

Map Collection Users' Group Meeting

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

Minutes of meeting on 6th November 2008

1. Attendance

David Jones (Maps), Peta Humphreys (Library), Jock Murphy (Library), Belinda Nemec (Cultural Collections), Ray Wyatt (Geography), Joseph Leach (Geomatics), Andrew Veal (Library), Dorothy Prescott, Amy Hahs (Botony).

2. Apologies

Dr. Louise A. Hitchcock, Bernie Joyce, Chandra Jayasuriya

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Passed. <http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/maps/mcug/mcug-minutes.html>

4. Business Arising

- Miegunyah Trust Grant. All material in the Map Collection are now catalogued with the exception of a few Asian language items. The project produced several hundreds of bibliographic records at individual and series levels to represent the 15,000 approximate items. This was the last section of uncatalogued material in the Map Collection.
- Walker Donation. 43 original maps of Constantinople from the 17th and 18th centuries. Donated under the Australian Tax Office incentive scheme. Valuations for these items proved very difficult and time consuming due to rarity of material in Australia. Many thanks to Belinda Nemec and Pam Pryde for their assistance. All items have been catalogued, encapsulated for conservation and are currently being digitised for addition to the online Maps image repository.

5. Reports

- A search limit option has been added to the Library catalogue making it possible to limit searches to material only in the Map Collection make it significantly easier for anyone to locate cartographic material relevant to their requirements.
- Cdata2006 is now available online – The Map Collection has provided access and support to previous Cdata (CensusData) programs from the ABS. Cdata not only make it possible to retrieve large amounts of census data for use in other applications but also made the creation of thematic maps a relatively simple process. With the introduction of Cdata2006 online available free of charge to the public the Map Collection will continue to provide a significant facilitation role to the university concerning statistics and spatial geography. A free ABS information session was arranged by David Jones and Trish Wilson of the Economics library on the 12/11/08.
- GIS Spatial data – The Dept. of Sustainability and Environment have improved access to the most commonly utilised VicMap series of GIS data with a login for David Jones on the new DataMart online server. These common data requests are now automated. Specialised requests for data

continue to be filled case-by-case.

The DSE licence for the use of spatial data is now the standard contract provided. This doesn't consider educational use as originally negotiated in the late 90's by the Dept. of Geomatics. This is currently under review and negotiations have begun with the DSE concerning research and educational use of the spatial data. A part of this process will be the consideration of online access to data on the Parkville campus. Currently the facilitation and requirement of this service are unclear.

Students and staff wishing to use DSE spatial data in whole or part should refer to Map Collection staff to obtain permission.

- 2009 Material Vote Allocation - The purchase power of the MVA in 2009 will be much less due to inflation and the expected lower value of the Australian dollar. The MVA is currently undergoing a review and restructure with a larger Faculty involvement concerning disciplinary libraries. The Map Collection MVA and other multidisciplinary libraries will not come from a faculty allocation but rather a central fund.

To insure resource support from the Map Collection please get any requests to David **as soon as possible**.

6. Eastern Resource Centre

The original plans for the Eastern Resource Centre included a new location for the Map Collection on level 2. As the project progress other aspects unfortunately took priority and the location of the Map Collection will remain unchanged.

Level 1 of the Library building is now complete including a new 24hr computer student laboratory. Level 3 should be complete before Semester 1, 2009 (hopefully in January).

7. DigiTool Demonstration

DigiTool one of the university's new online repository for digital material supporting teaching, learning and research. The Digital Repository provides a wide range of digital resources from individual objects of a short term nature that are required for course delivery to large collections of objects that are of cultural or scholarly significance and need to be kept on a long term basis.

This new system replaces the current map image server which is significantly dated and unsupported. DigiTool provides increased functionality and most importantly includes the ability to use the maps on a full screen while easily being able to zoom in on detail on any section of the map.

All material from the previous map server are anticipated to be loaded onto the new system by the conclusion of 2008. The majority have already been transferred and made available and only a few remain. Additional new material not previously available will be constantly added in the future as it is digitalised.

To utilise the maps on DigiTool go to: <http://tinyurl.com/6jc5ef>

Thank you to Andrew Veal for demonstrating DigiTool.