

Commission on Education and Training

Report of the commission meeting – Prague – 21st January 2009

[With extra comments for every CET member]

The first face-to-face CET meeting for 2009 was held as part of the symposium on Cartography and Geoinformatics for Early Warning and Emergency Management.

The meeting was chaired by David Fraser and the following Commission members were present and contributed to the discussion:

Professor Laszlo Zentai (Hungary)

Colonel Vaclav Talhofer (Czech Republic)

Mr Sukendra Martha (Indonesia)

Other key attendees were:

Professor Milan Konecny (ICA immediate past president)

Dr Temenoujka Bandrova (Co-chair Commission on Cartography and Children)

Professor Ferjan Ormeling (ICA executive)

Unidentified (Indonesia) *(to be corrected soon)*



Agenda items (see Powerpoint display on the CET website):

1. The CET and our website

Attendees were alerted to the nature and content of the CET website.

(Please note that the website is updated regularly and if you have items of value to the international cartographic community please let us know so that we can put it on our website)

2. CET members

A brief profile was provided in relation to the member countries

(Please check your details to make sure the contact information is correct. I realise that some people have not received either emails or mailings in the past. My apologies for this.)

3. Projects 2007 – 2011

Each of the 20 projects listed on the CET website was outlined briefly.

(We still need members to volunteer to contribute to each of these projects. Even if you can allocate just a few hours per month to one or more of the CET projects then this would help greatly)

4. Web-based teaching program

This project was discussed and the issues associated with its development were identified and briefly discussed. It still remains a key project for the CET.

(You can contribute to this project by identifying any freely available on-line cartography teaching modules that you are aware of which can be placed within a program structure by the CET. This structure will cluster all like modules together by theme (eg. Map design) and this in turn will allow anyone around the world with Internet access to undertake these modules as part of their professional development. Eventually common assessment tasks will be developed as part of this project to allow an individual's competency to be assessed. The ICA could then issue a certificate in recognition of this achievement. It is hoped that, at some stage, this project will be developed to a level of sophistication where individual universities will accept students who have demonstrated their competency through completion of a full set of teaching modules spanning a range of different aspects of cartographic theory.) [Send contributions to the project coordinator, Dr. Cherie Northon (cheries@mapmakers.com)]

5. Undergraduate cartography courses – web listing

The aim of this project was explained and contributions were invited.

(This is a project where everyone can contribute by providing the latest information about cartography and cartography related courses in their own country. The web listing is a valuable resource for the international cartographic community.)

6. Generic attributes of cartography graduates (NEW PROJECT)

The aim of this project is to identify what the CET considers as key attributes that are required of any individual completing formal education in cartography. The attributes relate specifically to cartography and not related areas.

This project was discussed at some length and it was identified that cartography is now imbedded in other programs and rarely stands alone as an independent qualification.

It is hoped that after some debate the CET will be able to publish a list of generic attributes for those trained and educated in cartography at the certificate, bachelor and postgraduate levels.

So for starters the following generic attributes are offered for discussion:

Cartography courses are designed to provide the community with scientists who have:

- the ability to apply knowledge of basic cartographic fundamentals*
- the ability to communicate cartographic concepts effectively, not only to other professionals, but also to the community at large*
- in-depth technical competence in at least one cartography sub-discipline*
- the ability to undertake cartographic problem identification, formulation and solution*
- the ability to function effectively as an individual and in multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural teams, with the capacity to be a leader or manager as well as an effective team member in matters of a cartographic nature*
- an understanding of the principles of cartographic design and development*
- an understanding of professional and ethical responsibilities relating to map making and commitment to them*
- an expectation of the need to undertake lifelong learning in cartographic principles, theory and practice, and the ability to do so.*

You are invited to contribute your own thoughts.

7. Influential cartographers – six degrees of separation project (NEW PROJECT)

This project idea generated some enjoyable discussion and opened my eyes to European history and how not everything is as simple as it appears.

The aim of this project was for each CET country member to identify six influential cartographers down through history. It was hoped that once this was achieved then the links between these cartographers from different countries would be found. For example the Hungarian cartographer Erwin Raisz moved to the USA and he may have influenced one of the cartographers on the list for the USA.

Discussion was lively at the CET meeting and it became obvious that it was perhaps more appropriate to consider listing cartographers from world regions rather than specific countries as quite a few countries have been created, been modified and disappeared over time.

(It was suggested that an on-line discussion be opened up for this topic. I am not sure how this is done but I think it would be a good way to get views from around the world about who the influential cartographers have been over time and which country/region claims them as their own. Stay tuned!)

8. Future meetings

2009

Chile > The next face-to-face meeting will be in Chile in November (15-21) as part of the [24th International Cartography Conference](#).

2010

Enschede > The CET as offered to contribute to the ITC's education seminar being held in 2010 to celebrate the 60 year anniversary of this educational institution (Enschede, The Netherlands)

Vietnam > It is proposed to run a workshop on cartographic theory and practice in Ho Chi Minh City at some time during 2010. This is at the early stages of development but if you are interested in being part of this workshop please let me know.

OTHER NEWS FOR CET MEMBERS

Local newsletters:

Please feel free to include information about the activities of the Commission on Education and Training in your local cartographic association newsletters. The CET aims to be inclusive and wishes to inform and receive contributions from all cartographers.

Biannual award on educational cartography

CET members attended the meeting of the Cartography and Children Commission in Prague. It was agreed that the CET would take over the responsibility for the organisation of a biannual award on educational cartography initially proposed by Patrick Weigand. The competition aims to promote good practice in relation to the design and realisation of educational cartography. Submission would be invited in the form of maps, atlases and other educational cartographic products designed to be used for school students within the 3-18 age range. Guidelines and the criteria for selection will be developed in time for the conference in Chile. Items will be selected for the map exhibition as part of the ICA conference in Paris in 2011. [Further details will follow. If you are interested in being part of this project please let me know.](#)

Iran – Cartography Refreshment Courses:

The CET has been approached by the manager of the Cartography Department in National Cartographic Center of Iran. He has enquired as to whether the CET could run refreshment courses in Iran for his staff. Subject that need refreshment courses are:

- 1- Internet Mapping
- 2- Digital Generalization
- 3- Atlas production
- 4- Multimedia products
- 5- 3D maps and Geovisualization
- 6- Map Design (Symbols and layout)
- 7- Location Base Services
- 8- Navigational Maps
- 9- Topographic maps
- 10- Projection Systems
- 11- Prepress and Digital Printing
- 12- Cartographic Information Systems
- 13- Cartographic Animation and Dynamic maps
- 14- Image and Photo maps

[If you are interested in being part of organising any of these courses then please contact me.](#)

24th International Cartography Conference

Abstracts, refereed and refereed papers – deadline extended

The deadline for the submission of abstracts in all categories (both refereed and non-refereed papers, also posters) and of full papers in the refereed category has been moved to Saturday **28th of February, 2009**. (Previously, the deadline had been at January 16th).

Accommodation

If anyone is interested in cheaper accommodation out from the centre of Santiago, about 20 minutes by metro train line, then please let me know as it may be possible to book into the same hotel together.

Definitions

Cartography (1955) – the science of drawing maps and charts [*G Lauf, 1955, The Origin and Development of Cartography, Witwatersand University Press, Johannesburg*]

Map (2009) – portrayal of geographic information as a digital image file suitable for display on a computer screen [*ISO 19128*]

How times have changed!

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Compiled by:

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