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# base line

a newsletter of the Map and Geography Round Table

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*base line* is an official publication of the American Library Association's Map and Geography Round Table (MAGERT). 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 MAGERT 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 MAGERT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below.

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<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/index.cfm>

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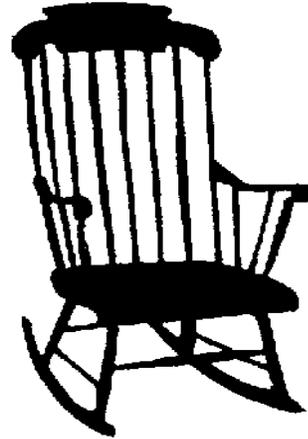
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## FROM THE CHAIR

Carolyn Kadri, University of Texas at Arlington

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Soon it will be annual again and the end of my term as Chair of MAGERT. It is with both sadness and relief that I greet July. Sadness that I know that there is still much work to be done and relief that I will have more time as past-chair to work on some major issues that need to be accomplished. I want to take this opportunity to thank the MAGERT members who voted for me and entrusted me with the responsibilities of the Chair position this past year. I can honestly say that the members of our Executive Board have been an awesome group to work with and I want them to know how much I have appreciated their hard work. There has never been a finer, more dedicated group of energetic and talented individuals running our organization. Kudos to all of them.



Annual is upon us and I just want to reiterate that we should have a fine combination reception/dinner this year at **Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant** starting at 6 P.M. on Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Details of the reception/dinner are available on the MAGERT Web site:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/oversightgroups/2009Annual.cfm>

We will present awards to two deserving MAGERT members and also honor our sponsors for their contributions to MAGERT.

There are two programs planned for the Annual Conference this year. Mr. David Rumsey will be presenting the first program on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5:30 P.M., and Chris Kollen and Paige Andrew will present the second program on Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 3:00 P.M. Please plan to attend both if you are at the conference in Chicago.

See you in Chicago!

Carolyn 

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**For the complete schedule of MAGERT meetings and programs at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, see:**

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/oversightgroups/2009Annual.cfm>

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## MAGERT Executive Board I Minutes

**ALA Midwinter 2009  
Denver, January 24, 2009**

Present:

Matthew Parsons  
Hallie Pritchett  
Carolyn Kadri  
Dan Seldin  
Colleen Cahill  
Kathy Weimer  
Edith Scarletto  
Dorothy McGarry  
Nancy Kandoian  
Bradley Wade Bishop  
Mike Smith  
Marcy Allen  
Kristi Jensen

MAGERT Chair Carolyn Kadri began the meeting with a welcome and some general conference announcements.

### **Chair's Report:** Carolyn Kadri

There are 2 programs planned for ALA Annual in Chicago 2009. The first is going to be a presentation by David Rumsey on Saturday from 1:30-3:30 P.M. The second will be presented by Chris Kollen and Paige Andrew on Monday from 1:30-3:30 P.M. on the topic of conducting a successful research project. The Library Research Round Table might be willing to co-host this program with MAGERT. LITA might be approached as a co-host for the Rumsey program.

Time slots for MAGERT meetings have been requested, but we will not hear exact times and locations until April.

Executive Board II will probably take place on Tuesday. We still need a reception site and donations to support the reception. Any ideas regarding the reception are welcome.

Round Table Coordinating Assembly – Carolyn, Pete and Kathy attended and provided a summary of the assembly:

- 1) Web site training is available via ITTS. They are working with divisions and round tables to harmonize all Web pages. It was noted that GODORT is using other venues in addition to the ALA Web site to disseminate information (wikis, twitter, etc.) ALA is going to also have a 2<sup>nd</sup> Life training room in Chicago. MAGERT needs to determine the content we want to have included on our ALA Web page.
- 2) John Chrastka from Membership Services talked about communication and member relations as well as the different services they provide (brochures, logo development/branding). Dues for round tables are determined by the group and they are at liberty to change them. MAGERT will have a PowerPoint presentation at the Membership Pavilion in Chicago.
- 3) OPAL, an online, interactive meeting program, was also discussed at the Assembly. It is hoped that OPAL can be used in a constructive way by round tables and divisions.
- 4) The Consumer Product Safety Act was discussed. The concern is about childrens' books having lead

and the requirement of libraries to test for lead. John Chrastka encourages us to contact the Acting Commission for the CPSA with our concerns.

