

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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Members of MAGIRT can access **base line** as a benefit of their membership.

American Library Association personal and institutional members may choose MAGIRT membership for \$20.00 (personal) or \$60.00 (institutional) by so advising the American Library Association, 50 W. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

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FROM THE CHAIR

KEVIN DYKE

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Hello MAGIRT! As we burst into April, the trees here in Oklahoma are beginning to bud. Spring is a time of renewal for us all: fauna, flora, and librarians alike. No, I'm not talking about renewing a checked out book or an obscenely expensive database subscription, but rather the sort of renewal we undergo throughout our careers.

One frequent source of renewal for those of us working closely with maps (and any other physical material in libraries) is the ongoing shift in space utilization. At my institution, we have moved more than a quarter million volumes to off-site storage, among them thousands of USGS maps and reports. I view most of these changes in a mostly positive light. We can all recognize that print map and book usage has drastically changed in recent years. While printed street guides and atlases are not being checked out by casual travelers anymore, there remains an enormous amount of information contained only within those paper maps. Earlier today, I assisted a zoology student looking for current and historical data about the habitat range of the American pika, a small alpine rodent whose climate sensitivity makes it a useful marker for measuring the potential effects of climate change. Assisting him required a blended approach of consulting our map collection and scouring the Internet for GIS data resources.

As geoinformation professionals, we continue to renew ourselves. The rites of springtime renewal inspire me to finish projects that have overstayed their welcome in my mind's eye, and to embark on fresh challenges that will further define the map library and map librarian in future years. I wish you all success in your own springtime endeavors!



ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT

TAMMY WONG

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Recommended Format Statement 2023 call for input

The Library of Congress is pleased to announce the latest annual call for input from stakeholders involved in the life-cycle of creative works for the upcoming annual revision of the Recommended Formats Statement (<https://www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/rfs/>). The impactful changes made in recent years, including the expansion of content categories and improved tracking of changes, represent the Library's understanding of the growing importance of the Statement not merely in its own work, but to the broader community and its determination to ensure that it meet the needs of all its stakeholders. The RFS is a crucial tool in implementing the Library's Digital Collecting Strategy but also has broad community value.

In addition to hearing back from you about how the latest version of the RFS is working and what might be improved, the Library wants to know more about specific aspects of interest and use to particular groups of users. For example, what does the independent game development community consider to be the master, or archival, version of the software that they have created? How might the RFS be revised in order to better meet the needs of your particular community?

The Library of Congress is encouraged by the value its partners and stakeholders around the world have found in the Recommended Formats Statement. We look forward to hearing your thoughts (<https://www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/rfs/contacts.html>) by **April 14** as we prepare for the upcoming revision of the Statement this summer, due out on June 30.

The Recommended Format Statement for GIS, Geospatial and Non-GIS Cartographic is available on-line here (<https://www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/rfs/geo-carto.html>).

Best,
Meagan
Meagan Snow
Geospatial Data Visualization Librarian
Geography & Map Division
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Bridging the Digital Equity Gap in Our Communities



Libraries are a key resource for closing a community's digital divide. Their provision of access to the internet, technical support, and programs help patrons build digital skills and more. As the digital world continues to evolve, libraries ensure that people can access the information they need for full participation in our society and economy.

ALA Annual offers a range of Digital Equity education programs to help libraries bridge the gap to create social and racial equity for those within their communities, including:

- [Achieving Equity Through Literacy in An Increasingly Digital World](#)
- [Chicago Data in Action: Insights for Policy, Priorities, and Social Change](#)
- [Equity and Diversity in the Metaverse: Building a Sustainable Metaverse for Libraries](#)
- [Leverage Federal Funds to Advance Digital Equity in Your Community Update](#)
- [News You Can Use—E-rate Innovations: Fostering Access to Underserved Communities](#)

ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition - Chicago, IL — June 22-27, 2023

Advance: April 1 - June 16

Standard: June 17 - June 27

[Registration](#)

MAGIRT Executive Board Meeting

MARCH 28, 2023

Time: Tuesday, March 28, 3:00 PM Eastern Time via [Zoom](#)

Present: Laura, Kevin, Tim, Tammy, Amy, Min, Craig

Guests: Danielle Ponton, MAGIRT Liaison; Kim Redd, ALA Scholarships & Study Grants Committee (SSGC) Liaison

Regrets: Iris

1. Call to order - 3:02 pm Eastern

2. Call for changes to Agenda

- a. Danielle is joining us to answer questions about scholarships! See “New Business” (6b).

