



WA URISA

Integrating GIS into Youth Camps

By Nicole McCoy & Hilary R Cox

A Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can help people of all ages understand the ways in which geography touches our everyday lives. Geography encompasses weather, traffic, culture, and the environment. GIS requires students to use analytical thought processes. It engages them in studies that incorporate many other learned skills, such as math, biology and artistic flair. It creates a knowledge of spatial relationships that are not always apparent through other mediums.

Implementing GIS activities can demonstrate how they (camp participants) affect the environment on a local level. Exercises that allow them to examine natural resource problems on a smaller scale will empower them to make AND encourage better resource friendly decision-making.

By using GIS data of elevations and waterways, the campers can see how watersheds flow and how pollutants move through them to other freshwater sources. They can do analysis of streams to see the increase/decrease of fish populations in an area over time and compare it with riparian buffer health in the same areas. This allows them to see the connections between vegetation, water and the local wildlife.

GIS can encourage an awareness and interest in our planets natural resources. It opens new avenues of exploration for all ages.

"GIS requires students to use analytical thought processes."



Kittitas County Conservation District

WA URISA

**September
2001**

GIS Education and Training in the PNW By Glenn Brooks

Anybody interested in upgrading GIS skills? Maybe thinking of taking on a remote sensing project and need additional skills? GIS training and educational opportunities have become very widespread in the last few years. GIS education and training can now be found in the Pacific Northwest at several different levels, each matching a specific need. GIS training opportunities typically fall in three general categories:

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President's Message

As we begin the busy months of conference preparation, I would like to share with each of you news of some of the actions taken during the first half of the year by the Board.

I cannot begin to praise their efforts with as much acclaim as they all deserve. In many situations an adjustment period prevents innovation from taking off, yet this is not the case with the current Board members. Each person has embraced their responsibilities with enthusiasm and has brought interesting concepts to the group each month.

Little did I expect the depth and vastness of my work within the organization, not to mention the enjoyment as we continue to grow. While the manual activities are easily managed within the confines of our monthly Board meetings, the thought process and the visioning never ends. Each person that I meet, and yes-even family, sits patiently as I explain the association, our mission and the activities in condensed form. The fortunate audiences even receive the full-blown dissertation.

One of the most exciting ventures that several of the Board members have been working with is a collaborated effort among the regional and statewide associations. We have personally met with representatives from GITA, AIIM, ARMA and LSAW. Items of collaboration may include shared events, web links, membership discounts and more at later dates. Discussions will continue throughout 2003 when we hope to join with several other associations for a co-sponsored annual conference. If you are interested in joining this effort, please contact me through our web directory.

Another feature of our ongoing tasks is sponsorship establishment. At the 2001 conference we found ourselves gratefully supported by twice as many vendors as in 2000. We hope to continue this growth as it benefits members and vendors alike. You will understand the scope of this endeavor when you attend the 2002 annual conference and take part in new offerings such as a Doctor's Office and Live Vendor Shows. As well, in an unprecedented manner to this association, the vendor's area will be open and included in the proceedings of the opening session, closing sessions and both lunches. I hope to hear your comments on this new configuration so that we may plan for future years and meet your individual preferences.

As always, we look to expand our Board membership and to work closely with regions of the state, beyond the Puget Sound. I ask each of you to consider what you would like to gain from your membership with this association. How can we focus our efforts so that we may directly meet your needs in the areas of professional growth and education? In what area may you spend a few hours through the year in support of enhancing the association?

One consideration for reaching out is a quarterly interview process. Some of you have received a request for a short article on your activities either within your organization or as part of a specific state region. This is difficult for all; you have little time to dedicate to writing the article and we have little time during which we may make calls and write e-mails to selected members.

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The most recent thought is to work with a student volunteer that will make one or two phone calls each month in order to interview members in one standard format. This information may then be included in our newsletter as a showcase of daily activities and achievements.

Finally, this document is just one more example of our efforts. While paper and resources are at a premium, we hope to embrace all levels of members and to maintain contact with each of you; the e- and non-e-government entities, the veteran members and new partners in the GIS family, and those that may be relocating their skills to new organizations.

I look forward to your thoughts and wish you all the very best,

Kimberly Dietz O'Neill



What is URISA ?

www.urisa.org

Founded in 1963, the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) is the premier association for those in state and local government who use information technology to solve government's challenges. URISA 2001 in Long Beach will challenge participants to better manage, analyze, plan and implement technology for more effective and efficient government operations. The intense discussion continues in the exhibit hall, where attendees will be challenging your company's representatives to meet their technology needs.

WA URISA

- ◆ Seminar/entry level short courses
- ◆ Professional Certificate programs,
- ◆ Undergraduate and Graduate degree programs.



