Minutes
Committee on State Cartography (CSC)
December 16, 2009
(Wisconsin Geological & Natural History Survey)

Present: A-Xing Zhu (chair), UW-Geography Dept; Jerry Mahun, MATC; Matt Kures, UW-Extension; Jamie Robertson, WG&NHS; John Ellingson, DOT/NGS; and Ray Kumapayi, WisDOT

SCO Staff: Howard Veregin, State Cartographer; Jim Lacy, Associate State Cartographer; AJ Wortley, Senior Outreach Specialist; and Brenda Hemstead, IS-Resource Support Technician

Late arrival: Don Dittmar, Waukesha County (12:20pm); Curtis Pulford, DOA (12:50pm); and Steve Ventura, UW-LICGF (12:55pm)

Absent: Ken Parsons, DNR; Dick Vraga, USGS; David Hart, UW-Sea Grant; and Jaime Stoltenberg, Robinson Map Library

Meeting called to order at 12:10pm

Administrative

Additions to Agenda

Proposed moving Agenda Item V ahead of II

Minutes

Zhu asked for approval of minutes from May 16, 2009 meeting; motion approved.

Next CSC meeting

Proposed Spring meeting (to be scheduled) possibly the week of May 10th.

Staffing

Veregin explained why the vacant Associate Outreach position had been frozen since January, ’09 by L&S and noted a revised justification and position description was needed. He also noted the office currently employs five students working on various projects.

Funding/grants

Veregin noted the office base funding accounts remain in tact and referenced several grant funds the office is involved in. He explained that he had taken over as co-Principal Investigator of the Baldwin Grant (aerial photography preservation); an extension was given through March, 2010 for the USGS Grant (administrative support to WIGICC) mentioning a plan to hold a Network meeting in March; and currently pursuing a CAP grant with the GIO.

Geography Relationship

Veregin noted staff currently serves on various committees and the office budget supports the building shared IT Manager and Financial Specialist. He also referenced collaborations with the departmental units supporting GIS Day and in presenting a joint session at the Wisconsin Land Information Association’s Annual Conference. Zhu noted a potential interest to venture together in research and development referencing the GIS Certification Program. Veregin described the method for the agenda and stated the strategic plan for the office is important for discussion.

CSC Composition and Role

Veregin expressed how to foster increased feedback and interaction with this committee and welcomed dialogue. Discussion and suggestions followed: Mahun noted the strategic planning exercise done four years ago was very effective; Kures suggested focusing more on one topic issue versus many issues; Robertson suggested discussing encountered difficulties rather than reporting on successes; Zhu noted the committee is more so to provide direction or plan level versus task and details; Robertson also noted value in measuring interactions throughout the year with members rather from the committee meeting itself; Zhu suggested discussing issues that hadn’t been met; Robertson asked if the Chair or an “outside person” assist in preparing the agenda; Dittmar noted he’s not sure if he’s the best representative, should consider customers and cautioned about replicating other groups (WIGICC, SAGIC, etc.) and mentioned a rep from LION or other user groups might be more appropriate; Zhu suggested holding a Town Meeting for users; Robertson noted the committee should be an
advocate for the SCO and should be committee be formerly defined by the UW?; Mahun also noted he’s not sure if he’s no longer an appropriate member and suggested having a CSC strategic planning exercise.

_Verugin noted due to time constraints, Item II on the Agenda will be skipped_

**Future Initiatives**

Verugin noted he’d like to start the Strategic Plan in January but felt it was also a catch-22 with the committee composition; Ventura noted the composition of the committee would be determined by the strategic plan; Verugin expressed he’d like to have the strategic plan in place by next fiscal year; Ventura suggested Zhu to get Geography faculty and staff involved in the strategic plan and discuss interactions with the GIO, WIGICC, along with finances and grants.

Wortley briefly reported on education and training, specifically types of **workshops the office has given**: emerging technologies and methods for mapping mashups; map design; mapping mashups for planning as well as for coastal applications around the Great Lakes; WLIA and WSLS. Zhu noted possible interest for users could be general (beginners) tutorials on mashups; Robertson suggested tracking SCO students to capture the types of jobs they acquire to support importance of office; Dittmar expressed a disconnect between large companies looking for students with spatial experience but not fresh out of school, he wasn’t sure where the disconnect is at but thought it was noteworthy for the UW to consider.

Lacy briefly reported on SIAC noting it has been dormant but the group is being revived. He expressed people aren’t aware of geospatial activities across the campus but noted the **SIAC web site had been reinvigorated** and a Summit in the Spring was an idea. **Action item** was to send a SIAC awareness announcement to the LIO list server and others.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm.

_Minutes prepared by Brenda Hemstead on March 31, 2010._