



Newsletter of the International Association for Tourism Economics

Vol 1, No 1, 31 October 2017

Message from the President

Greetings from Hong Kong!

It has been a great honour and pleasure to be elected as the President of the International Association for Tourism Economics over the period 2017-2019. Over the next two years, I will work closely with the Vice President, Andrea Saayman, and all IATE members to achieve the following objectives. First, to further strengthen our international prominence through promoting the association's mission and objectives on the international stage. Secondly, to enlarge the IATE membership through promotion with a particular focus on drawing members from such areas as Asia, North and South Americas where the IATE membership is under-represented. I encourage all of the IATE members to reach out to your colleagues, friends and students and encouraging them to join the association. Thirdly, to enhance the relevance of our association through outreaching to practitioners. I am pleased to let you know that STR's SHARE Center has become our first industry partner who will support our activities related to IATE conferences, seminars and research student best paper awards at the IATE conferences. With the help with Andrea Saayman, we will publish quarterly IATE newsletters to communicating effectively with members. Please do actively contribute news items to Andrea so that we could sustain the publication of this newsletter.

We now live in a very volatile political and economic environment, which will certainly affect global tourism. This will also provide

us with opportunities to carry out relevant and impactful research. I look forward to working with you all over the next two years!

Haiyan Song

News from the Journal, Tourism Economics

We are grateful to the IATE President and Council for the opportunity to share with you some recent news about the Journal, Tourism Economics. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Professor Steve Wanhill for his excellent and dedicated service. Without his generous commitment and leadership, Tourism Economics will never be in its current shape. Steve, you are a role model to us all!

In line with Steve's vision and outstanding contribution, our goal is to improve the visibility and international standing of Tourism Economics further. With that in mind, we are proud to announce the following changes.

Editorial Board - We have now significantly increased the size of our editorial board. In total, we have added 32 new members who are all active researchers and highly regarded in the field. As editors, we are fully aware that the quality of the Editorial Board is absolutely critical to the success of the journal! Our main goal is to ensure higher quality and consistency in the review process. For further information, please visit our website:

<http://journals.sagepub.com/home/TEU>.

Submission Guidelines - Recently, we have also made significant changes to our submission guidelines. In particular, we have introduced several new article types. The one we are most thrilled about is the “commentary article”, where we will be inviting some top scholars in the field to write about on-going topics or debates in the literature. We encourage authors to visit our website <https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/tourism-economics/journal202562#submission-guidelines> for more details about each of the new article types.

Special Issues - We have just started three special issues on the following topics: “Economic Implications of Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability in Tourism and Hospitality”, “Spatial Economics and Tourism Development”, and “Tourism Forecasting: New Trends and Issues”. More details about these special issues can be found on the Tourism Economics website <http://journals.sagepub.com/page/teu/teu-calls-for-papers>. Prospective authors are also strongly encouraged to contact the guest editors regarding potential topics of interest or any questions/suggestions regarding the special issue.

We would like to conclude by thanking the whole tourism economic community and the IATE for their great support over the last few months. As editors, we are fully aware that we cannot do this job alone! We rely on your continuous support to further improve Tourism Economics and improve its international standing.

Albert Assaf and Raffaele Scuderi

Global Hotel Performance Trends – August 2017

The STR SHARE Center provides thorough and timely hotel data for academic research and comprehensive and relevant training materials for the classroom. STR SHARE

Centre provided a summary of the regional trends in August 2017 to IATE members.

Central/South America

This year to date, hotels in Rio de Janeiro have seen substantial performance declines, following the immense build-up in supply for the 2016 Summer Olympics. The September *Rock in Rio* music festival significantly boosted the market’s performance, with a RevPAR premium of 279% compared with the rest of the month. As the Colombian government’s 2003-2017 tax-break incentive for hotel development draws to a close, the country has experienced an influx of new supply in recent years. Colombia’s year-to-date performance actually shows encouraging signs, considering the recent supply expansion. Occupancy levels have been healthy, especially in Bogotá, which has offset the decline in rates. The country’s performance was strong in both 2015 and 2016, primarily driven by rate growth so that we may be seeing a bit of a levelling off. The country’s June peace settlement with the Farc rebels could help stimulate hotel demand in the long term.

