

# UP CGIS (Centre for Geoinformation Science) Map Competition 2015

Cartography is the science and art of making maps; it includes all the processes and steps involved in the production of a map. Maps are powerful artefacts used to visually convey geographic information. In celebration of the International Cartographic Association's (ICA) International Map Year 2015-2016, CGIS invites you to submit your map to the UP CGIS Map Competition 2015. Maps will be evaluated by a panel of experts with prizes for the best maps.

A selection of maps will be entered into the 2015 International Map Exhibition of the 27th International Cartographic Conference, to be held in Brazil in August 2015, where an international jury selects the best entries in various categories. Maps entered into the UP CGIS Map Competition 2015 may be exhibited on the CGIS website and at future CGIS events. More information is available at http://icaci.org/map-awards/

## Map specifications

You are free to make your map using any combination of technologies and data. The map should be prepared for printing on an A0 or A1 hardcopy. A large format printer is available in Geography 1-9, Hatfield Campus, University of Pretoria (UP). Submit a description together with your map, explaining its purpose, as well as the methods, software and data used in its design and production.

Maps are submitted in one of two categories:

- Undergraduate (any undergraduate student at UP); or
- Open (any postgraduate student or personnel member at UP).

#### **Prizes**

Undergraduate

1st Prize – R2000; 2nd Prize – R1000; 3rd Prize – R500

Open

1st Prize – R3000; 2nd Prize – R1500; 3rd Prize – R750

## Map submission

Submit the complete product by Monday, 25 May 2015, 12:30, to the staff at the Unit for Geoinformation and Mapping (UGM), Geography Building Rooms 1-9, 1-8.1 or 1-5.4 between 08:30 and 12:30 on a week day. The following items are required:

# Map submission (continued)

- 1. A0 or A1 hardcopy of your map. Add your name and contact details (email and/or mobile number) on the map itself.
- 2. An electronic copy (PDF) of your map.
- 3. A description of the purpose of the map, printed on a single A4 sheet of paper using the Arial font (11 point) with one and a half line spacing. Clearly indicate the following on the sheet: your name, student or personnel number, contact details (email and/or mobile number) and the category for which you entered.

#### Map evaluation criteria

- 1. Map layout and design (cartographic elements i.e. legend, scale, letter sizes, typography, colour, symbols, projection, index map, title) (40)
- Readability of the map (balance of map elements, visual contrast, graphic density, effective choice of colours, image/ background contrast)
- 3. Overall impression (how well the theme is communicated, etc.) (20)

*Total* = 100

## Resources available at UP and on the Web

Installations of Esri's ArcGIS software, Intergraph Geomedia and MapInfo are available for download (email: ingrid.booysen@up.ac.za). Open source alternatives are freely available online, e.g. Quantum GIS at <a href="www.qgis.org">www.qgis.org</a> and SAGA at <a href="www.saga-gis.org">www.saga-gis.org</a> The UGM can assist you with a variety of geographic datasets.

A number of Esri's virtual online courses corncerning the use of ArcGIS for map design and cartography are freely available to UP staff and students via the UGM. Information and guidance about cartography and map design is available from the websites of the various Commissions of the International Cartographic Association (ICA) <a href="https://www.icaci.org">www.icaci.org</a>. Many resources are also available on the web, amongst other, on Wiki.GIS (http://wiki.gis.com/wiki/index.php /Cartographic Design) and the website of the UK Ordnance Survey (http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/resources/carto-design/cartodesign-principles.html).

Contact Ms Ingrid Booysen (ingrid.booysen@up.ac.za) at the UGM for GIS software, geographic data and access to virtual online courses.











http://internationalmapyear.org