



ACMLA Awards Committee Report 2012

The Awards Committee consisted of Eva Dodsworth (Chair), Cheryl Woods and Francine Berish. The task of the committee is to ensure that the guidelines and protocols of the ACMLA Awards are carried out according to the wishes of the Association. The Committee conducted its business via email.

A call for nominations for the ACMLA Paper Award was sent to the CARTA and ACMLA mailing list on January 17th, 2012, with the response deadline of March 30th, 2012. Although no nominations were brought forward, the Committee reviewed articles in the ACMLA Bulletin issues 138 and 139 based on the criteria outlined on the ACMLA website. The Committee felt that one article stood out from the rest. Joel Kovarsky wrote the article “Searching for Early Maps: Use of Online Library Catalogs” in issue 138. The Committee had selected an external individual to read the article and summarize its qualities. Steve Xu, a GIS Associate from the University of Waterloo Library kindly took this task on. His review can be found at the end of this report.

The official Call for Student Papers also went out to the CARTA and ACMLA mailing list on January 17th, 2012, with the response deadline of March 30th, 2012. The Committee had received one submission, by Joelle Reiniger, a third year history student at the University of Alberta. The paper was selected for the Student Paper Award because it was very well written and interestingly connected a number of thematic historical maps with cultural history. Joelle will be attending the CARTO Conference 2012 and will be speaking on her paper.

Review of the article: Searching for Maps: Use of Online Library Catalogs

Author: Joel Kovarsky

ACMLA Bulletin Number 138, Winter 2011

This article is useful for researchers, librarians, archivists, collectors and dealers who search on the web for information related to library's early map holdings. It provides a comprehensive list of search engines which can be used to search printed map records from “online public access catalogues” or OPACs. Three search engines (Karlsruhe Virtual Catalog or KVK, WorldCat and IKAR Old Map Database) were described in detail and recommended. The author further introduced three helpful web search strategies: the use of advanced search pages, reading the help section and using an initial portion of the map title. They certainly will help readers to retrieve map records more easily and precisely. In response to the rapid growth of digital maps online, the author provides a list of websites with a focus on better map descriptions and quality imagery.

Reviewed by:

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Respectfully submitted by Eva Dodsworth, Chair of the ACMLA Awards Committee.