

**UCGIS Research Committee Meeting**  
**Friday, February 6, 2009**  
**1:45-2:45 p.m.**  
**Doubletree Hotel**  
**Washington, DC**

**Attending:**

Dawn Wright, Oregon State University [dawn@dusk.geo.orst.edu](mailto:dawn@dusk.geo.orst.edu), presiding as chair  
 Sean Ahearn, Hunter College, [sahearn@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:sahearn@hunter.cuny.edu)  
 Marc Armstrong, University of Iowa, [marc-armstrong@uiowa.edu](mailto:marc-armstrong@uiowa.edu)  
 Sarah Battersby, University of South Carolina, [battersby@sc.edu](mailto:battersby@sc.edu)  
 Eric Bernard, Kansas State University, [ebernard@ksu.edu](mailto:ebernard@ksu.edu)  
 Scott Freunds Schuh, NSF, [sfreunds@nsf.gov](mailto:sfreunds@nsf.gov)  
 Michael Gould, ESRI, [mgould@esri.com](mailto:mgould@esri.com)  
 Ann Johnson, ESRI, [ajohnson@esri.com](mailto:ajohnson@esri.com)  
 Matthew Koeppe, AAG, [mkoeppe@aag.org](mailto:mkoeppe@aag.org)  
 Nina Lam, Louisiana State University, [nlam@lsu.edu](mailto:nlam@lsu.edu)  
 Arnold Landvoight, [arniland@hillclimber.com](mailto:arniland@hillclimber.com)  
 Mary Lou Larson, University of Wyoming, [mlarson@uwyo.edu](mailto:mlarson@uwyo.edu)  
 Robert McMaster, University of Minnesota, [mcmaster@umn.edu](mailto:mcmaster@umn.edu)  
 Carolyn Merry, Ohio State University, [merry.1@osu.edu](mailto:merry.1@osu.edu)  
 Tim Nyerges, University of Washington, [nyerges@u.washington.edu](mailto:nyerges@u.washington.edu)  
 John Wilson, University of Southern California, [jpwilson@usc.edu](mailto:jpwilson@usc.edu)  
 Steve Prager, University of Wyoming, [sdprager@uwyo.edu](mailto:sdprager@uwyo.edu)  
 Laxmi Ramasubramanian, Hunter College, [laxmi@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:laxmi@hunter.cuny.edu)  
 Martin Raubal, University of California, Santa Barbara, [raubal@geog.ucsb.edu](mailto:raubal@geog.ucsb.edu)  
 Doug Richardson, AAG, [drichardson@aag.org](mailto:drichardson@aag.org)  
 Shashi Shekhar, University of Minnesota, [shekhar@cs.umn.edu](mailto:shekhar@cs.umn.edu)  
 Kathleen Stewart, University of Iowa, [kathleen-stewart@uiowa.edu](mailto:kathleen-stewart@uiowa.edu), vice chair, recorder  
 Lynn Usery, USGS, [usery@usgs.gov](mailto:usery@usgs.gov)  
 Shaowen Wang, University of Illinois Urbana Champagne [shaowen@illinois.edu](mailto:shaowen@illinois.edu)

**1. Welcome**

Dawn Wright –Chair

Gave welcome and call to order. Very compressed time for meeting today, due to day's events being behind schedule – will move along as quickly as possible

**2. Updates****a. USGS Ontology for National Map Specialist Meeting**

Lynn Usery – develop ontology for the National Map  
 Tap expertise of people who have ontology experience  
 11 people invited from UCGIS, 30 people total attended  
 presentations, breakouts on ontology topics  
 presentations and position papers going up on UCGIS website  
 special issue of *Cartographica* will come out  
 additional possible workshop could come in the future  
 USGS plans to do some implementations based on the results of the workshop

**b. Building bridges to related conferences and organizations**

COSIT conference, SigSpatial (ACM and ACMGIS), Geocomputation,

ASPRS has a fall conference where UCGIS could have links  
 Specialty group of AAG is where we also have links  
 GEOIDE in Canada,  
 Think about cross-fertilization on speakers...could UCGIS offer speakers at other conferences?  
 Auto-Carto 2010 in conjunction with URISA in September 2009

### **c. Speakers and program for summer assembly**

In Sante Fe (June 22-23), NM, Richard Jorgensen, University of Arizona (iPlant) will be a speaker at this Assembly

### **3. Research award**

- a. Nominations for research award - Call for nominations going out soon.
- b. Mike Worboys (current awardee) will chair that nomination committee

### **4. UCGIS Fellows Program (John Wilson)**

John Wilson - following the idea of Fellows type of awards, involves type of recognition and self-promotion for fellows

John W has looked at how such a program could run

Usually Fellows select the next class of Fellows so maybe it is possible to take everyone who has received a UCGIS research or teaching award as the first cohort and then move forward from there

- could give them some responsibility

Dawn – ok, so designate the first class of Fellows. They could get a certificate or a pin from UCGIS. The idea would be to elect 3 or more Fellows per year

These Fellows would promote the organization and represent the organization

Get an action plan and take to the Board meeting

Steve P - is there risk of supersaturation? Maybe don't make it every year? Or could Fellows replace the research award

Lynn – 3 a year is a large number, ACSM has a Fellows program and treats it as a special honor

John – you don't have to elect any in any given year

Dawn – not for a lifetime achievement so we don't have to do one every year

But let's get it off the ground

Mary Lou – who will be in charge of running this? The research committee?

