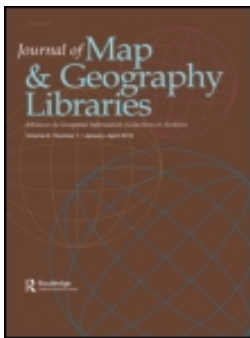Routledge
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Announcement

Best Paper of the Year Award for Volume 11

The eleventh volume of the *Journal of Map & Geography Libraries: Advances in Geospatial Information, Collections & Archives* contained a variety of topics in its first issue, with the second and third issues focused on the theme of *Geospatial Data Management, Curation, and Preservation.* The evaluation criteria for the Best Paper Award are the papers' quality of research and writing, interest in the topic by current and future readers, and the likely influence of the article on future research.

The Best Paper Award committee, after much deliberation, is pleased to award this year's best paper to "Terra Populus" by Tracy A. Kugler, David C. Van Riper, Steven M. Manson, David A. Haynes II, Joshua Donato, and Katie Stinebaugh, published in Volume 11, Issue 2, pages 180-206. The committee found this article to have met all of the BPA criteria in abundance.

The goal of the Terra Populus Project (TerraPop) is to help resolve basic problems facing those doing research in the fields of population and the environment. In the words of the authors, "The goal of TerraPop is to enable research, learning, and policy analysis by providing integrated spatiotemporal data describing people and their environment." In the process, the project addressed a variety of data management, curation, and preservation challenges dealing with the aforementioned spatiotemporal population and environmental data. The ubiquity of demographic studies makes the work done on this project of broad applicability, and thus likely to lead to new research, and a new and deeper understanding of the results of the application of research findings. In addition, the project is an example of a data catalog that other collections and researchers may use as a model. The paper is well written and the technical details are accessible to readers at all levels.

We congratulate the authors of Terra Populus for being chosen for this award. The work put into the project itself and the article that describes it will be of high value to a variety of audiences for years to come.

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