Europe

Overall, 2017 has been a very strong year so far for hotels across Europe. We have seen exceptional performance levels in Eastern Europe and the Iberian Peninsula. Over the summer months (June–August), Lisbon, Madrid and Barcelona all reported double-digit increases in ADR. In Eastern Europe, Kiev, Bucharest, Warsaw and Budapest have all benefitted from tourism growth. Meanwhile, growth in some destinations has meant recovery from a weak 2016. Istanbul and Brussels have both seen notable year-over-year performance increases this year, both coming back from sharp declines in 2016 due to security concerns after multiple terror attacks. Hotels in the U.K. continue to benefit from the pound devaluation following last year’s Brexit vote, boosting international arrivals as well as domestic travel. Recent figures from VisitBritain

Global Performance (Data in Euros)

For the Month of: August 2017

	Occ %		ADR		RevPAR		Percent Change from YTD 2016		
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	Occ.	ADR	RevPAR
Asia Pacific	70.5	68.5	90.91	91.62	64.08	62.72	3.0	-0.8	2.2
Central & South Asia	64.3	63.0	101.52	98.71	65.27	62.16	2.1	2.8	5.0
Northeastern Asia	70.6	68.1	80.17	82.68	56.59	56.31	3.6	-3.0	0.5
Southeastern Asia	69.8	68.3	101.06	101.46	70.58	69.25	2.3	-0.4	1.9
Australia & Oceania	75.3	74.6	130.10	122.39	97.98	91.34	0.9	6.3	7.3
Americas	66.7	66.3	113.58	111.53	75.77	73.95	0.6	1.8	2.5
North America	67.1	66.7	113.32	111.14	76.01	74.09	0.6	2.0	2.6
Caribbean	70.4	69.9	192.48	189.31	135.51	132.37	0.7	1.7	2.4
Central America	62.2	60.7	100.59	101.73	62.57	61.75	2.5	-1.1	1.3
South America	54.3	54.5	85.36	88.79	46.39	48.42	-0.4	-3.9	-4.2
Europe	71.5	69.6	109.80	108.29	78.47	75.33	2.7	1.4	4.2
Eastern Europe	65.3	62.7	77.81	69.08	50.79	43.30	4.14	12.65	17.30
Northern Europe	76.4	75.4	106.20	108.86	81.17	82.06	1.4	-2.4	-1.1
Southern Europe	70.0	67.3	120.35	115.23	84.22	77.54	4.0	4.4	8.6
Western Europe	69.5	67.6	115.48	114.48	80.31	77.45	2.8	0.9	3.7
Middle East/Africa	60.9	60.4	127.77	129.89	77.83	78.51	0.8	-1.6	-0.9
Middle East	64.3	65.3	148.25	153.05	95.26	99.96	-1.6	-3.1	-4.7
Northern Africa	52.7	46.9	75.62	83.20	39.86	39.02	12.4	-9.1	2.2
Southern Africa	58.8	59.1	107.41	98.15	63.11	58.04	-0.6	9.4	8.7
Select Global Markets									
Beijing	75.5	73.4	76.06	76.62	57.43	56.23	2.9	-0.7	2.1
Berlin	76.0	75.0	93.68	89.66	71.16	67.29	1.2	4.5	5.8
Buenos Aires	64.9	58.9	112.02	109.42	72.69	64.50	10.1	2.4	12.7
Dubai	75.4	75.0	165.54	170.16	124.81	127.57	0.6	-2.7	-2.2
Hong Kong	87.2	83.8	149.47	148.47	130.40	124.45	4.1	0.7	4.8
London	81.1	79.6	167.67	172.33	135.97	137.21	1.8	-2.7	-0.9
Los Angeles	82.0	83.2	159.31	157.81	130.59	131.23	-1.4	1.0	-0.5
Madrid	70.7	69.2	104.85	91.40	74.16	63.23	2.2	14.7	17.3
New York	85.3	84.3	207.84	212.45	177.30	179.03	1.2	-2.2	-1.0
Paris	71.3	67.6	234.11	227.38	166.90	153.78	5.4	3.0	8.5
Rome	70.1	69.1	147.80	148.31	103.62	102.48	1.5	-0.3	1.1
Sydney	86.0	84.7	154.57	141.61	132.86	119.88	1.5	9.2	10.8
Tokyo	85.6	84.5	150.30	154.23	128.62	130.33	1.3	-2.5	-1.3
Toronto	76.1	75.8	122.89	112.70	93.48	85.48	0.3	9.0	9.4

showed an 8% increase in arrivals to the U.K. for the January to July period, with a 9% increase in visitor spending. London's hotel market is performing exceptionally well, considering continual supply growth.

