***Bridging Diversity in a Globalizing World***. The annual meeting of the commission will be during the congress. More so, we have an agreement with the IGU **Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems** to have a couple of sessions concerning "local development in the rural space" in their annual colloquium which will be organised by Dr. Irit Amit and take place at Bar-Ilan University (my university) on July 7-8, 2010. This meeting will be followed by a field trip, July 9-11, and will take back the participants to Tel-Aviv so participants could join the main congress on the 12th of July.

I have already been approached by the representatives of two commissions asking me to have joint sessions in the Tel-Aviv congress:

- 1) **Gender and Geography**
- 2) **Marginalization, Globalization, and Regional and Local Responses**

For more information please visit the web site: <http://www.igu2010.com/>

The table below shows a crude draft of the 2010-2012 plans for the Commission's activities. Any ideas, suggestions and comments are welcomed. There is a tentative offer from Brazil in 2011, in Belo-Horizonte. The date of November is due to the possibility to have an IGU congress in Chile during this month, and our meeting could be held ahead of that congress. The reason for a question mark is