

Save the date for COASTAL TRANSITIONS 2017, in beautiful New Haven, CT.

A conference in beautiful New Haven, CT from March 30th to April 2nd , 2017 (immediately before the 2017 AAG Conference in Boston), is sponsored by the IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces and jointly organized by the Liverpool John Moores University and Southern Connecticut State University.

#### Description/Rationale:

The coastal zone is rapidly changing, and represents the frontline in climate change adaptation and resilience building. Recognizing that coastal areas, despite only occupying a relatively small percentage of the Earth's land-surface, provide more than one third of the globe's value of ecosystem services, and recognizing that coastal areas are increasingly at risk due to changing environmental conditions as well as human development pressures. This coupled with the large-scale failure of contemporary governance approaches to direct development to more sustainable outcomes presents stark challenges for coastal stakeholders. Nowhere is this clearer than in contested coastal zones, where intense demand on coastal resources sits uneasily with stewardship, habitat protection and natural resource maintenance imperatives. Coastal zones represent a frontline in the battle for sustainability, as coastal communities face unprecedented economic challenges while coastal ecosystems are subject to overuse, loss of resilience and increased vulnerability. The emerging field of socio-technical transitions research presents a promising new lens through which to address sustainability challenges. This conference aims to bring together scholars focused on - or interested in - the dynamics of coastal zones as economic spaces in order to catalyze a discourse on new coastal economies, addressing problems of lock-in and system inertia in the current regime and exploring means to foster radical innovation for sustainable and resilience based coastal development.

#### Sub Themes:

We welcome theoretical, methodological as well as empirical or case study contributions especially related (but not limited to) the following sub-themes: socio-technological transitions in the coastal zone, resilience in coastal economies, innovations of governance for coastal sustainability, communication mechanisms for best practices in socio-technological regime transformations, stakeholder engagement approaches in the coastal sustainability discourse, coastal spatial planning and sustainability, integrated coastal zone management and sustainability, sustainable waterfronts/sustainable coastal cities, energy transitions in the coastal zone, sustainable transport (ports/harbors), coastal aquaculture/3-D ocean farming, climate change and coastal sustainability, radical transition pathways.

#### Venue:

The conference will be hosted by Southern Connecticut State University at SOTG (Southern on the Green), our downtown campus in historic New Haven, CT. SOTG is walking distance to a number of lodging opportunities, an exceptional variety of restaurants, museums, theaters as well as the Yale University campus. Southern's main campus and Union Station are a short shuttle ride away and New Haven is easily accessible from Boston and New York by train and car and the area is served by Tweed New Haven airport.

The official CFP with due dates for abstracts will be distributed shortly.

For initial information please visit the conference website: [coastaltransitions.org](http://coastaltransitions.org)

Please direct any inquiries to one of the conference organizers:

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