base line

a newsletter of the
Map and Geospatial Information Round Table

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

Volume 44, Number 1
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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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Send graphics as an: .AI, .PDF, .JPG, or .GIF file and 300 dpi or better. Send text documents in: Cambria 12 point. Send files as an email attachment to the editor. Submissions may be edited and re-formatted to the extent necessary to fit the size and space allotted for each issue. Final full-page size is 8 x 10 inches. Contact the MAGIRT Treasurer for invoicing and payment methods. Advertisements must be paid in full before they are placed in the upcoming issue.

base line is published electronically six times a year: in February, April, June, August, October, and December. All older issues of base line are now freely available on the MAGIRT website.

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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Welcome to the new year, MAGIRT! I hope you had a restive and enjoyable finish to 2022 and still feel re-energized as we reach February. The start of a new year is always a good time to talk about change, and MAGIRT will see its share of change in 2023.

Firstly, after a decade of service editing base line, John Olson is stepping down at the end of 2023. That means we need to begin the search for base line’s next editor. Thanks to John’s thoughtfulness in giving notice far in advance, we should have time to bring on a new editor with enough time for them to directly work and learn the processes involved from John himself. John is happy to discuss the workload and answer any other questions, so please feel free to reach out to him at jaolson@syr.edu.

We will also be in need of a new webmaster this year, as Craig Haggit is stepping down after accepting a new position as map librarian within his organization. Congratulations to Craig and a big thank you for his years of service in MAGIRT. Craig and Erin Cheever have been working on a major website refresh, which means the new webmaster will enjoy a “fresh” start. For more information about the role and its requirements, get in touch with Craig via khaggit@denverlibrary.org. Craig is also stepping down as coordinator of the Map Collection Management Discussion Group, so consider that as well.

Another committee in need of a chair and members is the newly formed Online Presence and Publications Committee. Formed through the combination of what was previously two separate groups, the OPPC will work to evaluate website content, issues related to publications, and other similar requests. If you’re interested in chairing or joining OPPC, please let me know!

One last opportunity for service is leading the Education Committee. Former chair Kim Plassche stepped down at the end of 2022 due to a job change. In the past, the committee has facilitated a number of webinars, and I know there’s a keen interest in more educational content from the membership as a whole.

Phew, that certainly feels like a lot of change heading our way. With your help recruiting new members and potential leaders, MAGIRT will become stronger than ever. Please let me know if you have any questions or interest in the positions I described above. You can reach me at kdyke@okstate.edu or give me a call at 405-744-4869. Happy mapping!
ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT

TAMMY WONG

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Testing of Official RDA Toolkit

In February of last year, the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) Policy Committee charged the PCC Task Group to Test the Official RDA Toolkit with developing and completing a test to ensure that PCC catalogers will be able to use the Toolkit to catalog materials. The Task Group had two co-chairs: Adam Baron (UC Berkeley) and Judith Cannan (chief of the Library of Congress’s Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs). The chairs were joined by seven other librarians from different institutions. Forty-five catalogers from various national, academic, public, and special libraries were selected to create six to eight bibliographic descriptions and at least one authority record for materials in different formats, languages, and/or scripts in both MARC and BIBFRAME. After the test ended in early November, the evaluators reviewed the testers’ bibliographic descriptions and authority records, compiled comments and observations, and identified where LC-PCC policy statements (PSs) and Metadata Guidance Documents (MGDs) might need reconsideration and revision. The evaluators finished their task. The Task Group will now begin its analysis of the test and the evaluators’ findings and will submit a final report to PCC later in the spring.

