

THE SUMMIT

News From and For The Washington GIS Community

WAURISA

The Washington State Chapter of
URISA – The Association for GIS Professionals



AUTUMN 2010

WWW.WAURISA.ORG

ISSUE 21

GIS-PRO IN ORLANDO RECOGNIZES TWO WASHINGTON JURISDICTIONS WITH ESIG DISTINGUISHED SYSTEM AWARDS

Two Washington State jurisdictions were recognized by URISA at the 2010 GIS-Pro Conference in Orlando with Exemplary Systems in Government™ (ESIG) 'Distinguished System' Awards.

The Exemplary Systems in Government Awards, inaugurated in 1980 by the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association, recognize extraordinary achievement by government agencies in the use of automated information systems. This achievement is defined as the effective application of computer technology that can be measured in terms of improved government services and increased benefits to citizens. The award competition is open to all public agencies at the federal, state/provincial, regional and local levels.

The 2010 ESIG Distinguished System in the Enterprise System category was the City of Bellingham for their CityIQ application, as submitted by Don Burdick.

The 2010 ESIG Distinguished System in the Single Process Systems category was Pierce County for their Pierce County GIS On Line Budget System, as submitted by Art Seeley.

City of Bellingham CityIQ Application

By Don Burdick, GISP

At the recent URISA International conference in Orlando Florida, the City of Bellingham received the ESIG Distinguished System Award in the enterprise category. The first place honors went to the Singapore Land Authority for their application OneMap - A Multi-Agency Window for Geospatial Information and Service Delivery. The City of Bellingham's entry was for their web mapping and business information application CityIQ.

See: Washington ESIG Awards, page 11

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Autumn greeting to all my GIS friends and colleagues - Some of the WAURISA board members are recently back from GIS-Pro 2010, URISA International's annual conference in Orlando, Florida. The conference was a great opportunity to see and experience GIS professionals from around the globe and share experiences with other chapter and URISA leaders. We were able to exchange ideas and collaborate on objectives with other chapter leaders and get some great ideas on how to make our organization more efficient by taking advantage of our volunteer hours and limited funds more effectively. I was personally able to refresh contacts with our Oregon/SW Washington chapter friends to the south and discuss collaboration ideas for the future.

A significant part of the conference leadership portion was the Chapter Roll Call where leaders from all the chapters noted the challenges for GIS professionals in the region. The discussion brought out many common issues and needs. Those issues can be grouped into five categories:

- Training
- Funding
- Workforce Shortages
- Executive Support
- Data Management/Quality

The intent of identifying the most important issues from the membership is to develop a URISA advocacy agenda. That agenda will focus the advocacy efforts of URISA International on behalf of the Chapters and the membership. There will likely be four or five items on the Advocacy Agenda, and each item will have a one page description of URISA's strategy and objectives relative to that item. The URISA Board, Committee Chairs, and Chapter Leaders/Boards will have common talking points and objectives from the Advocacy Agenda when they have opportunities to meet with Congressional leaders and staff, State Legislators, County Commissioners, City Councilors, etc.

At the same time, URISA International wants to increase their role and leverage in bringing these issues forward to be understood by businesses, politicians and the general public. To do that they want to be known as the industry organization for GIS professionals by increasing their membership, and through that, their voice as representing these issues.

See: President's Column, Page 10



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Ian Von Essen Interview	p. 2
Taiwan GIS	p. 4
Joy Paulus Interview	p. 8
Seeking GIS Employment	p. 12
URISA News & Membership Offer	p. 14
Statewide NAIP Imagery Announcement	p. 16
2011 Washington GIS Conference News	p. 17
Opinion Page	p. 19

SUMMIT INTERVIEW: GIS PIONEER IAN VON ESSEN - 2010 SUMMIT AWARD WINNER

By Michelle Lortz, Summit Contributing Editor

Ian Von Essen, winner of Waurisa's 2010 Summit Award, was recently interviewed by *The Summit*.

Summit: Tell us a little about yourself; where you grew up, your educational & professional background.

Von Essen: I was born in Salida, Colorado, and as a young child moved to a Denver suburb. I attended Colorado State University receiving my bachelor's degree in Anthropology. I worked as an archeologist for eight years in several western and southern states. My wife and I moved to North Carolina in the early eighties where I entered graduate school at the University in Chapel Hill, specializing in Remote Sensing and GIS.

Summit: How did you become interested in GIS and what was your first GIS experience?

Von Essen: My first mapping experience was while working as an archeologist from 1976 to 1984. Besides managing crews I did archeological site mapping with traditional survey transit and leveling rod, site and artifact photography, and cartography for project reports. While working in the southeastern part of the United States, I started using computer mapping programs (pre ArcInfo) to make our site maps. One of the more interesting computer generated archaeological maps I made was Trend Surface site maps using SYMAP (Synagraphic Mapping System) but the output was limited to a line printer. I also used Surface II, and SASGRAPH. The exposure to these map based software packages got me interested in thinking about a career in computer cartography as the field of GIS was often called. My first true GIS project was in graduate school where I did spatial analysis on program enrollments to see if they ought to be expanded or collapsed geographically across North Carolina's fifty-eight community colleges.

Summit: How did you arrive at your current position, and what do you *really* do?

Von Essen: Towards the end of my first year as a graduate student I learned that a newly hired professor starting in the fall had a \$700,000 NASA grant that he would be using to set up UNC's very first remote sensing and GIS lab. So I had the honor of being involved on the ground floor. I ended up co-managing the lab during my remaining years at UNC.

My first GIS job outside the University was with the North Carolina Dept of Transportation where I was managing a statewide GIS transportation pilot project. During that project, in 1988, I became involved in testing the alpha version of ESRI's dynamic segmentation for linear networks which was released in Version 6 of ArcInfo. In 1989 my wife finished her PhD and anxious to land a teaching position, had opportunities in Newport News, El Paso, and Spokane. Since I grew up in Colorado, the Spokane choice looked the most appealing. Though I was in the first year of the PhD program at UNC I left with my daughter and wife (who accepted a position at Gonzaga University). Six months later, in March 1990, I became (and continue to be) GIS Manager of Spokane County.

I do the typical managerial things; manage staff; solicit and manage projects; prepare and manage budgets; execute and manage software contracts; write proposals and RFP's etc. I've presented at GIS conferences on a variety of subjects and do a fair amount of volunteer work for professional GIS organizations. I have served as Chair of Washington State's GIS Council five of the last ten years and was recently voted onto the board of the National States GIS Council (NSGIC).

I'm always looking for new opportunities in which to use GIS technology. One of the great things about outside volunteer work is staying connected to a wide variety of gifted GIS professionals, both state and federal as well as the private sector, which continues to expand my GIS knowledge.

Summit: How have technological changes in GIS affected you over the course of your career?

Von Essen: Since the mid-eighties GIS has transitioned through several major hardware paradigms; IBM Mainframe, DEC Minicomputers (where I first encountered ArcInfo), Sun Unix systems, and finally Personal Computers. Of course the recent hot area has been all the GIS occurring on the Web. It looks like it won't be long before larger GIS operations migrate, at least partially, to the Cloud for some of their web based activities which is already occurring for some state based GIS program across the US. When these major hardware and software paradigm shifts occur the real trick has been to determine when a new environment is mature and robust enough to be utilized for operations. A modern enterprise GIS by its very nature has interdependent linkages across departments, satellite offices, and outside organizations. In such a highly collaborative world in order to effectively share each other's GIS data, and associated resources, it is far more efficient to be on similar hardware platforms and software releases. Because of this our only choice, over the long term, is to move towards a common operating environment.

Summit: What advice do you have for those beginning their career in GIS?

Von Essen: The first recommendation is to find a mentor, ideally a professional in the GIS community who is doing exciting GIS work that you would like to do as a career. I have found that one's vision of what someone does vs. what they actually do can be fraught with misconceptions. This is especially true for students new to the GIS community. Oftentimes students find, after a couple days of shadowing, there is a lot more time spent sitting behind a computer screen doing raw data entry, editing, cleanup, automation of tasks, and iterative map production than they had ever imagined. The GIS career might not be quite as glamorous as once envisioned. They may find it too difficult spending that much time working in front of a computer screen. GIS work takes diligence, tenacity, focused attention, and analytical skills.

