base line

a newsletter of the Map and Geography Round Table

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http://www.ala.org/ala/magert

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February 2008
**base line** is an official publication of the American Library Association’s Map and Geography Round Table (MAGERT). The purpose of **base line** is to provide current information on cartographic materials, other publications of interest to map and geography librarians, meetings, related governmental activities, and map librarianship. It is a medium of communication for members of MAGERT and information of interest is welcome. The opinions expressed by contributors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the American Library Association and MAGERT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below.

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http://www.ala.org/ala/magert
Welcome to the first edition of *base line* to be distributed in digital format from the MAGERT Web site. As many of you already know the MAGERT Executive Board voted to immediately suspend the printing and mailing of *base line* at the Philadelphia Midwinter meeting. Based upon totals acquired from the printer and mailing service the total cost associated with printing and mailing the December *base line* was $1,130.60 (Printer: $725.00, Mailing Service: $405.60). The projected cost for printing *base line* for calendar year 2008 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Cost</td>
<td>$6,783.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscription Fees</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Loss</td>
<td>$5,273.60</td>
</tr>
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Over the next 12 months the MAGERT budget will be monitored by me, Treasurer Mike Smith, and Chair Elect Carolyn Kadri to ensure that the MAGERT budget can maintain a level of assets equal to 50% of annual operating costs. I would also like to thank everyone that responded to my *base line* survey.

Pete Reehling
MAGERT Chair

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On your screen you are viewing a milestone: the first completely digital version of *base line*! Beginning with this issue, vol. 29, no. 1 (February 2008), *base line* will appear only in electronic format on the MAGERT pages at the Web site of the American Library Association. The rising cost of producing *base line* in print made this switch to an online-only version inevitable. While the means of accessing *base line* have changed, the content of our newsletter remains the same, i.e., timely, informative and filled with useful information for the map and geospatial librarian, as well as for those simply interested in maps and geodata in libraries. Each of our dedicated editors is still contributing his or her insightful columns to *base line*, and the minutes of meetings and conferences will continue to be reported here. Also, *base line* should now appear in a more timely manner, since the delays in printing and mailing each issue have been eliminated. And by going entirely digital *base line*—for the first time—is able to include color within its pages, as well as provide immediate, direct links to other reports, data and Web sites of interest to MAGERT members. So grab a cup of coffee, sit back, relax and enjoy reading the first digital-only issue of *base line*. 

FROM THE CHAIR
Pete Reehling, University of South Florida

FROM THE EDITOR
Steve Rogers, Ohio State University

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*base line* 29(1): 4
ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT
Tammy Wong, Library of Congress

MAGERT Cataloging and Classification Committee (CCC)
January 13, 2008
Philadelphia

Nancy Kandoian, chair of the CCC, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. She welcomed all the attendees to the CCC meeting. There were 25 attendees in total. Members present: Paige Andrew, Elizabeth Eggleston, Cheri Folkner, Carolyn Kadri, Mary Larsgaard, Dorothy McGarry, Elizabeth Mangan, Susan Moore, Dan Seldin, Seanna Tsung, and Tammy Wong.

1. Welcome and introductions
CCC members and guests introduced themselves.

2. Miscellaneous announcements
Nancy welcomed Seanna Tsung, Senior Cataloging Specialist at the Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, to membership on MAGERT’s CCC. Seanna is now chairing the task force on using MARC21 for map set holdings.

If any of you are interested in serving as chair of the CCC after Anaheim, think about expressing your interest to Nancy or to MAGERT chair Pete Reehling, or to MAGERT chair-elect Carolyn Kadri.

Katherine Rankin announced that the Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML) is going to hold its Spring Meeting in Las Vegas, March 12-15, 2008. It will be hosted by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Please see: http://www.library.unlv.edu/conferences/WAML/

Susan Moore is ready to relinquish her position as the MARBI liaison after many years of service. If you would like to consider serving in that capacity, please let Nancy or Susan know. Thanks to Susan for her service.

Paige Andrew discussed the development of a segment for cataloging in the Education Committee’s Core Competencies document. The Education Committee met on Jan. 13 and discussed revisions to the draft version of the Core Competencies document. The writing is conducted by a sub-committee for each part and each group has submitted its draft. Revisions of the structure and content were discussed. The sub-committees and Education Committee as a whole will edit the document this spring, with Paige Andrew serving as lead editor, and Kathy Weimer, chair of the Education Committee, as compiler. Once the competencies are completed, they will be widely distributed and used in a variety of ways: as a training tool for new librarians (or those new to the specialty); by LIS faculty to develop courses and curriculum; as a structure to plan future programs or pre-conferences; and as a Web document.
which will include links to tutorials, training documents, articles and other resources. Plans are to submit a final document at Annual 2008.

3. Minutes of last meeting  
   (Tammy Wong)

The minutes from CCC meeting held at ALA Annual, in June 2007, were approved as published on page 5 of the December 2007 base line.

4. ALCTS-CCS/MAGERT  
   Cartographic Resources  
   Cataloging Discussion Group  
   Report (Susan Moore)

The discussion group met Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. with 29 people in attendance. The first topic was the training of copy catalogers for map cataloging. Several in attendance spoke to the importance of having good documentation and used a list of important MARC fields from Paige Andrew’s map cataloging workshop to help train copy catalogers. There was a general discussion on how to deal with the pressure to push materials through quickly while maintaining quality. This lead to a general appeal to create new records when they are warranted. As faceting becomes more common in our catalogs, it was anticipated by the group that more information will be needed in records in order to get the displays to work in a way that clearly distinguish the records for similar maps.

The second topic was the use of form/genre headings in map cataloging. The form heading “Early works to 1800” was found by one library cataloging a sizable collection of rare maps to be less precise than they desired. Several in attendance suggested using the 655 of Maps $z place $y year to bring in the precision desired.

The last topic of discussion was the treatment of digital maps. The Library of Congress uses field 653 Maps--Digital to bring them together in the catalog. The question was raised whether digitized images are reproductions or facsimiles. Most in attendance catalog them as reproductions. The audience was split on the question of one or two records needed in this circumstance.

5. Anglo-American Cataloguing  
   Committee on Cartographic  
   Materials report (Mary  
   Larsgaard)

A prototype for RDA Online was developed by the co-publishers (the American Library Association, the Canadian Library Association, and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals). It has options for viewing full, concise, and resource-based customized versions. The RDA Implementation Task Force was created by the Cataloging and Classification Section (CCS) of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) in the spring of 2007. The Task Force is charged with developing a plan for the implementation of RDA.

6. CC:DA report (Elizabeth  
   Mangan)
Given that RDA is primarily developed as a Web-based product, designed for and usable in the digital environment, it is difficult to review it using a printed version. It is hoped that the online version will be made available for comment this summer. The standard has an anticipated publication date of 2009. JSC promises that a print edition will also be issued due to popular demand.

RDA draft of sections 2-4, 9 (463 pages) was released and is now available on the JSC public Web site. The deadline for CC:DA comments on RDA Sections 2-4, 9 is Feb 10, 2008. If any CCC member wishes to make any comments, please submit them to Betsy by the Friday before. Review of the complete draft of RDA is scheduled for July-September 2008.

At its October 2007 meeting, the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA agreed on a new organization for the content of RDA. This structure was suggested by the RDA Editor based on several concerns expressed in constituency responses to draft chapters. Please refer to the Web site for details:


8. LC report (Seanna Tsung)

Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress
Seanna Tsung, Senior Cataloging Specialist, G&M

Cataloging developments, June-December 2007

1. Nonroman scripts (JACKPHY)
As of January 3, 2008 G&M catalogers will be creating records using nonroman scripts for the languages that LC currently catalogs in the vernacular (Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Arabic, Persian, Hebrew).

2. ECIP in G&M
Starting in October of 2007, G&M began receiving CIP (Cataloging in Publication) data requests electronically. We hope that this will result in more atlases receiving pre-publication cataloging, as well as fewer atlases being classed as books rather than as cartographic materials.