New Resource on Panoramic Maps Released

The Geography and Map Division, in consultation with the Prints and Photographs Division, published “View from Above: Exploring the Panoramic Map Collection,” a new interactive map featuring the Panoramic Maps collection. The interactive application clusters and enables access to more than 1,000 beautifully illustrated “bird’s-eye-view” maps of towns and cities across the U.S., Canada, and some international locations.
MAGIRT Executive Board Meeting Minutes
JANUARY 31, 2023

Time: January 31, 3:00 PM Eastern Time via Zoom

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

1. **Call to order - 3:03 pm Eastern**

2. **Call for changes to Agenda - none**

3. **Secretary--Minutes from past meeting** (Laura) – Last meeting was October 25th; minutes published in December base line

4. **Officer Reports**
   a. **Chair (Kevin)**
      i. Webinar proposal from Ryan Mattke and Mapping Prejudice.
         1. **ABSTRACT:**
            Join us for a demonstration of the Mapping Prejudice “Deed Machine.” Mapping Prejudice technical lead Michael Corey will demonstrate how a new, cloud-hosted web application has the potential to supercharge the process of mapping racial covenants, clauses that were inserted in the property record to keep people who were not White from buying or occupying certain pieces of land. Mapping Prejudice broke a long-standing research logjam when it devised a new technological platform for creating comprehensive geospatial datasets of racial covenants. In Minneapolis–where the project began at the University of Minnesota Libraries–one common restriction stipulated that the “premises shall not at any time be conveyed, mortgaged or leased to any person or persons of Chinese, Japanese, Moorish, Turkish, Negro, Mongolian or African blood or descent.” There are millions of these racist restrictions on properties across the country. But they have been extremely difficult to document since they are buried in millions of pages of documents held by county recorders around the country, and difficult to map because historic property records are not connected to modern systems. Since 2016, the project team has been working steadily to refine its methodology, which involves Optical Character Recognition, Python scripts, crowd-sourcing through Zooniverse, and automated strategies for connecting racial restrictions on historic property parcels to the modern street grid. But over the last year, the team achieved a major breakthrough when it bound these tools together in what we now call the “Deed Machine,” a cloud-hosted web application that knits together these disparate technical workflows and leverages the power of parallel computing. Corey will share the insights from this iterative process of technical experimentation. He will also explain the exciting possibilities opened up by the Deed Machine, which has the potential to help researchers across the country locate racial restrictions quickly and accurately.
         2. The Deed Machine tool will help other libraries get this kind of project going; some have been doing it on their own (e.g. Arizona; Denver) but this will be a great boost for that effort
3. If the group is OK with it, Kevin will coordinate date/time/length and get it set. Other webinar ideas are always welcome.
   a. Group is OK! Sooner the better. Mid-March, Friday morning? Kevin will work with Michael (with Mapping Prejudice) to get it set up & will create Zoom session.
      i. Archiving for members/offer to public for a fee?
      ii. Our webinars are supposed to be recorded & archived on our Vimeo channel but there have been issues with length. Kevin will follow up on this.

b. As soon as the time is set Craig will put info up on the website.
   ii. RT Coordinating Committee: dues standardization resolution passed.
      1. Dues across the board: $15 regular; $5 students ($0 for IRRT only for international members)
      2. We should still be in OK shape, particularly with elimination of Midwinter expenses.
      3. Now that this has passed, Bylaws changes can resume. Revision timeline fits well with getting Committees/IGs matters resolved.

b. **Vice Chair** (Tim)
   i. Per our officer roster/calendar document, Vice Chair should “Begin in earnest to plan tour, dutch-treat dinner, social, awards event for Annual” in February. All advice/guidance welcomed.
      1. I know plans for a tour of the Newberry on Friday 6/23 are underway: Any additional arrangements I should make there?
         a. Kevin says Jim Ackerman is no longer Maps curator; he’ll re-establish contact & see what other details are needed
      2. Suggestions for dutch-treat dinner (6/23) and awards dinner (6/24)?
         a. Tammy suggests: need Chicago suggestions early because lots of groups will be looking for accommodations. Also leave room for spouses/families, last-minute attendees, etc. (Tammy & Min did extensive scouting for DC venue before Founding Farmers.)
         b. Danielle will help us with the contract & up-front payment.
         c. Need to make sure people are clear about up-front costs -- no-shows waste the organization’s money.
         d. Shoot for a 25-30 person space? Send out a registration form so people can reserve their spot. Chicago is popular. (Seems like we tend to do McCormick & Schmick's in Chicago.)
         e. **MAGIRT events survey** sent out to membership -- to help Tim get initial estimates for tour, Dutch treat, & Awards dinner

c. **Secretary** (Laura) - no report
d. **Webmaster** (Craig)
   i. Erin / Craig working on content and implementation. We’ve set a deadline of Feb 28 (2023) to have content ready to go so we can begin to chart migration.
      1. No sandbox, so must plan in advance & then migrate in real time.
   ii. Will float questions to chairs / board members as needed if questions arise about content.

