

MEETING SUMMARY REPORT

Tourism and Recreation Study Group Annual Business Meeting

May 21st, 2008

Quebec, Quebec

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The Canadian Association of Geographers Tourism and Recreation Study Group convened for the Annual Business Meeting at the CAG 2008 in Quebec. Holly Donohoe from the University of Ottawa chaired the meeting and approximately twenty people attended.

The agenda for the meeting was pre-determined:

1. Overview of the Study Group Purpose and Activities
2. Review of the Study Group Annual Report
3. Review of the Treasurer's Report
4. Executive Review
5. Study Group Functions
 - a. Action items and priorities for 2008-2009
 - b. Newsletter (content, frequency, etc.)
 - c. Website
 - d. Student awards 2008
 - e. CAG 2009 Study Group Sessions

The following sections represent a summary of what was accomplished at the Business Meeting.

1. OVERVIEW OF STUDY GROUP PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES

The Chair reviewed the purpose of the study group with members:

The purpose of this group is to provide an opportunity for members to connect their research, work and/or learning pursuits in tourism, recreation and parks with other geographers across Canada. The study group hosts a listserv, distributes bi-annual electronic newsletters, sponsors sessions at the CAG, holds an annual business meeting and produces an Annual Report. The executive exists to provide guidance and facilitate study group activities

2. REVIEW ANNUAL REPORT

Items from the 2007 Annual Report were circulated to members in the Study Group Newsletter dated April 2008. The following Action Items from the Annual Report and Student Group Annual Business Meeting (2007) were reviewed at this year's meeting:

- **Web Page:** The inaugural Study Group website is now online! The creation of a website was identified as a study group priority action item. Thus, immediately following the Business Meeting, website development was initiated. The website provides an overview of the Study Group purpose, structure, and activities. Links to related resources such as academic journals and conferences are also available from the website. <http://tourismrec.googlepages.com>. Members were encouraged to provide content for the website.
- **E-Newsletter:** The study group continues to provide electronic newsletters. In 2007-2008, the frequency increased to a quarterly newsletter distribution. In addition, all newsletters (May 2007 – present) have been made available for download on the study group website.
- **Relationship building with IGU:** Following the business meeting in 2007, contact was initiated with the IGU Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change. Ideas such as co-hosting CAG sessions, collaborating on other events, and the possibility of a special panel session on Canadian Tourism Geography at a future IGU conference were discussed in email communications. Communications with the Commission Chair are ongoing. The importance of this relationship was confirmed in Quebec city.
- **Membership:** The Study Group continues to encourage new membership. The new format for the Student Award was identified as a means for bolstering membership numbers and for encouraging student involvement.

3. REVIEW OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was not delivered at the business meeting. It is to be made available to those who should request a copy.

5. EXECUTIVE REVIEW

The executive, established at the business meeting in 2007 was not reviewed in 2008. The next review will occur in 2009.

6. STUDY GROUP FUNCTIONS

A number of functions were discussed at the meeting including the newsletter, the webpage, CAG 2008 study group sessions, student awards, and other things we can accomplish as a study group.

a. Newsletter

At the business meeting in 2007, profiling tourism researchers and research projects programs was considered an item of interest for the newsletter. Members confirmed continued interest in these items. Members were encouraged to contribute to the newsletter and to respond to future calls for newsletter contributions.

b. CAG 2008 Study Group Sessions

Study Group members were encouraged to organize tourism and recreation sessions at the CAG 2009 in Ottawa. A number of topics and themes emerged of particular interest including parks and protected areas, ecotourism, and research methods. Members were encouraged to organize additional sessions.

c. Student Awards

For delivering quality papers to Tourism and Recreation Study Group sessions at this year's CAG, four students were awarded the CAG Tourism and Recreation Study Group Student Award. The recipients include:

Kate Hano, PhD Candidate, University of Waterloo

Threat of Creative Destruction in Krasiczyn, Poland

Peter Johnson, PhD Candidate, McGill University

Experimenting with Dynamic Tourism Scenarios: An Agent-Based Approach

Laura Prazeres, MA Candidate, University of Ottawa

Exploring Environmental Experiences in Canada's North: The Findings of a Geographical Study of Kluane National Park Visitors

Stephanie Pyne, PhD Candidate, Carleton University

Linking Cybercartography and Indigenous Tourism: The Reconciliation Trail

Students will receive a one year membership to the CAG as well as a one year membership to the Tourism and Recreation study Group.

The names of Award recipients have been provided to the CAG.

d. Other Things the Study Group can Accomplish

The suggestion was made to explore opportunities for publishing research presented at the CAG or research that results from connections established at the CAG. There was consensus that this relationship should be considered an Action Item for 2008. Rhonda Koster has agreed to take on a leadership role to follow-up with some potential opportunities leading up to CAG 2009. Holly Donohoe agreed to support and assist in the process.