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base line

a newsletter of the
Map and Geospatial Information Round Table

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

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[base line](#) is an official publication of the American Library Association's Map and Geospatial Information Round Table (MAGIRT). The purpose of base line is to provide current information on cartographic materials, other publications of interest to map and geography librarians, meetings, related governmental activities, and map librarianship. It is a medium of communication for members of MAGIRT and information of interest is welcome. The opinions expressed by contributors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the American Library Association and MAGIRT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below.

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FROM THE CHAIR

IRIS TAYLOR

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Happy Holidays!

ALA 2020 Midwinter meeting is in Philadelphia, PA! However, it **MAY** be the last face-to-face Midwinter meeting for MAGIRT. As you all have heard, here are two significant changes that may affect MAGIRT:

- [The Future of Midwinter.docx](#): Conference Committee meeting in June 2019, Midwinter meetings will transition beginning in January 2021 in Indianapolis. There, meetings will be held at smaller campuses with designated space for ALA Governance, Division and Round Table Boards, Award Juries, and ethnic affiliate Boards. In January 2022 in San Antonio, TX, the new branding of ALA events will take place, followed by new events/meetings in New Orleans, LA in 2023. The new event brand will center on education, networking and engaging in interactive activities that support ALA's core values. These include focused forums on Advocacy, Information Policy, Professional & Leadership Development, and Equity Diversity & Inclusion.
- **"Forward Together: Recommendations for a reimagined American Library Association governance model"** from the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE). Recent SCOE report highlights are the minimum number of dues paying members for each Round Table should have membership equal to or more than one percent of the American Library Association (ALA's) total membership unless identified as a strategic priority by the Board of Directors. If not, the Round Table will CEASE TO EXIST! For more information read postings of discussion at ALA Connect Round Table Coordinating Assembly.



MAGIRT will have major discussions on these two topics during Midwinter, please bring your ideas, comments, and concerns.

The Online Presence Oversight Committee (OPOC) is working diligently to transfer all files to ALAIR by December 31, 2019. Colleen and Craig are working on updating a new look for MAGIRT's website (check it out!). The Education Committee is co-chaired by two newly inducted MAGIRT members Eric Johnson and Kevin Dyke. In addition, the Education Committee has plans for two webinars in 2020 so far. Julie Sweetkind-Singer is assisting with the webinars. A big thank you!

We have two officer positions up for election in April: Vice Chair/Chair-Elect and Assistant Treasurer/Treasurer-Elect. Feel free to contact our Past Chair, Tammy Wong for more information.

We are accepting nominations for the 2020 MAGIRT Honors Award. This award is presented to a person or an organization in recognition of outstanding achievement and major contributions to map and geospatial librarianship and to the Round Table.

Our Midwinter 2020 meeting schedule is included in this issue of *base line* and posted on our website and various other social media outlets. Vice-Chair Sierra is gathering information regarding our social gathering in Philadelphia.

While in Philadelphia plan to stop by or volunteer to work at the Meet Your ALA Counter, a designated counter/desk located in the ALA Lounge to promote MAGIRT's membership this Midwinter. Then, come learn more about different groups' activities within MAGIRT and become more involved in areas that interest you most.

Again, have a most safe and enjoyable holiday season to you and yours!



MAGIRT Executive Board/Membership Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2019

Time: 2:00-3:00 PM (ET)

Location: Virtual (Zoom Meeting)

Attendees: Iris Taylor (Chair), Paige Andrew (Secretary), Tammy Wong (Past Chair), Sierra Laddusaw (Vice Chair), Margaurite Ragnow (Treasurer), Pete Reehling (Assistant Treasurer), Craig Haggit, Wangyal Tshawa, Megan Rush, Abbey Lewis, Colleen Cahill (Webmaster)

1. Call to order

Iris called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. Call for changes to Agenda (Iris)

No changes were heard

3. Secretary-- Minutes from September 30, 2019 meeting (Paige)

No report.

