President’s Message

The CCA Annual General Meeting in Vancouver with the Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives was a great success, thanks to the diligence of the two local organizers, Sally Hermansen (CCA) and Tim Ross (ACMLA).

A number of issues affecting the well-being and, indeed, the survival of the CCA were brought to the fore. Over the last few years membership has declined. There are fewer student members. If there were a single reason for the decline, it could, perhaps, be remedied. The issue is that we are uncertain just what the problems are.

Following a lengthy discussion at the second Executive Committee meeting as to what can be done to revitalize the organization; an Ad Hoc Committee was created with the mandate to consider all the factors possible that would put the CCA back into a healthy state. Sally Hermansen of UBC chairs that committee.

One of the tasks of the Committee is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the CCA, and then draft a business plan that would lead to a stronger organization with greater numbers of members, especially students who really are the future leaders of this organization.

One of the bright spots that may come to fruition is a new prize for online mapping. Discussions have been ongoing with the sponsors, and I hope to have some good news to report in the next issue of Cartouche.

In case you are wondering why I am again, for the third time, serving as President of the CCA, it came about due to our colleague, Vice-President Ian O’Connell, being unable to take up the position as President. Thus, I was asked at the second Executive Committee meeting if I would take the position. I did not hesitate to accept knowing the fragile state of the CCA. Having been a member since 1975, the year the CCA was formed, I felt it was my duty to do what I can to help the CCA regain its strength and vitality.

Cliff Wood
Recently, a link was sent out to the CCA List for a BBC News article called “Online maps ‘wiping out history’”. The president of the British Cartographic Society (BCS) maintains that internet mapping is “wiping the rich geography and history of Britain off the map”. Google maps stand is that landmarks of this “rich geography and history” are still mapped but must be searched for. A sidebar comment put it all into perspective in my opinion stating, “Online maps serve a very specific purpose: everyday route planning, not tourism”. Check out the BBC News Forums on this topic. There are some interesting comments.


Tracey Lauriault of Carleton University’s Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre (GCRC) responded to the above information by commenting that “not all online atlases/maps are alike! The work of the Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre is all about the history and story of places in maps and atlases!”

Ms. Lauriault included the links below, highlighting work in progress through the GCRC.

https://gcrc.carleton.ca/confluence/display/GCRCWEB/Indigenous+Knowledge
https://gcrc.carleton.ca/confluence/display/GCRCWEB/Northern+Research
https://gcrc.carleton.ca/confluence/display/GCRCWEB/Atlases

Through the Atlases link I checked out the “Cybercartographic Atlas of Water and Sustainable Development in Latin America” (http://www.centrogeo.org.mx/atlaslatinoamerica/).

The way we create and view maps is changing and evolving largely due to advances in technology. I mean really, when I need to get from point A to point B that is the information I want. If I wanted to know what historic landmarks were along the route I would search out that information. By “search” I don’t necessarily mean “search engine” either. I would use whatever means I could get my hands on to acquire the information I needed.

In some ways, I think my kids are really lucky; particularly in their research for school (Grades 7, 10 & 12). They have an unlimited resource at their finger tips – some of which includes a map or two. Now we just have to teach them to consider the source!

I disagree with the BCS. Online maps are not wiping out history. They are serving their purpose. I found my hotel on a recent trip to Sudbury almost without incident. Thanks Google Maps!!!

Lori
Have you found a cool site or come across something neat? Please send it in to the editors (address is on the back) and share it with everyone!

**New Brainland**

This map's original data was created from a reference photo of a real human brain which was used to build the 3d terrain. This digital elevation model was then used to create contour line data, relief shading and to plan where the roads and features should be placed for map compilation. Real New Zealand public domain data was then added for the surrounding islands.

More images and information is available from:

http://www.unitseven.co.nz/

"Map produced by Sarah Noftell, for the course, "Map Worlds," UNB, 2003."

