Annals: 40-40 Vision

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Abstract
Four authors, including the current and founding editors, have collaborated to write this editorial that marks the 40th anniversary of Annals of Tourism Research. It has three objectives. The first is to look back and encourage reflection on the last 40 years of its development. This is done by recounting the twists and turns of the history and transformation of the journal as well as by analyzing the trends and patterns of knowledge formation. The second objective is to look sideways and examine developments in the broader social sciences of which Annals is part of. Finally the issues raised by the first two objectives provide the stimulus for a brief discussion about the future of the journal and the directions and challenges for tourism social science knowledge.

Keywords: Annals, tourism social science, knowledge, networks, representation, non-representational theory.
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INTRODUCTION

This editorial marks and celebrates the 40th anniversary of Annals of Tourism Research: A Social Sciences Journal in 2013. Its title, Annals: 40-40 Vision, embraces three objectives: to look back and encourage reflection on the last 40 years of development of the journal; to look sideways and examine developments in the broader social sciences of which Annals is part of; and to look forward to provoke some discussion of the future. As such it is an article which reflects both on the journal and the knowledge that it conveys.

In order to fulfill these objectives, four authors have collaborated, each being allocated a specific task and section. The article is comprised of five parts, commencing with this introduction which sets the scene and explains the structure. Part two focusses on the evolution of Annals as a journal. Part three analyses the main knowledge trends apparent over the past 40 years. Part four offers a sideways look at Annals and tourism in the light of broader social science developments. The final part offers some brief thoughts on the future. Readers will be able to detect the changes in style as each author passes the
baton on to the next. John Tribe, the current Editor-in-Chief, took responsibility for commissioning the article and for specifically writing the introduction, the second portion of part two covering the recent development of the journal from 2007 to the present and part five which offers some glimpses into the future. Jafar Jafari, the Founding Editor of *Annals* wrote the initial portion of part two, sharing his thoughts and experiences on the period of evolution of the journal from its inception to 2007. Honggen Xiao has kept a watchful eye on knowledge production in *Annals* in his role as Index Editor. He has provided the major contribution to the editorial in part three where major knowledge trends are analyzed. Xiao’s brief was to provide a critical historical account of the evolution of knowledge in *Annals*, covering the whole 40 year period, identifying the main research clusters (e.g. knowledge and methods), the changes in these clusters and acknowledging key papers. Paul Cloke was invited to write part four of the editorial as an eminent academic with an understanding of tourism but one who is not bounded by tourism. Rather he is firmly grounded in broader social science and social theory. His brief was to cast light on tourism from the outside by an examination of exemplar cutting edge methods and issues in Social Science and their possible implications for tourism research.

**THE EVOLUTION OF *ANNALS OF TOURISM RESEARCH***

**Birth of Annals to 2007**

A vision is rooted in and springs from a chronicled past cast into a harp, which cannot be played, let alone heard, until its time has come.

Why *Annals of Tourism Research*? What led to its development? What vision shaped and guided its mission? Answers to such questions call for an “oral history”, recalling what brought about the publication of this journal and how it evolved through time.
The “recall” involved in reconstructing an epoch is not free of bias. On one hand, the required brevity may force some important points to inadvertently be left out. Yes, the passage of time taxes in more than one way. On the other hand—but more significantly—if there is only one participant in the “oral history”, this individual may speak partially or subjectively, despite all the training received on how to detach oneself from the data and avoid casting personal views. The following abbreviated history of the making and shaping of *Annals* may certainly suffer from such limitations, despite attempts to remain objective and complete.

Soon after World War Two, many devastated economies of the world, particularly European, turned their attention to the development of tourism as an “easy” tool to rebuild their ruined economies. Behind such a notion could have been only the presumed economic muscle of tourism: that this “industry” means money, foreign exchange in particular (the very injection needed to rebuild nations), and the generation of new jobs. As such, dispersed studies of the time dealt chiefly with the economics of tourism and how to promote it. Up to the end of the 1960s, rarely any other topics or issues were of interest. Sociocultural dimensions were invisible and possible negative consequences of tourism development were “unthinkable”. Expanding the industry was the goal, and this was to be done with the untold abundance of nature and heritage “lying idle”—the very attractions for which tourists are willing to pay “good money” (Jafari 2001).

Tourism entered the 1970s with a fully packed carry-on baggage of its past, which included studies “documenting” its economic benefits, suggesting that the sky was the limit for its development. In this decade, it was not yet acceptable to openly question
the values assigned to tourism, let alone inquire if its development could lead to costs. Even if such questions were asked and investigated, who would be interested in reading about them and, significantly, where could the resulting articles be published?

Journals of the time were few (two or three, depending on how one counts them) and they were all organs of membership associations or agencies. As such, they often reflected the views of their members/constituencies. None of them would want to publish works “investigating” or criticizing tourism. But research results deserve to be published, regardless of the findings. The need to establish a journal which was not affiliated with any tourism entity started sounding in the harp of the time. Without any backings from enterprising tourism entities, such an “independent” journal would have no choice but to be simple and down to earth. With basic institutional support, the first issue of Annals—typed on a typewriter (but it was electric!) and stapled in the middle—appeared in November, 1973; and suddenly the medium in which any study, regardless of its positive or negative findings, could be published had arrived: a monthly publication for a $10 subscription per year.

Hardly a year into its publication, a few disturbing letters arrived (sorry, no emails then). These were in reaction to negative consequences of tourism which had been “claimed” in the journal articles. To paraphrase the sentiments of the letters, “rubbish..... you are either with tourism or stay out of it”. But one thing quickly became clear: the adversaries were also reading Annals, in addition to the members of the academic community, who were the intended target audience. Subscriptions started dripping in (in posted envelopes) and a sense of accomplishment was taking root.
Editors know that doing a journal is a full-time job. But what could one do if his teaching assignment remained unchanged, at 12 credits per semester? One “solution” was to “take it easy” by going bi-monthly, assuming that a reduction in the number of issues per year would save time. In retrospect, changing the frequency did not matter: the job was demanding anyway. The move from bi-monthly to quarterly had a more solid reason behind it: to align Annals with the quarterly publication calendar of the bulk of academic journals.

Almost all academic fields have their own symbols: test tubes, engines, money symbols, homo sapiens, the caduceus and the like. Travel also had its own: planes taking off, palm trees, “paradise” islands, elephants or camels, and not to forget cameras. A glossy publication in those days with such images would make tourism research appear frivolous on academic campuses (a situation not too different from what leisure and recreation studies were experiencing). Thus Annals stayed away from these symbols (unless they were used in articles as figures). Its intentionally “dull” looks helped the journal to keep its distance from the known travel images and at the same time close a gap with the academic community. With the passage of time, the strategy of “going academic”—looking, sounding, and acting as such (both in contents and appearance)—became the “culture” or brand of Annals. While its cover/format changed four times (Figure 1), its original mission stood as its raison d’être.
Figure 1. Covers of Annals: 1973-Present

To reveal and reinforce its academic “colors”, in 1975, Annals took “A Social Sciences Journal” as its subtitle (actually before this proclamation, Annals had already started listing its editors in relation to their native disciplines). The subtitle
was intended as a loud statement, to be harped in the affiliated fields. This new transformation of *Annals* was relatively simple when compared to the experience of those in social science and related fields wanting to cross over to tourism studies. Their pains and joy at individual levels are recorded in four volumes of the *Tourism Social Science Series* featuring about 50 established tourism scholars trained in anthropology, economics, geography, management, marketing, psychology, and sociology (Dwyer 2011; Nash 2007; Pearce 2011; Smith 2010). While a number of these chronicles refer to early days of the journal, one in particular comments on the making and shaping of *Annals* as well (Jafari 2007).

