base line

a newsletter of the
Map and Geospatial Information Round Table

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http://www.ala.org/rt/magirt

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base line is an official publication of the American Library Association’s Map and Geospatial Information Round Table (MAGIRT). 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 MAGIRT 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 MAGIRT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below.

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MAGIRT must review our needs for meetings at ALA.

The ALA Midwinter Meeting (January 23-27, 2020) in Philadelphia, PA, had many discussions on upcoming changes. These entailed MAGIRT members’ discussions and more focused decisions on future sessions. Roundtables’ merging with ALA’s new theme “Forward Together” was also discussed.

Vice-Chair Sierra Laddusaw will later disseminate a brief online survey to MAGIRT members regarding virtual Midwinter meetings. It will also include a possible merger with GODORT because of the total necessary 1% membership threshold. Then members will have a chance to discuss those options and vote at an upcoming general membership meeting.

MAGIRT would not exist without all of you!

I would like to thank MAGIRT executive board members whose minutes and reports appear elsewhere in this issue of base line. They also chaired committees, interest groups, and/or discussion group. A special thanks to Craig Haggit who is one of our newest members! He chaired his first committee meeting! He did a fantastic job!

A Big Thank you to our Vice-Chair Sierra Laddusaw for organizing an outstanding visit and presentation to the Library Company of Philadelphia. The wonderful field trip included curators Sarah Weatherwax and Rachel D’Agostino. They wonderfully gave a brief overview of the history of the library on Benjamin’s Franklin’s vision from the 18th century and described a few displayed cartographic treasures. In addition, Dr. William Fenton provided a very interesting talk on the gallery exhibition on the 1763 massacre in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Dr. Fenton also wrote the great graphic novel, Ghost River: The Fall and Rise of the Conestoga. This is now free to read online https://read.ghostriver.org/. A dinner followed at the Hard Rock Café Philadelphia.

As a part of the newest membership promotion for ALA Round Tables, ALA provided a “Help Desk” to give ALA on marketing and sharing information regarding their roundtables. In the future, while working the help desk we can tweet out to ALA members to come visit MAGIRT at the ALA Lounge. Big thanks to Maggie, Tammy, and Sierra for helping!

Past Chair Tammy Wong submitted a slate of candidates for the two officer positions for our upcoming elections Vice Chair/Chair-Elect and Assistant Treasurer. Online MAGIRT ballots will be available soon!

Good news! Tammy received several nominations for the MAGIRT Honors Award. Announcement of a winner coming up.

The draft of the Annual 2020 schedule for Chicago, IL was submitted. The final schedule will be available on all social media platforms. The programming for ALA Annual 2020 is evolving nicely. Thanks to Wangyal and Laura McElfresh for volunteering to serve on the planning committee!

Please feel free to contact me with your questions or concerns at itaylor@loc.gov
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FEATURED ATLASES

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Jughstafiyi kishwar-i Afghanistan [The Geography of Afghanistan], 2007
Tập bản đồ kinh té xã hội Việt Nam... [Socioeconomic Atlas of Vietnam...], 2004
Beijing gu di tu ji [Beijing in Ancient Maps], 2011
Atlas des indices minéraux de la Côte d'Ivoire [Atlas of Mineral Indices of the Ivory Coast], 1975
Atlas-i mill-i Iran tarikh [National Historical Atlas of Iran], 1999
Mineral Atlas of India, 2001
Nuevo atlas nacional de Cuba [New National Atlas of Cuba], 1989
Atlas-i mill-i Iran tarikh [National Historical Atlas of Iran], 1999
Nelson's Sierra Leone Atlas, 1966

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50% discount applies to specially-marked atlases only—see www.eastview.com/atlas-sale-2020 for full list of available titles. Orders are fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis so don't delay.
Tim Kiser, Chair of the CCC, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, with a 3-minute intermission after ALCTS/CaMMS-MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group Meeting. He welcomed all the attendees to the CCC meeting. There were 15 attendees in total. Members present: Paige Andrew, Nancy Kandoian, Tim Kiser, Susan Moore, Laura Ramsey, Iris Taylor, Tammy Wong, Artis Q. Wright, and Min Zhang.

1. Call to order (Tim Kiser)

2. Welcome and introductions

CCC members and guests introduced themselves. Fifteen were in attendance at the meeting of the Cataloging & Classification Committee (CCC) in Philadelphia, including our newest member, Artis Q. Wright of New York Public Library.

3. base line cataloging editor report (Tammy Wong)

The minutes from CCC meeting held at ALA Annual Conference, in June 2019, were approved as published on page 5 of the August 2019 base line. See http://www.ala.org/rt/sites/ala.org.rt/files/content/publicationsab/baseline/BL-40-4.pdf

4. ALCTS CaMMS/MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group report (Maggie Long)

ALCTS-CaMMS/MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group
American Library Association Midwinter Conference
Philadelphia, PA. January 26, 2020, 8:00 a.m.

Agenda & meeting notes: Attendees: 16
Questions/discussion:

1. Use of ISO 19115 for Geographic Information: For example, we have a GIS Libguide that makes use of the topics set out in that standard, so we’re thinking about whether we should use LCSH instead. (submitted by Liz Miraglia, UC San Diego Library)
Discussion notes: The international standard ISO 19115 is the most robust of the standards and interoperable with other standards but mapping with LCSH is not completely compatible. Keeping ISO terms is suggested.

General Reference: https://www.iso.org/standard/53798.html

2. Uniform titles for cartographic resources (submitted by Tim Kiser, Michigan State University) *Is the LC-PCC PS for RDA 6.27.1.9, on making additions to conflicting access points for works, never applicable to cartographic resources?*

Discussion notes: If we were applying in map cataloging there would be a 130 Main Entry-Uniform Title. Is there a need to do that? Is there any type of cartographic resource that would require to do so?

- Atlases (LC) use uniform title (for one-up editions of same work by the same creator when title changes for collocation purposes). Use uniform title for facsimiles for medieval Maps – “Hereford World Map” example.

2a. *A related question: What is the relationship between the following:*

110_1 Michigan. Department of Transportation.
24510 Official Michigan road map.
264 1 Lansing, MI : Michigan Department of Transportation, 2017
110_1 Michigan. Department of Transportation.
24510 Official Michigan road map.
264 1 Lansing, MI : Michigan Department of Transportation, 2018

*Are they separate works? And if so, does the LC-PCC PS apply (which would require an addition to the authorized access point)? Are they different manifestations of the same work?*

Discussion: It was generally agreed these are separate works. It was also noted there is a transition of how states are issuing maps digitally and not on paper.

Suggestions were offered including: to use a 246 varying form of title; Subfield n (bracketed if necessary) with the year (the relevant RDA instructions are at 2.3.1.7 including an LC-PCC PS to transcribe numbering in $n$).

3. Training for Minimally Punctuated MARC Bibliographic Records (new training)

https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/sct/documents/GuidelinesMinimallyPunctuated-MARC-SCT-2020-01.pptx

Announcements and reminders

1. Cutter requests to LC: send to mapcat@loc.gov – requests will be forwarded
2. OCLC Virtual ask office hours
4. RDA and PCC LC-PCC policy statements and workflow documents in the beta RDA Toolkit
5. **CC:DA report** (Min Zhang)

**CC:DA Report 2020 Midwinter from Min Zhang, MAGIRT Liaison**

**Personnel Changes in the wider Library**

There have been changes in LC representation to various committees. Melanie Polutta is now the LC representative to Committee for Cataloging: Description and Access and to NARDAC. Manon Théroux is now the LC representative to the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of ALA. Veronica Ranieri is now the LC representative to the Board of Geographic Names.

**DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGING**

**Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements**

The Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements remain frozen as a result of the RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project (commonly known as the 3R Project); see URL [https://www.rdatoolkit.org/3Rproject](https://www.rdatoolkit.org/3Rproject). The stabilized English-language text that resulted from the project has been released on the RDA Toolkit beta site and work on the development of policy statements and application profiles for that revised RDA text has commenced. Four joint LC-PCC task groups have been charged to make recommendations regarding these policy statements: Diachronic Works, Aggregate Works, Element Labels, and Data Provenance.

A designated team of Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division staff members has been working on preparing the policy statements, following a plan submitted to the PCC Policy Committee, and will be consulting regularly with the PCC throughout the development process: [https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/documents/PoCo-2019/BetaRDA-PoCo-Decisions.pdf](https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/documents/PoCo-2019/BetaRDA-PoCo-Decisions.pdf).