*Editor’s Note:* Those who attended Will van den Hoonaard’s lively presentation at Carto 2008 will remember this map. We thought we would include the map in Cartouche for everyone’s reading pleasure. Thanks to Sarah Noftell for allowing us to do so.
Fiona is a new member of the CCA and will take on the position of Chair of the Special Interest Group in Analytical Cartography and GIS. She has completed a BSc (Advanced Major) in Earth Sciences at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS. Subsequently, she obtained an Advanced Diploma in GIS (with honours) from the Centre of Geographic Sciences in Lawrencetown, NS. Fiona has been working as a GIS Technician at Abitibi-Consolidated for over five years. During that time she has worked on various projects supporting sustainable forest management. Duties include data entry/management, spatial analysis, map production, staff training, and programming.

An Atlas of Radical Cartography
Paperback: 160 pages
Publisher: Journal of Aesthetics and Protest Press (March 1, 2008)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0979137721

An Atlas of Radical Cartography is a collection of 10 maps and 10 essays about social issues from globalization to garbage; surveillance to extraordinary rendition; statelessness to visibility; deportation to migration.

The map is inherently political—and the contributions to this book wear their politics on their sleeves.

An Atlas of Radical Cartography provides a critical foundation for an area of work that bridges art/design, cartography/geography, and activism. The maps and essays in this book provoke new understandings of networks and representations of power and its effects on people and places. These new perceptions of the world are the prerequisites of social change.

Lize Mogel and Alexis Bhagat have edited "An Atlas of Radical Cartography" a beautifully designed 160 page book of ten essays, ten 17" x 22" maps, that all fold up and fit into an elegant slipcase. It's the second book to be released on the Journal of Aesthetics and Protest Press, a sister project to the original and ongoing annual Journal, which has become an important hub for critical and creative writing about the intersections of contemporary art and politics. The An Atlas collection is unique and unprecedented, collecting together many of the primary voices that have connected the visual and semiotic language of cartography with current political and artistic discourses.
AS THE WORLD TURNS:
SOME GLOBAL CONCERNS

Aside from the idea that Atlas, a Titan, held up the earth, did the ancients have more knowledge about the earth as a globe than our contemporaries? If one weren’t watching news channels, one could argue that this is a supercilious question. The truth is that knowledge about our globe is spinning out of control, especially when we watch a globe primed as a backdrop of news anchors.

Between February and May 2008, I surveyed 22 channels that either report the news or where news formed a major part of their diet. Almost two-thirds (i.e. 14) do feast the eyes with fanciful globes rendered through graphic digitalis. Of these 14 channels, five offer us a static globe, as unmoving as the anchor’s desk. Some channels show both a static and spinning globe in the same news reports (CBC, ABC) This still leaves us with nine channels with a spinning globe.

It is quite prosaic that the FOX channel always had the globe’s turning in the “right” direction, i.e. spinning from the west to the east when looking at the earth from space. ABC, BBC, the Weather Channel, and the CNN’s Wolf Blitzer’ “The Situation Room” have it right too.

Thankfully, the tally leaves us with only four channels with globes’ spinning in the wrong direction: The Rick Mercer Report, the CBC (when it shows partial images of the globe between the smaller news reports within the larger news program) , the Daily Show, and sometimes, too, the CNN. The Daily Show, however, does offer us, just once a very small globe turning in the right direction. The CNN seems to want to edge its bet by showing two globes, one encapsulated in the other, each spinning in opposite directions. (This reminds me of students’ placing an apostrophe above the “s” leaving the reader to decide where the apostrophe is supposed to go). Few escape the problem of the spinning globe. During the Beijing 2008 Olympic Closing Ceremonies on 24 August, millions around the world saw the globe making a “left” turn.

I am the last one to clamp down on artistry and artistic licence, but I wonder whether the pattern of wrong turns of the globe we see on our TV channels does not augur in a new age of ignorance of our globe’s spinning habits. I even wonder whether those channels that show an unrotating globe might just not know how the world turns.

Most of the planets rotate from west to east like the Earth, but Venus and Uranus are the exceptions. Maybe it’s not ignorance that propels TV channels to show the wrong-turning globe. An innate desire to join Venus as the mysterious alter-ego planet? Maybe, too, the source of the problem lies in the fact that the sub-text in news reports moves from the right to the left.

One can bet that the globe-making girls at the early 19th century Quaker School in Poughkeepsie, NY, were well aware of the rotation of the Earth.

