

# **SIEF Working Group “Place Wisdom” Business Meeting**

**SIEF Santiago de Compostela 2019**

**Time: Monday 15th April 2019 at 13:00-15:00**

**Locations: Faculty of Economics and Business Administration (main venue), Aula 22**

## **Participants:**

Catherine (Cait) McCullagh

Heriot-Watt University, CoHERE project, Doctoral Thesis

Rūta Muktupāvela

Latvian Academy of Culture, CoHERE project

Valdis Muktupāvels

University of Latvia, CoHere project

Sandro Simon

University of Cologne, DELTA project

Kirsi Laurén

University of Eastern Finland, Mire trend project

Katerina Zäch

University of Friburg, Doctoral Thesis (A Water as a Lived Reality)

Cliona O'Carroll

University College, Cork, interests e.g. embodied interaction, place

Hannah Bradley

Princeton University, interests e.g. placemaking, landscape, water, tide

Helena Ruotsala

University of Turku, see the panel (2a below)

Katriina Siivonen

University of Turku, Forestscape, Waterscapes

## **Minutes**

### **1. Appointment of note-taker for the meeting**

Co-chair Katriina Siivonen

### **2. Report on activities since SIEF Göttingen 2017**

Members of ‘Place Wisdom’ have continued to work on two themes:

- “Waterscapes” led by Prof. Ullrich Kockel (Heriot-Watt university, Edinburgh)
- “Scales of Home in Today’s Europe” (<http://www.scalesofhome.eu/>) led by Dr Stella Butter (Universität Koblenz, Landau, Germany) and Dr Nourit Melcer-Padon (Hebrew University)

As a new theme was established in March 2019:

- “Forescape” led by Adj. prof., PhD Katriina Siivonen

A defining characteristic of a ‘waterscape’ – in contrast to a ‘landscape’ – perspective is the absence of any firm, stable vantage point for the narrative. The aim is better to understand fluctuating developments by looking at them quasi “from the inside” through a range of local lenses. For

current PhD projects, see for example: <http://irc.hw.ac.uk/research/jws2015.html> and <http://irc.hw.ac.uk/research/sgsah-arcs.html>.

The research project Scales of Home in today's Europe concentrates on how scales of home are imagined and socially constructed in Europe since the 1990s. For further information, please visit our website: [www.scalesofhome.eu](http://www.scalesofhome.eu).

“Forestscape” is a research network for researchers working on Human-Forest Relationship in different contexts. One central theme for the network is to work with and understand different forms of cultural sustainability and the role of cultural heritage in relation to it.

#### **a. Conferences etc.**

Unlike other WGs, the focus of Working Group Place Wisdom has not been on inter-congress conferences but on the development of collaborative research themes.

Research team groups have had several meetings and workshops since SIEF conference in Göttingen 2017.

- SIEF2019: Panel ”Traces of Tourism: global changes, local impacts? From sustainability to resilience”, WG member Helena Ruotsala (University of Turku) one of convenors.

Related to the theme “Waterscapes”:

- SIEF2019: Roundtable “Volatile waters, improvised worlds: hydrosocial transformations and the making of orderly flows”, new WG member Sandro Simon (University of Cologne) one of presenters and a member of the organising Delta-group

The team group “Scales of Home in Today's Europe”:

- SIEF 2019: Panel ”Cuteness: forms, politics, transformations, WG members Nourit Melcer Padon (Hebrew University, Jerusalem) and Zuzanna Bulat Silva (University of Wrocław) as convenors.
- International Symposium "Challenging Comfort as an Idea(l) in Contemporary Literature and Culture" at the University of Koblenz-Landau, Campus Landau, 8. Dec. 2018, WP members Dorothee Birke and Stella Butter as conference organisers.

#### **b. Publications (selection)**

WG didn't publish any common publications.

Publications of the team group “Waterscape”:

- Siivonen, Katriina (2018) Sustainable everyday culture from global archipelago culture. In Birkeland, Inger & Burton, Rob & Parra, Constanza & Siivonen, Katriina (ed. by), Cultural Sustainability and the Nature-Culture interface. Livelihoods, Policies, and Methodologies. London: Routledge, p. 19–34.
- Kouri, Jaana (2017) Vesi kuljettaa ääntä. Autoetnografinen tutkimus Lyyrtyrtilän kylän historian tuottamisesta. Dissertation. Turun yliopiston julkaisusarja C, 438. Turku: Turun yliopisto.

