Greetings ITSA colleagues and friends. I would like to use this note to reflect on a few fronts, sharing a few personal thoughts about tourism, scholarship, and ITSA activities.

**FIRST,** I am honored to serve as your president. I know I have big shoes to fill, as Professor Philip Pearce has been the inspirational leader and a steady guiding hand for ITSA over the past four years. What a four years it has been! ITSA has blossomed from its Chinese roots to a truly global presence, with a strong emphasis on emerging economies and developing nations. Much appreciation goes to your leadership, dedication and wisdom, Philip. I am grateful that you will continue to be with our executive leadership team, ensuring continuity as we stay on our mission to bridge the gaps between the developed and developing nations through tourism research, education and practice. What excites me is our shared belief that ITSA can make a difference in making the world a better place through good practices of tourism and hospitality. ITSA is maturing, but has yet to fully reach its potential. I am excited to continue working with the executive board, our regional leadership team, and most importantly our members.

**A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT MYSELF.** I am a Purdue Boilermaker, through and through. I have been affiliated with the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management at Purdue since the mid 1990s. So I may say I have had a little bit of a “maker” spirit in me—the “can-do” optimism with a practical streak. I am also a global citizen in the true sense of the word. I am a Peking University graduate and worked for several years at the then China National Tourism Administration, before marching into the worlds of Singapore (as a marketing executive for Chan Brothers Travel) and the US. I pride myself in having multiple lenses and can be a good culture mediator. I have been always a free spirit in that I do what makes me feel fulfilled. That has served me well in my professional advancement. That sense of fulfillment, however, was getting murky in recent years. My South Africa trip (ITSA2018) helped clear my mental vision.

It has been almost a year since we last got together at the ITSA 2018 conference in Tshwane, South Africa. Personally, the energy I drew from ITSA 2018 has stayed with me to this day, and my experience has inspired me to prioritize my time in my scholarly activities. To take research for example, I have embarked on a renewed search for meaning and purpose—something that I had when I first started my academic career, and almost lost along the way in the midst of chasing publication numbers, indexes, and peer recognitions.

Africa cleared my head, in a “tourism” way. The visit to the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site helped clear my vision. The museum was a tourism product so well-designed that it bestows the visitors with a sense of common humanity, so palpable and powerful. The experience feels personal and also relational; it connects, soothes, gives hope, provokes thoughts, and begs perspectives. The experience allowed me to appreciate deeply what bonds us as brothers and sisters. Tourism can be a force for good. My outlook for the future becomes rosier, not because I am blind to the persistent challenges we face and the fractious voices in the world of tourism and beyond, but because of my reckoning that stripping down to the core, we are one. I felt a special connection with fellow ITSA conference attendees; I felt a special connection with common humanity; I felt a connection to a version of myself that had been clouded by the hassle and bustle of life.
NOW, ONTO ITSA. ITSA is a membership organization of scholars, researchers, and practitioners in the tourism field. As we know, we all have options and choices for engaging with professional associations. So why ITSA?

True to our mission, we aim to build a global tourism community where we can share ideas and research to advance the field of tourism. I have been thinking of what ITSA can do to advance its mission and importantly to enhance our ITSA community—a community that we individually can own and friendship we can build. I envision ITSA as a preferred platform for our members to share tourism knowledge and expertise, to celebrate our professional accomplishments, to enjoy a shared sense of purpose and community, and to seek opportunities to improve our respective professional goals and ambitions, and perhaps make a difference in our collective effort to better the world through tourism. Never more than now, the tourism and hospitality field is bestowed with marvelous opportunities for us to be steering humanity into a better future.

We would like to hear from you. Why ITSA? How can ITSA benefit our individual members in ways that are personally meaningful? Personally, I would like to see ITSA be the intellectual home for our members, where they feel free to share their thoughts—forward looking, reflective, or outright provocative. Share your thoughts prescient in nature can stimulate our creativity and our actions. Share your thoughts that can further our conversation about what may come at us—forces that may shape the future of the wellness of tourism—and how we can lead instead of being led.