3. Secretary--Minutes from past meeting

- a. No meeting in February because Laura was sick. Last meeting was January 31, 2023 and minutes were published in the [February 2023 issue](#) of *base line*.

4. Officer Reports

a. Chair (Kevin)

i. ALA Annual update

- 1. We are set for a tour of the Newberry on Friday 6/23. Building tour will start at 2:30 pm, which will then transition into an hour long map focus with the new maps curator David Weimer

ii. “Mapping Prejudice” webinar

- 1. Friday April 28th at 11am Central time with Michael Corey. Zoom registration information will be forthcoming.

iii. MAGIRT/GODORT webinar

- 1. Kevin was contacted back in Feb. about collaborating on a session for late spring or early fall; probably starting up in August, so early Fall
- 2. <https://www.ala.org/rt/godort/HelpWebinars>
- 3. Anyone interested in putting something together can contact Kevin
 - a. Idea: What role maps will or could play based on the report from the Task Force on a Digital FDLP, and the GPO director’s response.

b. Vice Chair (Tim)

i. ALA dinners:

1. Dutch treat (6/23)

- a. Q: Plan a place and time? Improvise at end of Newberry tour? Tour ending around 4pm is a little early for dinner, so maybe we should have a more firm start time decoupled from the tour.
- b. There are lots of restaurants around the Newberry. Could maybe do a happy hour or grab a quick bite, rather than a full dinner.
- c. People are usually feeling social after the tour! Might also be nice to have dinner early & be able to rest after that.

2. Awards (6/24)

- a. Contacted some restaurants, heard back from a few, conferred with Paige Andrew and Maggie Long (thanks to them for helping with dinner planning); we narrowed it to two:
 - i. Maggiano's [516 N Clark](#) (River North) - room seats 40
 - ii. Italian Village [71 W Monroe](#) (Loop) - room seats 30
- b. Prices for both restaurants are competitive and lower than DC dinner was. Maggiano's has a more straightforward event package & pricing but is a little farther from hotels (still not far). Both have a minimum charge; we'll clear it easily.
- c. We're going with Maggiano's, with Italian Village as backup. Tim will work with Danielle on contract, deposit, etc.

c. **Secretary** (Laura) - no report

d. **Webmaster** (Craig)

- i. Danielle & Erin met to look at accounts & go over processes. They are starting to document what they're doing. This conversation could also tie into organizational documents — make sure it doesn't get bogged down.
- ii. Conversation has become more than just the website; it has tendrils in lots of places. Starting with the website homepage; how to make it fresher & plug in content. It's starting to move faster.
- iii. Changes to organizational documents, have we discussed them? (Most of the changes we've discussed, e.g. merging Publications & OPOC, are in the Handbook & will therefore be less cumbersome to change. Kevin will join Craig, Erin, Danielle, & Maggie at their next website meeting.)
- iv. Colleen has had to step back; Craig's membership expires in September. So we do need to find a new Webmaster.

e. **Treasurer** (Iris) - submitted report via email; attached at the end of these minutes.

f. **Past Chair** (Min)

- i. Awards Committee: received nominations; selected a winner unanimously. Min notified the recipient, who will be attending the Awards Dinner.
- ii. Tim & Min received a letter from LC Policy Office regarding LCGFT Advisory Group — see "New Business" (6a)

5. Old Business

- a. **OPPC** = Online Presence & Publications Committee (merged OPOC & Publications) from last time. Still working on some things; need to resolve before Annual.
 - i. Changes to be made in MAGIRT Organizational Manual
 - 1. KD: Does anyone know where the non-PDF version lives? for easier editing?
 - ii. Social media will be this group's responsibility. Need to state this in updated documentation.
 - iii. Webmaster & *base line* editor will be adjunct to OPPC

b. Officer Vacancies

- i. Committee & IG Chairs: Education; OPPC; Coll Mgt IG
- ii. Other: *base line* editor; Webmaster

6. New Business

a. Invitation to appoint MAGIRT representative to the LCGFT Advisory Group (Tim/Min)