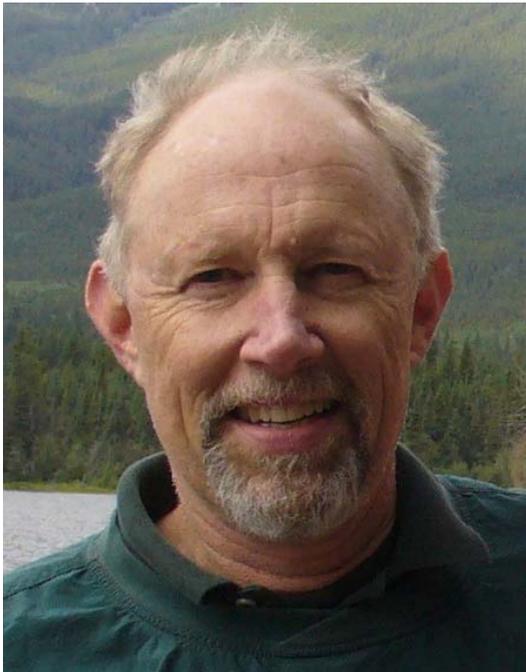
See: Ian Von Essen Interview, Page 3

IAN VON ESSEN INTERVIEW

Continued from page 2

As far as course work is concerned I find that GIS professionals who are the most successful over the long term have a strong programming background (or at least aptitude), good relational database and cartographic skills. I find that students (especially those in geography programs) often have a tendency to shy away from computer sciences. It is far easier to teach a strong programmer about GIS, including cartography, than teach a geographer programming skills. It has always puzzled me how good cartography skills, so critical to a successful career in GIS, are undervalued as far as wages are concerned; perhaps it's because it's viewed as more of an art than a science.

Having other areas of primary expertise besides GIS skills, especially in this economic environment, makes one more employable. A strong second area of expertise: degrees in planning, criminal justice, geology, ecology, hydrological fields, etc., allow you to be a subject matter expert as well. It is those individuals who shine when it comes to generating the GIS products and analysis required of that field.



Ian Von Essen

Summit: How would you like to see GIS utilized in the future?

Von Essen: One of the most exciting aspects of GIS is the amazingly wide range of subject matter. I am never surprised when it comes to seeing a new application of GIS that I had previously not considered. One of the more usual ones I came across a few years ago was the mapping of air pressure within a large hospital to help minimize airborne disease transfer and locate appropriate activities based on that spatial analysis. For instance surgical areas should be in high pressure zones so that airborne disease doesn't flow in as easily. Individuals that have highly infectious diseases should be in low pressure zones where air doesn't flow out as easily. Other solutions that have been employed include eliminating pressure differentials within hospitals based on such spatial analysis.

Summit: How do you see GIS being affected by today's economy?

Von Essen: On the down side, this is a very tough environment in which to find and land a GIS job. In the public sector the main challenge for those who are still working is just holding on to their job while layoffs continue to go on with each budget cycle. However, having been laid off, now is a great time to go back to college improving and diversifying your GIS skills.

On the positive side are opportunities to create collaborative and efficient GIS programs, finding new ways to work together more efficiently and effectively. The most important thing you can do now as a GIS professional is to be an activist. First take a serious look at how your current work environment can have improved efficiency via GIS, and promote those solutions. Now is a golden opportunity to change it for the better while organizations are looking for solutions. It's going to change so you might as well help direct that change.

One area of efficiency is to move even more of your GIS data to the web with self service kiosks of governmental or private sector information which allows consumers to quickly acquire what they need. Permitting, assessment, elections, crime, and economic development data all have spatial components that can be moved to the web. Plus your organization looks more professional with fewer personnel, a win-win for all.

The most important thing you can do now as a GIS professional is to be an activist.

Summit: What is the most important lesson your GIS experience has taught you?

Von Essen: I have found that the best GIS employees are those that are passionate about what they do. That passion gives them the drive, energy and tenacity to accomplish their work. The most exciting aspects of GIS are the diversity of work, the ability to work collaboratively with such a wide range of professions, and the pleasure of continuing to learn throughout your career. Truly successful GIS efforts are often the result of collaborative efforts, difficult at times, but when successful the results are often far greater than the sum of the parts.

Summit: Congratulations again Ian on your 2010 Summit Award, we appreciate the time you have taken to share your achievements, goals, experience and wisdom with us. Thank you.

Von Essen: It was truly an honor to receive the award as there are so many deserving individuals who have contributed and continue to contribute so much to the GIS Community in Washington State. Thank you.

Michelle Lortz, Contributing Editor
(206)919-6547
michelle@lortzco.com



AN AMERICAN DISCOVERS TAIWAN'S VIBRANT GIS ENVIRONMENT

By Greg Babinski. GISP, King County GIS Center

When an opportunity to visit Taiwan developed in early 2010, I began preparing for the trip. I would be traveling with a friend from Taiwan, so I anticipated that my visit would not be a typical tourist experience. I bought a guidebook to the island, a couple tourist maps, and a tourist phrasebook. I enrolled in a 10-week Mandarin Chinese class at a local community college and booked a flight on Eva Air for a three week visit in August.

And then I thought, 'I wonder what's going on with GIS in Taiwan?' A quick online search revealed that there are a few Taiwanese companies providing GIS services, a professional and educational group called the Taiwan Geographic Information Society (TGIS), and an organization called the Taiwan GIS Center (TGIC). I work for the King County GIS Center (KCGIS) in Seattle, so I was intrigued to learn more. There was enough information on the TGIC web site in English to tell me that it is a branch of the Taiwanese government with offices in Taipei.

I learned that the Chairman and General Manager of the Taiwan GIS Center, Dr. Chih-Hong Sun, earned his PhD from the University of Georgia, and that he is also a professor in the Geography Department of the National Taiwan University (NTU). There was a general contact email address on the TGIC web site, but my attempts to contact Dr. Sun via that route failed. I then visited the NTU web site and discovered Dr. Sun's direct email. I sent him a message introducing myself, describing my affiliation with the King County GIS Center and with the URISA Board of Directors.

I suggested to Dr. Sun that it might be mutually beneficial to meet and discuss developments and trends in GIS in the U.S. and Taiwan in general, and within TGIC and KCGIS in particular. Within 24 hours I had a cordial reply from Dr. Sun and an invitation to meet with him and his senior staff in Taipei during my visit.

Taiwan Will Touch Your Heart

It's about a 12 hour flight from Seattle to Taipei, the capitol of Taiwan. At about 36,000 square kilometers and 23 million people, Taiwan is one of the most densely populated places on earth. Taiwan is affluent too, with per capita income similar to Japan, Korea, France, and New Zealand. I found a surprising diversity...with not just Mandarin spoken, but also Taiwanese, Hakka, and a variety of aboriginal languages.

The metropolitan Taipei area is home to 6.7 million and by far the largest city on the island. Despite its congestion, tree covered hills are always visible in the distance. Tourist high lights include the National Palace Museum – with collections spanning 8,000 year of Chinese arts and crafts, the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, and Taipei 101 – until 2004 the tallest building on earth. But by far the most awesome tourist experience in Taipei is a visit to a night market. There are at least eight night markets in Taipei...each covering dozens of city blocks with vendor stalls crowding the walks and onto the streets, selling clothing, watches, tools, crafts, and every kind of product imaginable, plus finger food from hundreds of small booths. And an unimaginable crush of people...from dusk until well after midnight...every night of the week!

I was also able to travel to some medium sized cities on the west side of Taiwan, as well as to a rural bed-and-breakfast for a bicycle tour through the countryside. The food continually amazed me with its variety and quality...though in some rural areas I was not quite sure what exactly I was eating.

For me though the high-light of my visit was the East Coast...an amazingly well preserved area of rugged remote natural beauty and quaint villages that reminded me of Big Sur in California or the NaPaLi Coast on Kauai. Only recently opened up by rail and good highways, the East Coast does not have the industrial development of the rest of Taiwan.

The East is also home to many of Taiwan's aboriginal people and August is when each tribe and village has its annual festival...I attended three Amis Tribe festivals and at the last I was dressed in tribal regalia and invited to dance along with the chief and all the tribe members. I was able to immerse myself in the island's natural beauty too...during a daylong white-water rafting trip on the Siukuluan River and then later on a two day tour of Taroko National Park, with a thousand meter deep gorge and refreshingly cool air atop 3,300 meter high peaks.

Taiwan surprised and delighted me in dozens of ways...from the familiarity of its 4,000 Seven-Elevens (each with an ATM and free wi-fi), a nice Ford we borrowed to drive around much of the island, and just enough Starbucks to caffeinate me every few days...to strange but tasty food, truck drivers at little karaoke restaurants belting out a couple songs after lunch before getting back on the road, and people who showed me warmth and friendship every day. Taiwan truly touched my heart.

