Brief Bio and (PR)^2: Problems & Pitches – Raves & Rants by Ron Day

In preparation for the Mapping Science Workshop on April 4th, 2006 at The Study, New York Academy of Sciences, New York, we ask you to provide a brief bio and your input to the questions below. Feel free to concentrate on the questions for ‘Map Makers’, for ‘Funding Agencies / Clients’, or answer both sets.

We plan to make your input available at [http://vw.indiana.edu/places&spaces/meeting_060404.php](http://vw.indiana.edu/places&spaces/meeting_060404.php) before the meeting to ease introduction of participants and will use it to more effectively structure the workshop.

Thank you for your time.

Biography (about 250 words)
(Please provide a photo of yourself and a link to your home page and relevant sites and publications.)
Visiting Assistant Professor, Indiana University, School of Library and Information Science. Specializing in the history and critical theory of information (management) and knowledge (management). Background in humanities studies, library and information studies, and I worked as a librarian.
[http://ella.slis.indiana.edu/~roday](http://ella.slis.indiana.edu/~roday)

General Questions
What is your main interest in attending the workshop?
To see the work that is being done on the topic.

What is your main interest in ‘mapping science’ and/or ‘knowledge management (KM) tools’?
To see how the trope, “mapping science,” develops in a variety of practical projects and to add whatever expertise that I have to this work.

This is very different type of “KM” work than is usually done—it has a network component together with a visualization component, in distinction to the data mining techniques and ICT emphasis of much of KM. It also has a sociological emphasis, rather than a cognitive emphasis. In my view, this is all to be encouraged. KM has been a practical hodge-podge of techniques and approaches and, theoretically, its model of mind and knowledge has been naïve to the point of silliness. What is being offered in this workshop and by Börner and her colleagues gives the concept of “knowledge management” more legitimacy. Though the notion of “knowledge” is still fuzzy (and often seems to be equivalent to documents or their representations, and hence, “mapping science,” to “mapping” scientific documents or their representations), by grounding this KM in sociological networks, knowledge is no longer being treated as a cognitive substance, but as a relational activity. Theoretically speaking, this is vastly better than what KM theorists have been offering us, and I think that the practical work will be better, as well. The people working on this are, certainly, top-notch. I was honored and delighted to be included at the last meeting, and I feel the same way about this one.

Questions for Map Makers
Please provide higher resolution images, a brief description, and if available citation references for up to three science maps you have created and are most proud of. Use one page per map.

What opportunities/solutions do maps of science / KM tools offer for what stakeholders?

What main challenges do you foresee for designing effective maps of science / KM tools?

**Questions for Funding Agencies / Clients**

What information needs / knowledge management needs do you have? Explain your ‘dream tool’.

Which part(s) of your daily work might most benefit from advanced science mapping and KM tools?

What would you like to learn / achieve at the workshop?

*Please send the completed document by Thursday March 30th, 2006 to Katy Borner <katy@indiana.edu> and Deborah MacPherson <debmcp@gmail.com>*