Number 189  April 2001

CONTENTS

Special Features
Geoscience Materials in the Making of America, by Linda Musser ................. 7

Departments
President's Column ........................................ 1
Vice-President's Column ................................. 2
GIS Committees ........................................... 3
GIS Representatives ................................. 4
Literature Reviews, by Carol J. LaRussa ....... 4
Job Announcements ..................................... 5

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

It's cherry blossom time in Washington, but I doubt if I'll catch many blossoms. I've got my head buried in the annual GIS proceedings volume. Most of the papers and reports are in and any stragglers will have heard from me before you get a chance to read this. Thanks to all of you who have sent your papers to me so promptly!

Inside this issue you will find the “final” committee lists for this year. I have tried to honor as many committee requests as possible. As I write this, the chair is still open for the Exhibits Committee. Anyone with any interest should drop me a note. As I have worked through the committee lists, I have been impressed by the amount of work that our committees accomplish and I encourage anyone with an interest to join one. It's never too late!

On February 23 I represented GIS at the Geological Society of America’s Associated Societies meeting. This meeting was the first of its kind. The purpose of the meeting was to explore possible cooperative arrangements between GSA and its Associated Societies and to improve already existing arrangements. The GSA Bylaws define an eligible Associated Society as one “that has as its primary goal the advancement of the science of geology” and such a society may “associate itself with the Society for the purpose of cooperation in annual, sectional or divisional meetings, in publications, or in other appropriate ways.” GIS currently holds its annual meeting with GSA and participates in GSA’s Publications Committee. Discussion centered around possible areas of cooperation including meetings, education, public policy, publications and international activities. Working Groups were formed for all of the potential areas of cooperation and each Working Group will present ideas to the current GSA President-Elect, Tony Naldrett, before the next GSA Council Meeting.

Two areas of particular interest to GIS are, of course, meeting arrangements and publications. GSA indicated that future meetings would continue to alternate between Denver and other U.S. cities on either a two- or three-year basis. Some societies expressed concern that our memberships would grow tired of returning to Denver so often. GIS will monitor attendance closely in case this geographic issue becomes a problem. GSA announced that their Publications Group is interested in working with its Associated Societies to establish a collection of electronic geoscience publications. Discussion of this topic was limited because each society has different publishing arrangements and needs. The Working Group on Publications should have more to report by the time of the annual meeting in Boston.

Meanwhile, if any GIS members have ideas about cooperative ventures with GSA, please let me know!

VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The proposal for "Geoscience Information: a Dynamic Odyssey" has been accepted as Topical Session Number 72 for the technical program of the GSA Annual Meeting in Boston. 86 other Topical Sessions and 8 Pardee sessions have been approved for the conference.

You should receive the first announcement for the conference from GSA in April. The call for papers and electronic abstract form should also be available then. Please continue to contact me about your ideas for talks and other events at the conference.

I have started working on the field trip around the original Boston shoreline. I will probably divide the walking tour into two segments to give a breakpoint for anyone who needs to catch an early plane.

I am planning a reception and tour at MIT during the conference. If you come to IFLA in August, you probably won't see my library, because we'll be in the midst of a complicated compact shelving project. It should be finished

(continued, p. 3)
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GIS members are encouraged to contribute materials for publication. Material for the June, 2001 issue should be received no later than May 25, 2001. If possible, please send materials by e-mail or on DOS-compatible disc.
(continued, from p. 1)

before our meeting. Yes, even in times of heavy electronic journal and database use, we still have to worry about physical shelf space. Maybe we just need a few more quarks.

