

Naturecultures Dialogues

ISCCL

ICOMOS IFLA - INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

ICOMOS IFLA - COMITÉ SCIENTIFIQUE INTERNATIONAL DES PAYSAGES CULTURELS

ICOMOS IFLA - COMITÉ CIENTIFICO INTERNACIONAL DE PAISAJES CULTURALES

ISCCL Working Group on Naturecultures Integration

Steve Brown (Australia)
(Co-convener)

Nupur Prothi (India)
(Co-convener)

Fran Han (China)
(Co-convener)

Marike Franklin (South Africa)
(Dialogues-convener)

Members

Alicia Cahn (Argentina)
Ana Bajcura (Argentina)
Ave Paulus (Estonia)
Asa Ahrland (Sweden)
Anna Gaynutdinova (Russia) EP
Bansal Suramya (India) EP
Bartolomayo Tomeudet (Spain)
Brent Mitchell (USA)
Brenda Barrett (USA)
Cari Goetcheus (USA)
Caroline Grant (Australia)
Cira Szklowin (Argentina)
Darwina Neal (USA)
Diane Menzies (New Zealand)
Fran Han (China)
Gabriel Caballero(Singapore) EP
Greg de Vries (USA)
Gul Akturk (Turkey) EP
Gwenaelle Bourdin (France)
Irene Curulli (The Netherlands)
Jane Lennon (Australia)
Jessica Brown (USA)
Je-Hun Ryu (Korea)
Jon Weller (Canada)
Juan Mira Rico (Spain)
Kerstin Manz (Germany)
Kristal Buckley (Australia)
Liana Jansen (South Africa)
Lionella Scazzosi (Italy)
Liz Morgan (Ireland)
Marike Franklin (South Africa)
Maya Ishizawa (Peru)
Mary Laheen (Ireland)
Menno Welling (The Netherlands)
Mikiko Ishikawa (Japan)
Monica Luengo (France)
Nicole Bolomey (Switzerland)
Nicole Franceschini (Italy)
Nora Mitchell (USA)
Nancy Pollock Ellwand (Canada)
Nupur Prothi (India)
Patricia O'Donnell (USA)
Pippa Pemberton(UK)
Priyanka Singh (India) EP
Raffaella Laviscio (Italy)
Rouran Zang (China)
Robert Melnick (USA)
Saranya Karunanithi (India) EP
Steve Brown (Australia)
Bartholomeu Deya (Spain)

Guests /Affiliated members

Aurelie Fernandez (France) FAO-GIAHS
Archer Harvey St Clair (USA) EP
Carlo Ossola (Switzerland) IUCN
Helen Wilson (Australia) ICOMOS Australia
Jue Wang (China) EPWG ICOMOS
Kate Lim (Phillippines) EP
Ken Taylor (Australia) ICOMOS Australia
Leticia Leitao (Portugal) IUCN
Meetali Gupta (India) EPWG ICOMOS
Monalisa Maharjan (Nepal) EPWG ICOMOS
Nobuko Inaba (Japan) ICOMOS Japan
Paul Jurcys (Lithuania) EPWG ICOMOS
Rohit Jigyasu (India) ICCROM
Sanaa Niar (Algeria) EPWG ICOMOS
Supitcha Sutthanonkul (Thailand) EPWG ICOMOS
Tim Badman (UK) IUCN

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Naturecultures Dialogue Series - August 2019 -October 2020

10 dialogues

An overview

Our 'talk and discuss' meetings of the International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes (ISCCL) Working Group on naturecultures Integration followed the structure of 20-minute presentations, after which there was an informal discussion. Six months into the series, the format changed to include multiple presenters as a panel discussion within the session itself, and presentations that were pre-circulated. Individuals from all over the world dialled in at various (often awkward) times of the day. Sessions were set up so that individuals would be able to easily attend every second meeting and alternated between 1pm and 10pm GMT timeslots. We found these to be productive sessions that certainly got our minds thinking about some of the points discussed. After these meetings, follow-up emails were shared by attendees of the meeting, allowing for further discussion of the topic for about a week. A Summary of the session, the follow-up discussion, and a recording of the talk were emailed to the Working Group. Talks were further circulated by Brenda Barrett in her newsletter: The *Living Landscapes Observer.* The summary below reflects some of the main arguments towards Naturecultures integration. They follow the chronology of the talks over the last twelve months, and include main discussion points from the session in italics.