Despite early hiccups and obstacles, *Annals* stayed on its scientification course. Remaining scholarly and doing the journal in its own style was the only way forward. One after another, academic ideas and practices were borrowed and incorporated into its work. For instance, in the early years, refereeing papers submitted for publication was unknown in tourism, although a regular practice in other disciplines. When it was instituted in *Annals*, the initial reception was negative—often not by younger authors but by senior scholars whose contributions had always been published without any reviews. One single example may reveal the point. When anonymous reviews were sent (yes, by mail) to a senior colleague, about two weeks later a response was received. To paraphrase, “who are these people who review my paper…. what do they know about tourism…. How dare you send my paper for review?” But the review procedure proved to bring forth quality papers and was not aborted. With the passage of time, this practice was accepted and soon became the norm in other tourism journals as well.
While attempts were being made to disassociate *Annals* from the usual travel symbols and, at the same time, associate it with social science fields, further efforts had to be exerted so that the journal would not be perceived as disconnected and irrelevant. To elaborate, the English language was not then (and still is not) the worldwide working language of all tourism researchers. *Annals*’ being published in an English-speaking country could suggest a disconnect with the international market that the journal wanted to serve. To better match the needs of authors and readers whose native tongues were not English, submissions were asked to be prepared in American English whose syntax is simpler. Soon after, abstracts were published in French, in an attempt to reach a wider audience with at least summaries of the topics. Of course the latter did not reduce the language problem, but was intended more as a statement that *Annals* recognizes that language is a major obstacle in communicating research and understands the “pain” of those whose native language is not English.

To further accentuate this multi-lingualism sensitivity, a list of languages spoken by members of the editorial board based in about 40 countries was added to the inside of the front cover. Moreover, it became a practice of *Annals* to always name the country as well as the institution of the author after the article title. A review of past issues would suggest that from early on the authorship of *Annals* was predominantly international, with a growing percentage from non-English-speaking countries (Xiao & Smith, 2006). The subscription list of the publisher also showed that the readership quickly became as international as it could get. Another language-driven measure was the publication of *Annals en Español*, with its first issue appearing in 1999. Perhaps these measures were small, but one had to begin somewhere, and little actions added up.
In the meantime, many innovative new journals began publishing and tourism became a stronger field because of them. The study of tourism started expanding fast. As the body of knowledge continued to grow and develop, no longer could one claim that he/she knew everything in the field. Research techniques became more complex and soon the landscape of knowledge in tourism was populated with ever-expanding specialized research niches. Therefore, finding referees who could evaluate increasingly specialized submissions became more and more difficult. The solution was to appoint for each submission a Coordinating Editor who had expertise in the subject area, with the request that this editor in turn appoint three specialized referees to assess the paper. This technique made the outcome for *Annals*—as well as for the Coordinating Editor and his/her referees and authors—much more rewarding.

As already noted, *Annals* started borrowing ideas from other academic journals in any field. The very name of *Annals* came to mind when coming across *The Annals of Statistics*. For one, the word *Annals*—with its “unique” flavor or sound—was not then an obvious choice for a tourism journal. When the name was picked, the assumption was that eventually the market would use it as a shortcut to the full name of the journal. The validity of this assumption soon spoke for itself and, as of today, probably it is the only one among some 100 tourism journals known by its one-word iconic name: *Annals*.

Back to the concept of “Coordinating Editor”: this was not *Annals*’ invention either, as this too was borrowed, this time from the *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*. Actually, importing styles and ideas, often verbatim, from journals in other fields continued: Why not number pages sequentially in each volume (instead of having each issue start on page 1)? Why not publish an abstract and keywords with
each article? Why not publish thematic Special Issues? Why not a department for *Rejoinders and Commentary*? Or a Calendar section? Or a Cumulative Subject Index? Why not call the “guidelines to authors”, Style? Even after some years, why not stop publishing Special Issues? The latter deserves a note of clarification. Thematic issues are important, but as the number of submissions continued to rise, *Annals* could no longer afford to set aside one or two of its annual issues for this purpose; hence, the last special issue appeared in 1996. In the same year, the time’s harp struck the chord for another cast, *Tourism Social Science Series*, in which thematic book-length publications could perform. This way, a “loss” was turned to a “gain”, for a fuller orchestration.

In retrospect, most of the borrowings from other journals were simple but necessary—for *Annals* to achieve its academic standing beside others in established fields. A review of the past 40 years of *Annals* would suggest it has been prone to “acculturation”. Its living (and shifting) multidisciplinary culture—to expand the frontiers of knowledge in this field—has brought it many gifts, including being the first tourism journal to claim its place in the Social Science Citation Index—a carte blanche for which it had not applied nor campaigned for. Yet for all the ways in which *Annals* has changed and will continue to change for the better, as already stated, its vision and mission have remained unchanged:

*Annals of Tourism Research* is a social sciences journal focusing upon the academic perspectives of tourism. While striving for a balance of theory and application, *Annals* is ultimately dedicated to developing theoretical constructs. Its strategies are to invite and encourage offerings from various disciplines; to serve as a forum through which these may interact; and thus to expand frontiers of knowledge in and contribute to the
literature on tourism social science. In this role, *Annals* both structures and is structured by the research efforts of a multidisciplinary community of scholars.

In this fashion, the goal of contributing to the formation and expansion of the landscape of knowledge in the field of tourism has remained the core. A chronological journey through 40 years of *Annals* would suggest that its scientification processes are at work and have been making good progress. Guided by its visionary mission, obviously standards must be maintained, in respect to the quality of submissions as well as the format of their deliveries. If academic standards and in-house styles are not enforced, then each time authors “negotiate” their own preferences. When deviations are accommodated, this leads to more of the same and suddenly every aspect of substance and format goes. Compliance with quality and delivery (style) standards define the brand and shape the “character” of a journal. Aiming for standardization, issue after issue, volume after volume, inevitably brings some authors chagrin (but editors quickly develop thick skin). C’est la vie of an editor; it goes with the territory.

What is often forgotten in publishing periodicals is that a journal owes its success to an army of researchers, authors, referees, and editorial board members who are on the front lines of research, heightening the status of a journal with their moves and maneuvers. Chief Editors are often given too much credit. A journal without this dedicated army goes nowhere. In addition to being the guardian of its principles, a chief editor is an orchestrator with a sense of what tunes are in and which are on their way out. While the chief editor gives all the time it takes to perform the task, untold amounts are invested by the members of the editorial board, particularly Coordinating Editors and their anonymous referees. Their generous investment of time is
“invisible” in journals. *Annals*, to remedy this situation, though symbolically, borrowed another idea from journals: *Acknowledgements* is a department in which the efforts of those whose work have made a volume of four issues possible (for both accepted and rejected papers) are recognized in the last issue of the year.

Metaphorically books are like ponds which are contained by their very nature and can dry up with the passage of time. But a journal is a stream, a river of knowledge which updates, repairs, and uplifts the body and flows year-round—all four seasons—for the development or scientification of the field. It runs continuously because authors, referees, and editors act as feeders of nurtured waters intended not only to cultivate the perennial landscape of knowledge but also to irrigate uncharted terrains of scholarship. Chief Editors foster and reinforce the river beds and orchestrate these movements. Chief Editors come and go, but the river stays. Without the army of the feeders, the river goes dry. Without their continuous strokes the harp will go silent.