4. Officer Reports

a. Chair Report (Iris)

i. Update of Virtual Meeting Software (Zoom Upgrade)

ALA is trying to get all Zoom accounts under its umbrella, so right now we cannot move forward on having a full version to use. Hopefully, this will be resolved soon so that we are not limited to 40-minute meetings.

ii. Chair program—Update

Iris will be meeting with John Hessler to discuss program plans on Three-dimensional mapping program. Iris will be looking for volunteers to serve on a committee to put the program details together and carry it out.

iii. Vacancy update for Education Committee Chair

Kevin Dyke (Oklahoma State University) and Eric Johnson (Spatial Data Librarian at Ohio State University) are interested in possibly co-chairing this committee. Iris is communicating with them and will let us know how it works out.

b. Vice Chair Report (Sierra)

The [Library Company of Philadelphia](#) will be our field trip site at the upcoming Midwinter meeting. They will host us and have maps and other resources out for us to see, followed by an on-your-own exhibit tour, on Friday, Jan. 24, 2019 from 3-4:30 p.m. Mark your calendars! MAGIRT's social dinner plans are still underway: Little Nona's and Tracy Bradley's are candidates and Sierra will follow up in the coming days with both.

Sierra is starting to look at Annual conference activities with an aim to possibly visit a “small press” company to see how the printing process works, both contemporary and historic. Sierra asked for feedback on this idea and it was received with great enthusiasm, so she will continue to look into details.

c. Treasurer’s Report (Marguerite/Pete)

Still waiting for August treasurer’s statement from ALA so there is no Treasurer’s Report. Marguerite asked that if anyone has committee or other costs that need to be reviewed for the upcoming new budget to please send them to her as soon as possible.

d. Webmaster Report (Colleen)

Looking to get Craig trained so we have an active assistant in the near future. Colleen is holding some website changes so she can use them as a training tool for Craig’s benefit. Craig noted that he has begun some training with Colleen and looks forward to more.

e. Past Chair Report (Tammy)

Bylaws Report: Final (and current) version of the MAGIRT Bylaws, dated April 16, 2015, which includes everything about the Assistant Treasurer position, is now in ALA Connect and ALAIR. If anyone would like to view or use the current Bylaws and needs assistance in finding them please reach out to Tammy for assistance.

Nominations Report: Deadline for nominations for Vice Chair and Assistant Treasurer is November 29, 2019. Tammy sent an email to all MAGIRT members inviting people to self-nominate or nominate others several weeks ago.

MAGIRT Honors Award: Start thinking about candidates for the 2020 MAGIRT Honors Award and pass suggestions or nominations on to Tammy.

5. **New Business:**

Future of ALA Midwinter Meeting

Iris received a report sent to the ALA round table list that says that ALA plans on changing its midwinter format beginning January 2021 with the Indianapolis meeting. They are aiming to be smaller and be more focused on ALA governance-related work and do more unit-level meetings virtually. Changes will also affect the Exhibit Hall/exhibitors and they can expect more non-compete hours because of this. One of the passages Iris read to us states “*Focusing on the traditional core of libraries, books, literacy and multimedia collections, award celebrations will include the Youth Media Awards, Andrew Carnegie Medals Announcements, RUSA Book and Media Awards Ceremony and Reception, and the I Love My Librarian event*” as other ongoing activities. ALA will evaluate the changes and their impacts at the Indianapolis midwinter meeting and we can expect further refinements going forward.

Resignation of Jo Klein (book and maps reviews for *base line* newsletter)

John Olson is looking for volunteers to submit articles. If interested contact John at: jaolson@syr.edu