OUR GLOBAL OFFICE is currently based in London. Our London office hopes to be the welcoming hub for all ITSA members. Our colleagues at the University of Greenwich are doing very important work. Our London office provides strong support for our conferences and our regional events. They are instrumental in corralling information and updating our association website and social media accounts. They have been digitalizing all ITSA conference proceedings. This complete and unbroken series of seven proceedings is supporting our application for a Scopus listing. Gaining a SCOPUS listing for our ITSA conference proceedings will raise the profile of ITSA internationally and help us to continue to increase the number and quality of the submissions to our conferences in the coming years. Proceedings for Beijing (2006), Shanghai (2008), Malaysia (2010), Bali (2012), Perth (2014), London (2016), and Tshwane (2018) are now available at http://intltourismstudies.com/conference-proceedings/. Much appreciation goes to our editors of the proceedings, our Greenwich colleagues, and the co-editors of our official journal—Dr. Alastair Morrison and Dr. Andres Stefaniak. ITSA’s growth would not be what it is without your dedication and leadership. ITSA’s official journal—International Journal of Tourism Cities (IJTC)—has witnessed tremendous growth in recent years. Our editors’ vision, passion, and tireless work have elevated IJTC’s global recognition.

DR. JOHN BRUCE TRACEY from Connell University has joined ITSA leadership as Regional Vice President for the North American region. Thank you, Bruce. We so appreciated your contributions to our South Africa conference and beyond. ITSA will be benefiting from having you on board as part of our leadership group in moving ITSA forward. With your expertise, and with the active involvement of leading hospitality and tourism institutions in the world, we believe ITSA can make a difference.

Member activities. ITSA would like to hear from all members. What is your vision for the future of tourism? What is the role of tourism in the larger context of societal and technological transformational forces? What are the opportunities and challenges ahead? What is your story? What are the accomplishments that you are proud of?
ITSA members are doing great things in your respective part of the world. I encourage you to share your accomplishments and successes with us. As you know, ITSA wants to celebrate with you. A few member news that have come my way include:

- Dr. Teresa Aguiar Quintana is organizing a 2019 Spring symposium on challenges in tourism (June 6th and 7th) in Gran Canaria, Spain.
- Dr. Miroslav Vujicic has assumed a new leadership role, serving as the vice-head for the Department for Geography, Tourism and Hotel management at the University of Novi Sad, Serbia.
- Dr. Hannah Shen from Fudan University (China) has recently been promoted to the full professorship rank.
- Dr. Xiaoxiao Fu from the University of Central Florida (UCF) has received the UCF Excellence in Research Award in 2019.
- Dr. Ksenia Kirillova from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University has received the “Most Active Consultant Award” as part of the university’s Outstanding Professional Services Awards.
- Dr. Jonathon Day from Purdue University has recently assumed the role of Graduate Director for Purdue’s School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.
- Dr. Ying Zhang from China Minzu University has been invited to become a thought leader for China’s International Industrial Coorporation.

During this busy time of the year, we celebrate our achievements and successes. Thank you to each one of you for making ITSA the association it is today and for continuing to work to make ITSA even stronger tomorrow.

**THREE UPCOMING ITSA EVENTS.** ITSA has three exciting conferences planned. Much appreciation goes to the colleagues spearheading these wonderful conferences! Please plan ahead. We will see you at these various academic events!

- **2019 ITSA Asia-Pacific Tourism Symposium** in Beppu, Japan on Tourism and Traditional Landscapes: Sustainability, revitalization and resiliency (August, details to follow in this News Letter)
- **2020 ITSA Biennial Conference and workshop** in Indonesia and Singapore (in planning)
- **2021 ITSA Novi Sad Event** in celebration of Novi Sad becoming the European Capital of Culture for 2021. The planned dates are 8, 9, 10, and 11 in September 2021, with main events taking place on the 8th and 9th, followed by two days of workshops and trips.

Professor Xinran Lehto  
President, ITSA  
Associate Editor, Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Research (JHTR)  
School of Hospitality and Tourism Management  
College of Health and Human Sciences  
Purdue University  
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Dear ITSA Members and Friends,

Welcome back to It’s a Newsletter (May 2019), ITSA’s quarterly bulletin and updates. I’m delighted to bring you this version that is packed with exciting ITSA news, members’ success stories and the continuous upward rising of its International Journal of Tourism Cities (IJTC).

As we welcome our new president and in line with her message (above), please help make it more interactive and engaging by sending me your ideas and suggestions and responding to our leaders’ calls for help. For example, in their joint article, Professor Alastair Morrison and Dr Andres Coca-Stefaniak illustrate that IJCT is seeking ambassadors among ITSA members to grow its visibility at international tourism conferences (p, 11). Another example, Dr James Kennell (p, 18), announces the redesign of ITSA’s website and encourages ITSA members to suggest and send input to help make the site stand out from the rest by emailing: ITSA@gre.ac.uk.

