

UCGIS 2006 Winter Meeting

BOARD MEETING

Washington DC

February 10, 2006

La Colline Restaurant

7 PM to 9.30 PM

Present:

Wilson (President); Ahearn (President-Elect); Lam (Past President); Yuan, Tulloch, Mackay, Larson, Elmes, (Board Members); Nyerges, DiBiase, Shuler, Read, Zhu (Committee Chairs); Sanders (Executive Director); Ramasubramanian (Secretary)

Meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

1. Welcome and Introductions

President Wilson welcomed the group, thanked everyone for their participation in the winter meeting, and acknowledged work of Past President Lam, Executive Director Jack Sanders. Wilson welcomed Sean Ahearn and Mary Lou Larson to the Board in the new roles as President-Elect and Board Member respectively.

2. Revisions of Items to the Agenda

Tulloch: Informational Item about 1st UCGIS Regional Meeting at Rutgers, October 2005

Tulloch: Request for Board endorsement of PPGIS Conference

Items added to the Agenda to be discussed before the discussion of Strategic Plans (Item 6)

3. Old Business

UCGIS Letter of Support for NSGIC Proposal

Follow up from the Board meeting from February 8th, 2006. Will Craig, delegate from University of Minnesota, and former UCGIS President presented a proposal to the Board on February 8, 2005. Craig requested a letter of support from UCGIS to NSGIC. Shuler (chair of P&L committee) reported that the P&L in its meetings on February 10th had discussed and endorsed the proposal and forwarded it to the Board for a formal vote. After a brief discussion about the content of the NSGIC proposal, Tulloch made a motion that UCGIS through the President John Wilson write a formal letter of support to NSGIC

Mackay seconded

Motion passed with unanimous support

Action Step: Wilson to write letter of support for NSGIC proposal (Contact: Will Craig)

UCGIS renewal of Global Spatial Data Infrastructure membership

UCGIS became a member of the organization last year mainly because Harlan Onsrud, former UCGIS President and representative of member institution (U of Maine) was President-Elect of GSDI. Organization paid \$1500 for a yearly membership. Discussion about renewal of membership followed. UCGIS members were unclear about value of membership in GSDI. It was noted that UCGIS did not pay dues to any other organization. After discussion, Elmes moved that UCGIS refrain from renewing membership in GSDI

Ahern seconded

Motion passed with unanimous support

Action Step: UCGIS will not renew its membership in GSDI for the coming year

Geospatial Intelligence Academy Certification Program

Follow up from 2005 Summer Meeting (see Summer Meeting minutes)

USGIF (with Susan Kalweit as our contact) is moving forward with a certificate program to train individuals interested in securing geo-spatial intelligence jobs. Faculty from Penn State and University of Wyoming are part of the curriculum development committee. The program is scheduled for a January 2007 roll out and it will be helpful to have a few UCGIS member institutions prepared to implement curriculum and participate in this program. Penn State will participate in this program

Action Step: An update on progress will be presented at the Summer Meeting (DiBiase)

4. Summer 2006 Meeting

Dates: Wed. June 28 – Sat. July 1st

Location: Vancouver, Washington

Conjoined with AutoCarto (which will happen before the UCGIS meeting)

Wilson, DiBiase, Nyerges will develop a program draft and have it available for review and discussion by March 1st.

Discussion regarding registration fees for Summer Assembly follows:

Lam moves that the fees be set as follows:

- \$200 to \$250 for member institutions
- \$300 to \$350 for non member institutions
- \$100 for students
- Member rate offered for those participating in AutoCarto and UCGIS;

Larson seconds

Motion passed with unanimous support

SPACE workshop will be organized by University of Oklahoma. Contact: Yuan.

5. Winter 2007 Meeting

Members discussed pros and cons of meeting dates (currently in Feb).

Winter 2006 meeting had good participation of delegates from member institutions, but very low turnout of elected officials or their staff.

Initially the discussion centered on scheduling (when to hold the meeting). Subsequently members discussed the need for a focused message. The group agreed that the message must be crafted by the Board. Members also agreed that identifying committee chairpersons and key representatives was very crucial.

Wilson: Stated that for the Winter 2007 meeting, the goal was to use current achievements and successes to assert a leadership role for the organization, in setting the agenda for GIS education and research and training. Discussion followed.

- The audience we want to engage is Dept. of Labor/AAG/certification folks
- GIS EDUCATION proposed as a theme, targeting representatives from Department of Labor, Department of Education.
- What is the ASK?
- Look for programmatic opportunities where government is sending money to fund the higher education mission; don't forget geo-spatial.
- Plan to modify the ASK, depending on different agencies...
- Explore opportunities for earmarking...
- K – 12 education...
- Immediate objective, to insert ourselves into a central place in the discussions regarding geo-spatial issues
- Members agree that a single shot attempt at contact with reps was not enough
 - All of our institutions have congressional liaisons
 - We have to connect with staff from our own institutions
 - We have a great heart, but we have limited resources
 - We have to look to other groups, bundle our interests with their interests
 - We have to specific messages for education like we have the GEOIDE idea for research
 - We need to connect what we are discussing with council and delegates
 - Member institutions should be more involved
 - We cannot lobby, we have to protect our tax exempt status

Action Steps:

Stay with current schedule of early February meetings

P & L committee needs to do more ground work to prepare for the meeting

P&L co-chair needs to be appointed.

