

Cartography and Children

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Cartography and Children in Buenos Aires, Argentina

Prior to the 4th Cartographic Congress and the 11th National Week on Cartography, the Argentine Cartographic Centre organised the 2nd *Day on Education*. The venue of this event was the Military Geographic Institute in Buenos Aires.

In the opening ceremony Ana Maria Garra, coordinator and representative of the ICA Commission on Cartography and Children, presented the activities planned by the Commission for the 2007-2011 period. A total of ten papers relating to the practical use of cartography in schools were presented in different sessions. The Organising Committee invited the Prof Dr Marcello Martinelli from the University of Sao Paulo, who is also a member of our Commission, to give a talk about his experiences in the use of thematic cartography in schools.

The programme included a technical visit to the Military Geographic Institute giving participants the opportunity to learn how the national map series are produced by the Institute. On the last day, different state organisations and private companies donated some cartographic and didactic materials to all participants of this event.

José Jesús Reyes Nunez | Co-Chair | ICA Commission on Cartography and Children | Hungary ●

Digital Technologies in Cartographic Heritage

web.auth.gr/xeee/ICA-Heritage/

Meeting in Barcelona, Spain

Papers presented at the Third International Workshop on Digital Approaches in Cartographic Heritage held in Barcelona last June in cooperation with the Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya are appearing in *e-Perimetron*, an international web journal supporting the Commission's work (www.e-perimetron.org).

Cartographic Heritage Research in Thessaloniki, Greece

Eighteenth century Vienna was in the centre of recent cartographic heritage research assisted by digital technologies. A rare, four-sheet world map engraved by Karl Robert Schindelmayer and published in the Austrian capital in 1800 by the Greek scholar Anthimos Gazis (1758-1828) was found in the small city of Kozani in north-west Greece and saved from a certain

major deterioration. The conservation effort used advanced techniques for digitally preserving high fidelity colouring for facsimile copies of the map and testing these techniques in relevance to the fundamental requirements of maintaining true colouring in the context of cartographic heritage.



David Fairbairn, ICA Secretary General, and Evangelos Livieratos, Commission Chair, in front of Rigas Charta in Kozani, November 2008

Another map, internationally known as a twelve-sheet map of south-east Europe, was engraved by Franz Müller and published in 1797 by Rigas Velestinlis (1757-1798), a major figure of the Greek Enlightenment. Copies of this map can also be found in Vienna, Belgrade, Paris, London, Stockholm and Cambridge. Recently, thanks to the application of the *digital transparency* technique under best-fitting, a method currently applied in digital studies of cartographic heritage, an extraordinary new finding has been reported. For the first time it has been proved, that Rigas Charta has two versions, apparently due to two separate impressions. Thirteen toponyms missing from the first version are present in the second, together with some corrections of misprints (see illustration below). A recent survey shows that the majority of available copies, including those in the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, the British Library and the Royal Geographic Society, contain additional toponyms. This finding highlights the importance and effectiveness of digital technologies in historic cartography research.



An example of *digital transparency* technique under best-fitting that highlights the difference between the two map versions; a map with the added toponyms (top left), without typonyms (top right) and a combined view showing both versions together.

Meeting in Berlin, Germany

Berlin is a host city of the Workshop on Archiving in Digital Cartography and Geoinformation (Archiving 2008) chaired by Commission members Horst Kremers and Markus Jobst. It is planned for 4-5 December 2008. The Workshop is being organised by the Berlin-Brandenburg Section of the German Cartographic Society (DGfK) in cooperation with the German National Committee on Data for Science and Technology, the Berlin State Archive and the Hasso Plattner Institut of the Potsdam University. For more information visit www.codata-germany.org/Archiving_2008/.

Future Plans

The type of research described above together with other issues included in the Commission's terms of reference as well as new topics coming from the digital world will be presented in the Commission's Fourth International Workshop on Digital Approaches to Cartographic Heritage to be held in spring 2009 in Venice, Italy. The Workshop will be hosted by colleagues from the Interdepartmental Centre for Surveying, Cartography and Processing (CIRCE) of the University of Architecture (IUAV).

Evangelos Livieratos | Chair | ICA Commission on Digital Technologies in Cartographic Heritage | Greece ●

Education and Training

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Commission Website

Undergraduate cartography courses listing from around the world contains information on courses containing cartographic content. Cartography teaching modules to be found on the Internet is a work-in-progress project that provides a structured environment into which on-line modules on cartography can be accessed for continuing professional development. A repository of academic papers pertinent to cartographic education and training can also be accessed through the Commission on Education and Training (CET) website. Please feel free to send any papers for inclusion here.

Reports on Cartographic Education

Czech Republic (compiled by Vasek Talhofer)

- Cartographic education and training courses: eight schools of university type offer cartographic and geoinformatic education: University of West Bohemia (www.zcu.cz), Czech Technical University in Prague (www.cvut.cz), Charles University in Prague (www.cuni.cz), Masaryk University in Brno (www.muni.cz), University of Defence in Brno (www.unob.cz/en/), Brno University of Technology (www.vutbr.cz), Palacky > 09