Important Dates:
Acceptance of abstract: March 28
Full Paper submission deadline: April 25 (3,000 words) All papers will be double blind reviewed

Keynote speakers include Dr Chris Perkins, and Ann Maree Willis

This 2-day interdisciplinary workshop aims to explore mapping as a specific research field for interrogating the role of cultural research within a rapidly technologising, urban ecology.

Format: the event will include guest speakers, paper presentations, and collaborative mapping of two highly contested local and global urban scenarios. The intention is to develop a multiplicity of critical mapping discourses for each scenario through interdisciplinary dialogues.

Objective: to generate proceedings as a series of working papers, and to initiate a range of ongoing interdisciplinary dialogues about practices of mapping and future research projects. To this end, the workshop seeks to bring together a variety of perspectives about both conceptual, and applied approaches to mapping as forms and processes that engage with culture, nature and environments. The strategic significance of mapping as a form of engagement with new knowledge about the dynamic interplays in configurations of culture/nature needs critical consideration. Central to this, is to explore the forms of agency which determine our ideas about relationships between place and space, and their affective and imaginative boundaries, tensions and ambiguities.

Papers might respond to (but are not limited by) the following questions:

Mapping Types and Processes:
• Is there a typology of participatory maps? If not, should we develop one? (e.g. local maps of valued places, environmental planning maps, emotional maps, insurgent maps, narrative maps etc)
• What kinds of ‘knowledge interrogation’ can occur to produce new insights about connections between material environments, communities, individuals, and institutions?
• What prior ontological frameworks are put in place by the Researcher to begin a mapping process? Who are the agents or agencies that make the decisions about what is selected and analyzed for mapping processes?

Digital Issues:
• What are the ethical dimensions of this post-human, material agency in a de-territorialised data stream?
• What are emerging mapping practices that incorporate the digital in new ways? How do insurgent digital mapping processes operate and in what contexts?
• How can we conceive of information technologies, GIS softwares and social networking beyond mechanisms of statistical knowledge collations?
• What other mapping technologies are available? What is their role?

Power Relationships in Mapping Practices:
• How are practices of mapping impacting on environmental planning, urban design and policy contexts?
• How can terms like ‘culture’ and ‘nature’ be defined or re-presented through hybrid data assemblages?

Please email an abstract of 250 words plus a short 50 word bio with contact details to Kaye Shumack at k.shumack@uws.edu.au by March 21, 2011

CCR Workshop Committee:
Helen Armstrong / Juan Francisco Salazar / Kaye Shumack