

UCGIS Research Committee Meeting

Monday, June 22, 2009

4:50-5:30 p.m.

Bishop's Lodge Resort, Sante Fe, NM

Attending:

Dawn Wright, Oregon State University dawn@dusk.geo.orst.edu, presiding as chair

Marc Armstrong, University of Iowa, marc-armstrong@uiowa.edu

Sarah Battersby, University of South Carolina, battersby@sc.edu

Jerry Davis, San Francisco State, jerry@sfsu.edu

Edward T. Cope, NSG R&D, edward.t.cope@nga.mil

Diansheng Guo, University of South Carolina, guod@sc.edu

Michael Gould, ESRI, mgould@esri.com

Seth Hiatt, San Francisco State, shiatt@sfsu.edu

Don Janelle, UCSB, janelle@geog.ucsb.edu

LaDonna Knigge, Cal State-Chico, lknigge@csuchico.edu

Nina Lam, Louisiana State University, nlam@lsu.edu

David Mark, University at Buffalo, dmark@geog.buffalo.edu

Sara Metcalf, University at Buffalo, smetcalf@buffalo.edu

Robert McMaster, University of Minnesota, mcmaster@umn.edu

Jennifer Miller, UT-Austin, jennifer.miller@austin.utexas.edu

Yunwoo Nam, University of Nebraska, ynam2@unl.edu

Tim Nyerges, University of Washington, nyerges@u.washington.edu

Steve Prager, University of Wyoming, sdprager@uwyo.edu

John Radke, UC-Berkeley, ratt@berkeley.edu

Kim Rossmo, Texas State, kr13@txstate.edu

Brian Tomaszewski, Rochester Institute of Technology, bmtski@rit.edu

David Tulloch, Rutgers, dtulloch@crssa.rutgers.edu

Andre Skupin, San Diego State, skupin@mail.sdsu.edu

Laxmi Ramasubramanian, Hunter College, laxmi@hunter.cuny.edu

Lynn Usery, USGS, usery@usgs.gov

Lynda Wayne, GeoMaxim/FGDC, lwayne@fgdc.gov

Shaowen Wang, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign shaowen@illinois.edu

James Wilson, James Madison University, wilsonjw@jmu.edu

John Wilson, University of Southern California, jpwilson@usc.edu

Chuanrong Zhang, University of Connecticut, chuanrong.zhang@uconn.edu

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Research Committee Chair Dawn Wright

Old Business

2. Approval of Minutes of Winter '09 Meeting

Motion to approve by Sarah Battersby, seconded by Tim Nyerges; motion passed with 3 abstaining.

New Business

3. Reactions to/Discussion of Summer Assembly Plenary Talks

General reaction very positive; talks terrific, appropriate, similar themes running through all three to inform afternoon discussions.

4. Reports on Breakout Groups from Prior Session

Dawn Wright reported on the Grand Challenge Science breakout:

Group discussed defining grand challenges as referring both to research *on/in* GIScience (“pure GIScience”) and *with* GIScience (how GIScience can be used across multiple disciplines to address grand challenges in THOSE disciplines; what kinds of problems do these researchers see GIScience solving)

If we solve research on GIScience we may also transform grand challenges in other applications, transform other sciences

Planning to write collaborative proposal to NSF GSS for upcoming August 15th target date. Much smaller funding level of anywhere from \$50K to \$300K (this TBD).