**2007 and after**

… “Without their continuous strokes the harp will go silent”. A central tenet of actor network theory (ANT) is also that networks require the continuous performance of actors to sustain them. So for this second section on the evolution of the journal, the metaphor of the harp is replaced by the use of actor network theory.

Inheriting the editorship of *Annals* from its founding editor, with a brand strongly linked to that editor, with a distinguished panel of long standing co-ordinating editors chosen by that editor and with meticulous editorial standards and well-established editorial processes was a daunting yet delightfully appealing task. The journal’s structures and its culture, embodied in its durable inscriptions, presaged a deeply
entrenched path dependency. My old school motto was to be a guiding philosophy – *Pavlatim Ergo Certe* – Strive therefore little by little – so no sudden or dramatic changes were planned. But key tasks were to understand the network of *Annals*, to deepen understanding about research and knowledge production and to continue the work of developing the journal. Indeed having written of “The Truth about Tourism” (Tribe, 2006) and about epistemological, sociologically and network issues of knowledge production (Tribe, 2010) now was a practical opportunity to grapple with some of the issues raised.

The *Annals* network consists of human and non-human agents. On the human side these include publishers, journal managers, authors, editors, co-ordinating editors, reviewers, readers, librarians etc. The non-human agents include technologies (e.g. the EES - Elsevier Electronic Submission), the printed journal, the electronic journal and its distribution systems. Of these the cover, aims, format, and the everyday business of *Annals* have remained broadly the same. Indeed the first major change was barely visible from the outside. This involved the move from a manual system of journal administration to an electronic web-based system. Critics warned of the depersonalization of the process – but all standardized EES letters can and should be personalized and manual letters were surely rarely written entirely from scratch. What the EES has brought is the potential for enhanced process control. This includes more precise matching of submissions with editorial expertise, closer monitoring of the review process and feedback from authors on the process. It has also enabled papers to be published online on demand and thus eliminated any queuing for an available edition with space.
But what of other challenges facing journals? The inherited system of double-blind peer review is at the heart of informed but disinterested knowledge quality control. But the sociology of knowledge and ANT alert us to be aware of a number of important hidden issues in knowledge production. These include reproduction, ethnocentrism, the power of clans and elders, the importance of primary actors and obligatory passage points and the power of problematization. In more everyday terms these translate into two main themes and challenges:

- How is the knowledge agenda for the journal established and is there a tendency to favor some knowledge over others?
- Does the editor have undue power and is there an established editorial clique that makes it difficult for newcomers to penetrate the system? Are any groups systematically privileged or discriminated against?

The answers to, or at least discussion of these questions reveals, I think, that important work has been done, but that more work has to be done.

The knowledge agenda of *Annals* is neatly captured by Jafari’s earlier comments where criticality and social science were established as two key guiding principles. The editor has more recently given some steer to this by commissioning review articles. One of the aims of these is to discuss future knowledge agendas but setting the knowledge agenda otherwise rests firmly with the research community. Xiao’s analysis of knowledge trends in the next section gives some insights into “favored” knowledge. Elsewhere comments have been made about overlooked knowledge. For example Tribe (2010, p.29) noted that “the English language operates a difficult obligatory passage point for many researchers”. Further, Tribe’s informants (2010, pp. 21-22) “identified under-researched areas pointing to four key ‘silences’ [that included] ‘other knowledges’ which appear to be overlooked because of a culture of
ethnocentrism … under-empowered groups, particularly the situation of minorities …
power and politics …[and] quality of life and the more spiritual, humanistic side of

tourism.” The technology and traditions of journals also favor certain methodologies
and rhetorical styles. In other words journals require knowledge to be put into words
in a certain format. This renders non-textual data or rhetoric (e.g. the visual, olfactory,
auditory or even haptic) non-admissible.

Any editor is powerful, as a primary actor, and in embodying an obligatory passage
point. But another well-established system initiated and described above by Jafari is
one of devolved power. Submissions are delegated by the editor-in-chief to a team of
specialist coordinating editors on the basis of matching expertise and equitable
workload. This avoids the concentration of power in the editor-in-chief. On the other
hand, replenishing and renewing the editorial board has been a major task. Jafari has
already adverted to the established internationalization process. This has been
continued. Additionally Jafari ensured that key female editors such as Valene Smith
were represented on the editorial panel. There has been a continued emphasis on
gender equality and an attempt to lower the average age of Annals’ editors and since
1997, 46 male and 11 female editors have been retired and replaced by 30 males and
24 females.

Two other developments are worth noting about Annals. The first is the inclusion of
an editorial in the first edition of every volume. This has the very clear purpose of
holding a mirror up to the journal both in terms of analyzing knowledge trends and to
encourage reflexivity, or in ANT terms, to peer and probe inside the “black box” of
Annals (Tribe, Xiao, & Chambers, 2012). The second development, illustrated in
Figure 2, is the consistent improvement in the impact factor of the journal which reached 3.259 in 2011.

![Figure 2. Impact Factor](image)

**Knowledge Trends**

What major research areas have formed in *Annals* over its 40 years of continuous publication? How has the collective knowledge evolved and grown over time? What are the influential papers *Annals* has published? What can be said of tourism studies from the perspective of this journal? Notably the ebbs and flows of knowledge could serve as a critical instance to address the above queries, through a review of the optimism, enthusiasm, and passion at its inception, and subsequently the criticality and reflection associated with its recent research.

*Journal as a Lens on Knowledge Production*

To date, *Annals* has published 164 issues, including 28 special issues, addressing a broad spectrum of multidisciplinary tourism social science. As recorded in the journal’s cumulative subject index (Xiao, 2012), a total of 3,736 contributions, of which 1,374 are full-length research articles, have been published with a total of 2,961 author appearances. Viewed by decades, an increasing trend of main article publication is notable. For example, there were 172 main articles in 1974—1984, 357 in 1985—1995, 505 in 1996—2006, and 340 full-length contributions in 2007-2012.
In recent years, online publishing became a norm where page restriction per volume was less of a concern with the publisher. Notably, *Annals* was able to publish 72 main articles in 2011 and 90 full-length contributions in 2012.

In terms of geographical/regional focus, over 40% of *Annals* main articles addressed problems with general implications. Over 140 countries and regions were indexed as headwords. Viewed broadly in terms of continents or international regions, North America, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Africa, and Arctic/Antarctic have been frequently documented in the earlier years; nonetheless the dominance of North America is gradually giving way to studies in Europe, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. Despite these changes, citations of Central and South America, Africa, and Pacific island states have remained low. Interest in the Arctic or Antarctic did not emerge until the 1990s when environment and sustainability became dominant themes.

By geographical distribution of main article authorship, the top contributing countries were the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. More than 95% of the contributors are academics, with tourism, anthropology, sociology, geography, economics, recreation and leisure, hospitality, political science, marketing and management, and other business domains as the main contributing departments/disciplines.

A unique contribution *Annals* has made to the earlier development of multidisciplinary tourism social science was its publication of 28 special issues. Their themes covered sociology, geography, anthropology, management, education, regional studies and development, economics, political science, social psychology, ethnology, cross-cultural communication, history, consumer research, environment,
leisure/recreation, methodology, semiotics, tourism social science, pilgrimage, arts, feminism/gender, and heritage. These special issues constitute a clear trend. As an echo to the choice of disciplines and approaches identified by Jafari and Ritchie (1981), well-established disciplines such as economics, sociology, psychology, geography, and anthropology were fundamental contributors to tourism studies in the 1970s. The focus shifted to business, management, marketing, and socioeconomic perspectives in the 1980s. The themes subsequently gave way to sociocultural and environmental foci, with special issues on semiotics, arts, pilgrimage, gender, heritage, sustainability, and environmental studies in the 1990s. Viewed historically and by multidisciplinary inputs (Jafari, 2001; Jafari & Ritchie, 1981), these special issues are indications of hybridization and growth of tourism knowledge around major subject areas.

