

Human Geography meets Physical Geography

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Science today is being divided into ever narrower disciplines and themes, while the real world challenges call for understanding of broad and holistic topics and systems. Geography is a unique discipline in that it aims at understanding such holistic regional systems, be they urban realms, drainage basins, administrative areas or other spatial entities. However, recent development in geography has been towards rather separate curricula in human and physical aspects of the discipline, being reflected also in quite detached research methodologies. In other words, human and physical geography do not often meet in research projects to form a holistic understanding of a region. Is this to the benefit of science and the discipline? Should there be more integration? Is such integration possible in real world situations? The session welcomes contributions that touch the issue of holistic, integrative geography versus separate human/physical approaches. Presentations may be theoretical contributions to the topic, or practical examples of integrative research projects or methodologies, both critical and auspicious.