Between our new president’s message and our new social medial links at the end, there are truly exciting news and forthcoming activities that I’m sure will excite you enough to continue reading and encourage you to send us your ideas and suggestions. These include, the CFP ITSA 2019 Asia-Pacific forum (just below), ITSA RVP Profiles of Dr Hera Oktadiana (p, 7), Dr Miroslav Vujicic (p, 8), the 8th Sino-European &13Intl Conference on Tourism Development and Trend (p, 10), IJTC Co-editor update (p, 11), New IJTC Liaison Officers (p, 13), IJTC Special Issue on Terrorism in Tourism Cities (p, 15) with clickable links, regional update from New Zealand (p, 17) and the London Office update (p, 18).

You’ll see that ITSA and its members are continuing to make great impacts and progress at an unprecedented fast pace. So, as you read and relish this issue, you are cordially encouraged to forward your ideas and suggestions to be included in future editions.

Before leaving you to enjoy reading this latest version of It’s a Newsletter, I must reaffirm that it is always an honour to work with you all and wish you continuous success.

HappyGreetings from London and
Best ITSA Regards

The Editor
Khairy Eteiwy (k.eteiwy@gre.ac.uk)
PhD Candidate
Member of the Tourism Research Centre Business School
University of Greenwich, London. SE10 9LS
The 1st ITSA Asia-Pacific Tourism Symposium

Tourism and traditional landscapes: Sustainability, revitalization and resiliency

Beppu, Ōita, Japan
August 20th to 24th 2019

CALL FOR PAPERS

The aim of this symposium is to promote knowledge about traditional landscapes in urban and rural areas in Japan and around the world with focus on the role of tourism in sustaining such landscapes. It brings scholars and professionals together to share lessons learned from the communities who have sustained their traditional landscapes, as well as to discuss the challenges that communities are facing in revitalising traditional landscapes and eliminating sustainability problems.

Besides, panel discussions, several excursions will be organized that take participants to on-site workshops near Beppu. The excursions will provide the opportunity for participants to collect firsthand information and direct observation of Japanese traditional landscapes and their tourism-related businesses, and how tourism is used in Japan as an important means to protect and revitalize traditional culture and landscapes. If you are willing to attend and present at the symposium, please submit a 250 words abstract of related research before May 31st, 2019, and we will notify you before June 20th, 2019, if your work is accepted. Please send the abstract to Professor Ying Zhang. Email: zhangyingmuc@163.com

TOPICS OF INTERESTS

The submission of abstracts in the following areas is particularly encouraged:

- Rural tourism
- Sustainable tourism
- Community-based tourism
- Health and wellness tourism
- Agri-heritage tourism
- Cultural heritage tourism
- Food tourism
- Sports tourism
- Tourism at national parks and/or protected-areas
- Art and craft tourism
- Marine and coastal tourism
- Wine tourism
- Forest tourism
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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<td>Panel discussion base on excursions</td>
<td>Conclusion and</td>
<td>future planning</td>
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ON-SITE WORKSHOPS

Based on the theme of the symposium and the community capacity, the following workshops on excursions will be organized for conference participants.

Notes: 1. All workshops start at 9 a.m and finish at 4 p.m.

Workshop 2
Usa Jingu/ Futago

A case study of Futago will be analyzed. Kunisaki Peninsula is unique and famous in Japan for synchronized Buddhism and Shintoism. Temples and shrines in this region are connected and provide a case study of authentic cultural heritage resource for tourism. You can visit several sites that explain this concept.

Workshop 3
Bamboo Artist and Museum

A one day workshop about traditional heritage. Beppu city is famous for Bamboo crafting. Plenty of Bamboo forest available in form of unmanaged landscape. Chikurin: Japanese term for managed forest and participants can explore both environments.

Workshop 1
Kannawa/Myoban Area

A one day workshop to Kannawa area in Beppu city. Natural resources (mainly hot spring) for Spa and food tourism will be demonstrated in this workshop and the local community’s participation will be studied.
Hera Oktadiana’s educational qualifications cover the fields of management, hospitality and tourism. She earned her Ph.D from the School of Hotel and Tourism Management, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She also obtained CHE (Certified Hospitality Educator) from the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute. She joined James Cook University, Australia as a Visiting Scholar (tourism research) in 2017, then later as an Adjunct Senior Lecturer.

