UC/Stanford Map Library Group (UCMLG) meeting
12/16/2008, 10:00 a.m. – 12:43 p.m.
via telephone conference and ReadyTalk

Chair: Michael Smith (UCSD)
Recorder: Wendie Helms (UCR)

Attendees: Julia Gelfand (UCI), Tracey Hughes (UCSD), Cynthia Jahns (UCSC), Mary Larsgaard (UCSB), Kathy Stroud (UCD), Fatemah Van Buren (UCB), Brian Williams (UCI), Yvonne Wilson (UCI), Julie Sweetkind-Singer (Stanford)

Introduction
The conference call began at 10:00 a.m. The chat screen on the ReadyTalk web browser was not useful for our meeting. tiff images do not display. The meeting continued as a telephone conference call.

Approval of Minutes for the June 26, 2008 meeting
Previous recorder, Yvonne Wilson, asked for changes to the Minutes.

- Action item: Kathy Stroud will email a summary of her Map Library Survey when it’s finished.

- Tracey Hughes and Fatemah Van Buren discussed the free Educational Google Earth Pro license: The free educational license requires feedback from students using the resource. UCB found the requirements too demanding and pays the $400.00 subscription. Tracey Hughes responded that UCSD students have not found the requirements unreasonable. Users give a description or submit their KML files directly to the Google earth forum.

- Action item: Julie Sweetkind-Singer will follow through with Navtech.

- A correction by Kathy Stroud: Davis would like to scan the 1904-1906 USGS Sacramento Valley Series at 1:31,680 (sheets A-Q), but has not done so yet. Julie will put them on her website.

- Cynthia or Michael will put the Minutes on the Calmap website. Action item: transfer of the Calmap website to Michael Smith.

Budget/money issues, effects on each campus

- Julie, Stanford University: Cuts to the materials budgets will take place starting in Sept. 2009. A hiring freeze is in place for the foreseeable future. Travel is on hold and must be approved on a case by case basis. The provost requested budget cuts at the 5%, 7% and 10% levels from all of the units on campus. These are to be submitted by the library director at the end of January. It is expected that in addition to cuts to the library materials budget, there will be layoffs across the library. Two engineering librarian positions are frozen as is the earth sciences librarian position. It is unclear when, or if, they will be released to be rehired. We will not know more until the end of March.

- Mary, UCSB: 7 to 10% cuts. Every Department head figured out a possible 10% budget cut in personnel. The Library Director cut equipment and supplies, there are possibilities of layoffs and/or furloughs, and reorganization is already going through. The plan is to have: new 4-story building (cafe on first floor, study areas and group meeting rooms on 1st and 2d; Special Collections on 3rd and 4th); the 2-story is to be gutted for seismic retrofitting with interior shear walls added. Items are going into storage, and it will require a weeding project. Governor Schwarzenegger has apparently put this 4-story new building+2-story seismic retrofitting as part of his economic stimulus package. In Feb-Mar 2010 construction will start. Architects are already planning.
Mary is head of Map and Imagery Lab. Larry Carver now works on contracts and grants. Greg Hajic & Rusty Brown have been assigned to Systems. The map cataloger will be in Monographic Cataloging. With a current 10% cut, the further along in the year, the harder it will get.

- Fatemah, UCB: At UCB a 10% cut will happen. There have been no orders for several months. There is a new acquisitions ordering system. Emergency orders only are permitted. She had just started ordering. Hiring freeze: No hiring until 2011, no merit increases; no hiring for Unit heads for this year or next year.

- Kathy, UCD: Administration started planning budget cuts in Spring 08 for FY 08/09. They planned for a 7% cut. The acquisitions budget was protected, so the cut was taken from facilities and staff budgets. Student staff has been stretched thin. There may be another cut, but, no firm information yet. The acquisitions budget spending is allowed for now. Map Collection hours have been cut to M-F 1:00-5:00, starting in January. Kathy is taking on more duties due to a Bio-Ag librarian retiring. Shields Library reference departments are being renamed to "Biological/Agricultural Sciences and Map Services" and "Humanities, Social Sciences and Government Information Services." Patsy Inouye is still doing California documents. Most of her time spent in Special Collections. The Government Information Task Force report has not been finalized yet.

- Cynthia, UCSC: The library has imposed a soft hiring freeze and will probably be a cut to serials. There have been no reorganizations yet. The library has a new Associate University Librarian.

