

ICA – CET newsletter 05/2016

This message is sent to those who have expressed an interest in the work of the ICA Commission on Education and Training.

The ongoing work of the Commission is governed by its Terms of Reference, and progress can be reported on several of these topics. You are encouraged to participate and contribute to the work of the Commission by engaging with the activities suggested by our agenda:

1. **Deliver educational material.** The ongoing work of our ex-Chair, Dr David Fraser, has resulted in a proposal for comprehensive **Cartographic Workshops** to be held in the South Pacific in November 2016. These events are being planned by a team of Mr. Nasi Racaca, NaGIS Fiji and Rockingham, Australia; Mr. Seli Taufu, Chief Draftsman at Ministry of Lands, Survey & Natural Resources, Tonga; Associate Professor Nick Rollings, University of the South Pacific, Fiji; and Dr. David Fraser, National Councillor, Mapping Sciences Institute, Australia. This team will present the Workshops, assisted by an eminent group of international visitors.

The content of the Workshops will cover all aspects of cartography: General Overview of Cartographic Principles, Specific Elements of Cartography, and Contemporary Cartography.

The first workshop, in the Kingdom of **Tonga**, will take place from **14th to 18th November 2016**; and the second will be located in the Republic of **Fiji** from **21st to 25th November 2016**. These events are timed to run prior to the popular annual Pacific Island GIS & Remote Sensing Users Conference to be held in Suva, Fiji, from 28th November to 2nd December 2016 (<http://gsd.spc.int/gisconference/>).

2. **Organise workshops.** The Commission will join with the Commission on Atlases to present a seminar on **'Atlases and Education –Concepts for the Future'**. This will be our major event for 2016, so we hope that as many members of the Commission as possible will aim to join us. This joint workshop will take place on **1st and 2nd September 2016 at ETH, Zurich, Switzerland**. All are encouraged to attend and to prepare material for presentation.

The first day will examine state of the art in the areas of atlases, education, and the juxtaposition of these. Commission members are encouraged to consider presentations on current experiences in educational atlas design, production and use; on the role of new paradigms of 'atlas' type materials for education (e.g. story maps); on the use of atlases in educational programmes in Third World countries; and on the way in which atlases can address the educational aspects of the new UN Sustainability Goals. The second day will consider future developments, and there is scope for Commission members to speculate about the ways in which technological and pedagogical change can be driven by, and reflected by, maps and atlases in the classroom.

3. **Develop a Body of Knowledge.** Preparatory work has been undertaken by the Chair of the Commission to understand how a Body of Knowledge (BoK) can be created. Several existing BoK in other disciplines have been examined, and a number of issues need to be addressed: what is the nature of 'knowledge' itself; how can we claim the 'territory' of cartography;

what is a BoK for; what is the community which should be consulted to develop the BoK and how is it to be asked; what is the form of the deliverable?

The BoK developed for Geographic Information Science and Technology (GIST) in 2006, and currently under revision (<http://ucgis.org/project-group/gist-body-knowledge-project>) is an excellent model to follow, and it is clear from this and from other BoK initiatives that the Delphi model (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delphi_method) is an optimal means of gathering and compiling content for the BoK. This process will be initiated soon, and a major event associated with this is a special workshop at **Mapping 2016**, the annual meeting of the British Cartographic Society and the Society of Cartographers, in **Cheltenham, UK, from 6th to 8th September 2016**

(<http://www.cartography.org.uk/downloads/mapping2016/Mapping2016flyer.pdf>).

The intention is to promote a creative environment in which ideas for content of the BoK can be pro-actively prompted, debated and refined. All are welcome to attend and contribute to this important activity. The result will be a draft Body of Knowledge which will be distributed widely for consultation by the worldwide cartographic community: your continuing input into the BoK will be invaluable over the next three years: remember that the major output from our Commission at the end of our four year term in 2019 will be the BoK.

4. **Contribute to International Cartographic Conferences.** Issues related to the BoK will be reported on at the next **ICC in Washington DC, 2nd to 7th July 2017**, in our pre-conference workshop, in our Commission business meeting, and in the main programme of the ICC itself.

We have tentatively agreed to join with the Commission on Maps and the Internet to present a **workshop** related to our joint interests. This will take a similar form to the workshop which was organised in Curitiba, Brazil, prior to the Rio de Janeiro ICC in 2015. You are thus welcome to participate in **late June 2017** at a venue in historic **Williamsburg, Virginia, USA**.

The Call for Papers for the main ICC conference has now been issued (deadline for abstracts is 26th October 2016) and you are encouraged to submit contributions in themes related to education and training (T11 and T12, in particular) – see <http://icc2017.org/abstracts-full-papers-and-posters/> for details.

5. **Update commission's webpage.** The commission set up a new commission webpage (<http://education.icaci.org/>) with a new facelift. Webpage content is still under construction but intended to be ready until July 2016.

Please feel free to contact the Commission Chair and vice-Chair to comment on our work and make suggestions. We encourage you to contribute your expertise and energy to the Commission and thank you for your continued interest in its work.

David Fairbairn, Chair; Stefan Peters, vice-Chair