Dades Valley, Marocco. Photo by Marike Franklin, 2019

Forward and background

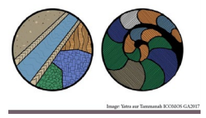
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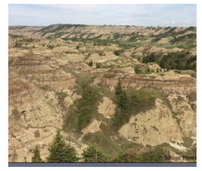
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Forward and background

We are delighted to present this booklet summarising the topics and content of a series of Culture-Nature dialogues (or webinars) undertaken between August 2019 and October 2020. The sessions were initiated and hosted by the ISCCL Working Group on naturecultures Integration. We use the conjoined noun naturecultures to recognise that human, non-human, more-than-human (e.g., spirits, creation ancestors, divinities), natural environments, and landscape are intimately bound (that is, interconnected and entangled).

The ISCCL (International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes) is a 'hybrid' committee comprising members from ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) and IFLA (International Federation of Landscape Architects). ICOMOS is a global, non-governmental organisation, established in 1965. ICOMOS works for the conservation and protection of cultural heritage places; and is dedicated to promoting the application of theory, methods, and scientific techniques to the conservation of heritage places and landscapes. The organisation has about 11,000 members, 300 institutional members, 110 National Committees, 28 International Scientific Committees, and six Working Groups. IFLA is a professional organisation which represents the landscape architecture practice globally.

Steve Brown (Australia) and Fran Han (China) established the ISCCL Working Group on naturecultures Integration in 2014 with a focus on supporting the then work of the ICOMOS-IUCN (International Union for Nature Conservation) Connecting Practice[1] project. Today, the Working Group is concerned with understanding different worldviews, how these worldviews conceptualise naturecultures, and the way these influence the understandings, care, and safeguarding of cultural landscapes. The objectives of the Working Group are:

(1) Strengthen existing relationships with individuals, ICOMOS groups (International Scientific Committees, National Committees, Working Groups), and other organisations (IUCN, ICCROM) with a commitment to naturecultures integration

(2) Participate in conferences, virtual meetings, and webinars in order to advocate for improved naturecultures integration in caring for and safeguarding significant cultural landscapes.

At the June 2019 ISCCL Annual Meeting in Dublin, Ireland, Marike Franklin (South Africa) proposed having monthly meetings to continue the dialogue between members of the Working Group. Subsequently, Marike and Steve Brown developed a proposal for a dialogue series, and commenced the dialogue sessions in August 2019. Marike coordinated and implemented the sessions, archiving materials from them, with the support of the co-moderators – Maya Ishizawa (Peru) and Nupur Prothi (India) – and the many presenters of these sessions. Following the delivery of the naturecultures series, Irene Curulli (Netherlands) volunteered to prepare a summary document of the dialogues for the purpose of making the discussions and materials available to a wider audience. This booklet is the product of that work. We are delighted to 'launch' this freely available publication in this 50th anniversary year of the ICOMOS-IFLA International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes.

Steve Brown, Marike Franklin, Nupur Prothi,
Maya Ishizawa, and Irene Curulli

July 2021

[1] *See 'Connecting Practice' to: https://www.iucn.org/theme/world-heritage/our-work/global-world-heritage-projects/connecting-nature-and-culture*

Dialogue 01

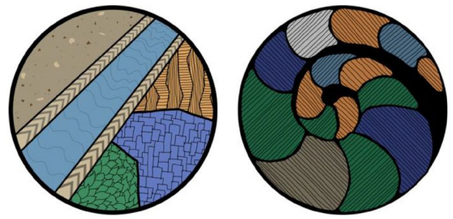


Image: Yatra aur Tammanah ICOMOS GA2017

Nature-Culture Journeys: where have we been, where are we going?

Steve Brown

In the first talk, Steve Brown provided a brief background to the history of the separation of nature and culture in 'Western' thinking and philosophy, starting in the late 18th century. He also provided an overview of the IUCN-ICOMOS Nature-Culture/Culture-Nature Journeys (NCJ). He summarized information from the ICOMOS 2019 Scientific Symposium in Marrakesh (Oct 2019) and outlined future proposed work associated with the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Marseilles (June 2020) and the ICOMOS 20th General Assembly and Scientific Symposium in Sydney (GA2020; 5-9 October 2020) – although both latter meetings were cancelled due to the COVID pandemic. Steve noted that the Sydney Symposium was to be a significant milestone in reflecting on the NCJ's achievements and outcomes to date - and for setting future directions.

There seemed to be support for working toward the development of some kind of principles document on naturecultures (Steve Brown circulated the IUCN WCC session proposal that was developed with Jessica Brown, and Nora Mitchell). A similar session proposal was subsequently submitted to the ICOMOS GA2020 Culture-Nature Journey (Sydney, Australia; 1-10 October 2020). Again, because of COVID, these events did not take place.