Prior to coming to Australia, and in a more administrative capacity, Hera has been the Head of Hotel Management/Hospitality and Tourism Department in two different Indonesian Universities, University of Bunda Mulia (UBM) and Bina Nusantara (BINUS) University in Jakarta, Indonesia. She was also appointed by her alma mater, Trisakti School of Tourism, to set up an international double degree program in Hotel and Tourism Management. In her early academic career, she was appointed as a lead writer and assessor for hospitality skills development, AusAID programs (Indonesia-Australia Partnership for Skills Development). Her hospitality industry experiences were gained through her work in Indonesia, the Netherlands, and Japan.

Hera has always been involved in various hospitality and tourism associations at national and international levels. She was linked closely to the hospitality and tourism organisations including PATA (education and training committee), SKAL, Association of the Indonesian Tourism Tertiary Education Institutions, Indonesian Tourism Experts Organization, and Hotel Frontliners Association. She was also in the secretariat for the International Academy for the Study of Tourism. Currently she is with the International Tourism Studies Association (ITSA) and CAUTHE.

Her research interests include tourism education and tourist behaviour, in particular Muslim tourists. Her research efforts have been published in some edited books and leading SCOPUS journals such as Annals of Tourism Research, Tourism Management Perspectives, Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research, and Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Education. She has been a reviewer for several tourism journals. She serves as an editorial board of Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research. She won Best Paper awards at CAUTHE (Australian Tourism and Hospitality conference) in 2016 in Sydney and 2019 in Cairns.
Dr Mirsolav Vujicic
RVP for Eastern Europe

Assistant professor,
Department of Geography, Tourism and Hotel Management,
University of Novi Sad, Serbia.

Dr Mirsolav Vujicic, Regional Vice President for Eastern Europe, is an assistant professor in Department of Geography, Tourism and Hotel Management, University of Novi Sad, Serbia. Recently, he has become the Vice-head of the this department. Miroslav’s main responsibilities are in the area of international projects and staff and student mobility. Some of his most recent projects are outlined below.

**Overview**

Dr Mirsolav Vujicic, Regional Vice President for Eastern Europe, is an assistant professor in Department of Geography, Tourism and Hotel Management, University of Novi Sad, Serbia. Recently, he has become the Vice-head of the this department. Miroslav’s main responsibilities are in the area of international projects and staff and student mobility. Some of his most recent projects are outlined below.

**Current Projects**

1. **Digitisation and Culture for New Generations (DiCultYouth).** Erasmus+ KA2 Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices – Strategic Partnership for youth (2018-2020), 2018-2-CY02-KA205-001362

Partners: CARDET (Cyprus), NOVEL GROUP (Luxembourg), FOUR ELEMENTS (Greece), SMOC (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad (Serbia).

DiCultYouth project aims at preparing young professionals and open new pathways to careers into the cultural sector by developing essential IT knowledge and skills required in heritage-sector careers. The project will try to enhance employability of non-degree and unemployed young people as well as young people with an educational background in humanitarian studies who wish to work in digital archiving, museums and heritage sector interpretation, curation and education i.e in the cultural heritage sector, by creating an innovative e-training module focusing
on the acquisition of basic digital skills related to the European cultural heritage. There is a need to equip a growing young workforce with skills required for the jobs of the future, not to mention re-equipping the current workforce with the skills required to keep up with a changing world.

The project aims to promote access to culture via digital means. Cultural heritage is essentially a field of infinite possibilities and in combination with the use of new technologies; culture has the potential to become an important area for increasing the economic and social objectives of Europe towards the strategy Europe 2020. The use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), so as to access the cultural heritage, is a social demand supported by the European policy makers. DiCultY outh will also actively involve young people in promoting and exploiting cultural heritage.

2. Strengthening of WB Identity by Exploiting Cultural Crossroads to Brand New Tourist Destinations (SeeCulture), Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), Support to the implementation of the RCC Triple-P Tourism in SEE: Promotion, Policy, and Pilots Grants Work Programme

Partners: SMOC (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad (Serbia), Tourism organisation of Kotor (Montenegro)

Main objective is to Contribute to sustainable cultural tourism by strengthening the Western Balkan cultural identity and touristic networks with an aim to fortify a positive image and better understanding of the region; Bench-marking of “Sarajevo Meeting of Cultures” as a point of tourist destination reference to Kotor and Novi Sad. Also project will aim to To engage in memory awareness raising activities across the WB in pursuit of sustainable cultural tourism in historic cities; To utilize the regional cultural diversity as an asset upon which authentic regional branding is strengthened; To stimulate active cooperation between tourism actors of the WB region and create synergies for product development and cultural tourism growth; To develop educational material and provide training for WB cultural tourism stakeholders; To conduct research and develop analysis for a Pilot project in Albania and Macedonia.