- Julia, UCI: There is soft hiring. The process is going forth. Openings have been on the books for a long time. Resignations have led to a restructuring of priorities. We’re looking at duplication/copy reductions in the materials budget. We’re at the spending level of three years ago. The campus is growing so students are accepted but there is no state aid. It has to be absorbed. The speculation is that in future enrollments students won’t all be accepted. We’re taking a serious look at all renewals and negotiating reductions. We’re supposed to be 50 to 60 percent spent. Shut off will be in May. During the last quarter we’ll be looking at renewals.

- Yvonne, UCI: had a budget talk two weeks ago and took a $900,000 cut off the top of the budget in Fall and could possibly have another $900,000 at the end of the year. We’re expecting more in 2009, and looking at what we can do to cut costs.

- Wendie, UCR: UCR Libraries are watching the student assistant budget and materials budgets closely. UCR has a soft hiring policy. Temporary librarians have been laid off. Only books requested by faculty for Reserves are being ordered. Recently, automatic shipments of approval books were discontinued. Standing orders such as the Diblee Foundation maps and the GSA titles are current.

Fatemah and Julia discussed the ramifications on libraries if books are requested through I.L.L. due to differential budget spending by campuses. Perhaps an I.L.L. freeze should be placed on new materials.

- Michael, UCSD: UCSD libraries have been given a 3% cut only. No hiring freeze, but positions are harder to approve. They were going to hire for an Instruction and outreach position which was being considered as a temporary two year position instead of full time.

**Impact of budget cuts to collect separately or as a group**

Let Tracey know of any ideas for GIS resources she should purchase. This includes digital formats, shape-files, imagery, and GIS data. Julie Sweetkind-Singer discussed data available from the China Data Center. She bought data from former Soviet Republic of Georgia. Africa data, Business Analyst, GIS Data Depot were discussed. Tracey is interested in data for Mexico, Latin America and Papua New Guinea/New Caledonia/Oceania area if we find any sources. Colombia data at 1:100,000 scale data is available, according to a contact Julie had at the ESRI conference. UCSD just got a research grant. Do we have any resources to bookmark? Gdata is available from Berkeley on Google. For example, see URL emailed 12/16: http://biogeography.berkeley.edu/bgm/gdata.php. Tracey reminded us of her page on delicious. We can centralize our bookmarks. Tracey emailed URL: http://delicious.com/gis_resources. ALA MAGERT is working on making it more robust.
Cynthia: Targeting foreign government groups first. We’re moving toward technical processing done in one place. When things are collected at one campus how do we make them available to all? Julia: Languages are done at certain campuses. It can be applied to specialized formats, such as videos. Somebody collects from Indonesia another from HOPS and HOTS are having parallel discussions. An experiment is going on with shared cataloging. Five campuses have agreed to do the cataloging. It will be reevaluated in February. Look for reports on that.

Budget impact on professional development plans
Michael Smith will travel to the next WAML meeting in Utah. Julia Gelfand may go to ACRL but she has been told to cut back. Stanford received email that nobody can travel Business class anymore. UCSD: Travel funds are those promised by union contract. No extra money was added by the UL. Different amounts are allowed per campus. Tracey will attend CAA (Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods, Colonial Williamsburg, VA). CalGIS is in Sacramento in April. Kathy offered to host travelers to the NACIS conference in Sacramento in October.

Update on Columbia Gazetteer of the World
Julia Gelfand: Contracted Columbia University Press. Earthscape ceased operations. CIAO has incorporated international fulltext. Columbia Gazetteer. We have had free access since September. John Babcock says prices are not set. Julia will send information about a possible Tier 2, flexible option, one fee based on the 10 campuses paid over multiple years. Beginning December 1, usage data will be available. John Babcock will send out instructions. It will have a more robust search engine which can search at city level, or other levels. There are no maps but one can plot the coordinates onto a map. There is more historical data in it. No link-out capabilities. Perhaps reference money can be tapped. UCSC & UCR estimated use statistics were not high. UCSD: It is useful. We don’t have any other digital products. We can download results and import into a GIS. For central Africa and Asia and physical anthropology it is a terrific resource. If we don’t get five campuses it will go to tier 2. If it is a modest amount we can possibly ask CDL to cover it.

Census Mapping Products
Simply Map’s price is too high to justify for the usage we expect of it. It is business oriented. Contact GILS to work together with map libraries to get Geolytics products. Yvonne has some problems with the online Neighborhood Change database. Most of us already have Geolytics CDs. Action item: Yvonne will pursue GILS. It may not be the best budget year to acquire Geolytics; perhaps we will have to wait.