- 5) Archiving of Web pages was brought up. MAGERT's *defacto* archivist was believed to be Jennie Marie Johnson. It is unknown what is required to be archived, but it is generally up to the round tables to determine what to archive.
- 6) Emerging Leaders: the GODORT Chair was concerned about the \$1000 commitment of a division or round table that wants to sponsor a participant. Can groups with smaller budgets co-sponsor a participant? Another consideration is that MAGERT could provide a project for a group of Emerging Leaders to work on.

**Vice-Chair's Report:** Kathy Weimer

Nothing is nailed down as far as programming for 2010. If anyone has specific ideas, please let Kathy know. The GeoTech committee will be talking about a possible pre-conference at their Monday meeting.

**Past-Chair's Report:** Pete Reehling

Deferred until Exec. Board II meeting due to Pete attending another ALA meeting at this time.

**Treasurers Report:** Mike Smith

MAGERT's fiscal standing experienced a significant rebound since the

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previous fiscal year, when our ending balance had fallen to below \$3,000. Total revenue greatly improved in the 2007-08 fiscal year due to the money saved from the discontinuation of printing and mailing *base line*, and strong sales (nearly \$7,000) of the workbook for *Cataloging Pre-Twentieth Century Cartographic Materials*. MAGERT's fiscal health should remain strong for the foreseeable future.

At the end of the 2007-08 fiscal year in August, MAGERT's total revenues were **\$20,286** and total expenses were **\$10,979**, for a net gain of **\$9,307**. The carryover balance from fiscal year 2007 (end of August) was **\$2,656**, leaving an ending balance of **\$11,963**.

Discussion arose regarding whether MAGERT has, or should have, a person in a fund-raising position. Other responsibilities could include advertising on behalf of the Publishing Committee. The Exec. Board will take this idea under advisement.

**Secretary's Report:** Matthew Parsons

The minutes from 2008 Annual went to the Exec. Board for review and were printed in the December 2008 issue of *base line*. Committee Chairs' and officers' reports from this meeting should be submitted to the Secretary by the end of February 2009. An email reminder will be sent out following the conference.

**New Business / Discussion Items:**

- 1) IFLA Representative: this previously vacant position is now filled. Joe Aufmuth has agreed to serve as representative.

- 2) NACIS Representative: Dan is retiring, so this position will be open.
- 3) Possible 2010 pre-conference: deferred to GeoTech Committee meeting scheduled for 10am on Monday.
- 4) Announcement: Chairs of the Membership and Education Committees visited students at the University of Denver Library School to promote map librarianship. The question was asked: Should MAGERT pay for a local LIS student to attend ALA and the MAGERT reception when the conference is in their area?

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 A.M. 

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## ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT

Tammy Wong, Library of Congress

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### Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group

Denver, January 25, 2009

Susan Moore, Chair of the Interest Group, led the discussion in Denver.

Janis Young, Library of Congress (LC) genre/form coordinator, was present to discuss genre/form developments at LC and to hear from interested parties from the map cataloging community. Our community is enthusiastic and supportive of these genre/form efforts. The Policy and Standards Division (PSD) is working with Geography and Map Division to formulate a list of form genre terms based on the list compiled by Paige Andrew, Mary Larsgaard, and Betsy Mangan many years ago. Information and discussion will be shared on the Maps-L, Autocat, OLAC, and Genre/form discussion lists.

Few expressed their preference not to duplicate form subdivision such as “*Maps, Tourist*” in fields 651 and 655. PSD is proposing straightening inverted terms to natural language order.

Participants welcomed the proposal and suggested chopping off the comma and adjective, thereby retaining general form subdivision --*Maps* in field 651, and moving the adjective to field 655 to establish a specific genre/form heading. The geographic heading (field 651) retaining generalized form subdivision --*Maps* facilitates faceted browsing. Some participants would like to retain the ability to retrieve different types of cartographic resources based on one locality in the browse index list. Users find it useful to browse lists of maps collocating under a geographic area or a topic.

It is impossible to distinguish between a sheet map of Paris, for example, and an atlas of Paris using the 6XX fields. The fact that it is an atlas is recorded in the physical description area and in fixed field 008/25. General form subdivision --*Maps* applies to both atlases (physical printed books of maps) and sheet maps. Users like to distinguish between the two formats when they search in the OPAC. However, there is

no subject heading for atlases that are not world atlases and the subdivision --*Atlases* is used only for scientific and technical works.