The main aim of the project is development of water tourism on waterways connecting Hungary and Serbia, as well as the encouragement of engagement in water tourism, investigation and popularization of the common traditions and cultural heritage of Hungary and Serbia. In addition, the exploration of the natural sources and social values of the region by the Tisza River, together with the natural and artificial waterways of the Tisza basin will be focused on within the framework of the project. Specific objective is to elaborate a joint tourism and marketing strategy and action plan for the cross-border region and formulate recommendation for the implementation of marketing activities at regional level. The project will help the stakeholders of tourism to elaborate packages of joint tourist programs and identify tourism services, all of which are built on the Tisza river connecting both nations and cultures. High attention is paid to connecting the attractions, sites and venues of two sides of the border. Complexity of WATERTOUR is granted by variety of interrelated and intertwined attractions of sport-, eco-, and cultural tourism. Starting a new tradition, this project will gain organizing the water tours, which also creates opportunities for the students of the participating universities to meet, to get acquainted and liaise with each other within the framework of jointly organized programs in the area of their specialization, partnership, culture, sport, recreation and environmental protection. The programs will contribute to enhancing the regionally integrative role of the ivers of the Hungarian Southern Great Plain region and of Vojvodina in Serbia.
The 8th Sino-European Tourism Symposium and the 13th International Conference on Tourism Development and Trend was held from March 21st to March 25th 2019 in Angers, France. The sponsors of the symposium were University of Angers (France); Ningbo University (China); National Commission for the Geography of Tourism and Leisure in France; Commission of Tourism Geography, Geographical Society of China(GSC). The event was organized by “UFR ESTHUA Tourism and Culture, University of Angers” and “Ningbo University - University of Angers Joint Institute at Ningbo University”. More than 80 experts and scholars from 6 countries and regions (China, France, Switzerland, Russia, Cyprus, Morocco) gathered in this French historical and tourist city to conduct the academic symposium around the theme of Heritage Innovation: here and there.

Keynote speakers from China included: Prof. Zhang Jie of Nanjing University, Regional Vice President for China of ITSA, Director of Commission of Tourism Geography, GSC, and Professor at Nanjing University in China; Prof. Wu Bihu of Peking University, Founding Chairperson of ITSA, Fellow of the International Academy for the Study of Tourism; Prof. Zhang Chaozhi of Sun Yat-Sen University, Fellow of International Association for China Tourism Studies, Secretary of Commission of Tourism Geography, GSC. Combining their own research fields with the current hotspots of tourism research, scholars explained their unique insights regarding heritage cognition, heritage tourism development, heritage protection and innovation, and shared their latest research outcomes.

The Angers’ International Tourism Festival was held simultaneously by local metropolis tourism administration and University of Angers. Prof. Shen Shi-wei of Ningbo Univercity and other Chinese Ph.D candidates of University of Angers shared their heritage researches on China in the Public Tourism Forum of the Festival to French residents and tourists. Prof. Zhang Guoyou, Vice-President and Secretary General of GSC acted as head of Chinese delegation, and discussed the further Sino-French geographic academic cooperation with French colleagues from the French Association of Geography during the conference. Secretary General of ISTA, Prof. Wu and Vice Chairman of ITSA, Prof. Zhang Jie discussed with University of Angers on further collaboration on tourism research and operation during the conference. Also during the conference, Prof. Zhang Jie of Nanjing University accepted the invitation from Vice President Shao Qian-Jun of Ningbo University to act as Concurrent Dean of the Joint Tourism Institute of Ningbo University-University of Angers.
The International Journal of Tourism Cities (IJTC), ITSA’s official journal, enjoyed another record-breaking year in 2018 by nearly doubling its previous year’s article downloads. In turn, 2017 also delivered a near-doubling of article downloads with respect to 2016. Given the fact that IJTC’s current SCImago ranking of SJR = 0.0502 @ Q2 is based on data from 2017, this bodes well for the journal’s new SCImago ranking, which is expected to be announced by Scopus in May as this new ranking will be based on 2018 data. China, Malaysia, Indonesia, UK and Australia (in that order) remain the countries from which most of IJTC’s downloads originate.

The journal’s editorial strategy focusing on good topics for Special Issues (SIs) edited by widely cited guest-editors is also delivering early signs of success. In 2018, the two SIs published, ranked among the top performers by article downloads over the last 3 years. These were Dark Tourism and Cities and Walking in Tourism Cities. Parallel to this, a Themed Issue on Terrorism in Tourism Cities was published at the end of 2018, and on March 30, 2019 it was also distributed as a Virtual Special Issue (see details on page 16).