3. Nautical charts/set holdings
In preparation for their transfer to offsite storage, a member of the cataloging team worked to help develop sheet-level inventory/holdings information for our nautical charts,
which have not previously been under online bibliographic control. We will be looking at providing this type of holdings information for other of our series/set records.

4. Teleworking
We are continuing with the cataloging of the maps and atlases of China that were scanned by Academica Sinica, thus getting online control of a portion of our pre-1970 title collection. In addition, a cataloger is working from surrogates to catalog a backlog of Cyrillic atlases.

5. RDA review
The cataloging team is continuing to review the revisions and new portions of RDA as they become available, and reporting our comments and suggestions to our Cataloging and Policy Support Office for discussion at meetings of the Joint Steering Committee.

6. Sherman collection
Cataloging of the Sherman collection, a group of 213 maps (printed and manuscript) and atlases, is completed. This collection is among the last of the materials from the Civil War bibliography to be cataloged and mounted on our Web site.

7. U. S. county atlases
G&M continues to acquire and catalog county atlases from the 19th and early twentieth centuries, with the aim of acquiring as complete a collection as possible of these historically important documents.

9. MARBI report (Susan Moore)

The Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information Committee (MARBI) met twice in Philadelphia. There was not a lot of particular interest to the cartographic cataloging community. Discussion Paper 2008-DP03 covered the need for indicating the part of a series, via date or volume information, to which a particular responsible body or title was applicable to a resource. The examples given in the discussion paper were primarily for textual materials. Since there are map sets and series where parts of the set/series have series statements and some don’t, Susan volunteered to provide examples to the group preparing the proposal that will come before MARBI at the annual conference in Anaheim.

Another discussion paper of interest was 2008-DP04 that discussed the encoding of Resource Description and Access data in MARC21. There will be a proposal at the annual meeting on this as well.

10. OCLC Report (Nancy Kandoian for Ellen Caplan)

OCLC Update on Cataloging and Quality Control Activities for MAGERT CCC, January 2008
Ellen Caplan, OCLC
January 9, 2008

Quality Control
OCLC has not had any quality control projects specifically related to cartographic material since the last report at Annual. However, quality control staff members continue to correct and upgrade all types of bibliographic and authority records. In addition, they continue to merge duplicate records, including a small
number of map duplicates. From July-December 2007 the following records were processed:

Records Replaced: 1,283,325
Manual Merges: 161,375
Map merges (only): 117
NACO Records Added: 84
NACO Records Replaced: 823
Change Requests Received: 69,159
Change Request Received/with proof (for maps only): 11

Connexion
Connexion client version 2.10 was released in December 2007. Users will be required to update to version 2.10 by April 1, 2008. Enhancements include:
• New macro commands
  GetListCellData and
  GetListCellDataUnicode to retrieve data from lists
• An option to be warned before you export when unlinked non-Latin fields are present in a record
• Select one of multiple headings in a bibliographic field to lock a linked authority record
• Control genre headings in fields tagged 655 second indicator zero
  (Note: This same enhancement is also available in Connexion browser.)
• Display language of cataloging from field 040 subfield b in WorldCat search results lists
• See the code S for SCIPIO records in the Library type column in WorldCat search results lists
• See the SCIPIO date of sale in hyphenated format (1899-08-19) in WorldCat search results lists
• Export in Dublin Core Qualified, Dublin Core Simple, OCLC Dublin Core Qualified and OCLC Dublin Core Simple. Import in Dublin Core Qualified and Dublin Core Simple.
• Include non-Latin data in 4xx, 7xx and selected 6xx fields in authority records when Library of Congress makes this available no earlier than April 2008

For more information on this latest client release check out the following:
www.oclc.org/connexion/interface/client/enhancements/recent.htm

11. RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee Report (Seanna Tsung for Nancy Kandoian)

Randal Brandt is the new chair of ACRL/RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee. The committee is working on the Spanish translation of Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books) or DCRM(B). DCRM (Music) is on schedule to be published by the annual ALA meeting in Anaheim. A proposal was accepted by the committee for Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Graphics) which will be the revised second edition of Graphic Materials: Rules for Describing Original Items and Historical Collections. The preliminary review should be finished in time to begin naming an editorial team in Anaheim. A proposal was requested by the chair for Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Cartographic).

12. Old Business

a. Task Force on guidelines for recording map set holdings (Seanna Tsung)

The Task Force will submit a report
during the annual ALA meeting.

b. Recommendations for changes in OCLC input requirements (Paige Andrew):

052 - Geographic Classification Code
This code represents the geographic area and any applicable subareas associated with the item. The 052 could be coded for LC classification, Department of Defense classification or Dewey Decimal classification. For institutions which do not use any of these classification schedules, OCLC’s inputting standard is forcing them to put in a geographic area code that they do not use. The question was raised whether the 052 field should remain “mandatory” for the maps format or whether it should be changed to a lower level, specifically “required if applicable.” Paige has been consulting with OCLC on this issue over the past several weeks, based on a pertinent question he received from a workshop attendee whose institution only uses the SuDoc number as a call number in their maps cataloging. Paige reminded everyone that this proposed change is only for OCLC’s standard; if we would like to make the same change at the National Bibliographic level the process would be completely different.

13. New Business

The committee briefly touched on the implications for map cataloging in the LC Working Group Report on the Future of Bibliographic Control. We talked about the issue of using vendor records as the basis of cataloging. We also briefly discussed the use of genre terms in 6xx, mostly in the context of an entry that would retrieve records for digital maps, as practiced by LC and UCSB. And in the context of atlases, how LC has considered handling these.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Wong

General Membership Meeting
ALA Annual Conference
Washington, D.C.
June 26, 2007

Attending: Scott McEathron, T. Wangyal Shawa, Kathy Weimer, Susan Moore, John Lawton, Katherine Rankin, Joe Aufmuth, Colleen Cahill, Jan Dixon, Nancy Kandoian, Carolyn Kadri, Dan Seldin, Betsy Eggleston, Bruce Oberhaus, Lawrence Woodword, Carol McAuliffe, Chris Miller, Helen Armstrong, Roger Knauff, Marcy Allen, Paige Andrew, Lorre Smith, Alice Hudson, Barbara Rapaport, Michael Leach, MaryLou Cumberpatch, Michael Smith.

Scott McEathron, chair, opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and asking that committee chairs announce any openings on their committees for the coming year during their reports.
**Officer’s Report**

**Chair’s Report—Scott McEathron**
Scott reported that ALA has announced that the Emerging Leadership Program is continuing next year. MAGERT has sponsored two participants this year at a rate of $300 each. Scott recommended that in the forthcoming year the executive board vote on whether to continue to sponsor participants. Sponsorship by a round table or committee guarantees a slot in the program for an applicant or applicants who are applying from within the group. Those in charge of the program are also looking for projects for the participants to do.

Scott also discussed the importance of making opportunities available for new members who are interested to participate in the organization and to be active in committee work. To that end, it is important that we observe the guideline that we serve on a committee for a maximum of four consecutive years before stepping aside to give other members a chance to serve. The number of members on a particular committee can also be raised in order to provide more opportunities.

**Vice Chair/Chair Elect’s Report—Pete Reehling**
Pete reported that he had been working on program planning for Anaheim. He also expressed his appreciation for the work that Scott had done in arranging the very successful programs at the current conference.

**Past-Chair’s Report—T. Wangyal Shawa**
No report.

**Treasurer’s Report—Michael Smith**
Through the end of May 2007, MAGERT’s total revenues for the year were $8,764 and total expenses were $11,730. The carryover balance from fiscal year 2006 was $6,657, leaving an ending balance of $3,002.

Income was derived primarily from membership dues ($6,689), subscriptions to *base line* ($1,750), and sales of books, etc. ($125). Expenses were chiefly for the printing and mailing of *base line* and pre-conference meeting costs (it should be noted that pre-conference revenue had not been reported yet). *Base line’s* net loss was $3,357 through the first nine months of the fiscal year.