e. **Treasurer** (Iris)
   i. MAGIRT Treasurer’s fiscal report for 12 months ending August 2022 is appended to the end of these minutes.
   ii. Iris has just returned from LibLearnX -- exciting place where we could recruit new members! Need to be sure to take advantage of it.
   iii. ALA Conference scholarship for MAGIRT members?
   iv. Round Tables can run coupons to discount RT dues.

f. **Past Chair** (Min)
   i. Good progress on MAGIRT Award nomination

5. **Old Business**

a. OPOC/Publications Committee. Discussion -- need to have resolved before Annual. Fits with timeline of Bylaws revisions.
   i. We need a new base line editor; we also need OPOC & Publications, or OPOC/Publications Chair(s). Also with Craig leaving we will need a new Webmaster. It makes sense to consolidate committees when & where the opportunity arises.
   ii. Possible idea: single committee addressing publications questions (e.g. translation of *Meridian*) but then also website & social media.
      1. The group thinks this will work well; suggested name = Online Presence & Publications Committee = OPP(C).
      2. Should be a matter of addition & combination, not subtraction; also add in some social media language. Kevin looked at Bylaws; committees are not named or enumerated, so we should be OK to proceed. Changes will be made in the MAGIRT Organizational Manual.

b. Vacancies to fill
   i. Committee Chairs: Education, OPOC, Publications OPPC
   ii. base line editor (adjunct to OPPC?)
      1. Think about how base line is structured; perhaps a new Editor could bring their own ideas about new directions for the publication.
      2. Ask John to share information with us about what the Editor’s workload is like -- meeting with us, maybe also with interested people?
   iii. Webmaster (adjunct to OPPC?)
      1. New Webmaster will need to do Drupal training with ALA IT before they can have full access. (Not burdensome, but it is a requirement)
6. New Business
   a. Craig leaving ALA after his membership expires in Sept, 2023. With his new map
      librarian position, he’s refocusing his limited conference/travel resources to WAML.
      i. Also will not be able to make it to Chicago Annual
      ii. The Board appreciates all of Craig’s work! We will miss him but we are happy for
      him in his new position.

7. Committee/DG/IG Reports
   a. Bylaws & Governing Documents/Nominations & Awards Committee (Min)
      i. (covered elsewhere)
   b. Cataloging & Classification Committee (Tim)
      i. (Tim is making the agenda for everyone to send reports)
   c. Education Committee - VACANT
      i. (need a new Chair; Kim stepped down when she left her position at UB)
   d. Geographic Technologies (GeoTech)/GODORT GIS DG (Wangyal) - none
   e. Membership & Marketing Committee (Erin)
      i. Planning new outreach to engage students and young professionals. Work has
      been delayed (Erin had a successful job search -- finally got her GIS Librarian
      position!) but will be moving forward.
      ii. Virtual career coaching?
      iii. Restarting scholarship? This could be a great draw. Iris will look into this & we
      can put it on the agenda for next time. Early Bird deadline is in March or April;
      see if we can get the scholarship restarted in time.
      iv. Need bookmarks, publicity materials for events such as LibLearnX (as a
      Councilor, Iris could put them out)
   f. Online Presence & Publications Committee (OPPC) (VACANT)
   g. Cataloging of Cartographic Resources IG (Amy)
      i. Got the Core IG Chairs call for Annual scheduling - keep regular (8:30 Sunday)
      time? Works for Tim if that’s the time slot we have.
   h. Map Collection Management DG (Craig) - no report (but will need new Chair)
   i. Freedom to Read Foundation (Iris)
      i. No report for MAGIRT but they did have an exciting LibLearnX program on
      Banned Books.
   j. WAML liaison report (Kathy) - none
   k. CC:DA Report (Min)
      i. Survey of voting members: in person or virtual for meetings? (No hybrid.) For
      MW, LC will not fund; Min prefers in-person for Annual, but virtual is OK too.
      ii. Meeting is this Monday Feb. 6th; Min will send any notes to John for base line.