In the discussion, Fran Han expressed her concern at the growing take up of the term 'wilderness' (a powerful example of seeing nature as separate to culture) in contemporary China - a country where culture and nature are traditionally connected. Many countries draw in the 'wilderness' myth in protected area conservation practice, and there are many references to the challenges that it raises (from Jane Lennon, Nora Mitchell and Brenda Barrett, for example). How might this be countered? Fran Han expressed concern for the forthcoming World Wilderness Congress to be held in India, 2020.

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Dialogue 02



Images by provided by Rouran Zhang

Feel for Cultural Landscape: Discourses from Heritage Stakeholders

Rouran Zang

Rouran Zang presented a case study of the West Lake Cultural Landscape of Hangzhou in China. It explored the domestic tourists' and local residents' responses to 'official' discourses about the meaning of world heritage, cultural landscape, and its relevant 'outstanding universal value' in a Chinese context. Rouran successfully conveyed the value of interviews with locals and tourists to explore perceptions of the heritage landscape. The presentation challenged the view that local people and tourists do not engage deeply with heritage places and their values.

The discussion highlighted interesting differences between Eastern and Western worldviews, and the way heritage was evaluated at West Lake. In particular, a difference in views of the landscape and the inclusion of the tea plantations to the West Lake nomination site. The readings included references to environmental philosophy as highlighted by Fran Han in the previous discussion.

The 'oneness' of the Chinese culture to nature, and the effect that ineffective management had on the integrity of the West Lake before it was re-conceptualised under the World Heritage category of a cultural landscape, and therefore is not a static entity. In the interviews, new development was a valued element within the cultural landscape for local people and tourists.

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Dialogue 03



The nature of our DNA:

A discussion on the Nature Culture Journey of ICOMOS and IUCN

Diane Menzies

Diane Menzies outlined the Maori understanding of landscape, and ended in three simple arguments. Nupur described the explanation as a 'simple, straightforward and thought provoking', and reminded us how important it is 'to get back to the basics and seek simple solutions' – directions that could be led by Indigenous ways of knowing. It is no coincidence that the first Statement of Commitment (Mālama Honua – to care for our island Earth) from the participants of the IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2016 came from Hawaii, a place with a strong Indigenous community. The Statement calls for working together on integrating nature and culture to address the urgent global challenges we face. Indigenous people understand themselves as part of land and nature; and, as Diane stated, it is in our DNA. For Indigenous people, this is a journey we/they have always taken. European cultural constructs have perceived the world (nature, land, soils, animals) as separate, and thus culture as part of the people who oversee nature and its 'resources'. This is a particular problem in any profession, where European cultural constructs were absorbed without recognising and interrogating their cultural source. An extract from a small charity, a Maori-led publication on the whenua/landscape reads: 'we are woven into the fabric of nature and to know our place is to live harmoniously with our seniors who are mountains, oceans, rivers, forest, and the earth.' Diane suggests that we adopt the braiding or weaving analogy on our Naturecultures journey. While there is plenty that Indigenous knowledge can share in this journey, we need to take all cultures along with generosity of spirit- in order that more perceptive and innovative ways are found to address issues of population growth, pollution and climate change.

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Dialogue 04



Capacity Building on Nature-Culture Linkages

Maya Ishizawa

Maya Ishizawa talked about the experimental capacity building programme developed by the UNESCO Chair on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation at the University of Tsukuba, Japan for young and mid-career heritage professionals from Asia and the Pacific region. The aim of the programme was to bring together practitioners from both natural and cultural heritage sectors to discuss about the interlinkages between natural and cultural values and the issues of managing these separately at the landscapes where they were working, either as managers, researchers, or community members. The programme promoted a holistic approach to landscape conservation with the cooperation of ICCROM, IUCN, ICOMOS and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

Maya pointed at the questions the programme addressed such as how to integrate holistic approaches to international and national legal systems for heritage protection, as well as to find out what would be the skills needed by practitioners to work under a nature-culture approach.

Maya and her colleagues looked at comparing different systems of protection and shared the example of *satoyama* and *satoumi* as a Japanese understanding of heritage places where the division between nature and culture is not strict. Moreover, Maya explained how they explored the Japanese conservation system where the administrative divisions are clear but the typologies and categories of heritage interlink natural and cultural values.

Maya shared the lessons that they've learnt and formulated some principles that could be helpful to work in the nature-culture dialogue:

1. Principle of identity (to understand where you are coming from)
2. Principle of openness (to be open to others' understandings)
3. Principle of understanding local institutions (and their evolution within heritage management systems)
4. Principle of naturecultures place-specificity (for interventions and management arrangements)
5. Principle of respect to local naturescultures (as a heritage practitioner).