**Major Subject Areas**

By frequency of index citations, 27 subject headwords represent most researched areas in *Annals*, including methodology, development, impacts, organization and association, the United States, tourist, international tourism, planning, resort, culture, marketing, motivation, attractions, conference/congress/seminar, industry, destination, Third World, employment, tourism, hotel, policy, demand, transportation, domestic tourism, Caribbean, ethnic, and government. Notably sub-divisions of, and cross-references amongst, major subject headwords are indicative of the emergence of two meta categories of knowledge domains in *Annals*: Theory and Methodology, and Development and Impacts (Xiao & Smith, 2006a).

*Theory and Methodology*. From its very beginning, tourism studies has evolved as a multidisciplinary field, to which researchers have introduced a variety of concepts,
theoretical models, and discipline-based methodologies to the explanation and theorization of tourism as an economic and sociocultural phenomenon. Central to its mission of nurturing the development of multidisciplinary theories and methodologies, *Annals*’ commitment to the advancement of multidisciplinary tourism social science was reiterated in the editor’s page of its early issues: “Each of its issues as a whole represents pioneering and continuing efforts to introduce into the study of tourism theoretical and methodological perspectives from the affiliated fields” (Jafari, 1981, pp.165-166).

The journal’s dedication to developing theoretical constructs can be seen in the expansion of sub-divisions and cross-references of subject headwords relating to theory. In addition to theory development indexed under substantive/content-based headwords (e.g., authenticity, dependency theory, decision-making models), headwords such as community (scientific, study of), discipline, epistemology, knowledge, model, multidisciplinary approach, paradigm, postmodernism, theory, and tourism (study of) show sustained growth in terms of index citations over the last 40 years. Notably the journal’s focus on developing theoretical constructs has remained consistent and constant to its very recent volume/years. For example, articles indexed under “Model” encompass conceptualization or conceptual research in pertinence to behavior (Smallman & Moore, 2010), destination choice (Decrop, 2010; McKercher, Denizci-Guillet & Ng, 2012), community support (Nunkoo, Ramkissoon & Gusory, 2012), core-periphery (Lai & Li, 2012), economic approaches to tourism demand (Goh, 2012; Smeral, 2012; Song, Dwyer, Li & Cao, 2012; Wu, Li & Song, 2012), information search, neural network, push and pull, and tourism-leisure continuum.

In line with these conceptual/theoretical discussions, index citations to headwords such as “Discipline/disciplinary approaches”, “Epistemology”, “Paradigm/critical tourism studies”, and “Tourism, study of” have been on an increase, particularly in the last ten years. From epistemic/paradigmatic perspectives, Annals is increasingly characteristic of an evolution towards critical and interpretive scholarship. For example, Pritchard, Morgan and Ateljevic’s (2011) reflexive account outlines such values-led humanistic approaches towards “hopeful tourism” or critical tourism studies. Ren, Pritchard and Morgan (2010), Caton (2012), and Pernecky and Jamal (2010), in their construction of reflexive scholarship and knowledge production, explore hermeneutic and phenomenological approaches to tourism studies. Sedgley, Pritchard and Morgan (2011) develop a transformative agenda for tourism and ageing research. Tribe (2010) critically analyzes the nature and structure of tourism studies as well as the formation of culture and networks amongst its academics. Racheria and Hu (2010) report on research collaborations on the basis of co-authorship patterns.
visible from journals. Feighery (2011) articulates on the role of academics as consultants and knowledge brokering ethics in a (the) scientific community.

Also falling within the above discussions are Liburd (2012), who analyses pluralist epistemology underpinning contemporary tourism research resulting in complementary norms and forms of knowledge development; Pernecky (2012), who discusses the application, pitfalls, and prospects of constructionism in tourism studies; Buckley (2012), whose review on sustainable tourism helps set research priorities on sustainability accounting, individual responsibility, and conservation; Darbellay and Stock (2012), who address tourism as a complex interdisciplinary research object; Gossling, Scott, Hall, Ceron, and Dubois (2012), who present a conceptual/review discussion on tourist behavior in response to climate change; and Weiler, Moyle and McLennan (2012), who examine disciplines that influence doctoral research in the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

In addition to theoretical richness, tourism studies in *Annals* has also spawned a growth in methodological sophistication. Methodology-related subjects have consistently risen over the years. This is reflected in the expansion of the two sub-categories under “Methodology”: Analytical (53 sub headwords, 330 citations) and Data Collection (36 sub headwords, 204 citations). Specifically the “analytical” subdivision encompasses, amongst other approaches, almost ideal demand system, analytic hierarchy process, ANCOVA, ANOVA, autoethnography, behavioral analysis, chi-square automatic interaction detection, cluster analysis, computable general equilibrium, content analysis, contingent valuation, cost-benefit analysis, cost-volume-profit, data envelopment analysis, discourse analysis, discriminant analysis, econometric analysis, ethnomethodological approaches, factor analysis, frame
analysis, geographically weighted regression, grounded theory approach, hybrid analysis, multiplier effect (or model), importance-performance approaches, input-output analysis, main destination ratio, meta analysis, modeling approach, multidimensional ratio, multiple criteria decision making, multiple regression, path, rough set, multidimensional scaling, sequence alignment methods, social constructionism, social network analysis, structural equation modeling, time series, total economic evaluation, and transactional analysis.

In terms of “data collection”, amongst other instruments or approaches, methods characteristic of anthropology, business, career planning, cognitive and comparative approaches, content analysis, fieldwork (or ethnography), focus groups, frame analysis, geography, interview, macro-social accounting, modeling, motivation, multidisciplinarity, narratives, observation, operation, panel, phenomenology, qualitative, questionnaire, survey and time budget have been recorded in the index. In addition, “Methodology” as a key headword has also been cross-referenced to Case study (18 index citations), Comparative studies (14 citations), Ethnography (30 citations), Model (23 sub headwords, 97 index citations), Multidisciplinary approach (24 citations), Qualitative and quantitative research (7 citations), Theory (27 sub headwords, 132 index citations), and Tourism, study of (with 107 citations, of which about 70% of the instances appeared after 2000). Moreover, prior to the turn of the millennium, a number of special issues with disciplinary/methodological focus were published, e.g., with themes in pertinence to sociology (1979), geography (1979), anthropology (1980, 1983), management (1980), (political) economics (1982, 1990), political science (1983), social psychology (1984), consumer research (1986), methodology (1988), semiotics (1989), tourism social science (1991), arts and heritage (1993, 1996), and gender/feminist studies (1995).
In view of paradigmatic orientation and its associated theoretical richness and methodological sophistication, *Annals* evolution into a major (and perhaps distinct) platform for interdisciplinary scholarship with explicit qualitative/interpretive traditions is notable. These reflections are largely consistent with prior observations from Walle (1997), Riley and Love (2000), Cole, Hall and Duval (2006), Tribe (2006), Bruner (2010), Tribe and Xiao (2011), and Tribe, Xiao and Chambers (2012).