Atlases have traditionally been bound into book form, but today many atlases are in multimedia formats. Mary Larsgaard pointed out that besides the physical aspect of the item, the publisher's intent should also be taken into consideration. If the publisher reveals a clear intent for a CD to be an atlas, then cataloger should put *1 atlas (1 CD-ROM)* in the physical description area. Publisher's intent plays an important role in this situation.

Seanna Tsung raised the issue of topical subject heading "*Atlases*." The current heading covers world atlases published in the United States for general use. Atlases of world coverage published in countries other than the United States are entered under "*Atlases*" qualified by country of publication, e.g. "*Atlases, Austrian*," regardless of the language of the work. Works about atlases are entered under "*Atlases--History*". Although it is clearly stated in the authority record, it could still cause confusion to the users. Some expressed argument against qualification of topical subject heading "*Atlases*". Like the case of moving images, the qualification is ambiguous and could be interpreted as different attributes: geographic coverage of atlases, country of publication, or language of the work. These attributes are recorded in different parts of the bibliographic record. The geographic coverage is available in field 651. Place of production is contained in field 260. The language of atlas is provided for in the 008/35-37 and 041 fields.

Janis Young pointed out that "*Atlases*" will be proposed as a new genre/form heading for geographical atlases of world coverage for general use.

Participants agreed on the need to come up with a world map genre/form term. The topical subject heading (field 650) "*World maps*" currently applies to both world maps (genre/form) and to text about history of world maps. It is a problem to mix works of world maps with works that are about history of world maps. It is a mix of topical subject heading and genre/form heading. A few participants proposed geographic heading (field 651) "*Earth*" to cover the world, as geographic coverage.

PSD is inviting all SACO members to contribute proposals for new and revised cartographic genre/form headings. The proposed headings will go through the same SACO workstream and editorial process as the rest of the headings. PSD is already creating authority records for cartographic genre/form terms (coded 155).

The project for cartographic material genre/form headings is getting underway. A sample list of headings is provided at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsoc/genrecarto.html>. Comments and questions about the project may be addressed to Janis Young at [jayo@loc.gov](mailto:jayo@loc.gov). 

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## **MAGERT Executive Board II Minutes**

**ALA Midwinter 2009  
Denver, January 26, 2009**

### **I. Issues from Executive Board I**

**Web Site:** Please send Colleen Cahill any MAGERT Web site updates.

**2009 Annual Program:** Carolyn passed out copies of descriptions of the two programs that will occur at ALA Annual 2009 in Chicago.

### **II. Attending Committee Chair Reports**

**Education Committee:** Carol McAuliffe

Current Projects:

Education Outreach – January 23, 2009  
Trip to University of Denver (in collaboration with Membership Committee)

Discussion:

1. Committee Roster – The number of allowed committee members (statement in bylaws) needs to be reviewed across all committees. Submit a motion to the MAGERT Chair to update the manual to read something like “as many members as is necessary to conduct business.”

2. Continuing Education – Will

MAGERT sponsor a certificate? ALA has continuing education units (CEU). How do we get ALA to sponsor CE credits? It was commented that this sort of training is better suited for online coursework rather than a pre-conference. A listing of ALA’s online continuing education classes is at <http://www.classes.ala.org>. How are CEUs developed at ALA? How are fees/funds going to be handled for CEUs?

3. ALISE (Association for Library and Information Science Education) Update – Pete, Kathy and Wade presented a poster at ALISE on the core competencies as well as curriculum and collaboration. There was some discussion with ALISE members about the possibility of a WISE course on map or GIS librarianship which will be open to both association members (practitioners) as well as students enrolled in a formal MLIS program. (NOTE: Pete and Kathy have been in contact with professors at the University of Pittsburgh who are developing a GIS Librarianship course for summer 2009 delivered through the WISE online system.)

4. Possible Future Project – Listing of field work, practicum, and internships in Map/ GIS Librarianship. Discussed usefulness and need for such a

database. Pete suggested we to check out other internship listings to better understand what information we need to gather. Comment was made that we could also expand listing to include those looking for a geography or GIS related internship and not exclusively library science.

5. Publications – Are the Core Competencies a ‘publication’ in a MAGERT series, or monographic? There is not currently a clear definition of the publication series, but that should be explored with Publications Committee. Hallie Pritchett, Chair of Publications, said a publication place would be found for the Core Competencies.