The Taiwan GIS Center

I arrived mid-morning at the Taiwan GIS Center offices (www.tgic.org.tw/english/aboutus0.aspx) on Roosevelt Road, located adjacent to Chiang Kai-shek Square in Taipei. I was met by Dr. Sun in his office where we chatted a while. He told me of his time at the University of Georgia, where he received both his MA (1982) and PhD (1986) from the Graduate School of Geography. I described my travel plans in Taiwan and he provided a few additional suggestions, especially while visiting the remote East Coast, where his wife's family is from.

We moved to a nearby conference room where I was introduced to some of the TGIC senior staff:

- David Tzaan, Associate Researcher, Planning & Training Division
- Samuel Liang, Director, Technical Division
- Min Fang, Vice Director, Technical Division

TGIC's origins go back to 1958 when the China Data Processing Center was established with U.S. assistance. From its beginning, its goal was not only to support the application of information technology within Taiwan government agencies, but also to foster the application of industrial automation and IT to help the nation's economy compete in the global market. From its beginning, the CDPC was tasked with advising Taiwan's Council for Economic Planning and Development (CEPD) on future technology trends to help set national business development policy and goals.

See: Taiwan GIS, Page 5

TAIWAN GIS

Continued from page 4

Dr. Sun, who had returned to Taiwan to serve as a geography professor at the National Taiwan University (NTU – see: www.geog.ntu.edu.tw/english/introduction/introduction.html), became the consultant to the CEPD in 1988 on the development of a National Geographic Information System (NGIS). Taiwan's National Spatial Data Infrastructure Plan was drafted and implemented between 1998 and 2003. Based on an SOA platform, the NGIS uses a spatial data registry to integrate GIS data for the whole nation and to facilitate data sharing for government and business applications.

A U.S. Labor Department report in 2004 predicted 15 years of future growth in the biotechnology, nanotechnology, and geotechnology industries. Taiwan's government had initiated support for the first two of these rising technologies, but geospatial technology in Taiwan was not well developed or understood. CEPD decided that the CDPC should be tasked with developing Taiwan's leadership in GIS. In 2008, the CDPC was renamed the Taiwan Geographic Information System Center (TGIC), with Dr. Sun as its Chairman and General Manager. TGIC not only retained its existing responsibilities for IT and industrial technology, but also added new responsibilities to promote geospatial technology and development. These development areas include geotechnology, GPS technology, and telemetry technology. TGIC is also charged with advising CEPD on GIS policy and issues.

GIS development can move quickly when it is driven top-down by a national government. Under Dr. Sun's leadership, within a year TGIC had added more than 20 geotechnology experts to its staff. It also identified more than 50 scholars in geotechnology related fields to serve as advisors to the center. TGIC now has a staff of approximately 200, most working in non-GIS technology areas in support of the national government. About 40 GIS professionals work in TGIC's Taipei office and a small regional office in Taichung.



Samuel Liang, author, Dr. Chi-Hong Sun, Min Fang, David Tzaan

TGIC Activities

The primary role of the Taiwan GIS Center is to serve as a geotechnology think tank and as a demonstration and support center for government and business GIS applications. Dr. Sun retains his position on the faculty of NTU where he is able to enlist the help of his academic colleagues and graduate students to develop advanced geospatial technology and application concepts, for testing and implementation by TGIC. In essence, TGIC serves as an important link between the academic, government, and business communities in Taiwan for geospatial technology.

Geospatial Information Policy Planning: TGIC develops and promotes policies for government GIS implementation and resource sharing via the NGIS.

Geospatial Industry Promotion: TGIC consults with industry to promote GIS use and the development of geospatial technology based business sectors. An innovative aspect of TGIC is the Geospatial Technology Exhibit/Demonstration Room in the entrance lobby of their Taipei offices. Looking much like a modern science & technology museum, this area includes exhibits explaining GIS, describing business applications, and providing access to many hands-on touch-screen based GIS applications.

Geospatial Information Applications: TGIC helps implement eGovernment for national, county, and municipal governments in Taiwan. Building on the NGIS SOA platform, applications can be developed in an environment without data duplication and with common data standards. With an extensive broadband network covering the island (reaching out to and far beyond those 4,000 Seven-Elevens) the potential to provide real time access to spatial data and applications for government, business, and citizens is an achievable goal. NGIS and TGIC have developed more than 300 applications in the last 15 years.

Training: TGIC has an extensive educational program...with many business automation course offerings, in addition to an extensive catalog of GIS training classes.



Visitor to the TGIC Technology Exhibition/Demonstration Center

Taiwan's Future Vision for GIS

When we began discussing the future of GIS, Dr. Sun told me, 'We don't excel at writing software here in Taiwan...what we do excel at is developing and manufacturing components.' He went on to explain that TGIC sees great potential in Taiwan from the Sensor Web 2.0 concept developed by NASA. Sensor Web 2.0 is an open-source software architecture that allows users to access and control global sensors via the Internet. The potential of Sensor Web 2.0 will only be realized though by development of smaller, faster, and cheaper sensors and their use by all aspects of a nation's human and natural activity.

See: Taiwan GIS, Page 6

TAIWAN GIS

Continued from page 5

TGIS is supporting this vision with the development of TIEOS – the Intelligent Taiwan Project. A Sensor Web will be developed across Taiwan – tied to natural features, government assets, infrastructure, business, transport, etc. Sensors will be tied to a multi-agent knowledge-oriented cyberinfrastructure platform. This platform will register sensor data to the geonetwork, refine the data via a knowledge editor system, and process information via a spatial decision support system. Inferring and display agents will facilitate open knowledge-based decision support.

TIEOS will be a ground-breaking nation-wide application of integrated geospatial technology. For Taiwan, it will also provide a test bed for the industrial development of advanced sensors needed to support TIEOS, and which can become a cornerstone of Taiwan's industrial economy well into the Twenty-first Century.



TIEOS – Intelligent Taiwan Project



TGIC TIEOS Concept

Dr. Sun, his staff and I had a useful discussion about the challenges of promoting GIS use. I was able to share some of the marketing material and approaches used by the King County GIS Center for GIS outreach in King County. We also discussed the importance of internal training programs and end-user support to accelerate successful GIS implementation, both in Taiwan and in King County. Dr. Sun told me that geospatial technology has not yet been widely implemented at the county government level and only a few of the biggest cities have GIS operations.

I was struck with the contrast between our two countries, with very focused and unified GIS development and implementation at the national level in Taiwan, to a degree that does not exist with the U.S. at the federal or state levels. However GIS development at the local and regional level in the U.S. and Canada is far more developed than in Taiwan.

At the end of my visit, I thanked Dr. Sun and his staff and invited them all to contact me if ever they visit the U.S.

The Taiwan Geographic Information Society

About a week after my visit to TGIC, I got an email message from Dr. Sun inviting me to dinner in Taipei with some additional senior staff from the Taiwan government, NTU, and the Taiwan Geographic Information Society (TGIS). Dinner was at restaurant called the Gourmet Theater, located inside the National Concert Theater in Chiang Kai-shek Square, across from the TGIC offices. We enjoyed a wonderful buffet in an elegant setting that featured many of the distinctive local cooking styles I had experienced throughout my visit.

In addition to Dr. Sun, we were joined at dinner by:

- Jeremy J.H. Sun, Ministry of the Interior Director of Information Services
- Dr. Wan-Kai Lee, TGIC Planning & Training Division Director
- Professor MingDaw Su, NTU and President TGIS
- Dr. Bor-Wen Tsai, NTU and Secretary General TGIS
- Professor Feng-Tyan (Frank) Lin, Dean College of Planning & Design, National Cheng Kung University

I learned from Professor Su and Dr. Tsai that the Taiwan Geographic Information Society (<http://211.21.33.110/english.htm>), like URISA, is a non-profit educational society. Established in 1994, TGIS's mission includes:

- Promoting and conducting research on GIS technology
- Publishing research via periodicals and books
- Organizing conferences and study groups
- Develop a GIS knowledge base
- Provide advise and consulting

TGIS is also supporting the Asia GIS 2010 International Conference, scheduled for November in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. This conference expects to attract more than 500 attendees from China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and the U.S., with a theme of 'GIS and Cloud Computing.'

We discussed GIS professional certification. TGIS is interest in the GISCI (www.gisci.org/) certified GIS professional model and I promised to put them in touch with Sheila Wilson, GISCI Executive Director.

Professor Lin and I discussed the application of GIS to urban planning. This is a growing interest area in Taiwan. Much of the island has been developed without apparent zoning...future development and re-development will depend on careful land use analysis. Professor Lin told me that UrbanSim software (www.urbansim.org) is in common use in Taiwan for urban analysis and planning. I discussed use of UrbanSim by the Puget Sound Regional Council in the Seattle area.

