


Electronic information is a reality in many of our map libraries. What fears, experiences, and/or expectations await the map librarian in the 1990's? Abstracts of two articles are presented here to initiate this column. The first challenges us to think about the potential use of electronic information in the map library; the second describes one map library's experience of establishing a public access computer-assisted mapping program.


Abstract: In the earliest days of recorded civilization, people pressed square-ended styluses into wet clay to record information. Today they press square keys on a computer keyboard. Vast amounts of data about the Earth and man's activities are being entered into digital spatial data bases. These data have been structured so that they are described in terms of their exact geographic position on the Earth. The data, in the form of points, lines, or polygons, can describe geology, soils, water, forest cover, or population statistics. To use these data, geographic information systems (GIS's) are being developed to collect, inventory manage, analyze, and display the spatially referenced data sets. These systems will handle both raster (grid cell) or vector (line segment) data and allow the use of knowledge-based software to emulate the problem-solving process of the human brain. By having access to spatial data and the accompanying GIS and knowledge-based software, librarians will be able to expand their reference services. Because the library has been the center for published information through time and is the one place where all disciplines can truly live together, people will expect to find spatial data there also. The biggest problem in establishing this type of library system may be in just getting the approval to start. Because the data and the systems are now available is there any
This paper describes the program. The decline in published thematic mapping, especially in the United States, has been an important catalyst in moving map libraries toward the establishment of public access computer-assisted mapping programs. Such a program began at the University of Washington Libraries in the summer of 1988. This paper describes the program and its use within the instructional program.

Hiller, Steve and Johnson, Jenny Marie (1989). Public access computer-assisted mapping and the instructional program. Reference Services Review, 17:4, pp. 87-90. The decline in published thematic mapping, especially in the United States, has been an important catalyst in moving map libraries toward the establishment of public access computer-assisted mapping programs. Such a program began at the University of Washington Libraries in the summer of 1988. This paper describes the program and its use within the instructional program.

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cartographic events

EVENTS CALENDAR

1990

June 10-13: Canadian Cartographic Association Annual Meeting, Victoria, B.C. Contact Dr. C. Peter Keller, Dept. of Geography, University of Victoria, P.O. Box 1700, Victoria B.C. V8W 2Y2; (604) 721-7333.

June 10-14: 1990 Special Libraries Association Geography & Map Division Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA. Contact: David McQuillan, Map Library (Cooper Library), University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-4723.


June 22: ALA Preconference Workshop: 'Remote-Sensing Imagery: Identification, Control, and Utilization.' Advance registration, postmarked by May 26, 1990 will be required. Contact: Nancy Vick, MAGERT Preconference, Map and Geography Library, University of Illinois, 1408 W. Gregory, Urbana, IL 61801; (217) 333-0827.

June 23-28: American Library Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. Contact: Brent Allison, University of Minnesota, S 76 Wilson Library, 309 119th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455; (612) 624-0306.

July 23-27: 4th International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling, Zurich, Switzerland. Contact: Dr. Duane Marble, Dept. of Geography, 103 Bricker Hall, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210.


September 23-28: ASPRS/ACSM Fall Meeting, Atlantic City, NJ. Contact: ACSM; (703) 241-2446.


October 24-28: North American Cartographic Information Society Tenth Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL. Contact: James F. Fryman, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0406.

1991

March 25-28: Auto Carto 10, Tenth International Symposium on Automated Cartography, Baltimore, MD. Contact: Auto Carto 10, Department of Geography, 105 Wilkeson, North Campus, State University of New York at Buffalo, Amherst, NY 14260.


March 25-28: Auto Carto 10, Tenth International Symposium on Automated Cartography, 'Advanced Research in Automated Cartography and Geographic Information Systems.' Sponsored in part by the American Cartographic Association. The Tenth International Symposium on Automated Cartography (Auto Carto 10) will be held in conjunction with the spring meetings of ACSM and ASPRS on March 25-28, 1991. The theme of Auto Carto 10 will be 'Advanced Research in Automated Cartography and Geographic Information Systems,' and the meeting will consist of a single track of paper sessions through the conference. Thus, only about 30 to 40 papers will be accepted. To achieve high quality and consistency in the program, Auto Carto 10 will be (to the best of our knowledge) the first