6. Distribution of Core Competencies – Announcement needed send to American Libraries Direct about the CC (Kathy). Announcement needed to send out to groups (Carol) : JESSE list, Maps-L, LAMA Personnel list, GODORT Education Comm. (later decided that Kathy will send the note since she is also writing the announcement for American Libraries)

7. Future use of Core Competencies – Consider how to use the CC when planning MAGERT future programs – the Chair or a representative of Ed Comm should attend program planning meeting.

(Does there need to be a formal document to propose a program?) Reiteration of how it is important to partner with other round tables when planning programs.

#### Needed Follow-up:

- Those interested in joining the committee should send Carol an email ([carolmc@uflib.ufl.edu](mailto:carolmc@uflib.ufl.edu))
- Research important current ALA internship databases for information to request from internship/practicum/field work programs. Ask MAGERT members to submit their library name and what specializations they can host
- Create a Web page for MAGERT Web site – How we got into map/GIS librarianship.
- Add on to Web page for core competencies: an introduction of how to use them, how to cite it, where to send comments and feedback on how it is being used.
- Submit a motion to the MAGERT Chair to update the manual to read something like “as many members as is necessary to conduct business.”
- Send note to AL Direct and other lists announcing the core competencies (Kathy)

- Plan visit to Dominican LIS for ALA Annual Conference in Chicago (Marci and Wade will help)

### **Cataloging and Classification**

**Committee:** Nancy Kandoian (for Mary Larsgaard)

IFLA is requesting input on the ISBD draft of a new Area 0 (general material designator). The general feeling was that it was too complicated and not useful for maps.

Additional reports were given on the Geography and Maps Division of LC, MARBI, OCLC, CC:DA, etc.

Seanna Tsung (LC) gave a status report on task force on guidelines for recording map set holdings. The conclusion seems to be that it is too difficult to establish a standard due to different practices, limitations in the MARC format, etc.

RDA update – anticipate a Fall 2009 release of final version.

**Publications Committee:** Hallie Pritchett

Attendees: Hallie Pritchett (chair), Kathy Weimer, Peter Linberger, T. Wangyal Shawa, Chris Kollen, Kathleen Weessies, Nancy Kandoian, Carol McAuliffe, Carolyn Kadri, Roger Knouff, Tracey Hughes, Joel Kovarsky, Andrew Laas

*Approval of minutes from ALA Annual 2008.* Copies of the June 2008 meeting in Anaheim were not available for review; it was decided that the minutes

did not need to be approved and are therefore considered approved. *base line update.* Editor Steve Rogers was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following update: “*base line* continues to come out on schedule (reasonably, anyway) and I’ve had a few positive comments on its online appearance. Many thanks to our regular columnists and contributors: Tammy Wong (Cataloging), Chris Miller (Electronic Mapping), David Bertuca (New Maps), Jim Coombs (Great Moments Cartoon) and chair Carolyn Kadri. Announcements and miscellaneous contributions are, as always, welcome.”

*MAGERT Map Scanning Registry update.* Chris Kollen provided an update on the MAGERT map scanning registry. The registry now has 43 entries; Chris receives a few new entries every few months. What can we do to get more entries? Chris monitors MAPS-L for announcements of new scanning projects and solicits their entry into the registry. She will contact Eric Hesse at University of Florida, who was formerly in charge of their Digital Library Center for input; he thinks our interface doesn’t include enough information. Wangyal pointed out that this system was set up when scanning was new and there was less duplication in scanning projects; he suggested we should evaluate the interface in light of new technologies.

*Revision of Cartographic Citations: A Style Guide.* Chris Kollen planned to meet Monday (1/26/09) with the group working on the revision. She wants to distribute their final draft to the Publications Committee before Annual.

Methods of distribution of the finished document will be discussed at Annual.

*Updating other MAGERT publications.* Many of the publication series listed on our Web site are out of date or appear to be ceased; an example is the Guide to GIS from 1998. County coordinates are only listed for about a quarter of the US; the Cataloging Committee also has this on their agenda. We also have some new publications from various committees pending but aren't sure which publication series they should be assigned to. Hallie will look into the history of our various publications to determine their scope and whether or not any should be considered ceased; scope statements of our publications will ultimately be posted on our publications page. She will also start soliciting volunteers to compile county coordinates for the rest of the U.S.