NEXT ISSUE: What historical-cartography maps have inspired our CCA members the most? Let me know your own inspiration soon: will@unb.ca

David Rumsey Map Collection

- New Librarian, New Browser, and New Maps for the online David Rumsey Map Collection

Dan Holmes has replaced Phil Hoehn as the Librarian for the David Rumsey Map Collection, www.davidrumsey.com. Phil Hoehn retired at the end of 2007 and Holmes started early in 2008. Dan was Librarian of the Geography Department at UC Berkeley and is a Library Systems and Environmental Consultant. He received an M.L.I.S. and M.A. (geography) from UC Berkeley. He has been an innovator in map-based geographic cataloguing systems.

A second announcement is the introduction of the new advanced Luna 6.0 Browser, which makes accessing and using the collection much easier and faster. New features include: entirely browser based, faceted searching, workspace for mashups, sharing images by links or embedding, browsing by categories, creation of media groups and presentations, and more.

Finally, 1038 more historic maps have been added to the online map collection, www.davidrumsey.com, bringing the total number of maps online to 18,469.

For details of the new map additions, please see http://www.davidrumsey.com/recentadditions.html - highlights include the 24 sheet map of France by the Cassini family, 1790; Scott’s U.S. Gazetteer, 1795; Buchon’s Atlas...Ameriques, 1825; Thomson’s Atlas of Scotland, 1832; Dower’s New General Atlas of the World, 1844; Levasseur’s decorative Atlas de la France, 1856; Wisconsin Bicycle Road Maps from 1897; and several thematic, historical, and classical atlases from the 19th century.
Meeting one of the greats in cartography and communication research is not an everyday occurrence. And it is so important when you are just getting your feet wet teaching in a university, when you need to get a good grasp of the theoretical foundations of your field so that you may develop relevant practical exercises and scientific research projects.

Does this mean that, when you are eager to learn, open to what science has to offer, and opportunities for exchanging information are at hand… interesting meetings materialize?

The IGU Congress
It all began during the IGU Congress (International Geographical Union) held in Montreal in the summer of 1972. I was, at the time, a young professor at Université du Québec à Chicoutimi, where I had established a geography programme four years previous.

Just imagine, I am one of the thousands of participants at the congress, held at Université de Montréal session; alone in the wilderness, even though I did have the opportunity to rub elbows with “strangers” during my studies at Université Laval in Québec City. It is lunchtime and everyone is headed for the cafeteria for a bite. The waiting line is endless. My eyes are the size of quarters as I look around, amazed, searching for a familiar face to make me feel a little more at home, more relaxed. I can still hear the buzz of voices, calling out to friends, and enthusiastic hand-shaking … in an environment where the dominant language is not my own, but that of Shakespeare.

A needle in a haystack
I see a short gentleman just in front of me, a little thick around the waist, a little thin on top. He turns his head to the right, then to the left, like a bald eagle. Perhaps he is also looking for a friendly face, an anchoring point. I try to read his name tag, but he does not turn far enough for me to see, and I do not want to crane my neck for a closer look, out of respect. Under the circumstances, what are the odds that I know this man; practically zero. But then he turns just far enough, and I stretch just far enough to read “Jacques”. Right! That doesn’t tell me much, except that his name is French. And a few minutes later I see the rest of his name, “Bertin, France”. I get a rush of adrenaline, as if a moose had jumped out of the woods in front of my car! Am I dreaming? Can this be the man behind the literature I’ve read, behind the work on semiology of graphics? Should I talk to him? I am just another face in this plethora of cartographers, and he is such a great figure in the world of French universities, where a “Professor” is such an elevated position, almost inaccessible.

I hesitantly step towards him: “Bonjour Monsieur”. And instantly his face lights up: “Finally, someone I can understand, everything is in English around here, and I can’t make heads or tails of it.” “Ha! How happy I am. Where are you from? What is your interest here?

But I am the one who ends up asking all the questions; I have so much to learn. We continue our conversation as the snake slowly moves forward.

He then invites me to join him for lunch. I am overwhelmed, needless to say, and honoured. We have barely started our meal, sitting in a wide open area, when things get hectic. Our table fills up with European personalities, to whom I am introduced: “Dear friend, meet my colleague Gauthier from Chicoutimi, Québec.” And then a series of renowned French geographers, upon seeing him, come pay their respects - Jean Dresch, André Cailleux, André Guilcher, Jacqueline Beaujeu-Garnier, (if memory serves). A genuine institution!