*Development and Impacts.* Substantively the clustering of subjects in *Annals* (in)forms another meta-category of knowledge around “Development and Impacts”. As a core subject, “Development” (with 26 sub headwords and 441 index citations) is also cross-referenced to “Cost” (16 citations), “Impacts” (22 sub headwords, 408 citations), “Planning” (16 sub headwords, 142 citations), “Modernity/Modernization” (15 citations), “Sustainability” (72 citations), “Urban/Urbanization” (60 citations), and “Developing/Less Developed Countries/Third World” (13 sub headwords, 112 citations). At the outer layer of this branch are subjects related to (under “Development”) benefits and costs, coastal/regional/resort/rural/sustainable development, economic/ecological/sociocultural development, domestic/indigenous/international tourism development, and indicator/model/policy/scale-stage/strategy of development; (under “Cost”) commercialization, crime, dependency theory, and price; (under “Planning”) government, policy, and physical environment; (under “Modernity/Modernization”) acculturation, adaptation, cultural change, demonstration effect, and postmodernism; and (under “Third World”) cultural/economic impacts, dependency, political economy (Britton, 1982), post-/neo-colonialism, international tourism to, and growth of tourism in Third World development (Brohman, 1996).
Centering around the core of “Impacts” are cross-references to carrying capacity, cost, development, mitigation, and yield; as well as subdivisions into impact assessment techniques, economic/socio-cultural/environmental/political/architectural/moral aspects of impacts, negative/undesirable impacts, as well as impacts on arts, communities and tourists themselves. In connection to this meta category of “Development and Impacts”, other building blocks include limits of acceptable change, recreation opportunity spectrum, visitor experience and resource protection, resort/destination life cycle, attraction systems (Leiper, 1990a), destination development, space and place (Rakic & Chambers, 2012), destination image and image formation (Baloglu & McCleary, 1999; Beerli & Martin, 2004), creative destruction model, core-periphery theory, urban-rural fringe, development stages, dependency theory, and neo-colonialism.

This content analysis of Annals’ cumulative subject index (Xiao, 2012) indicates that the generic relationship between development and impacts has been indexed under the headwords of agriculture (Cai, 2002), anthropology (Graburn, 1983), collaboration and community tourism (Bramwell & Sharman, 1999; Jamal & Getz, 1995), policy and planning (Wu, Xue, Morrison & Leung, 2012), conservation/preservation, dependency theory, destination marketing and branding (Cai, 2002), sustainable tourism (Hunter, 1997, e.g., in alternative forms of agritourism, farm tourism, ecotourism, nature-based tourism, rural tourism, and responsible tourism), globalization (Mak, Lumbers & Eves, 2012), government, heritage and cultural tourism, industrialization, landscape, lifecycle, power (Cheong & Miller, 2000), protected area, representation/mediation, resort, resources, and wilderness and wildlife.
Moreover, three special issues were published on tourism and development from anthropological perspectives, the evolution of tourism from historical and contemporary perspectives, and tourism and the physical environment. Collectively this corpus of knowledge on development and impacts contributes to a better understanding of tourism at different levels (or types) of community development (Belisle & Hoy, 1980; Brunt & Courtney, 1999), residents’ attitudes/perceptions/support of tourism as a developmental option (Ap, 1992; Gursoy, Jurowski & Uysal, 2002; King, Pizam & Milman, 1993; Perdue, Long & Allen, 1990), the changing dynamics of stakeholders and host-guest interactions (Shani & Uriely, 2012), as well as the modeling/measurement/estimation/assessment techniques of tourism impacts (Dogan, 1989; Fredline & Faulkner, 2000; Landford & Howard, 1994).

In addition to the above two meta categories, the following subject domains have also experienced sustained growth in the 40 years of *Annals*: Typology of Tourists, Authenticity, and Tourist Experience; Cultural Representation, Identity and Image; Attractions and Destinations; and Motivation, Behavior and Decision-making. As noted by Tribe and Xiao (2011), theories indigenous to tourism are possibly more likely to be developed around these subjects or problem areas.

*Typology of Tourists, Authenticity, and Tourist Experience*. Researchers in *Annals* have employed a variety of social sciences perspectives to address issues in pertinence to typology, authenticity, and tourist experience. Specifically published topics in this domain encompass authenticity and commodification (Cohen, 1988), ego-enhancement and tourism (Dann, 1977), conceptual discussions on authenticity and
tourist experience (Steiner & Reisinger, 2006; Wang, 1999), leisure and tourist experience (Mannell & Iso-Ahola, 1987), the transformation of self in tourism (Bruner, 1991), tourist roles (Yiannakis & Gibson, 1992), staged authenticity and heritage tourism experience, and backpacking as a way of life (Cohen, 2011; Larsen, Ogaard & Brun, 2011; Ong & du Cros, 2012; Sorensen, 2003). More recently, Shani and Uriely (2012) explore the negative and positive aspects of VFR tourism from the host’s perspective; Zhu’s (2012) study of authenticity adopts the theory of performativity and focuses mainly on performers in ethnic tourism; Robinson and Clifford (2012) address authenticity and festival foodservice experiences.

Cultural Representation, Identity and Image. Typically cross-referenced to subjects such as communication, interpretation, photography, (staged) authenticity, semiotics, stereotypes, language, and media/mediation, this subject area (of cultural representation, identity and image) has collectively (in)formed an important domain of research, addressing a diverse set of issues from cultural studies perspectives, e.g., pictorial/photographic/artistic elements in destination image formation (Gao, Zhang & Decosta, 2012; Thompson, Hannam & Petrie, 2012), motion picture impacts on destination images, and movie induced tourism. In the last decade, there has been an increasing focus on postcolonial discourse/textual analysis (d’Hauteserre, 2011; Osagie & Buzinde, 2011), national identity or nationhood (Park, 2010, 2011), as well as politics of representation (Buzinde, Choi & Wang, 2012; Yoo & Buzinde, 2012; Zhu, 2012).

Attractions and Destinations. Central to tourism studies in Annals, this subject area encompasses destination image studies, attraction systems (Leiper, 1990a), behavioral aspects of destination choice (Um & Crompton, 1990), first timers versus repeaters’
behavior at distinct destinations or attractions (Kozak, 2001), and the core of heritage attractions. More recently, there have been studies pertaining to sustainability or sustainable development in destinations or attractions (Nyaupane & Poudel, 2011; Wang, Chen, Fan & Lu, 2012) as well as studies on “contrived” wildlife tourist attractions in postmodern societies (Knight, 2010). In addition, Frantal and Kunc (2011) assess and empirically verify the effects from the construction of wind turbines on landscape image and tourism potential of a destination; Garay and Canoves’ (2011) study combines tourism area life cycle with regulation theory in their analysis of long-term development of a Spanish destination.

Motivation, Behavior and Decision-making. A prominent subject of research in Annals, investigations have been conducted into conceptual reviews and theoretical accounts of tourist motivations (Dann, 1977, 1981; Iso-Ahola, 1982), methodology for measuring/structuring motivations and destination choices (Fodness, 1994; Kluin & Lehto, 2012; Song, Chathoth & Chon, 2012), motivations for pleasure travel (Crompton, 1979), motivation, satisfaction and destination choice (or behavioral intentions) at different stages of travel or in different tourism contexts (Baker & Crompton, 2000; Mansfeld, 1992; Song, van der Veen, Li & Chen, 2012), tourist information search (Fodness & Murray, 1997; Vogt & Fesenmaier, 1998), terrorism, political instability and tourist behavior (Pizam & Sussmann, 1995), as well as repeat visitation (Kozak, 2001). Over the last decade, this line of research has displayed a shift from travel motivation to tourist experience (the latter has experienced phenomenal growth as an indexed subject), and, gradually with a philosophical turn, to tourism as freedom (Caruana & Crane, 2011) or as life-long learning pursuits (Cuffy, Tribe & Airey, 2012; Falk, Ballantyne, Packer & Benckendorff, 2012).
Trends in Knowledge Development

As can be seen in the history of Annals, earlier subjects and methods are like the trunk of a tree that has along its evolution grown new branches of subject areas and leafed out into sub-fields, e.g., event studies, mobility, and critical tourism studies, and the launching of new journals or formation of emerging communities associated with these sub-fields. Accordingly, trends of knowledge development in Annals can be interpreted from three perspectives: Disciplinary and theoretical inputs; Paradigmatic and methodological approaches; and changing foci of clustered subjects over the years.

