

Map Collection Users' Group

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

Minutes of meeting on Tuesday 9 March 2004

1. Attendance

Richard Pennell (History, chair), Bernie Joyce (Earth Sciences), Louise Hitchcock (Classics & Archaeology), Brendan Whyte (Library & Geography), John Maidment (Archi Library), Priscilla Stott (Collection Management), Peta Humphreys (AEEIS), David Jones, John Cain.

Louise Hitchcock of the Department of Classics and Archaeology was introduced as the new member for that department, replacing Tony Sagona.

2. Apologies

Chandra Jayasuriya, Brian Finlayson.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were accepted.

4. Business Arising

- A0 Photocopier: John Cain reported that, as agreed at the last meeting, Brian Finlayson had written to Tim Meredith regarding Unicard's failure to fulfil their contract. Tim had responded that Unicard had promised to deliver a new machine by the beginning of Semester 1, 2004. This promise has not been delivered. Brian has since emailed Tim again, and Tim has responded that the Information Division is unhappy with Unicard's failure to deliver. Unicard inform us they are currently testing printing software and hope to install the new copier soon.
- Public Access Computers: Brendan Whyte reported he has received a reply from Tim Meredith to his letter regarding Public Access computers in the Map Collection. Tim informed Brendan that replacement of these computers has been added to the ID PC roll out, with two to be replaced each year beginning in 2004. John Cain added that it is reported the first two will be replaced shortly.

5. Report from the Map Curator

David Jones is Acting Map Curator while John Cain is on secondment to another role in the Information Division (until the end of April). There is full time backfill by Brendan Whyte for David's position. John continues to look after Collection Management, to undertake Information Literacy Activities, and to provide two hours of Research Consultations per week.

David Jones reported a range of issues:

- Services: Demand for digital data continues to be high very high. Our current method of dealing with this is to prepare on demand CDs of data which can then be reused by other students. All data is supplied by copies on CD and students are required to complete and sign a license form.
- Equipment: Two new (replacement) computers have been promised. A DVD burner is on order to allow us to supply very large datasets on DVD; some now arrive on such media. No news as yet on non-IT equipment requests. Two minor works have been completed: installation of new power points for computers and an un-used space has been converted into a kitchenette (since, kettle, etc) so cups of tea/coffee can now be made.
- Operational Plan: As John is on secondment this is currently on hold.

- New Materials: The monthly *New Maps & GIS Data* list continues to be emailed to MCUG members and other interested parties. This includes details of new GIS data, new maps, and new books received in the Map Collection. Selected noteworthy recent acquisitions include:
 - VicMap DEM (DSE) all available tiles, in ArcGrid format, on DVD
 - Landsat 7 ETM+ (ACRES) raw imagery for the Melbourne area
 - SEIFA 2001 (ABS) Socio-economic indexes for areas, or SES (socio-economic status)

6. Departmental Map Needs (standing item).

Any requests for maps or GIS data can be emailed to John Cain at any time. John emphasized that 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. Many "Research Consultations" result in new materials being purchased. It was agreed John should re-circulate the form email soon.

7. Other Business

7.1 - 2004 Historical Map Cataloguing Project: The Friends of the Baillieu Library generously provided \$2000 for cataloguing of uncatalogued historical maps held in the Map Collection, of the University, Melbourne and Victoria. A total of 168 maps were catalogued, of which 111 were maps recorded for the first time anywhere. All these maps are now in the library catalogue and recorded on the national bibliographic database (Kinetica).

7.2 – TeLaRs Rep: Leanne Howard has left the Information Division and is now working for the CSHE; appointment of a replacement is in progress.

7.3 – Maps 2004 Materials Vote: Richard Pennell asked about this. Priscilla Stott replied that the vote was the same as last year: \$33 500 for monographs (mostly spent on printed maps and digital data) and \$1500 for serials (usually somewhat underspent). John Cain added that \$17 000 of the materials vote has already been committed and he aims to commit most of the remainder by the end of June to assure supply before the end of the year. As usual, any requests for materials to support teaching or research should be sent to John Cain (see item 6 above).

8. Close of Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Tuesday 1 June 2004, 2:15pm, in the Map Collection. This replaces the previously announced time and date.

9. Post-meeting data demonstration.

CDATA 2001 the 2001 Census data and mapping package from the Australian Bureau of Statistics was demonstrated.