

## Organisation of the two-part discussion forum on 'Digital Geographies' [GI Forum 2021](#), Salzburg, Austria

### Forum 1, Panel discussion: *Digital Geographies ahead!*

Lead: Uwe Schulze, Blake Walker, Christian Dorsch

Allocation Conference Agenda, L33: [click here](#)

**Focus:** Reflections on digitality's relevance and impact on the epistemological, methodological, and praxis-orientated challenges and opportunities ahead.

**Key questions for discussion** (*as already send to you in our first session outline*)

**#1** What are the challenges/opportunities of doing digital geography as data-driven research and teaching practice to face the space-technology-society-nexus of Digital Earth?

**#2** What are the points of contact and points of divergence between Digital Geographies and Digital Earth for knowledge generation?

#### Proposed order of speakers and your statements

1. Welcome and thematic introduction, Session Hosts, *~5 minutes*
2. Introduction to the edited handbook on 'Digital Geographies', Till Straube, *~7 minutes*
3. Statements and reflections on the key questions
  - o Monica Stephens, *~7 minutes*
  - o Karl Donert, *~7 minutes*
  - o Francis Harvey, *~7 minutes*
4. Further discussion until the end of the session, all speakers, *~10 minutes*

### Forum 2, Open discussion: *Digital Geographies meets Digital Earth*

Lead: Blake Walker, Uwe Schulze, Christian Dorsch

Allocation Conference Agenda, L35: [click here](#)

**Focus:** What points of contact and incongruencies do Digital Geographies and Digital Earth present for contemporary knowledge generation, research, and teaching?

**Key questions for discussion** (*as already send to you in our first session outline*)

**#3** What can the evolving field of digital geography learn from Digital Earth in research and teaching and vice versa?

**#4** How can digital-infused geographic education help to expand the predominantly technical focus of Digital Earth in terms of practical and emancipatory knowledge interests?

#### Proposed order of speakers and your statements

1. Welcome back and setting the context for the open discussion, Session Hosts, *~5 minutes*
2. Statements and reflections on the key questions
  - o Karl Donert, *~5 minutes*
  - o Monica Stephens, *~5 minutes*
  - o Francis Harvey, *~5 minutes*
  - o Till Straube, *~5 minutes*
3. Open discussion until the end of the session, all speakers and the audience, *~20 minutes*

**For presenting your statements/reflections you are free to prepare some slides or just to talk to the key questions as shared online in the background of the conference system by us.**

## **Abstract of the German-language handbook “Digitale Geographien. Welt – Wissen – Werkzeuge”**

The edited volume „Digitale Geographien. Welt - Wissen - Werkzeuge“, UTB (*Digital Geographies. Society – Knowledge – Tools*, UTB) to be published in early summer 2021, is the result of an ongoing collaboration that evolved as part of the DFG-funded German-language research network ‚Digitale Geographien‘ bringing together a broad range of scholars interested in the role of digital (geo-) data for everyday spaces, geographic research and teaching. The idea behind the volume is to combine short encyclopaedic entries with empirically founded research puzzles. The handbook addresses students and lecturers in geography and related subject. It introduces concepts, research questions and methods of digital geographies using a broad spectrum of current research examples. The volume is structured along three sections: i) The section “*Society: geo data – society*” deals with the questions on how digitisation does change the objects of geographical research, which new spatialities arise, and what are the implications for society? ii) The guiding questions of the section “*Knowledge: geo data – cognition*” are: How does digitisation change the possibilities for cognition in geographical research? What does a new epistemology of the digital means for geographical knowledge transfer? iii) The third section about “*Tools: geo data – application*” follows the question about how the increased availability of digital (geo-) data and processing computational power do change the tools of geographical research and what this means for the presentation of spatial issues? The handbook has been edited by Tabea Bork-Hüffer, Henning Füller, and Till Straube.

FYI: Weblink to the collaborative research network online: <https://digitale-geographien.de/>

### **Literature**

In preparation for the discussion forum we have worked with the following English-language publications among others that offer a good starting point for discussion in the field of digital geography and Digital Earth. If you are interested, you can find the literature online as shown below.

- Ash J, Kitchin R, Leszczynski A. Digital turn, digital geographies? Progress in Human Geography. 2018;42(1):25-43. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0309132516664800>
- Liu Z., Foresman T., van Genderen J., Wang L. (2020), Understanding Digital Earth. In Guo H., Goodchild M.F., Annoni A. (eds): *Manual of Digital Earth*. Springer, Singapore. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-32-9915-3\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-32-9915-3_1)
- van Genderen J. et al. (2020), Digital Earth Challenges and Future Trends. In Guo H., Goodchild M.F., Annoni A. (eds): *Manual of Digital Earth*. Springer, Singapore. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-32-9915-3\\_26](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-32-9915-3_26)

We are excited to meet you in the course of the two-part session and we are already looking very forward to the discussion and a prosperous exchange.

Uwe, Blake and Chris!