2002 was a year of transition for IBRU. In April Dr Clive Schofield, who had been with IBRU for eleven years, took up a Research Fellowship at the University of New South Wales. At the end of the year the Unit's secretary, Julia Oliver, also moved on to a new position. Clive and Julia both played an important role in the development of IBRU and we wish them well in their new endeavours.

Martin Pratt is now IBRU’s Director of Research, managing all of IBRU’s consultancy and research projects. Michelle Speak becomes IBRU’s Director of External Relations. She continues to direct IBRU events and is responsible for administrative matters. Michelle will be on maternity leave in the first half of 2003 and, as a result, please note that our workshop programme is scheduled for the second half of the year (see page 2).

In January 2003 IBRU will welcome a new Research Associate, John Donaldson. John recently completed the University of Durham's MA in International Boundaries and will be undertaking historical, geographical and technical research on African boundaries as part of a project for the United States National Imagery and Mapping Agency. Between January and June the team will be further augmented by Vincent van der Wijk who will work as an administrative assistant.

Last summer IBRU relocated to the main Geography building on campus at the University of Durham. This will allow closer integration with academic colleagues in our host department, which was again awarded the highest possible 5* grading in the recent UK Research Assessment Exercise.

The IBRU staff would like to send best wishes for the coming year to our many colleagues and friends around the world.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Durham's Geography Department
The Use of Geographical Information in Boundary Creation, Management and Dispute Resolution

Venue: St. Aidan's College, University of Durham, UK  Fee: £1,150 + VAT

Geographical information, particularly as presented on maps and charts, has always been central to the process of creating and managing international boundaries. Access to accurate geographical information does not guarantee that a boundary will be problem-free, but boundaries created on the basis of poor geographical information almost invariably become a source of friction and occasionally even armed conflict between states.

This workshop is designed to help boundary practitioners make the best use of geographical information in their work. The workshop will examine the use of maps, charts and other traditional sources of geographic information in boundary settings and explore how modern Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can contribute to effective boundary creation, management and dispute resolution. The workshop will include hands-on exercises designed to allow participants to evaluate key GIS technologies in a range of boundary-related situations.

Preparing for Boundary Litigation / Arbitration

Venue: Offices of Frere Cholmeley-Eversheds, Paris, France  Fee: £1,050

Although it is widely recognised that boundary disputes are best settled through negotiation, there are times when recourse to third party settlement also needs to be considered as an option. This workshop is designed to help governments evaluate the pros and cons of boundary litigation and arbitration, and to equip them with information and skills to ensure a successful outcome from the process. Led by highly experienced international lawyers and boundary practitioners, the workshop will offer practical instruction on topics such as: choice of forum; assembling and assessing evidence; building and managing a team; presenting your case and rebutting your opponent's case. The workshop will be of value not only to countries currently involved in boundary litigation or arbitration but also to any country seeking to achieve a peaceful boundary settlement with its neighbours.

Co-hosted and sponsored by: Eversheds
WORKSHOP REPORT

Archive Research for Boundary Dispute Resolution
11 - 13 November 2002

IBRU’s most recent training course was held in London in order to make use of the rich resources relating to international boundaries around the world in the British national archives. The first day consisted of lectures and discussion on title to territory and how archive material can be used to illuminate the origins of boundary disputes and support territorial claims. On the second and third days the 24 participants from 13 countries visited the Public Record Office and the Map and Oriental & India Office Collections of the British Library. With exclusive behind-the-scenes access, participants received practical guidance on how to make the best possible use of time available for archive research. IBRU would like to express its gratitude both to the workshop tutors and to the archives concerned for their invaluable assistance in making this event possible.

FESTSCHRIFT FOR GERALD BLAKE

The Razor’s Edge
International Boundaries and Political Geography

Clive Schofield, David Newman, Alasdair Drysdale and Janet Allison Brown (Eds.)

The sixth volume in Kluwer Law International’s International Boundary Studies series is a collection of essays in honour of Professor Gerald Blake, who founded IBRU in 1989 and retired as Director in September 2001. Entitled The Razor’s Edge (from Lord Curzon’s famous comment that “frontiers are indeed the razor’s edge on which hangs suspended the modern issues of war and peace, of life and death to nations”) the book contains a fascinating selection of papers written by colleagues and former students reflecting the main thematic and regional interests of Gerald Blake during his long and distinguished career as a political geographer and boundary scholar.

The book comprises 27 chapters divided into four sections: Political Geography and Territorial Issues; International Maritime Boundaries; International Land Boundaries; and the Middle East. A full list of contributors and chapter titles can be found on the Kluwer website at www.wkap.nl/prod/is/IBOS. Needless to say, it reads like a Who’s Who? of political geographers and boundary specialists, reflecting the high esteem in which Gerald Blake is held.

The editors of The Razor’s Edge - Clive Schofield, David Newman, Alasdair Drysdale and Janet Allison Brown - have done an outstanding job in assembling this significant collection of papers which represent an important contribution to the resources available for the peaceful resolution of international boundary problems around the world.

This book can be ordered direct from Kluwer: ISBN 90-411-9874-1; price: 200.00 EUR/ 184.00 USD/ 126.00 GBP. Please note that IBRU does not stock this publication.

Other titles in the International Boundary Studies series:

* Boundaries of Cooperation
* Borderlands Under Stress
* The Contested Maritime and Territorial Boundaries of Malaysia
* Boundaries and Energy: Problems and Prospects
* International Boundaries and Environmental Security
IBRU Publications

We regret that IBRU is no longer able to produce in-house publications. However, our extensive backlist will continue to be available.

IBRU is working to make as many of its publications available electronically as possible, particularly the Boundary & Territory Briefings and Maritime Briefings series.

Printed copies of most IBRU publications are also still available and a full backlist and order form is enclosed with this newsletter.

Special discounts are listed for back issues of the Boundary & Security Bulletin. Discounts are also offered on bulk orders.

Full details can also be found via IBRU’s web site at www.ibru.dur.ac.uk

For all publications enquiries contact IBRU via tel: +44 (0)191 374 7701 or e-mail ibru@dur.ac.uk

BRIEFINGS PUBLISHED IN 2002

MARITIME BRIEFINGS

Developments in the Technical Determination of Maritime Space: Delimitation, Dispute Resolution, Geographical Information Systems and the Role of the Technical Expert

Chris Carleton and Clive Schofield (Vol. 3 No. 4)

The Sino-Vietnamese Approach to Managing Boundary Disputes

Ramses Amer (Vol. 3 No. 5)

BOUNDARY & TERRITORY BRIEFINGS

Territorial Disputes among Japan, China and Taiwan Concerning the Senkaku Islands

Seokwoo Lee (Vol. 3 No. 7)

The Resolution of the Territorial Dispute between Korea and Japan over the Liancourt Rocks

Seokwoo Lee (Vol. 3 No. 8)

Conference Watch

IBRU plans to host its next international conference in the summer of 2004 but, if you can’t wait until then, the following conferences should help to keep you going:

Addressing Difficult Issues in UNCLOS

3rd ABLOS Biennial Scientific Conference, Monaco, 28-30 October 2003

www.gmat.unsw.edu.au/ablos/#ABLOS’03

Improving Africa’s Boundaries

School for Advanced International Studies, The Johns Hopkins University, Washington D C, 4-5 April 2003

Further information from Theresa Simmons (+1 202 663 5676, tsimmons@jhu.edu)

Border Regions in Transition: Crossing Disciplines, Crossing Scales, Crossing Regions

Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, 5/6-12 January 2004

www.bgu.ac.il/politics/conf/brit.htm