

# Map Collection Users' Group

www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collection/maps/

## Minutes of meeting on Wednesday 2 April 2003

### 1. Attendance

Chandra Jayasuriya (Geography), Joe Leach (Geomatics), Leanne Howard (TeLaRS), Priscilla Stott (Collection Management), John Cain (Map Collection).

### 2. Apologies

John Maidment, Peta Humphreys, Bernie Joyce, Rod Brown, Brian Finlayson, Ailsa Dott, Brendan Whyte.

### 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were accepted.

### 4. Business Arising

- New maps list: A *New maps and GIS data* list is now being produced on a monthly basis and circulated to MCUG members and other interested parties.
- Photocopier tender: The tenders are currently being assessed and new equipment will be rolled out during the mid-year break; this should include a large format photocopier, which may also be able to do scanning and printing up to A1 or A0.

### 5. Report from the Map Curator

John Cain reported a range of issues

- Services: The collection has been very busy, both with information literacy activities and with serving clients. Digital data is in very high demand, especially GIS data reformatted for use in AutoCAD along with geo-referenced aerial photography; we are currently reviewing procedures to ensure this process is efficient. License and copyright do not permit the distribution of this data via the internet.
- Equipment: New computer desks were provided for the Maps Workroom at the end of 2002, completing the refurbishment of furniture and provided a much more pleasant working environment for clients. We are still awaiting news on 2003 equipment requests, which include new computers, new shelving and a colour laser printer.
- Operational Plan: Major projects over the summer were the respacing and weeding of the monograph (book) collections and the relocation of the MMBW 40' to 1" maps of Melbourne to new cabinets to improve their conservation.

#### 5.1. 2003 Map Materials Vote

Priscilla Stott reported that the allocation for the purchase of materials (data, maps and books) for the Map Collection in 2003 has been increased to \$35,000 total, including \$2000 for serials. The 2002 allocation was \$25,000 total. This reflects the growing demand particularly for GIS data, which is expected to increase with two of the three major programs of the new CRC for Spatial Information located at Melbourne University.

## 5.2. Additions to the Collection

John Cain noted that information concerning all new materials is included in the *New Maps & GIS Data* list circulated to all MCUG members.

Key recent arrivals:

- *Australian Climate Data [CDROM]* – Bureau of Meteorology. Climate records, Australia wide.
- *VicMap Property* – DSE. Statewide property parcels, update to December 2002.
- *Planning Scheme* – DSE. Statewide, zones and overlays, in GIS format, update to Feb 2003.
- *Iraq / Baghdad* – various printed maps.

Key recent orders:

- *Tasmania 1:100 000 Topo* – 20 sheets to update our printed map holdings.
- *Australia 1:100 000 Topo* – 40 sheets to update our printed map holdings.
- *Australia 1:250 000 Topo* – 200 sheets to update our printed map holdings.
- *Vegetation Atlas of China 1:1 000 000*
- *National Atlases* – to update our reference collection. Includes Germany, Slovenia, Congo, Equatorial Guinea
- *Geological GIS data* – free updates to our holdings of digital geological data for Victoria.

## 6. Departmental Map Needs (standing item).

Any requests for maps or GIS data can be emailed to John Cain at any time. It is the Map Collection's policy to purchase data and maps on request if we do not have materials on hand to meet teaching or research requirements.

- Maps of Morocco: John Cain noted that the maps of Morocco requested by Richard Pennell at the last meeting have unfortunately been restricted by the Moroccan government for security reasons, so only a few have arrived.

## 7. MCUG Membership

There was some general discussion of the role of MCUG and how its membership should be formed. While turnout is sometimes lower than would be liked, it was agreed the meetings seem to be a useful communications forum. It was suggested that John Cain approach additional departments for representatives to join MCUG, some suggestions were the CRC for Spatial Information, Civil Engineering, Land & Food, and Botany.

## 8. Other Business

- After meeting product demos: It was suggested that after each MCUG a demonstration of a particular map product (for example DOI Metro-Mosaic) be given.

## 9. Next meeting.

The next meeting will be held at a time to be arranged in the Map Collection.