**Name authority changes**

Change of Authorized Access Point for Kiev, Ukraine. The authorized access point for the capital city of the Ukraine was Kiev (Ukraine), based on the conventional name “Kiev,” as determined by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names. The BGN has now changed the status of the name “Kiev” from conventional to variant, and there is no conventional name.

As a result, the authorized access point for the city has been changed to Kyïv (Ukraine), which is based on the ALA/LC Romanization Table for Ukrainian. All associated LCSH authority records have been updated, and LC is in the process of revising all of the associated name authority records.

Change of ADM1 names in France and Norway. France reorganized its regions, the ADM1 level territorial designations, in 2016. PTCP’s current BGN representative, Veronica Ranieri, has ensured that new NARs exist for all of the new region names, but she continues to resolve questions of relationships with the older names for the regions. Norway has also reorganized its ADM1 level territorial names, but that change only took place officially in January 2020. As a result, BGN has approved the name change, but not
yet updated its database. Ms. Ranieri will create those NARs as soon as BGN has made its changes.

**BIBFRAME**

Cooperative Programs Division (PTCP) continue work on BIBFRAME development and testing. The scope of BIBFRAME Pilot Phase Two has expanded to include more than 100 Library of Congress catalogers, including staff members working in four of the six overseas offices--Cairo, Jakarta, Islamabad, and Nairobi. To help train the new pilot participants, a comprehensive Library of Congress BIBFRAME Manual was created. The manual is publicly available on the Catalogers Learning Workshop site, together with all associated training materials, and will be updated throughout the course of the pilot; please see [http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/bibframe/](http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/bibframe/).

Pilot participants create bibliographic descriptions in both the BIBFRAME Editor, expressed in the BIBFRAME data model, and in the Library of Congress Integrated Library System (ILS), expressed in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format. The Library of Congress ILS is the database of record, necessitating the need for duplicate bibliographic descriptions. BIBFRAME testing includes input of bibliographic data using BIBFRAME 2.0 vocabulary, input of non-Latin scripts, and the ability to incorporate authority data. Data from the BIBFRAME 2.0 database, including MARC-to-BIBFRAME converted data and original descriptions by BIBFRAME pilot project participants, is available via the LC Linked Data Service, [https://id.loc.gov/](https://id.loc.gov/).

Work has also focused on providing a fuller level of interaction with a live BIBFRAME 2.0 database consisting of the complete BIBFRAME conversion of the LC bibliographic file. Features of the database include user search capability and use of linked data queries to highlight relationships between resources. Search results in the BIBFRAME 2.0 database can be refined by subject facet. Merging and matching BIBFRAME 2.0 work descriptions in the database is underway and will continue to be refined throughout 2020. Data from the BIBFRAME 2.0 database is being distributed via the LC Linked Data Service: [https://id.loc.gov/](https://id.loc.gov/).

PTCP and NDMSO staff members continued to exchange ideas about BIBFRAME with partners in the LD4P (Linked Data for Production) project, funded by the Mellon Foundation and led by Stanford University Libraries. Staff in PTCP and NDMSO completed initial BIBFRAME training for the seventeen institutions within the Program for Cooperative Cataloging that are members of the LD4P Cohort for the second phase of LD4P.

A draft of the critical programs for conversion of BIBFRAME descriptions to MARC records was completed, and testing began at LC and two LD4P institutions. Strong international interest was demonstrated at the 3rd annual European BIBFRAME Workshop, which was hosted by the Kungliga biblioteket (National Library of Sweden) in Stockholm in September 2019.

**SUBJECT CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION**

**Bibliographic Record Control Numbers in Authority Records.**

The citation for the work being cataloged is the first MARC 670 field provided in proposals for Library of Congress Subject Headings, Genre/Form Terms, Medium of Performance Terms, and Demographic Group Terms. According to longstanding policy,
field 670 subfield $a contains the LC bibliographic record control number (i.e., the LCCN) if applicable, the main entry, the title, and the publication date of the work.

In order to support linked data, the bibliographic record control number will be contained in subfield $w beginning in spring 2020. The subfield $w will appear as the last element in the field. The control number itself will be preceded by the MARC code for the agency to which the control number applies, enclosed in parentheses. For example:

Citation formatted according to current policy:

670 ## $a Work cat: 2015300502: Finding Julia, 2014: $b p. 13 (Bollinger family) p. 11 (Bollinger County, Missouri was named after George Frederick Bollinger, b. 1770. His German ancestors migrated from Zurich, Switzerland to Philadelphia in 1738)

Citation formatted according to new policy:

670 ## $a Work cat: Finding Julia, 2014: $b p. 13 (Bollinger family) p. 11 (Bollinger County, Missouri was named after George Frederick Bollinger, b. 1770. His German ancestors migrated from Zurich, Switzerland to Philadelphia in 1738) $w (DLC) 2015300502

The LCCN will be provided in proposals made by LC catalogers. The LCCN will also be provided in SACO proposals made for CIPs that are cataloged by the CIP Partnership Program. “Work cat” citations in other SACO proposals may contain a single subfield $w that reflects either the local control number of the SACO institution or a bibliographic utility control number such as the OCLC number. Subfield $w will not be required for SACO proposals, other than for those made to support CIP cataloging.

Citations in existing authority records should not be revised to move to subfield $w an LCCN that appears in subfield $a, nor to add a control number to a citation that does not currently include a control number. When proposals are made to revise existing records, the citation for the work prompting the proposal should be formatted according to the new policy.

Pertinent instruction sheets in the Subject Headings Manual and the draft Genre/Form, Medium of Performance, and Demographic Group Terms manuals will be revised to reflect the new policy. The templates in the Proposal System will also be updated accordingly.

Further information, including the date of implementation, will be provided as it becomes available.

Classification Web 4

An updated interface for Classification Web, the Library’s subscription Web-enabled database that is the authoritative source for the Library of Congress Classification, was successfully released during the weekend of August 24-25, 2019. This significant upgrade to the user interface includes all of the functionality of Classification Web 3, but incorporates modern web navigation techniques and a responsive design that runs on a wide range of hardware from desktop computers to tablets and smart phones. Classification Web 4 runs on Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, and Safari, but the navigation features do not function properly on Internet Explorer.
6. **LC Geography and Map Division report** (Min Zhang)

**LC G&M Report 2020 Midwinter**

In November 2019, the Geography and Map Division hosted a successful one day conference for GIS Day entitled “In the Shadows of Notre Dame: Geographic Information Science, 3D Mapping and Cultural Heritage Preservation.” Chief, Paulette Hasier opened the meeting and GIS Cartographic Specialist, John Hessler was among the speakers. ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hZLyThf0KQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hZLyThf0KQ))

Since March 2018, G&M has published nine online interactive applications that highlight creative ways to facilitate the accessibility of thousands of collections, using the Geographic Information Systems (GIS)-based tool Story Maps ([https://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/storymaps.html](https://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/storymaps.html)). These digital humanities stories have garnered over 229,000 views. In addition, the Geography and Map Division’s cataloging staff created an internal “Story Map” of Cartographic Resources in The Library of Congress. Combining text, images, multimedia, and interactive maps and online narrative experiences, this Story Map surveys the geographic distribution of different types of cartographic resources by country (sheet maps, set maps, atlases, globes, electronic resources and so on) located in the Geography and Map Division.

Geography and Map Division cataloging team continues to serve as a liaison between LC and map librarians at large. The G&M staff are faced with the challenging task of capturing large amounts of geospatial metadata, including attributes tied to various types of GIS data, vector and raster, across heterogeneous file formats. G&M established the Workflow for Creating Standardized Metadata in Geospatial Hosting Environment (GHE) for the National Cartographic Collection. This workflow will guide the use of processing digital acquisitions, analyzing data, and creating metadata in MARC. G&M staff implemented crosswalks from FGDC/ISO to MARC to provide for metadata records needs.

