

# MAGERT EXECUTIVE BOARD I MINUTES

## ALA MIDWINTER MEETINGS, WASHINGTON

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 AM.

### Annual Conference Minutes

The minutes from the Annual Conference in Chicago were approved as published in *base line*.

### Round Table Coordinating Committee

Chris Kollen reported on the Round Table Coordinating Committee, which was held Friday afternoon. Four officers of MAGERT (Chris Kollen, Mark Thomas, Joe Winkler, and Steve Rogers) and Danielle Alderson, our ALA staff liaison, attended the meeting. Those present were asked if the implementation of tracks for the 2001 Annual Meeting had caused any difficulties. Thus far, it has not for MAGERT. The Round Table representative for the 2003 Program Coordinating Committee was selected.

The Congress on Professional Education Career Pathways Task Force gave a brief report. They are preparing a policy statement, which is in draft form on the web at [http://www.ala.org/hrdr/lepu\\_draft.html](http://www.ala.org/hrdr/lepu_draft.html). The group is asking questions such as what should the educational requirements be for different levels of library staff, what are your library career options if you don't have an MLS, is there a place for someone with a bachelor's degree in library science in the profession.

The Core Values Task Force took their work before ALA Council and it was voted down. The Task Force plans on reorganizing the work and resubmitting it to Council. The Task Force distributed a draft of the core competencies, which will be debated at Midwinter on Sunday from 2-3. The Task Force plans to take the competencies to Council at the Annual meeting in San Francisco.

Sara Long spoke on the new advertising campaign "@ Your Library." The kick-off for the new campaign will be during National Library Week in April.

The discussion at the Round Table Coordinating Committee concerned a rider on a budget bill passed by the U.S. Congress requiring libraries that receive federal funding put filters on computers that are used by patrons under the age of 18. The Washington Office of ALA

planned on discussing how to comply with the bill during their meeting on Saturday from 11-12:30. More will be forthcoming.

## **Membership Survey**

Mary McInroy shared the draft of the membership survey that she plans on sending out at the end of January or the beginning of February. Several suggestions were made. Current membership statistics show that we have 369 members.

## **Relations with Other Organizations**

The Task Force on MAGERT's Relations with Other Organizations has not yet met. Jenny Johnson will chair. The due date for their report will be Midwinter 2002.

## **CUAC Representative**

Brent Allison will be stepping down as the MAGERT's junior representative to CUAC. Chris will be selecting a replacement.

## **GIS Day Associate Sponsorship**

Wangyal Shawa has been investigating the possibility of MAGERT doing something in conjunction with GIS Day. Wangyal contacted ESRI's GIS Day committee and expressed our interest in becoming an associate sponsor for a GIS Day. The principal sponsors of GIS Day were happy to have MAGERT become an Associated sponsor of GIS Day. Associate sponsors require no monetary contributions and MAGERT would be listed as a sponsor on the GIS Day web site. The principal sponsors are the National Geographic Society, the Association of American Geographers (AAG), the Library of Congress, ESRI, etc. The associate sponsors are The National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, the American Geographical Society, the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, the World Wildlife Fund, etc. It was moved and seconded that MAGERT be an associate sponsor for GIS Day pending checking with ALA procedures. Voting on the motion was deferred until Executive Board II.

## **Meeting Conflicts**

There was some discussion on how to deal with some of the inevitable conflicts at the ALA meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 AM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

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# ELECTRONIC MAPPING

## Web Sites

Two NASA imagery sites are listed below, one dealing primarily with images of the earth, the other dealing primarily with images of space. Both sites allow you to either search or browse, with either method bringing up thumbnail images along with brief metadata and descriptions. Thumbnail images link to larger images, mostly in JPEG format. (Thanks to Joseph Kerski at USGS for announcing these.)

Visible Earth (<http://visibleearth.nasa.gov/>) provides access to more than 1400 different satellite images of the earth. The goal of Visible Earth is to provide a consistently updated central catalog and collection point to earth science-related visualizations and images. Categories exist for Agriculture, Atmosphere, Biosphere, Cryosphere, Human Dimensions, Hydrosphere, Land Surface, Oceans, Radiance of Imagery, Solid Earth, Satellites/Sensors. Things such as deforestation, industrial emissions, oil spills, and urbanization are included under the category of Human Dimensions. In addition to searching by theme, you can also search for images by geographic area.