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Dialogue 05



Managing culture-nature and nature-culture in the landscape

Jane Lennon

Jane Lennon's context in Australia was reflected in her talk on the devastating effects of the wildfires of 2019-2020 and the 'absolute loss' that was experienced. Jane's experience in the management, planning and implementation of two case studies (Lake Victoria and Landcare) raise the issue of actually achieving ongoing conservation of landscapes and all of their attributes through integrated management. Jane questions whether our seemingly well-known principles that are captured within the various documents are adequate. Jane combined these various principles and guidelines, "The World Heritage Cultural Landscapes Handbook 2009", and the "ICOMOS-IFLA World Rural Landscapes Principles" ratified by ICOMOS and IFLA in 2017, into a single document. Both of these doctrinal texts follow principles set out in the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter's process of identification, assessment of significance, policies for conservation, action plans, monitoring, implementation and presentation of results. These principles were also applied in Jane's case studies, but she noted that they are less relevant in situations of land abandoned for socio-economic reasons or natural disasters. In her experience, limitations arise when joint funding ceases, or only one set of problems is targeted, rather than considering impacts across entire landscapes.

The 2015 IUCN paper, "Protected Area Governance and Management", discussed management using a different framework based on approaches for contemporary cultural practices. A new exemplar would emphasise human integration and embeddedness within a continuing co-adaptive ecological reality – a "braided" approach (as described by Diane Menzies), rather than maintaining the hyper-separated nature paradigm of 'altered' versus 'pristine'. In Jane's view, authenticity and integrity have been narrowly assessed, based on historical narratives of change, whereas a braided, looped, evolutionary framework across temporal and spatial scales offers a means of understanding not only change, but also continuity, in the rural landscape as habitat.

Click here for extra info

Dialogue 06



In Conserving Common Ground

Jon Weller

Jon Weller's thesis "In Conserving Common Ground - Integrating Natural and Cultural Heritage Conservation in Alberta's Protected Areas" looks at protected areas as potential areas where the relationship between nature and culture plays out, and how protected areas can also be managed for personal and collective transformation. During the conversation, he highlighted a few points that could be considered as starting points for ensuring that protected area agencies take the responsibility for managing the cultural elements of the landscape seriously as part of the management of protected areas. But the question remains unanswered; what more needs to be in place? Overall, his research aims to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and develop recommendations, tools, and resources to support more effective cultural heritage conservation in parks and protected areas. The intention of this session was to explore how parks and protected areas are incorporating cultural resource conservation into their work through collaborative and interdisciplinary initiatives, to identify areas for further research, and explore ways to enhance these efforts.

Jon Weller listed seven points to consider as the starting point for ensuring that protected area agencies take the responsibility for managing the cultural elements of the landscape seriously during the management of protected areas. These points are:

1. Clear Legislation
2. Strategic Policy and Operating Procedures
3. Terminology
4. Dedicated staffing
5. Agency-wide training
6. Management Planning
7. Policy guidelines for addressing Indigenous Cultural Heritage

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Dialogue 07



The theory of natureculture integration

Je-Hun Ryu and Fran Han

Bridging nature-culture dualisms in the conservation circles: A Perspective from cultural landscape

Since 1992, those landscapes, which were thought to have outstanding universal value in terms of interaction between people and their natural environment, have been protected as World Heritage Cultural Landscapes. However, even if the term cultural landscape is now widely circulated internationally, its use in Asia still presents problems. There is a need to look closely at regional values and their inextricable connection to the continuing process of landscape creation in Asia. Je-Hun Ryu reviewed "the rise of cultural landscape" as a means of bridging the nature-culture dualism in the conservation circle, while drawing an example from my research experience in an area called Wando Archipelago in Korea. Then, to conclude, he proposed several theoretical issues to be considered in recognizing and protecting the values of cultural landscapes within the Asian context. Theoretical issues to be proposed for the discussion was the following: cultural ecology, environmental aesthetics, landscape as a way of seeing, and landscape phenomenology.

Cross-cultural confusion

Fran Han's presentation aimed to explore the root of the debates in the field culture-nature related conservation from environmental philosophical perspective. Five value-based central questions of environmental philosophy were interpreted and the philosophical and religious root of the dichotomy of culture and nature in the West were explored. The Chinese traditional philosophy of Oneness with Nature provided an eastern perspective of culture-nature relationship and to understand the human-nature intertwined Chinese landscapes. The presentation called for the awareness and understanding of the intrinsic and instrumental value of nature, and learning from each other through multi-cultural dialogue in naturecultures journey.

