

GEOGRAPHY, PLANNING, AND REGIONAL COUNCILS
OF GOVERNMENT: AN APPLIED INTERFACE

An Abstract of a Project Report
Presented to the
Department of Geography
Western Illinois University

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

By
James Bartlett Edmonson
December, 1978

The project report exemplifies the implementation of an applied interface which links the generalist skills of the geographer and the concepts of planning with nonacademic planning markets. The report provides a case study of the option three degree program of the Department of Geography, Western Illinois University. This program is designed to guide the student through a coordinated academic-nonacademic degree plan as preparation for a professional career in planning.

The case study examines the need for applied interfaces in geography, and the relationships between the disciplines of geography and planning. Additional topics of discussion include the organizational structure of regional councils, planning as performed by regional councils, and the contributions of the applied interface to the geographer, the planner, and nonacademic employers.