Changes in Disciplinary and Theoretical Inputs. As the journal grows, changes are notable of disciplinary inputs at different stages. A number of chronological (or change) patterns are identifiable via index citations to subject headwords pertaining to multidisciplinary tourism research. First, the sisters’ fields of recreation/leisure studies (and, to a lesser extent, hospitality) were frequently cited in the early years of Annals (1973-1978), with its input peaking in the decade of 1979-1988 and dropping subsequently due to the journal’s development of its distinct boundaries of studies. Second, traditional disciplines such as psychology, anthropology, geography, planning, sociology, and politics/political science had strong inputs in the early stages of the journal, reaching the peak of index citations in the early 1990s, and slowly declining after 1997. Notably, in this regard, Annals published a classic special issue on “Tourism Social Science” in 1991. Third, despite frequent documentation of economic impacts or economic aspects of tourism development, inputs from quantitative economics (or econometrics) to tourism studies have remained relatively low due to the journal’s strong focus on social cultural aspects of tourism. Fourth, young applied fields such as business, marketing, management, and education/training
and human resources management have displayed generally moderate and stable citation patterns across different periods of the journal. Fifth, other disciplines or fields such as architecture, archaeology, history, philosophy, and public administration displayed an overall pattern of increase with only moderate-to-low citation frequencies.

To interpret these broadly and in a long run, the above patterns of disciplinary inputs are reflections of increasing maturity of tourism as a field of study. Notably, in the earlier years, researchers in *Annals* had greater reliance on its sisters’ fields as points of references, and on well-established disciplines for theories and methods. With growing maturity, the study of tourism has evolved into a multi-/inter-disciplinary body of knowledge in terms of the structure and boundaries of its research and scholarship.

*Changes in Paradigmatic and Methodological Approaches.* To a large extent, the knowledge community associated with *Annals* reflects the process of its evolution and development. In the first two decades after the journal’s inception, tourism research has attracted the attention of a quite heterogeneous group of social sciences researchers, which can be seen in *Annals*’ authorship and editorship. While its social science focus and traditional disciplinary inputs have remained steady and strong, as the field develops, the journal is adopting increasingly humanistic and cultural studies orientations and qualitative social science approaches to the scrutiny of tourism, where interpretive and constructivist paradigms are gaining more strength (Bruner, 2010; Riley & Love, 2000; Tribe, 2006). In the last two to three years, it was evident that over 50% of the main articles adopted qualitative approaches (Tribe & Xiao, 2011; Tribe, Xiao & Chamber, 2012). Notably *Annals* has further departed from the
quantitative-deductive approaches and moved towards qualitative-inductive traditions. Indeed this shift in paradigmatic and methodological orientations is more than a coincidence with the recent emergence of constructivist/interpretive paradigms such as new tourism research (Tribe, 2005, 2009) and/or critical tourism studies (Pritchard, et al., 2011). Augier, March and Sullivan (2005), in their articulation on the evolution of organization studies as a research community in Anglophone North America, reported on the creation of an identity through its published research. For tourism studies in *Annals*, the same can be said of its latest knowledge development: The paradigmatic and methodological traditions as well as its associated language and presentation styles have also helped the creation of an identity or character of *Annals* in the Anglophone tourism studies community.

*Changes in Subject Clustering.* Over the years, citation frequencies of subject headwords have changed in reflection of the shifting focus of published research by *Annals* authors. Notably by index citation frequency, a number of contrasting (rise-and-fall) patterns are identifiable in the evolution of subject clustering in the last 40 years.

First, while definitional studies of tourism have declined over the years, typological studies of tourists (e.g., backpackers), alternative forms of tourism, and tourist experiences have been increasing. This confirms Swain et al’s (1998) observation that “tourism knowledge has gone through an evolution of formulations, beginning in a somewhat inarticulate form, struggling with definitions and the establishment of basic tenets” (p.1012). These studies include endeavors on the frameworks of tourism, tourists, and tourism industries (Jafari, 1987; Leiper, 1979); tourism systems (Leiper, 1990a); models of tourism curricula (Jafari & Ritchie, 1981; Leiper, 1981); and
definitional debates on tourism (Leiper, 1990b, 1993; Smith, 1988, 1991, 1993). On the other hand, typological studies of tourists and alternative forms of tourist experiences are rising. This is reflected in the increase of citations of headwords such as tourist, traveller, backpacker, guest, ecotourism, rural tourism, adventure, budget tourism, farm tourism, agritourism, and thanatourism (or dark tourism).

Second, the clustering of subjects around economic/industry orientation (represented by headwords such as employment, investment, foreign exchange, leakage, balance of payments, international relations, and inflation) occurred in the 1970s and 1980s but has been declining since the 1990s. The decrease in economic/industry-oriented studies has been offset by a rise in studies of sociocultural issues, community development, and environment. The latter subjects are reflected in headwords such as heritage, sex, indigenous, gender, identity, postmodernism, globalization, feminism, romance, community, attitude, sustainability, resident, perceptions, protected areas, World Heritage Sites, and environment. This shift from the industry perspective to a more social science perspective is consistent with the journal’s overall orientation, and supports Jafari’s (2001) observation about the emergence of a “scientific” platform for tourism knowledge after the development of the “adaptancy” platform.

Third, a rise in marketing and management topics and a concomitant drop in hospitality and recreation constitute another interesting trend. The increase is reflected in growing citations of headwords such as cooperatives, Internet, destination, management, consumer, behavior, collaboration, consumption, and risk. The drop in hospitality and recreation is reflected by declining index citations to subjects such as hotel, restaurant, beach, camping, recreation, and Disneyland/Disney World.
In general, these patterns are consistent with previous analysis of *Annals* (Swain, Brent & Long, 1998; Xiao & Smith, 2006a). As noted above, in the last decade, *Annals’* turn towards cultural, representational, and reflexive scholarship has carved out an identity of the journal in the international tourism studies community.

**Influential Papers**

This section reports on influential papers *Annals* has published over the last 40 years. According to Scopus citation database, the top 50 most cited *Annals* articles and their citation variations over the years are presented in Table 1.
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(Note: Citation data were retrieved from Scopus as of 12 July 2012. Scopus did not have complete citation information for articles published before 1996.)

By subject clustering, these top cited articles can be grouped into: Impacts and residents’ perceptions of tourism development; Motivation, satisfaction and behavior; Authenticity and tourist experience; Destination image and branding; Alternative tourism; Conceptual and theoretical discussions on tourism; Tourism in the Third World; and Collaboration and power in tourism development.