Michael L. Smith
Treasurer
[Submitted after the Annual Conference June 2007, Washington, D.C.]

**Secretary’s Report—Betsy Eggleston**
Betsy thanked the group for its support over the past four years and reminded everyone to submit their reports for inclusion in *base line*.

**Committee/Discussion Group Reports**

**Awards and Nominations—T. Wangyal Shawa**
The recipient of the 2007 MAGERT Honors Award was Mark Thomas. Wangyal and Scott McEathron presented the award to Mark along with a citation during the poster session. Mark has been the Map and GIS Librarian at Duke University since 1998. He has a master’s degree in economics from Rochester University and an M.L.S.
from the University of Texas at Austin. He has made numerous contributions to map librarianship and especially to MAGERT. He was the MAGERT treasurer from 1992-1996, Cartographic User Advisory Council member and coordinator of the Federal Spatial Information Discussion Group from 1997-2002, and MAGERT chair during 2001-2002. One of his biggest contributions, however, has been his editing of base line for nearly 10 years. In addition, he has been publishing many of his own papers and making a variety of presentations on various aspects of map librarianship.

**Cataloging and Classification—Nancy Kandoian**

We had about 33 members and guests present at the meeting of the Cataloging and Classification Committee on Sunday morning. Liaisons to the various ALA and outside cataloging-related organizations made reports to keep us up to date on current issues in the field. I (i.e., chair, Nancy Kandoian) announced that I would resign as chair of the CCC as of the end of my second term, at the ALA annual meeting in Anaheim, so anyone interested in serving in that position should let MAGERT chair Pete Reehling know.

The Task Force on using MARC21 to record map set holdings has been on hold, as chair Betsy Eggleston resigned, due to her job change. Activity will resume after a new chair is appointed. [Seanna Tsung was subsequently appointed chair after officially becoming a member of the CCC.]

We learned from Betsy Mangan that she would be updating links in the online *Cataloger’s Desktop* version of *Cartographic Materials* to the new *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books)*, as the links for early map rules related to rare books rules were originally to the previous edition of *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books*. As CC:DA liaison, Betsy also reported on RDA progress and encouraged CCC members to send CC:DA their comments on the drafts of RDA chapters 6 and 7 for the August deadline.

Mary Larsgaard reported on the cataloging aspects of the project on digital preservation in which she is involved at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Stanford University is also participating in this preservation project.

As a result of some e-mail correspondence that went on over the months between Midwinter and Annual, we had a discussion about OCLC input standards for the 007 field (physical description fixed field for maps). We came to a consensus that it would be fine if the standard was changed from “optional” to “required if applicable,” because it provides useful basic information for indexing, and the input complications are overcome by a macro in the new version of OCLC, as well as by the ability to create a shortcut key to input an established text string for the 007. We ran out of time to discuss, as we had planned, the input standards for the 052 field (geographic classification code); we will take that up at Midwinter.

**ALCTS/MAGERT Cartographic Materials Cataloging—Iris Taylor**
The meeting was held on Sunday morning and had 32 attendees.

Iris Taylor’s term as chair of the discussion group ended on Sunday. Susan Moore will be the new chair in 2008.

Topics included:
- Positive comments on the pre-conference
- Suggestions of ways for people working in the area of cataloging pre-20th Century cartographic materials to exchange ideas: e.g., a subset of a listserv like MAPS-L CAT
- Lively discussions on the use of MARC fields 007, 052, and 043
- Libraries with large map cataloging backlogs
- Use of Form/Genre headings in map cataloging; for example, Maps--Digital, which is used by the Library of Congress

A number of other topics were discussed:
- Request for a session on access to spatial data
- Digital formats and the cataloging of digital formats
- Cataloging of Open-File reports
- Digital collections that are being contributed to government projects
- USGS scanning project
- Sharing the maps that we scan with government agencies
- Cooperation between the institutions that are doing projects and government agencies

**GIS Discussion Group and GeoTech Committee Meeting—T. Wangyal Shawa**

27 people attended the meeting.

The meeting started with a discussion of the scanning guidelines written by Tsering Wangyal Shawa (Princeton University), Joe Aufmuth (University of Florida), and Kimberly Kowal (The British Library). A few suggestions were made on the guideline documents:

1. The title of the document should be changed from “A Guideline for Minimum Map and Air Photo Scanning Standards” to “Map and Air Photo Scanning Guidelines.”
2. The purpose of writing the guidelines should be addressed
in the beginning.

3. If possible, we should create a table to compare different resolutions for scanning map and aerial photography to other graphic materials.

There was general agreement that this document would be helpful to people who are thinking of scanning maps and aerial photographs in the future.

After discussing the scanning guidelines, the next topic was to explore the option of providing scanned maps through interlibrary loan services. Wangyal Shawa of Princeton University shared general information that he collected from his university interlibrary loan service librarian on how the interlibrary loan library fee structure works, as well as the benefit of introducing such a service in map libraries. Every interlibrary loan transaction costs money; it is generally between $20-30, with $5 extra for overseas transactions. The OCLC and WorldCat catalog systems are the most common databases to search items. The benefits of introducing scanned maps through interlibrary loan service include preserving the maps, getting maps in digital format—thereby providing more flexibility to the user—and convincing library administrators to purchase large format scanners, for those map libraries that do not already have large format scanners. He also stated some challenges, such as which maps can be shared through interlibrary loan and which ones will be not shared, and how to deal with copyrighted maps, etc. After hearing this information, librarians who have worked years in map libraries remarked that we do not need such a service because maps could be loaned by sending emails either through Maps-L or personally contacting individual librarians. In fact, this process may be better because most map librarians knows what collections are in each library, and if they a need particular map, they contact that library directly rather than going through the interlibrary loan service. One major issue is that most maps are not cataloged, and therefore it will be difficult to find the items anyway. However, there are others who would like to see such a service introduced because it will help many who are not familiar with other libraries’ map collections. At this time there seems to be no particular interest in pursuing this service further.

Mary Larsgaard gave a short report on National Geospatial Digital Archive (NGDA). She said that their project ends in September but will get an 18-month extension. Most of the work will be on technical issues. Her report was made available on the Internet:


Later, each librarian shared their projects and what new things are happening in their libraries.

Map Collection Management Discussion Group—Jan Dixon

This newly recombined discussion group, includes the former Research Libraries Collection Management and Small Map Collection Discussion Groups. Jan Dixon, as coordinator, proposed a revised purpose statement which was approved by discussion
group participants at ALA Midwinter and by the MAGERT Executive Board and membership at ALA Annual Conference in June 2007:

Purpose: To provide a forum for discussion of and recommendations on issues concerning the acquisition and management of cartographic materials of various formats, in collections at different types of libraries.

Membership: Coordinator and as many participants as interested.

Duties: Discusses issues, new developments, and problems in the selection, acquisition, and management of maps, geospatial data and other cartographic materials. Seeks to identify and define cooperative acquisitions and useful management practices.

This updated statement has been added to the MAGERT Web site.

The discussion group held its meeting for the Annual Conference in the Hotel Washington’s Sky Room on the “roof” with a spectacular view! Twenty-five participants attended, including several map/GIS librarians in new positions.

Mary Larsgaard presented information on the cooperative project – National Geospatial Digital Archive, with the University of California Santa Barbara and Stanford University, a contracted project for the Library of Congress. Jenny Johnson led the discussion on the responses to the Library Security for Maps program and further ideas for publication of the Map Collection Security Guidelines.

Other current issues of map management were identified, and will be further addressed at Midwinter:

Participation in the current digital project registries; differences/coordination among the registries and needs for consistent standards regarding metadata, files, and formats.

Application of technology to map resources in a “Google World” and challenges of tracking use and curriculum opportunities.

Management of commercial versus non-profit requests for use of digital map resources, with legal concerns of copyright and fees to charge.