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Dialogue 08



Connecting Practice

Gwenaëlle Bourdin, Leticia Leitão, Carlo Ossola, and Nupur Prothi Khanna

Since 2013, ICOMOS and IUCN have been conducting 'Connecting Practice' – a joint project aimed at developing new methods and conservation strategies that recognize and sustain the interconnected character of the natural, cultural, and social values of World Heritage sites. A short-term goal of the project is to develop practical strategies for a more integrated conservation approach and to improve coordination and deepen collaboration between cultural and natural sectors to achieve better conservation outcomes. In the longer term, the more ambitious goal is to gain a deeper understanding of interconnections of culture and nature and influence shifts in the conceptual and practical approaches for values assessment, governance and management within the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and beyond. This approach is intended to "bridge the divide" that is often observed between natural and cultural heritage, thus, overcoming the many unintended adverse outcomes that can result.

This collaborative project is designed to learn from current practice by having interdisciplinary project teams work directly with staff and partners from World Heritage sites that illustrate the inter-linkage of cultural and natural heritage. In this dialogue session, four professionals shared their experience and lessons learned from their involvement in the Connecting Practice project. They also reflected on shifts in their own perspective and their observations on recent changes in conservation practice. The dialogue described recent innovations in practice and reflections on lessons from each panel member's own experience with conservation of places rich in naturecultures values.

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Dialogue 09


Image: Mary Laheen

Rural Landscapes and Integrated Management

Brenda Barret, Jessica Brown and Mary Laheen

Maya Ishizawa, the moderator for this session, summarised the presentations as follows: “Your presentations illustrate very clearly how in rural landscapes, the interlinkages between nature and culture are evident. Jessica and Brenda have given an overview of different systems and initiatives which, at international and national levels, recognize a heritage value to rural landscapes, as these are fundamental for food security, biodiversity conservation and cultural continuity. Mary has illustrated these important values of rural landscapes with an example from a traditional farming system in Ireland, where communities see the landscape in a more holistic way, and which is resilient to the passing of time and socio-economic changes.” As a start to the dialogue, we went back to the presenters’ own personal journey through the nature-culture divide in their work on rural landscapes.

The discussion for this session was dynamic. Monica Luengo commented that: “It was 2009-2010 when we began, thanks to your clever insistence Lionella Scazzosi’s with the Rural Landscapes Initiative. I must say that at that moment there was not much interest in ICOMOS (except for ISCCL) for the subject. It only took 10 years to make our organization believe it was something to take into account as cultural heritage!”

The presentations and discussion was a great reminder of how consistent hard work by a small group really can bring change in understandings of heritage. Well done to those who have done so much work in better understanding rural landscape heritage.

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Dialogue 10


Image: Collage from reading material by Ana Bajcura

Naturecultures for an Argentinean perspective

Alicia Cahn, Ana Bajcura, and Cira Szklowin

Nupur Prothi, the moderator to this dialogue, put a number of questions to the panellists. The questions capture the gist of the subsequent discussion that can be heard in the audio file for this dialogue session.

Throughout Alicia’s presentation it was impressive to see the scale of the Argentine section of the route of Qhapaq Ñan - Andean road system. Nupur asked: “How do you envisage the future of large-scale landscapes in defining the identity of a region and reiterating the Indigenous naturecultures vision across Latin American nations? What role is this site playing in the Argentinian understanding of their relationship with landscape?”

Ana made some very compelling statements about the Latin American view of the landscape versus the transformation of it by Europeans. Nupur added: “How do you define the future of the landscape profession when you say the profession is rather new but the practice of landscape or naturecultures is ancient and embedded in the way of life? How can this profession in its education and practice streamline this Latin American naturecultures view in the future?”

Cira took us to the scale of the city and nature within. Nupur requested the presenters to share with us their thoughts on the future of ecology that they foresee in the future of their cities. She asked : “What are the unique approaches that other cities around the world can learn from Latin American cases for their resilient future?”

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Reflections

Where are we going?

At July 2021, the ISCCL Working Group on naturecultures Integration had 48 ISCCL members and 9 non-ISCCL affiliates (primarily IUCN and ICCROM members, including emerging professionals). The non-ISCCL affiliates contribute to the Working Group's aims of integrating diverse viewpoints and working across organisations.

In May 2021, the Working Group adopted a Work Plan for 2021-2023. The Work Plan identifies a number of objectives and projects that the Working Group will undertake in the coming years. These include:

OBJECTIVE 1. **Strengthen existing relationships with individuals, ICOMOS groups (International Scientific Committees, National Committees, Working Groups), and other organisations (IUCN, ICCROM) with a commitment to *naturecultures* integration.** A project linked to this objective is to work with ICOMOS in the implementation of actions arising from the IUCN-ICOMOS Memorandum of Understanding (signed May 2020) on better Culture-Nature integration across the two organisations.

OBJECTIVE 2. **Format and distribute the information on the dialogue sessions to other members of the ISSCL and beyond.** This booklet is the key output under the objective.