By publication years, a moderate-to-short citation life span can be noted of these top cited Annals articles. Over 70% of the influential papers were published in the 1990s.
(27) and 2000s (12) respectively. Ten articles were published in the 1980s, and two top cited papers appeared in the 1970s. Notably if the most cited list is expanded to the top 100, seminal/pioneering works published in the earlier years of *Annals* have become major sources of references for subsequent undertakings on conceptual frameworks of tourism (Leiper, 1979), tourist motivation (Crompton, 1979; Dann, 1977, 1981), sociology of tourism (Cohen, 1979; Cohen & Cohen, 2012b), anthropology of tourism (Graburn, 1983), political economy of tourism (Britton, 1982), psychological nature/theory of leisure and tourism (Iso-Ahola, 1982; Mannell & Iso-Ahola, 1987), authenticity and commoditization (Cohen, 1988; Cohen & Cohen, 2012a; Rickly-Boyd, 2012), tourist guides as culture brokers (Cohen, 1985; Gelbman & Maoz, 2012), residents’ attitudes towards tourism impacts (Belisle & Hoy, 1980; Dogan, 1989; Liu & Var, 1986; Milman & Pizam, 1988), perceived changes in destinations (Pearce, 1982), input-output analysis of economic impacts of tourism (Fletcher, 1989), and tourists’ repeat visitation behavior (Gitelson & Crompton, 1984).

In addition, the impacts of top cited papers on researchers outside the tourism community are remarkable. In a scrutiny of the citation impacts of a set of classic titles in the sociology and anthropology of tourism, Xiao and Smith (2008) found tourism studies has about 60% of its citation impacts within and 40% of its citation impacts outside the tourism research community.

In parallel with the 40 years of *Annals*, the field of tourism studies has grown enormously in terms of the numbers and prestige of scholars, number and reputation of journals and publications, as well as the number and quality of associations and conferences. As can be seen from the evolution of *Annals*, the history of tourism
studies is one of legitimization, expansion, recognition, differentiation, and internationalization. Tourism has increasingly differentiated itself from its sisters’ fields of recreation and leisure studies and hospitality, as well as departed from its parents’ (traditional social sciences) disciplines such as economics, geography, sociology, anthropology, social psychology and political science. To date, tourism studies have been moving on with a strong intellectual legacy, and have been developing a character or identity of its own. Nonetheless, in terms of citation analysis of source knowledge for tourism research published in *Annals*, Xiao and Smith (2005, 2006b) cautioned that there have been a substantial increase in references to tourism journals and a substantial decrease in references to traditional disciplinary journals. Moreover, over 90% of the citations are to articles or books published in English. Parochialism as such is likely to perform tourism studies a disservice in creating a dangerously isolated community in the knowledge traffic amongst disciplines and/or across languages (Xiao, Xiao & Li, 2012).

**ANNALS, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENTS IN BROADER SOCIAL SCIENCE**

In this section discussion shifts from an analysis of the specific paths of *Annals* and tourism knowledge production to that of broader developments in social science. The purpose is twofold. First to encourage more dialogue between tourism and social science and second to provoke reflection on what social science developments (and here Paul Cloke focusses on one example) might mean for tourism research.

One of the most interesting and significant new philosophical directions taken in recent social science has involved the exploration of non-representational theories (see for example Anderson & Harrison, 2010; Thrift, 2007). Pioneered by Nigel
Thrift, this turn towards the non-representational focuses on the ordinary practices by which life unfolds, and in particular on the ways in which the preconscious, subconscious or nonconscious playing out of life defies easy description and representation. Some researchers who are used to measuring, explaining, and understanding representational texts, signs and significations will baulk at the idea of accessing embodied life practices that somehow evade these processes and their attendant methodologies. However, non-representational approaches have begun to open out ways of attending to embodied emotions, performances and affects that are an integral part of being tourist.

Consider the following drawn from my own touristic memory but almost certainly relevant more generally to a wide range of contexts and experiences.

(i) When snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef out from Cairns, I became wrapped up in a relational encounter with a sea turtle – sometimes playful, sometimes simply enchanting (see Bennett, 2001). It is almost impossible to put into words the wondrous emotional affect prompted by this rather special event. Similarly, research on whale-watching and swimming with dolphins (Cloke & Perkins, 2005; Curtin, 2009) has revealed that some encounters with nonhuman others are simply ineffable.

(ii) When visiting Robben Island, the prison across the water from Cape Town where Nelson Mandela and other ANC prisoners were incarcerated during the apartheid era, I experienced what I can only describe as a sense of ghostly and haunting co-presence of histories. There was something in the very pores of the prison’s material fabric that conjured up a ghostliness, bringing the past into direct relation with the embodied experience of the present. A similar
affect has been noted in terms of other histories, such as Edensor’s (2005) account of the affective capacity of industrial ruins.

(iii) When undertaking research on adventure tourism in Queenstown, New Zealand, performative activities such as bungee jumping seemed to evade easy description and representation (Cater, 2006; Cater & Cloke, 2007; Cloke & Perkins, 1998). The core experience here was an embodied performance that induced a range of emotions and affect ranging from terror to thrill, but which participants found very difficult to describe or make meaningful.

(iv) Closer to home, I have engaged with modern-day pilgrimage to festivals in the UK, such as Greenbelt and New Wine, that are associated with the expression of Christian faith. The human staging of these festivals is often transcended by the emotional and relational performances that accrue: at New Wine a sense of the presence of the spirit of God at work; at Greenbelt a sense of the powerful possibility for the intersection of faith and justice to affect hopeful and ethical encounters and relations (see Cloke & Beaumont, forthcoming). For participants these pilgrimages reflect a “spiritual landscape” (Dewsbury & Cloke, 2009) that exerts a powerful affect on embodied performance and emotional sensitivity (see also Terzidou, 2012; Timothy & Olsen, 2006).

Each of these scenarios prompts, at least in part, a non-representational grasp in tourism studies of what is occurring, inviting us to go beyond our previous obsessions with representation and meaning which tend to emphasise fixed and bounded (Thrift calls them “dead”) understandings, and instead to reach out to that which is in a state of becoming (or is “alive”). The problem here is not necessarily with representations and meanings themselves – clearly it is possible to conceive of ways of bringing together the representative and the non-representative (Lorimer, 2005, has termed this
the “more-than-representational”). No, the problem is more about the apparently overwhelming desire to engage in a process of representationalism by continually imposing fixed structures of meaning onto the world. By refocusing our attention on the performances (see Coleman & Crang, 2002; Crouch, 2000; Crouch & Desforges, 2003; Edensor, 2001; Franklin & Crang, 2001) and manifestations of everyday life within tourism, we can begin to witness the vitality of tourist worlds as they unfold.

How, then, might tourism research take more notice of the need to grasp the significance of “mundane everyday practices that shape the conduct of human beings towards others and themselves in particular sites” (Thrift, 1997, p.124) and focus on what actually happens? There are a series of obvious prerequisites: that we take the body seriously; that we recognise the significance of precognitive aspects of embodied life; that we take the nonhuman world seriously and examine both how the social relates to the material and how the body evolves alongside and in relation to things; and that we take a serious look at the technologies of being, especially hybrid assemblages of connection or network.

Perhaps most important of all, we need to take seriously the idea of “affect” (Anderson, forthcoming) which gives conceptual expression to a wide range of life-experiences in the context of tourism – background moods, shared atmospheres, fleeting feelings, emotional grasp, immediate visceral and neurological responses – that speak to the process of becoming tourist at any given moment (see for example: Bærenholdt et al, 2004; Franklin & Crang, 2001; Merchant, 2011; Scarles, 2009). As Anderson has indicated, affects are partly about a non-conscious and background sense that flies under the radar of thought, deliberation and reflection. This can be
individual, but can also take a more collective shape in terms of shared atmospheres or vibes that are experienced by many in a particular place.

