Dynamic Maps: A HUMlab workshop

September 17-18, 2003

This workshop takes as its starting-point both new interactive visualization technologies and traditional representation, maps and cartography. It will take place in a modern information technology space with ample opportunities for testing new technologies and for showing examples as well as informal discussion. In co-operation with BildMuseet, the museum of contemporary art and visual culture, a unique collection of early pictorial representations will be shown. These will serve as a starting-point for a discussion of visual traditions and scientific representation. A key concern is the dynamic nature of representations - both traditional and new. As a matter of fact, the whole lab will be plastered with visual material from the Images of Thought exhibition and other high-quaility map-related exhibitions. After a reception at the museum on the first day, dinner will take place in the old town hall in Umeå.

Particpants come from many different disciplines, and among the speakers are people with a background in geography, art history, information visualization, history, computing science and linguistics. There will be three international speakers and about five or six national speakers. Among the speakers are

Katy Börner (Indiana University, virtual/tele participation)
Martin Dodge (UCL London)
Judith Donath (MIT Media Lab)
George J. Gumerman (Santa Fe Institute, Arizona State University)
Jan Svenungsson (independent artist)
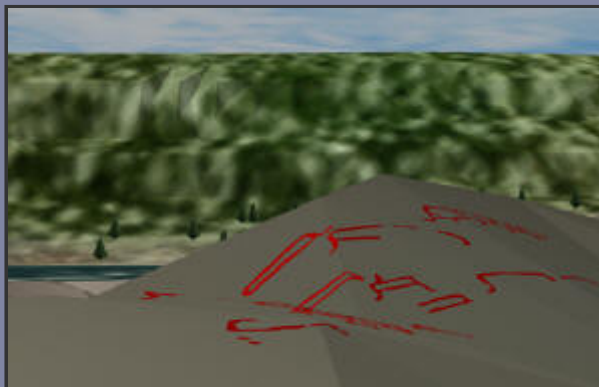**Sverker Sörlin** (Sister)

The event is sponsored by the Humanities faculty, Umeå University and the The Bank of Sweden Tercentenary Foundation.

The idea is to encourage an informal dialogue and to allow time for exciting meetings between disciplines, traditions, ideas and people. Apart from the "official" speakers, there will also be about fifteen other participants. Also, there will be a session with an artist who will present and discuss his/her work in relation to maps and cartographic representation. Several interesting projects will be demonstrated, and there will be also be time to discuss project ideas and visions.

HUMlab is a high-profile meeting place between the humanities, culture, art and new technology. It is an open, flexible information technology environment which brings together people from all over the university as well as artists and others. The lab is open to students as well as faculty, and the idea is not to make any difference between different kinds of people, and to encourage interaction, multiple perspectives and many simultaneous activities. HUMlab research focuses on visualization, computer game

studies, virtual environments, virtualization of language, cultural heritage methodology, embodiment and geographical information systems. HUMlab runs a seminar series which attracts a varied and large audience, and recent international seminar speakers include Katherine Hayles, Brenda Laurel, Mark Stephen Meadows and Bonnie DeVarco.

Please contact patrik.svensson@humlab.umu.se for more information. Registration for the workshop should be emailed to anmal@humlab.umu.se by June 22 (this does not apply to conference speakers of course). There is only a limited number of people that we can accept, and we will send out final confirmations (and practical information) as soon as possible. There is no workshop fee, and the the workshop dinner will be free for accepted speakers and participants. Everyone is expected to contribute and to attend all the activities.
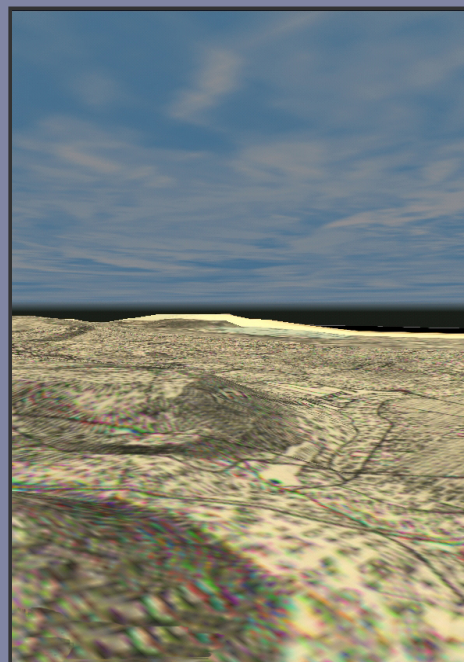
Program

Wednesday, September 17

10.00-10.15 Introduction (Patrik Svensson)

10.15-11.00 A Piece of Paper, a Planet and the Cartographic Desire (Jan-Erik Lundström)

11.00-11.15 Coffee

11.15-12.00 The Role of Maps in Virtual Research (Martin Dodge)

12.00-13.15 Lunch

13.15-14.00 Symbolic and Iconic Mapping in Virtual Environments (Patrik Svensson)

14.00-14.45 Social Visualization (Judith Donath)

14.45-15.00 Coffee

15.00-15.30 Continued coffee + poster/ presentation session

15.30-16.15 Psycho-mapping (Jan Svenungsson)

16.15-16.45 Visualizing User Trails in Virtual Worlds (Katy Börner)

17.00 Reception at the BildMuseet

19.00 Dinner at Rex (in very close proximity to the hotel)

Thursday, September 18

9.00-9.45 Maps as ideas (Sverker Sörlin)

9.45-10.15 Coffee

10.15-10.55 HUMlab presentation (the lab, projects, technology showcase)

10.55-11.15 Didgeridoo as Compass: Maps in Sound. Homage to the Spirit Maps of the Australian Aborigines (James Barrett)

11.15-12.00 Understanding the Past: Predicting the Future (George Gumerman)

12.00-12.30 Concluding discussion (Kjell Jonsson)

12.40 Light lunch

There will also be two public seminars in the HUMlab seminar series in connection with the workshop (these are not part of the workshop):

Tuesday, September 16
15.10 Seminar: **Modeling Prehistoric Culture Change in the American Southwest** (George Gumerman). The seminar is arranged in cooperation with the **Department of Culture and Media**.

Thursday, September 18
15.10 Seminar: **Presentations of Self in the Virtual World** (Judith Donath). The seminar is arranged in cooperation with **UCIT** (Umeå Center for Interaction Technology)