And now for our Boston anecdote: Since moving here, I noticed that when two roads happen to graze each other, you get a town. Whenever two streets meet, you form a square. A pile of glacial debris in Boston Harbor forms an island. Several of the islands in Boston Harbor are now part of a national recreation area. You will see them on your descent into Logan if you are flying to the conference. You can visit the islands in the summer and weekends in the spring and fall or just view them at www.nps.gov/boha/

GIS Newsletter, no. 189, April 2001 3
GIS Representatives – Changes for 2001

AGI, GeoRef Advisory Committee
Suzanne Larsen, 1997-2001
AGI, Member Society Council
Charlotte Derksen, 2000-2002
ALA, MAGERT,
Thomas Zogg, 1998-2001
Cartographic Users Advisory Council
Clara McLeod, 1997-2001
Richard Spohn, 1998-2001

Vacancies
Anyone interested in filling these vacant representative positions, please contact Sharon Tahir Kheli at SNT@AGIWEB.ORG
AGI, Environmental Geoscience Advisory Committee
ALA, PARS
North American Cartographic Info. Society

LITERATURE REVIEWS
by
Carol J. La Russa

Paula De Stefano has written an article titled "Selection for Digital Conversion in Academic Libraries" in which she compares the ways print collections have been developed with the ways digital collections can be developed. She describes a variety of selection methodologies for preservation that have mainly been applied to microfilming projects. One is the "clean sweep method" in which all materials from the years 1870 to 1910 are targeted because of their brittle paper. Another related method focuses on comprehensive collections on particular subjects for this time period. A different method divides library materials into three classes: special collections-type materials, high-use items, and less frequently used research materials and suggests different preservation methods for each. The author notes that most preservation projects have concentrated on less-used materials and questions the appropriateness of these efforts because of their limited utility for the majority of academic library users. (College & Research Libraries, v. 62, no. 1, p. 58-67, 2001.)

Another article in College & Research Libraries describes a research project that looked at student use of the Web. It found that students used unevaluated resources and that there is a gap between faculty expectations and student use of Web materials. Librarians and instructors need to help students how to use Web materials. (Deborah J. Grimes and Carl H. Boening, "Concerns with the Web: A Look at Student Use of Web Resources," v. 62, no., p. 11-23, 2001.)

Kenneth Frazier questions the wisdom of the libraries entering into contracts for aggregations of particular publisher's journals in electronic form. He believes they sacrifice flexibility and will in the end be paying for materials they don't need. Instead libraries should invest in experiments like the SPARC project. ("The Librarians' Dilemma: Contemplating the Costs of the "Big Deal," D-Lib Magazine, v. 7, no. 3, 2001, www.dlib.org)

Lee L. Zia describes NSF's National Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology Education Digital Library (NSDL) program in his article in D-Lib Magazine.


The January/February issue of Online contains an article on UCITA, the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act, which discusses its possible implications for libraries in the states where it is adopted. (So far only Maryland and Virginia have enacted UCITA.) Vicki L. Gregory is concerned that libraries may lose fair use exceptions that have allowed interlibrary loan. Also libraries may be bound to license terms of software acquired by users without permission. In addition UCITA allows software companies to prohibit product reviews as a condition for licensing their products. ("USCITA: What Does it Mean for Libraries," v. 25, no. 1, 2001, p. 30-34).

Candy Schwartz gives an overview of the components of a digital library in her article in the Journal of Academic Librarianship. She begins by giving a variety of definitions of digital library and lists some of the major digital library initiatives including those of the NSF. She discusses the whys of digital libraries and the importance of preservation, archiving, and organization (including metadata). A digital library is more than just content and must or should include search functions, the answering of reference questions, user training, current awareness, and cooperative activities with educators. Other issues are the interactions of users with the digital library; economic support; maintenance of the equipment, software, and collections; intellectual property right management; and evaluation. ("Digital Libraries: An Overview," v. 26, no. 6, p. 385-393, 2000).
Geology and Digital Maps Librarian, Indiana University Libraries, Bloomington