*MAGERT Web site update.* Web master Colleen Cahill was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following update: "The MAGERT Web site has completely transitioned to the new software ALA is using, which stores all the Web pages in XML and has them served up in Cold Fusion. This has been a learning curve for me as there is a new interface and not all HTML codes work as expected. I have been able to work with the text, but images are a bigger challenge I have not tackled yet.

ALA is trying to make the division, office and round table pages alike in their presentation to allow users to more easily find data from one site to another. This is where some of the left side bar groups come from, such as "governance" and "oversight groups

and meeting schedules." Others are hangovers from our old site, including "Roster" and "Committees." ALA is discouraging much use of tables unless displaying data that needs that format, and we are in compliance as our site has them only for things like meeting schedules, which is considered appropriate.

ALA is strong in how the main page is set up, which should have only the Mission, Staff Liaison and About statement on it. We could use a logo on this page and are also allowed to use what are called widgets, the right hand buttons and short links that you see on the main ALA page. Right now I am still doing clean up of our old pages and have not explored using widgets.

We do need much of the old content reviewed and updates sent. It would be helpful if all the committee and group chairs could review their areas and send any corrections. We also need a review of the areas of Publications, Links, and Getting Help. There is nothing currently in Social Networking, and Popular Resources is also very sparse.

ALA has also mandated what type and size images go online and will review all such items before they go up.

One of the biggest challenges I have faced is being able to get into the Web editing interface, which has been problematic since it was installed. This has caused some delays in getting page updates, but fortunately only by a few days at most."

*MAGERT wiki.* We are still waiting for ALA to finish setting up a wiki for

MAGERT. Tracey Hughes set one up for the GeoTech Committee, but ALA wants us to use theirs instead. Hallie heard from GODORT that the ALA wiki is hard to set up but overall it is much easier to use than the Web site. It was suggested that the Web site be reserved for permanent documents and the wiki for works in progress and other items committee chairs want to include.

*Meridian digitization project.* Hallie passed around an example of an article from the test site. We need help converting the TIFs to PDFs; Hallie will send out an email soliciting volunteers. Melissa Lamont has the original images and can share them via FTP; Hallie will set up procedures for converting TIFs to PDFs. The digital version of *Meridian* will live on the publications page on our Web site; not sure at this point where the original TIF files will live. The entire run of *Meridian* will be searchable, either through the Web site or via a Google custom search. The plan is to get the project done by Annual in July. There was also discussion of digitizing other old MAGERT publications to put on the Web site; this will be discussed again at Annual.

*Coordinates update.* The future of *Coordinates*, MAGERT's online journal, was discussed. Per Hallie, *Coordinates* was created in 2004 to replace *Meridian*, which was discontinued when David Cobb stepped down as editor. It is currently hosted by SUNY Stony Brook; given our ongoing issues with our ALA-hosted Web site it was agreed to leave it there for now. Hallie reported on her recent phone conversation about *Coordinates*

with editor David Allen. David would like more people involved with *Coordinates*, including an assistant editor. The editorial board is very large; as most of the people listed serve as reviewers he felt this could be edited down. David's biggest concerns are getting more articles and interest in *Coordinates*; he felt that the perception may be that publishing in traditional paper journals is better than publishing in an online journal. There is also some concern about the focus and scope of *Coordinates*; currently the focus includes map librarianship, history of cartography and GIS. David wants *Coordinates* to remain an open-access journal rather than subscription-based.

The group discussed ways to improve and attract interest in *Coordinates*. The actual scope statement was read aloud and determined to be quite lengthy. Other map collection-oriented publications were discussed for comparison, including *WAML Information Bulletin*, *Journal of Maps*, and *Journal of Map and Geography Libraries*; it was pointed out that the WAML publication's articles are mostly about their conferences and not research-oriented. MAGERT owns the rights to *Coordinates*; any royalties from having it indexed would go to us. The consensus of the group was that we want to continue to publish *Coordinates* and would like David Allen to remain as editor but that some changes are needed to make it more robust. A call will be put out for a co-editor. By the Annual Conference in July, David will write job descriptions for both the editor and co-editor, examine and redefine the scope of the journal and consider a consistent publication schedule. The

discussion on the future of *Coordinates* will continue at Annual.

