



cartographic perspectives

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Members of NACIS,

Welcome to *CP52*, the third issue of 2005. In case you are wondering, it's September 20...about 79 degrees out (in Duluth no less!)...a crystal-blue sky hovering above me...the leaves are morphing into brilliant fall colors...Il Divo is spinning on the ipod...nope, not a bad day at all. I would prefer, though, to be on my bike riding the hills of Duluth instead of here in my office writing this column (note to self to revisit priorities).

With this issue we say goodbye to Ren Vasiliev as Book Review Editor. Ren has served on the editorial board for 8 years now, and has been book review editor for 5 of those years. I have truly valued Ren's staunch work as book review editor, and I am extremely grateful for her wit, sass and creativity. I have known Ren for 19 years now, and I am proud (and amazed even) to say that we are not only col-

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(letter from editor continued)

leagues, but are friends. I will miss the delightful banter and censorable emails from her. Ren is one of those rare NACIS members who has served our community quietly for many years. Thank you Ren.

CP remained busy and prosperous this past year publishing 3 regular issues, and one non-series issue celebrating the 25th anniversary of NACIS that was distributed to attendees of the 25th Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City. Manuscript submissions have remained healthy...seventeen different manuscripts have crossed my desk so far this year...seven of those were published or will be published...several are still under review. Planning for 2006 is well underway, with two of the three issues for next year pretty much planned and moving forward.

In this issue of CP we have a brilliant mix of papers. *Mapping the Miasma* by Tom Koch demonstrates for the reader that medical

mapping did not arise from with the appearance of cholera in the nineteenth century, but instead appeared as early as the sixteen hundreds as a means for showing spatial relationships between disease occurrence, and locations from whence it was believed the disease causing pathogens were borne. This paper provides fascinating accounts of early medical mapping examples, and the social implications of the decisions made and the policies that were instituted to contain the spread of infectious diseases.

Attention to Maps by Robert Lloyd introduces the reader to the notion of *consilience*, and how this concept can facilitate research in cognitive mapping across disciplines. Consilience is a concept that insists that facts and fact-based theories in any one discipline apply across all disciplines. If theories are robust across disciplines, then knowledge gained in one field can smooth the progress of discovery in other fields. This

paper provides many examples of how research in psychology, cognitive science, and neuro psychology on vision and attention can inform research in map design.

Looking Closer: A Guide to Making Bird's-eye Views of National Park Service Cultural and Historical Sites by Tom Patterson takes the reader through some historical examples of bird's-eye view maps dating back to the Renaissance, and then weaves his story with current, practical examples of the National Park Service's 3D view maps. Anyone even remotely interested in producing these types of maps/representations will find this paper incredibly useful, and the graphics awesome.

Enjoy!

As always, I welcome your ideas, comments and suggestions.

Warmest Regards,

Scott Freundschuh, Editor