Middle East/Africa

The Middle East faces two major factors impacting hotel performance: oil prices and supply growth. STR has identified a clear correlation between the decline in the price of oil and the downturn in hotel performance and profitability in the GCC over the past few years. Dubai has experienced substantial supply growth in the build-up to the 2020 Expo, and there are nearly 27k rooms currently under construction. It has become increasingly important for these GCC markets that are heavily reliant on oil to supplement the loss in corporate travel through further developing their leisure attractions. We have seen this long-term investment in Dubai and also in RKA with the government's Saudi 2030 Vision. Across Africa, we've seen mixed performance results this year to date. In local currencies, rates are up in several countries, including Egypt, Morocco and South Africa, but in many instances, exchange rates need to be considered to get the full picture. Some other markets are experiencing performance declines as a result of supply growth, such as Nigeria, Ethiopia and Algeria.

Asia Pacific

Three of the five cities with the highest rooms in the pipeline are currently in China (Shanghai, Chengdu and Beijing). Meanwhile, Hong Kong has seen considerable occupancy growth this year. Statistics from the Hong Kong Tourism Board show that arrivals from Mainland China increased 1.9% for the August year-to-date period. Singapore's occupancy for August improved in comparison with a weaker August 2016, which came amid concerns of a Zika outbreak in the country. However, ADR declined for the 18th consecutive month, primarily due to economic struggles in the country. Down

under, hotels in Australia reached their highest absolute levels of occupancy, ADR and RevPAR for any H1 on record. The country welcomed over 4.2 million international visitors during the first half of 2017, a 7.2% increase compared with H1 2016, according to the Australia Bureau of Statistics.

Steve Hood (STR)

The 6th IATE conference in retrospect

The 6th IATE Conference has taken place between June the 20th and June the 23rd, 2017 in Rimini (Italy), hosted by the University of Bologna. The Conference, which built upon the previous editions held in University of Balearic Islands (Spain, 2007), Chiang Mai University (Thailand, 2009), Bournemouth University (United Kingdom, 2011), University of Ljubljana (Slovenia, 2013) and Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong, 2015). It was co-organized by the Department of Economics (University of Bologna) and CAST - Centre for Advanced Studies in Tourism, an inter-departmental research centre that was instituted and activated in February 2014 by the University of Bologna at the Campus of Rimini, to foster scientific research and professional training in the tourism field. The departments of Economics, Management, Statistics, Quality of Life all participate in CAST.

Overall, the Scientific Committee received 199 submissions, each one reviewed by two anonymous referees. Net of rejections, withdrawn papers and authors who could not attend the conference, the scientific programme included 142 papers, presented in 37 parallel sessions, 3 keynote lectures by Eugeni Aguilò, Larry Dwyer and Armando Peres, and one roundtable on *Blue Growth and Tourism*, with Anna Montini, Fabio Fava, Lisa McKenzie, Melville Saayman and Alessia Mariotti as panelists. The complete

programme and the book of abstracts of the presented papers are available on the website of the Conference:

<https://events.unibo.it/conference-iate-rimini-2017>

As in any scientific conference, the social programme played an important role in discussing ongoing projects, sharing research ideas and networking. The Conference included a welcome reception held on the Rimini beach, a conference dinner in the medieval city hall and a gala dinner offered by the Government of San Marino in the main square of the city-state. During the visit of the IATE Conference to San Marino a special session on *Tourism in the Microstates* was organised, with speeches by Neelu Seetaram and Marina Tamagnini, from the San Marino Secretariat of Tourism.