Decline of in-person use of maps in collections versus use of online resources—which still only represent a small percentage of a collection.

Transfer of maps to remote storage; decisions of what to send and practices of careful physical handling of the fragile format.

MAGERT Task Force on Library Security for Cartographic Resources—Jan Dixon

The task force accomplished one of its responsibilities with the successful conference program on Library Security for Maps. An estimated 150 people attended the panel presentation and discussion. The panel: Ed Redmond, Library of Congress; Alice Hudson, New York Public Library; Rob Lopresti, Western Washington University; Chris Schmeisser, Assistant U.S.
Attorney General; and David Cobb, Harvard University, as moderator. The panelists covered a variety of strategies to discourage thefts, from the points of view of different libraries and the prosecuting attorney in the E. Forbes Smiley III map-theft case.

Progress continues on the second responsibility of the Task Force – *Map Collection Security Guidelines*, now in a complete draft. David Cobb and Jan Dixon discussed the draft with the Rare Books and Manuscript Section (RBMS) Security Committee, and then, along with Jenny Johnson, also discussed it with the Government Documents Roundtable (GODORT) Rare and Endangered Government Publications Committee. As a follow-up to the “library security” program, additional comments were suggested at the Map Collection Management Discussion Group. Jenny Johnson and Jan Dixon then recommended options for publication of the guidelines at the Publication Committee meeting.

The Task Force recommends the next steps:

- Write an article for AL Direct about the conference program on *Library Security for Maps*, with an invitation to comment on the draft Map Collection Security Guidelines.
- Place the guidelines on the MAGERT Web site with contact information for comments.
- In the final format, have the guidelines as a Web-based document on the MAGERT Web site. The document will link to other references, and can also be linked from other Web sites including RBMS and GODORT.
- One additional format will be a one-page information sheet or brochure to share with library administrators, other library colleagues, and security officers.

A second recommendation from the Task Force is a joint request with the RBMS Security Committee for letters of recognition that would commend map and book dealers for their cooperation to assist with recent recoveries of stolen maps and books. The draft letter will be placed for comments on the MAGERT discussion lists.

**Publications—Steve Rogers**

The Publications Committee met on Monday, June 25, 2007 from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

In attendance were: Colleen Cahill, Jan Dixon, Jenny Marie Johnson, Carolyn Kadri, Nancy Kandoian, John Lawton, Mary McInroy, John Phillips, Steve Rogers, Michael Smith.

MAGERT Webmaster Colleen Cahill reported on the MAGERT Web site. She noted that the MAGERT site was still using the old ALA Web system, but the system should be upgraded to ALA’s new content management system soon. She also proposed taking down the former MAGERT Web address at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, replacing it with a link to the newer MAGERT-ALA site. John Lawton noted that he found a number of misleading links and errors on the MAGERT-ALA site. These will be corrected as soon as possible. It was decided not to make any major changes to the Web site until after ALA’s new content management software is installed and operating.

Steve Rogers reported that the 3rd edi-
tion of the *Guide to U.S. Map Resources*, published by Scarecrow Press, had sold 411 copies to date.

David Allen, via e-mail, stated that *Coordinates* is, as always, seeking contributions from authors.

Jenny Marie Johnson and Jan Dixon reported that the Map Collection Security Guidelines, a by-product of the Task Force on Library Security of Cartographic Resources, are almost finished. A draft version will be sent to Colleen Cahill, who will place the draft guidelines on the MAGERT Web site for general comment. The final guidelines will then be posted freely and permanently on the Web site. Jenny noted that a brief “executive summary” is also planned, to be issued as a brochure.

Steve Rogers reported that T. Wangyal Shawa has asked to step down as electronic mapping editor of *base line*. A new editor will be sought. [After the conference it was confirmed that C.C. Miller from Purdue University will succeed Wangyal as electronic mapping editor.—Ed.]

Nancy Kandoian and Carolyn Kadri brought before the publications committee a proposal to print and offer for sale copies of the handout which was used by attendees of the preconference on cataloging pre-twentieth century cartographic resources. The 90-page spiral-bound workbook had been originally produced by ALA for attendees of the preconference. It was suggested that the committee make a recommendation to the executive board to authorize the printing of an additional 50 copies of the workbook to be sold to libraries and individuals who would be interested in this compilation focusing on the cataloging of pre-twentieth century maps. After some discussion a price of $40 was agreed to and set. The proposal to offer the workbook for sale was voted on and passed unanimously.

Colleen Cahill presented an update on the table of contents phase of the *Meridian* scanning project. She distributed copies of a sample template listing authors, titles, pages, dates and issues. After some consideration it was determined to go with the format as presented by Colleen. The issue of *Meridian* copyright arose and it was decided to investigate the copyright question once the conference ended.

Steve Rogers reported on figures provided to him by publications distribution manager Jim Coombs: 4 orders were filled during the first half of 2007 for MAGERT publications. These included:

- 2 copies of *West Indies and Florida: an Annotated Carto-Bibliography*
- 1 copy of *Cartographic Citations: A Style Guide*
- 1 copy of *Exploration and Mapping of the National Parks*

The total income from the sale of these publications was $100.00.

The remaining four tote bags—first offered for sale at the Orlando conference—have been sold by the ALA Store. The net results from the sale of the last four bags was $64.00.

The committee also discussed and reviewed some potential publications.
Education Committee—Kathy Weimer
Discussion of writing core competencies of Map/GIS/Geography librarianship.

Kathy introduced the topic of core competencies and explained that many groups were following ALA's lead and writing up competencies for their special areas of expertise. Kathy brought photocopies of some readings and Web pages on the topic. The group decided to write a general statement and have three sections: one each for map librarianship, GIS librarianship and map cataloging. Small groups will write a draft for each of the three areas, then they will be distributed to a larger MAGERT audience. Topics to be considered in the general section are: geographic literacy, access to information, cartographic knowledge. Among the special topics to be included in one of the three sections are: collection development, publishing industry, reference, instruction, outreach, research consultation, information technology, data discovery, interactive maps, preservation, facilities, scanning, digital archives, and user needs.

The intention is that the competencies document will be put on the MAGERT Web page to assist in the professional development life cycle, from student/faculty curriculum development to new professional to mid-career professionals or others who are new to the specialization as well as administrators or personnel to assist in hiring in this area. Links can be added from the competencies to articles, workshops or other areas of support.

Volunteers for the sub-groups:
Map Librarianship – Chair, Carol McAuliffe (U-Florida); Mike Leach (Harvard), John Lawton (U. Minn)
GIS Librarianship – Chair, Tracey Hughes (UCSD); Joe Aufmuth (U-Florida), Lorre Smith (SUNY-Albany)
Map Cataloging - Chair, Paige Andrew (Penn State); Susan Moore (U-Northern Iowa)

Program Planning Committee Report—Pete Reehling
Attendees: Pete Reehling - chair, Carolyn Kadri, Mary Larsgaard, Angela Lee, Susan Moore, Scott McEathron

At the Program Planning Committee I proposed two programs for the 2008 Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA. The First program is tentatively titled “Accessing Geographic Information.” The vision for the program is to explore the two predominant standards that address cartographic materials (AACR2/RDA) and geographic information metadata (FGDC/ISO 19115). Mary Larsgaard is taking the lead in organizing the AACR2/RDA portion of the program and Angela Lee will be coordinating the FGDC/ISO 19115 program segment. The goal of the program is to demonstrate that organization is the foundation of access regardless of medium or data format. The second program is contingent upon an invitation request that has been sent to David Rumsey. If the invitation is accepted, Mr. Rumsey will be potentially discussing how serving historical maps on the Internet has evolved and what the future may hold for such an endeavor. By Midwinter in Philadelphia I hope to confirm the status of both program proposals.
Membership—John Lawton
The MAGERT Membership Committee met on Saturday, June 23, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the Convention Center for an hour. Seven people were in attendance.