Many fine seminar style programs are offered on a regular basis. Less well known are the more in depth certificate and college level programs. Here's a look at several College web sites which offer advanced GIS related course work ...

Bellevue Community College

<http://www.conted.bcc.ctc.edu/>

Fall course schedule lists an evening continuing ed, a non-credit, certificate style "Introduction to GIS". Might be a good intro to use of the software and an overview of GIS analysis capability. Use the search tool bar, enter "GIS" to find time and date for course offered.

Green River Community College

<http://www.greenriver.ctc.edu/>

GRCC offers a great two-year Associate's degree in GIS. Go to the GRCC 'information' button, open their catalog and look for GIS. Green River students have been a great partner with Washington Urisa.

University of Washington GIS Certificate Program

http://www.outreach.washington.edu/extinfo/certprog/gis/gis_main.asp

Local 9-month evening certificate program that is now in its 5th or 6th year. Non-credit. Graduates awarded a U/W Professional Certificate on completion. Arcview oriented.

University of Washington, Geography Department

<http://depts.washington.edu/geog/courses>

Dr Nick Chrisman advises prospective graduate and undergraduate remote Sensing applications. Forestry and Urban Planning Departments also participate with geography students. If you can get away for day classes, U/W offers a wide variety of GIS software and analytical approaches. Forestry and Urban Planning Departments also offer GIS and Remote Sensing courses.

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Central Washington University

<http://www.cwu.edu/~gis/>

Central offers GIS related course work with an emphasis on resource management. Also has apparently created a new Center for Spatial Information. Check out both on their geog department web site. Might be a great local resource for those working east of the Cascades.

Western Washington University

<http://www.ac.wwu.edu/~huxley/>

Huxley College of the Environment offers an environmental studies program which includes GIS and the geography department. Slightly different niche than Central or U/W. Excellent concentration in the use of GIS for environmental mapping and research.

Seattle Pacific University Masters in Information Science

<http://www.spu.edu/depts/sbe/ism-over-curriculum.html>

One of two masters programs in information science available to GIS professionals in the Seattle area. Not exactly a GIS program, (in fact not a GIS program at all) but one of the few graduate programs in Washington offering GIS professionals opportunity for a graduate degree in IT management. Course work on data base administration and IT management and leadership.

U/W Technology Management MBA

<http://depts.washington.edu/tmmba/>

The other IT grad school program...Intensive format, evening classes. One of the FEW UW programs actually catering to the mid-career professional. \$40k price tag.



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**University of Hawaii at Manoa, Geography Department**

<http://www.geography.hawaii.edu>

Aloha, No Kai Oi and Waikiki!!!

Couldn't pass this one up! Great setting for GIS work. Geography department offers advanced study with GIS emphasis and a career track in the Tropical Pacific issues. Not a commuter program, but hey, who would care...

Finally, for a world class one year sabbatical...*Audentes Fortuna Juvat...*

(if you know what this means email me—we have something in common!!!)

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland

<http://www.geo.ed.ac.uk/home/postgrad.html>

Recognized as the leading graduate GIS program in Europe, University of Edinburgh offers a fantastic one year, post graduate, intensive Masters of Geographic Information Science degree or a slightly shorter 9 month professional certificate program. World renown program matriculates 100 M.SC GIS students each year. Read about their world class program in Remote Sensing at <http://www.met.ed.ac.uk/secretary/courses/mscrs.shtml>

Have fun surfing these sites. I sure have....

Regards,

Glenn Brooks
SPU Geocode Project
Vice Chair, Urisa 2001

Information overload ??? Check out AIIM's (the Association for Information and Image Management) upcoming events:

- Sept 20, 2001: Web Content Management
- Oct 10, 2001: Storage Technologies
- Nov 14, 2001: Document Imaging
- May 16, 2002: XML Metadata



For more information: <http://northwest.aiim.wegov2.com/>



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Upcoming Conference

The Pacific North West Chapter of the Geospatial Information & Technology Association is pleased to invite you to our fall conference. A full two-day program is planned including topics we hope are of interest to you. The combination of Chapter business with educational discussions is one way to keep you in touch with your counterparts in the region and extend the role of GITA as a local forum for tracking technology concepts and trends.



October 15th, 16th - 2001

Delta Whistler Resort

Whistler, B.C.