OBJECTIVE 3. **Participate in conferences, virtual meetings, and webinars in order to advocate for improved *naturecultures* integration in caring for and safeguarding significant cultural landscapes.** The range of projects linked to this objective includes: advocacy through meetings and publications; a focus on rural landscapes and *naturecultures* integration; and engaging in events associated with the ICOMOS 2023 General Assembly and Scientific Symposium (GA2023) which will take place in Sydney, Australia, from 3 July to 9 August 2021.

OBJECTIVE 4. **Nurture and sustain the ISCCL Working Group on *naturecultures* Integration.** This objective aims to maintain the engaged and dynamic nature of the Working Group by ensuring a genuinely globally representative membership, promoting engagement with young and emerging professionals, and working in environmentally sustainable ways.



Dades Valley, Marocco. Photo by Marike Franklin, 2019

Speakers

Alicia Cahn	cahn.alicia@gmail.com
Ana Bajcura	abajcura@bajcurayasociados.com.ar
Brenda Barret	brendabarrett88@gmail.com
Carlo Ossola	carloossola@bafu.admin.ch
Cira Szklowin	cszklo@fadu.uba.ar
Diane Menzies	drdhmenzies@ark.co.nz
Fran Han	franhanf@qq.com
Gwenaëlle Bourdin	gwenaelle.bourdin@icomos.org
Jane Lennon	jlennon@hotkey.net.au
Je-Hun Ryu	jhryu1010@naver.com
Jessica Brown	jbrown@oldtownhill.org
Jon Weller	jonathan.weller@ucalgary.ca
Leticia Leitão	leticia.leitao@bluewin.ch
Mary Laheen	mary.laheen@gmail.com
Maya Ishizawa	ishizawa.maya@gmail.com
Nupur Prothi Khanna	nupurprothi@gmail.com
Rouran Zang	rouranzhang@live.cn
Steve Brown	steveb.heritage@gmail.com

Notes on contributors



Alicia Leonor Cahn Behrend

is an architect, an architectural conservator, a management consultant and an expert in historical, urban, and architectural buildings of cultural heritage, as well as cultural routes. She has done extensive research on the identification, description, analysis and evaluation of projects on different Cultural Routes in Europe (Routes of the Roman Empire, the Royal Road (Camino Real), the transhumance cattle trails Mesta, and the Silk Road in China. She has also explored types of linear housing in historic cities and urban areas. She is the General Secretary of the International Scientific Committee on Cultural Routes and an active member of various institutions related to the conservation of urban, architectural and museum heritage such as CICOP, ICOM, ICOMOS ISCs: CIIC, CL, CIVVIH, HR-CIIC, CIHIB.CIVVIH, and the working groups EPWG and LAC. Her publications are linked to cultural routes, cultural heritage, urban and architectural forms, as well as to the analysis of problems concerning their management and promotion, the recovery of their habitat conditions, alternative solutions and appropriate tools to achieve these goals from different perspectives.



Ana Inés Bajcura

is architect and Landscape Planner. Is founder and Director of Bajcura & Associates, a full service architectural and landscape planning firm founded in 1979 with offices in Moreno. Services include design of structures, site planning, landscape design. In 2007 the firm incorporated build and maintenance green areas. She worked in Avellandea and Moreno Municipalities and teaches undergraduate courses in landscape Planning in different Universities of Argentina and Paraguay about design and connecting practice. President Argentine Association of Landscape Architects (CAAP) Period: 2010-13. Ms. Bajcura is a regular participant in field-related continuing education programs. Moreno, the city where she also lives since she was born, is located on the edge of the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires, in Argentina.



Brenda Barret

lives in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in the United States. She is the editor of the Living Landscape Observer a website and monthly newsletter providing commentary on land conservation, historic preservation and sustainable communities. She is the former Director of Recreation and Conservation at the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and held positions as the National Coordinator for Heritage Areas for the National Park Service in Washington D.C. and as the Director of Historic Preservation at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. A former Vice President of US ICOMOS, she is a member of the ICOMOS Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes. She also serves on the coordinating committee of the Network for Landscape Conservation.



Carlo Ossola

is a biologist and environmental engineer who specializes in protected area management and is a member of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas. He works with IUCN to provide expertise for World Heritage site evaluations, state of conservation reports, and outlook assessments. He participated in the Connecting Practice project as a member of the team to Konso (Ethiopia) in the first phase of Connecting Practice, to Maloti-Drakensburg (South Africa/ Lesotho) in the second phase and to Delta of Saloum (Senegal) in the third phase. He is also the national focal point for natural World Heritage in Switzerland. Carlo grew up in Ticino in the south of Switzerland and is now working in Bern and Lausanne.