Crossref citations for 2018 were three times higher than in 2017. More good news. By January 2019, IJTC had already reached almost as many Crossref citations as it did over a 12-month period in 2017. January this year also beat the number of downloads for the same month in 2018 by a margin of 36%. When compared with the same period (January) in 2017, downloads of IJTC articles are up by 250%. We are also pleased to report that manuscript submissions in 2019 so far are almost twice those for the same period in 2018.
The Editors of IJTC, Prof. Alastair Morrison (Purdue University, USA) and Assoc. Prof. Andres Coca-Stefaniak (University of Greenwich, UK) have continued to build on this success in 2019 by teaming up with members of IJTC’s editorial board and key reviewers to release several calls for papers for themed and special issues in a wide variety of topics including:

- Sharing Economy
- Overtourism
- Smart tourism destination branding and marketing
- Tourism in Indian cities
- Wellness in urban tourism destinations
- Business event tourism

IJTC’s success to date could not have been achieved without the unwavering support of the journal’s family, which includes ITSA members and officers, guest and themed issue editors, members of the Editorial Advisory and Review Boards, reviewers and authors. Moreover, ongoing work on an application for IJTC to achieve listing in the Social Sciences and Citations Index (SSCI) has attracted 17 endorsement letters and 4 videos from members of the Editorial Boards. As part of the journal’s future, and in view of helping IJTC to reach new heights in terms of its Scopus ranking as well as achieving other influential listings, it will become increasingly important for all those linked to IJTC to continue citing IJTC’s articles and editorials in their publications elsewhere. Similarly, the journal is seeking ambassadors among ITSA members to grow its visibility at international tourism conferences.

Co-Editors- in-Chief

Professor Alastair M. Morrison
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Associate Professor and Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK
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ITSA is proud of the growth and development of the International Journal of Tourism Cities (IJTC). To sustain the steady upward trajectory of the journal, many people are and will be involved including the authors, reviewers, Editorial Board, and Editors. To maintain closer relationships with IJTC’s most important stakeholders, three IJTC Liaison Officers from the Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) were appointed. These were people who had distinguished themselves through past service to IJTC and include Professor Fang Wang from Peking University in China, Dr. Vanessa Gaitree Gowreesunkar from the University of Africa Toru Orua in Nigeria, and Dr. Connie Loi from the Institute for Tourism Studies in Macao.

**Dr. Fang Wang**

Prof. Fang Wang is working as the IJTC Author Liaison Officer and is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board. She has had several articles published in the International Journal of Tourism Cities and frequently reviews manuscripts related to urban design and architecture for the journal.

Dr. Fang Wang is a Professor at the College of Architecture and Landscape, Peking University, Director of NSFC-DFG Sino-German Cooperation Group on Urbanization and Locality (UAL), and a registered urban planner. After receiving a Ph.D. in architectural design and theory from Tsinghua University, she completed her postdoctoral research in geography with a concentration in urban planning at Peking University. From 2011 to 2012, she was a visiting scholar in the landscape architecture discipline at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. She is a member of Academic Work Committee of the Urban Planning Society of China, Academic Work Committee of China Land Science Society, etc. For over a decade, Prof. Wang has conducted substantial theoretical and practical research on “Planning theory and method of locality in urban and rural areas in response to environment”. Her representative accomplishments include works on urban and rural memory, geo-architecture and landscape, and cultural landscape security pattern. Prof. Wang has published eight books and more than 100 articles. She worked as the sole author or the first editor for all six books, which were published by Springer Nature, one of the largest science and technology presses in the world. Each of the six monographs have been collected in more than 100 renowned libraries in the six continents all around the world, including in the Loeb Design Library Collection at Harvard University. She has directed two projects subsidized by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC, No. 51078003, No. 51778005), co-hosted five Sino–German Center projects (NSFC-DFG, GZ 1086, GZ 1156, GZ 1201, GZ 1457, GZ1489) jointly subsidized by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and the German Science Foundation (DFG), and piloted seven other projects that received provincial and ministry-level funding. As the team leader, she won the First Prize of the China Construction Science and Technology Award in 2017, sponsored by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of the People's Republic of China, as well as the Second Prize of the Land Resources Science and Technology Award in 2015, sponsored by the Ministry of Land and Resources of the People’s Republic of China.
Dr. Vanessa Gaitree Gowreesunkar serves as the IJTC Editorial Board Liaison Officer and is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the International Journal of Tourism Cities.