That was the last time I saw him during the congress. However, we had agreed that I should visit his Boulevard Saint-Michel Laboratory, in Paris, in the course of the next year. In fact, I was to leave Canada two months later to undertake my Ph.D. in France.
On Boulevard Saint-Michel
Fall of 1972, I am spending a few days in Paris (I am studying at Université de Caen, 200 km away). Near the Seine and Notre-Dame de Paris, I knock on the door of the Graphics Laboratory to see if Professeur Bertin would be available over the next few days. The room is dark with tiny windows and a lampshade casting yellowish light; a woman is rearranging rows of perforated dice in a wood frame, reminding me of a newspaper typesetting workshop.

She greets me and I tell her that I would like to pay my respects to Professeur Bertin, as he had invited me to do when we met in Montreal. She tells me he is in his office, waiting for a visitor who should be there shortly. She nevertheless informs him of my presence and he invites me in, until his guest arrives. But the guest never shows; how fortune smiles!

Our conversation livens up. We discuss intensely of symbolization and statistical methods for constructing structured matrices and matrix files (correlations, regressions). Because his experience is built on graphics rather than statistics, he would like to know if statisticians consider that his methods are as good as theirs (or vice-versa).

The technical aspect of our exchange centres on the use of regular dots with changing sizes (which translate both quantities and densities). It is important to note here that we had just started developing the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean regional atlas at the time, and that the section analyzing electoral results required such graphic processing (which we did thereafter, with some subtle differences).

The two hours I spent with him just flew by; indeed, it was a truly captivating encounter.

Production environment
The environment in which researchers have to work is sometimes quite surprising. In this case, bare surroundings, small office, subdued lighting, faded walls and ceilings, time-worn stairs… For us in North-America, with our state-of-the-art facilities, it is difficult to imagine that creating, innovating, and developing new ideas can be achieved in such antiquated conditions.

I continued to take an active interest in Jacques Bertin’s work, and that of his Laboratory. I referred to them in my teaching and research. I also had the opportunity to meet with Serge Bonin and Jean-Daniell Gronoff a few times, two prominent members of the Laboratory, in Québec and, notably, at the 1986 Canadian Cartographic Association Conference in Vancouver, centering on cartography in the media.

Jacques Bertin contributed largely to the advancement of knowledge, not only in cartography but also, and particularly, in communications through the design of a graphical language, a graphical grammar. All top-level cartography literature, in all languages, is inspired by Jacques Bertin, especially in the field of visual variables.

Jacques Bertin left an indelible mark in the domain, his achievements are monumental.

References
“Semiology of graphics brings an objective answer to the two following questions: In which case is it necessary to make a drawing? Which drawing is it necessary to make? It underlines three functions of the image: it is an inventory (a substitute for memory); it is an instrument of information processing, which makes it possible to discover correlations and to measure them; it is a message that one can register in his own memory. It defines the specific properties of the graphic representation compared to the other systems of signs and makes it possible to determine in each case the best transcription of information. Semiology of graphics replaces the traditional inventory of the graphic formulas, by an analysis of the means and goals and by a unit of imperative rules which command the graphic drafting, that is to say the choice of the correspondences between the visual sensitivities available and the elements of the information”. (English translation by the author).
Archiving 2008
Workshop on
Archiving in Digital Cartography
and Geoinformation
Berlin, Germany, December 04/05, 2008

The fields of cartography and geoinformation, like other fields of Science and Technology, face a growing need for preservation and archiving policies, methodologies, procedures and practices. This workshop brings together international and national experts to discuss

- state-of-the-art digital archiving
- technological, organizational, and legal prerequisites
- creation of archive input data
- document and multimedia archiving
- database archiving
- digital archive organization, digital archive prototypes, archives management
- archive use, permanent and long-term accessibility

and other topics related to the application of digital archiving in the fields of cartography and geoinformation.

On the first day, international aspects will be discussed (English language), on the second day presentations and discussions will be in German language. On both days, there will be plenary discussions for compiling recommendations to international actors (Dec. 4th), and to national organizations (Dec. 5th).

