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RETI Presidents, delegates and students

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## RETI: a new milestone reached at University of Prince Edward Island, Canada

From July 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> 2014 the RETI Presidents and their delegates attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Governing Committee held at the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI), Charlottetown, Canada. During that period, the 4<sup>th</sup> RETI Conference and 5<sup>th</sup> Summer School took place, where more than 20 scholars, researchers and PHD students exchanged their knowledge and good practices on the theme "*Livable Islands: culture, politics, economy and environment*".



The RETI President, José Regidor García surrounded by other presidents and RETI delegates

### July 5<sup>th</sup> 2014: 5<sup>th</sup> Governing Committee

This meeting, which takes place every year and brings together all the Presidents, Rectors and delegates of the RETI universities, has the aim to establish a state of play of the activities led by the network and to discuss its perspectives and future strategies. In this sense, it was agreed to create a sub-committee within the RETI members who would be in charge of defining a triennial Operational Plan for the period 2015-2017. Establishing closer links with Island Communities in order to reinforce the RETI institutional capacity is, among others, one of the actions to be developed.

### RETI Conference and Summer School

During the Conference that took place on July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 22 papers were presented by scholars, researchers and PHD students from 7 RETI universities and beyond.

The papers presented tackled different insularity issues, like renewable energies, islands and their languages, obesity and healthy challenges, island political stakes, etc.

This exchange enabled participants to share and confront their works and to deepen their knowledge of the insularity stakes from very different perspectives.

The RETI Summer School was held from July 7<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>, where 5 courses were delivered:

- > Coastal Communities and Climate Change - Developing Participatory Scenarios
- > Practicing Island Studies in a Small Island University: Reflections for Students, Scholars and Others
- > The attraction of small islands to business and residents: a European perspective.
- > The Military Functions and Geostrategic Significance of Islands
- > Defining Islandness

The participants had the opportunity to expound their expertise through case studies and a dynamic participation.

For further information about the modules and papers presented, please visit the UPEI website: <http://www.upei.ca/arts/reti-annual-meetings-2014>



Students of the University of Corsica and UPEI

**WHAT'S NEXT:** The next RETI events will be held from June 26<sup>th</sup> till July 1<sup>st</sup> 2015, at the University of the Highlands and Islands, in Orkney, Scotland. A Symposium, a Summer School and a Governing Committee, where the next RETI president will be elected, will take place during that period. The theme chosen for the events is the "*Impact of culture heritage on economic development in island destinations*".