7. **OCLC report** (Laura Ramsey)

**OCLC Update**

**MAGIRT Cataloging & Classification Committee**

**ALA Midwinter Conference**

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

**January 24-28, 2020**

**OCLC Virtual AskQC Office Hours**

The Virtual AskQC office hours are being expanded to include 2 sessions per topic, held each month on the first Tuesday at 9 am and following Thursday at 4 pm (with the exception of May). Following are the upcoming topics for the AskQC Office Hours:

- February 4th and 13th: *Best practices for enriching WorldCat bibliographic records*
- March 3rd and 12th: *Punctuation updates and policies*
- April 7th and 16th: *Updates to record validation and the OCLC MARC update*
- May 7th and 14th: *The mysterious 3xx fields*
- June 2nd and 11th: *Updates on OCLC encoding levels*
For more information, past sessions, or to register for the upcoming sessions, go to: oc.lc/askqc

OCLC Member Merge Project

A 4th cohort of member merge libraries began training in the second half of 2019. We now have 34 member libraries of many sizes and types involved in merging records. A special call out to Paige Andrew for not only helping with the Maps merging documentation, but leading staff to become the first institution to gain independence merging map records!

OCLC Connexion update

A revised OCLC macrobook for Connexion Client is available for download with the following changes:

- Update to the GenerateAuthorityRecord macro
- Update to the Generate 043 macro
- New macro-PunctuationAdd
- New macro-PunctuationRemove

Download available at oc.lc/cat-downloads

Mellon Grant

OCLC has been awarded a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for $2.436 million to develop a shared “Entity Management Infrastructure” that will support linked data management initiatives underway in the library and scholarly communications community. OCLC will match this grant funding with additional investments to publish authoritative and easily accessible entity descriptions for works and persons as part of a persistent, centralized infrastructure that will be jointly curated by the community and OCLC when completed in December 2021. This infrastructure will also aggregate links to other representations of works and persons in external vocabularies and authority files that will provide a solid foundation for libraries, cultural heritage organizations and scholarly communications communities to ultimately make their materials more connected and discoverable on the web. See oc.lc/mellon-grant to learn more.

OCLC Partners with Libraries on CONTENTdm Linked Data Pilot Project

Digital collections in libraries represent unique materials that illuminate our understanding of the world's cultures, histories, and innovations. Traditional models of item description have resulted in these materials being largely invisible on the internet and hidden from researchers. OCLC is partnering with libraries on a pilot project to:

- Make it easier for researchers to find, evaluate, and use digitized cultural materials;
- Improve library staff efficiency when describing unique content; and
- Prove the feasibility of a production linked data service.

OCLC WorldCat Quality Statistics

- Bibliographic records replaced by OCLC staff July-December 2019: 31,960,321
• Bibliographic records replaced by member libraries July-December 2019: 1,197,397
• Change requests received by OCLC July-December 2019: 34,536
• Bibliographic records merged into other records by OCLC staff July-December 2019: 85,207
• Bibliographic records merged into other records by member libraries July-December 2019: 15,070
• Bibliographic records merged into other records by DDR July-December 2019: 3,240,602

8. MARC Advisory Committee report (Susan Moore)

The MARC Advisory Committee had a full slate of discussion papers and proposals at this midwinter meeting. While there were no papers specifically focused on cartographic materials, there were some papers that could impact aspects of cartographic cataloging.

Discussion Paper 2020-DP01 explores some options for the modernization or replacement of Field 856 in the MARC 21 formats. Field 856 was created in the early 1990s and includes accommodations in the indicators and subfields that were needed for some of the online resources in use at the time but now are not used often such as dial-in and telnet. All but one of the available alphabetic subfields are defined in the format so there are no subfields available for any future types of online resources. Several options were explored, including keeping the 856 field and making some subfields obsolete and redefined (there was little support for this), keeping the 856 field and adding a field 857 that was proposed to be used for open access URIs (there was little support for this, given the complexity of the various flavors of Open Access), or adding the field 857 and making field 856 obsolete. The general consensus leaned toward keeping the 856 field and adding the field 857 without the limitation of using the 857 field for Open Access URIs only. There was also a general consensus that there should be more than one proposal coming out of this discussion paper.

Proposal 2020-01 sought to add a new indicator to field 883 to indicate that the metadata for the linked field was not generated by machine. This would require renaming and redefining the field. The proposal passed with the change of the proposed name of the indicator 2 from “Created by a human cataloger” to “Not machine-generated.”

Several discussion papers came from the Network Development and MARC Standards Office based on needs discovered through the data conversion of BIBFRAME records to MARC 21. These will come back as proposals.

9. Old business

3R Task Force of the MAGIRT CCC (Paige Andrew)
Background:

Since the 2019 Annual Conference that was held in Washington, D.C. the Task Force has not pushed too far forward primarily because of ongoing work to the RDA Toolkit and related tasks. In other words, external circumstances allowed us to halt most planned work. However, I can report on recent activities, what we will work on next, and what is left to do.

Recent Meetings:

The chair of the R3TF and chair of the Cataloging and Classification Committee met twice to assess where task force progress was and strategize next steps. The first meeting was in August 2019 where a key decision was to put TF activities on hold because the RDA Steering Committee (RSC) does not have a mechanism in place to accept change proposals. We also agreed to consider moving away from proposing changes directly into the RDA system and look instead at things such as creating a metadata application profile with the changes we desire or to create new or edited LC-PCC policy statements related to individual instructions where a change is desired. No other work was accomplished through calendar year 2019.

A second meeting was held in January 2020 to again assess where things stand and what next steps should be. There is still no mechanism in place for proposed changes to RDA, but the outcomes of this meeting included:

- A decision to move away from tackling individual proposals based on the seven originally delivered to the RSC at the June 2017 annual conference toward focusing exclusively on revising and updating MAGIRT’s Guidelines for Cataloging Cartographic Resources Using RDA document (known as our “Best Practices” document). Once updated this document can serve as the basis for an application profile and inform making changes to the text of RDA instructions and/or LC-PCC policy statements. In short, we will be poised to renew making proposed changes when RSC formally announces a process to use and doing so from the platform of our own documentation.
- Identified changes to membership in the task force and the need to add one or two more members as soon as possible. Tim Kiser, now the chair of the MAGIRT Cataloging and Classification Committee, is now an ex officio member. When Louise Ratliff retired in June 2019 she also resigned from the committee. Paige Andrew remains chair of the committee and Susan Moore and Tammy Wong remain as members.
- Agreeing that the original charge to the task force was out-of-scope and a new charge needed to be written based on current and near-future RSC activities and a re-focus on working to finalize an up-to-date MAGIRT Best Practices document. A new charge was delivered to task force members at the 2020 Midwinter Meeting.

Re-prioritizing Remaining Original Proposals Work:

At the 2020 meeting the two chairs prioritized what to tackle of the remaining five original proposed changes from our list of 7 in 2017 (2 were approved just before the 2018 Midwinter Meeting). All work will be done from within the Best Practices
document and will cover the five remaining original proposals as well as adding a new one (an approved fifth supplied scale statement (based on RBMS' DCRM(C) standard)) and any necessary editing of the existing text. Of all the work needing to be done the top two change items will be:

1. to explicitly instruct that a scale statement always start with the word “Scale” in front of the representative fraction, the current instruction at RDA 7.25.1.3 does not include the term. This would necessarily also change the examples associated with this instruction that are shown at 7.25.3.3.

2. to move forward on changing how we format coordinate values in the record from Degrees/Minutes/Seconds (DMS) to decimal degree. The community voted at the 2019 annual conference to change to decimal degree format in the 034 field for machine manipulation but to retain the DMS format in 255$c for human-readability. This will be a multi-part task involving not only this Task Force and RDA but also the entire maps cataloging community and OCLC, MARC21, etc. Long term we will need to identify one or more tools do conversions when faced with DMS coordinates or creating coordinates in the decimal format, and create educational documentation to go with the process.

Any other identified additions to the Best Practices document will be tackled as well.

**Goals for Remainder of 2020:**

The primary goal of the task force is to completely update the *Guidelines for Cataloging Cartographic Resources Using RDA* document by the 2020 Annual Conference for approval by the Cataloging and Classification Committee. During the second half of the year if the RSC has put a change proposal mechanism in place we can then begin the work of changing instructions and/or policies within RDA based on our own best practices.