The NASA Image eXchange (NIX, <http://nix.nasa.gov/>) provides access to more than 300,000 of NASA's images. Like Visible Earth, NIX returns thumbnail images, textual descriptions, links to higher resolution images, links to additional information, and links to the NASA Center that stores each image. The images vary greatly in quality and detail--some are taken from various satellites, some are handheld pictures taken by shuttle astronauts--but all are interesting to browse.

## Digital Orthophotos Online

This addition to terraserver.microsoft.com was announced in December, allowing users to grab individual tiles of the USGS digital orthophotos for use in geographic information systems software. The procedure produces a JPEG of the DOQQ, plus the associated header, so that the image will be georeferenced and usable in ArcView, for example. The only drawback is that to get an image with the same resolution as the original DOQQ (1 meter), only one small portion of the total DOQQ can be downloaded at a time (see [http://wagda.lib.washington.edu/data/doqq\\_samples.htm](http://wagda.lib.washington.edu/data/doqq_samples.htm) for an example of the terraserver.com download compared to the original DOQQ). Lower-resolution images that cover larger areas can also be downloaded. It will be especially useful for people working with a small study area.

The edited original posting is listed below; these directions are also summarized online at <http://wagda.lib.washington.edu/data/doqs.html>. Thanks again to Joseph Kerski for this great

addition to terraserver.

-- Original Message --

Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2000 10:36 AM

Subject: Image Registration for DOQs available from Terraserver

Since mid-1998, Terraserver ([terraserver.microsoft.com](http://terraserver.microsoft.com)) has been serving up millions of images each month from compressed USGS Digital OrthoPhoto Quads (DOQs), Russian SPIN-2 imagery, and more, and recently the USGS topographic maps in digital format (Digital Raster Graphics) and links to the USGS stream gauging stations from these DRGs. The Microsoft TerraServer web site is one of the world's largest online databases, with 20 terabytes of disk storage, allowing anyone to quickly and easily use maps and images to explore the United States and certain places around the world with a standard web browser. An average of 40,000 users request 4,000,000 images from the site every day. This magnificent site grew out of a cooperative research and development agreement with Microsoft to compress Terrabytes of images using MrSID compression routines. Some images have been available for download and, in all cases, for purchase.

The DOQs have been useful in exposing a wide variety of users, mostly non-GIS users, to the power and utility of digital imagery of the landscape. They have not been able to be used in GIS software directly from the Terraserver without the user placing them side-by-side with vector data and using registration and rectification algorithms within these software packages.

I'm pleased to report that when a user clicks on the "download" button, he or she has the option of downloading a header file! This will allow the user to directly use these images in a GIS package. This header file is a text file and should be saved with a .jgw extension [note that there is an error on the web page that indicates the wrong naming convention] with the base name the same as the image. Therefore, if you download a "blair.jpg" image, you should name the header file "blair.jgw" so that your GIS software will read it.

I tried this recently, downloading an image of Blair, Nebraska. The DOQs, as most USGS data, are in UTM meters. Then I downloaded USGS 100,000-scale digital line graph (DLG) roads data (from <http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov>) for the same area and overlaid the two. They were offset... Why were they offset? The DOQs are cast on the North American Datum (NAD) of 1983 while the 100K DLGs are on NAD 1927.

Thus, there is an offset if you use USGS DLGs and USGS DOQs together. But - no problem! You have several options. One, measure the offset and adjust the header file (in my case, blair.jgw) according to the offset in the x and y directions. I had to add 30 meters easting (x) and subtract 200 meters northing (y) which were the last 2 lines in the header file. A second option is to use the tricon program to give you a conversion between NAD 27 and NAD 83 which you can use to edit your header file, available from the bottom of the page <http://rockyweb.cr.usgs.gov/software>. A third option is to use your GIS software's register and rectify commands to rubber-sheet your image to an established set of vector features, such as roads. In the case of ArcView, you can use the K12 School Tools extension or the Image Analysis extension.

## Newsletter

Since 1997, the Sanborn Map Company has had a bimonthly newsletter directed at municipal users of GIS. Each newsletter includes "articles, news, and recent trends that are occurring nationally in the municipal GIS marketplace." Also included are book reviews, website reviews, and interesting GIS-related tidbits; the January/February newsletter gave a brief synopsis of the use of multispectral imaging and visualization software to reveal hidden text in an ancient manuscript of the Greek mathematician Archimedes. Past issues of the newsletter and subscription information can be found at [www.sanbornmap.com/municipa.htm](http://www.sanbornmap.com/municipa.htm).