Some pictures of the salient moments of the Conference are posted here:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/cast.unibo/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1322316751150986

The 6th IATE Conference was organised with the financial and in-kind support of sponsors and partners (STR Share Centre; SAGE Publishing - Tourism Economics; UNIRIMINI SpA; San Marino Government; San Marino Tourism Office; Rimini City Hall; Cooperativa Diapason - La Tavola Pitagorica) and with the huge effort of the Local Organizing Committee (Marisa Masala, Annalisa Spalazzi, Marina Chiarini, Patrizia Battilani, Paolo Figini, Alessia Mariotti, Maurizio Mussoni, Lorenzo Succi, Laura Vici, Lorenzo

Zirulia). A big help was provided by the students of the International courses at the Rimini Campus: ITALI (B.A.) - International Tourism and Leisure Industries and TEaM (M.A.) - Tourism Economics and Management, who volunteered during the Conference. The former President (Adam Blake), vice-President (Vicente Ramos) and Secretary-General (Mondher Sahli) of IATE also gave a relevant contribution to the Conference, fully supporting the Local Committee.

Paolo Figini



Recent events in Latin America

Workshop “Tourism and Transport Economics”

The Workshop *Tourism and Transport Economics* is an academic event that gathers researchers who study issues related to tourism economics. It aims at strengthening exchanges and research in this field, particularly among institutions from Ibero-

America. What is more, it seeks to build a network, currently in formalisation, that will contribute to the development of the study in this area.

The Workshop dates back to 2007 when its first edition was hosted by the Libera Università di Bolzano in Brunico, Italy. Since then, the event has had nine additional editions; first in different Italian universities

(between 2007 and 2014) and afterwards moving towards Latin America, more specifically to Uruguay (Republic University, Montevideo, 2014), Mexico (Guanajuato University, 2015), Argentina (National University of La Plata, 2016) and Colombia (Antioquia College, Medellín, 2017). Throughout these years, participants from Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Spain, Italy, Mexico, Portugal, United Kingdom, South Africa, Uruguay and Peru have joined the meeting.

The next edition of the Workshop will take place in 2018 and will be hosted by Anahuac University (Oaxaca, México). This Mexican university edits the journal *Transitare* in tourism, economics and business, where Workshop participants have the opportunity to publish their research since 2016. For more information on the 7th Workshop, National University of La Plata, Argentina, visit the following website:

[https://www.econo.unlp.edu.ar/articulo/2016/3/3/7th workshop tourism and transport economics tourists as consumers v isitors and travelers](https://www.econo.unlp.edu.ar/articulo/2016/3/3/7th%20workshop%20tourism%20and%20transport%20economics%20tourists%20as%20consumers%20v%20visitors%20and%20travelers)

VIII International Symposium and XIV National Conference of Action Research in Tourism – CONDET 2017, October 4 to 6, 2017, Buenos Aires

The VIII International Symposium and the XIV National Conference of Action Research in Tourism - CONDET 2017: *Tourism Challenges for Sustainable Development* took place in Buenos Aires between October 4 and 6, 2017. This event was organised by the Council of Deans and Directors of Academic Units related to the Teaching of Tourism (CONDET), which brings together 15 public universities in Argentina, and in this edition organised by the National University of San Martín.

The meeting aims to disseminate scientific production in the field of tourism by teachers and students from the country and abroad. During three days, 101 papers were

presented in six thematic axes: "Tourism, politics and development", "Tourism and society", "Tourism, organisations and services", "Territory and tourist resources", "Tourism, education and knowledge scientific" and "Tourism, communication and technology". In parallel to these presentations, five forums were held with sector referents that generated debates on (i) the challenges of air transport in Argentina, (ii) the relationship between National Parks and tourism, (iii) the importance of Community Tourism, (iv) the activities being developed in the City of Buenos Aires for sustainability and its transformation into a smart destination and (v) the valuation of LGBT tourism and the positioning of Argentina in this theme. There was also an expert roundtable on *Climate Change and Tourism* and some international lectures (Cristina Figueroa Domecq, Rey Juan Carlos University, Spain; and Eugenio Yunis, Member of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics UNWTO and FEDETUR, Chile).

