U.S. National Committee for the International Cartographic Association
(USNC-ICA)
October 17, 1999
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Attending
Judy Olson, Chair
William Thompson, Member
Robert McMaster, President, CaGIS; Vice President, ICA
Theodore Steinke, Director, CaGIS
(Later in the day, Wm Thompson and J. Olson met with Tim Trainor, Chair, ICA Comm. on National and Regional Atlases)

New Committee Composition and Terms
Judy Olson (Chair) 1999-03
Tanya Allison 1999-03
Leo Dillon 1999-01
John Kelmelis 1999-03
Mark Monmonier 1997-01
Michael Phoenix 1999-03
Jonathan Thies 1997-01
William Thompson 1999-03
Hal Moellering, 1999-2001 if he agrees to serve (added later: he does)

ICA Update
• Ottawa ICA ’99 had 1500 participants, including 79 countries and 85 students
• Leo Dillon has the awards won by Americans at Ottawa and will present them to the winners. (See Leo’s report below.)
• ICA 2003 will meet in Durban, South Africa (follows 2001 in Beijing)
• The new ICA webpages are at <http://www.icaci.org>. The old ones <http://www.msu.edu/~olson/ica> will continue to exist until the new ones are sufficiently ready.

ACSM Update
• Terry Slocum is the new editor of *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*. The journal is in excellent shape, with material ready for the next three or four issues.
• The financial condition of ACSM is improved a little, but still very serious. A buyer for its building must meet several conditions, making a sale more difficult. CaGIS is taking steps to incorporate itself as a separate legal entity. Should the necessity arise, National Research Council, AAG, and NACIS were mentioned as possible homes to explore for USNC.

Fund Raising
• The Committee should have the goal of sending ten young scholars to Beijing. The call for papers for Beijing will go out next summer.
If he agrees to serve, Hal Moellering will join the USNC for a two year term in order to share his fund raising experience and contacts. During his term the Committee will build a data base of contact information and groom someone to take over Hal’s role in fund raising.

Jack Dangermond/ESRI has made a substantial endowment gift to the International Geographic Information Foundation (IGIF < http://www.igif.org/>). The income from this money will be used for scholarships and to fund student travel to special GIS-related conferences. Awards will be made to 3-5 students per year. Olson will look into getting ICA on the list of acceptable conferences.

NSF is a possible source of funds. We have not approached them since the Barcelona meeting.

The Committee should consider calling for donations from individual members with matching gifts made by private companies.

Some companies may be interested in supporting travel because they have a specific interest in China. Judy will talk to Jack Williams concerning this. Other organizations may have an interest because the conference is being held in the developing world—World Bank, Jack Dangermond,...

Microsoft should be approached again. Their involvement in mapping continues to grow. Steve Smith is their person in charge of mapping for Encarta. They have also had someone attending AAG.

The Center for Mapping (Joel Morrison) may be a source of scholars and perhaps money.

A specialized session, such as in the area of remote sensing/environmental mapping might attract funds. Judy will talk to people at Michigan State about this.

Petchenik Competition
There has been some desire to shift the focus of the competition away from “cute” maps to something that will teach children about real mapping concepts. Perhaps each competition could have a theme communicated through materials distributed to teachers and students through the Geographic Alliance and internet. One such theme might be “Neighborhood Maps”, which encourages students to employ symbolization, scale, and generalization to portray the spatial relationships of the area where they live. Any changes have to be made within ICA.

U.S. Participation on ICA Commissions
Various people’s names were discussed as possible nominees for ICA commissions. Olson will follow up on some of these.

Current US people involved are in bold in the Commission list below (info includes chair, chair’s country, and (in parentheses) the Executive liaison:

- Education and Training: Prof Vladimir S. Tikunov, Russia (Konecny) [Dymon?]
- Map Production: Sjef van der Steen, Netherlands (Li)
- History of Cartography: Christopher Board, UK (Liebenberg)
- Spatial Data Standards: Harold Moellering, USA (Konecny) [A. Crane]
- Theoretical Cartography: Alexander Wolodtschenko, Germany (Morita)
Visualization and Virtual Environments: Alan MacEachren, USA (Artimo)
    [several U.S. corresp. members]
Maps and the Internet: Michael Peterson, USA (A. Wood)
Map Generalization: Robert Weibel, Switzerland (McMaster) [R. McMaster (member),
    B. Buttenfield & Dan Lee, corresp.]
Mapping from Satellite Imagery: Serge Le Blanc, France (M. Wood)
National and Regional Atlases: Timothy Trainor, USA (Ormeling)
Census Cartography: Tim Davis, Canada (Rystedt) [L. Orsini]
Marine Cartography: Ron Furness, Australia (McMaster)
Mountain Cartography: Hurni Lorenz, Switzerland (M. Wood)
Planetary Cartography: Kira Shingareva, Russia (Li) [Zimbelman, co-chair]
Gender and Cartography: Ewa Krzywicka-Blum, Poland (Artimo) [Joni Seager]
Maps and Graphics for Blind and Visually-Impaired People: Andrew Tatham, UK (Morita)
Cartography and Children: Jacqueline Anderson, Canada (A. Wood)
    [Henry Castner, co-chair]