## Software comparison

A company called iGage ([www.igage.com/](http://www.igage.com/)) produces a product called All Topo Map, which provides access to the USGS topographic quads at the 1:24,000; 1:63,360, 1:100,000 (selected sets), and 1:250,000 scale; software to view, annotate and print the maps; a GPS tool; and the ability to seam maps together to cover a larger area. In addition, there are no copyright restrictions on the products you create with the maps--subsequent publication is allowed and encouraged, according to the website.

One of the more interesting pieces of information on the site, however, is a list of iGage's competitors, their products and who those products are geared toward. This serves as an excellent starting point for those wishing to purchase a topographic map product, but not knowing the difference between the many varieties out there. It's a fairly comprehensive list (21 companies other than iGage are listed), and the descriptions include prices and links to product websites for more information. See [www.igage.com/comparis.htm](http://www.igage.com/comparis.htm) for this useful list.

Jennifer Stone Muilenburg

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# NEW MAPS AND BOOKS

## New Maps

### Olaus Magnus and James Ford Bell

The cover article of the January/February 2001 issue of *Mercator's World*, "Olaus Magnus: His Map and His Book," is a nicely illustrated description of the "Carta Marina" 1539 map of Scandinavia, considered to be the first large-scale map of any part of Europe. Written by Carol Urness, curator of the James Ford Bell Library at the University of Minnesota, the article is based on her booklet, *The Olaus Magnus Map of Scandinavia, 1539*, published by the Library. The compact, 33-page booklet is one of several in a series authored by Urness covering topics in cartographic history. Other titles include *Portolan Charts* (1999), *Waldseemuller's Globe and Planisphere* (1999), and *The Worlds of Ptolemy* (2000). All are very informative, interesting, and well-written, and great bargains at only \$3.00 each. The Library has also published an attractive 20 x 24" color reproduction of the Olaus Magnus map for \$20. The online text of the booklets, along with ordering information for the hard copies and the map, can be found at their web site ([www.bell.lib.umn.edu](http://www.bell.lib.umn.edu)).

## Canadian Maps

Federal Maps Inc. is a major distributor of maps produced by the Canadian government. They also distribute the products of Softmap Technologies, a Quebec company that markets digital topographic maps. Digital 1:250K topos for all the provinces (but not the Territories) of Canada are available on one CD. A complete set of both 1:50K and 1:250K topos for Ontario and Quebec are also available on four and five CDs respectively, with each CD priced at \$49.95 (US). Similar coverage for Alberta and British Columbia is due in February.

The maps are seamlessly joined so that users can move across the whole area covered, and the scales can be easily changed up or down so that a particular location can be centered on the screen and printed on standard size paper (or plotted on larger sheets). The maps can also be customized by adding symbols and text. The official geographic names are also included in the program, so that a location chosen will display on the screen. Latitude and longitude of the screen pointer is constantly shown, and GPS interfaces are promised for later this year. More information can be found on the Federal Maps web site at ([www.fedmaps.com](http://www.fedmaps.com)).

*The National Atlas of Canada*, in its latest manifestation mainly online and interactive, still issues a series of "Reference Maps" in paper format. Recent publications include a 2000 version of *The North Circumpolar Region* map, which covers the area of the world between 55 N latitude and the North Pole. The 36 x 31", 1:10M map, number MCR 01, sells for \$10.75 CN.

Other releases in 2000 were a new version of their *World Map* (updating the 1993 version to include, naturally, the new territory of Nunavut), 48 x 32" at 1:35M, (MCR 46); an updated *North America* map, 34 x 39" at 1:10M (MCR 31) for \$10.95; and a redesigned update of the 1994 version of *Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and Nunavut*, (MCR 36) with shaded relief, 46 x 41" at 1:4M, for \$9.50. Due out in 2001 is a new wall map version of the political map of Canada (MCR 125), at 1:4.5M and measuring 45 x 54", for \$25 (all prices in Canadian dollars). More detailed descriptions of all the *National Atlas* products can be found at ([www.atlas.gc.ca](http://www.atlas.gc.ca)).

## Cassini on CD-ROM

One of the most famous milestones in the history of cartography is the series of maps of France made by the Cassini family in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Lloyd Brown, in his *The Story of Maps*, calls the *Carte de Cassini* "the first general topographic map of a whole country based on extensive triangulation and topographic surveys." Now the Institut Geographique National (IGN) has produced a set of these maps on CD-ROM. The 180 sheets, at a 1:86,000 scale, are issued on 2 CDs, one covering northern France, the other the southern part of the country. There is also a complimentary third CD with a searchable gazetteer. The software allows for the usual neat things, such as zooming, printing, exporting, etc. The two map CDs go for 245 FF each (c.\$35), the index CD ("Le logiciel Cassini-Localisation) for 195 FF (c. \$28).