The Geology and Digital Maps Librarian is responsible for the leadership and overall management of the Geology Library, including planning, supervising, and evaluating the library's services, operations, and collections. Develops the Website, provides bibliographic instruction and reference services. Selects materials based on the needs of current and future constituents and develops external funding opportunities including grants, gifts and exchanges. Makes determinations about materials to transfer to off-site shelving. Promotes the Geology Library's resources to encourage their use and recognition. Participates in relevant professional associations. In consultation with specialists in the Digital Library Program and elsewhere on campus, coordinates the Libraries' involvement in the creation, acquisition, organization, delivery, and archiving of digital maps and other large scientific datasets. Coordinates the Libraries' involvement with other units on campus actively engaged in this enterprise, including faculty and students in geography, anthropology, political science, and at research centers (e.g., the NSF-funded project on global change), using GIS and remote sensing. The incumbent is expected to be conversant in GIS applications and to recommend the appropriate role for the Libraries on campus in the provision of software, hardware, and technical expertise to access and archive geospatial information. Together with the Geography/Maps Librarian, investigates and implements new ways to manage and provide services to repositories of printed and digital maps.

Qualifications—Required: ALA-accredited degree in library or information science with a university degree in a scientific discipline or equivalent combination of education and experience. Knowledge of scholarly information trends in the physical sciences. Ability to work independently and collegially in a complex, rapidly changing, and culturally diverse environment. Strong analytical and quantitative skills. Excellent oral, written, and graphic communication skills. Experience in managing library operations. Ability to meet the requirements of a tenure-track appointment.

Qualifications—Preferred: Second advanced degree in relevant subject area. Collection development experience in a scientific discipline. Experience with geospatial data management and metadata standards and practices. Preference will be given to candidates who are familiar with GIS software and have additional technology experience, including SGML/XML, skills in the uses and applications of database systems, programming languages and NT or UNIX operating systems, work with metadata and digital imaging.

Salary and Benefits: Salary and rank are negotiable and competitive dependent upon qualifications and experience. This is a tenure-track academic appointment that includes eligibility for sabbatical leaves. Benefits include a university health care plan, TIAA/CREF retirement/annuity plan, group life insurance, and liberal vacation and sick leave.

To Apply: Review of applications will begin on March 12, 2001. The position will remain open until filled. Send letter of application, professional vita, and the names, addresses, and phone numbers of four references to: Yolanda Cooper-Birdine, Libraries Human Resources Officer, Indiana University Libraries, Main Library 201A, Bloomington, IN 47405. Phone: (812) 855-8196; Fax: (812)-855-2576; e-mail: ycooperb@indiana.edu <mailto:ycooperb@indiana.edu>. For further information concerning Indiana University: <http://www.iub.edu>, the Geology Library <http://www.indiana.edu/~libgeo/index.html>, or employment opportunities at the IUB Libraries: <http://www.indiana.edu/~libpers>. Indiana University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

Science Electronic Resources Specialist, University of Colorado, Boulder

This is a tenure-track faculty position reporting to the Head of the Science Library. The Science Library is located in the main library (Norlin Library) and contains the research collections in biology, chemistry, history of science, kinesiology, museum studies, psychology, and speech disorders. Duties include reference, collection development, bibliographic instruction, liaison activities, and outreach efforts for distance education. This position will collaborate in the development of an instructional computer lab and will work closely with the University Libraries Systems Office as computer applications liaison for the Science Library. A significant part of this position involves research and creative work and a commitment to service, in keeping with the tenure standards of the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Requirements: Master's degree from an ALA-accredited library school; an undergraduate or graduate degree in the sciences (three or more years of experience in an academic science library may be substituted for a degree in the sciences); a minimum of two years experience in an academic or research oriented science Library; a working knowledge of information technologies utilized in science libraries; excellent oral and written communication skills, potential for research, and a strong commitment to public services.

Preferences: Demonstrated knowledge of educational and instructional technologies in the sciences, expertise with electronic information resources and services including internet applications relevant to the sciences, demonstrated expertise with electronic classrooms and/or multimedia laboratories, a working knowledge of HTML and the Windows operating system, demonstrated experience in a collaborative environment with shared responsibilities, knowledge and/or experience in providing library services for...
distance learning, collection development responsibility in
the sciences with an emphasis on electronic resources, ex-
perience building successful collaboration with university
teaching faculty or science professionals.