Cira Szklowin

is an architect, urban-regional planner and consultant, with specialization in urban ecology and public spaces. She is a retired professor at the University of Buenos Aires, where she continues her research studies, developing projects on Urban Landscape, NbS, Green and Blue Infrastructure, and Coastal Cities Climate Adaptation Indicators. She is also conducting an Online Course on Urban Landscape and Public Spaces, with a cultural landscape perspective. Her professional experience has developed in government and consulting activities, mostly in interdisciplinary teams, at regional level (Regional Strategic and Management Plans, Environment Evaluations, Impact assessments), urban-metropolitan level (Urban-Environmental Plan, Metropolitan Green Infrastructure Studies, Conservation Strategies for Urban Reserves and Waterfronts), and collaborative work (NGOs and communes). She also currently participates in the Buenos Aires City Strategic Planning Council, focusing on fostering the inclusion of cultural landscape as an integral input to planning. She is an active member of the Argentine Centre of Landscape Architects, ISCCL LAC and local ICOMOS.



Dr Diane Menzies

is a past president of the New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects and was elected to Life Member status in 2005. She was appointed to the Environment Court of New Zealand as a Commissioner in 2001. Diane was elected President of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) in 2006, serving two terms as President, and was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit, for services to the environment in 2008. Since 2012 Diane has been a researcher and an academic, with a focus on cultural justice.



Fran Han

is the director and professor of the department of landscape architecture of Tongji University, based in Shanghai, China. She obtained her BLA & MLA at Tongji University and PhD at QUT (Australia). Fran is from the Chinese old saying's "The Heaven in the World" city Hangzhou, where the World Heritage Cultural Landscape the West Lake of Hangzhou is found. She is also the founder and chair of the Cultural Landscape Committee of Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture and have been working on landscape research and conservation practice for more than 30 years. She undertook a number of master plans of world heritage site scenic areas in China, and recently finished two pilot projects of UNESCO world heritage and Sustainable Tourism in China.



Gwenaëlle Bourdin

is Director of the World Heritage Evaluations Unit at the ICOMOS International Secretariat in Paris. Graduated in Economics, History and Art History, she joined ICOMOS after obtaining a Master in History and Management of French and European Heritage in 1998 (University Panthéon-Sorbonne). Her current work involves coordination of the upstream process and the evaluation process of new cultural and mixed nominations for World Heritage Listing. She has been involved in the ICOMOS/ IUCN Connecting Practice project since the beginning, with a lead role starting in 2015. She currently leads the implementation of all components of Phase III, in partnership with IUCN. Gwenaëlle grew up in Paris and is now working in Charenton-le-Pont, in the suburb of Paris.



Jane Lennon
AM, PhD

has been involved for decades in managing cultural landscapes, the bridge between nature and culture. These landscapes cover large and small scales, wild country, Indigenous lands, agricultural lands and gardens. This work has been undertaken for national park and conservation agencies in various States of Australia, in academic studies and university teaching and in practical application on her own land.



Je-Hun Ryu

was appointed, in March 2018, as an Endowed-Chair Professor at the Korea National University of Cultural Heritage. Since June 2018, he has acted as the President of The Korean Studies on Heritage Landscape. From 2011 to 2017, he had served on the National Committee for Cultural Heritage Administration in Korea. Dr. Ryu is the author of three books (including one in English) and translator of two books. He has also contributed to academic journals and conferences numerous papers and articles in either English or Korean. Je-Hun is born and raised in Incheon City, Korea.



Jessica Brown

is Executive Director of the New England Biolabs Foundation, a private, US-based foundation, whose mission is to foster stewardship of landscapes and seascapes and the biocultural diversity found in these places. She has three decades of experience with community-based conservation globally, having worked in countries of Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Mesoamerica, Andean South America, Central Europe and the Balkans. Jessica chairs the Protected Landscapes Specialist Group of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas and currentl serves on the boards of New England International Donors and Terralingua. She is an associate member of the Graduate Faculty of Rutgers University in its Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies program and holds degrees from Clark University and Brown University. The daughter of a journalist, she was born in Chicago, grew up outside of New York, and has lived for periods in countries of the Caribbean, Central America and Europe. She and her family live in Newbury, Massachusetts, within the watershed of the Parker River.



Jon Weller
(Ph.D., University of Calgary, Faculty of Environmental Design)

works across the spectrum of natural and cultural heritage conservation. Jon's past work has focused on the development of public history programming and conservation as a function of large-scale land use planning. His current research and work focus on the integration of cultural and social dimensions into protected area establishment and management processes.



