



General Assembly 2015 document / Assemblée Générale 2015
Item 18

Topic: **Report of the Publications Committee**

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ICA Journal

The major accomplishment of the ICA publication activities for the 4-year period between 2011-2015 was the establishment of its own journal. Previously, ICA did not have a recognized international journal. The Publications Committee argued that this was a detriment to the discipline as a whole, and specifically to scholars and others who wish to be recognized for their scholarly work on an international level. Further, a responsibility of organizations like the ICA is to make sure that such an outlet is available and that the resultant journal has the highest international standing.

The decision to pursue an international journal was complicated by the new open-access publishing model. Essentially, the open access model has the author, or underwriting organization such as the ICA, pay a publication fee of as much as \$3250 per article. Open access options usually do not provide help with copyediting or layout – two of the most time-consuming aspects, particularly for an international journal. They also do not provide a stipend for an editor. To make the open-access model work, either the authors pay a considerable amount to have their work published, or the sponsoring organization (in this case, the ICA) invests a large amount of money to pay the copy-editor and the production personnel. If the ICA had sponsored the entire publishing costs, the annual amount could easily have exceeded \$30,000.

Before proceeding with its own journal the existing journals with close relationships to ICA such as The Cartographic Journal, CAGIS and Cartographica have been evaluated as well. In the end, a decision was made by the ICA Executive Committee to pursue a subscription-based model from a major publishing house where the copy-editor and production costs are shared among a large number of journals. The three largest publishers of journals, Elsevier, Springer, and Taylor & Francis, were all contacted and submitted competing proposals, with Taylor & Francis being the most responsive and agreed on including abstracts in multiple languages, including Spanish and Chinese. Although the general procedure with Taylor & Francis was ready to be agreed already in 2012 the EC decided on having a further period of

consultations and discussion with major stakeholders to ensure an appropriate start of the journal. With the results of this consultations Taylor & Francis agreed and submitted a new proposal by the end of 2013. The name of the journal was set as “International Journal of Cartography.” William Cartwright and Anne Ruas were assigned as co-editors of the journal. The first issue of the new International Journal of Cartography, the official journal of the International Cartographic Association, is in line to appear at the ICC in Rio de Janeiro.

Book Publications

Springer remains the publisher of books for the ICA. The ICA book series is a subseries of the Lecture Notes in Geoinformation and Cartography. The series publishes:

- proceedings that are peer-reviewed and published in association with a
- post-proceedings consisting of thoroughly revised final papers; and
- research monographs that may be based on individual research projects.

In addition to the proceedings of the ICC, the series includes a number of books that represent the work of ICA commissions. Since 2012, the following titles have been proposed or published:

Maps of Southern Africa, 1790-1914
Liebenberg, Elri, Demhardt, Imre Josef
2016

Trends and Technologies for Maps and the Internet
Cammack, Rex (Ed.)
2016

Cartography - Maps Connecting the World
27th International Cartographic Conference 2015 - ICC2015
Robbi Sluter, Claudia, Madureira Cruz, Carla Bernadete, Leal de Menezes,
Paulo Márcio (Eds.)
2015

Abstracting Geographic Information in a Data Rich World
Burghardt, Dirk, Duchene, Cécile, Mackaness, William (Eds.)
2014

History of Cartography
International Symposium of the ICA 2012
2014

Cartography from Pole to Pole

Selected Contributions to the XXVIth International Conference of the ICA,
Dresden 2013
Buchroithner, Manfred, Prectel, Nikolas, Burghardt, Dirk (Eds.)

Geospatial Visualisation
Moore, Antoni, Drecki, Igor (Eds.) 2013

History of Cartography
International Symposium of the ICA Commission, 2010
Liebenberg, Elri, Demhardt, Imre Josef (Eds.) 2012

Maps for the Future
Children, Education and Internet
Zentai, László, Reyes Nunez, Jesús (Eds.) 2012

Springer is now publishing up to 90 pages of color illustrations per book.

In response to concerns raised by the Publications Committee and others, the price of the books has also been decreased from past offerings, except for proceedings that are priced differently by Springer (around 70 € more per book). In light of this, the Publications Committee recommended that the word “Proceedings” no longer be used for ICA publications – even those related to ICC meetings.

English-language editing continues to be a major problem with the series. Peterson and Cartwright have applied considerable pressure on Springer for proper editing. As a result, chapters in a 2014 publication were significantly revised by Springer. With the proper encouragement, Springer is capable of providing English-language editing services.

Other Publications

Books based on the ICA Barbara Petchenik Competition have been published by the ESRI Press. Through the efforts of Liu Yaolin (ICA Vice-President), ICA entered in a new relationship with Sinomaps Press in China. Books based on both partnerships are in progress. It is hoped that this will lead to a new long-term relationship for the ICA Barbara Petchenik Competition.

The ICA also publishes regular columns in a number of other publications. David Fairbairn contributes a monthly column to *GIM International*, an important information source for the geomatics industry with home offices in the Netherlands.

Georg Gartner contributes a column to *ArcNews*, a news magazine with a worldwide circulation of more than 600000 that is published quarterly for those interested in mapping and GIS technology.

Michael Peterson contributes a twice-yearly column to Geospatial World, a monthly magazine (formerly known as GIS Development magazine) that addresses current and relevant issues of the global geospatial domain.