Three New Visions for USNC
1. Recruit new ICA affiliate members.
2. Encourage new member countries to join ICA.
   • Committee members should try to find out who is involved in mapping in different
     countries who are not members of ICA. The Census Bureau (Tim Trainor and
     Deanna Fowler) conducted workshops on census mapping last summer in Africa.
     The Bureau also has a contact at the United Nations who is involved with the
     mapping agencies of many countries. Bill will provide these names. Dave Jones may
     also know some names. Other contacts may be obtained through PAIGH and John
     Kelmelis, or through Rotary Club technical exchange programs.
3. Improve communication with those interested in ICA.
   • Judy would like to assemble an e-mail list of persons who want to receive news about
     ICA. Ted and Bob will ask for approval to use the CaGIS membership list for a one-
     time mailing to solicit interest in being on a USNC news mailing list. The mailing
     will also direct people to the ICA and Beijing web pages.
   • Judy will solicit reports via e-mail from U.S. members of each commission for
     presentation at USNC-ICA meetings.
   • The ACSM meeting next year in Little Rock will be a good place to give a
     presentation on ICA.
   • The USNC would like to host a coffee or some kind of gathering at ICA for
     Americans who are attending to get together.
   • Judy reviewed the USNC web pages, now at http://www.msu.edu/~olsonj/USNC-
     ICA.html. She invited suggestions on how the pages could better serve the USNC.

Future Meetings
One USNC meeting per year will probably be sufficient. Fall meetings might be better
timing but are problematic given the uncertainty of ACSM’s fall meetings. The next
USNC meeting will be on the morning of Sunday, March 19, 2000 in Little Rock.
REPORT OF LEO DILLON TO THE ICA/USNC
OCTOBER 1999

This report is offered in lieu of my presence at the ACSM meeting, October 17. It covers the status of my two areas of responsibility with the USNC Map Exhibit and Petchenik Competition for the 1998-99 period, ending with the Ottawa Conference in August 1999.

MAP EXHIBIT

Invitations to submit entries to the ICA International Map Exhibit were sent out in November 1998 to over 100 map producers in the U.S. Jon Thies of Intergraph provided the mailing list of the IMTA, which greatly expanded our own mailing list and brought in new map producers. Out of more than 100 entries, 70 were chosen to send to Ottawa.

At the Ottawa Conference, the U.S. received four awards for three maps, a record as far as I am aware. In the urban category, Ludington, Ltd.’s Axonometric map of Downtown Chicago won two awards: Delegates Choice and Public’s Choice. In the topographic category, Northern Cartographic’s map entitled Land-Scapes Vermont won the Official Committee’s Choice, and Allan Cartography won the Public’s Choice for El Salvador: Un Ricon Magico.

One of the problems, as in the past, was the display of digital products. Delegates could often not navigate the software successfully. Jon Thies recommended, and I agree, that a system of loading entries onto a hard drive would be an option to explore for future conferences.

Tanya Allison of Montgomery Community College in Maryland is replacing me on the USNC for arranging the Map Exhibit.

BARBARA PETCHENIK CHILDREN’S MAP COMPETITION

The Petchenik Competition was advertised in the U.S. through a series of forums. Perhaps most useful was the Internet, which allowed me to advertise it to a Geographic Education listserv, from which I received many inquiries from teacher.

Despite a solid turnout of over 250 maps, I felt the cartographic quality was generally poor. At the Ottawa meeting of the Working Group on Children and Cartography, there was some dissent over how to organize the Competition in the future, or whether or not it should continue at all. One individual decried the favoring of cute maps with little cartographic content over those that displayed an understanding of cartographic processes. I saw almost none of the latter in the submissions I received.

The U.S. did not receive any awards, for the second conference in a row. I am looking for someone to help me manage the next Competition for the Beijing conference and then take over this function for the USNC.