

## HELEN COUCLELIS

Professor  
Department of Geography  
University of California  
cook@geog.ucsb.edu

Before joining the UCSB Geography department in the 1980s I spent several years working as an architect and then as a professional planner and government policy advisor in Greece. At Cambridge, where I got my PhD, I was attached to the Department of Architecture's Centre for Land Use and Built Form Studies (now the Martin Centre). My PhD advisor was the mathematician and artist Lionel March who was Director of the Centre at the time and later established the Centre for Configurational Studies in the Open University's department of Design Technology. Lionel was also the founding editor of the journal *Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design* of which I am currently co-editor. Here at UCSB I have served as Associate Director of the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA) and as member of the executive committee of the Center for Spatially Integrated Social Science (CSISS). My research interests are in the areas of urban and regional modeling and planning, planning support systems, the geography of the information society, spatial cognition, and geographic information science. Recently I became very interested in geographic information ontologies, which in my view are woefully deficient when it comes to synthetic thinking and design. I hope that this meeting will fill some gaps in that critical area and help connect the past and present pieces of my own academic self, those of design and geography, respectively. My recent publications are listed at <http://geog.ucsb.edu/academics/publications/helen-couclelis.html> .