February 12, 2019

Professor László Zentai  
Secretary-General & Treasurer, International Cartographic Association  
Department of Cartography and Geoinformatics  
Eötvös University  
H-1117 Budapest, Pázmány Péter sétány 1/A  
Hungary

Dear Secretary-General Zentai:

As the Chair of the United States National Committee (USNC) to the International Cartographic Association (ICA), on behalf of the United States of America, I am pleased to submit a nomination for a new Commission on Geospatial Semantics. The terms of reference and bios for the chair, Dalia Varanka (USA), and vice-chair, Francis Harvey (Germany), are attached.

Respectfully,

Aileen R. Buckley, PhD  
Chair, U.S. National Committee to the International Cartographic Association
Proposed Chair, Dalia Varanka

Dalia Varanka is a Research Geographer with the U.S. Geological Survey and Adjunct Professor at Johns Hopkins University. She received her BA degree from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in Urban and Regional Analysis (1978), her M.A. degree in Geography at the University of Illinois at Chicago (1987), and her Ph.D. degree in Geography from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (1994). Dr. Varanka began her Federal career in 1993 and has been a Research Grade Evaluation (RGE) scientist since 1999. Dr. Varanka leads the Geospatial Semantics and Ontology project of the Center of Excellence for Geospatial Information Science (http://cegis.usgs.gov/). She teaches a Geospatial Ontology and Semantics course for the Geographic Information Systems degree for the Johns Hopkins University Advanced Academic Programs (http://advanced.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-degree-programs/geographic-information-systems/).

Proposed Vice-Chair, Francis Harvey

Francis Harvey is Professor for Visual Communication in Geography at the University of Leipzig, Germany (beginning 1Feb2015) and Director of the Section Cartography and Visualization in Geography at Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, also in Leipzig Germany. Previously he worked as an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography, Environment, and Society at the University of Minnesota, USA since 2001, at the University of Kentucky, USA, University of Leicester, UK, and École Polytechnique Fédéral de Lausanne, Switzerland. He also has held several visiting faculty positions in Poland and Germany. His research addresses a range of central issues for Geographic Information Science and cognate fields including visualization, semantics, interoperability, overlay algorithms, institutional aspects, cadastral issues, and practical ethics for teaching. His book A Primer of GIS (Guilford Press, second edition forthcoming) covers the use of evolving geographic information technologies and is widely used for undergraduate and graduate level courses in the USA and internationally. Currently he is chair of the International Geographical Union Commission on Geographical Information Science. More information is available at his website: https://francis-harvey.squarespace.com
February 15, 2019

Dr. Aileen Buckley
Chair, US National Committee for the ICA

Dear Dr. Buckley:

In conformance with the by-laws of the ICA, I formally acknowledge my willingness to serve as chair of the ICA Commission on Geospatial Semantics if elected by the General Assembly in July 2019.

Sincerely,

Dalia Varanka

Dalia Varanka
US Geological Survey