ThinkSpatial

The UCSB brownbag forum on spatial thinking

presents

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Spatial Thinking with Different Media

Ellison Hall 6824, 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, 11 March 2008

Abstract: We derive spatial knowledge from our direct experience in the world—looking, touching, grasping, walking, and so on. But we also derive it from indirect, or symbolic, sources. These sources include maps and pictures, words that are spoken or written, and now virtual reality systems. In my talk, I discuss ways that spatial knowledge derived from direct and indirect sources is similar, and ways it may be different. This has implications for best practices when communicating spatial information in education and other contexts.

Dan Montello completed his MA and PhD in Psychology from Arizona State University, and has a BA in Psychology from The Johns Hopkins University. His research interests include spatial perception, cognition, and behavior; cognitive issues in cartography and GIS; spatial aspects of social behavior; environmental psychology and behavioral geography. Dan was appointed recently as Co-editor of Spatial Cognition and Computation, and has published a book with Paul Sutton (2006) An introduction to scientific research methods in geography.

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The objectives of the ThinkSpatial series are to exchange ideas about spatial perspectives in research and teaching, to broaden communication and cooperation across disciplines among faculty and graduate students, and to encourage the sharing of tools and concepts. Please contact Don Janelle (ext 5267, janelle@spatial.ucsb.edu) to review and schedule possible discussion topics or presentations that share your disciplinary interest in spatial thinking.