See: Taiwan GIS, Page 7

TAIWAN GIS

Continued from page 6

Dr. Su, who specializes in water resource management issues, and I discussed GIS for water planning applications in the U.S. and Taiwan. Dr. Su was very interested in the extensive work that the King County GIS Center has done related to potential flooding along the Green River in Washington because of safety concerns with the upstream Howard Hanson Dam.

Dr. Tsai and I discussed common interest in aboriginal mapping. He described his research in the mapping of aboriginal occupancy in Taiwan based on oral records and tradition. I described the work of the Aboriginal Mapping Network (<http://nativemaps.org/>) in Vancouver, B.C., and promised to send him a copy of their book 'Chief Kerry's Moose' which outlines oral tradition mapping methodology.

Jeremy Shen, Dr. Sun and I discussed the importance of ROI to promoting GIS. I promised to send them the results of the current King County GIS ROI study being conducted by a research team from the University of Washington Evans School of Public Affairs.

There was also general interest in URISA's proposed GIS Capability Maturity Model (<http://tinyurl.com/GISCMM>). Dr. Sun was proud to point out that TGIC is CMMi Level 3 certified. I agreed to send Dr. Sun a copy of the URISA model for translation into Mandarin and application within Taiwan.



Author with Amis Tribe Chief at Aboriginal Festival in Hualien City, Taiwan

Taiwan exceeded my expectations in many ways: friendlier, more beautiful, and more dynamic than I had imagined. I also learned of a vibrant growing GIS community, with challenges to be sure, but also with a realistic perspective and unique plans for geospatial technology. Don't be surprised to hear more about GIS and geospatial technology from this little island in the future. And if you should ever visit, expect to be warmly greeted. Taiwan will touch your heart!

Note: This article is being simultaneously published in *The GIS Professional*

For more information, contact Greg Babinski, Finance & Marketing Manager, King County GIS Center, Seattle, WA (V: 206-263-3753; E: greg.babinski@kingcounty.gov).



Helping Organizations Succeed with GIS



Specializing in hands-on ArcGIS® training at any location:

- ESRI authorized classes
- Juniper GIS custom classes
- ArcGIS, geodatabases, Spatial Analyst, & more
- Portable computer lab

**GIS consulting services
Project implementation
ESRI software sales**



541-389-6225

www.JuniperGIS.com • Email: info@JuniperGIS.com

Trademarks provided under license from ESRI.

GIS TRAINING EXPRESS™

Professional GIS Training
in our Seattle facility or at your site

King County GIS Custom Classes *Created and taught by working GIS professionals*

GIS Certification Institute Qualified
Earn GISCI points



GIS Academy at King County
"Beyond the Basics"

Washington State Department of Personnel
Business Partner



ESRI® Authorized Classes



URISA's Pacific NW Education Center



Use Veteran's GI Bill Benefits

Selected programs of study at the King County GIS Center are approved for those eligible to receive benefits under Title 38 and Title 10, USC.



King County

We help you put GIS to work!

GIS CENTER 206-263-5220

www.kingcounty.gov/gis/training

SUMMIT INTERVIEW: JOY PAULUS, WASHINGTON STATE GIS COORDINATOR

By Effie Moody, Summit Contributing Editor

Joy Paulus is the State of Washington GIS Coordinator in the GIS Program Office at the Department of Information Services. She is responsible for management and oversight of statewide GIS initiatives and policy in Washington. She provides staff support to the Information Services Boards subcommittee on Geographic Information Technology and to the Washington Geographic Information Council. Joy represents Washington State on the National States Geographic Information Council. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geography from Oregon State University and has 29 years of experience in the use, implementation and management of GIS technology.

Joy Paulus was interviewed by *The Summit* on October 8, 2010.

Summit: Tell me a little about your position with the State of Washington.

Joy Paulus: I serve as the agency's senior consultant on Geographic Information System (GIS) technology in the Department of Information Services. My primary role is state GIS Coordination but I also provide staff support to the Information Services Boards Subcommittee on Geographic Information Technology (ISB-GIT) and to the Washington Geographic Information Council (WAGIC). I'm responsible for providing GIS leadership and for managing statewide activities that promote innovative and effective use of GIS across federal, state, local, and tribal jurisdictions for the Department.

Summit: What is unique about Washington State's GIS?

Joy Paulus: Washington State is in a unique position as the state's GIS Coordinator sits in the same office as State Chief Information Officer (CIO). I have the perspective and role of being staff to committees where information technology policy and governance is set for the state. This is unlike many states where GIS positions are advisory only.

As a result the GIS community has a forum for taking GIS standards and policies forward for approval and implementation at the state level; they have a mechanism for working on state enterprise GIS initiatives; and they have access to Information Technology (IT) executives that sit on these committees.

Summit: Can you give me an example?

Joy Paulus: I was able to apply for a USGS Cooperative Assistance Program (CAP) grant and with those funds, and the assistance of the Washington GIS user community and its contractor, create the state's GIS Strategic Plan and its first GIS Business Plan. I was able to bring these plans forward for state approval and adoption by the Governor's appointed Information Services Boards (ISB) and its subcommittee on GIS. These plans now help provide the information technology directions in state government as it relates to GIS and it gives state agencies a set of enterprise objectives to work toward to more effectively deploy GIS across the agencies.



*Joy Paulus at 2010 NW ESRI GIS Conference
Golf Tournament in Spokane*

Summit: What are some of the current initiatives you are working on?

Joy Paulus: We have been focusing on things outlined in the GIS Strategic and Business Plans and have recently launched a website which is very much a part of making GIS more accessible to everyone. If you go to the website: www.geography.wa.gov, you will see the model for the state's *Geospatial Portal*. We are building out pieces and components of this web portal and recently completed the webpage design that will be used to build out the site over time. We credit WAGIC listening sessions and the feedback from some 200 participants regarding the directions that state GIS initiatives are taking today. I am also working with WAGIC members and others to get six additional GIS standards adopted for the state (vertical datum, single coordinate system, web mapping and non-spatial metadata). They are presently in draft or review form and some will be ready for adoption in December. Look to the WAGIC web site at www.wagic.wa.gov for more information about these efforts.

Summit: Where does sustainable funding coming in?

Joy Paulus: Sustainable funding continues to be a challenge for us and even more now than in the past. Funding framework management projects are particularly difficult for us. By making our work more visible and useful, the value we bring to decision makers and the public will become more obvious and valuable. This is why we are working on the new *Geospatial Portal*. This becomes our mechanism for serving the State's Spatial Data Infrastructure (SSDI) which in turn feeds the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). This is how we begin better coordination with government at all levels, working on building those relationships and expanding new ones -- greater coordination and outreach are always the goal. Budgets at all levels of government are strapped and it will be sometime before we come out the other end. But with every challenge there are opportunities and now is the time for us to work more closely together and establish new working relationships so we can better leverage our existing resources.

See: Joy Paulus Interview, Page 9

JOY PAULUS INTERVIEW

Continued from page 8

Summit: Where are we (Washington State) going and why we are doing it?

Joy Paulus: Let's go back in time.... WAGIC typically has a retreat every three years inviting GIS users to help determine what activities we need to work on to further GIS in Washington. At the last retreat, in June 2009, participants felt we needed to update our existing GIS Strategic Plan in order to mark our progress. The USGS Washington and Idaho GIS liaisons were at this retreat and presented information on the USGS Cooperative Agreement Partnership (CAP) grant opportunities and how it helps fund these sorts of activities. I applied for and received a grant and that is what enabled the state to work on the Strategic and Business Plan for Washington. It resulted in definitive products that were well received at all state levels of government.

The Strategic and Business Plans were forwarded to the governor's office, to the Information Services Board (ISB), and to all state agency CIOs. These two plans were leveraged and used in other Governor's initiatives. One example is the Natural Resources Reform Effort, which is looking at ways to deploy GIS more efficiently and effectively within the natural resource agencies. Another example is the Marine Spatial Planning and Open Oceans Initiative. The western states are beginning to plan the comprehensive mapping and monitoring of our marine waters. They are looking to these plans for ideas and ways of handling data management, GIS coordination, and governance.

This is where GIS comes in... the people involved in that initiative are saying, '...if we are going to do Marine Spatial Planning then we are going to need data and we are going to need to use GIS technology.' They ended up referencing the GIS Strategic and Business Plans and were able to leverage the governance structure outlined in those plans."

Summit: It sounds like the "Enterprise" systems we all have been talking about for years.