The most current membership statistics from March 2007 report a total MAGERT membership of 427, an increase of 6.48% over the 401 members in the same month last year and also an increase in membership over what the committee reported at the Midwinter Meeting. This present count for March includes 372 personal members, 54 organizational members, and 1 corporate member.

Discussion covered several topics. We briefly discussed the Executive Board’s vote conducted during the Executive Board I meeting that approved the Membership Committee’s proposal to institute a second personal membership category in MAGERT, together with corresponding reduced dues, for Library and Information Science students. We also discussed the change at this annual conference in our round table’s exhibit from a traditional booth to a smaller but more visible kiosk space in the new ALA Membership Pavilion, which includes representation of all round tables and divisions. In addition, we briefly reviewed the status of the new MAGERT membership-wide email list, a project in which the committee this past spring worked collaboratively (and will continue to collaborate) with Danielle Alderson at ALA.

Primarily we discussed imminent changes in the committee’s membership. The committee is grateful for the service of three members (Pete Reehling, Carolyn Kadri, and Sally Bosken) who are stepping down, and we welcome two MAGERT members (Wade Bishop and Bruce Obenhaus) who are joining the committee. Since John Lawton’s term as committee chair ended at the conclusion of the conference, Wade Bishop kindly volunteered to succeed him in this role.

Liaison Reports

ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Committee—Nancy Kandoian
RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee is working on the Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials for music and serials and on a publication, “Examples to Accompany Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials: Books.” They are also working on core competencies. There have been some discussions on writing a manual on descriptive cataloging of rare materials for cartographic materials. RBMS would be responsible for that, but would ask that some of us be consultants in that effort. Currently, because of other priorities, they are not ready to start on that. Nancy will give the MAGERT Cataloging and Classification Committee more details on that at the next meeting.

ALA Education Assembly—Kathy Weimer
Kathy Weimer attended the ALA Education Assembly on Saturday afternoon. The purpose of that group is to bring together all of the representatives from all of the divisions and round tables to talk about what’s going on in their groups. One of the common threads of the conversation was online training and workshops hosted through
ALA. There are fees involved, but we should keep the possibility in mind for the future.

**ALCTS-CCS CC:DA—Betsy Mangan**
Nancy Kandoian reported for Betsy Mangan. CC:DA is continuing to work on RDA (Resource Description and Access). The MAGERT Cataloging and Classification Committee is making comments through Betsy on the draft of chapters 6 and 7 by Aug. 12.

**CUAC—Joe Aufmuth**
CUAC met on Apr. 26 and 27 at the USGS building in Reston, VA. There were 12 members present. CUAC has two open seats, one for NACIS and one for SLA. Richard Fine, Coordinator for USGS libraries was the host of the meeting. There were presentations from 11 agencies including Homeland Security, GPO, Forest Service, EPA, Geospatial One Stop, FGDI, Board of Geographic Names, USGS, Library of Congress (represented by John Hébert), and the National Archives and Records Administration. There was discussion of plans for a CUAC conference in either 2009 or 2010. For more information please check the CUAC Web site: [http://cuac.wustl.edu](http://cuac.wustl.edu)

**Freedom to Read—Susan Moore**
No report.

**GODORT—Marcy Allen**
Marcy Allen of Penn State University volunteered to be the GODORT representative. GODORT is currently involved with a number of issues. They are working on core competencies. Virtual membership is being discussed. There are several committees that have agreed that virtual membership would be a good idea, but others that feel that it would not work for them, so there will probably be a mix. The Government Information and Technology Committee is exploring the possibility of establishing a GIS subcommittee to talk about Federal Spatial Data.

**GODORT Rare and Endangered Government Documents—Michael Smith**
The meeting was, for the most part, given over to a presentation by Janet Dixon, David Cobb and Jenny Johnson of the newly issued map security guidelines. They were seeking comments.

**IFLA—Michael Leach**
MAGERT has one opening for an IFLA Representative.

The next meeting will be in Durban, South Africa in August. Currently, the number of members in the maps section of IFLA is slightly below the minimum number to maintain the section. Any efforts that would result in adding new members in order to get the numbers up would be appreciated.

There is a program coming up in August that will focus on African maps and their history. At the next meeting in Quebec City we plan to have a satellite meeting that will be looking at maps as created by First Nation People. The meeting will be held either in Toronto or possibly New York City.

**The Geography and Map Division Library of Congress**
**June 22, 2007**
[Dr. Hébert’s Library of Congress...
MARBI—Susan Moore
The chief item of interest was that a proposal was passed that may allow for parent-child linking of records. This may allow easier linking between, for example, the record for a map set and a record for a sheet within that set.

The full report appears in the minutes of the Cataloging and Classification Committee on page 7 of the December 2007 issue of base line.

NACIS—Dan Seldin

NEMO—Nancy Kandoian
The North East Map Organization was rejuvenated with 60-some registrants at its annual meeting in New York City early in June. Captain-elect Cynthia Dietz of SUNY Stony Brook organized a meeting with panels on timely topics of metadata, access to spatial data, and portals vs. clearinghouses. The panelists represented universities and state and local government agencies in our core area of the northeastern U.S. We also had a speaker from the New York Times on their journalistic cartographic work, and MAGERT’s own David Allen speaking on British colonial mapping of New York Province. The second day of the meeting included visits to the recently restored Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division of the New York Public Library and to the regional office of the U.S Environmental Protection Agency. We will be meeting next year at the NewsBank/Readex facility in Chester, Vermont, where U.S. serial set maps are being digitized. Our new captain-elect, Dorothy Nash, of the NYC Office of Emergency Management, will be planning the meeting.

NGA—(Representative vacancy)
No report.

SLA, Geography and Map Division—Alice Hudson
No report.

USGS—Michael Cooley
No report.

WAML—Kathy Rankin
WAML met on Feb. 15-18 at Cal Tech in Pasadena and at the Huntington Library in San Marino. This was a joint meeting with the California Map Society. David Allen was one of the speakers. There was also a field trip to the Descanso Gardens on Sunday. There will be a bibliography of book reviews published in the WAML Information Bulletin on the WAML Web site and the WAML electronic news and notes will include the database of job openings for map librarians. WAML would like the presidents of the different map librarian groups to get together and would also like to have another Map Libraries in Transition Conference. WAML will have some of the articles that are published in the Information Bulletin refereed by the WAML Executive Board. The next two WAML meetings will be held on Oct. 24-27 at the Denver Public Library and on March 12-15, 2008 at the University of
move forward on separating the GIS Discussion Group from the MAGERT GeoTech meetings as a first step to give more time to these issues. It was also suggested that MAGERT advertise this change to RUSA members, as there are likely to be GIS librarians who are members of RUSA.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Eggleston

Nevada, Las Vegas.

**Issues from the Conference**

Lorre Smith, of the University of Albany, asked that MAGERT—as the only organization at ALA responsible for meeting the needs of librarians involved with cartographic materials—ensure that there are ample opportunities for GIS librarians to discuss their work. Executive Board members agreed. Pete Reehling will

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**ELECTRONIC MAPPING**

C.C. Miller, Purdue University

**Why You Gotta Break My Heart?**

**Using Web Feature Services**

I’ll go to my grave waving a flag for distributed geospatial Web services. Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc. (OGC) has been very active in developing schema for standards that hold nearly all of the promise one could want if one is interested – like I am – in a future where librarian-robots sit in offices and we tele-chat in from the beach to have the following conversation:

Me to robot: “Robot? Make a web map with DEMs from the USGS Web Coverage Service, road networks from that free Web Feature Service TeleAtlas offers, 6-centimeter orthos from Google’s WMS, and go ahead and throw in on-the-fly geocoding of coffee joint locations out of that public API Starbucks offers. Then add routing through the Web Processing Service we run from our machine, if you get to it. Oh, and make it so I can track the whole thing on iPhone, please.”

Robot to me: “How, sir?”

Me to robot: “You’re the robot. Figure it out.”