As part of the *Coordinates* discussion it was also suggested that in addition to a fundraiser, MAGERT needs a marketing person to publicize all aspects of MAGERT, including its publications. This position will need to be approved by the Executive Board.

*Map Collection Security Guidelines update.* Jan Dixon and the Task Force on Library Security for Cartographic Resources have been working on this and would like input on both the Guidelines and the brochure. Joel Kovarsky commented that the stolen map database is not in the guidelines but it should be. He also suggested that the links for the Map History/History of Cartography site point to the specific page on map theft instead of the home page. It was suggested that we provide guidelines to people reporting thefts on how their announcements should be constructed; specifically, the announcement should include copy-specific information in addition to the usual bibliographic information.

Per Andrew Laas, the RBMS security commission theft guidelines have been merged into one document and the new preliminary guidelines are expected to be revised in the next two weeks; their resource guide also applies to maps. Our goal is much more specific than RBMS, although the Guidelines are expected to be adapted differently by different institutions. Some people may choose to alter certain sections, such as marking documents; RBMS has an appendix in their guidelines on marking documents. It was suggested that we

include information about the value of some recent thefts, such as the Forbes Smiley case, and how frequently such thefts occur. Per Andrew Laas GO-DORT wants to know when the Guidelines will be published; announcements will be sent out to various mailing lists. Hallie will work with Jan to finalize the Guidelines and brochure.

**Constitution and Bylaws:** Carolyn Kadri

It was reported that the organizational manual and committee roster is outdated. The manual needs updating. Pete Reehling (Past-Chair) is in charge of updating the manual and will work on this with Kathy Weimer. A preliminary draft should be ready for the Executive Board to review by ALA Annual, 2009.

**GeoTech Committee:** Tracey Hughes

1. ***Introductions:*** Introductions were made around the table.
2. ***Acceptance/modification of agenda:*** Discussion order was changed to ensure sufficient time to discuss Annual 2010 programs.
3. ***Approval of Minutes from Annual '08:*** Minutes approved without changes.
4. ***Membership Update and call for members:***
  - a. ***Web site updated at <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/oversight-groups/committeesabc/geographictechnologiesgeotechcommittee/geotech.cfm>***

No discussion on this.

**5. Updates from other MAGERT groups:**

- a. **GIS/RS Discussion Group:** Compliments were provided to Marcy and Ben for a very interesting presentation and discussion.
- b. **Others:** No reports given.

**6. Discussion Items:**

- a. **Program at Annual 2010:** It was decided to proceed with two programs at Annual 2010, both focused on GIS. It was noted that Annual 2010 will be MAGERT's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The idea for the programs is a 2-part program, with the first part being about Geospatial/Web 2.0/Online Mapping/Data/Cool Stuff (called Program 1 – Other Stuff for our purposes here) and the second part being more focused on GIS (Program 2 – GIS). Our overall goals discussed were GIS awareness and to bring in people to the programs and geospatial realm who might not normally attend.

**Membership Committee:** Wade Bishop (submitted via email)

During Midwinter Meeting 2009 in Denver, the membership committee discussed recent outreach efforts, current membership totals (364), the student fee, and a search for an incoming membership chair, with the six members in attendance.

The outreach efforts include continued MAGERT 101 presentations at Annual and LIS schools near future conference

locations (e.g., Dominican and Simmons).

The Annual 101 (booth) schedule may come out in March from John Chrastka, however, several members volunteered to help update our slides for Chicago. Chrastka also provides a service to update and print our brochures for Annual. We will pursue this brochure opportunity because ALA retains graphic designers to create professional documents and takes on the entire burden of cost and transport.

Membership totals fell, but all ALA membership fell. With outreach efforts, we hope to retain steady numbers.

Chrastka recommended leaving the student fee as is. In his past experience, any organization that offers free student membership does not retain those members. Therefore, the student fee's current rate remains.

There will be no Annual meeting for the MAGERT membership committee. All work for Annual occurs prior to the conference.

Roger Knouff volunteered to take the next two-year term of the membership committee. I am sure he will do a wonderful job and thank him for the service in advance. The change occurs at Annual 2009.

**ALCTS CCS/MAGERT Cartographic Materials Cataloging Discussion Group:** Susan Moore

A full report of the ALCTS CCS/MAGERT Cartographic Materials Cataloging Discussion Group meeting can be

found in “On the Cataloging Front” in the April 2009 issue of *base line*, [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rt/mag-ert/publicationsab/baseline/30\\_2.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rt/mag-ert/publicationsab/baseline/30_2.pdf).