Joy Paulus: Yes, that's correct. Information gathered at the five GIS Listening sessions pointed in that direction. The results were folded into the GIS Strategic Plan and two strategic objectives were fleshed out and it became the Business Plan. The components in that business plan outline an enterprise approach to GIS as it relates to infrastructure and governance.

For specific details on how to implement the business plan we can look to work we did in 2006 on Enterprise Architecture (EA). The GIS EA initiative identified the GIS components that state agencies want to manage and fund as state enterprise assets. "These are all stepping stones... do one thing and it leads to another. As you can see, this plan is being leveraged in ways we never predicted."

Summit: How do we move forward in this budget shortfall climate?

Joy Paulus: When funding gets tighter, people start looking to each other for support and partnerships.

<geography.wa.gov>

Washington State Geospatial Portal
A single source for quality and reliable government geospatial data resources

The primary role of this Portal is to provide access to and use of geospatial technology resources to more efficiently serve Washington residents. This offers a wide range of products and services to schools, state agencies, counties, cities, tribal governments and the public.

Washington State Geographic Information Council

Washington Geospatial Portal
Under Construction
 DATA & SERVICES

INFORMATION SERVICES BOARD
GEOGRAPHIC
 Information Technology Committee

ORTHO Photo Portal | PORTFOLIO Management | CITIZEN CENTRIC search | SEARCH Geospatial Clearinghouse | enterprise ARCHITECTURE

ISB-GIT | WAGIC | Contact GIS Coordinator

New Washington State Geospatial Portal: www.geography.wa.gov

See: Joy Paulus Interview, Page 10

JOY PAULUS INTERVIEW

Continued from page 9

Summit: What else are you working on as GIS Coordinator?

Joy Paulus: Other efforts include:

- We are working on the access and discovery portal to provide a single view of information with a way to manage these GIS resources across the state and across government entities. This was listed as a top priority by the GIS user community.
- Another effort underway is the redeployment of the states information clearinghouse using newer technology. With the help of the University of Washington (UW) and WAGIC we have implemented the ArcGIS Server GeoPortal and agencies have loaded over 200 updated metadata records to the new repository. There will be a link off the Geospatial Portal to the updated WA Geospatial Clearinghouse which has the capability to host spatial metadata records as well as listings for web mapping applications, web mapping services, cache services and more. We hope to get additional contributions from others sources outside state government. We need these additions in order to be successful and for the site to useful – we all need to participate and contribute.
- In order to support the documentation of web services we are working on establishing a new, non-geospatial metadata documentation format or template that we will add to the Washington Geospatial Metadata Clearinghouse soon. This template will be based on a proposed standard that is under development.

***Sustainable funding continues
to be a challenge for us and
even more now than in the
past.***

Summit: Can you give me an example of this?

Joy Paulus: As an example: if you wanted to find a specific data set, let's say hydrography data, then you could go to www.geography.wa.gov and access the link "Search Geospatial Clearinghouse." It will return all the valid listings in Washington. Doing this simple search uses all the new or updated tools we've been working on. But, the results will only be as good as what is contributed by the GIS user community.

"Combined, all these efforts will make our lives easier and will help us to realize the vision that was outlined in the GIS Strategic Plan."

Summit: Thank you Joy, the GIS forecast for the future indeed looks very bright with people like you at the state level! Perhaps we can be in contact with you again next year to track progress.

Contact Effie Moody at: Effie.Moody@seattle.gov

Contact Joy Paulus at: JoyP@DIS.WA.GOV



Pictometry Intelligent Images® provide solutions to government users so you can *See Everywhere, Measure Anything, Plan Everything.*® Pictometry imagery integrates directly with ESRI ArcMap, ArcGIS Server, Image Server, CIMA, and 9-1-1 Mapping Systems. Over 850 Counties use Pictometry.



Contact russ.michel@pictometry.com for information

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Continued from page 1

New URISA International trial membership is now available to anyone who has not been a URISA member during the past two years. The URISA trial membership for current chapter members is only \$20 (normally \$175). This is an introductory offer to expose GIS professionals to the benefits and advocacy of URISA international. You are a member of Washington URISA if you attended the 2010 Washington GIS conference or paid the \$25 WAURISA membership fee anytime in 2010.

Learn more at: http://www.urisa.org/intro_membership.

On the home front our chapter board members are actively preparing for some 2011 events. The conference committee is moving along nicely for next year's Washington GIS Conference. You will notice that the conference logo, theme and location have been determined and workshop and paper presenters will be requested soon. Now is a great time to start thinking about how that great project you are working on can be one of the conference workshops or presentations. The education committee is also working to coordinate an offering of the URISA GIS Program Management and Cartography workshops planned for late winter/early spring in Eastern Washington. Stay tuned for more information and registration options on that.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve over the past year as the Washington URISA chapter president. I enjoy hearing from our members so please email me at president@waurisa.org if you have comments.

-Don Burdick, President



ESIG AWARDS

Continued from page 1

The city GIS staff has worked hard over the last two decades integrating GIS with business systems such as utility billing, maintenance management, permit review, document management, life safety, law enforcement, parks and finance which has made GIS a critical resource for all City operations. The CityIQ application takes advantage of those business system integrations and provides them in an easy to use web-based interface. It was built to serve the novice user with auto-complete search options and simplified result filtering. It functions as a fully featured search engine for attributed spatial data and business process content with a sophisticated map interface. Additionally, it includes full text searching, high quality map production and data reporting capabilities. CityIQ was built as a one-stop information source for staff and the public to access critical customer and services information. The entire user interface was built to coincide with user intuition developed from web experiences with other systems such as Google maps, Yahoo, Amazon and Bing.

The strength of the CityIQ application, and what makes it exemplary, is that it is designed and built on a flexible and modular architecture as a JavaScript client application consuming web services for mapping and business information. The map interface is built on the ArcGIS Server JavaScript framework resulting in a very fast online map viewer that takes advantage of the rich cartographic standards already established by the City GIS staff. Other business information is delivered via web services through a standardized delivery format so that it can easily be queried, filtered and displayed through the application.

CityIQ was built as a one-stop information source for staff and the public to access critical customer and services information.

GIS Manager Don Burdick gave a presentation at the conference about the design and continued development of the application - the city is equally proud of the process as well as the application itself. The presentation discussed city staff use of an older desktop version of the application built using Visual Basic with Map Objects and the need to move away from that technology. The presentation discussed how even though the application was well used and appreciated, the need to make the information publicly accessible and the data more easily and quickly found drove the need for an updated application.

Don presented the technical goals to make the architecture flexible so that GIS and business information could be easily added. Also the actual development and acceptance process was presented showing the cities focus on agile development intertwined with a user steering /testing team. Use of city development staff alongside consultant developers with full input and interaction with the steering team resulted in a better product which, in turn, fostered great buy-in and advocacy by the users and decision makers.

Don Burdick is City of Bellingham GIS Program Manager. Contact him at: DBurdick@cob.org

See: ESIG Awards, Page 12



1-877-OPENGEO
opengeo.org

Your expert partner for enterprise solutions built on open source geospatial software.

From delivering imagery to web-based editing of vector data, OpenGeo solves the geospatial IT issues facing governments, transit agencies, and businesses worldwide.



OPENGEO SUITE
Enterprise Edition

Email us at inquiry@opengeo.org to learn more.

**GET YOUR DESIGN
OFF THE GROUND THE
FIRST TIME**

Your complete *CAD Solution*

- Software
- Training
- Consulting
- Commercial
- Government
- Educational

800-722-2621

www.pacificad.com

Autodesk®
Authorized Value Added Reseller

PACIFICAD



ESIG AWARDS

Continued from page 11

Pierce County GIS On Line Budget System

By Art Seeley, GISP & Angie Venturato

The Pierce County GIS Budget System qualifies as an exemplary single process system because it provides County officials and department directors with detailed budget information about the data, applications, and services that GIS provides in a simple and easy-to-use format.

Tough economic times have had an effect on the budgets of many county and local government agencies across the nation. As governments feel the budget crunch, it is tempting to eliminate geospatial information services and systems in favor of free applications such as Google Maps or Microsoft Bing. The GIS division developed the online GIS Budget System to show the value of GIS within the County in a comprehensive way.

The online intranet application provides easy access to reports and charts that showcase all GIS services and how funds provided by various entities are allocated. Detailed departmental reports help individual directors determine the level of GIS service use and whether resources should be added or reduced based on projects and available funds.

The system was built using freely available Java and JavaScript libraries to keep costs down and ease future maintenance of the application. Budget data are easily maintained by the GIS manager in Microsoft Excel® spreadsheets, which are then converted into styled html pages via Apache software. JavaScript and styled html pages provide a sleek design that has received kudos from multiple departments and budget officials.