Well that’s science fiction, I suppose. (And I’m sorry to notice that I’ve become an abusive boss in the future.) But my point is that the distributed services model feels so right: that data stores from different, disparate agencies and institutions can be streamed into desktop clients or Web applications, streamed from server to server to be mashed together into a different service, can be plugged into other
scientific workflows, can be sliced up
and copied and queried and repackaged
and so on and so on? That’s so great.

It’s so great, in fact, that we’re teaching
it in our Geoinformatics course this
spring. We hold up Web Feature
Services, in particular, as an example of
interoperability, standards adherence,
sharing, distributed architectures,
interdisciplinary resources and such.
We encourage our students to think
about what must be happening on the
other end in order for their ArcMap
or uDig or even Google Earth (WMS)
clients to (seemingly) simply ask for
stuff and then (seemingly) simply
get stuff. WFS in particular are good
little human-level microcosms of
big time, cyberinfrastructure-level
Geoinformatics, since if you want to
work with WFS data at all you’ll need
access to metadata, you’ll need to
know the domains of the data fields, the
contexts of vocabularies, and myriad
spatial aspects, among other things.
So I give a talk with wonderfully clear
little models of how it all works, little
turecaps of a GIS drawing buffers
around features streamed in from a
server in Reston, Va or some place,
and the whole thing sounds like a
picnic. Their eyebrows raise in that
I’ll-be-damned-if-I-didn’t-just-learn-
something kind of way, and everybody
expects great things of themselves and,
indeed, science generally. How about
that!?

So that’s why I’ll go to my grave
singing beautiful song-poems about
WFS, WCS, and friends, including the
great stuff on OGC’s to-do list.

But having said that, let me tell you
why map and feature services will
be responsible for sending me to my
gave.

After our distributed data sources
lecture in Geoinformatics comes the
distributed data sources lab, where
the students are asked to connect to
various services, identify and examine
the capabilities of different protocols,
and then actually use those remote
data for minor GIS exercises. Off they
go, connecting to this and that, their
eyes sparkling and faces flush with the
expectation of one day soon using these
powerful tools to do good disciplinary
or interdisciplinary science. About ten
minutes go by, though, during which
the sky darkens and glowers. The hot
excitement of doing distributed-source
GIS gets exhaled from the lab, replaced
with an even more palpable tension.
The students are patient at first, but
eventually one of them very astutely
summarizes everything that truly
sucks about doing GIS with distributed
sources.

“Um,” they say, leaving their hand
raised. “This is unbearably slow.”

“Well that makes sense,” I say
knowingly, maybe even smugly. “The
original server receives the request, has
to interpret it, process it, reach into a
data store, grab out —”

“Yes, I know it’s complex,” they
It’s too slow to even use.”

And then another hand goes up. The
student’s machine is essentially locked
up trying to load a table of 400 line
features. Another hand from someone
loading 600 point features. Another, another. I try to keep the spirit alive by explaining that if they query the feature class to specify records instead of just opening the table to browse it then maybe it won’t be as slow. At least it won’t lock up the application and/or machine and cause a force quit.

But listen to that: “at least it won’t lock up the machine”? That’s our standard of usability and interactivity in distributed-source desktop GIS? Not only that, it’s old-timey librarian-speak: “locating and using information is hard and you’d better get used to it.” And based on what has happened in the world of information discovery and retrieval, I almost can’t help but think that maybe librarians just wanted it that way. Or at best didn’t have the creativity and wherewithal to throw some money into researching ways to make it not so unbearably hard. (Oh, wait: that made me think of another reason.) And in the geospatial world, are librarians cool with data being so hard to use that an acceptable piece of geoinformation literacy is the force quit?

Anyway, perhaps it’s not fair to be so hard on librarians just because we didn’t do what Google, Yahoo, et. al., have done with interface speed. Speed isn’t everything when it comes to information-seeking, we all know that. Besides, the information sources are so very different that we operate in very different worlds, etcetera, etcetera.

But speaking of worlds: when’s the last time a student raised their hand, called you over to their computer running Google Earth and said “Um, this is unbearably slow”? 😳

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**Rare, Antiquarian, or Just Plain Old:**

**Cataloging Pre-Twentieth Century Cartographic Resources**

The *Workbook* used and issued to participants during the June 2007 ALA preconference on cataloging early maps and atlases is now available to purchase for $40. The *Workbook* includes illustrations and cataloging examples taken from sheet maps, atlas plates and atlases, focusing on early and pre-twentieth century cartographic materials. Elements of description, transcription, mathematical data and supportive research are some of the areas covered by the *Workbook*. The price includes shipping and handling.

Orders should be sent to Jim Coombs, MAGERT Publications Distribution Manager, Maps Library, Missouri State University, 901 S. National, #175, Springfield, MO 65897 E-mail: JimCoombs@missouristate.edu

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base line 29(1): 24
New Maps and Cartographic Materials,  
Along with Other Items of Interest  
David J. Bertuca, University at Buffalo

Welcome to the first issue of base line that is e-only. While I am among the friends of paper/print news as a promotional tool and also because I enjoy reading off-line, I do see that MAGERT cannot support the print edition and so welcome this opportunity to work in the fully electronic world. In fact, I do have some positive reasons for going electronic—you will now be able to click on my links to new maps and go to the sites that I describe, rather than typing those long URLs by hand. Also, I have been considering submitting a few images to go with the text and this is even easier with a non-print edition. So I am fully behind Steve Rogers and the efforts to continue base line in its new environment and encourage you to support this with your submissions and thoughts.

It seems like only yesterday that I woke up on January 1st, but now February is already upon us and 2008 seems to be flying off in all directions. New maps, atlases, and online resources are still coming out in greater proportions and lots of great titles are appearing. Below I will try to provide a modest selection for your review and entertainment.

Maps

New for 2008

From several catalogs and a quick look at OCLC, a handful of maps have been released and are available now:

**Ethiopia: Scale 1:2,000,000. 4th ed.**  

Ethiopia leads off the new ITMB country maps for 2008. This is a country of mountains and valleys, and wild plains, as well as a nation surrounded by neighbors of conflicting ideologies and politics. Relief is shown by gradient tints and spot heights, and the map is of the usual high-quality, full-color that this publisher is known by. The map also includes an inset of Addis Ababa, an ancillary precipitation map, and text, index, and col. photos.

**Euro-Country Map 1:800,000, Scandinavia--Denmark, Norway, Sweden.**  
Ostfildern, Germany: Falk Verlag, 2008 (ISBN: 3575031819). 1 map: both sides, col.; 254 x 131 cm., on sheet 130 x 98 cm., folded in cover 25 x 13 cm. +index of place names (39 p.; 24 cm.).

This map includes all of Scandinavia (except Finland), mainly showing roads and tourist features, such as scenic roads. Also shown are railways and a selection of campsites. Included with the map is an extensive index to place names. This is worth having for anyone searching for features in Scandinavia.

Relief is shown by shading, gradient tints, and spot heights. The map is divided on two sides into northern and southern segments. It also has text.
notes and 9 insets, showing basic street plans of Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Malmö, Oslo, Trondheim and Stockholm, among others. The map is in English and the legend is in German, English, and 6 other languages.

Close to New

These are from 2007 or earlier but readily available and good to consider for collections.


This is a very large, detailed city street map that covers more than the city center. The city outskirts to the airport are included, as well as the Seltjarnarnes Peninsula northwest of Reykjavik. Important features, such as public buildings, points of interest, tourist services, police stations, post offices, hospitals, and more are shown with distinct symbols. Relief is shown with spot heights. The legend is multilingual and includes English.
This is a 2008 arrival from the same publisher and included here along with notes on additional maps in the series. It is also oversized and includes the same features and easy-to-read color. The ISBN shown on their catalog is the same as for the older edition, but is listed with the new date. Other newer city street maps include: Amsterdam, Barcelona, Berlin, Chisinau, London, Madrid, New Delhi, San Francisco-Los Angeles, Vienna, Zagreb, and Zurich. Go to their Web site for details and product listings: http://www.freytagberndt.at/rtc-freytagberndt.

