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Upcoming Meetings of Groups Associated with Geographical Names
Norden Division

News from the Norden Division area

The Danish Place-Name Commission’s homepage www.stednavne.info has been updated using a new webservice, a greater selection of (historical) maps, so that it is easier to follow the spelling historicity of geographical names.

At the turn of 2014-2015, Carl Christian Olsen, long-time member of the Norden Division, retired as Director for Oqaasileriffik/Greenland Language Secretariat after 15 years and as Chairman for Oqaasiliortut/the Language Council for 35 years. We thank Carl Christian for all the years of good cooperation and wish him all the best for the future.

Annette Torensjö and Leif Nilsson of the Norden Division had both been invited to present papers at the symposium Place names as intangible cultural heritage, on 26-27 March 2015. In conjunction with the symposium Annette and Leif also attended the meeting of the Romano-Hellenic division as observers.

From 1 April, Peder Gammeltoft has been appointed Head of the Name Research Section at the Department of Nordic Research, University of Copenhagen, for a period of three years.

Next Norden Division Meeting

The next Norden Division Meeting will be held in Copenhagen on September 12 at the Department of Nordic research, University of Copenhagen in conjunction with the meetings of the Working Groups for Cultural Heritage, Evaluation and Implementation and Publicity and Funding. Unfortunately, the meeting could not be held in Kárásjohka/Karasjok, the centre for Sámi culture in Norway but it is expected that the meeting will held there in the future.

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Portuguese-speaking Division

Aiming at improving and facilitating the standardization of geographical names in Portuguese-speaking countries, The Reference Center on Geographic Names (CRNG) of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) is currently completing the translation into Portuguese of the UNGEGN “Manual for the National Standardization of Geographical Names”. The Manual was partially translated for training purposes in 2007.

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Africa South Division

Botswana as the interim chair of the division plan to have a meeting with all members in Gaborone, Botswana in July 2015, the purpose being to find out if there is any Geographical Place Names activities going on in their regions and the challenges encountered in their respective countries.

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