6. Committee/DG/IG Reports—(Please provide a report!)

- a. Bylaws & Governing Documents/Nominations & Awards Committee (Tammy)
See Past Chair's Report above.
 - b. Cataloging & Classification Committee (Tim)
 - CCC plans to establish a task group charged with identifying elements that are 'core' when describing geospatial datasets. Please contact CCC chair Tim Kiser at tkiser@msu.edu for more information, and/or if interested in serving. (One needn't already be a member of CCC to join the task group.)
 - Maggie Long and I have been in touch by phone to begin planning the joint Cartographic Resources Cataloging IG/CCC meeting at ALA Midwinter.
 - CCC welcomes new member Artis Q. Wright of the Lionel Pincus & Princess Firyal Map Division, New York Public Library.
 - Art is joining us as Nancy Kandoian, also from the NYPL, has opted to rotate off the committee. Nancy does plan to join us for at least one more CCC meeting, at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia.
 - c. Cataloging of Cartographic Resources Interest Group (Maggie)
No report.
 - d. Education Committee (vacant)
See Chair's Report above. Iris received a "how to do a webinar" document from Paige after the last meeting and once the leadership of this committee is in place it will be forwarded for use.
 - e. GeoTech Committee (Wangyal)
Kevin Dyke is joining the committee. Paige has added him to the MAGIRT roster and has asked Danielle to add him to the committee's page on the MAGIRT website. (checked after the meeting, it has not been added to our website so a reminder will be sent to Danielle)
 - f. Membership & Marketing Committee (Maggie)
 - Last year, the Membership Committee created and began sending out an individually addressed welcome letter to new members. At ALA Annual 2019, the ALA Membership Promotion Task Force organized a meeting with each round table to speak about the plan to create automated emails via Informz that will be sent on an automatic, weekly basis to new/renewed/lapsed members. "The goal is to help ensure quicker and coordinated acknowledgement of round table members. "The Membership Committee provided the current welcome letter and 2 additional letters, one for renewal of membership and one for lapsed membership. I followed up with our ALA liaison, Danielle Ponton, to find out the status and she informed me the letters we submitted are currently being used to send out to MAGIRT members.
 - MAGIRT Membership Statistics Monthly Report, September 2019: Total number of members is 241 (unchanged from 2018).
-

g. Online Presence & Oversight Committee (Megan)

Last month, Iris mentioned the idea of having an Emerging Leaders project to gather feedback about the website. I propose that the content on the Libguide also be included in this feedback. Although the ALA website isn't as flexible as the LibGuide, if there is a demand for some specific content on the LibGuide, we can find an appropriate place to host it. I am willing to help out with any part of this project.

h. Publications Committee (Abbey)

No report.

i. Map Collection Management DG (Craig)

Craig asked if it would be possible to have a separate email list for folks who are interested in his Interest Group's activities so that communications could be more continuous throughout the year. He had already investigated this idea with Danielle and there is no problem with doing this from ALA's end. Tammy suggested using the ALA Connect platform's listserv and is willing to help Craig set this up.

j. MAGIRT/GODORT (GIS) DG Coordinator (Joy Suh)

No report.

7. Announcements

Iris had only scheduled monthly Executive Board meetings up through this one and asked if we wanted or needed to meet in November and/or December. Paige suggested holding off until early January to hold a next meeting so that we can focus on specifics related to the upcoming ALA midwinter meeting. There were no other comments so Iris will plan an early January Board meeting as our next meeting.

8. Adjournment

Adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Reported by Paige Andrew
Secretary, MAGIRT



MAGIRT Connect page. For all the resources you need to know about what is happening inside MAGIRT.

<https://connect.ala.org/magirt/home>

MAGIRT Schedule
ALA Mid-Winter Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
January 24 – 26

| Day /Time | Meeting / Event | Location |
|---|--|--------------------|
| Friday, January 24 | | |
| 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM | Field Trip The Library Company of Philadelphia | 1314 Locust Street |
| TBA | Dinner | TBA |
| Saturday, January 25 | | |
| 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM | Map and Geospatial Collection Management Discussion Group Meeting | PCC – Room 121-B |
| 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Geographic Technologies (Geo Tech)/ Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Discussion Group | PCC – Room 121-B |
| 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Education Committee | MAR – Room 307 |
| Sunday, January 26 | | |
| 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM | Cataloging Cartographic Resources Interest Group and Cataloging & Classification Committee Meeting | MAR – Room 305 |
| 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM | Membership Meeting I | PCC – Room 108-B |
| 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM | Membership Meeting II | PCC – Room 108-B |
| <p>For updates to this calander see the MAGIRT Conference webpage</p> <p>Below is the list of convention center/hotel abbreviations:</p> <p>PCC – Pennsylvania Convention Center MAR – Philadelphia Marriott Downtown * *Headquarters Hotel</p>  | | |

2020 MAGIRT Honors Award

We are accepting nominations for the 2020 MAGIRT Honors Award. This award is presented to a person or an organization in recognition of outstanding achievement and major contributions to map and geospatial librarianship and to the Round Table.

