

○ EDITORIAL

Authors from many parts of the world are represented in this, the first issue for volume two of *Applied GIS*. Indeed, two of the papers have authors from across the globe, suggesting that international collaboration is surely very productive.

Of the five contributions in this issue, two are “experimental” papers, two offer results from predictive modelling, and one is an exemplification of digital spatial data handling in support of bringing public policy to practice.

The predictive modelling papers lead the issue. In both cases, validated spatial data handling has been used to predict geological phenomenon that would otherwise have to be mapped in detail at great expense. Readers interested in neural networks, kriging, favourability functions (*sensu* Chung and Fabbri, 1993) data integration, mineral potential mapping and ore grade estimation will find something there.

Two of the papers offer the results of experiments in LiDAR data handling: one referring to scale dependency in DEM generation and the other reporting the results of applying wavelet transformation in data compression. The results are not altogether predictable from theory and it is good to remind ourselves of the need to experiment with scale dependent problems/challenges.

In contrast to the predictive modelling papers which offer sophisticated approaches to mapping and modelling when the ideal input data is not available, the coastal management paper draws on a wealth of data hitherto archived, mostly in analogue form. The analytical result shows, among other things, the value of time-series spatial models in decision support for environmental (and, in this case, port) management.

The editors look forward to future issues devoted to a wide-range of applications of GIS. However, the next two issues will be “theme issues”: one devoted to Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, and the next to environmental management in south-eastern Australia. The theme issues for the rest of the year exclude many other excellent papers that have been submitted to *Applied GIS*. These latter form the basis for what promises to be a strong set of issues in 2007.

We look forward to serving our readers in this and future issues!

Jim Peterson, Editor, June 2006

REFERENCES

- Chung, C.F., Fabbri, A.G. 1993. *The representation of geoscience information for data integration*. Non Renewable Resources 2.