The IGN also offers several other reproductions of historical maps, with the emphasis naturally on France. Parlez-vous Français? If so, you can find extensive information about all their products at their web site ([www.ign.fr](http://www.ign.fr)).

## USGS in East Asia

It was about time for another one of those pleasant surprises that occasionally turn up among the depository shipments of USGS topo maps. The latest was a terrific set of maps in their *East Asia Geographic Map Series*. The eight large sheets, which provide overlapping coverage of most of east and southeast Asia, are titled: 1. *Japan, Korea, Northeast China*; 2. *Southeast China*; 3. *Southeast Asia*; 4. *Philippines*; 5. *Malaysia, Indonesia (West)*; 6. *Indonesia (East)*; 7. *Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands*; and 8. *Western Pacific Islands*. (Sheets 5 and 6 were not included in the shipment, but a note on the shipping list, no. 2001-08-TS, indicated that they had "not been printed for depository sending yet," but would be sent out later.)

The large 1:2.5M scale maps, which measure some 39 x 54", show topography, bathymetry, elevation tints, international boundaries, and place names. They were apparently prepared by the USGS for something called the Coordinating Committee for Coastal and Offshore Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP). Although the sheets have the notation "Printed in 2000," a check on RLIN indicated that some of the sheets may have been issued earlier. If you did not receive them on deposit, they are available from USGS for \$7 a



sheet, stock numbers TAA0248 through TAA0255 which correspond to sheets 1-8.

## Roman Britain

Britain's Ordnance Survey has recently issued a nice wall map showing the Roman occupation of Britain from 55 B.C. to A.D. 410. Designed for schools, *Roman Britain* illustrates various aspects of the Roman era, identifies historical locations, and includes a time line of important events. The 41 x 37" map, done at a 1:1M scale, is available for \$12.95 from Map Link.

The OS has also catered to their countrymen's interest in their early history with two other maps in their Historical Maps and Guides series. *Ancient Britain* and *Roman Britain*, folded maps at 1:625K and measuring 37 x 50", both portray historical information against a modern map base, highlighting monuments, and featuring photographs and text. \$14.95 each from Map Link ([www.maplink.com](http://www.maplink.com)).

## Met Sale

After the usual pre-holidays deluge of mail order catalogs, I sometimes hope never to see another one darken my mailbox. The exceptions are the sale catalogs that seem to flourish this time of year, such as the recent one from the Metropolitan Museum of Art Store. Art museums often include map-related items among their posters and prints, and the Metropolitan has two especially attractive reproductions. The first is a colorful map of Santo Domingo by Baptista Boazio from a 1589 edition of Walter Bigges' account of the West Indian voyage of Sir Francis Drake. The other is a copy of the title page from a 16<sup>th</sup> century edition of Abraham Ortelius' famous atlas *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*.

The map measures 18 x 22", the title page 26 x 16", and both images are printed on 20 x 28" sheets of heavy paper stock. The reproductions are also free of extraneous text, which make them nice display items or additions to an historical map collection. They are also bargains at only \$4.99 each, marked down from their usual (and still a good value) price of \$7.95. See and order them at ([www.metmuseum.org/store](http://www.metmuseum.org/store)), under "Special Values"; item number B7565E for the Drake map; B7563E for the Ortelius.

## New Books

***Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World***. Ed. By Richard J. A. Talbert. Princeton University Press, 2000. 272 p. plus CD. (ISBN: 069103169X). \$325.

One of the most hyped publications this past year has been the long-awaited *Barrington Atlas*, touted as the definitive classical history atlas. While the pre-publication publicity has been exceptional for a scholarly work, I've avoided mentioning it in this column until I actually saw a copy. Well, I've finally seen one, and I'm a believer. It's a superb production, a large format volume with nearly 100 beautiful maps at 1:500K or 1:1M covering all of the known western

world from archaic Greece to the Late Roman Empire, c. 1000 B.C. to A.D. 640. The scholarship is impeccable, drawing on the expertise of academics from around the world.

