Call for Papers - Scientific Study Day

"Natural, socio-economic and cultural heritage of island territories: what future?"

University of the French West Indies (UA), University Pole Martinique, Schœlcher Campus.

3rd Edition of the Scientific Study Day (JES)
Wednesday 17th of May 2017
Organized by the ADJC
(“Ansanm”, Association of PhD Students and Young Researchers in Martinique)

Summary:

The third edition of ADJC's Multidisciplinary Scientific Study Day (JES 2017) invites us to reflect on the heritage of our island societies. With the challenges they are facing, how will their future be in the coming decades? Our approach focuses on the Caribbean Islands, but does not exclude other tropical island territories of the world. The specificities of these island territories can be approached by comparing them and by links with continental territories.

The very idea of heritage is split in several ways according to each scientific discipline. Often relegated to a particular field, science has some difficulty in appropriating this idea in their respective fields. However, it is urgent to consider the diversity of Heritages in scientific research to define the future of our societies better and to act accordingly. Moreover, the societal problems and the current major challenges do not belong to any particular field but rather to the correlation of many different fields: this is the era of developing complex sciences.

Thus, this third edition of the Scientific Study Day (JES) must be able to reconnect with civil society through innovative proposals. The scientific researcher no longer positions himself as a conservative and protective observer of the past, but rather as an actor in the various alternative strategies to improve the way we live together. What future can we offer from our island societies’ natural, socio-economic and cultural heritage? What attitude must we adopt in the face of a globalization that is affecting the features of each region?

Through exchanges and a better knowledge of the researchers’ achievements and knowledge, we will analyze the common contributions that can be implemented.
Research focus 1 – Natural and Physical Sciences

Since the existence of a natural heritage was acknowledged, numerous inventories have been done in order to learn about the lushness of our biodiversity as a whole.

Humans who are living in so-called modern and complex societies are heavily dependent on the biosphere’s resources and are becoming more aware of the limits in developing their societies. Natural resources have taken on an outstanding universal value and a need for preservation which has been recognized by the highest levels of international organizations (UN, UNESCO).

The investigations and scientific progress made give answers to the difficulties encountered in our present world. Whether it is diseases, seismic or climatological risks etc., knowledge of all phenomena allows a better approach and a response to the problems that are harming our societies and especially our planet. The example of the Pharmacopoeias shows that by taking note from popular and traditional medicinal practices, we can discover therapeutically active molecules and complex phytochemicals.

Research focus 2 – Social Science, Arts, Literature and Languages

The humans’ influence on the territory and globalization’s growing influence question what is at stake for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage. How can we find a compromise between the need to preserve certain elements of the past and avoiding turning our territories into museums? How do we conciliate economic and political issues with preservation and enhancement of heritage? Researchers interested in history, music, literature, languages, arts etc., are more and more encouraged to study the relationship between societies and their cultural heritage. Through new approaches, they try to meet the challenge of managing the heritage of our island societies.

Research focus 3 – Economics and Law

For economists and lawyers, heritage plays a central role in our societies. Whether it is financial, movable or immovable, heritage is defined as all the property of a natural or legal person at a given moment in time. But with modern societies’ development towards a knowledge society, we must consider new aspects in the notion of heritage. Indeed, economics and law are increasingly considering environment and knowledge as the common heritage of humanity. Moreover, the researcher relies on previous knowledge to legitimize and establish his own research. How are heritages considered in the drafting of new laws? Do current markets use the past’s resources and methods or are they in total break of the existing ones?
Keywords:
Heritage, island territories, scientific research.

Duration of communication: 15 minutes
Debate and exchange: 15 minutes

Other types of communication available:
- Videoconferencing
- Poster

Publication of JES acts according to the acceptance criteria of the Scientific Committee.

Submission requirements:
Abstracts (max. 300 words, in pdf format) in English, French or Spanish and a resume should be sent to the Scientific Study Day Committee ADJC at the following address: ansanmdjc@gmail.com

The committee’s decision will be sent by e-mail no later than mid-April 2017.

Scientific committee
- Philippe JOSEPH (PR-UMR ESPACE DEV/BIORECA, UFWI : Ecology, Botany, Biogeography)
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