

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Geospatial Web Services 2008**



#### **Professor Christopher B. Jones (University of Cardiff)**

Chris Jones has been Professor of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in the School of Computer Science at Cardiff University since 2000, having held previous academic positions at the University of Glamorgan, and the University of Cambridge. Before this he was employed on geological computing applications at BP Exploration and at the British Geological Survey. Research interests include geographical knowledge representation and indexing methods for spatially-aware web search engines; multiscale spatial databases and automated cartographic design with regard to map generalisation and automated text placement. He led the initial development of the Maplex map labelling system (now an ESRI product) and has received research funding from UK Research councils, industry and the European Commission.



#### **Professor Michael Batty (CASA, UCL)**

Dr. Michael Batty is Bartlett Professor of Planning at University College London where he directs the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA). Previously (1990-1995) he was Director of the NSF National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA) in the State University of New York at Buffalo and from 1979 until 1990, he was Professor of City and Regional Planning in the University of Wales at Cardiff. His research work involves the development of computer models of cities and regions, and he has published many books and articles in this area, the most recent being **Cities and**

**Complexity** (MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 2005) and an edited volume **GIS, Spatial Analysis and Modeling** (ESRI Press, Redlands, CA, 2005). He is editor of the journal **Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design**. The work of his group can be seen on the web site <http://www.casa.ucl.ac.uk/> and at <http://www.casabook.com/>. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 2004.

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**Professor Mike Jackson (CGS, University of Nottingham)**

Mike Jackson was appointed to the Chair of Geospatial Science at the University of Nottingham in April 2005 where he has established the Centre of the same name. He was previously Director of the Space Division at QinetiQ. Mike was Head of Location Platform at Hutchison 3G ("3") between 2000 and 2002 with design responsibility for the 3-G location-based services for Hutchison Wampoa's global telecommunications companies. Earlier he was CEO of geospatial software developer Laser-Scan Holdings plc. and he held research/management posts at the Natural Environment Research Council (during which time he was a Principal Investigator for NASA), the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell and the Department of Environment. Mike has a 1st in Geography and a PhD (Civil Engineering) both from Manchester University and an honorary doctorate from Kingston University. He is a non-executive director of the Open Geospatial Consortium Inc (OGC), of OGC Europe and GDC Ltd

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**Dr Rob Lemmens (ITC Delft, Netherlands)**

Rob Lemmens graduated in 1989 at Delft University of Technology, Faculty of Geodesy with a specialization in mathematical geodesy and point positioning. After a research period during his military service at the National Aerospace Laboratory, he joined the Faculty of Geodesy on a research project on GPS in bathymetric applications. From 1994 till 1998 he worked at the University of

Zambia as project consultant and lecturer in the field of GIS and land surveying and was responsible for the development of the computer infrastructure at the Department of Surveying. In 1998 Rob joined the Division of Spatial Information Theory and Applied Computer Science at ITC, where he developed and executed several courses on core GIS topics, GIS application development and Internet GIS. He has been on consultancy missions for projects on GIS and geo-spatial data infrastructures in Africa and Asia. Currently he is carrying out his PhD research on Distributed Interoperable Processing in GIS at the ITC's Department of Geo-information Processing.

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### **Dr Stefania De Zorzi (CORILA, Italy)**

Stefania is coordinator of GIS4EU project. CORILA is an association of Ca'Foscari University and the University Institute of Architecture of Venice, the University of Padua and Italy's National Research Council. It is a non-profit organisation, overseen by the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR).

The GIS4EU project aims to provide base cartography datasets (administration units, hydrography, transportation networks and elevation themes) for Europe, and to ensure its cross-scale, cross language and cross-border interoperability and accessibility according to standards and INSPIRE directive requirements.

The approach of the project aims to develop a common data model, harmonisation, aggregation and data exposition rules and guidelines in order to enable access to consistent and homogenous reference data provided by cartographic authorities from different countries and levels (national, regional and local) without building one central database and service. During the process an operational validation of INSPIRE standards and implementation rules will be performed in order to provide input in to it and validate the general rules. Guidelines and procedures will be developed by applying examples onto a sample of data, and a GIS4EU portal will be built and launched during the running of the project. Thereby, after the full implementation of the project, there will be a significant and noticeable progress in the accessibility, usability and exploitation of reference data through Europe.

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**Dr Dirk Burghardt (University of Zurich)**

Dirk Burghardt is Lecturer in the GIS Division. He holds a MSc degree in Physics and a PhD degree in GIScience from the University of Dresden. Currently he has finished his Habilitation at the University of Zurich on the topic of "Automated generalisation in digital and mobile cartography". Previously to his Lecturer Position, he worked for years as Product Manager with main tasks in research and developments for a map production company in Switzerland. In 2005 and 2006 he was as deputyship of chair at the Department of Cartography and Geodesy at the University of Bonn in Germany. His main research interests include mobile information systems, automated generalisation and map production, geo web services as well as multiple representation databases. -

8057 Zurich

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**Dr Catherine Dolbear (Ordnance Survey, UK)**

After completing her DPhil in artificial intelligence at the University of Oxford's Engineering Science department, Cathy joined Ordnance Survey in February 2005. She is currently a Senior Research Scientist in Ordnance Survey's Research Labs. Cathy leads the GeoSemantics research team. Her current research interests include semantic interoperability, the use of logical ontologies for customising geospatial data and interfacing ontologies to spatial databases.

