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Archaeo-GIS Workshop's USTREAM "TOMOBIKI Night!!" at the Dawn of Academic Social Media

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In 2010, the social media, represented by USTREAM and Twitter, became rapidly widespread and created new social relationship between people. It can be called as the dawn of the new social network. The social media gradually penetrate even the world of scientific research, and then establish multidisciplinary intercommunion and also broader academic communication involving citizens. In this paper, the authors discuss the potential of academic social media, with presenting the case study of Archaeo-GIS Workshop's USTREAM *TOMOBIKI Night!!*

Although *TOMOBIKI Night!!* started broadcasting in May 2010, it has five-year protohistory. Since ca. 2005, researchers who are interested in practical applications of GIS to archaeology have increasingly expressed their research interests and ideas using their weblogs. These activities has then gradually formed network of researchers and resulted in the establishment of Archaeo-GIS Workshop as a multi-institutional community for archaeologists and GIS analysts in 2007. This workshop aims at acting as an academic agora in which participants discuss and share their failure stories and know-hows of GIS as an analytical tool. Towards this purpose, a series of workshops, such as field tutorial of GPS operation and hands-on seminar of GIS processing, have been held to learn the latest geospatial technologies as well as its more effective applications to archaeology. In the course of these activities, two members in Tokyo projected a USTREAM broadcasting in order to enhance academic interexchange and deepen understandings of archaeological GIS. The characteristics of the program is summarized as below:

Program name: TOMOBIKI Night!!

URL: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/ta-niiyan-s-show>

anchors: Takayuki Ako (@ta_niiyan) and Yasuhisa Kondo (@yaskondo)

Day: Every other tomobiki day (once in twelve days)

Hours: Approximately an hour in the evening

Typical contents: Interviewing guests, latest news, main topic of the day, introduction to apps and tools, and upcoming events

The program has been broadcasted for twelve times by January 2011 (see also List 1). During video streaming, the anchors always communicate with viewing audience through Twitter embedded to USTREAM to deepen the discussion. Furthermore, since the recorded video clips can be reviewed to continue discussions after broadcasting. The comments and associated tweets are automatically hush-tagged and manually summarized by an add-in service.

Interestingly enough, the experience of *TOMOBIKI Night!!* has revealed that USTREAM is useful not only for the formation of academic networking but also for discoveries of ideas and issues. In the authors' view, this is significance and potential of academic social media, which will play important role in scientific research from now on.

List 1

- #000 (2010.5.13) Trial broadcast: Installation of Quantum GIS and GRASS (hands-on)
- #001 (7.4) Guest: Miya-san; rokuyo (six-day calendar system); iPad and archaeology
- #002 (7.26) OURS report (photogrammetry and historical GIS); FileMaker Go
- #003 (8.7) Open Street Map; Harris Matrix; TexTra app
- #004 (8.23) Guests: Ueni and Kanae; personal library management; GPS Babel
- #005 (9.8) GOOD DESIGN EXPO; geospatial EXPO; GISA 2010; the latest issue of GIS NEXT; VoiceTra
- #006 (10.13) JSAI symposium, excavation and information management ; Tokyo Chrono-Stratigraphic Map (Tokyo Jiso Chizu)
- #007 (10.25) Swords of Todaiji Temple; GISA and GeoNomi reports; Omni Graffle
- #008 (11.10) CSIS DAYS 2010 preview; GeoClino, talk on the TITECH exhibition; Nabunken's exhibition on geospatial information
- #009 (11.22) Archaeology and FOSS4G; MAP BAR; iPad and museum collection management

#010 (12.9) Guest: Prof. Oguchi (@ogugeo); geoarchaeology in West Asia

#011 (2011.1.6) New year greetings; talk on AR.Drone; talk on fashionable bicycles; JoRAS program of CSIS

#012 (1.18) demonstration of AR.Drone repaiement; report of WiMAX; plan of field research in Oman

Keywords: Academic Social Media, USTREAM, Twitter, Archaeology, GIS