Please submit the nomination to twon@loc.gov with the following information:

1. Name of Nominee or Organization, plus mailing address, phone number, and email address.
2. Position Title (or Former Position Title) of an individual.
3. A brief statement (one or two paragraphs) that explains why this individual or organization should receive the MAGIRT Honors Award.

The award recipient will be announced and honored during the MAGIRT Awards Reception at the 2020 American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago. The recipient need not be present at the conference to be chosen, though we do all enjoy the opportunity to raise our glasses to the Honored. The recipient receives a certificate, a trophy or similar item, and a cash award. Remarks made at the awards reception and pictures of the recipients are published in *base line*.

The winner will be selected by the MAGIRT Nominations and Awards Committee (which is comprised of the MAGIRT Past Chair, Chair, and Vice Chair). Here is a list of our [past winners](#)

Please send your nominations by January 31, 2020.

We look forward to your nominations!

Tammy Wong
MAGIRT Past Chair and Chair of the Nominations Committee



INTRODUCING

GLOBAL CENSUS DATA FROM EAST VIEW

A new initiative to collect current and past GIS census data from around the world, along with all published results, supporting questionnaires and other census ephemera



EAST VIEW'S GLOBAL CENSUS COLLECTION

A single destination for scholars and analysts to find current and historic census data, especially the GIS data and published content that accompanies the release of a census

EAST VIEW'S GLOBAL CENSUS COLLECTION is a robust resource for authoritative census data from around the world. When initially acquired, census data is stored in a complex database structure. The global census collection simplifies access to this complicated material, formatting each census into an easy-to-use geodatabase and providing comprehensive metadata and user guides. In addition, all published volumes will be scanned and discoverable, along with supporting questionnaires and other ephemera.

East View already has 28 countries available, including Japan, South Africa, much of Latin America and several former Soviet states, with new content and countries being added on a regular basis. Users may purchase census data by country or in regional packages.

GIS CENSUS PRODUCTS INCLUDE:

- **Geodatabase**
 - Intuitive organization of census data
 - Administrative boundary vector data
- **Shapefiles**
 - All vector and census data in ESRI Shapefile format
- **Census Guide**
 - Detailed instructions on how to query and visualize data
 - Detailed descriptions of census variables
- **Original Census Documentation**
 - Delivered in native format
- **Metadata**
 - Full attribute level metadata in FGDC ISO format



ADDITIONAL CENSUS MATERIALS

Along with GIS census data, East View also offers official census publications and related source materials. While the availability and type of materials will vary by country, examples of typical materials include:

- Official published results
- Census methodology
- Questionnaires
- Maps

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Visit www.eastview.com/gca or contact us at info@eastview.com



EASTVIEW.COM | GEOSPATIAL.COM | INFO@EASTVIEW.COM

ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT

TAMMY WONG

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

“Anticipating the New RDA”

The webcast is now available on the Library of Congress’s public website at: <https://www.loc.gov/item/webcast-8932/>.

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, July 16, 2019, 10:00-11:30am

LOCATION: Mumford Room, 6th floor, James Madison Memorial Building

SPEAKERS:

Kate James, *Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division, Acquisitions & Bibliographic Access Directorate*

Damian Iseminger, *Music Division*

DESCRIPTION:

The RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project (3R Project) was announced in 2017 to improve the usability of the Toolkit and to address a range of cataloging issues, including the implementation of the IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM). This presentation discusses some of the important updates to RDA that will be incorporated when the 3R Project is complete. There will be a brief look at new concepts introduced by the LRM, and their impact on current RDA content.