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**Dr Moritz Neun**

Dr Moritz Neun is working for ESRI Switzerland. He obtained a Master of Science in Computer Science with a minor in geography from the University of Fribourg (Switzerland) in 2004 and a PhD degree in Geography with a specialization in GIScience from the University of Zurich in 2007. From 2004 to 2007 he was research assistant at the "Geographic Information Systems" division and from 2007 to 2008 at the "Geographic Information Visualization and Analysis" division at the University of Zurich. His research interests are the control of map generalization with constraint optimization techniques, advanced data structures for map generalization and geographic web services for map generalization. He developed the framework WebGen which contains client- and server-components for coupling generalization systems in an interoperable way.

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**Dr Jon Blower (e-Science Center, Reading)**

Dr Jon Blower is the Technical Director of the Reading e-Science Centre. His current research interests include the web-based sharing, analysis, intercomparison and visualization of environmental datasets, with particular application to the ocean sciences. He participates in several European operational oceanographic programmes, including MERSEA, ECOOP and MyOcean (Marine Core Services) and also works on the GENESI-DR project, which aims to develop a European data infrastructure for Earth Observation data. He is the Principal Investigator on the NERC Knowledge Transfer project SHAVER (Sharing and Visualizing large- volume Environmental Data). His background is in the Earth Sciences (MA, Geological Sciences, Cambridge; PhD, physical volcanology, Bristol) and has also worked in industry as a software engineer.

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**Theodor Förster (ITC Delft, Netherlands)**

Theodor Förster is a PhD candidate at ITC's Geo-Information Processing department (GIP) since end of 2005. His PhD research covers the technical

generalization aspects within the framework of the Ruimte voor Geo-Informatie (RGI) 002 research project "Generation and use of base maps for integrated querying of digital physical development plans" ([www.durpondergronden.nl](http://www.durpondergronden.nl)). In this context he is mostly interested into web service standards for geo-processes and geo-data and the formalization of generalization operators. The PhD study is supervised by Jantien Stoter and Menno-Jan Kraak.

In 2005 he received his Diploma in Geoinformatics at the University of Muenster, Germany (<http://www.uni-muenster.de>). Before and after graduation he worked at the Institute for Geoinformatics in Muenster (<http://ifgi.uni-muenster.de>) for different projects related to GI web-application development.

He is active member of the 52north open source initiative ([www.52north.org](http://www.52north.org)) and is leading the development of the 52north Web Processing Service (52n WPS). Besides that he is participating in the standardization of geo-processing services at OGC.



### **Philip Smart (Cardiff University)**

Philip Smart is a completing PhD student and Research Associate in Cardiff University. Philip's PhD is entitled 'Geographic Information Extraction on the Semantic Web'. This involves the development of a geospatial rule language for the representation and reasoning of both deduction and integrity rules on top of geographic ontologies. Philip is also a research associate on the European Project TRIPOD. His responsibilities involve the development of a toponym ontology which facilitates image caption toponym resolution (a task of Named Entity Recognition, Word Sense Disambiguation and geospatial footprint retrieval), in addition to place identification from 3D models using locational and directional information.

Philip's research interests include development and maintenance of geographic ontologies, integration of description logics and rule languages, mediation based ontology architectures and development of Java based geospatial web services.

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**Dr Jerry Swan (CGS, University of Nottingham)**

Dr Jerry Swan obtained his PhD in Pure Mathematics (computational group theory) at Nottingham. He has nearly 20 years experience in industry as a software engineer and OOA\ID architect and has worked in application areas as diverse as logistics and generative music. In the 1990s, he ran a software development company employing more than 20 people.

Research interests include optimization, graph theory, symbolic computation, knowledge representation, machine learning, semantics and ontologies.

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**Dr Gobe Hobona (CGS, University of Nottingham)**

Dr Gobe Hobona holds a PhD in Geomatics from Newcastle University. His PhD thesis, titled "Web-based Discovery and Dissemination of Multidimensional Geographic Information", was an investigation into how ontology-supported 3D visualization can improve web-based geographic information retrieval. He has previously worked as a postdoctoral researcher at Newcastle University developing a workflow management system for OGC web services based on Grid computing.

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**Dr Suchith Anand (CGS, University of Nottingham)**

Suchith Anand is a Research Fellow in Mobile Location Based Services at the Center for Geospatial Science, University of Nottingham. His research interests are in automated map generalization, geohydroinformatics, mobileGIS, location based services, optimization techniques and asset management.

Suchith took his PhD (Automatic derivation of schematic maps from large scale digital data for MobileGIS) from the School of Computing, University of Glamorgan, Wales. Between 1998 and 2005 he worked at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, London South Bank University and Birkbeck University of London. He also did three year part-time lectureship at School of Computing, University of Glamorgan. He is editorial board member of GIS Professional. He is also reviewer of many academic journals and international GIS conferences.

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