Sanborn maps updates
Cal State Northridge has a website featuring San Fernando Valley Sanborn maps, aerals, etc. Their goal is to scan all LA County Sanborns. UCSC has 1,500 Sanborns on glass slides. Cynthia is interested in creating a clearinghouse. Julie: Clay Simons, who did the scanning at UCB, called John Hebert, the Chief of the Map Division of the Library of Congress, about scanning the California Sanborns. He talked to Julie about joining with Will Tefft (of MapLink) to set up a non-profit company to scan not only the Sanborns, but the rest of the maps in the Library of Congress. Julie will keep everyone in the loop as this develops and asked if it would be possible for any of our schools to give collection funds to a non-profit to do this kind of work.

LAUC Grant to create an inventory list of potential scanning projects at various map collections
Cynthia: We should decide on the top five things from each map collection to see what would be great scanning projects. We cannot take the book model and transfer it to maps. For example, the sizes of the files created are different. We do not yet have a reasonable plan to handle it. A GILS list was created but they did not get back to us. If we want to scan the California Division of Mines Bulletin maps what format will they be in? Tracey: It might be worthwhile to make a list of what we want to scan or acquire on a wiki. We can start with Geolytics. Action item: Tracey will create an Excel document on the wiki and we can add to it. Indicate if we have the resource and where funding comes from and if we have other products. She will send the password and link to the rest of us.

Online Digital Map collections
Julie has three projects underway. She has been working with the School of Earth Sciences for a year to get the masters and PhD theses scanned. They are being scanned on a robot scanner in the main library. This is being used as an alumni tool for raising money and outreach. As of this date, 500 theses have been scanned. The School of Earth Sciences is handling the copyright compliance. The theses will be linked in Socrates, our online catalog. The maps are not being systematically scanned, rather they are being scanned on demand.
Julie stated that they have a proposal in with Digital Library Systems and Services (DLSS) at SU to create a spatial data catalog. After our own assessment and talking to the faculty, it is clear this is a very high priority for our patrons and for us. We've set up specifications for what we'd like and have looked at a number of catalogs including the Harvard spatial data catalog, the ADL's Globetrotter, MIT's new catalog, and the University of Hawaii. Stanford is continuing to work with Jon Jablonski at the University of Oregon on creating AMS map indexes using ArcGIS. Each library is handling a different part of the world and will swap shape files, which will allow each library to input their own holdings. Right now we are creating static PDFs. It is hoped in the future they will be interactive and will link through to scanned maps. The static indexes will be linked to the Socrates record for the maps. Anyone who is interested in this project is encouraged to contact me or Jon about joining in this effort.

GIS Usage Survey – Anything to report?
UCB has a 42 inch scanner and charges faculty staff and students. See URL: http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/EART/scanning.html. For scanned maps, the 856 field in the bibliographic record links them to the catalog. They are almost done with the index project. Ask Fatemah if we need any indexes. Fatemah will scan a large number of countries’ indexes and add to the collection. Fatemah is working on a GIS task force and reminds us to send a response to the survey.

China maps
Mary: Scanned Tibet maps have been received. A native Chinese speaker will transliterate into Pinyin main text on a sample map from each series. Mary will then create draft series level records which she can copy and paste into email; Mary will get translation from Pinyin into English as needed, from the head of the East Asian Department of the library. A transliteration will be done by December. The cataloged records will be in OCLC WorldCat and end up in Melvyl.

What to do with gifts
Mary will take all the aerial photographs of California a UCR professor offers. Julie: CSAA northern chapter got rid of their collection of maps dated 1950 and later. Julie will let us know if they have duplicates. It will be an archival non-circulating collection. They will unfold, encapsulate and store maps locally. Julia: Processing gift acquisitions can be too much to deal with unless it is a major gift.

Next meeting
It is UCSC’s turn to host an in-person meeting. Cynthia is willing to host, however the group decided to look into video conferencing choices. Julie volunteered to host it with software they already own at Stanford. According to Michael it will cost $240.00 to host it with ReadyTalk. Julie discussed a Library of Congress conferencing tool which was highly functional. We should ask our UL’s for a unified system we could plug into easily. We agreed on a date for our next meeting: June 4, 2009. Action: By April look at what video systems we have and those which are available. In case we don't find anything else we can use ReadyTalk again.

Round Robin
Michael: UCSD is at status quo. Fatemah: UCB’s cataloging and acquisition system is migrating to a new system. The Circulation system is Pathfinder. They have been able to add search indexes and can add scale. It is similar to Innopac. Discussion: Some of us now have Office 2007.

The meeting ended at 12:43

Respectfully submitted,

Wendie Helms, UCR