The event is recognised as the meeting place for teachers and researchers from all over the country, and is presented as an ideal framework for the development of the IX Session of the National Education Network of the Ministry of Tourism of the Argentine Nation. For more information, visit: <http://www.condet.edu.ar/cndt/index.php/component/k2/item/93>

International Conference on "Management of cultural heritage as tourism resource"

The Conference was held in La Plata, Argentina on 25-26 September 2017, organised by the Institute of Research on Tourism, Faculty of Economics, National University of La Plata. The Conference aimed at contributing to the adequate management of cultural heritage as a tourism resource to foster sustainable development. Invited experts from Argentina, México, Uruguay and Venezuela lectured on different topics

related to the main theme, complemented by the presentation of papers and panel discussions. A special session was devoted to discussing the impact of tourism on Argentina's World Heritage cultural properties. For more information, visit: https://www.econo.unlp.edu.ar/articulo/2017/6/13/gestion_del_patrimonio_cultural_como_recurso_turistico_2017

Natalia Porto

Research projects to follow

Green Bubbles

Recreational SCUBA diving has become a mass leisure activity engaging millions of divers worldwide. The diving industry generates large direct and indirect revenues for local communities and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Other benefits linked to diving include the promotion of environmental and ocean stewardship, contribution to scientific research, fostering social inclusion and personal development. Diving also has negative impacts, due to damage or disturbance of habitats and organisms and to conflicts with local communities for the access to/use of the same resources, equity issues, or cultural clashes. These aspects clearly relate to the three pillars of sustainability, covering environmental, economic and social dimensions and can only be addressed by a systemic approach.

The central objective of Green Bubbles is to maximise the benefits associated with diving, while minimising its negative impacts, thus achieving the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the system. The following partners are directly engaged in the Green Bubbles project:

- Università Politecnica delle Marche (Italy).
- Studio Associato Gaia snc (Italy).
- UBICA srl (Italy).
- Bogazici Uluslararası eğitim danışmanlık merkezi ve ticare - INNOVASUB (Turkey).
- Divers Alert Network Europe (Malta).

- Stichting NHTV Internationale Hogeschool Breda (Netherlands).
- North-West University (South Africa).
- College of Exploration (USA).
- Divers Alert Network Southern Africa (South Africa).

For more information, visit the official website: www.greenbubbles.eu

Social media hashtags:

- #GreenBubblesRISE
- #GreenBubblesproject
- #sustainable #diving

Tourism as a tool for poverty reduction in southern Africa

This project aims to investigate tourism as a tool for poverty reduction in southern Africa. This is important as ending poverty is one of the United Nations' Global Goals, and tourism is mainly promoted in Africa for this purpose. While tourism is often recognised as a powerful vehicle for poverty reduction since it has the potential to benefit local businesses in rural areas and provide income to disadvantaged groups (e.g. by employing women and low-skilled labour), it is well-known that the benefits from tourism are not automatic. Therefore policy-makers should make a concerted effort to ensure that tourism does not only benefit the affluent parts of the economy. The research project involves two innovative, small projects that assess the impact of tourism on poverty reduction.

The project is funded by the British Academy through the Newton Mobility Grant Scheme (Award reference NG160321) and involves researchers from the University of Surrey (UK), the North-West University (South Africa) and the University of the Balearic Islands (Spain). More information about this project can be found at <http://commerce.nwu.ac.za/tourism-research-economic-environs-and-society-trees/projects>

Andrea Saayman

Upcoming events

The following conferences and workshops invite all IATE members to participate:

MOVE2017: 5th International Conference on Subnational Measurement of Economic Analysis of Tourism

This year's topic is Smart and Sustainable Urban and Rural Tourism. The conference is hosted in beautiful Pamplona (Navarre, Spain) from November 22nd to 24th 2017, with the excellent support of the Government of Navarre, in collaboration with UNWTO, INRouTe and in2destination research and consultancy firm.

We invite you to check out MOVE2017 site <http://move2017.inroutenetwork.org/> and to see the programme, speakers' bio <http://move2017.inroutenetwork.org/speakers/>. Registration is already open.

Working Group on Islands Economy

The Observatory on Tourism in the European Islands – OTIE is pleased to share with IATE Members that is organising a Working Group on Islands Economy to be held on in Brussels on November, 27th, 2017.

The purpose of the conference, open to OTIE partners, members and associated and all the organisations working in the field of tourism, is to give an overview of the current situation and explore the outputs of the research carried out by the Observatory in the field of islands' economy and promotion of strategic actions for their development.