Informational Item (Tulloch)

UCGIS regional meeting held October 2005 at Rutgers University. Four schools participated. Nice turnout, Mark Gahegan (Penn State) made a presentation.

UCGIS Endorsement of PPGIS conference (Elmes, Nyerges, Tulloch, and Ramasubramanian)

PPGIS being co-convened with URISA in Vancouver, BC. URISA provides staff support, PPGIS is not a URISA event, content organized by volunteer steering committee. After brief discussion, the board voted unanimously to endorse the 5th Annual PPGIS conference as it has done in previous years. There is no financial burden to UCGIS because of this endorsement.

6. Strategic Issues

6.1 Plan

Board proceeded to discuss a range of issues related to making UCGIS a strong and successful organization. In general, there was a consensus that representatives from member institutions should stay involved to take advantage of the UCGIS membership. Wilson observed that strategic planning was an on-going process and encouraged Board to participate actively in strategizing for the future.

Wilson proposed the creation of UCGIS Fellows. Provided a draft discussion document and solicited feedback electronically. Creation of UCGIS Fellows will require amendments to current by-laws. Wilson will circulate revised documents electronically.

6.2 Funding and Grants: Geoid Centers

Based on a concept paper developed by Nina Lam in December 2005, a small ad-hoc committee (including Lam, Wilson, Ahearn, Yuan and others) worked to develop a funding proposal "A National Network of Regional GEOspatial Information Decision Support (GEOID) Centers for Disaster Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery". If successful, the proposal would provide resources for the creation of research centers at different universities. The ad-hoc committee was seeking a suitable funding source. Board was generally supportive of the GEOID Centers idea. Discussion focused on how to engage member institutions and solicit their participation and support for the proposal in a reasonable time frame, given its specialized nature.

After much discussion, Wilson proposed that the GEOID centers funding proposal include the creation of a virtual center at UCGIS, in addition to the physical centers at different universities. The funding for virtual center would be managed by UCGIS and designated to support a variety of research and scholarly activities of individuals at member institutions related to the theme of the GEOID centers. Motion moved by Mackay, seconded by Yuan, passed with unanimous support.

6.3 Research

6.4 Education

6.5 Policy and Legislation

Individual Committee Reports are included. In the interest of time, Board did not ask for detailed reports from committee chairs at the Board meeting. Research and Education committee chairs and President will be primarily responsible for programming the Summer meeting. The Policy and Legislation committee and President primarily responsible for Winter meeting.

6.6 Membership

The following issues were raised:

- How to deal with delinquent members?
- How to ensure that member institutions updated and maintained their web links and websites?
- How do we move forward with creating different classes of membership?
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Delinquent Members

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| - New Mexico State | - Kentucky |
| - Ohio GIS Net | - Maine |
| - Tech University Vienna | - University of Massachusetts |
| - Berkeley | - North Carolina (4 years) |
| - Connecticut | - VCU |

Note: FSU did not pay for 2001; debt was forgiven, because they paid consecutive years
Note: Larson is working with U of Pittsburgh (contact: Hirtle).

Action Steps:

1. Board noted that students from UCGIS institutions that are not up-to-date with membership dues should not be allowed to participate.
2. UCGIS (President or Research Committee Chair) must write letters to chancellors of member institutions about awards given to students so that administrations are made aware of benefits of UCGIS membership.
3. Larson proposed that member institutions with delinquent websites be given a two month time period to update and fix problems. If problems remain, then the link to their university page from within the UCGIS page will be deactivated. Larson moved, Wilson seconded, motion passed unanimously. (See also section 6.7).
4. It was recommended that the new membership chair propose an equitable fee for government agencies (using the model of the AAG membership).
5. Membership Committee Chair needs to be appointed. Larson, previous Membership Committee chair moves to become Board member.

6.7 Communications and Outreach

The following issues were raised:

- Timings of communications committee meetings don't work because this committee needs input from other committees
- Providing website services for member institutions that can't do it themselves
 - o Standardized templates (Just a cover page that provides a link to the individual university page)
 - o Members pay for the creation of a complete website
- Making UCGIS a brand, or a marketing opportunity

Sanders and Campbell have a proposal to provide fee-for-service to create websites. Board was supportive. No vote taken.

Comments by Executive Director related to marketing and creating a brand identity

- There is no discretionary spending in the budget
- There is a slight danger of organization being overextended
- Board will need to consider another \$500 increase in dues at some point
- The website becomes a marketing opportunity
 - o To solicit contributions
 - o To provide testimonials from students who have benefited from the opportunity
 - o Young Scholars need to be involved
 - o Newsletter could showcase on charitable announcements

Larson moved to adjourn meeting. Wilson seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 9.30 PM

Submitted by:
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