Kristal Buckley

is a Lecturer in Cultural Heritage at Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia. Her work has a focus on evolving forms of global heritage practices, with a particular interest in nature/cultures. Kristal initiated and continues to play an instrumental role in guiding the Connecting Practice project for ICOMOS in collaboration with IUCN. Kristal served as an international Vice-President of ICOMOS from 2005-2014 and a member of the ICOMOS delegation to the World Heritage Committee from 2007-2014. She currently serves as a World Heritage Advisor for ICOMOS. She has qualifications in archaeology, anthropology and public policy, and has worked in private practice, government and community organisations. She is a PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne, working on the topic of international heritage institutions.



Letícia Leitão

is an independent consultant working with cultural and natural heritage. She has coordinated several projects - including the first two phases of Connecting Practice (2013-2017) - for IUCN, ICCROM and ICOMOS, focusing on capacity building and interlinkages between nature and culture. Trained as an architect, she pursed her doctoral work at the University of Edinburgh, where her

research focused on the protection of World Heritage settlements and their surroundings. She also holds an Executive Master in Public Administration with London School of Economics. Leticia grew up in Portugal and is now living in Switzerland.



Marike Franklin

is an active member of ICOMOS (EPWG), and IFLA. She completed her master's degree in landscape architecture at the University of Pretoria. Her dissertation, entitled Wuppertal, the Preservation of Absence, explored the challenges associated with development and conservation in the historic town of Wuppertal. She joined the Cape Winelands Professional Practices in Association team, assisting in the compilation of a Heritage Inventory, and Conservation Management Plan for the Stellenbosch Municipality. For Marike, photography is a tool that contributes to her interest in the field of cultural landscapes. She lives Wellington situated in the Cape Winelands in South Africa.



Mary Laheen

is an architect, and Assistant Professor of Architecture at University College Dublin. She is the author of various publications related to cultural landscape; and is currently the Voting Member for Ireland on the ISCCL. Mary was born in London in 1957, and her family returned to Ireland in 1965; she grew up in the Irish countryside. As a young architect she lived and practiced architecture in San Francisco, Boston and New York. She has lived in Dublin's city centre since 1987. At the start of the pandemic restrictions in March 2020 she came with her husband, Terry, to the region around the Blackstairs mountains in Co. Carlow, and has been there since. The farmers described in the presentation are her neighbours.



Dr. Maya Ishizawa

is a Peruvian architect, researcher and heritage specialist. She led the design and implementation of the Capacity Building Workshops on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation in Asia and the Pacific (2016-2019) as the programme coordinator of the UNESCO Chair at the University of Tsukuba, Japan.



Nora Mitchell

is Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Vermont and a member of ICOMOS/IFLA ISCCL and IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas. She is involved in international landscape conservation and was a participant in Phase II of the Connecting Practice project. During her career with the US National Park Service, Nora advanced innovation in the field of collaborative conservation. She lives in the U.S. in the rural state of Vermont, rich in agricultural landscape heritage.



Nupur Prothi Khanna

participated in phase III of Connecting Practice at the Honghe Hani Rice Terrace case study in China in 2019. Her emphasis on collaborative engagements and synergies across disciplines is rooted in her academic background. With graduate and post graduate degrees in Physical Planning and Landscape Architecture from SPA Delhi and Heritage Conservation from York University (UK), her work through Beyond Built Pvt. Ltd. (BBPL), a research-based design practice in Delhi seeks to bridge these diverse interests. She is Secretary General of the ICOMOS/IFLA International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes. Nupur grew up in India and is now living in Stockholm, Sweden.



Rouran Zhang

is an associate professor in School of Architecture and Urban Planning and Vice Director of Department of Landscape Architecture, Shenzhen University, China. He is the Vice President of ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Scientific Committee. He holds a PhD in Interdisciplinary Cross-Cultural Research from the Centre of Heritage and Museum Studies, Australian National University. He is the author of Chinese Heritage Sites and Their Audiences: the Power of the Past (2020), published by Routledge.



Dr Steve Brown

is an archaeologist, academic and heritage practitioner. He is a self-employed and teaches at the universities of Canberra and Sydney, and is a specialist adviser with the consultancy firm GML Heritage. He is a current co-chair of the ISCCL Working Group on naturecultures Integration.



Tim Badman

is the Director of IUCN's newly established Nature-Culture Initiative beginning in April 2019. In this role, Tim leads IUCN's work in developing closer links between the Nature and Culture sectors. This initiative includes the Connecting Practice project in partnership with ICOMOS and the World Heritage Leadership Programme jointly run with ICCROM and IUCN with support from Norway. Formerly Tim was the Director of IUCN's World Heritage Programme. He has been senior IUCN spokesperson on World Heritage, chair of the IUCN World Heritage Panel and Head of IUCN's delegation at World Heritage Committee meetings since 2007. He has been involved in many World Heritage site evaluation and monitoring issues globally. Tim joined IUCN having worked as team leader of the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site, UK.