Appointment and Salary: The successful candidate
with demonstrated accomplishments in research and crea-
tive work will be appointed as a full-time (12 month) Assis-
tant Professor on the tenure track. A successful candidate
with promise in research but lacking an established scholarly
record will be appointed as a senior instructor (non-
tenure track) for two years, with promotion to the tenure
track and the rank of Assistant Professor upon a successful
review. Preference will be given to candidates at the assis-
tant professor rank, but exceptional candidates at higher
ranks will be considered. The starting salary range will be
$36,500 - $41,000. Faculty perks include support for
scholarly/professional activities, retirement plans, and liberal
vacation and sick leave benefits.

Application: Review of applications and nominations
will begin immediately and continue until the position is
filled. It is suggested that applications be on file with the
committee by February 16, 2001. Send letter of application
specifically addressing qualifications for the position; resu-
me; and names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three
references to Scott Seaman, Associate Director for Adminis-
terative Services, University Library, 184 UCB, University
of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0184. The University of
Colorado at Boulder strongly supports the principle of di-
versity. We are particularly interested in receiving applica-
tions from women, ethnic minorities, disabled persons, and
veterans.

Science Reference Librarian for Engineering,
Binghamton University, State University of New York
Binghamton University, State University of New York, seeks to fill a
library faculty position for the Science Library,
which houses materials in the physical and natural sciences,
engineering, and nursing.

Description: The librarian in this position participates
in the Science Library's reference service, develops and
maintains library resources for the Watson School of Engineer-
ing and Applied Science, acts as a primary liaison and
plans and implements library instructional programs for the
Watson School. Position reports to Head of Science Libra-
ry.

Qualifications: Required: An MLS from an ALA-
accredited institution; working experience with electronic
information resources, particularly those related to science
and technology; degree in science and/or recent experience
in reference and instruction in the sciences or technology in
an academic or special library; effective interpersonal and
analytical skills; demonstrated clarity in oral and written
communications; demonstrated initiative and ability to work
independently and as a team member in developing services
and completing projects; strong commitment to service and
professional development.

Finalists invited for an interview must demonstrate
communication skills and knowledge of public services
through a presentation to library faculty, staff, and other
members of the university community.

Compensation: Appointment at Assistant or Senior
Assistant Librarian rank, depending on qualifications and
experience. Salary minimum for Assistant Librarian
$31,000, plus excellent fringe benefits including TIAA/
CREF.

Environment: Binghamton University is nationally
recognized for its strong academic programs, distinguished
faculty, and talented students. Nineteen specialized research
centers attract scholars from around the globe to Bingham-
ton's modern campus. One of four university centers within
the State University of New York, Binghamton enrolls
approximately 12,000 students in programs leading to bache-
lor's, master's, and doctoral degrees. Binghamton Univer-
sity Libraries collections consist of approximately 1.6
million volumes. We are currently implementing Ex Libris's
Library Management System as part of SUNYConnect, a
SUNY-wide project that will create a linked online catalog,
universal library borrowing, document delivery services,
and a full-text digital collection for over 60 campuses within
the SUNY system. For more information on Binghamton
University, visit our web presence at http://www.
binghamton.edu.

Application: Mail or fax a cover letter (no electronic
applications), current resume, and names, addresses and
telephone numbers of three professional references to
Mary Ann Sincavage
Assistant to the Director for Personnel Administration
Binghamton University Libraries
State University of New York
P.O. Box 6012
Binghamton, NY 13902-6012
Fax 607-777-4848

For priority consideration, applications should be
received by March 23, 2001. Applications will be accepted
until the position is filled.

Binghamton University is an Equal Opportunity/
Affirmative Action Employer.