**GIS Discussion Group:** Marcy Allen

A speaker from Harvard University, Ben Lewis, presented the AfricaMap project. Approximately 21 people attended the presentation and participated in the discussion.

**Federal Spatial Data Discussion Group:** Edith Scarletto

The group talked about connecting with other discussion groups (GODORT, etc.) that also deal with federal spatial data in an effort to increase participation and knowledge-sharing. General consensus among attendees was that this was worth pursuing further, especially since the 2010 census is approaching.

**Map Collection Management Discussion Group:** Kristi Jensen

Twenty-three people participated in the open discussion session about a number of map collection management topics. The discussion covered map collection approval plans, core reference materials for a map library collection, the impact of the economic crisis on the staffing of service points, an update on the security guidelines publication, and current scanning and digitization project updates. The coordinator suggested that this group might also discuss managing geography collections and participants agreed this would be beneficial. The appropriate Executive Committee members will explore expanding the

scope of this group.

Two topics were submitted to the coordinator prior to the meeting and were included as the first two discussions topics. First, Eastview Cartographic representatives presented information about a proposed maps approval plan and sought feedback from collection managers. Broad interest was exhibited by members of the group and a number of considerations were pointed out: 1.) need a mechanism to make sure an approval plan doesn't duplicate existing holdings, 2.) provide an opportunity to select particular map publishers (in the same way we select particular publishers on book approval plans), 3.) provide slips as well as firm order materials. Digital maps and basic metadata would be options available on approval as well. MARC records might be provided for an additional charge if there is interest. Discussion participants expressed a willingness to review and provide feedback on a more detailed plan when it is available.

Second, an open discussion was held identifying core reference resources for a map collection or library. Essential titles, policies and practices related to gazetteers (removing BGN gazetteers while leaving unique historic gazetteers, keeping gazetteers separate or interfiling them), and GIS reference books (where to locate, specific application books vs. theoretical reference materials) were discussed. Several people mentioned weeding projects currently underway. Tracking in-house use of reference materials helps inform weeding decisions. Items with electronic copies are withdrawn or moved to open stacks. The group concluded that a wiki providing a compiled list

of useful reference resources would benefit the group. The coordinator will explore soliciting suggestions (perhaps via Maps-L) and then compile a list.

The impact of the current economic crisis on the staffing of map library service points was raised. Several people discussed the efficiencies they utilize for staffing points (on-call librarians available for consultation). The negative impact of previous closings of service points in some libraries was also discussed.

A brief update on the Security Guidelines was provided. They will hopefully be published by summer 2009.

Updates on various map scanning projects were provided near the end of the session. Several specific projects included: 1.) the Google scanning project at Harvard (foldouts aren't included but may be made available via the Institutional Repository); 2.) Oklahoma State has 1000 maps scanned; 3.) University of Florida has aerial photographs from 1937 – 1971, antique maps, and Army Map Service maps at 1:50,000 scanned; 4.) Penn State has a complete set of PA 15-minute topos scanned and are working on their Sanborn maps; 5.) University of Georgia has scanned 15- and 30-minute topos, highway maps and soil surveys. Questions were raised about the status of scanning the historic 1:24,000 topos. Madison was working on this project? Richard at USGS may have additional information?

Thanks to all for helping to make the discussion informative, productive, and useful!

**Nominations Committee:** Pete Reehling

Upcoming elections include: Treasurer, Secretary, and Chair-Elect. Mike Smith has agreed to run for re-election as Treasurer. Marcy Allen has agreed to run for Chair-Elect. Nominations for Secretary are needed.

**Awards (Honors) Committee:** Pete Reehling

There will be two awards presented at ALA Annual 2009 in Chicago.

### **III. Attending Liaison Reports**

**MARBI:** Susan Moore

A full report of the MARBI meetings can be found in “On the Cataloging Front” in the April 2009 issue of *base line*, [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rtsmagert/publicationsab/baseline/30\\_2.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rtsmagert/publicationsab/baseline/30_2.pdf).

**Freedom to Read:** Susan Moore

The Freedom to Read Foundation Board met on Friday, January 23, 2009. Due to scheduling conflicts, the liaison was unable to attend.