Link
http://www.codata-germany.org/Archiving_2008/

ESRI President Receives Highest Award from International Cartographic Association

Excerpted from Vector1Media.com

The International Cartographic Association (ICA), the world's authoritative body for cartography, presented ESRI president Jack Dangermond with its highest honor, the Carl Mannerfelt Medal, on Tuesday, August 5, at the 2008 ESRI International User Conference. The Mannerfelt Gold Medal was first awarded in 1980 and continues to recognize extraordinary merits in cartography including the conception, production, dissemination, and study of maps. Dangermond is only the eleventh recipient of the medal.

"Jack Dangermond is a unique and outstanding promoter of cartography, mapping, and geography," said Milan Konecny, immediate past-president, ICA. "He is able to bridge the gap between research ideas and the intentions of cartographers on one side and real practical needs of users from many different fields on the other."

Dangermond was presented with the Mannerfelt Medal for his development of new cartographic tools, the creation of digital atlases, and his promotion of cartography. The use of maps and GIS to assist in many areas of human activities, ranging from crisis management in disasters such as the recent cyclone in Myanmar to issues of health and geography, is especially innovative.
Report on July 23, 2008, CARTOGRAPHICA Meeting

This meeting of volunteers and staff was held at the University of Toronto Press headquarters on Dufferin Street. Those who attended were Jeremy Crampton (Editor), Clifford Wood (Co-Editor), Roger Wheate (Co-Editor), Byron Moldofsky (Graphics Editor), Anne Marie Corrigan (Vice President, Journals), Sylvia Hunter (Manuscript Editor), Matthew Farish (Editorial Board Member), Rachel McArthur (PReSTO Editor), Carleton Wilson (Production Editor), and Alberta Auringer Wood (CCA Secretary).

It was an opportunity for all involved to meet each other and have in person discussions on activities involved in all aspects of creating and publishing issues of the journal that is endorsed by the CCA. At this time, all articles from the very first issue in 1964 are on line and available to CCA members who signed up for online access. Developments over the last year were reviewed, including changes to the PReSTO system used to coordinate review, editing, and sending to printing of articles. Consideration of aspects of marketing, as well as short and long term planning were discussed. The significant issue of having the journal included in the ISI indexing of journals was considered. Significant effort has been made to get the journal to be on schedule. This will continue with hopes of getting it back into the citation index very soon. The production schedule was reviewed to ensure that all editors have the time needed for their step in preparing articles for publication. This entails a long lead-up time.

Content was also discussed and all are urged to refer possible papers or authors to Editor Crampton for consideration. History of cartography, open source, map hacking, interesting fringe, where academic research meets popular thought, VGI - voluntary geographic information were topics mentioned. Having an editorial each issue plus an annual interview feature were felt to be positive aspects. Classic articles were another topic of conversation which may find its way into being a book. Transition between editors and the editorial board composition and terms of office were talked about. Mention was made of having color images, even animated ones, available online as part of an article while the printed version might only have them in gray tones. Some discussion was on “blank” pages (ones with just the Cartographica statement) in issues and why they exist. It was felt that more book reviews in each issue were desirable with short reviews being adequate as well as longer review essays being desired. Appreciation was expressed to Anne Marie Corrigan and the University of Toronto Press for hosting this very useful meeting.

Alberta Auringer Wood, CCA Secretary
July 25, 2008
Where is this? What is this?

Send your answers to the co-editors Barb or Lori (address is on the back page)

by November 14, 2008

A winner will be drawn at random from all the correct entries and will receive a CCA t-shirt.

The Belcher Archipelago is a group of about 1,500 islands located in Hudson Bay north of the entrance to the James Bay. The Belcher Islands are spread out over almost 3,000 square kilometers. The explorer Henry Hudson sighted the islands in 1610. Robert Flaherty (who later went on to produce the famous film, Nanook of the North) mapped the islands on his 1914 and 1916 expeditions.

No trees grow here and, except in valleys, only a thin layer of soil covers the ground. The islands' peak is 155 metres above sea level; some cliffs rise from 50 to 70 metres. The Belcher Islands support a number of polynyas (water open year round). The area provides good habitat for wintering polar bears, which are hunted by people from the community of Sanikiluaq. Beluga whales and walrus also winter here.