We are honoured to invite you to the conference to celebrate ten years of OTIE activity – the first observatory with a specific focus on island tourism. The main objectives of OTIE are to draw up annual statistical surveys and to produce research on tourism in the European islands. OTIE activities include research, monitoring and analysis of data and results to support tourism product development and establish specific and measurable indicators to evaluate

performances, training through OTIE International Summer School and an International Master. Moreover, OTIE participates to EU projects.

We are currently working on the agenda of the event which we will share with you as soon as possible. Please, visit our website <http://www.otie.org/>. If you are interested in this research field, please contact me at ruggieri@otie.org, or for more information on research please contact research@otie.org or doc@otie.org.

Consumer Behavior in Tourism Symposium (CBTS 2017): A Decade of Research in Consumer Behavior in Tourism

The Consumer Behavior in Tourism Symposium (CBTS) reaches its tenth edition this year. Launched in 2008 by TOMTE, the Competence Centre in Tourism Management and Tourism Economics of the Free University of Bolzano, CBTS takes place every year in December under the leadership of Serena Volo and Oswin Maurer.

The theme of this 10th CBTS is Mindfulness, Well-being and Happiness in Tourism Research: From Definitions to Measurements. The Symposium will be held from 13th-16th December 2017 in Bruneck/Brunico, South Tyrol, Italy

CBTS involves highly recognised international scholars working in the field of tourism research. With the initial aim of developing an extensive international network for TOMTE research activities, CBTS started to further improve and foster its reputation in Europe and overseas, with more recent editions welcoming scholars from five continents.

Each edition of CBTS has focused on a novel and specific research theme, spanning from traditional and consumer behaviour topics, to competitiveness and innovation in tourism and hospitality, to the new methodological advances in the study of

tourism mobilities, experiences, emotions and memories. The symposium is an opportunity for scholars from all over the world to exchange scientific ideas and results and discuss new and emerging directions in research. Keynote speakers have included Abraham Pizam, Dan Fesenmaier Regina Schlüter, Larry Dwyer, Chris Cooper, Sara Dolnicar, Stephen Wanhill, Arch Woodside, Gianna Moscardo, Perry Hobson, Noel Scott, Sue Beeton, Geoffrey Crouch, Muzzo Uysal, Donna Quadri-Felitti, Donald Getz, Scott Cohen, Anne-Mette Hjalager, Noam Shoval, Ulrike Gretzel, and Scott McCabe.

The small dimension and friendly character of the symposium allow for a productive exchange of scientific ideas and results, and a lively discussion on new and emerging directions in research and practice in the field. Young scholars have benefited from methodological workshops and PhD sessions and the constructive exchange during parallel and plenary sessions. Several special issues of major tourism and hospitality journals have documented the scientific output of CBTS and the positive word of mouth among scholars has been the most rewarding outcome for all that have contributed to the symposium success over these ten years!

For more information, visit the CBTS website <https://tomte.econ.unibz.it/cbts/>

Serena Volo

6th QATEM Workshop: Quantitative Approaches in Tourism Economics and Management

QATEM 2018 is the sixth event under a workshop series on Quantitative Approaches in Tourism Economics and Management. The workshop/conference is co-organized and supported by the University of French Polynesia, University of Valenciennes, University of Perpignan and the International Association for Tourism Economics (IATE). It will be held in Punaauia

(Tahiti, French Polynesia) on Thursday 14, Friday 15 and Saturday 16 June 2018.

By focusing on the theme of quantitative approaches in tourism economics and management, QATEM 2018 will provide an opportunity for gathering, analysing, and debating state-of-the-art academic research in this recent field of economic and management sciences. The scientific committee would welcome submissions on both parametric and non-parametric approaches. Theoretical contributions are also encouraged.

Important dates:

December 15, 2017: Deadline for full papers or extended abstract Submission

January 15, 2018: Deadline for Acceptance/rejection Notice

April 15, 2018: Deadline for registration and payment of registration fee

June 14-16, 2016: Conference in Punaauia

More information at www.qatem-workshop.com

Workshop Organizer: Sylvain Petit (University of French Polynesia) and Nicolas Peypoch (University of Perpignan). Contact: Sylvain Petit; e-mail: sylvain.petit@upf.pf

Specific Calls

PhD scholarship applications: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, School of Hotel and Tourism Management

The School of Hotel and Tourism Management (SHTM) at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) invites PhD applications to the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS), PhD Scholarship, and Teaching Postgraduate Studentship (TPS) Scheme, for admission in 2018/2019. Successful PhD applicants will receive a monthly assistantship regarding stipend or salary to support their studies. Recipients of assistantship are required to

provide support for teaching and scholarly activities at SHTM.