At the annual conference in Chicago, there will be a celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Freedom to Read Foundation. The gala will be held on Sunday, July 12 at the Art Institute of Chicago. Further information is available on the Freedom to Read Foundation Web site at <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/othergroups/freedomtoreadfoundation/index.cfm>

**WAML:** Kathy Rankin (submitted via email)

WAML met at the San Diego Historical Society on October 1-4<sup>th</sup>, 2008, in a meeting sponsored by the University of California, San Diego Libraries. The meeting host was Mike Smith, assisted by Muriel Strickland.

Speakers included a representative from the Homeland Security division of the San Diego State Research Foundation, who spoke on "GIS, Fires, Homeland Security & San Diego." A local teacher and historical roads enthusiast spoke on the usage of maps in researching old highways. A map collection patron who has written two books about San Diego County talked about his experiences using maps and aerial images in his historical research. Julie Sweetkind-Singer spoke about Stanford's collaborative digital initiative to host map images from private collections. A local map dealer spoke about the map trade in general, and held a reception for the group at his store. A speaker also talked about the history of Balboa Park, the group toured the Historical Society's map collection, and the Historical Society Archivist spoke.

The field trip was a tour of San Diego's back country with a look at portions of a historic road.

The next meeting will be held in Salt Lake City at the University of Utah, Marriott Library, on April 29-May 2, 2009. The fall meeting will be held September 15-18<sup>th</sup>, 2009, in Cody, Wyoming, and will be hosted by the University of Wyoming Libraries and the Park County Library.

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**CUAC:** Carolyn Kadri

Pete Reehling has agreed to be our representative to CUAC for a 3-year term beginning in April 2009.

**NACIS:** Dan Seldin

NACIS met in October in Missoula, MT. The next meeting is in October 2009 in Sacramento, CA. Dan is retiring. Therefore, a new representative is needed. It was suggested that Paige Andrew might be a good candidate since he attends NACIS semi-regularly.

**IFLA:** Mike Leach

Mike was unable to attend the recent IFLA meeting due to the high cost of registration. Mike is stepping down as representative and Joe Aufmuth has agreed to be the new representative.

**The Geography and Map Division.**  
**Library of Congress:** Colleen Cahill

Colleen summarized the report submitted by John R. Hébert. The full report is available in the April 2009 issue of *base line*: [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/publicationsab/base-line/30\\_2.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/publicationsab/base-line/30_2.pdf).

**GODORT:** Mike Smith

MAGERT and GODORT are co-sponsoring a workshop on local government information and city plans at ALA Annual in Chicago. It is going to be a 1/2-day pre-conference and 1/2-day tour of Frank Lloyd Wright homes.

#### **IV. Other Issues from the Conference/Committee Meetings**

**Data Dashboard:** Pete Reehling and Susan Moore

“Data Dashboard” is intended for decision makers who need access to membership, committee, and budget information. ALA is seeking input as to what features should be included. The **Data Dashboard** idea was well received.

#### **V. Discussion Items**

**Scheduling:** Individuals discussed their experience with the event planner and the 4-hour block scheduling framework.

**Organizational Manual:** The Executive Board is contemplating two new officer positions: Promotions and Fund Raising. The Fund Raising officer will be responsible for procuring sponsors for events, etc. Kristi Jensen has some experience in this area and has agreed to be an interim appointee. The Promotions officer will be responsible for coordinating “pushing” MAGERT out to others and marketing publications, where we can advertise, and possibly keeping the Data Dashboard up to date, etc.

Pete, Kathy and Carolyn will be working on getting these positions set up and present their progress at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 P.M. 

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### **Rare, Antiquarian, or Just Plain Old: Cataloging Pre-Twentieth Century Cartographic Resources**

The **Workbook** used and issued to participants during the June 2007 ALA preconference on cataloging early maps and atlases is now available to purchase for \$40. The **Workbook** includes illustrations and cataloging examples taken from sheet maps, atlas plates and atlases, focusing on early and pre-twentieth century cartographic materials. Elements of description, transcription, mathematical data and supportive research are some of the areas covered by the **Workbook**. The price includes shipping and handling.

Orders should be sent to Jim Coombs, MAGERT Publications Distribution Manager, Maps Library, Missouri State University, 901 S. National, #175, Springfield, MO 65897 E-mail: JimCoombs@missouristate.edu 

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Great Moments In Map Librarianship by Jim Coombs

