Ross Purves is an Associate Professor at the Department of Geography of the University of Zurich. His research interests focus on understanding how we can not only improve access to information through geography, but also use geography to better understand and integrate data from differing sources. Over the last decade he has worked on various aspects of Geographic Information Retrieval, trying to bring a geographic perspective to retrieving both text and images. Along with Chris Jones he organises the long running series of workshops on Geographic Information Retrieval (e.g., http://www.geo.uzh.ch/~rsp/gir14/) and in recent years he has tried to explore how notions of place might productively be used to not only improve search, but also explore geography in new ways.