- i. Email from Dorie Kurtz at LC, dated Mon. 2023-03-27, "LC Genre/Form Terms Advisory Group"; asks MAGIRT to nominate an on-call person for a 2-yr term
- ii. Advisory Group reviews & votes on proposals for new/changed LCGFT, as well as broader structural & maintenance issues.
 - 1. LCGFT AG = 9 members + 4 on-call members, led by Dorie Kurtz
- iii. Approx. 2-4 hrs/month = email discussions & monthly online meetings
- iv. Kevin thinks it would be good to have a MAGIRT representative & group agrees. LC G&M has a representative already, but Min would like MAGIRT to also appoint a representative so the Advisory Group can have new voices.
 - 1. Tim might like to be the representative! This dovetails with some work he's doing; also with trying to ramp up SACO contributions.
 - 2. Min approves; no disagreement from group; Tim's it!

b. Scholarships (i.e. travel grants): how have we gone about awarding money in the past?

- i. Per Danielle: Scholarships & awards are two different things. Scholarships are for education — for undergrad, etc. Awards are for travel, honors awards, non-educational purposes. (They use the same form but are different.)
 - 1. Honors award
 - 2. We had discussed offering "scholarships" = membership + travel support for early-career librarians or MLIS students. (See Treasurer's report.) Danielle clarified that 1) in ALA terms, this would be a travel grant; and 2) it will have to go through the ALA Committee for review. Kevin asked Danielle for links to the forms, procedures, etc. so we can work on it.
 - 3. Any new money awards have to go through this process. Kim will be there to help us with it. Danielle will send us her contact info.
 - 4. Want to make sure that the funding source is solid. If it's for 3 years, make sure we've got that amount of money banked. It's tricky if we're using our own funds (we are) because that can have an effect on the Round Table's viability — how do we offset those costs? Not that it can't be done, it's just that we need to have it organized.
 - a. We're looking at it as a surplus from no longer having Midwinter. Might need to re-evaluate in light of upcoming dues standardization (reduces MAGIRT dues from \$20 to \$15).
 - b. Danielle remembers MAGIRT not spending much on Midwinter; thinks a lot of our surplus has come from those Annual Conferences we missed.
 - 5. Kim suggests we do it as a time-limited pilot. Danielle suggests 3 years. That way we are able to end it if we need to (or can look to secure other funding when the initial money runs out).

6. Kevin suggests that we should have a group to discuss it and work with Danielle; he's happy to be on the group & thinks Iris might like to be part of it as well (will contact her and will post to ALA Connect). Tim also volunteers for the group.
7. Unlikely that we'll be able to get it together in time for 2023 Annual, so aim for 2024 instead, or something else.

7. Committee/DG/IG Reports

- a. **Bylaws & Governing Documents/Nominations & Awards Committee (Min)**
 - i. (Covered in Past Chair report)
- b. **Cataloging & Classification Committee (Tim)** - No report; plans to meet at Annual
- c. **Education Committee (vacant)**
- d. **Geographic Technologies (GeoTech)/GODORT GIS DG (Wangyal)** - not here
- e. **Membership & Marketing Committee (Erin)**
 - i. One of the pending website updates is to refresh the Officer, Committee Chairs & Other MAGIRT Leaders page. Danielle will be responsible for updating the Officers & Committee Chairs page; will ensure email addresses don't show up.
 - ii. Updating elected officers will be done manually each year after the elections. The committee chairs can be auto-populated from the ALA volunteer system.
 1. This was never set up for/by MAGIRT. We need to get our current committee roster to Danielle. She will populate the volunteer system.
 2. Going forward, MAGIRT committee members can log in to the volunteer system. Then, when people fill out the ALA volunteer form, MAGIRT committee members can assign them to committees. Those assignments will show up on our Officers & Committee Chairs page. You do have to be a MAGIRT member to volunteer through the ALA form.
 - iii. Once Danielle sets up MAGIRT in the ALA volunteer system, she will provide user training.
- f. **Online Presence & Publications Committee (OPPC) (vacant)**
- g. **Cataloging of Cartographic Resources IG (Amy)**
 - i. Nothing new to report; planning for Annual ("meeting" via email)
 - ii. Craig saw that LC is hiring a person to do work with Indigenous tribal names
- h. **Map Collection Management DG (Craig)**
 - i. Craig can't be in Chicago, so needs someone to fill in as facilitator. Laura might be able to help.
- i. **Freedom to Read Foundation (Iris)** - not here
- j. **WAML liaison report (Kathy)** - no report
- k. **CC:DA Report (Min)**
 - i. CC:DA met on Feb. 6th (Monday)
 - ii. Will not meet in person for Annual; will hold virtual meeting for Annual sometime in July