From the Editor's Keyboard

WANTED!

We have an opening for someone who would like to write the **New Maps and Cartographics Materials** column. It is sad to report that our current column writer can no longer contribute due to the increased work load at her institution.

SO!!! I would like to encourage any MAGIRT member who is interested and wishes to volunteer to continue this important column in *base line*. If you enjoy finding and exploring new atlases, maps and websites and also enjoy writing, why not combine the two together and write and tell us about them. This is a wonderful opportunity for someone to make a concrete and impactful contribution to our part of the library profession. It also looks great in that tenure or promotion portfolio. Please contact the editor if you want more information or are interested in writing this column.

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DIGITAL MAPPING

Carolyn Hansen

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Happy Holidays to all MAGIRT-ers! I recently returned from a trip to Italy and Croatia, where I visited a number of ancient sites. As a result, I was inspired to see if there were any digital mapping resources related to antiquities -- here is one of my favorites.

Vici -- (Archaeological Atlas of Antiquity)

<http://vici.org>

Described as a “community driven archaeological map, inspired by and modelled after Wikipedia,” *Vici* is a geospatial wiki that features a variety of different events and places associated with classical antiquity. It first went online in May 2012 and was created by Dutch scholars; it is also associated with the [Livius Encyclopedia](#) and the [Pelagios Network](#). The site grew significantly in its first two years, with over 140 contributors adding approximately 20,000 locations, 1,000 line tracings, and 3,000 images. Although there are no current site statistics, I looked at some recent editing history and it appears to continue to have a healthy rate of contributions, with multiple edits daily.

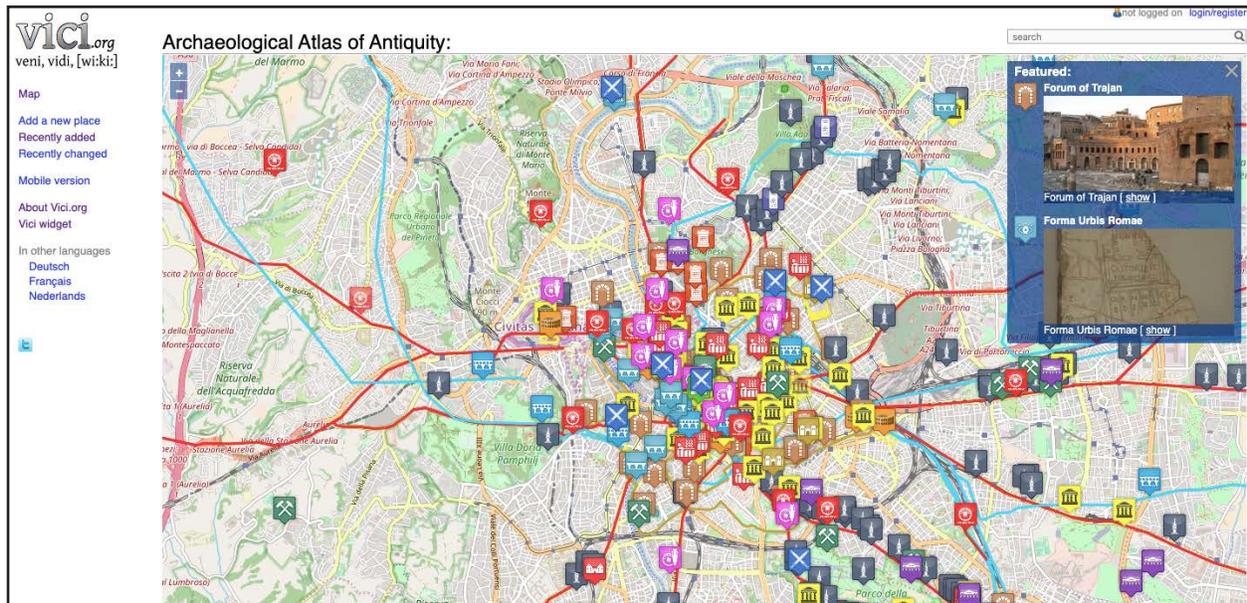


One of the most exciting things about *Vici* is its commitment to collaboration and open data. Like Wikipedia, all written content on the site is available for reuse using the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike](#)-license and metadata is available as RDF/XML using the [CC0 / Public Domain](#) dedication. Additionally, anyone may signup and contribute their knowledge to *Vici*;

for better or for worse, there is no threshold of education or knowledge needed to begin adding or editing data.