### **c. Grant applications**

Funded projects as a part of the research theme "Waterscapes":

- Research project "Living with the Baltic Sea in a changing climate: Environmental heritage and the circulation of knowledge", Tiina and Antti Herlin Foundation (2018-2019) and The Academy of Finland (2018-2022), WP member PhD Jaana Kouri as postdoc researcher, Åbo Akademi University, Finland
- Research project CoHERE, European Union Horizon 2020 (2016-2019), WG Members Prof., Dr. Rūta Muktupāvela and Prof., Dr. Ullrich Kockel as WP leaders, in partnership with Newcastle University (PI), Heriot-Watt University and the Latvian Academy of Culture.

### **d. Other activities**

Non.

## **3. Plans for 2019-21**

Unlike other WGs, the focus of Working Group Place Wisdom has not been on inter-congress conferences but on the development of collaborative research themes.

The Group aims to establish a repository of multi-media, ethnographically-inflected records relating to understandings of place that contest conventional divisions between culture and nature. Members of 'Place Wisdom' have been working on themes "Waterscapes", "Scales of Home in Today's Europe", "Sacred Places/ Routes", and as an upcoming theme "Forestscape".

The research agenda of the working group is situated at the interface of human ecology, geography, anthropology, art, archaeology, performance studies, literature, linguistics, futures research and philosophy.

We are very keen for this Working Group to develop an active research programme, and to engage with research users outside academia. To this end we encourage collaborative international research projects with the potential to attract significant financial support, and have already initiated a number of bids to different research funding bodies.

### **a. Conferences etc.**

The Group will continue with the focus of Working Group Place Wisdom to organize meetings and seminars to support the development of collaborative research themes.

- Meeting of research themes "Waterscapes" and "Forestscape" to develop the concept Heritage Futures for sustainable development in context of the International Futures Conference "Constructing Social Futures – sustainability, responsibility and power" organised by the Finland Futures Research Centre and Finland Futures Academy, University of Turku, to be held 12-13 June 2019. WG member Prof. Ullrich Kockel's keynote lecture "Heritage Futures, Tradition, Gain, Sustainability" in the conference, WG member Adj. Prof., PhD Katriina Siivonen in the Advisory Board of the conference.

## **b. Publications**

The Group will continue to publish under the of collaborative research themes of Working Group of Place Wisdom.

- A book project on the theme “Waterscape” at University of Turku, WG member PhD Jaana Kouri as one of editors, WG member Adj. Prof., PhD Katriina Siivonen one of authors.

## **c. Grant applications**

The group aims to initiate collaborative research projects under the WG research themes.

- Research Proposal “COASTER –Cultural heritage of European coastal and maritime regions”, European Commission H2020, WG members Prof. Ullrich Kockel (Heriott-Watt University, Edinburgh) as PI and Adj. Prof., PhD Katriina Siivonen (University of Turku) as WP Leader, work to be continued (first proposal on the reserve list, rejected 22. Jan. 2019).

## **d. Other activities**

- Folkoratorio *Rivers of our Being* was created as a creative research by practice output as part of the CoHERE project (see 2.c.). *Rivers of our Being* proposes a celebration of the diversity of European musical traditions: taking its inspiration from the rivers of Europe, the piece invites audiences to have a unique auditory journey across different European musical traditions. The composer is WG member Valdis Muktupāvels. Will be published in October 2019 in Riga in the context of the Cultural Crossroads conference.
- The research group Delta at University of Cologne is developing activities related to the research theme “Waterscape”, which they will announce also to EASA network as an “Environmental anthropology” –workshop. <https://delta.phil-fak.uni-koeln.de/>
- Possibilities for webinars and chatting e.g. in Slack will be investigated.

## **4. Review of operation (ref: 2014 Statutes)**

### **a. Mission/vision of the group**

Please see 3. Plans for 2019-2021 and the attached poster of the WG on Place Wisdom.

### **b. Membership**

Currently the Place Wisdom Working Group has 50 members who comes from multiple universities from different parts of Europe.

The Place Wisdom Working Group was founded in 2008 by colleagues associated with the Academy for Irish Cultural Heritages (University of Ulster), the Ethnological Research Unit (UWE Bristol), and the Centre for Human Ecology (University of Strathclyde).

### **c. Web presence**

<https://www.siefhome.org/wg/wis/index.shtml>

A fair presentation of publications and events on the WG web pages will be examined.

**5. Election of at least two co-chairs and a secretary (who can be one of the co-chairs) for 2019-21**

Dr. Stella Butter and Adj. Prof. Katriina Siivonen accepted nomination as Co-Chairs in SIEF2015 Zagreb and SIEF2017 Göttingen. WG elected Prof. Dr. Stella Butter and Adj. Prof., PhD Katriina Siivonen to continue their third period as co-chairs for the years 2019-2021.