Though the system itself is not geospatial, the useful and streamlined budget information it provides keeps the GIS enterprise in operation. In addition, the associated cost allocation model has become a new standard for maintaining other divisional budgets in the Information Technology department.

For more information see:

http://www.piercecountywa.org/cfapps/internet/news.cfm?node_id=107077&media=PC.

Art Seeley is Pierce County GIS Interim Manager. Contact him at: aseeley@co.pierce.wa.us:

For more information about the ESIG Awards, including the Award applications submitted by the City of Bellingham and Pierce County, see: <http://www.urisa.org/awards/2010esig>.



SEEKING GIS EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON

Gary Cantrell

8 years experience with ArcGIS digitizing data, creating databases and maps. Contact Gary Cantrell at 425-894-0955. For my resume see: <http://waurisa.org/phpBB3/viewtopic.php?f=2&t=663>

If you are looking for GIS-related employment in Washington State, see The Summit, Winter 2010 Issue, p. 17 for information on submitting a notice. <http://www.waurisa.org/thesummit/index.html>



The Pacific Northwest Technology Leaders in:

- GPS
- Optical Surveying
- 3D Spatial Imagery
- GIS/Mapping
- Construction

Be More Productive with Your Investment.

Our goal is to make you productive with your investment in Trimble Systems. For your convenience, Geoline offers two Trimble Certified Service Centers, a variety of scheduled training opportunities and full support for your surveying and mapping needs. Including:

- Authorized sales and service
- Certified repair, support and training
- Rental equipment and more!

Visit us at one of our locations or on the web at: www.geoline.com

GEOLINE HEADQUARTERS
1331 118th Ave. SE, #400
Bellevue, WA 98005
800.523.6408

ADDITIONAL OFFICES
Tigard, OR
Spokane, WA
Boise, ID



Trimble is proud to work with its regional partners and invites you to contact them.



ELECTRONIC DATA SOLUTIONS®
Field Data Collection

Hardware, Software & Technical Services for Mobile GIS Applications

HARDWARE & SOFTWARE

- Trimble® GPS Mapping Systems
- Juniper Systems, Inc.® Field Computers
- Laser Technology/ LaserCraft Rangefinders
- ESRI® ArcPad® & ArcGIS® Software
- Ricoh GPS-Ready Digital Cameras
- In-Situ® Water Level & Water Quality Instrumentation

SERVICES

- Technical Support
- Repair Services
- Mobile GIS Software Development
- Equipment Rentals & Used Equipment Sales
- Certified ArcPad, GPS Pathfinder® Office software and Trimble GPS Analyst™ extension for ArcGIS Desktop software training

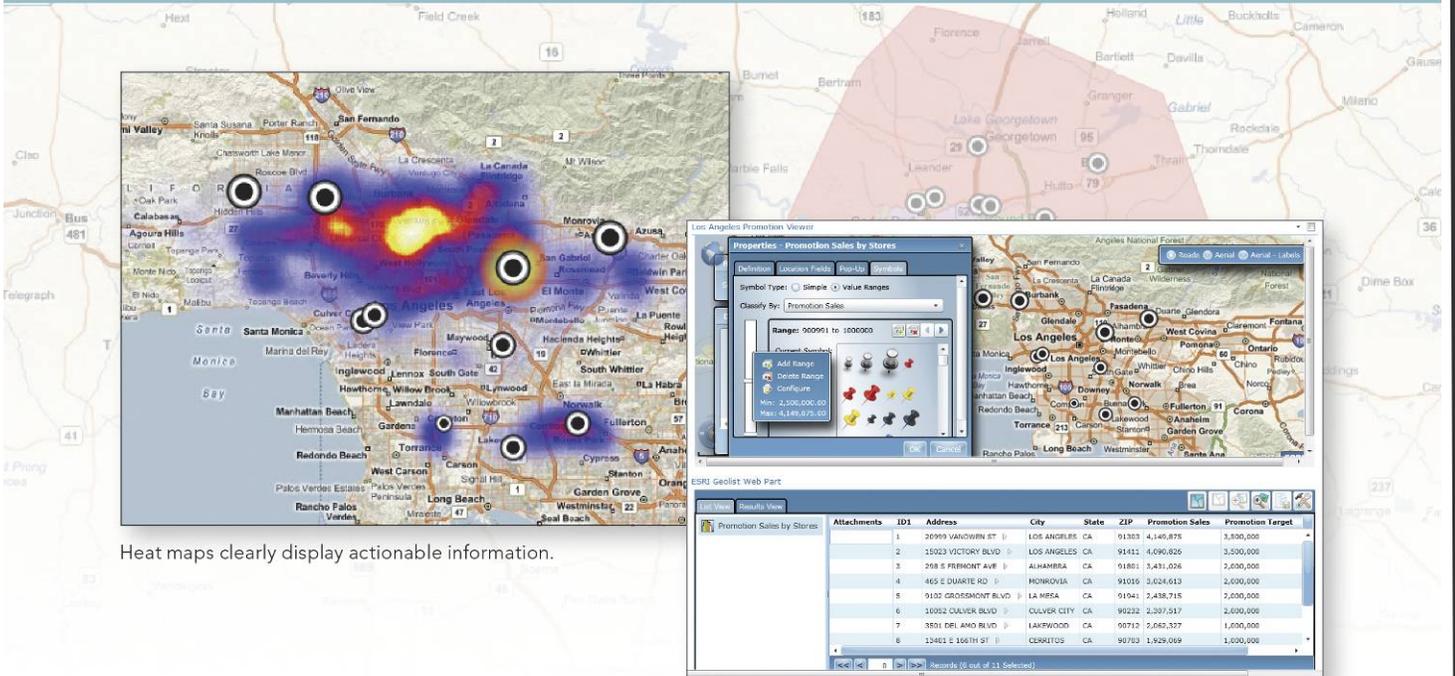


WA Ph: 360-539-1707
www.elecdata.com

Easy, Fast Mapping of Your Data

Silverlight™ • SharePoint® • SQL Server® 2008

Visit Esri at TechEd to see live demonstrations.



Heat maps clearly display actionable information.

Configure your maps with simple-to-use dialog boxes.

Derive more value from your business data by visualizing and analyzing it on maps in SharePoint. Esri® ArcGIS® Mapping for SharePoint transforms data from Excel® and SQL Server into actionable information. Interpreting mapped information becomes straightforward, highlighting trends not evident through spreadsheets and tables.

No programming is required.

ArcGIS Mapping for SharePoint includes

- ▶ **Geolist Web Part**—Provides an interactive, multifunctional tabular view of SharePoint lists
- ▶ **Location Map Field**—Shows the location of each SharePoint list on a map
- ▶ **Map Web Part**—Quickly deploys rich, interactive Web applications in SharePoint

For more information or to download ArcGIS Mapping for SharePoint, visit esri.com/agm4sp.



15th Annual GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference



**Memphis, Tennessee
February 28 - March 3, 2011**

The 15th Annual Conference for Professionals in Property Assessment, Tax Administration, Mapping and Information Technology

The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) and the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) are pleased to announce the 15th GIS/CAMA (Geographic Information Systems / Computer-Assisted Mass Appraisal) Technologies Conference, to be held February 28 - March 3, 2011 at the Memphis Peabody in Tennessee.

http://www.urisa.org/conferences/2011gis_cama

2011 URISA GIS in Public Health Conference

**June 27-30, 2011
Atlanta, Georgia**

Conference Vision: To provide an open and participatory forum for advancing the effective use of spatial information and geographic information system technologies across the domains of public health, healthcare and community health preparedness.

Call for Presentations

Abstract Submissions Due on or before January 10, 2011

http://www.urisa.org/2011health_call

GIS in Public Transportation Conference

September 12-14, 2011 - St Petersburg, Florida

Sponsored by URISA and the National Center for Transit Research (NCTR)

URISA and the University of South Florida's National Center for Transit Research at the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) are pleased to announce the 2011 GIS in Public Transportation Conference, which will take place in St. Petersburg, Florida, September 12-14, 2011.

http://www.urisa.org/gis_transit



The next URISA Caribbean GIS Conference will take place December 6-10, 2010 in Trinidad. URISA is pleased to note that **CARILEC**, the Caribbean Electric Utility Service Corporation - an association of electric utilities, suppliers, manufacturers and other stakeholders operating in the electricity industry in the Caribbean, will be a partner in the 2010 conference!

