is nearly as remarkable as Peuquet’s resolute determination that we can make progress by working on them. Turning over the material in this book reveals both progress and potentials. Putting all of this together in one cohesive picture is remarkable.

Minor Complaints

The title is ambitious and perhaps misleading: the work is at once more focused and broader. The title may suggest to some that it will catalog all of the ways that space and time have been represented as in art, maps, etc. It contains very little of that. Rather the book surveys philosophical, psychological, and computer science thought on mental and database representations of things that are situated and related in both space and time. Many kinds of representations of them are barely considered: artistic renderings or the various approaches that cartographers have taken to trying to show both space and time.

The large number of back and forth references within the text become a distraction, but, in fairness, may be the only way to meet the case. The various threads of thought that are woven into this piece each are developed in their turn, but the relations among them might have been lost without explicitly noting the connections. Still, the number of forward and backward references within the text suggests that a hypertext version may have been more natural.

Cataloging what we know about mental representation of space and time leaves one with the dismayingly realization of how little we really know about how all of this works.

Conclusion

This is an important, even a great, book. It covers a lot in a thin volume. It will be valuable for organizing graduate seminars on geographic information science and on spatial cognition for years to come. The book organizes several threads into a coherent cloth. It reflects Peuquet’s faith that these things can work.

This book is deep-thought provoking. It surveys and synthesizes a pile of far-flung literature, summarizing and raising questions with it as it goes. Psychology, philosophy, computer science, and even cartography are brought together. In the process, it leads a reader through the field of GIS in a way that provides understanding far deeper and insightful than any of the GIS texts that are out there. It shows the conceptual roots of representing geographic phenomena in computers. It brings one to the edge of the research frontiers. And points the way ahead.

map library bulletin board

From Christopher Mixon, new Map Library Bulletin Board Editor.

Recently I went on a ski trip to Northern Wisconsin and on my way I spent four nights with friends in Milwaukee. I had made plans to meet a fellow map cataloger from the American Geographical Society Map Collection and my former cartography employer for lunch. Of course we chose Indian cuisine, who wouldn’t? After lunch I visited the AGS Collection for a quick tour. Though I had used the AGS collection as a UW-Milwaukee geography student, I had never had the tour. While at the AGS, I was able to speak with some colleagues I knew and was introduced to several others I did not know. As I spoke to the folks at the AGS collection, I noticed that almost three hours had slipped by. I was struck by the fact that librarians (map librarians at least) have a lot to talk about.

As your new Editor of the Map Library Bulletin Board for 2004 through 2006, I invite you, who are involved in library map collections, to tell your story. Tell us about a conference or workshop you have recently attended. Submit your research papers. Many articles in past issues have described map collections in great detail, from their histories to circulation policies to notable collections within. We all want to know how other institutions deal with issues such as cataloging, storage, maintenance, etc.

One issue that came to mind for this column was the name. A bulletin board might be fine if you are selling puppies but not so for posting your scholarly research. Perhaps a new name for this column is in order. Just a thought – let me know what you think.

Please submit your work to me, preferably as an email attachment, to mixonch@auburn.edu, or in the body of an email. Submissions via snail-mail are gladly accepted and should be sent to me at RBD Library, 231 Mell St., Auburn University, AL 36849-5605.

Christopher H. Mixon