These expressions of taking performances and affects seriously as manifestations of the very stuff of becoming tourist, will demand some new ways of approaching the study of tourism (Ateljevic et al, 2007; Tribe, 2004). Both quantitative and qualitative methodologies have typically been geared towards the explanation, understanding and representation of tourist places, activities and attitudes. Sensitising research methods to the preconscious and the nonconscious, to the ineffable and the affective, is no easy task, but three potential avenues have been opened out in order to explore non-representational worlds. The first involves the development of ethnography to include how we sense things as well as how we talk about them and do them. Pink (2009, 2012) has described new forms of doing sensory ethnography that give reflexive attention to the “sensoriality” of the experience and practice both of researchers and those who are being researched. Perhaps the most straightforward means of such ethnography is to research through the medium of the self. Butz and Besio (2009) chart the various possibilities of autoethnography to relate knowledge without necessarily subjecting it to contemplative translation into frameworks of representation (see Noy, 2007, 2008; Scarles, 2010). Although autoethnography risks an overemphasis on self rather than others, there are ways in which the various autoethnographic observations of a range of different people can testify to the affective performances and atmospheres of a particular place or event.

Sometimes, ethnographies struggle to convey such imperceptibles as emotions, passions, desires, beliefs and faiths, which are easily elided by representation. Accordingly Dewsbury (2003), following Deleuze (2001) and Agamben (2000)
advocates *witnessing* as a means of attending to differences that script the folded mix of emotions, desires and intuitions in the aura and spirit of places and events. Seeking always to negotiate the connections between what we see and what we know, Dewsbury (2003) challenges us to practice the belief that the intelligible comes from the sensible, in other words to start to form understandings from the orientation point of the body, and to look at things in unusual ways:

“..to look instead at the spaces between individuals; to seek responses beyond the lived perceptions or affections; and to make our perspectives vibrate in order to rend the percept from perceptions and the affect from affections..... It is methodologically having the courage to present rather than represent: I am thinking here of the power that art and place have to move us, and which, in translation to the rational space of academic argument, hold their argument in the way they present us with something *other*, arrive unannounced, unattended, and without destination.” (p. 1914)

Witnessing, therefore, requires descriptive experimentation with “just” presenting manifestations, moments, performances, in ways that will communicate their own meaning about the affective relationships of the world as displayed in unseen and unintended aspects of everyday life. It is about becoming accustomed to the immaterial and the spiritual in our thinking, citing the invisible energies that affect our being and becoming, witnessing what is felt, engaging in a wilder form of empiricism that feels before it contemplates.

A third avenue for exploring non-representational worlds finds expression in certain forms of psychogeography and associated methodologies of walking. As Coverley (2006) has explained, a focus on the connections between psychology and geography has taken myriad historical forms, some fuelled by a spirit of political radicalism and
others more interested in playful provocation. However, in general, psychogeography has involved a search for new ways of apprehending urban places by championing the mysteries that lie beneath and within what are often seen as the banal experiences of everyday life. These mysterious and unknowable characteristics of urban life are most often encountered by practices of walking and wandering in amongst the city, purposefully drifting in order that the vibe or sense of the place will reveal itself. Indeed, walking also seems to offer a fruitful passageway into the practice of witnessing (see Davies, 2007; Wylie, 2005).

For many researchers of tourism, these non-representational concerns may seem obscure, opaque and unreachable in the current climate of scientisation, relevance and impact. However, if it enables us to access the visceral experiences, atmospheres, vibes, emotions, and affective capacities that are currently mostly rendered inaccessible by the underlying philosophy of our current methodologies, some serious focus on the non-representational performativities could be a worthwhile next step. In this way, the enchantment of the sea turtle, the ghostly haunting of the prison, the thrill and rush of the bungee jump and the spirit of the Christian festival and so can become the launchpads for a deeper understanding of the affective and relational life of becoming tourist.

THE FUTURE
The previous section provides a useful springboard from which to analyse some important future issues for tourism research (knowledge production) and for Annals itself (knowledge dissemination).
Turning first to knowledge production, I was recently asked by a hopeful author what are the issues that he/she should be researching to get published in *Annals*? I replied, with uncharacteristic directness, that if she did not know the answer to that question she was unlikely to be leading her intellectual field of endeavour and therefore unlikely to get published in *Annals*. The previous section illustrates this point well. It is written by an academic who is fully immersed in a field of study, pushing at its boundaries and designing a research agenda that is both challenging and innovative. But to get any theoretical purchase on knowledge production in the future we need to turn again to ANT. It is networks that are vital here. “The Indiscipline of Tourism” (Tribe, 1997) described a fruitful space of knowledge production (called “band k”) which was the intersection between knowledge from different disciplines and the phenomenon of tourism that was to be studied. ANT provides a richer way of analysing knowledge production and it is the bringing together of network elements in new ways that can generate new knowledge.

Cloke invokes a network consisting of academics, disciplines, works (books and articles), contexts, words, experiences, and brings together these network components in new and innovative ways in a sense to produce a novel chemical reaction (i.e. something different and beyond the constituent parts). So an imaginative individual can perform knowledge producing networks. But there are other types of networks. Valene Smith illustrates the potency of the conference in network formation when describing the American Anthropological Association meeting in Mexico City 1974 where

> “everyone seemed to feel that we, in one day, had opened the door to a new field of research with vast implications. The spirit of innovation, almost magical in form, filled the air” (Nash, 2007, p. 185).
The Critical Studies conference series initiated in Dubrovnik in 2005 illustrates a more recently convened network which seems to have empowered a new generation of tourism scholars and uncovered new routes of tourism research.

But research councils, government and industry can also play a role in knowledge network construction. Here knowledge is more likely to have an interest-laden, rather than in interest-free purpose. For example, the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) steers its knowledge networks by focussing funding on its strategic priorities. For 2011-2015 these are “Economic Performance and Sustainable Growth”, “Influencing Behaviour and Informing Interventions” and “A Vibrant and Fair Society”. The ESRC has determined that these encapsulate the big issues for Britain, the wider world and for social science. So new knowledge production in tourism will arise from two types of networks. These are academic networks conducted by individuals and collectives and organisational networks promoted by research councils, government and industry. However both of these network types face the challenge of what might be termed “the closed circle of tourism research”. Research in tourism journals tends to be written and read by tourism academics. There is insufficient representation or cross fertilization from academics in other disciplines.

Finally we turn back to journals, to Annals and to knowledge dissemination. The first recognisable scholarly journal with peer review was published on 6th March 1665. Its title was Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, edited by Henry Oldenburg. The journal is still in publication. What is remarkable is that apart from a move to online publication, the basic design and structure of the journal article has remained almost unchanged in over 300 years. Articles contain a title, and abstract and the main body consists of linear sentences to be read from the top left of the first page to the
Newspapers have been transformed by new media but not so for journals. Again the previous section illuminates the challenge. How are we to communicate the complexities and subtleties of “affect” – of emotion, of ghostliness, of spirituality, of awe - in such a conventional format? Perhaps we need more than formal prose. Perhaps we need poetry, art, music, drama, video and audio to more fully communicate experience with the reader. Is there a way to develop journals to embrace different ways of communication? And further, could it be that the development of new methodologies is hampered by the conventions of journal style and structure?

There is a great challenge for us to be more creative and push the boundaries of representation in journals. This challenge can be neatly communicated by an image that I created a few years ago that was inspired by Magritte’s painting “Ceci n’est pas une pipe / This is not a pipe”. For me it provocatively illustrates the challenges for journals in “truth telling”. It asks us to consider why does Figure 3 suggest that *Annals* (or any other tourism journal) is “not tourism”?

The answer lies in the huge gap between what the 9,000 or so words of an article are able to express and the richness of the world that they wish to describe.
REFERENCES