Next meeting: Feb 28, 2023
Adjournment: 4:05 pm Eastern
MAGIRT TREASURER’S REPORT
January 31, 2023

This report is based on the ALA/MAGIRT performance report for the 12 months Ending August 2022.

Overview:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Net Assets for MAGIRT as of August, 2022</td>
<td>$58,178.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL INCOME (September 1, 2021-August, 2022)</td>
<td>$5,316.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES (September 1, 2021-August, 2022)</td>
<td>$2,758.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current balance (income minus expenses as of August 2022)</td>
<td>$2,558.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Ending Net Assets for MAGIRT as of August 2022</td>
<td>$60,735.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:

- All but $220 of the income listed above comes from dues. The $220.00 of income comes from donations.
  Most of the expenses posted were $2,046 for meetings and conference equipment rental. Since MAGIRT no longer has mid-winter meetings or is held virtually, there is no cost.

- Recommendations: Given the very large assets we have been carrying forward for the past several years and the need to increase our membership, I recommend that we establish a scholarship/fellowship for MAGIRT members as part of any membership building campaign we undertake. At any point, ALA may decide to scoop a portion of these funds.

- Request to send an invoice for base line ad to Ana at East View for $100 for a full-page ad for the upcoming December issue of base line-as of January 3, 2023; there is no update on this revenue.

Respectfully submitted, January 31, 2023

Iris Taylor – Treasurer, MAGIRT (2022-2023)
East View presents the Global Census Archive® (GCA), an innovative program to collect officially published census-related materials from around the world. This global collection contains GIS census data (GCA-GIS) as well as all available census publications associated with a given census (GCA-PUBS), such as official results, questionnaires, methodological works, public campaign literature, and other census ephemera.

GCA provides a centralized publications platform and uniform GIS format for these materials, making a wide range of census assets easily accessible for discovery and analysis. Learn more at eastview.com(gca).

GCA is continually growing, with new countries and census years constantly being sourced. If there is a country or census year you are interested in that does not appear here or on our website, please contact info@eastview.com to discuss availability and status.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?
Visit eastview.com(gca) for more details on available GCA-GIS and GCA-PUBS census products, video presentations, publication catalogs, sample GIS census data, and more.

LATEST GCA RELEASES

GIS Data (GCA-GIS)
- Cambodia 2008 (ADM 4, 99.8% pop. coverage)
- Côte d'Ivoire 2014 (ADM 3, 100% pop. coverage)
- Japan 2005 (ADM 5, 100% pop. coverage)
- Malawi 2018 (ADM 3, 95.8% pop. coverage)
- Malaysia 2000 (ADM 4, 95.4% pop. coverage)
- Mexico 2020 (ADM 5, 79.4% pop. coverage)
- Myanmar 2014 (ADM 3, 100% pop. coverage)

Publications (GCA-PUBS)
- Brazil 1872
- Colombia 1951, 1964
- Ecuador 2001
- Guatemala 1950
- Lithuania 2001, 2011
- Myanmar 1983, 2014
- Panama 1960, 1970, 2000
- Peru 1961, 1972
- Philippines 1995
- Samoa 2016
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 gotten great pleasure from 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.
MAGIRT NEEDS YOU!

Wanted!

New Maps and Cartographic Materials columnist

*base line* has an opening for you!

If you enjoy exploring new atlases, maps and interactive mapping websites and also enjoy writing, why not combine the two together and write about them. This is a wonderful opportunity to make an impact and contribute to our portion 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 on that tenure or promotion portfolio. Please contact the Editor if you would like more information or are interested in writing this column.
I was confused today when our teacher tried to explain time zones.

Yeah, me too. Let's ask my dad.

Hey dad! Can you explain time zones to us?

Sure, the globe is divided into 24 time zones because it is convenient to have a uniform time for legal, commercial and social purposes...

OK, but what time is it at the North and South poles?

Yeah, school is out at 3pm. Can I just jump over to the 3pm time zone?

You don't live at the North pole so don't worry about it!