Dr. Vanessa Gaitree Gowreesunkar is from the island of Mauritius and she presently works as Senior Lecturer at the University of Africa Toru Orua (Bayelsa State, Nigeria - www.uat.edu.ng), where she heads the Department of Hospitality and Tourism. She holds a Ph.D. Degree in the field of tourism management and communication and her doctoral study was a merit-based scholarship by the Government of Mauritius. Dr. Gowreesunkar was also a Gold Medalist for her first degree in Tourism and Hospitality Management and was awarded a second scholarship by the University Grants Commission (India) to pursue her study at the Delhi University. She has over a decade of teaching experience in a number of international universities/educational institutions and is invited in various global conferences and fora to intervene as panelist, keynote speaker and moderator. From a community-based perspective, Dr. Gowreesunkar assumes the role of President at the African Network for Policy, Research and Advocacy for Sustainability (ANPRAS), a regional Non-Governmental Organisation affiliated with the African Union (AU). She also serves as National Coordinator for WAELE (Women Advancement for Economic and Leadership Empowerment - www.waelearcelfa.org), an international organisation which caters for the cause of women, widows and young girls.

Dr. Connie Loi joined IJTC as a reviewer and Editorial Review Board member in 2015. “Recently I am very honoured to be appointed as IJTC Reviewer Liaison and Editorial Advisory Board member. As the IJTC Reviewer Liaison Officer, my main tasks are to send touchbase emails to reviewers regularly; issue reviewer certificates of recognitions every year as well as extending submission/review invitations. The IJTC reviewer network has been growing at a desirable rate and all reviewers have been actively contributing that I just sent out 180 certificates of recognitions to our reviewers, a very encouraging number and a good indicator of IJTC being a rigorous resource trusted by the academia.”

Dr. Connie Loi is the Academic Coordinator at the Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao (IFT). After obtaining her Higher Diploma in Hotel Management and Bachelor in Tourism Business Management from IFT, she pursued Master of Science in Financial Management from University of London and eventually obtained her Ph.D. in Tourism from James Cook University in Australia. Dr. Loi’s research interests include hotel guest satisfaction, destination marketing, tourist behavior, tourism product management etc. She frequently publishes her works in various international journals and conference proceedings.
SPECIAL ISSUE: TERRORISM IN TOURISM CITIES

Editors Assoc. Prof. J. Andres Coca-Stefaniak and Prof. Alastair M. Morrison draw your attention to some recent articles focusing on the impact of terrorism, fake news and similar crisis events on the brand, reputation and visitors’ experience in urban tourism destinations.

City tourism destinations and terrorism – a worrying trend for now, but could it get worse?

J. Andres Coca-Stefaniak and Alastair M. Morrison (2018)
This editorial provides a critical overview of this journal’s first themed issue on terrorism in tourism cities. The editorial outlines briefly some of the existing knowledge in this field and identifies a key knowledge gap with regard to our understanding of the longer term impacts of terrorism on the resilience of tourism destination brands, their overall competitiveness in the global tourism market and their attractiveness to major international investors.

Plan for the worst, hope for the best? Exploring major events related terrorism and future challenges for UK event professionals

Daniel Baxter, Jenny Flinn, Lucrezia Flurina Picco (2018)
The purpose of this article is to investigate major event related terrorism and the resulting challenges that event professionals may face when hosting major events in cities as part of a destination marketing strategy. The study identifies three challenges faced by event professionals when organising major events: knowledge and understanding in relation to major event related terrorism; the impact of major event related terrorism in terms of responsibility and accountability; and managing for major event related terrorism in budgetary terms.

Peacefulness at home: impacts on international travel

Claudia Seabra, Elisabeth Kastenholz, Jose Luis Abrantes, Manuel Reis (2018)
The purpose of this article is to analyse the impact of peacefulness in the tourists’ country of origin in their main decisions and behaviours when traveling internationally. The article argues that travel safety is a critical issue to most tourists, while the peacefulness level of travellers’ country of origin is an important key factor for understanding different travel behaviours and safety perceptions held when going on an international trip.
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**The German source market perceptions: how risky is Turkey to travel to?**

*Rami Isaac and Vanessa Velden (2018)*

This is the first study to examine the influence of terrorism on risk perception and attitudes of the German travel behavior toward Turkey and their risk reduction strategies/preventive measures. The findings of the study revealed a low safety perception among tourists towards Turkey as a tourism destination.

