ICA Commission on Atlases ICC Preconference Workshop – Abstracts



GeoInfographics: an Integrative Information Design Model to Promote Thematic Atlas Innovation

Xi Tang
East China Normal University
xtang@geo.ecnu.edu.cn

During the current research tendency of "human-oriented" map compilation, traditional information architecture and design paradigm for thematic atlas need to face new challenges. First, how to respond to the integrative expression demands of large-capacity information in a limited media environment? Secondly, how to adapt to the personalized requirements among diverse user groups in multiple application scenarios? And, how to promote the evolution from data-driven "visualization" to knowledge-service-oriented "intelligibility"? So, we attempt to explore an integrative information design model through the practical cases such as "Climatological Atlas of Tropical Cyclones over the Western North Pacific (1981-2010)", involving various methods upon content organization, narrative logic, visual forms and design styles. On this basis, we expected to build a new conceptual framework of "GeoInfographics", while initially discuss the inter-involvement relationship and alternative coupling schemes between information graphics and thematic maps. The purpose is to motivate the liberation from Cartography, Mapping to GeoInfographics, and to expand the creative and innovative design of thematic atlases, which will facilitate their roles converting from data integration to information communication and even knowledge cognition.