On the site’s main landing page, users are presented with a map of Rome, with icons indicating named sites on the map with associated metadata. Types of sites include battles, temples, roads, bridges, etc. Oddly, there is no key on the map to indicate what the icons mean and you do not have the ability to limit or sort the map by a particular icon; for example, you cannot look at only bridges in a specific area. If you click on an individual icon, a thumbnail appears with the title or name of selection as well as associated features and thumbnail images of those features. If you select the hyperlink “More” on the thumbnail, a new page opens with all of the associated metadata. This can include geographic coordinates, images, annotations, object classes, identifiers, and links to related sites on the map. You can also view the history of who created the object and last modified its metadata by scrolling to the bottom of the page.

Below: The site's main landing page



If you want to search for a specific area or object, there is a small search box at the top right hand corner of the main landing page, directly above the map. I typed "Split," which is a beautiful city in Croatia that I recently visited. I then chose "Diocletian's Place" and clicked on "More" in the thumbnail to view the object's complete metadata. According to the English-language annotation, the palace was built by the Roman emperor Diocletian at the turn of the 4th century AD. Additional annotations for this object were available in German and Dutch; the Dutch annotation contained a much longer description and included reference citations to outside resources. At this point, if you were registered as a user on the site and logged in, you would be able to edit the objects metadata and add a line tracing or image file.

Vici is an interesting resource with some potential drawbacks. In terms of UX, the site is clean and relatively easy to use if you are familiar with Wikipedia. However, some design decisions didn't make sense to me; in particular, the lack of map key and the inability to limit or sort the map by a particular type of object made the map difficult to navigate. Also, when you hover over icons on the main map, a thumbnail does not automatically appear. You need to manually click on each individual icon to see any metadata -- this would normally not be such an issue, but with the lack of map key requiring you to click on many icons to find what you want, having to individually click becomes time-consuming. Additionally, you are not able to view all of the edits on an individual object's metadata. While you can see the object's creator and the last person to modify the metadata, the entire history (or even recent history) is not available as it is on Wikipedia entries. I am also concerned about whether there is any plan for long term digital preservation of the site's metadata and image files.

Below: Object metadata and image files for Diocletian's Palace

Diocletian's Palace

View Edit Add lines Add images search

Location: geo:43.508232, 16.440067
Location ± 0-5 m.

Class: Building (other) visible

Identifiers: <http://vici.org/vici/7854>
<http://wikidata.org/entity/Q322287>

Annotations: English German French Dutch

A palace built by the Roman emperor Diocletian at the turn of the fourth century AD.

Nearby:

- Ad Dianam**
OmnesViae import TPPlace1708
- Diocletian's Mausoleum**
Diocletian's Mausoleum
- Split, Cathedral of Saint Domnius**
Saint Dujam -Sveti Dujam) or colloquially Saint Duje - Sveti Duje. Katedrala Svetog Duje.

Surroundings:

What I like about this platform is its commitment to openness and reuse of information. Being able to download metadata, image files, and KML files is fantastic. I also appreciate that metadata is available in multiple languages (although this is not complete for all entries) and that there is a mobile version of the site (full disclosure: I did not test the mobile version, so I can't confirm that it's working correctly). I think this could be an interesting resource to use in the classroom, whether in geography, computer science, or humanities courses. It's worth a look!



Have a joyous and peaceful
Holiday Season from the
editorial staff of base line

GREAT MOMENTS IN MAP LIBRARIANSHIP by Jim Coombs