Dawn – The first cohort is already set so the research chair could communicate with this group

Eric – Fellows often just report to an Exec Committee, report amongst themselves

Dawn – OK, so our cohort could communicate with the UCGIS executive committee

Tim – there would be a point person on the Board to take on that role

And someone from the Fellows cohort who would be the point person.

Bob M – I want to make a motion to authorize the Board for this plan

Mary Lou – Seconds the motion

Tim – We should bring this to the Board this evening

John W – We would have 14 fellows if we use this idea

Bob M – I don't really think it is a good idea to bootstrap in that way

John W – The Board could choose some number of nominations and pick them for the first time

Tim – UCGIS Exec committee would nominate the first group of fellows

John – try to get 3 fellows

Carolyn M – We should have a proposal that is written to go to the Board

Tim - Amendment to the motion proposed –Articulate this plan in writing to the Board that it is the responsibility of Exec Committee to nominate and select the first set of fellows

Second – Mary Lou

Ayes passed, no opposed.

### **5. Discussion of UCGIS knowledge web**

Dawn - About Team 3 cyber-enabled research services to push research challenges forward

Discussed how there are some other international efforts underway that are similar that could be linked

Come up with some workshops to contribute to these grand challenges

Keep our investment that we have made in research over 15 years

Research work on complex systems or complexity

These workshops can be tied to web-enabled resources, algorithms, data sets, annotated bibliographies, and dissertations

This picks up on wikification ideas that we have been discussing and this is something that is currently unavailable

Geographic middleware is also a possible focus as this is necessary for distributed computing. We could have a workshop on this.

Tim – how many workshops? Approx. four workshops

Steve P –middleware workshop is a good idea as this coincides with BOK and education efforts

Marc A – We are thinking here of geomiddleware, where it is application or domain specific (i.e., not generic)

Tim – the Virtual Organization section could pick up on this topic

Maybe have two ideas in each of the four groups

Dawn – We are proposing workshops for our section

Bob M – What is a cyber-related workshop?

Dawn - Not just face-to-face, but also podcasting, synchronous, and asynchronous.

Would broaden the participation

Lynn – USGS uses WebEx for synchronous web meetings

Tim – for asynchronous there is a test at climateconcerns.org

Shaowen – VO (virtual organizations)– NSF has used the term collaboratory and now uses virtual organizations. It could be that collaboratory is a term that is being used by some, so different terms may be in use

Shashi –is this a term NSF is using heavily?

Scott F – the interpretation at NSF is pretty broad, the scope is very wide, across the board, relates to how a group sees that as facilitating

Tim – large CDI proposals at NSF are still waiting for funding

Scott – SBE likes the large CDIs because we were successful at getting funding for social science kinds of topics

Dawn – for the proposal we should include linkages to why this is important to society, why does GIScience benefit the nations and the world. Also UN Millennium goals were suggested and this could be integrated into the complexity workshop perhaps. Also employment development possibilities could be emphasized – adding to workforce with GIScience-trained individuals

Eric – young faculty on the chopping block due to economic times, perhaps could provide specialized funds

Doug R – proposing an academic job corps for postdocs especially during this time when they can't get jobs, so that we don't lose this talent pool. UCGIS could participate in this proposal if interested

Dawn – We need to put in some verbiage about mentoring in our UCGIS proposal – both for grad students and post docs

Scott F – Supplements for work force developments are possible from NSF (EHR)

Dawn – With regard to the logistics for writing, our team will have about 3 pages available to write our section. We will collate our notes and Dawn will come up with an outline and pass around to the 10 in breakout group from this morning

Tim – send to everyone in this session and ask for a commitment of words

Dawn – For the budget, we need a viable budget for the people involved. Come up with a short budget based on 1 grad student plus ½ summer month and your institution's indirect costs.

Please send Dawn a spreadsheet with your budget particulars.

Dawn will send out a budget template.

Tim – full semester or 4 quarters of grad students?

Dawn – we pay a grad student for 12 months (academic year plus summer)

Can request up to one full month of summer salary for faculty.

We may have to do subcontracts

Tim – research team will be coordinated through OSU (Dawn) and then do subcontracts.

Check about double charge of indirects on subcontracts.

Doug R– I suggest having UCGIS be the overall contractor since UCGIS overhead is much lower and could get more leverage that way

Tim – research and education management component will come through UCGIS, but strategically it will be better to see the funds spread across the country at different institutions. There will be PI contracting and subcontracting (i.e., two tiers of contracting)

Shashi – how significant is the team leadership?

Scott F– This proposal would happen as an unsolicited proposal. No panel would review it, it would be subject to an ad hoc peer review. Lower overhead is an advantage but more sensitive to a budget that support students rather than heavy faculty time

Shashi – in CISE the typical ratio is 2:3

Scott – CISE has a bigger budget than GSS, and so this ratio would not hold

Dawn - Some participants might want to be no cost PIs

Scott – Some large (e.g., \$700,000) collaborative proposals have been funded by NSF

Dawn – I will compile a skeleton of workshops and other ideas and see how people could fit in and will send a draft budget

Scott F – UCGIS has a lobby component and this could be an issue that might need to be looked at

Tim – but UCGIS has such a small lobby component that it should not be an issue

Nina – It is important just to get this done, will just have to cut the costs

Dawn –The meeting is adjourned

*Minutes recorded by Kathleen Stewart*