<http://www.urisa.org/conferences/caribbean/info>

URISA Leadership Academy

Just Announced: Don't miss your ONLY opportunity to attend the URISA Leadership Academy in 2011!

**May 16-20, 2011
Moonrise Hotel
St Louis, Missouri**

[WWW.URISA.ORG/ULA](http://www.urisa.org/ula)



2010 ULA Graduates, Baltimore, MD



The Association For **GIS** Professionals

Search:

Jump To:



Have you seen the new URISA Website? See: www.URISA.ORG

An Offer You Shouldn't Refuse!

Your Opportunity to Experience URISA International Membership

The URISA Board of Directors has just announced a new Introductory Membership Initiative!

This Introductory Membership offer is extended to URISA Chapter members, GISPs, and GISCorps volunteers who are not currently a member of URISA International. The intent is to provide a targeted group of potential members the opportunity to experience URISA membership for a pre-defined period, at a significantly discounted rate.

URISA International Member Benefits Include:

- URISA Journal** – one of the top ranked peer-reviewed journals in the geospatial industry, published biannually (*a \$295 value*)
- The GIS Professional** – URISA's bimonthly publication with member-contributed articles on technology, trends, case studies and more (*a \$60 value*)
- Publications** – online publications library with dozens of electronic publications and conference proceedings (*\$3,000 value*)
- Advocacy** – national level advocacy in multiple nations for local interests based on a collaboratively-developed advocacy agenda (*priceless*)
- Affiliation** with an International organization active in advocacy on behalf of members and the profession (*priceless*)
- Best Practices** – consensus and publication of best practices on a wide variety of processes and procedures (*priceless*)
- Contribution Opportunities for GISPs** – conference speaking & attendance; publication of articles; opportunities for involvement (*priceless*)
- Leadership Development** – opportunities to develop or improve leadership skills within URISA committees and work groups (*priceless*)
- Numerous Educational Opportunities** – webinars, conferences, workshops (*\$200 value*)
- GIS-Pro Annual Conference** registration savings (*\$150 value*)
- Specialty Conference** registration savings – **GIS/CAMA Technologies**, **URISA/NENA Addressing**, **GIS in Public Health**, **GIS in Public Transportation**, **URISA's Caribbean GIS Conference** and more (*\$375 value*)
- URISA Leadership Academy** registration savings (*\$200 value*)
- URISA Digest** – updates on URISA activities, announcements, and industry news (*\$40 value*)
- Job Opportunities/Postings** – access to comprehensive listings of job openings (*\$250 value*)
- Website Forum** – opportunity to communicate at any time with peers and colleagues on issues (*priceless*)
- Build Your Professional Network** – with members beyond your own local area and in a variety of disciplines (*priceless*)

Total it up and URISA membership is worth considerably more than the regular dues rate and the introductory membership is further discounted by \$155!

For more information and all the details, see:

http://www.urisa.org/intro_membership

URISA

The Association For **GIS** Professionals





OUR STATE'S
HUGE
opportunity to participate in the
2011 Statewide Orthoimagery
NATIONAL AGRICULTURE IMAGERY PROGRAM

Orthoimagery serves as a seamless base map layer, which many other critical layers are derived from and registered to. The detail and richness of information captured in orthoimagery supports a plethora of applications, *such as:*

- Homeland Security & Emergency Management
- Public Safety Planning and Response
- Tax Parcel Mapping
- Land Use and Land Cover Mapping
- Land Use Planning and Zoning
- Natural Resource Inventories & Assessments
- Transportation Management & Planning
- Economic Development
- Utilities Management & Planning
- Navigation & Fleet Management
- Regulatory Monitoring & Compliance
- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Surveying & Mapping
- Environmental Management & Planning
- Education
- Recreation
- *and many, many more...*

& the BENEFITS!

The opportunity to continue to leverage funding from the US National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) offers the following benefits:

- Is competitively priced
- High quality, consistent product that is useful across the state and jurisdictional boundaries
- Collaboration maximizes limited resources (funding, time, staff, infrastructure)
- Collaboration minimizes duplication of effort (planning, coordination and data

processing, distribution and storage)

- Leverages the state's Orthoimagery Portal for distribution of data to the public
- Valuable having a regular updated cycle for statewide imagery
- National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) endorses this approach for addressing and building GIS framework data through NAIP.

National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)



How you can help!

Washington State Orthoimagery Partnership Needs Your Help to:

- Acquire funding support for this important data collection effort
- Help us get the "message out" to your constituents and partners
- Inform others at Professional Forums, Venues, Meetings
- Make use of partnership information resources posted on the web www.wagis.wa.gov

contact*info*
Washington State Orthoimagery Partnership

Joy Paulus, WA State Department of Information Services, GIS Coordinator
360-902-3447
joy.paulus@dis.wa.gov



Mark your calendars
for the

2011 Washington GIS Conference

May 9-11, 2011 Lynnwood Convention Center

Celebrate 30 years of "Mapping Washington's Future" at the 2011 Washington conference in Lynnwood. Join GIS professionals from local, state, federal and tribal governments and the private sector as we collaborate on advancing our collective geospatial vision of the future through the state's GIS strategic plan.

Presentation and Panel Sessions

Come see the latest in:

- Strategic planning
- Resource collaboration and coordination
- Management of geospatial information
- Getting the most from your data
- Analysis wizardry
- Presentation tips and tricks

Call for Presentations

Abstracts will be accepted starting January 3, 2011.

Presenters earn GISP credits and can attend pre-conference workshops at a significant discount.

Suggested topics:

- Designing user-friendly web maps
- GeoDesign and VGI
- Smart phones and GIS
- GIS in the Cloud
- Using Python to make life easier
- GIS Governance
- Managing Imagery

Call for pre-conference workshops:

Workshops are half day (3 ½ to 4 hours) in length as the first day of the conference. We are working on perks and benefits for workshop presenters now, so stay tuned for benefits available to you as a presenter.

Exhibitors:

The Lynnwood Convention Center is ideal for exhibitor and conference attendee interaction. We're busy putting together new vendor booth options to be announced this month.

We're interested in your ideas! The conference planning committee is very interested in hearing your suggestions for the conference. Please email us at: 2011WAGISConference@waurisa.org

www.waurisa.org

WAURISA SPONSORS

WAURISA thanks the following sponsors for their generous support....

 <p>ESRI WWW.ESRI.COM</p>	 <p>King County GIS CENTER WWW.KINGCOUNTY.GOV/GIS</p>
 <p>ELECTRONIC DATA SOLUTIONS® Field Data Collection WWW.ELECDATA.COM</p>	 <p>GeoLine WWW.GEOLINE.COM</p>
 <p>SKAGIT COUNTY Serving With Pride WASHINGTON WWW.SKAGITCOUNTY.NET/GIS</p>	 <p>PACIFICAD WWW.PACIFICAD.COM</p>
 <p>OPENGEO WWW.OPENGEO.ORG/</p>	 <p>juniper GIS WWW.JUNIPERGIS.COM/</p>
 <p>Pictometry Intelligent Images™ WWW.PICTOMETRY.COM</p>	<p>In addition to the paid sponsors listed on this page, WAURISA acknowledges support from the following agencies that provide chapter board members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Bellingham • Critigen • City of Seattle • ESRI • Port Madison GIS • City of Olympia • Pierce County • Wendt GIS • King County GIS Center
<p>SAVE THE DATE 2011 WASHINGTON GIS CONFERENCE <i>Mapping Washington's Future</i></p> <p>May 9-11, 2011 Lynnwood Convention Center</p> 	

THE SUMMIT - EDITORIAL

IMPLEMENT WASHINGTON'S GIS STRATEGIC AND BUSINESS PLANS

Earlier this year the Washington State Information Services Board – Geographic Information Technology Committee (ISB-GIT) approved the state's new Geographic Information Systems Strategic Plan and the companion Geographic Information Systems Business Plan. These plans lay out a vision for progressive GIS in Washington State with a road map to achieve that vision. Now is the time for professional organizations with an interest in GIS and geospatial technology in Washington State to step up and formally voice their support.

Funded by an FGDC 50 States Initiative grant, these two plans were developed by Joy Paulus, Washington State GIS Coordinator, Berk & Associates of Seattle, and the Washington State Geographic Information Council (WAGIC). They were developed after four regional listening sessions, an online survey, and focus groups solicited input and advice from state, federal, city, county, regional agency, tribal, academic, and private entity representatives from across Washington.

The Strategic Plan vision is to 'utilize geospatial technology to facilitate decision-making to benefit Washington State citizens.' The companion Business Plan identifies five strategic goals: 1) establish access mechanisms for geospatial data, 2) staff a GIS program office and recruit a GIO, 3) strengthen coordination across the state GIS community, 4) develop statewide data standards and service guidelines, and 5) increase awareness of the benefits of geospatial technology.