Paige Andrew  
Chair, CCC R3 Task Force (2017- )  
Cartographic Resources Cataloging Librarian and Distinguished Librarian  
Pennsylvania State University Libraries

**10. New business**

New task force: Core elements for description of geospatial datasets (Tim Kiser)

Louise Ratliff, recently retired from UCLA and ALA, will be chairing a joint task force of the CCC and the Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML), to determine what is core when describing geospatial datasets.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy Wong
ALA Mid-winter MAGIRT Dinner and Tour
Philadelphia, PA
January 2020

Dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe

MAGIRT Tour of The Library Company of Philadelphia

Photos by Tammy Wong
MINUTES
MAGIRT Executive Board/Membership Meeting
January 26, 2020

Date: January 26, 2020
Time: 2:30-3:30 PM; 4:00-5:30 PM
Location: Pennsylvania Convention Center (PCC) Room 108-B

1. Call to order
   Iris called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Iris introduced our guests, Danielle Ponton, our ALA staff liaison, and Aaron Dobbs, our representative to ALA Council.

2. Call for changes to Agenda (Iris)
   Iris called for any changes to the agenda. Hearing none from the floor she announced a change to move New Business to the end of the agenda to be sure to have time for a full discussion about the question to possibly merge with GODORT or not. All approved the change.

3. Secretary--Minutes from October 28, 2019 (Paige)
   Called for changes to the minutes of the Exec Board meetings held on July 29th, Sept. 30th, and Oct. 29th 2019? None reported. The minutes of each meeting were published in the August, October, and December issues of base line and available to all members.
   Asked if all Exec Board members on the MAGIRT Exec Board group email address, magirtbd@ala.org. It is critical that every Exec Board member be on this list as it is a primary means of communicating among the 12 or so MAGIRT leaders. If not on this list contact Paige for assistance.
   Urged anyone giving a report at the meeting to please send a copy for the minutes no later than February 7th.

4. Officer Reports
   a. Chair (Iris)
      i. Update of Virtual Meeting Software (Zoom Upgrade)
         Reported that Danielle assisted in getting us included in the Association’s Zoom software account. This means we can use it and save funds too. Thanked Danielle for her help with this matter.
ii. Updates for 2020 ALA Annual Conference, Space request form, time adjustments. Iris asked all committee chairs, discussion group and interest group leaders or anyone else desiring a meeting space at the annual conference to contact her immediately with details. She will be compiling and needs to fill out ALA documentation to reserve spaces soon. Danielle noted that the request form will be available in April with a tight deadline for completing.

iii. Updates for 2020 ALA Annual Program
Iris is putting together a panel presentation for the MAGIRT Program at the annual conference with the theme of Geospatial Data Visualization and 3D Mapping Techniques. She is looking for presenters and asked that each of us reach out to individuals who would be good candidates for this panel and send names and contact information to her so she can follow up. Or, if anyone present wanted to volunteer contact her immediately.

b. Vice Chair (Sierra)
i. Plans for 2020 ALA Annual fieldtrip/social gathering
Sierra is going to do something different this year. Instead of visiting a map collection she has been working with local colleagues to identify a print-making shop in Chicago that we could visit to see how the production of books and other items is done, including maps. She is reaching out to candidate businesses right now. We will also incorporate a 40th anniversary celebration into the Friday social events and has been in contact with Kathy Hart (who planned and carried out the 30th anniversary celebration event in DC ten years ago) for ideas. Also planning to reach out to “landmark” MAGIRT members to join in. Sierra welcomed any ideas and suggestions on a celebration event or activity.

c. Secretary
See report given above.

d. Treasurer (Marguerite/Pete)
Paige gave the Treasurer’s Report on behalf of Marguerite and Pete. Please see the full report in the Appendix below.

e. Past Chair (Tammy) – Status of 2020 ballot: Chair-Elect, Assistant Treasurer/Treasurer-Elect and ALA Connect updates

Status of 2020 ballot
Year 2020 MAGIRT ballots will include two positions open for election: Chair-Elect and Assistant Treasurer. If the process is similar to last year’s election, members will receive a reminder to vote via email in March. You will receive an automated email in your inbox. If not, be sure to check your email “Junk” folder with a subject line similar to “ALA 2020 election login information.” ALA election was open through April 3rd last year.

ALA Connect Redesign 2020
Connect is undergoing a redesign on its main website and microsites. The redesign doesn’t alter the core functionality of the platform, but gives it a new layout that’s more intuitive, streamlined, and consistent across all the microsites.
What will the redesign accomplish?

- Surface for member-created content and facilitate increased engagement
- Simplify onboarding for members and administrators
- Help standardize the user experience on all Division and Round Table microsites
- Make it easier for site/community admins to keep their pages updated

Members who are interested in previewing the redesign can visit the ALA Lounge at Midwinter for an informal preview with Community Engagement Manager David Sheffieck.

Scheduled times are: • Saturday 11:00-12:00 • Sunday 2:00-3:00 • Monday 12:00-1:00

If a member has questions, they can reach out at any time either through the “Contact Us” form linked at the top of every Connect page, or via email: connect@ala.org.

The redesigned MAGIRT page will feature a “Join MAGIRT” button, which allows 3 easy ways for members and potential members to renew/join MAGIRT by printing out and completing an enrollment form, calling an 1-800 number, and via online enrollment.

5. Old Business

a. LibGuide Update—Documents transfer from spreadsheet to ALAIR (Tammy)

The transfer of documents to ALAIR has been completed. Thanks to Megan Rush for leading this effort.

b. Status on various MAGIRT listservs and social media (Tammy).

All MAGIRT listservs and media are in working condition. If you run into any problems, please let me know. Sierra announced she will work with OPOC members on making improvements.

c. Education Committee Chair position: Co-chairs

i. Kevin Dyke, Maps and Spatial Data Curator, Asst. Professor, Oklahoma State Library and Eric Johnson, Numeric and Spatial Data Librarian, Center for Digital Scholarship, Miami University Libraries, Oxford, OH

ii. Webinars update: no report

6. Committee/Discussion Group/Interest Group Reports—Liaisons reports

a. Bylaws & Governing Documents/Nominations & Awards Committee (Tammy)

The updated Bylaws have been archived in ALAIR and ALA Connect. Nominations for the 2020 MAGIRT Honors Award will be accepted until Jan. 31, 2020.

b. Cataloging & Classification Committee (Tim)

Fifteen were in attendance at the meeting of the Cataloging & Classification Committee (CCC) in Philadelphia, including our newest Committee member, Artis Q. Wright of New York Public Library.
- We have revised the charge of our existing RDA 3R task group to include a cross-check of our *Guidelines for Cataloging Cartographic Resources Using RDA*, also known as our “best practices” document, against the beta RDA Toolkit, to identify anything that might need to be revised, as well as to make a few other revisions in response to past community interest expressed by the Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group.

- Louise Ratliff, recently retired from UCLA and ALA, will be chairing a joint task force of the CCC and the Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML) to determine which elements are core when describing geospatial datasets.

c. Education Committee Discussion Group (Kevin/Eric)
   The co-chairs were not present to lead the meeting and thus do not have a report. However, the Education Committee meeting was held and graciously lead by Wade Bishop with input from many present. A report on this meeting is found in the Appendix below. Iris thanked Wade for leading the meeting.

d. GeoTech Committee Discussion Group (Wangyal)
   See the “GeoTech Committee Meeting Report” below.

e. Membership and Marketing Committee (Maggie)
   See the “MAGIRT Membership and Marketing Committee Report” below.

f. Online Presence & Oversight Committee (Megan)
   Read by Secretary Paige Andrew at the meeting: Many documents were stored, though never made public, on LibGuide. For some documents, we had both draft versions and a final version. Draft versions are sitting on Google Drive (MAGIRT account), where they can either remain or be deleted. Final versions and other stored documents have been uploaded to ALAIR.

   I also downloaded the html files for all the LibGuide pages. I can upload those to ALAIR, too. These would just consist of the text of the pages. Links between LibGuide pages would not work, and almost all style, formatting, and images do not show on these html files. If others feel that just the text of the pages would be nice to archive, I will add those, too.

   Iris asked the group present about their feelings on whether to archive the text of pages and everyone agreed that it would be useful to do so for now.

g. Publications Committee (Abbey)
   Read by Secretary Paige Andrew at the meeting: All documents from the MAGIRT Electronic Publications Series have been uploaded to ALAIR. Since we do not have a category specifically for MAGIRT publications these were filed under appropriate categories if applicable (Cataloging, Education, etc.) with most publications in the General Documents category.

h. Cataloging of Cartographic Resources Interest Group (Maggie)
   See the “ALCTS-CaMMS/MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group Report” below.
i. Map Collection Management Discussion Group (Craig)
   See the “MAGIRT Map Collection Management Discussion Group” notes below.

j. MAGIRT/GODORT (GIS) Discussion Group Coordinator (Joy--Wangyal)
   The GIS Discussion Group jointly met with the GeoTech Committee meeting folks and the meeting was lead by GeoTech’s chair, Wangyal Tsara. See the “GeoTech Committee Meeting Report” below for details.