**The fear of terrorism and shift in cosmopolitan values**

*Vanda Vereb, Helena Nobre and Minoo Farhangmehr (2018)*

This article investigates how international tourists’ cosmopolitan values change due to the restraining fear of terrorism, and how this change affects their worldview, destination perception and travel preferences. The study offers cues on how managers and policy makers can enhance destination image that keeps up with the current realities of global tourism in the face of terrorism.

**The narrative rhythm of terror: a study of the Stockholm terrorist attack and the “Last Night in Sweden” event**

*Cecilia Cassinger, Jorgen Eksell, Maria Mansson and Ola Thufvesson (2018)*

This article examines how the mediatisation of terror attacks affects the brand image of tourism cities. This study offers new knowledge on the mediatisation of city space on digital media platforms in a post-truth world.

**Destinations’ response to terrorism on Twitter**

*Danielle Barbe, Losi Pennington-Gray, and Ashley Schroeder (2018)*

This article improves understanding of the online communication strategies used by destination management organizations (DMOs) during a terrorist attack. In particular, this study analyses Twitter use during seven terrorism incidents in six European cities (Paris, Brussels, Nice, Berlin, London and Barcelona) between 2015 and 2017.
Dr Claire Liu has recently published a book – Tourism Education and Asia with her co-editor Dr Heike Schänzel from Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand. This Springer book presents various aspects of tourism education in Asian countries and the impacts of sustainable development in tourism education to the Asian student markets. It provides an insightful and authoritative account of the various issues that are shaping the high educational world of tourism education in Asia and for its Asian students overseas.

Dr Claire Liu has been appointed as the New Zealand Country Consultant for the APacCHRIE Board and she is attending the 2019 APacCHRIE & EuroCHRIE Joint Conference (22-25 May 2019) in Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

The School of Hospitality and Tourism at Auckland University of Technology is hosting the 2020 CAUTHE Conference (10-13 February 2020). This is the first time this successful academic and industry based conference will be held in Auckland, New Zealand.

Dr. Claire Liu
Head of Department of Tourism and Events, School of Hospitality and Tourism, Auckland University of Technology (AUT)
The team in ITSA’s London Office have been very busy over the last few months. The first big project that they have been working on, which some of you will already know about, has been the overhaul of the ITSA membership payment system. An online shop has been launched for membership, which you can view by clicking the link at http://intltourismstudies.com/join-itsa/

This new online shop will make the process of applying for, and renewing ITSA membership much more simple, with facilities to pay by credit or debit card, instead of the old system of issuing invoices.

The second project, which is taking place at the moment, is the redesign of ITSA’s website. Our website is full of content, but it is very much in need of a refresh to make it more useful for our members, and to make everything about ITSA easier to find online. This is a project that we hope to complete in the next month or so and we’d love to have more input from our members to help us. If you think that there is anything we should include on the site, or if you have any opinions about how it should work, please just email us at ITSA@gre.ac.uk.

Finally, ITSA members in London are busy supporting the 28th Council for Hospitality Management Education conference, which is being hosted by the Tourism Research Centre at the University of Greenwich, from 21st-25th May. ITSA London Office members have been involved on the scientific committee and in organising parts of the event. Associate Professor Andres Coca-Stefaniak, the Co-Editor in Chief of ITSA’s journal, the International Journal of Tourism Cities, will also be one of the keynote speakers at the conference.

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The official journal of ITSA

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF TOURISM CITIES

AIMS & SCOPE

A peer-reviewed journal, the International Journal of Tourism Cities provides an international forum for the critical study of urban tourism and tourism cities. The journal aims to be inter-disciplinary in its appreciation of tourism cities and tourism in urban areas, and welcomes original, theoretically-informed articles from those involved in the planning, management or marketing of tourism in city destination or places adjoining urban areas.

Urban tourism and travel cover many disciplines and impinge on numerous aspects of daily life within cities. Moreover, they play a key role in domestic and international tourism in most countries, and cities often function as key travel gateways and tourism destinations.

The International Journal of Tourism Cities contents include primary research articles, expert discussions on current urban tourism issues, and tourism city case studies. Articles are selected that are relevant to both academics and practitioners. The journal particularly encourages contributions on contemporary topics and issues in urban tourism including smart cities and tourism, environmental impact and sustainable tourism development in cities, citizen and stakeholder involvement in tourism, city destination governance, and the development of policies and standards for city tourism development.

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