The atlas comes with a CD-ROM *Map-by-Map Directory*, a unique and valuable supplement to the maps themselves. For each map in the atlas volume, the *Directory* contains an introductory text, a bibliography, and a listing of every place or feature on the map, with brief information about the period of occupation of the place, the modern equivalents of ancient place-names, and several references to relevant ancient and modern sources. The *Directory* is also available in a 1500-page, two-volume print version for an additional \$150. The *Barrington Atlas* is an expensive but necessary purchase for most libraries. Much more information and some examples can be found at ([www.unc.edu/depts/cl\\_atlas](http://www.unc.edu/depts/cl_atlas)).

**Map Use & Analysis.** John Campbell. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2001. 384 p. (ISBN: 0073037486) pap. \$73.

"The number one text in the market" claims its publisher, which may be so since this fine introductory textbook in cartography has now reached a fourth edition. Although much of the information included, such as the chapters on "shape and point patterns" and "networks and trees," is more than many of us may need to know, most of it is useful to anyone working in a map collection. There is a good discussion of such topics as scale, terrain representation, and contour interpretation, and remote sensing and GIS are also succinctly covered. The appendix on "Map Storage and Cataloging Systems" is rather basic, but the chapter on "U.S. Map Producers and Information Sources" is quite helpful. The book also contains a few surprising little gems, like the brief but clear description of the British National Grid, that are often hard to find elsewhere. A bit expensive, as these things tend to be, but a handy reference tool.

**Cuba in Old Maps.** Emilio Cueto. Miami: Historical Museum of Southern Florida, 1999. 284 p. (ISBN: 0935761098) pap. \$29.95.

This is both a nice exhibit catalog and an excellent reference source for Cuban maps from 1500 to 1900. It begins with a history of the mapping of Cuba from before Columbus to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with sections on Havana, and the "Cuban Countryside and Provincial Cities," followed by a chapter on the first 100 years of Cuban cartography, which provides a detailed table listing every map between 1500 and 1600 on which Cuba appears. The major portion of the book is devoted to the exhibition catalog, with illustrations and brief descriptions of 340 maps from 1500 to 1898. The small, black and white images, printed two-to-a-page, are nevertheless well-reproduced and clear. There is also a small 16-page section of less-clear color images. A good buy at \$29.95. Ordering information can be found at the Museum's web site ([www.historical-museum.org](http://www.historical-museum.org)).

**Rise and Fall of the Roman Republic, Roman Maps Series.** Timothy J. Botti. Gates Mills, OH: HistoryGraphics.net, 2000. 171 p. \$50.

A much more modest work than the *Barrington Atlas* is this helpful collection of Roman history maps from a new publisher, HistoryGraphics.net, a self-styled "internet publisher of history

map packages, genealogical trees, and other graphically-based materials with narrative text." That just about sums up this somewhat simplistic but interesting and rather well-done historical atlas. The 36 8 x 10" color maps, which cover historical events in Roman history from about 500 B.C. to the end of the republic in 31 B.C., are computer-generated, but very clear and clean. Each is accompanied by a chronological text, with every numbered paragraph keyed to a location on the map. Worth a look at ([www.historygraphics.net](http://www.historygraphics.net)).

***Captain Cook's World: Maps of the Life and Voyages of James Cook R.N.*** John Robson. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2000. 212 p. (ISBN: 0295980192) \$40.

Interest in the exploration voyages of Captain Cook never seems to wane, and this is a useful and well-done addition to the Cook literature. The bulk of the book consists of 128 three-color maps illustrating the tracks of Cook's three voyages as well as events in his earlier life. Each of the four sections is preceded by about 15 pages of explanatory text that summarizes and sets in historical context the events pictured in the maps. A concluding gazetteer section provides map references to all place names mentioned.

The maps are done at various scales, and include some brief explanatory text on the map itself. They are generally clear, but sometimes 3 or 4 map inserts are included on each page, which takes a while to get used to. The book would be a great visual aid when reading the many journals and accounts of Cook's voyages, and a nice compliment to other Cook atlases.

Of course, if money were no object, most map collections would also have the magnificent 3-volume set *The Charts and Coastal Views of Cook's Voyages*, published by the Hakluyt Society as part of their "Extra Series" between 1988-1997. Each volume is devoted to one of the three voyages, and includes beautiful color and black & white reproductions of all known charts and views associated with them. You can pick up a set for about \$700 from the Society ([www.hakluyt.com](http://www.hakluyt.com)).

Fred Musto

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Great Moments In Map Librarianship by Jim Coombs



JIM COOMBS 2/01