

## CURRICULUM VITAE

L. M. INNES

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### BRIEF OVERVIEW

Following various part-time posts in education and training, I started teaching English and Geography full-time in the Oranjemund Private School (Namibia) in 1981. Following my bank manager husband on a series of transfers I moved on to secondary level and taught geography at Benoni High School, Eden College in Johannesburg and later at the International School of South Africa in Mafikeng. My tertiary level experience included eight years of part-time tutoring to teachers registered with Vista University and two years of full-time lecturing at the University of Bophuthatswana (now North West Province). My interest has been focused on geography education research and especially on map use within geography.

On appointment as principal geographer at the Chief Directorate of Surveys and Mapping in 1997, I was given responsibility for establishing a national map literacy campaign. The MapAware Project ran for 5 years, growing to employ a staff of four and has since been incorporated as a programme into the Spatial Information Services Sub-directorate. Responsibilities included the distribution of free maps to schools offering geography to Grade 12, development and supply of various map use teaching aids and the facilitation of seminars and workshops. These were for both educators and for adults using spatial information to facilitate decision making in all matters related to land (especially land reform).

The product of my MEd. research *MapTrix, a self-instruction programme for learning to read the 1:50 000 Topographic Map of South Africa* was published by Juta Education with sponsorship from the South African Department of Land Affairs in 2000. In celebration of the national mapping organisations 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 2000 MapTrix Kits were donated to under-resourced schools. The 1000 Kits published for commercial distribution, have been sold and a second impression was published in 2002. A digital version of MapTrix has been demonstrated and approved, it is proposed that a full digital version will be ready for trawling in November 2003.

### QUALIFICATIONS

Matriculation with exemption (Transvaal Education Department) 1967  
B.A. majoring in English and Geography (Unisa) completed 1980  
H.D.E. (Unisa) completed 1983  
B.A. Geography Honours (Wits) 1989  
M.Ed. (with distinction) awarded for dissertation titled '*Learning to read the South African 1:50 000 topographic map: the development of a self-instruction method*' (Wits) 1998  
Currently registered for a PhD at UCT since 2001.

## **CURRENT RESEARCH**

### **Development and evaluation of self-instruction materials for analysing and interpreting spatial information.**

#### Phase 1 (completed)

Survey of educator and learner attitudes to a self-instruction programme for basic topographic map reading. The results of this national survey have indicated that attitudes to the methodology and materials are positive and that map use performance of learners has been improved but only at the basic skill level of map reading.

#### Phase 2

Research and development of a proto-type self-instruction programme (based on the currently available MapTrix Kit) for analysing and interpreting spatial information from topographic maps as well as vertical aerial photographs, orthophoto maps and maps at other scales and of various types. This phase requires an understanding of the conceptual development framework required for basic numeracy and intermediate mathematical skills. Guidance is being sought on the application of the self-instruction methodology to the problem of mathematical concept development without which the analysis of the spatial data contained on/in paper and digital maps is not possible.

#### Phase 3

Field testing of the prototype self-instruction programme for analysing and interpreting spatial information. A report on the field testing will be prepared and recommendations made for improvement and implementation.