The SHTM is recognised internationally as a world-leading hospitality and tourism management school. It is ranked No. 1 in the world in the *Hospitality and Tourism Management* category according to Shanghai Ranking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2017. It is also placed among the top 3 *Hospitality and Leisure Management* institutions globally in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017 and ranked No. 1 in the world in the *Hospitality, Leisure, Sport & Tourism* subject area by the Centre for World University Rankings by Subject 2017.

Our PhD programme aims to recruit outstanding candidates, irrespective of country of origin and ethnic background. Our current PhD students come from different parts of the world including Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Chinese Mainland, Cyprus, Denmark, Ethiopia, Ghana, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Lebanon, Macau, Malawi, Romania, Russia, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand. Our PhD graduates are recognised academically and hold academic positions at renowned institutions and universities worldwide, for example, University of Delaware, Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne, Griffith University, University of South Australia, Sun Yat-sen University, University of Surrey etc.

For more information about the admission requirements and application procedures, please visit PolyU's website at <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/ro/hkphd-fellowship/> and the School's website at www.polyu.edu.hk/htm/phd.

Important Dates:

The application deadline for the HKPFS is 1 December 2017 (at noon, Hong Kong Time). For the PhD Scholarship and TPS Scheme, the closing date for applications for admission in 2018/19 is 31 December 2017 (at 11:59 pm, Hong Kong Time).

If you are interested or you know someone who is interested in joining SHTM of PolyU, a leading institution that offers world-class research training, as a PhD student, please contact Professor Rob Law, Research Student Admission Officer, by email (rob.law@polyu.edu.hk).

Call for Papers: Journal of China Tourism Research

Special Issue on “**Tourism Economics in China**”

Guest Editors: Gang Li (School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Surrey, UK) and Stephen Pratt (School of Hotel & Tourism Management, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR, China)

Journal of China Tourism Research, a quarterly from Routledge, is a refereed journal that publishes the latest and quality research on tourism relating to China and the Chinese. This special issue aims to explore the issues of tourism economics in relation to China. Recent years have seen a fast and constant increase of international tourist arrivals in China, which amounted to 56.9 million in 2015, placing the country in the 4th position internationally (UNWTO, 2016). Regarding international tourism receipts, China ranked 2nd in the world in 2015 at US\$114.4 billion (UNWTO, 2016). When considering tourism economics for Greater China (Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan), the issue of how tourism influences these economies and how tourism is influenced by the economy reaches greater importance. But behind the numbers, it is important to determine the impacts of tourism for China. Therefore, more focused studies on tourism economics for China are needed.

This special issue invites submissions on all aspects of tourism and economics in China. Both empirical and theoretical papers are welcome.

Submission Deadlines:

- One-page abstract due: 30 November 2017
- Full paper due: 31 December 2017
- Projected publication date: Early 2018 (First issue of the journal).

Submission Guidelines – see (<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=WCTR&page=instructions>).

Abstracts should be submitted as email attachment to the guest editors at the following address: Gang Li (g.li@surrey.ac.uk) and Stephen Pratt (Stephen.pratt@polyu.edu.hk)

Both editors will review the abstracts and those that fit the theme of the special issue will be invited for full paper submission. Full papers should be submitted to the journal's online system (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jctr>).

A note from the editors

We hope you have enjoyed the first edition of the quarterly newsletter of the IATE. In the interest of establishing a truly vibrant tourism economics community, we call on all of you to keep sending news, updates, research projects, conference and other calls to include in the newsletter. These can be sent to Andrea Saayman (andrea.saayman@nwu.ac.za) and/or Mondher Sahli (Mondher.Sahli@vuw.ac.nz).

Last, but not least, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our president, **prof. Haiyan Song**, on the Endowed Professorship which was conferred to him on 5 September 2017 by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. This prestigious title is only bestowed upon internationally acclaimed scholars for their contribution to advance research and academic activities that benefit the wider community. Congratulations!