7. New Business
   a. Future of Midwinter - Virtual Midwinter Meetings (Discussion-Iris)
      ALA is moving Midwinter to a “professional development opportunity” model, meaning the number of unit meetings will be severely restricted to allow for programming with a focus on member needs related to job-related growth. Expect to see more workshops and training sessions. This means most, if not all, of the meetings we usually hold at Midwinter probably will need to be done virtually and around the same time. Sierra touted GODORT’s model that they used this year, they held maybe two committee meetings in person and the remaining three were held virtually before and after this conference. Iris asked those present if we would like to move to a virtual meeting format such as GODORT’s. Most responded yes to the question. Iris will hold a vote on this topic at the next Executive Board meeting and communicate with GODORT leaders about how they set up and carried out their meetings.

   b. To Merge or not to Merge (Discussion-Iris)
      Iris handed out a set of Powerpoint slides from a GODORT presentation held in advance of Midwinter. She used these to go over key points related to the open question of whether or not to merge with GODORT, including pros and cons. Good discussion was held throughout. If we do not merge with GODORT and do not meet the mandated 1% of ALA membership minimum (we would need to have at least 500+ members to achieve this standard based on current ALA membership numbers) one of our options would be to become a “community of interest” within a Division.

      The SCOE group (Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness) has concluded their work by delivering a final recommendations report (https://connect.ala.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=9ea66d69-c19a-4a80-9292-28ef63e9a917&forceDialog=0). Now we begin a Phase Two effort with a new committee to be launched in April with a focus on implementing the recommendations from the SCOE report. Outcomes from this committee will be voted on by ALA Council at Midwinter 2021 with opportunities to continue making changes for another year and a final vote by Council at Midwinter 2022.

      Iris wrapped the discussion by urging Board members to attend the January 31st GODORT Membership Meeting where they will use some of the meeting time to discuss the proposal to merge with MAGIRT. She will also keep us updated on progress between the two round tables on this topic at the February Executive Board meeting.
8. Announcements
No announcements.

9. Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

APPENDIX – MEETING AND OTHER REPORTS

MAGIRT TREASURER’S REPORT FOR August 2019

This report is based the ALA/MAGIRT performance report for the 12 months ending August 2019.

Overview:

Beginning Net Assets for MAGIRT as of July 31, 2019 $ 57,263.00
TOTAL INCOME [Sept. 1, 2018-August 30, 2019] $    6,663.00
TOTAL EXPENSES [Sept. 1, 2018-August 30, 2019] $    7,644.00
Current balance (income minus expenses as of August 30, 2019) ($      982.00)
Total Ending Net Assets for MAGIRT as of August 30, 2019 $ 56,281.00

Comments:
Total revenues YTD are $6,663. As reported previously, the majority of these funds are from personal memberships, plus some additional sales revenue since the last report. While we are short of our year-to-date goal in dues collection by 19%, our total revenue collection is 47% under budget. As this has been a multi-year trend, the budget for FY2021 has reduced the amount of dues budgeted.

Expenses for the same period have not been substantial, totaling $7,644, although for the first time in a couple of years they exceeded revenue. Our primary expenses were the annual conference award and banquet ($1,763.00) and conference equipment rental, which this year was more than double the budget: $3,822.00. No expenses in this category last year. We budgeted $12,425 for expenses for the year, so we were 38% under budget for the year, despite the increased expenses.

We did not budget for the anniversary celebration in the FY2020 budget, so those expenses may change the outlook for the current fiscal year; we have included expenses for the anniversary on the FY2021 budget.

Comparison with August 30, 2018: Revenue: $6,711.00; Expenses: $2,809.00 Dues: $6,258.00

Marguerite Ragnow
Treasurer, MAGIRT (2019-2020)
MAGIRT Education Committee Meeting Notes (compiled by Frank Donnelly and Laura McElfresh)

Because neither the chair or vice chair of the committee were in attendance and their whereabouts were unknown, Wade agreed to chair this meeting. The meeting consisted of two parts. During the first part, we went around the room and made introductions, and discussed educational projects we were involved with at our institution:

What is everyone working on?

- Dr. Wade Bishop, teaching faculty at Univ. of Tennessee’s iSchool – recently received an IMLS grant to develop and teach a new online geospatial information class (beginning Fall 2020) focused on scientific information ecosystem. This is a MIS collaborative liaison librarianship program; students have an opportunity to earn a full scholarship towards a career as a science liaison librarian. He is recruiting students and shared a flyer and asked folks to take back to their institutions and help recruit.

- Paige Andrew hasn’t had many workshops lately but is coming to University of Minnesota in April to work with Laura McElfresh, their new maps cataloger (and with other UMN catalogers). He also has commitments to do four other basic map cataloging workshops at meetings/conferences from May through October. He is also working on an Advanced Map Cataloging workshop. (BIBFRAME? Not yet)

- Susan Moore shared her ongoing map cataloging work though wishes she had more time to devote to maps instead of other material types.

- Laura McElfresh is learning map cataloging stuff! She has been doing metadata work in recent years and does have a cataloging background but not with cartographic resources. Excited to be stepping in at Univ. of Minnesota’s long-vacant map cataloger position.

- Susan Aber, Emporia (NY) State Univ. -- has hit a dry spell as well on holding workshops

- Frank Donnelly, Baruch College, CUNY -- gateway person for GIS at his library; doing workshops on QGIS. He is also the Government Info librarian. In those roles he gets lots of the questions that are not necessarily about GIS, but about working with census information. He wrote book for this area of information exploration that was published very recently, titled Exploring the U.S. Census. Frank passed around a copy and will be promoting it during the conference.
  
  o QGIS would be a great webinar topic for this group
  
  o Steve Ruggles, Minnesota Population Center -- might appreciate Frank’s book

- Iris the GIS Day event held at LC G&M along with a couple of other initiatives.

- There was a discussion about past Education Committee webinars and a desire to re-start that initiative.

  This previous point marked the beginning of a second discussion, about declining attendance at ALA and participation in MAGIRT activities:
Wangyal mentioned the importance of understanding how to make the round table’s work more relevant to a wider audience of geospatial and geographic librarians, so that our work relates more to the work and interests of people in our profession. There are many people in our field who are not members of MAGIRT or ALA, or who are but are not regularly attending the conferences.

Other suggestions produced from this discussion included: re-igniting a webinar series for people who can’t travel to the conference, identifying relevant topics in our field to broaden the scope of our programming, encourage people to take leadership roles so they have a bigger stake in the round table’s work and encourage people to showcase their work, increase our connections with federal agencies who are producing data and changing the nature of our meetings to include more panels, presentations, and workshops; although some members pointed out that this would be contrary to some ALA rules or objectives.

There was also some conversation about the constraints that ALA places on round tables and other interest groups within the organization.

- Bishop -- working with USGS to get people together to share data. Some of his former students are working in those roles.

- Has there been a MAGIRT program on the ALA schedule? (It can be hard to get on the schedule because programs now go through a juried process. However, MAGIRT is guaranteed a Chairs’ Program – Iris announced we will have a panel at Annual on data visualization & 3-D mapping.)

- ProQuest collaboration ideas? What could they do to help MAGIRT with education?

- Genealogy is ignored in history and similar classes, it is often seen as irrelevant. But now we are seeing it used as a way to motivate student interest – to get them to research an ancestor or whoever that was in a war, etc. and look for primary sources on that person. The goal is to build genealogy into the formal curricula at universities and colleges and include mapping and data visualization as part of it. Here’s the rub: there are almost no qualified candidates to teach genealogy because universities require teaching faculty to have a Ph.D. Now, a movement (Association for Family and Local History) is working to turn family and local history into an academic discipline. Maps are involved in genealogy -- along with postcards, letters, census data, or anything with a date and a place. ProQuest is willing to partner on educational initiatives on this topic with MAGIRT.

- This group (MAGIRT overall, not only the Education Committee) could be a good place to start. If we could get a summary of ideas from ProQuest rep, something to chew on and work with, it’s something to start with.