The Business Plan maps out how the state can achieve its GIS vision. It mandates an enterprise approach to GIS within the state government, which in itself should generate considerable ROI. It lays out two key goals. First it recommends development of an access mechanism – an internet based portal – for Washington GIS data. Second, to develop and support the data access portal and pursue the other strategic goals, the plan calls for the establishment, funding, and staffing of a GIS Program Office and the recruitment of the state's first Geospatial Information Officer (GIO). The four phase implementation plan comes with a price tag – over \$433,000 in start up costs and more than \$800,000 in annual operating costs.

These plans support development of the NSDI; reorganizes and enhances the state's GIS infrastructure, organization, capacity, and capability; and delivers direct benefits to local agencies, the private sector, and the general public. There is a growing body of evidence that investment in geospatial technology and dissemination of data and applications by government agencies delivers significant return on investment (ROI). Times are tough now in Washington State, with government agencies strapped for cash, unemployment still high, and businesses struggling. But adoption of the state's GIS Strategic Plan and implementation of the Business Plan will provide significant broad ROI far in excess of the cost.



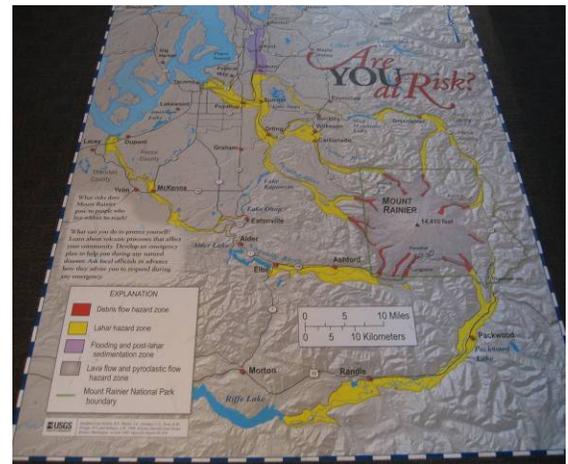
The Summit is published by WAURISA. To encourage the discussion of issues and ideas of importance to the Washington GIS community we welcome letters to the editor or opinion essays. Letters to the editor should be a maximum of 100 words and essays should be limited to 500 words.

Chief Editor: Greg Babinski
Contributing Editor: Effie Moody
Interview Editor: Michelle Lortz
Olympia Area Editor: Whitney K. Bowerman
West Sound Area Editor: Eadie Kaltenbacher

For subscriptions, content, comments, or suggestions, email:
Summit@WAURISA.org

PUBLIC MAPS IN WASHINGTON

This map was found at the Jackson Visitor Center at Mt. Rainier. It shows potential risk zones for lahars, debris flows, lava flow, and flooding originating from Mt. Rainier.



Are You at Risk Map?

(Greg Babinski photo)

Do you know of a public map display in Washington? Send it to *The Summit* and we'll include it in a future issue.
 -Editor

THE SUMMIT – LITERARY CORNER

Neither Here nor There - Travels in Europe

'I returned to England and waited for winter to go. I spent an absurd amount of time shopping for things for the trip - a travel alarm clock, a Swiss Army knife, a bright green and yellow rucksack, which my wife assured me would be just the thing if I decided to do any gay camping - and spent a day crawling around the attic searching for my beloved Kummerly and Frey maps. I bought nearly the whole European set in 1972 and it was one of the few intelligent investments of my younger years. What am I saying? It was the intelligent investment of my younger years.'

'Printed in Switzerland, with all the obsessive precision and expense that that implies, each Kummerly and Frey map covered one or two countries within its smart blue and yellow folders. Unfolded, they were vast and crisp and beautifully printed on quality paper. Best of all, the explanatory notes were in German and French only, which gave them an exotic ring that appealed to me in 1972 and appeals to me still. There is just something inherently more earnest and worldly about a traveler who carries maps with titles like 'Jugoslawien 1:1 Mio' and 'Schwarzwald 1:250,000'. It tells the world, Don't fuck with me. I'm a guy who knows his maps.'

- **Bill Bryson, 1991**



GIS USER GROUPS IN WASHINGTON

ACSM – Washington State Section

<http://www.wss-acsm.org/>

ASPRS Puget Sound Region

<http://www.photogrammetry.com/ASPRS-PSR/>

Cascadia Users of Geospatial Open Source

<http://groups.google.com/group/cugos/>

Contact Karsten Venneman at: karsten@terragis.net

Central Puget Sound GIS User Group

<http://waurisa.org/phpBB2/viewforum.php?f=24>

Contact Nora Gierloff at: ngierloff@ci.tukwila.wa.us

Central Washington GIS User Group

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

For information contact Amanda Taub at:

ataub_gis@yahoo.com

King County GIS User Group

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/GIS/UserGroups.aspx>

Meets 1st Wednesday every other month at 11:00am at the KCGIS Center, 201 S. Jackson Street, Seattle WA, Conf Room 7044/7045.

Northwest Washington GIS User Group

http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/gis/nwgis_mtgs.htm

Southeast Washington/Northwest Oregon GIS User Group

For more information, contact Chris Owen:

cowen@ci.walla-walla.wa.us

Washington Geographic Information Council (WAGIC)

<http://wagic.wa.gov/>

Join Listserv at: <http://listserv.wa.gov/archives/wagic.html>

Washington Hazus Users Group

<http://www.usehazus.com/wahug>

Contact Cathy Walker at: c.walker@mil.wa.gov

To have your GIS related group or event listed in future issues of *The Summit*, notify the editor at:

SummitGISNews@URISA.org.

To be added to *The Summit* mailing list, contact:

Summit@WAURISA.org

Back issues of *The Summit* are available at:

<http://waurisa.org/thesummit/>

Interested in volunteering your time to help WAURISA?

Contact Don Burdick or any Board member listed to the right.



WAURISA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Don Burdick: dburdick@cob.org
Vice President Greg Babinski: greg.babinski@kingcounty.gov
Secretary Karl Johansen: emmasen@msn.com
Treasurer Tonya Elliott: Tonya_Elliott@hotmail.com
Past President Angela Johnson: Angela_Johnson@critigen.com
Board Members At-Large:
 Neil Berry: Neil.berry@seattle.gov
 Whitney Bowerman: wbowerma@ci.olympia.wa.us
 Cort Daniel: cort.daniel@co.pierce.wa.us
 Heather Glock: hglock@esri.com
 Donna Wendt: d_l_r_wendt@hotmail.com
 Ann Stark AStark@cob.org

WAURISA COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Marty Balikov: mbalikov@esri.com
 Randy Bracket randyb@co.island.wa.us
 Daryn Brown: Daryn.Brown@ci.bothell.wa.us
 Dave Brown: daveb@ehsintl.com
 Chuck Buzzard: cbuzzar@co.pierce.wa.us
 Jaime Crawford: Jaime.crawford@ch2m.com
 Jennifer Cutler cutler.jennifer@nisqually-nsn.gov
 Starla DeLory: starla@deloreyworks.com
 Mike Dana: mike@mdrmanage.com
 Melissa Faga: mfaga@redmond.gov
 Bryan Fiedor bfiedor@jsanet.com
 Byron Gessel: Byron_Gessel@RL.gov
 Holly Glaser: h.glaser@comcast.net
 Tami Griffin: griffit@wsdot.wa.gov
 Tony Hartrich: thartrich@quinault.gov
 Eadie Kaltenbacher: ekaltenb@co.kitsap.wa.us
 Tom Kimpel tom.kimpel@ofm.wa.gov
 Jitka Kotelenska: Jitka.Kotelenska@CH2M.com
 Rick Lortz: rlortz@lakehaven.org
 Michelle Lortz: michelle@lortzco.com
 Reily Love: Reily@LoveGIS.com
 Effie Moody: effie.moody@seattle.gov
 Jill Oliver: joliver@perteet.com
 Chris Owen: cowen@ci.walla-walla.wa.us
 Steve Schunzel: sschunzel@desmoineswa.gov
 Heather Spates: skits1995@gmail.com
 Lurleen Smith: lurleen@penlight.org
 Matt Stull: matts@co.mason.wa.us
 Amanda Taub ataub_gis@yahoo.com
 Cathy Walker c.walker@emd.wa.gov
 Bob Wendt: rwendt@cityoftacoma.org
 Walker Willingham Walker.willingham@gmail.com



WAURISA

1402 AUBURN WAY NORTH
 PBN 158
 AUBURN WA 98002