[Http://www.gita.org/chapters/pacific/pacific.html](http://www.gita.org/chapters/pacific/pacific.html)



Annual WA URISA Conference

February 7th & 8th, 2002

Call For Presentations

Submission Deadline November 15, 2001

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

E-mail: _____

Presentation Title: _____

Which ONE of the following topic areas most closely fits your presentation: (only one)

Public Works	Web Applications
Planning	IT/IS/Data Management/Archives
Public Safety/Emergency Response	Executive
Natural Resource Management	Utilities
Education	Other: _____

Abstract Text:

Please submit text in digital form on a diskette in MS Word or text file format accompanied by this form. Mail both to: WA URISA, Attention: Kimberly Dietz-O'Neill, City of Redmond, 15670 NE 85th Street, MS: CHPL, Redmond, WA 98073-9710.

Selection Criteria:

The following items must be addressed for an abstract submission to be considered:

1. Basic Theme: the presentation description must convey the basic theme of the presentation. Does it address the technical, educational or management aspect of

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WAURISA ANNUAL CONFERENCE — CALL FOR PAPERS

the subject?

2. Value of the Subject: your proposal should indicate which audience segment would be most interested in your presentation (i.e., which public sector division, technicians, management, educators, etc) and what will be learned from the presentation. This information will be utilized for session grouping and by the session moderators.
3. New or Innovative Information: the presentation should focus on new insights and lessons learned. This type of paper will be specifically considered for the closing demonstrations of "leading, hot applications".

Please note that:


1. Presentations should not market specific products. Clients may wish to present in conjunction with a vendor in that the client discusses project specific portions, lessons learned, management aspects while the vendor follows with the backbone technology features.
2. Presentation descriptions should conform to the format specifications and be error-free.
3. **All abstract submissions are due on or before November 15, 2001.**
4. If accepted, expect to provide a full paper for publication in the Conference Proceedings no later than January 1, 2002.
5. **All accepted presenters must register for the conference and will receive complementary registration.**

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walkermap@walkermap.com

Submission Guidelines

Deadline: November 15, 2001

Selection Criteria

The following items must be explicitly addressed for an abstract submission to be considered:

- A. **Basic Theme:** The presentation description must convey the basic theme of the presentation. Does it address the technical, educational or management aspect of the subject?
- B. **Value of the Subject:** Your proposal should indicate which audience segment would be most interested in your presentation (i.e., public works, planning, public safety, IS/IT, etc.) and what will be learned from the presentation.
- C. **New or Innovative Information:** The presentation should focus on new insights and lessons learned.

Please note that:

- A. Presentations that market specific products and services will not be accepted, nor are presentations of this nature acceptable at the conference. Vendors and Clients may wish to deliver a paper in conjunction with each other. (Doctor's Office and coordinated Vendor Shows will highlight specific technologies and tips/tricks.)
- B. Case histories should be presented primarily by the sponsoring organization, assisted by vendors who highlight the backend technology.
- C. Presentation descriptions should conform to format specifications and be error-free.
- D. All abstract submissions are due on or before November 15, 2001.
- E. If accepted, expect to provide a full paper for publication in the Conference Proceedings no later than January 1, 2002.
- F. *All accepted presenters must register at the regular conference, however the registration fee is complementary for all speakers in 2002.*

Presentation Format Options

Indicate the presentation format that is best suited for your proposal.

Single presentation – individual presentation that will be scheduled with two other presentations to form a cohesive session of 90 minutes in length. Each presenter is allotted 20 minutes, plus 10 minutes for questions from the attendees.

Complete session – comprised of three individual presentations, SUBMITTED TOGETHER, with a common theme. A complete session is 90 minutes in length.

Panel – 90-minute presentation that encourages interaction and discussion between the panelists and the attendees. Panel presentations should include at least three panelists each speaking on a different aspect of a particular topic.

Submission by Mail

Proposals may be submitted by mail provided that the abstract is included in digital form on a diskette in MS Word format accompanied by the submission form. A form will be faxed on request from WAURISA by calling (425) 556-2415, or downloaded using the link below. After the form is completed and packaged with a diskette, it should be mailed to:

WAURISA, Attention: Kimberly Dietz-O'Neill, City of Redmond, 15670 NE 85th Street, MS: CHPL, Redmond, WA 98073-9710.

Downloadable Submission Form

[Http://www.waurisa.org/02cama/downloadable.pdf](http://www.waurisa.org/02cama/downloadable.pdf)

Proceedings and Speaker Registration

Presenters whose proposals are accepted are expected to submit written papers in digital format only, for publication in the Conference Proceedings. If PowerPoint or slide presentations are submitted for inclusion in the Proceedings, a narrative description must accompany them. Proceeding papers are due on or before January 1, 2002. All accepted presenters are expected to register and will receive complementary conference registration.

Presenter's Calendar

Abstract Submissions Due	November 15, 2001
Acceptance Letters Mailed	December 1, 2001
Proceedings Papers Due	January 1, 2002
Conference	February 7-8, 2002

2001-2002
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