Atlases

New for 2008

These are newly issued U.S. road atlases. The road atlases are the usual revised editions, each showing major routes and secondary roads (and some smaller routes), as well as having insets of major cities for each state and province. Almost all have comparable features, including: maps of U.S. national parks, state-by-state trip planning guide, mileage chart, and mileage and driving times map, and indexes.

However several of these atlases are larger-scale editions that are also good for planners and anyone needing a larger size and greater detail for reading and study.


Standard road atlas of the United States, Canada, and Mexico, showing major routes and secondary roads.


This edition includes a full road atlas of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.


Same as the previous title but in a smaller format.


Larger-scale maps for those of us needing a little easier reading distance, or for those needing larger maps to work with.

There are several other good-quality atlases available. This is one more that uses a larger scale for ease of reading:


Online Maps and Internet Resources
This first listing I take no credit for (either for writing it or for doing the project). It is a wonderful tool developed by colleague Michele Shular with technical assistance by another associate, Donald Gramlich. I hope it is a model that inspires librarians in other states to come up with similar projects.

UB Libraries Develops New York State Geographic Data/Maps Database

Ever wonder how many more canals there are in New York State other than the Erie Canal? Where are our reservoirs? What areas are designated “forests”? Where are the “falls” other than Niagara? (There are 163 more.)

The University at Buffalo Libraries now provides a database, the NYS Gazetteer and GeoData Collection, developed by Geosciences Librarian Michele Shular, which facilitates searching and locating 38,000 places, features, and other geographic information within New York State.

Ms. Shular has electronically linked U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) digital maps archived at the UB Libraries with the New York State portion of the “Geographic Names Information System” (GNIS), a Federal repository of official domestic geographic names maintained by the USGS. The NYS Gazetteer and GeoData Collection is available free to the public on the UB Libraries Web site: http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/e-resources/nysgeodata.html.

The digital maps, technically referred to as georeferenced Digital Raster Graphics (DRGs), can be printed for class or field work or imported into Geographic Information System (GIS) applications. For example, DRG topographic maps can be combined with other geospatial data, such as Digital Elevation Models (DEMs), to enhance terrain and slope visualizations useful for site planning, land management, and earth science studies. This GIS import feature is useful for students, technical researchers and professionals in many fields, such as business, government, planning, and more.

Searches can be run on geographic names, feature type, by county map, by U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle, or by a merger of multiple categories. When searching the database, there are links provided to the appropriate feature in Google Maps. For example, you can locate:

- 4961 schools
- 298 hospitals
- 590 towers (largely radio/TV)
- 427 swamps
- 68 streams in Erie County
- 127 islands in St. Lawrence County

This type of extensive geodata/maps/gazetteer database follows the lead of a similar product by University of Virginia librarians.

Ms. Shular notes that the creation of this database is meant to promote and facilitate public access to free topographic maps and gazetteer information for New York State through an easy, searchable interface. “Topographic maps are wonderful tools that provide detailed information for natural and cultural features on the ground, such as slopes, valleys, rivers, roads, and even
vegetation cover. Whether it is a K-12 teacher looking for geography class maps, a hiker looking to print a field map, or a GIS technician searching for a digital image to import into a GIS application, this database services a wide variety of needs. In time, the database will be expanded to include maps in a variety of scales, as well as other format types of geospatial data.”

Don Gramlich, Lead Programmer Analyst in the UB Libraries, provided technical support for the development of the database.

For questions or assistance with the NYS Gazetteer and GeoData Collection, Ms. Shular can be reached in the UB Libraries by email mshular@buffalo.edu, or by phone at (716) 645-2947 x223.

*Tour de France 2008 Map*
http://www.beyond.fr/map/mpdf2008.htm

For biking enthusiast and racers, this is an interactive map of France with hot-links to larger-scale maps of the Tour de France route. Also on the site is every kind of resource imaginable for the great race. (The maps of France are pretty nice too.)


This is a good guide to geology of the United States, which works along with the *National Atlas*. Included are maps, satellite photos, photographs, and tables that show the diverse structures of the continental U.S. and Alaska and Hawaii. Each region and feature type (e.g., faults) is described and representative examples are shown. Features are well-represented and the images are very good.

The book also includes a glossary and bibliography. A print version is also available. It would be useful in geology collections and for use in high-school and college collections for those needing an introduction to American geology.


Glaciers are currently being used as measures of global warming and climate change worldwide. Data on glacier changes has been ongoing for many years, giving a history that is useful in this study.

This book is designed “to provide the necessary data for assessing the magnitude and rate of glacier change in the American West, exclusive of Alaska…” The data from the project is being used to construct a GIS database. Data on glacier location and change “will be derived from maps, ground-based photographs, and aerial and
satellite images. Our first step, reported here, is the compilation of a glacier inventory of the American West.” — Introduction.

The snow and glacial coverage and changes have been measured and evaluated using 1:100,000- and 1:24,000-scale USGS and USFS topographic maps. The book also describes the evaluation process and the problems that are encountered in using this technique for study.

This is a good book for geography, geology, hydrology, and environmental studies students and researchers.


Also relating to glacier studies, this atlas will be useful for environmental studies and other fields.


The Pu`ukohola Heiau National Historical Site is located on the western coast of Hawaii. This study examines the effects on the off-shore environment (the Benthic zone) caused by any activities in the park. It is the second part of the study and is based on a model environmental study done in Florida. The study used bathymetry, aerial and satellite photography, maps and charts, and video recordings, among other data types to generate a picture of the environment and to show the relationship between the park and the downslope ocean world.

GIS was used to combine data for interpretation and visualization of the environment. This is a good sample study for environmental planners and researchers. The GIS data for this report may be downloaded from the USGS site: [http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2006/5254/PUHE_bhabs.zip](http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2006/5254/PUHE_bhabs.zip). The file includes the shape file and associated metadata files for the benthic habitat map.

Produced with the North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program, this document studies the development and use of map data to produce real-time studies of flooding. It also covers the use of various tools to collect relevant and useful data. Again, this is a good model and study for hydrology engineers, GIS professionals and cartographers, and those involved with disaster planning or environmental studies.

As long as we are looking at a few online USGS documents, here is the URL for the:

**USGS Publications Warehouse**
http://infotrek.er.usgs.gov/pubs

The Publications Warehouse contains both references to USGS published works, and in some cases, the actual documents in electronic form (various formats). It is a useful site to use to locate publications and should definitely be added to your resources Web page or as a bookmark on your browser. This is a complement to your catalog and often is a more effective way to search for these documents.

There are also links to USGS maps, aerial photographs and satellite imagery, data (various types), and to publications lists for purchase.

**Preloaded MapSource City Navigator North America NT 2008 Maps**
http://www.gpsnow.com/cnna2008ntpl.htm

For your GPS, here is a source of the MapSource product ready-to-go (as opposed to load selected files yourself). For anyone wanting to see what it looks like, they have a page that simulates the actual City Navigator North America 2008:
http://www8.garmin.com/cgi-bin/mangen/webmap.cgi?ps=15990785&l=0&u=0&v=0&z=1&x=175&y=175&w=480&h=360&d=0&rz=0&k=1&sc=1

It’s not a bad way to do some quick navigation of any site in the country.

**Global Internet and Network Maps and Data**

I mentioned an earlier edition of this map last year but felt that it might be good to note the 2008 edition. Telegeography produces maps and data for commercial use in the areas of telecommunications, networking, and other related applications. Products, such as “Global Internet Geography” provide the IT professional with visual references to use in research and planning. Although the services are expensive, they are current and provide time-sensitive and historical data that is geared to specific needs.