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**MAGIRT’s GeoTech Committee member and GIS Discussion Group meeting** (Saturday 25, 2020) 10:30 – 11:30 PCC Room 121-B

16 people participated in the meeting. Out of the 16, two were not MAGIRT members.

*Usage of GIS technology in libraries and in the classroom:*

The majority of attendees use Esri’s products such as ArcMap, and ArcGIS Pro software packages in offering workshops or helping their patrons. However, there are institutions
who use both Esri ArcGIS desktop products such as ArcMap and ArcGIS Pro and opensource QGIS. The reason for using QGIS software is that it is not only open-source software, and therefore is free, but also it can be installed on Mac computers. Many students come with Macs, and it allows students to install the software on their computers and take the software with them when they graduate from universities. Esri ArcGIS Online is used commonly in the attendees’ institutions in publishing their data online. Esri Story Map is also used by most of their institutions. For example, the Library of Congress is using it to display their map collection so that they can see the strengths as well as the gaps in their collections. There are a few institutions using R to support their patrons using and analyzing geospatial data. There was discussion on an open-source image Server that will support making large mosaiced georeferenced maps accessible online.


**Announcements:** Two geospatial librarians’ open positions were shared. One was posted by the Library of Congress and another by Johns Hopkins University Library.


Keith Jenkins (Cornell) and Frank Donnelly (Baruch CUNY), and members of the Tug Hill Commission are organizing a day-long QGIS conference that will be held April 3rd at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. Registration will open in a few weeks. Primarily for state and local government professionals, but also open to students, faculty, and others who are interested in QGIS.

David Hodnefield of Historical Information Gatherers will be creating a new platform called History Mosaic where all types of data related to the history of a place will be made accessible to a person. For example, aerial photographs of a city, their address directories, property histories, etc. The new platform will allow users to add their own data to visualize the area.

Mike Peters from EastView said they have started acquiring and selling International census data. They have census data on Latin American countries, former Soviet Republics and African countries. They also started converting historical census tabular data from paper to digital and creating e-book versions. Historical census tabular data are from the year 1900 onwards.

Dr. Wade Bishop made an announcement of a Master’s Degree in Information Sciences program that provides full tuition, medical benefits, and an assistantship stipend from Fall 2020 through graduation in May 2022 for students who are preparing for a career as a Science Liaison Librarian. For more information contact Dr. Wade Bishop, wade.bishop@utk.edu.

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**MAGIRT Membership and Marketing Committee Report**

ALA Mid-Winter Conference, January 26, 2020

Committee Members: Theresa Quill, Frank Donnelly, Maggie Long, Chair
MAGIRT Membership Statistics

As of the November 2019 ALA Statistics Monthly Report, the latest report received (Dec.16, 2019), MAGIRT has a total of 265 members, down from a total of 270 (-1.85%) from 2018. The majority of the membership accounts are personal (239), followed by organizational (24) and corporate (2).

Membership Committee Activities

ALA Annual Conference 2020 -- We would like to discuss having a table (possibly shared with GODORT) at ALA Annual 2020. The Membership Committee would like to hear further on the potential plans of a merger of MAGIRT and GODORT.

Reaching out to members -- The membership committee has created documents to send out to MAGIRT members who are new to the organization, members who renew their membership and to those with lapsed (or dropped) memberships. We first begun with the creation of a Welcome letter for new members and after receiving approval by the MAGIRT Executive Board, had begun sending out letters to new members in late 2018-early 2019.

UPDATE: At the 2019 ALA Membership Promotion Task Force meeting in Washington D.C., made an announcement that ALA Membership will be working with each round table to create automated emails via Informz. The MAGIRT Membership committee replied to this request and submitted 3 letters, with the first being the “Welcome letter” to new members (already in use), and completed and submitted the two additional documents, “Renewal of membership” and one for those with a Lapsed membership. All letters were approved and are in current use.

OLD BUSINESS

ALA Connect -- the committee members have reviewed ALA Connect and how to navigate the MAGIRT membership list. Just a reminder, it is suggested for all members of MAGIRT to review their own personal contact information and edit their profile as needed.

Member profiles -- We have discussed creating a Member Profile section on the MAGIRT website and for publication in base line.

Merchandise -- MAGIRT has some promotional materials (pens, notepads, etc.) but the committee will look into other items we could use for promotions, incentives, etc.

ALCTS-CaMMS/MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group

American Library Association Midwinter Meeting
January 26, 2020, 8:00 a.m.

Agenda:

1. Remarks/introductions
   Maggie Long, Wesleyan University, IG coordinator
2. Questions/discussion

a. Use of ISO 19115 for Geographic Information (submitted by Liz Miraglia)

A question about using the ISO 19115 schema in the context of a particular metadata project was posed, wondering if such a detailed standard was needed? Comments around the room indicated that this schema is probably the most-commonly used metadata schema because of its interoperability even though there is more to it than most need to use. FGDC and Dublin Core and its versions are the other most-often used schemas. The summary was that indeed this level of metadata schema is valuable and should be used in metadata-creation projects for cartographic resources.

b. Training for Minimally Punctuated MARC Bibliographic Records (new training)

https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/sct/documents/GuidelinesMinimallyPunctuatedMARC-SCT-2020-01.pptx

A question was posed about what individual libraries are doing with this change of standard for PCC libraries. The majority are staying with full punctuation for now though everyone understands the need to remove punctuation in our records to better enable machine manipulation. Some have, or will soon move to Option b, which is to remove ending/end-of-field punctuation but not change medial (or within-field) punctuation. One institution is already applying Option c, which is to remove all punctuation with exceptions kept in mind.

c. Uniform titles for cartographic resources (submitted by Tim Kiser)

“I don’t remember ever encountering a uniform title entry in a WorldCat record for a map. Why not? Is the LC-PCC PS for RDA 6.27.1.9, on making additions to conflicting access points for works, never applicable to cartographic resources?”

A related question: What is the relationship between the following:

110_1 Michigan. Department of Transportation.
24510 Official Michigan road map.
264 1 Lansing, MI : Michigan Department of Transportation, 2017
110_1 Michigan. Department of Transportation.
24510 Official Michigan road map.
264 1 Lansing, MI : Michigan Department of Transportation, 2018

Are they separate works? And if so, does the LC-PCC PS apply (which would require an addition to the authorized access point)? Are they different manifestations of the same work?

There was much discussion around Tim’s questions and key observations. Most felt that the maps format has very few true serial publications and even when encountered, such as official state highway maps, the preference has always been to catalog them as individual monographs. That doesn’t preclude doing them as serial entities, as Penn State has, but through the use of other title information fields in
particular the individual publications can be separately distinguished without the work of creating new access points for works. (when one clicks on the full record that includes holdings information it is then very apparent the number of individual maps for the particular title). Another option is to treat these in the form of a monographic series where a collective title is used in the 245 followed by $n$ for the year. Again, 246 fields for ever-changing wording of the title can be employed also, most often the title within the neat line of the map and the panel title differ and thus we have a means of bringing these distinct titles out as well.

3. What do we as a community want/need from this IG at upcoming meetings?

4. Other topics/open discussion.

Questions/comments? Join the magirt-rda listserv: http://lists.ala.org/sympa/info/magirt-rda

MAGIRT Map Collection Management Discussion Group Meeting Notes

In response to the call for topics, Jo Klein of UNC-Greensboro mentioned their project called Tangible Landscape (https://cnr.ncsu.edu/geospatial/news/tag/tangible-landscape/) which is a novel way to engage their students with basic concepts of geography in a more interactive, and tangible, way than is typical.

MAGIRT’s field trip to the Library Company featured a look at their map collection and its history, rooted in Benjamin Franklin’s original subscription library from the 18th century. The tour also took a look at their new project and exhibit discussing the 1763 massacre that took place in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. «Ghost River: The Fall and Rise of the Conestoga is part of Redrawing History: Indigenous Perspectives on Colonial America, a project of the Library Company of Philadelphia supported by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.”--project website. The graphic novel is available for reading free online.

We briefly discussed the Free Library of Philadelphia as well, which also has an extensive map collection, including a large collection of insurance maps from Hexamer, who mapped mid-19th century Philadelphia, and Sanborn.