- 1) Workshop 1 - What are the grand challenges? Invite GIScience specialists/leaders (including those UCGIS folks who were NOT able to make Santa Fe), but also colleagues in allied disciplines such as iPlant people, information visualization scholars (e.g., Kevin Boyack), environmental science, ecology, computer science scholars to see what kinds of spatial problems they have
 - a. A prior modus operandi at NSF was to have a community-consensus building on research via several workshops, vetted and watched by NSF; NSF then commits to funding via a formal solicitation. However, this does not seem to be forthcoming with NSF for GIScience right now. We can still take initiative and hold this workshop in Washington, DC (late May, early June, 2010) and invite NSF program officers, plus other federal agency personnel. Who knows, a solicitation may come from this?
 - b. This time we have chance of success because of linkage to CI in order to implement the challenges (similar to iPlant)
 - c. outcome would be a grand challenge research agenda in a white paper or article, possibly a perspectives piece submitted to *Science*, possibly a book
- 2) Workshop 2 - Implementation - what CI tools are needed, (e.g. geographic middleware), application specific middleware, semantic mediation, cloud computing, etc., National Map emphasis? Invite semantic experts, but also AGILE and/or GEOIDE people for international focus.
 - a. Arizona State has now committed to hosting this in 2011 (UCSB has offered to host as backup); summertime, but more likely fall
 - b. Outcome would be skeletons of formal, collaborative proposals to seek larger funds from NSF OCI

Steve Prager reported on joint breakout between the Body of Knowledge v.2 and Model Curricular Pathways:

- discussed separate proposal to NSF GSS to convene 3 workshops
cyber-enabled approaches important

- no timeline for submission yet but might want to stagger submission to NSF GSS with Grand Challenges group

- consider a coherent rather than disparate approach to proposal submissions. That is, proposals should mention each other to lend broader context of overall GISKW effort

Shaowen Wang reported on joint breakout on Cyberinfrastructure/Virtual Organization/Virtual Organization Management:

- importance of interlinking, ontology integration across disciplines, information of many types
- bottom up approach using existing success of TeraGrid, OpenScience Grid, other efforts
- issue of computational power needs to be addressed as well
- semantic issues - overarching ontologies, bridging onto common spatial ontologies
- discussed convening workshops also, but for these workshops they need the expertise of those who know how to build up the infrastructure and also to evaluate its effectiveness
- VO is a key concept at NSF; Shaowen will pitch ideas to agency roundtable event later this week that he is helping to organize. Perhaps NSF would be interested in sponsoring their workshop? This possibility has quite a bit of traction but would not preclude the group submitting a formal proposal to NSF as well.
- evidence-based decision support an important issue also (science directly connected to policy); an upper ontology is needed for the on-the-ground SDSS portal

5. Building Bridges with Related Conferences/Organizations

The Research Committee continues to keep in touch with “sister organizations” in order to build momentum on prior ideas and advance others. These include (in no particular order):

- ❖ GIScience 2010, September 14-17 in Zurich (UCGIS is again interested in co-sponsoring)
- ❖ ACM SIGSPATIAL (UCGIS has advertised this meeting – November 4-6, 2009 in Seattle; <http://acmgis09.cs.umn.edu/>)
- ❖ AGILE (www.agile-online.org/)
- ❖ GSDI 11 (www.gsdi.org/gsdi11) - took place June 15-19 in Rotterdam, Netherlands
- ❖ GEOIDE (in Canada)
- ❖ COSIT 2009 (Aber Wrac'h, France in September – Kathleen Stewart is conference program co-chair) - www.geosensor.net/cosit/
- ❖ Geocomputation 2009 (Sydney, Australia, November – Dawn on program committee as UCGIS rep) - www.biodiverse.unsw.edu.au/geocomputation/
- ❖ CAGIS will host AutoCarto with ASPRS November 15-18, 2010 in Orlando, FL; UCGIS could co-sponsor at no cost, or co-organize
- ❖ URISA should be added as another sister organization to track, especially the Computers in Urban Planning Group; *[ACTION: Laxmi will forward to Dawn the appropriate contacts](#)*

6. CONGRATULATIONS to 2009 UCGIS Research Awardee Hanan Samet, U. of Maryland

See full citation at www.ucgis.org/summer2009/researchaward.htm

The award will be presented and accepted for Hanan in absentia at tomorrow's Council Meeting

7. Other business?

None

8. Adjourn

Tim Nyerges moved, David Dibiase seconded

Minutes recorded by Dawn Wright