There is, however, a series of sample maps and data that you may view and download, especially under their “Maps” heading: http://www.telegeography.com/maps/index.php

This includes maps such as: the European Terrestrial Networks Map (see below), Global Internet Map 2006, and the Submarine Cable Map 2008. This provider also publishes country profiles that show communications infrastructure and capabilities.

**100 Best Companies to Work For 2008**
This is bound to be a favorite with business and management students and job seekers. The page has a Google map listing of companies showing the Top 10, the 25 Highest Paying, and all 100, just in case you don’t like the top 10 and want to shop around.

Murder in D.C.
http://burgersub.org

Web resources with geo-data include a diverse range of themes. This one covers all murders in the Washington, D.C. area, though the creator states that he is working to include “…all counties that border Maryland and all the Virginia counties that are part of the DC metro area.”

The way that documentation works is that there are lists of murders by date, with matching Google maps to show the locations. Annual maps show all events with descriptions that can be accessed as any other similar map.

It is useful as an idea-starter for criminal justice studies or for any kind of location-data link mapping themes.

Focus on Blogs

Like them or not, blogs are everywhere online and some of them contain useful maps and cartographic links. You locate them mostly by accident, but thanks to some competent search engines, and bloggers who have done some good work, we can access many maps and useful resources through their efforts. Here is a selection of a few carto-blogs as well as a few links to unusual map-related blog sites.

World Orienteering Championships 2008
Orienteering has been popular for decades but the Internet makes it easier to find others to share one’s pastime with. This blog is for the world event and provides all that you need to know to participate or to keep up with progress. See maps of the event course, find accommodations, and plan your trip here.

GPS Blog: POI Factory
http://www.poi-factory.com/

Find “new and interesting places for your GPS.” According to the blogger “This is where GPS users get together to share locations and discussions with other GPS users.” Loaded with mapping and GPS items, GPS locations (waypoints) and lists of the coordinates for over 1 million locations, this is a great place for the GPS or traveler to visit first.

It is also a place to go if you want coordinates for themes such as: “red-light enforcement cameras,” “natural landscape arches,” or “rest areas, welcome centers, and service plazas.”

Jaunted at Sundance
http://www.jaunted.com/maps/Sundance-2008-Map

If you want to hit the Sundance Film Festival, or just want to map all the locations, this site is for you. The blog has each of the festival-related locations mapped out (using familiar Google maps) for the armchair fest-goer. The blog’s main theme is: the “Pop Culture Travel Guide.”

Map of Humanity

This map appeared during a search and was on a blog that was so bizarre that I cannot find it again, however the map is worth viewing as an alternate version of World civilization.

This should be called “Focus on Blogs: Part 1” since I will be mentioning some of the map-heavy blogs in the future.

Conclusion

I hope you enjoy the maps and the new format. Next time you blink, it will be spring! —DJB

A Book Review

by David Allen


Who would want to read a book like this? Who would want to write or publish it? These questions are not easy to answer in the case of this massive tome, but I will try.

First, I will describe the work. Our Changing Planet is a large, atlas-sized volume, which weighs in at about five pounds. It has over
The editors say they hope the book “will prove useful to scientists, policymakers, students of the environment, and anyone who shares a concern and interest in the Earth and the changes occurring on its surface and in its atmosphere.” But I am not sure this book will have tremendous appeal to any of these groups.

I may have become a little jaded and cynical about such books. Since about 1970, there has been no shortage of attractive books that present aerial photographs and satellite images. There are also many atlases dealing with the environment, some of which incorporate satellite images. Several books have even appeared with the title *Our Changing Planet*. Most of these books received very little use in the library where I worked. The book under review is bigger, and possibly better, than most of these titles, but I suspect that it will also gather a lot of dust on academic book shelves.

The basic problem with this book is that it does not address any particular audience. I am certain it will receive little use from scientists. Although the articles are written by specialists, they are not detailed and scholarly enough to serve the needs of researchers, or even of students beyond the high school level. They have no footnotes or bibliographies.

These essays are also unappealing to the general reader. It is a rare scientist that can write for a popular audience, and such are not the contributors to this book. The essays vary considerably, but most are written in a wooden academic style that brings
back unhappy memories of college lectures. People with an interest in popular science would do better to look for articles on the same subjects in magazines like *Scientific American*.

One might conclude that this book was conceived by NASA as an exercise in corporate self-celebration. One place where I can definitely see the book being used is in the waiting rooms of NASA’s executive offices. Paging through it and looking at all the satellite images would be a good way to pass the time while waiting for an appointment with one of NASA’s administrators, and the volume certainly is good publicity for the space agency.

But to dismiss the book in this way does not do it full justice. It has quite a few merits, and you might even want to purchase it for your library. The strength of *Our Changing Planet* is in its illustrations (and the accompanying captions), rather than in the essays that come with them. The satellite images, especially, are aesthetically pleasing, and often very informative. It is a pleasure to page through a book like this and to look at the pictures and read the captions. You can do this in the comfort of your living room, as well as in NASA’s administrative offices. You may even end up sufficiently intrigued to read some of the essays, since they are closer at hand than back issues of *Scientific American*.

The most fascinating thing in this atlas is the enormous spectrum of satellite images it presents. The satellite images we most commonly see are similar to pictures taken with a digital camera. But many of the images in this volume are much more exotic, and present “pictures” of things that the human eye has never seen, and never will see. Many of us are used to “false color” images, such as pictures of vegetation taken in near-infrared light that are digitally manipulated to show growing vegetation in dark red or florescent green. Many of the illustrations in this book are based on this technique, and turn streams of digital data into colorful images. They magically make visible the invisible.

Here are a few of my favorite examples. In the sections on the oceans, there are colorful psychedelic images showing such things as subtle variations in the elevation of sea level, and seasonal differences in ocean temperatures. It is easy to overlook just how artificial these images are. Not only can we not see such things as water temperature, but we tend not to notice just how much manipulation is involved in the creation of these pictures. This is partially because the data is presented with the appearance of a conventional map, with the continental outlines drawn in on an image of the globe. Some of the more exotic images of this type show dramatic spirals and curves of chlorophyll concentrations in the oceans. These pictures, the caption tells us, were made from data from the SEA WiFS instrument on the Orb-View-2 satellite.

Other examples of such images show differences in soil humidity throughout the world, or show the global distribution of fires by season.
Such images resemble very closely conventionally drawn thematic maps, rather than images produced directly from streams of computer data. My personal favorite is a bizarre picture showing ground motion in the Mohave Desert caused by the Hector Mine Earthquake in 1999. This is a “radar interferogram” made using a Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) instrument on a European satellite. Potential readers should be advised that the book includes appendixes describing imaging techniques and spelling out acronyms, which may provide a clue about how these pictures were actually made.

Quite a lot can be learned about the earth from digging into this book, and especially about environmental changes. The editors hope that this book will serve as a resource to policy makers and students of the environment. This is probably wishful thinking, since they are preaching to the choir of those interested in such things as global warming or deforestation, and anti-environmentalists are not likely to take the trouble to read this book. But you never know. Maybe a compelling image of shrinking ice sheets will convince some people that global warming really is a problem.

The list price of *Our Changing Planet* is $45, which does not seem unreasonable for a book that must have been very expensive to produce. In spite of its limitations, it is a worthwhile purchase for most map collections.

David Allen
Map Librarian (retired)
Stony Brook University

A composite image of the world at night, 2000. (Data from the OLS instrument on a DMSP satellite, provided by Christopher D. Elvidge, NOAA – NESDIS National Geophysical Data Center.) From: *Our Changing Planet: The View from Space* (Cambridge University Press, 2007)
WE NEED SOME PUBLICITY! NOBODY’S BEEN USING THE MAPS COLLECTION LATELY!

I HAVE A GREAT IDEA FOR AN AD CAMPAIGN! PICTURE THIS:

A GIRL SEES THAT A GUY IS LOST, SO SHE RUNS TO THE NEAREST MAP LIBRARY, CHECKS OUT A MAP, COMES TO HIS RESCUE, AND THEY LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER!