

International Cartographic Association
Association Cartographique Internationale
Commission on Education and Training



JUNE 2009

An occasional electronic newsletter for members of the CET – contributions welcome.

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If you have any brief items of interest to fellow CET members then please email them to david.fraser@rmit.edu.au for eCET. If you have more substantial articles please send them to Igor Drecki at i.drecki@auckland.ac.nz for the ICA newsletter.

Conference awareness

GIS Defence & Security Strategies For Central & Eastern Europe

29th-30th September, 2009, Marriot Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic

The CEE region is currently developing its GIS infrastructure and strategies to integrate with the rest of Europe and NATO. We have launched [DGI CEE 2009](#) to provide a great opportunity for you to hear from top level GIS executives in the region and to find new ways of working together in Europe.

Gi4DM 2010 Conference

February 2-4, 2010

<http://www.gi4dm-2010.org/dates.php>

Remote Sensing and Geo-Information for Environmental Emergencies

Centro Congressi "Torino Incontra"

Torino - Italy

www.gi4dm-2010.org

Commission on Education and Training News

ICA Research Agenda

A while ago we were asked by Menno-Jan Kraak to contribute to the establishment of the ICA research Agenda. The agenda has recently been published in the affiliate English language journals (Cartographic Journal, Cartographic and CaGIS). The pdf of the Cartographic Journal paper is attached to this email (and will be placed on our website also). The illustrations can also be found in a readable format on:

<http://homepage.mac.com/mjkraak/0FD8D3C2-97DB-48C2-B37B-2DB23770EF67-1532-00000E112A240CE5/index.html>

Since the Research Agenda is a living document our Commission has been asked to have a look at how our Commission is represented. Menno-Jan would like to receive any corrections,

additions, deletions we may have. In addition we are requested to also look at the major research topic and sub topics and indicate if something is missing.

Could you please find some time to look over the pdf document and send me your feedback?

The extract of the section relating to Cartographic Education and Training is duplicated below:

Education

From a practical viewpoint, it is clear that many of the highly skilled operations associated with cartography and GI handling require training and experience. This, itself, is an area of concern for ICA. In the research context, however, education can be divided into scientific education in universities, education at schools and continuous education as a part of the profession (the latter also includes training and practical 'on-the-job' knowledge acquisition). Research in these areas has examined curricula, practices in distance learning, e-learning and professional updating, access to maps and spatial data, use of maps to promote attitudes and behaviours (e.g. spatial thinking), and establishment of a profile for cartography which allows it to be applied and integrated with other subjects at school and in society.

University curricula have been changed during the past years: it is clear that GI systems and GI science have taken over a place in the classroom from cartography. The impact of new technologies and political pressures, such as the introduction of the Bologna pattern of study at European universities, has lessened the appeal of cartography. However, cartography is a subject which can and should play a larger role in curricula at many schools and universities. Curricula need continuous updating because of the rapidly developing technology and increasing methodology and theoretical knowledge. International cartographic association must follow the developments at universities and also try to influence the development of educational programs. Universities in less developed countries could enjoy distance learning and virtual education, as long as the methods and content match research findings in this general area.

Cartography and GI science as school subjects have taken some space in school teaching mainly in the geography and environmental programs. International cartographic association should also try to influence to this change, particularly in developing countries. Schools should be able to enjoy Internet datasets and free software. Especially in elementary school education, spatial thinking and learning enhanced by using maps are interesting topics. These topics are related with more general research into pedagogic learning, but could be recognized more in cartographic research as well.

(ICA Research Agenda on Cartography and GI Science, Page 8, The Cartographic Journal CAJ35.3d 1/4/09 18:27:31 The Charlesworth Group, Wakefield +44(0)1924 369598 - Rev 7.51n/W (Jan 20 2003)

Face-to-Face Commission meeting at the ICC2009 in Chile

The Commission on Education and Training will be holding a face-to-face meeting during the ICC2009 conference in Chile. We have a number of papers on education and training that will be presented in sessions at the conference. I also intend for the CET to contribute to workshops run prior to the conference by other commissions. If you plan to attend the conference please let me know as I may need to call on you to assist me with the CET input for the conference.

Biannual Awards on Educational Cartography

Thank you for your feedback (**actual or anticipated**) on this document. Once I have all of your responses the document will be amended and forwarded to the ICA Executive. The finished product will be placed on our website. Please help to promote this initiative in your country.

Just to recap:

Aim: The competition aims to promote good practice in relation to the design and realisation of educational cartography.

Entry period: The Biannual Awards on Educational Cartography will begin accepting submissions on 1st January, 2011. Entries must be received no later than the submission date for the map exhibition associated with ICC2011.

Eligibility: Submissions are invited for the competition in the form of maps, atlases and other educational cartographic products designed to be used for either school students within the 3-18 age range or for university undergraduate students. The term 'educational cartography' should be interpreted broadly to include, for example, conventional and digital materials, maps, globes and GIS. It shall not be restricted to published materials (enabling, for example, materials produced by cartography students and teachers to be included). *Materials that are primarily instructional in nature (i.e. textbooks on map skills) are not, however, included.*

International Cartographic Association news

Newsletter

The June 2009 newsletter of the ICA can be found at http://www.cartography.org.nz/ica/ica_news/ica_news_52_2009_1_lq.pdf

50th Anniversary Celebration

The 50th anniversary celebration for the International Cartographic Association was held in Bern, Switzerland in June. Professor William Cartwright, President of the ICA, presented at this gathering (See photo). Professor Laszlo Zentai (Hungary), Professor Necla Ulugtekin (Turkey) and Mr Terje Midtbo (Norway) attended and represented the Commission on Education and Training along with past chair professor Ferjan Ormeling (The Netherlands).



ICA was founded June 9, 1959, in Bern, Switzerland. Preparatory conferences, during which its foundation was discussed, were held from 1956-1959: the Esselte conference, Stockholm 1956, the Rand McNally conference, Chicago 1957 and the DGfK conference, Mainz (Germany) 1958. The first General Assembly was held in Paris in 1961: that is also when the statutes were accepted. Later conferences have been held around the world from India (Delhi, 1968) to South Africa (Durban 2003), from Italy (Stresa, 1970) to Mexico (Morelia, 1987), from Australia (Perth, 1984) to China (Beijing 2001) and in many other locations.

The international nature of ICA activity has also been reflected by the work of its Commissions and Working Groups over many decades, under the leadership of many different people and in many different places. These organisations have addressed the full range of scientific, technical and social research which is the mark of ICA activity.

Throughout its 50-year history, ICA has brought together researchers, government mapping agencies, commercial cartographic publishers, software developers, educators, earth and environmental scientists, and those with a passion for maps. The cartographic world has changed significantly since 1959 – the role and impact of ICA has been steadfast. Proud of its traditions, ICA looks forward to the next 50 years: we hope they will be as vibrant and valuable as the first 50 years.

See photographs taken by Laszlo at: <http://lazarus.elte.hu/hun/dolgozo/zentail/ut/2009-bern/50/index.htm>

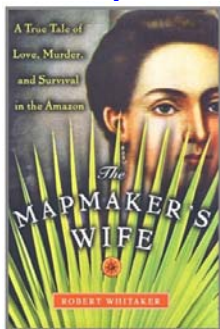
And the winner is.....EARTH atlas

In the April issue of eCET it was reported that “Mr Damien Demaj, coordinated 60 cartographers from around the world to produce **EARTH**, the largest atlas in the world. The hand bound blue leather version is currently in sale for around 3,190 Euro. A profile of this amazing product can be seen at http://www.mapstop.co.uk/product251_Earth-Atlas---Millennium-House.aspx”

On 19th June 2009 (Sydney, Australia) the **EARTH** atlas won the prestigious award, “**Australian Book Of The Year**” at the 33rd Galley Club Awards. **EARTH** also won the category of best produced limited edition book. Millennium House congratulates all of the cartographers from the International Cartographic Association that helped contribute to this publication.

A Good Read

The Mapmaker’s Wife

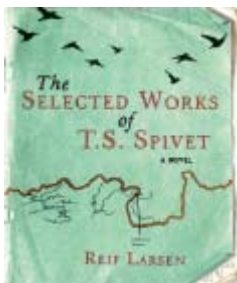


The Mapmaker's Wife tells the extraordinary story of Isabel Godin, the first woman to travel down the length of the Amazon. Her journey brought an end to the first scientific expedition to the New World, which was led by Charles Marie de La Condamine. The French Academy of Sciences called the mission, which began in 1735, the “greatest expedition the world has ever known.”

<http://www.themapmakerswife.com/Mapmaker%27s%20Wife/Home.html>

The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet

by [Reif Larsen](#)



What a completely original and mind-boggling book, with heart, soul - and maps! I defy anyone not to be hooked and beguiled Roger Bratchell, Marketing Director

T.S. Spivet is a 12-year-old genius mapmaker who lives on a ranch in Montana. His father is a tight-lipped cowboy and his mother is a scientist who for the last twenty years has been looking for a mythical species of beetle. His brother has gone, his sister *seems* normal but might not be, and his dog – Verywell – is going mad.

It's odd, but then families are. T.S. makes sense of it all by drawing beautiful, meticulous maps kept in innumerable colour-coded notebooks: maps of the countryside, maps of his family's behaviour, maps of animal and plant life. He is brilliant, and the Smithsonian Institution agrees, though when they telephone with news that he has won a major scientific prize they don't suspect for a minute that he is twelve years old

<http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/catalog/book.htm?command=Search&db=main.txt&eqisbndata=184655277X>

Interesting Historical Link

Last Titanic Survivor Dies

“Millvina Dean, the last surviving passenger on the Titanic, has died in England at the age of 97. ‘According to enthusiasts’ website Encyclopedia Titanica, Ms dean worked for the government as a cartographer during World War II and then for an engineering company.”

(Illawarra Mercury, Tuesday June 2, 2009)

<http://www.encyclopedia-titanica.org/>

Mapping in the News

(Go to each link below for more information on the article)

Heading in the right direction

Kim Thomas, Guardian

June 11, 2009

Imagine that you have your own personal travel guide. It has satellite navigation, so when you get into your car it can direct you to where you want to go. Before you arrive you will know which of the town car parks have spaces left. And when you've finally parked the car, take your guide with you and it will direct you, on foot, to your final destination.

For anyone who has found themselves stuck in a traffic jam, or has been unable to find a car park in a busy town centre, or has got lost on foot, it sounds too good to be true. Yet the technology to make it happen is already here. So why aren't we all carrying such a device in our pockets? (Go to link)

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/digital-life/mobiles--handhelds/articles/in-the-right-direction/2009/06/09/1244313140163.html>

US deal puts tech company on map

Bridie Smith

June 15, 2009



Southbank-based Maptel has secured a \$600 million contract to digitise data collection for the US census, using its ArcPad software. *Photo: Joe Armao*

A MELBOURNE technology company that designed software used to record the location of properties destroyed in the February bushfires has landed a lucrative deal with the United States Government.

Maptel, a Southbank-based company that specialises in mobile mapping systems, has secured a major slice of a five-year, \$600 million contract to digitise data collection for US authorities. Known as ArcPad, the software will be used in the US census to verify and update the addresses of 145 million households, as well as lock in the GPS co-ordinates for each household before the count next year.

The hand-held devices use GPS technology for data capture, rather than navigation.

"It's more thinking about maps as a geographic database," Mr Slavik said. (Go to link)

<http://business.theage.com.au/business/us-deal-puts-tech-company-on-map-20090614-c7fa.html>

Amateur spies put North Korea on the map

Asher Moses

June 2, 2009 - 12:24PM

A group of amateur spies has used Google Earth to provide a rare glimpse inside North Korea, one of the world's most secretive countries.

By default the Google Earth map of North Korea is completely bare, with no roads or landmarks labelled.

Over two years, US doctoral student Curtis Melvin and other volunteers pored over news reports, images, accounts, books and maps painstakingly identifying and locating thousands of buildings, monuments, missile-storage facilities, mass graves, secret labour camps, palaces, restaurants, tourist sites, main roads and even the entrance to the country's subterranean nuclear test base.

The result, [North Korea Uncovered](#), is one of the most detailed maps of North Korea available to the public today. The small file, which can be installed on top of Google Earth, has been downloaded more than 47,000 times since an updated version was released last month. (Go to link)

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/home/technology/amateur-spies-put-north-korea-on-the-map/2009/06/02/1243708441374.html>

Melting snow prompts border change between Switzerland and Italy

By Peter Popham in Rome
Tuesday, 24 March 2009

Global warming is dissolving the Alpine glaciers so rapidly that Italy and Switzerland have decided they must re-draw their national borders to take account of the new realities. The border has been fixed since 1861, when Italy became a unified state. But for the past century the surface area of the "cryosphere", the zone of glaciers, permanent snow cover and permafrost, has been shrinking steadily, with dramatic acceleration in the past five years. This is the area over which the national frontier passes and the two countries have now agreed to have their experts sit down together and hash out where it ought to run now.

Daniel Gutknecht, responsible for the co-ordination of national borders at Switzerland's Office of Topography, said "the border is moving because of the warmer climate", among other reasons.

(Go to link)

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/melting-snow-prompts-border-change-between-switzerland-and-italy-1653181.html>

New sections of China's Great Wall uncovered

7:18PM Monday Apr 20, 2009

BEIJING - The Great Wall of China is even greater than once thought.

A two-year government mapping study has uncovered new sections of the ancient Chinese monument that total about 180 miles (290 kilometers), according to a report posted on the State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping website.

Using mapping technologies such as infrared range finders and GPS devices, experts discovered portions of the wall - concealed by hills, trenches and rivers - that stretch from Hu Mountain in northern Liaoning province to Jiayu Pass in western Gansu province, the official China Daily reported Monday. (Go to link)

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c_id=2&objectid=10567611

Google mines online searches to map flu in Mexico

April 30, 2009 - 10:13AM

Google.org has begun using flu-related internet search traffic in Mexico to create an online map that might provide clues to how influenza is spreading in that country. The internet giant's philanthropic arm has been doing the same for the United States at its <http://www.google.org/flutrends/> Google Flu Trends website since late 2008 but global spread of an influenza strain traced to Mexico prompted a longer reach.

"We launched Google Flu Trends after finding a close relationship between how many people search for flu-related topics and how many people actually have flu symptoms," Google software engineers Jeremy Ginsberg and Matt Mohebbi said in a blog post at the California firm's website. (Go to link)

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/technology/web/google-mines-online-searches-to-map-flu-in-mexico/2009/04/30/1240982316070.html>

Mapping Piracy

New York Times, Catherine Rampell ¹
April 14, 2009, 4:45 pm

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For those following the Somali piracy stories, the International Maritime Bureau in the USA has a live map of piracy incidents around the world, which includes details on each attack.

In 2005, Southeast Asia seemed to be the epicenter of piracy, whereas Somalia's coastline has been dominating the piracy trade this year. Still, the pirates in Southeast Asia seem to have a higher success rate, given the ratio of red pointers (actual attacks) to yellow pointers (attempted attacks) in each region. (Go to link)

<http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/14/mapping-piracy/?scp=2&sq=mapping&st=cse>

Geographical Curiosity

Working on projects related to the Gippsland Lakes (left image) in Victoria and the Hue lagoon in central Vietnam, David Fraser noticed the similarity between the geographies of these two areas. Colleagues in Hue were so taken by the similarity that they requested a visit to the Gippsland Lakes when visiting Victoria a while ago.



Gippsland Lakes, Victoria

Hue Lagoon, Vietnam