

5. MAPBANK: AN ATLAS OF ON-LINE BASE MAPS

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The attached file contains a Mollweide equal area projection of the world made from Geographic Information System (GIS) technology. A map from a vector GIS (MapInfo for Windows) was copied onto the Windows clipboard and then pasted into Windows Paintbrush. It was then zipped using PKZIP 204G. Readers of Solstice can download this raster file from the attachments to Solstice. Other (free) maps are available from the MapBank on the WebSite <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~sarhaus/iss>.

When these downloaded maps are put into Windows Paintbrush (or other software) and are projected from the computer screen onto the wall (using a data-show and overhead projector, or some such) their resolution is of about the same quality as that of the original on-screen display in the GIS. Thus, wall-maps can be carried around on diskette. This strategy offers an easy way for university professors and pre-collegiate teachers alike to give lectures with maps tailored to their needs--from base maps for simple place-name recognition, to maps showing voting patterns by party in presidential elections, to maps showing global vehicle registration patterns, to detailed topographic maps. Naturally, the first in the MapBank series of maps offered for this style of communication are base maps.

6. INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SPATIAL SCIENCES

July 18, 1995, the International Society of Spatial Sciences (ISSS--I-triple-S) was founded as a division of the non-profit Community Systems Foundation of Ann Arbor, MI. This primarily electronic society has as board members:

Sandra L. Arlinghaus (founder), W. C. Arlinghaus, M. L. Bird, B. R. Burkhalter, W. D. Drake, F. L. Goodman, F. Harary, J. A. Licata, A. L. Loeb, K. E. Longstreth, J. D. Nystuen, W. R. Tobler. To follow its activities, browse the under-construction WebSite <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~sarhaus/iss>

with direct links to material of the American Geographical Society
and the Thunen Society.

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The focus of this new society is to place in a core position those sciences, of spatial character, that are often relegated to the periphery within academic institutional structure. Such sciences are, to name only a few, geology, geography, and astronomy. In moving along this continuum from the center of the Earth to the outer reaches of the universe, one might imagine a whole host of sciences that could also be included (from oceanography to atmospheric science to regional science). Thus, ISSS offers a platform from which individuals, institutions, and professional societies devoted to some aspect of spatial science might further their interests.

The previous article announces one of the projects of ISSS. For the past two years, during the developmental stages of ISSS, a continuing project has been the development of a MapBank. This is a bank composed of maps made by students; most of the maps are thematic maps made to supplement student term papers or as maps to be used in the classroom by students of Education. For teachers to use the MapBank, free of charge, they must make a deposit of an electronic map. Currently the MapBank numbers more than 100 electronic maps. Look for thematic maps to appear in future issues of *Solstice* and on the WebSite of ISSS. There are currently ten base maps of the world on the ISSS MapBank WebSite: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~sarhaus/iss>.