Ongoing projects include regional depositories collaborating to collectively maintain print map collections, rather than each regional holding entire sets of, for example, USGS 1:24,000 topographic quads. In October, 2018 new guidelines were established for this by the FDLP, and several of these discussions are taking place across the country. These arrangements require a memorandum of agreement, a collection management plan, and approval from at least one U.S. Senator from each state. The Univ. of Florida and the Univ. of Georgia were present at the meeting and shared that they are in discussions with GPO about next steps, while UNC-Chapel Hill and Univ. of Virginia currently have a finalized shared-collection arrangement.

Another discussion emerged around collaboration efforts between city agencies and records management, GIS & physical collections, emanating from a question from the New York City Economic Development Corporation which included a question about a possible map-driven database of resources and data. Responses included the Big 10 geoportal, using Geo-BlackLight, and the emphasis on a shared metadata standard, Texas A&M’s creation of a community of practice so geospatial datasets work with interoperable data layers.
A longer discussion revolved around the seemingly eternal talk of Sanborn maps and copyright issues. David Hodnefield, of Historical Information Gatherers, shared his extensive research on the subject below:

- No-one owns copyright for pre-1991 maps, as these are orphaned works
- Current legal case, possibly to be decided in 2020, will determine whether or not insurance maps produced after 1900 are copyrightable, given the lack of creative expression involved
- Some maps created in the 1970s may be under copyright, but may be scannable and shared internally, but not publicly
- During the 2020s, all original Sanborn copyrights will expire

Final question involved how various institutions prioritize their digitization projects. Most people responded that they digitize cadastral maps since most of their requests are for this type of information. Another popular choice is to digitize the unique items in the collection that have no other known holdings.

Two job postings, at Library of Congress and University of Maryland, were also announced, with all encouraged to share the news far and wide.

*Notes compiled by Sierra Laddusaw and Craig Haggit, report delivered by group leader Craig Haggit.

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**Task Group Members WANTED**

In January, the MAGIRT Cataloging and Classification Committee (CCC) and the Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML) agreed to jointly form a task group charged with determining what is “core” when describing geospatial datasets. The group will be chaired by Louise Ratliff, recently retired from UCLA.

We are seeking potential members of the task group, aiming for a well-rounded group whose members collectively have diverse experiences in describing various kinds of geospatial datasets, in different formats, for diverse library users. The group will aim to have an initial report on its activities ready for the ALA Annual Conference in June 2020.

If you may be interested in joining the task group, please reply by February 21 to me at tkiser@msu.edu, with a brief summary of your experience describing, or working with descriptions of, geospatial datasets, including particular metadata formats with which you have experience, and/or any other strengths you would like to bring to the group. Please also indicate whether you are a member of MAGIRT. Again. The deadline to respond is Friday, February 21.

Tim Kiser, Chair, MAGIRT Cataloging and Classification Committee
“It is hard to imagine a world without books. It is equally hard, it seems to me, to imagine a world without maps.”—Huey Lewis-Jones

Thank you for allowing me to have a go at New Maps and Cartographic Materials. As a new map librarian, I am humbled to write a column read by seasoned professionals. I joined the library at SUNY Buffalo this past July, but had an even greater duty to take care of before diving into the map collection – I welcomed my first baby in August! I spent a few months adoring her before returning to grab the torch from David Bertuca here at UB. I am fortunate to learn the intricacies of caring for our map collection before he takes off on other adventures. It seems only natural I continue his legacy here in base line.

I plan to review newly released atlases and maps, and any interesting websites I come across. My many years as a public librarian made me a huge fan of themed displays, so I may include a few items focusing on anniversaries, news and holidays – in addition to playing catch up with items we missed in 2019. Don’t be shocked if you see books and websites for our young map lovers out there. As a new mother and stepmother, I find myself reading more children’s books than I would care to admit. Hopefully you find value in my reviews of these materials, and can share them with your own young patrons and family.

This is my first position as a map librarian, but I am no stranger to maps. As a high school student I worked as a page at the downtown Central location of Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. I can recall the first time I noticed the map drawers in the closed stacks. As I approached them, a fellow page cautioned me that only the librarians were allowed to touch those. I would sneak peeks at the piles on tops of the drawers, always fearful of the finicky librarians lurking in the corners. I graduated high school and moved on to college – still working in the public library, but the coveted map collection was no longer on my radar. It wasn't until I was took the required Maps and Mapping course for my Geography minor that I really appreciated the magnificence of those dusty maps. Through that class I was able to see the value of maps for my educational, professional and personal lives. Now I have returned to work with the faculty that inspired my fascination with maps.

Books

I often find maps of imaginary places can be more thrilling than real maps. Viewing the locations from a story, book or film on a map allows us to make more sense of the story. As Cressida Cowell (author of How to Train Your Dragon) states in The Writer’s Map: An Atlas of Imaginary Lands, “A map helps to make an imaginary place real. The more detail you put into your beautiful lie, and the more you base it on things that are true, the more it comes alive: for you and your readers”. Using maps accompanying our favorite books, we can concoct dozens more adventures and create our own stories within the geography envisioned by the author and cartographer.
There have been several atlases published in the last few years regarding mapping fictional realms. Whether the editors extol the value of including maps in books, invite artists to map their own fantastic world or collect new maps for old, well-loved stories – it’s clear many have been enchanted by pretend maps.


The author of *Myth Atlas: Maps and Monsters, Heroes and Gods from Twelve Mythological Worlds* found the “perfect excuse” to revisit the myths he read as a child - having his own children to share them with. I find myself in a similar place with an infant daughter and inquisitive 4th grader. This book collects twelve legends from across the globe, and includes maps for each. Thiago de Moraes’ introduction justifies inclusion of maps to help us understand ancient myths: Each culture’s view of the universe represents “ways in which people make sense of the world. It’s how they explain the seas, mountains, sun, moon, thunder, lightning, and animals.” As an example, he explains how the flooding of the Nile inspired many stories in Egyptian mythology (p. 4).

An indication of the cultures covered can be found in the table of contents, which is presented beautifully on an illustrated world map, allowing readers to chart their course through the myths. The contents include: The Greek World -- The Yanomami World -- The Slavic World -- The Aztec World -- The Yoruba World -- The Native American World -- The Japanese World -- The Hindu World -- The Polynesian World -- The Irish World -- The Norse World -- The Egyptian World.

The publisher admits there are many versions of the stories the book details, and although the researchers tracked down the best-known versions, readers are invited to let them know if they got something wrong. It is acknowledged that these beliefs may still be held by many people today, and the book does not seek to comment on “current religious practice”. They apologize for missing favorite cultures as space was limited. The painstaking effort to find the best versions of the myths is clear in the acknowledgements, where a number of experts are thanked for their help with pronunciation and histories (see Publisher’s Note on copyright page).

Each chapter contains an introduction to the culture, including an explanation of where the civilization was located and how the people viewed their placement in the world. For instance, the summary in Greek World chapter points out that according to Ancient Greek mythology Earth was flat. This belief influenced their mythology, and therefore the map in this volume depicts the world as a flat disc. The illustrated map is decorated with images of heroes, gods or goddesses from the mythology. Each chapter includes 1-4 selected stories, family trees, and a page with illustrations and summaries about key creatures and artifacts.
I recently rediscovered my fascination with Norse mythology and the Vikings, and was eager to see what the author did for this region. Our favorite characters are illustrated on a map of the tree Yggdrasil. Odin sits at the top, the Norns live in their well at the bottom, and we even see Sol and Mani circling the tree in their chariots. This book is a great addition to any children’s collection. The chapters can be read in sequence, or readers can start with their favorite myths and jump around from there.


Dr. Lewis-Jones’ passion for exploration and cartography is evident in his two recent book releases. *The Writer’s Map* is essentially a collection of love letters to literary maps. Phillip Pullman, author of the His Dark Materials series, introduces the book with a chronicle of his own history with literary maps. He details how he began drawing maps at eight years old, when a teacher taught his class how to pace out and draw the school playground. This jumpstarted his desire to obtain his own atlas to plot out his own adventures to unknown places. Pullman explains how the first map he drew for his own work (to accompany *The Tin Princess*) was rejected by his publisher. The map that was ultimately published with the work is shown in *The Writer’s Map*, along with maps from his other books.