Congratulations to Joseph Piwowar of Regina, SK for correctly identifying this months where/what, including the correct province. Joe wins a CCA t-shirt.
The CCA was founded in 1975 to promote interest and education in maps and cartographic data and to provide for the exchange of ideas and information, at the regional, national and international levels, via meetings and publications. Membership in The Canadian Cartographic Association is open to all individuals, and public and private institutions which have an interest in maps and the aims and objectives of the Association. Membership is available in the following categories at the annual rates listed below ($CND): Regular ----------------------------------------  $   90
Student ----------------------------------------  $   45
Institutional -------------------------------------  $ 120
Corporate ---------------------------------------  $ 200
Family  ----------------------------------------  $ 110
Retired ----------------------------------------  $   45
To cover mailing costs, US and overseas residents please add $10 CDN to the applicable membership category.

Members receive the quarterly journal Cartographica, published by the University of Toronto Press and endorsed as the journal of the CCA; four issues of Cartouche, the CCA newsletter and the International Cartographic Association Newsletter. The Association also provides an annual conference to promote discourse and access to a range of expertise through interest groups and regional contacts.

For further information about membership qualifications and benefits contact the Secretariat of the CCA or any executive member or visit www.cca-acc.org.

UDMS 2009
27TH URBAN DATA MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM
June 24-26, 2009
LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIJA

UDMS, the Urban Data Management Society, has organised international symposia at various locations in Europe in order to promote the development of information systems in local government since 1971. An important aim of UDMS has been to provide a forum for people to discuss new approaches, to consider new technologies, and to share practical experiences in the field of urban data management. The focus has been on urban applications, but regional and rural issues have always been well represented and have grown recently in importance.

16th ACM SIGSPATIAL International Conference on Advances in Geographic Information Systems

The HYPERLINK "http://www.sigspatial.org"ACM SIGSPATIAL International Conference on Advances in Geographic Information Systems 2008 (ACM GIS 2008) is the sixteenth event of a series of symposia and workshops that began in 1993 with the aim of bringing together researchers, developers, users, and practitioners carrying out research and development in novel systems based on geo-spatial data and knowledge, and fostering interdisciplinary discussions and research in all aspects of geographic information systems. The conference provides a forum for original research contributions covering all conceptual, design, and implementation aspects of GIS ranging from applications, user interface considerations, and visualization down to storage management and indexing issues. This year's conference builds on last year's conference great success and on being the premier annual conference of the newly formed ACM Special Interest Group on Spatial Information (HYPERLINK "http://www.sigspatial.org" ACM SIGSPATIAL).

(ACM GIS 2008)
November 5-7, 2008
Irvine, California, USA
http://acmgis08.cs.umn.edu

For those interested in a comprehensive listing of world-wide, related events and meetings, go to:

- John Docktor's list: http://home.earthlink.net/~docktor/intro.html
- Map History list: http://www.maphistory.info/confmnu.html

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To cover mailing costs, US and overseas residents please add $10 CDN to the applicable membership category.

L'ACC a été créé en 1975 pour promouvoir les intérêts et l’enseignement des cartes et de la cartographie ainsi que pour permettre l’échange d’idées, d’informations tant sur les plans régionaux que nationaux et ce via des bulletins et des conférences. L’adhésion à l’Association est ouverte à tous les individus et institutions (privées et publiques) qui s’intéressent par les cartes et par les buts et objectifs de l’Association. Vous pouvez adhérer dans les catégories suivantes selon les taux indiqués (cdn$) dans la liste ci-dessous: ($CND):

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Un montant de 10$ (cdn$) est ajouté pour couvrir les frais postaux aux membres américains (ÉU) et de 10$ (cdn$) pour les membres outremer.

Les membres reçoivent la monographie trimestrielle Cartographica, publiée par l'Université Toronto Press; 4 numéros du bulletin Cartouche et le bulletin l’Association cartographique internationale (ACI). L’Association organise également une rencontre annuelle lors de conférences qui donnent accès à l'expertise issue des groupes d'intérêts et des diverses régions du pays.