Digital Cartography Specialist, Harvard College Library
Map Collection, Cambridge, MA

Duties And Responsibilities: Reporting to Head of the
Harvard Map Collection, is responsible for providing a wide
variety of student and faculty access to digital cartography
services of the Harvard Map Collection. Assesses patron's
mapping needs, chooses appropriate software and data; pro-
vides reference assistance to the cartographic CD-ROM and
web links collections; assists in production of basic thematic
maps in the GIS environment or the desktop publishing
environment, applies appropriate cartographic design to
complex GIS projects, assists patrons to scan historical
maps, gathers/ archives geospatial data for collection; maintains Harvard Map Collection website, recommends acquisition of cartographic software and data; installs new CD-ROMs on the public computer cluster; manages student reservation for time and space; provides reference assistance within Map Collection.

**Required Education:** BA in geography, graphic design, computer science or related discipline required; experience in digital cartographic design and scanning software preferred; basic skills in Arc View, MapInfo, Maptitude, or other PC based GIS software required; must have excellent public service attitude and desire to work with a diverse clientele; experience working in a Windows NT environment, with Microsoft Office suite of products and software installation, and printer/plotter maintenance preferred; excellent oral, written, and graphic communication skills with experience in needs assessment and creating instructional documentation.

**Additional Web Position Listing:** The Harvard Map Collection, the oldest map collection in America, is home to over 400,000 maps, 15,000 atlases and books, hundreds of digital files, and is home to the interactive Massachusetts Electronic Atlas.

**How To Apply:** Apply on-line at http://jobs.harvard.edu/jobs/summ_req?in_post_id=10302 or send your resume and cover letter to
Harvard University
Resume Processing Center
Req# 9221
11 Holyoke Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Please note that upon submitting your credentials, you will become part of Harvard's new applicant database, and therefore, may be considered for other suitable positions at the University.

Harvard University is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity.

Enquiries and questions about this position may be directed to David Cobb, Harvard Map Collection, Harvard College Library, Cambridge, MA 02138. Tel. 617.495.2417. Email: cobb@fas.harvard.edu.

**Note:** The address for our listserv has changed! It's now geonet@purdue.edu
The list will no longer be mediated, so your messages will go in "as is." Our thanks to GIS's listserv editor, Carolyn Laffoon and the IT folks at Purdue for all their help with this transition.

**MEMBERS IN THE NEWS**

**Linda Musser** has been appointed to the National Research Council's Committee on the Preservation of Geoscience Data and Collections. The Committee will examine the issues associated with access to and preservation of geoscience data. The overall goal of the study is to develop a comprehensive strategy for managing geoscience data in the United States.

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**Geoscience Materials in the Making of America**

by

Linda Musser
Earth and Mineral Sciences Library
Pennsylvania State University

The Making of America (MOA) project is an endeavor to preserve and provide access to materials published in the United States during the antebellum period through reconstruction, approximately 1850-1877. While the focus of the project is on American social history, included in the digitized materials are many resources relating to the sciences. The MOA can be searched using keywords, author or title information. A search for works containing the words geologist or mineral* retrieved 259 books and 246 journal articles. A similar search of the full text retrieved approximately 20,000 hits in 8-9000 works. While these numbers may not be vast in comparison to current full text journal archives, they represent a significant body of older works, and one of the few freely-accessible full text monographic archives. Included in the MOA project are some of the classic works of American geology such as the Geological Exploration of the Fortieth Parallel and Dana's Manual of Mineralogy. Some state geological survey publications are also included. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the project is a collaborative effort between the University of Michigan and Cornell University. The MOA can be accessed at http://moa.umdl.umich.edu/ or http://moa.cit.cornell.edu/moa/ and currently contains over 8,500 books and 50,000 journal articles. For those needing access to older materials on U.S. geology and to geoscience librarians interested in preservation and access efforts related to the geosciences, this is a useful resource.
GIS PUBLICATIONS LIST

Proceedings of the Annual GIS Meetings (ISSN 0072-1409) $45.00 each; standing orders are $45.00 per year. (Proceedings volumes 1 through 25 are out of print and available from: Out-of-print Books on Demand, University Microfilms, Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.)


Proceedings of the International Geoscience Information Conferences


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Payment must be made in U.S. dollars.

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