8. Adjournment (3:56 pm EDT)



MAGIRT TREASURER'S REPORT FOR March 28, 2023

This report is based on the ALA/MAGIRT performance report for FY23 Ending **November 2022**.

Overview:

Beginning Net Assets for MAGIRT as of November, 2022	\$58,178.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,205.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$217.00
Current balance (income minus expenses as of August 2022)	<u>\$988.00</u>
Total Ending Net Assets for MAGIRT as of August 2022	<u>\$59,166.00</u>

Comments:

- All of the \$1,205 of the income listed above comes from dues.
- Here are a few recommendations:
 - Given the substantial assets we have been carrying forward for the past several years and the need to increase our membership, I recommend establishing a scholarship/fellowship for MAGIRT members as part of any membership-building campaign we undertake.
 - Offer discounted membership fees with coupons or codes.
 - At any point, ALA may reduce these funds.
- An invoice request was sent to ALA from John to Ana at East View for \$100 for a full-page ad for the upcoming February issue of *base line*.

Respectfully submitted, March 28, 2023

Iris Taylor – Treasurer, MAGIRT (2022-2023)



NEW MAPS AND CARTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS

Your Name HERE

YOUR INSTITUTION HERE

MAGIRT NEEDS YOU!



Wanted!

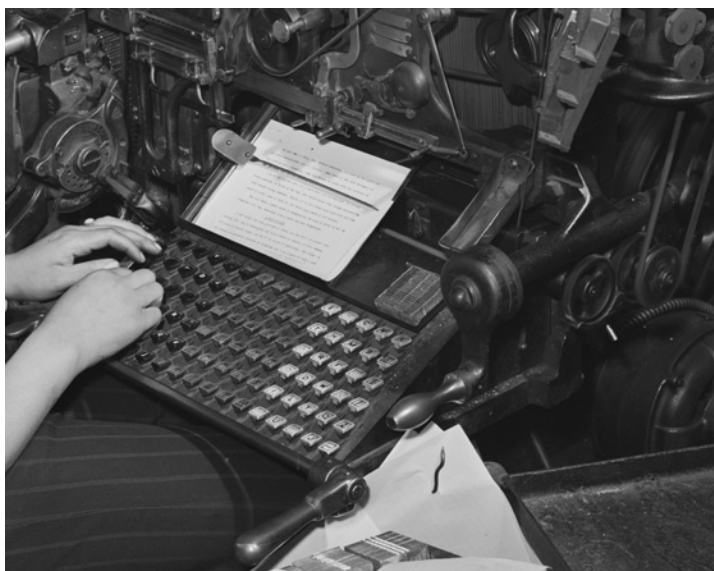
New Maps and Cartographic Materials columnist

Base line has an opening for you!

If you enjoy finding and exploring new atlases, maps and websites and also enjoy writing, why not combine the two together and write about them. This is a wonderful opportunity to make an impactful contribution to our part of the library profession.

I would like to encourage any MAGIRT member who is interested and wishes to continue this important column in *base line*. It also looks great in that tenure or promotion portfolio. Please contact the Editor if you would like more information or are interested in writing this column.

From the Editor's Keyboard



A new Editor for base line is needed.

For this year, 2023, I will continue as Editor of base line until the December issue. After ten years, I would like to pass the Editor's torch on to another individual that will take this publication into the future and to the next level.

It has been a privilege and honor to serve in this capacity to the membership of MAGIRT and to promote our corner of the library profession.

Being Editor has been a very satisfying challenge and experience for me and I have had the wonderful pleasure of compiling the news and information for the MAGIRT membership as well as communicating with those contributing content. So, it's been a good run for me, but I feel it's now time to turn it over to someone else.

If you are interested, I will gladly discuss with you the duties of this position.

GREAT MOMENTS IN MAP LIBRARIANSHIP by Jim Coombs