The remaining pages read much like Pullman’s introduction. Twenty-three different writers and illustrators describe their favorite literary maps, and recount how they have used cartography as they craft their own works. Some focus on specific books, such as Daniel Reeve’s chapter *Untitled Territory: A Middle-Earth Mapmaker*. Other chapters are thematic in nature. Sandi Toksvig’s chapter *By a Woman’s Hand: Cartographically Curious* gives a brief history of women in mapmaking. Lewis-Jones succinctly describes his book on page 36: “Modern-day writers gather here to share their love of maps and to describe their own journeys through books.” The book is divided by four distinct topics: Part One – Make Believe, Part Two – Writing Maps, Part Three – Creating Maps and Part Four – Reading Maps. Twenty-three different writers and illustrators contribute essays.”

This atlas includes more than 150 full-color maps. Many come from familiar books and series (Treasure Island, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, Lord of the Rings, Chronicles of Narnia), yet there is undoubtedly a new map to discover in this atlas for each reader. *The Writer’s Map* is a great atlas for students of literature, cartography and creative writing.

Dr. Lewis-Jones is not only enamored with maps, but also islands. In *Archipelago*, he gives us several words that are used to describe a person’s love of islands: islomania, islophilia, enisled. He describes how his own islomania began as a young child living on one island and thinking of others (page 9). Dr. Lewis-Jones provides a history of the mapping of islands, starting with a description of the *isolari* (island books) Venetian soldiers began making during the 13th century. He continues to give us the history of mapping of fictional islands – the subject of this book. *Robinson Crusoe* and *Treasure Island*, *Gulliver*, Edgar Rice Burroughs – these all inspire the artists contributing to this book.

The inside cover of *Archipelago* contains a map of the world, titled “Last known locations”. X marks the spot for islands such as Zungeland, XLibris, Upsie, Ithaka and Atoz Atoll. You’re not familiar with these? That would be because they do not exist. Inspired by his own passion for islands, he challenged artists to merely “imagine an island”. These artists were then forced to address the issues of naming the location, assigning geological features and describing its inhabitants.

A total of 69 islands were created for the atlas. Each chapter includes a map of the island, coordinates placing the island in a real-life location either on Earth or in space, and key facts about the island including and dates of key historical events.

Given that 69 different artists contributed to *Archipelago*, the illustrations vary in style. Some are traditional maps with natural features, place names and legends (Chamaeleontis, Holiday, Galanscae). Still other descriptions are accompanied by an abstract drawing (Ithaka). This book is recommended for students of creative writing and art, or for anybody self-identifying as an islomaniac.
Atlas of Classic Tales gives us a wonderful opportunity to introduce our children to reading maps. This book includes eight stories and accompanying maps allowing readers to plot out the journeys of our favorite heroes and heroines. The tales included in the book are revealed by its contents: Thumbelina -- The Snow Queen -- Sinbad the Sailor -- Puss in Boots -- Aladdin -- Little Red Riding Hood -- Sleeping Beauty -- The Jungle Book. Each chapter contains a retelling of a classic tale, followed by a 2-page map. The map includes key locations covered in the story, connected by trails.

Younger readers will likely need assistance using the maps – this adult map user had a fairly difficult time charting out Sinbad’s adventures following a reading of his four page-long story. Since details from the story must be used to chart the route the character took on the map, the books and maps can be used to practice reading comprehension and recall.

Web Resources

With the holidays a few months behind us, we likely aren’t agonizing over finding the perfect gift for our map or literature lovers out there. However, as of this writing, Christmas 2020 is 321 days away, Hanukkah is 308, and even our friends born on February 29th get a birthday this year! So be sure to bookmark the Dorothy website for when you find yourself in need of a unique gift.

Dorothy

https://www.wearedorothy.com/collections/street-maps

The artists at Dorothy create maps that cater to our combined love of pop culture and maps. I was initially drawn to the website to purchase their Book Map. The Book Map’s locations and landmarks are titles from 20th and 21st century literature, and the base map is “loosely based on a turn of the century London street map”. You will see Slaughterhouse 5 is located on Animal Farm, and following The Road north will lead you to The Two Towers. A family member purchased The Book Map for me as a Christmas gift. The cost is less than $50 when you add shipping from the UK. I am still deciding if I will hang it in my office so visitors can find their own favorite books on the map, or in my house so my family can pin each book we have read.

In addition to the Book Map, Dorothy sells Song Maps (U.K., U.S.A. and World editions), a Film Map, a TV Map, a Game Map, a Football Map, a Bike Map and even Star Charts (Science Fiction, Horror, and Hollywood editions). Think you can find your way from Twin Peaks to Green Acres on the TV Map? Can you guess where Down Under, China Girl and Kashmir are on the World Song Map?
You may want one for yourself to decorate your office or reading room, or use in outreach to the English or Media Studies departments.

**EOSDIS Earthdata**

https://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/

“SEDAC, the Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center, is one of the Distributed Active Archive Centers (DAACs) in the Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS) of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Focusing on human interactions in the environment, SEDAC has as its mission to develop and operate applications that support the integration of socioeconomic and earth science data and to serve as an "Information Gateway" between earth sciences and social sciences.” – SEDAC About page

With my last review I am shifting the focus from imaginary maps and jumping right back into reality. While working on a reference request for maps showing populations of African countries, I stumbled across a great map gallery hosted by SEDAC. The gallery includes 2,339 world and regional thematic maps for topics including agriculture, climate, conservation, governance, health, infrastructure, land use, population and sustainability. In addition to the extensive map collection, the data sets used to create the maps are available for use.

The navigation of the site allows users to find maps by starting with the data, a theme or a region. Users may also search all fields. In order to download data or maps, users are required to register for an account. According to the site, registering allows the organization to track use and improve the tools. Following registration and log in, users can download high-res PDF and PNG maps. Each map includes a title, date, scale, legend and data source information. The SEDAC Map Viewer, v2 (powered by ESRI) and other web mapping tools allow users to visualize and analyze SEDAC data without the need for standalone software.

This website will likely be a first stop for me for many future reference requests, due to the reliability of the data sources and breadth of regions covered.

**Conclusion**

I have quite the pile of books and maps, and bookmarks of websites, waiting to be shared with you. I promise we won't spend all our time together dreaming of imaginary maps! Please do reach out with any suggestions for the column.
For this month’s column, I would like to do something a little different and talk about creating map illustrations with digital software. While robust mapping applications like ArcGIS have the power to analyze and map complex datasets, what do you use if you’d like to create something more stylized and artistic?

I recently discovered the work of British illustrator Tom Wooley, who specializes in map illustration and vector art. Wooley uses a combination of Google Maps and Adobe Photoshop to create the base maps for his art. I found his work to be extremely charming and decided I would follow his step by step guide to map illustration to see if I could make a simple neighborhood map of Brooklyn.

Below: “Illustrated Map of Istanbul, Turkey” by Tom Wooley

According to Wooley, the first step to making my digital map of Brooklyn would be to use Google Maps to map my places of interest. This requires signing into your Google account and then using the “My Maps” feature. I chose Brooklyn as my base map and selected about 20 landmarks and neighborhoods, from the Brooklyn Bridge to Coney Island.

**Below: View of my Brooklyn base map using Google Maps**

Next, I took a screenshot of my map, saved it to my computer, and created a new document in Photoshop. I imported the screenshot, saved it as my first layer, and locked the layer. Now I would have the base map as a first layer that I could use for reference while drawing my map illustration. I then created a second layer and traced an outline of Brooklyn, which I filled in with color while adding the borough's main highways. My map was beginning to take shape!

**Below: View of my Brooklyn base map as Layer 1 in Photoshop**
Finally, I added text for my neighborhood names and a quick, simple map was born! Wooley has much more information in his guide regarding composition, choosing color palettes, and adding icons and illustrations in Photoshop. I will hopefully get a chance to explore this further in the next couple months and enhance my Brooklyn map. Until then, happy mapping!

**Below: “Carolyn’s Quick Map of Brooklyn”**
GREAT MOMENTS IN MAP LIBRARIANSHIP  by Jim Coombs

OK, LIBRARY CLUB, THIS IS THE MAPS LIBRARIAN. HE IS AN EXPERT ABOUT CARTOGRAPHIC STUFF LIKE MAPS AND GLOBES. ANY QUESTIONS FOR HIM?

YEAH, DO YOU HAVE A GLOBE OF KANSAS CITY?

NO, BUT THERE’S A BOSTON GLOBE IN THE NEWSPAPER COLLECTION!