

UCGIS Education Committee Report UCGIS Annual Symposium 2018

This report covers the activities of the Education Committee for the period of May 2017 (UCGIS Symposium in Arlington, VA) to the 2018 UCGIS Symposium in Madison, WI.

Steven Moore, University of Redlands, continued as committee chair during 2017-2018. Eric Shook, University of Minnesota, served as Vice Chair. The current education committee is composed of: Aaron Addison (Washington University); Ola Ahlqvist (The Ohio State University); Forrest Bowlick (University of Massachusetts); Laure Charleux (University of Minnesota, Duluth); Jerry Davis (San Francisco State University); David DiBiase (Esri); Douglas Flewelling (University of Redlands); Sven Fuhrmann (George Mason University); Lee Hachadoorian (Temple University); Karen Kemp (University of Southern California); Helmut Kraenzle (James Madison University); Xingong Li (University of Kansas); Tim Nyerges (University of Washington); Miriam Olivares (Yale University); David Smith (University of Redlands); Nate Strout (University of Redlands); Jennifer Swift (University of Southern California); Laura Tateosian (North Carolina State University); and Cuizhen (Susan) Wang, (University of South Carolina).

Major activities included the following:

1. Symposium 2017

- a. At the 2017 UCGIS Symposium, Steven Moore provided an update on Education Committee activities. Organizing the update under the theme, “20 Years Since Bar Harbor: UCGIS Education Priorities 2017,” Steven Moore reviewed UCGIS education priorities established in 1997 and updated the membership about the committee’s consideration of TeachGIS.org as a referatory project; John Wilson updated the group about progress on the Body of Knowledge; Diana Sinton discussed “Cognitive Aspects of Spatial Thinking Research;” David DiBiase reviewed survey results in “GIS Graduates Want More Coding, App Building, IT;” David Cowen presented results of the “GIS&T Course Enrollment Survey;” Michael Solem offered an “AP GIS&T Curriculum Update;” and Karen Kemp reflected on “20 Years Since Bar Harbor: UCGIS Education Priorities 2017.”
- b. One evening during the symposium, the Education Committee sponsored a happy hour meet and greet session that attracted a number of participants.

2. TeachGIS.org as a UCGIS Initiative

- a. During 2017-2018, the Education continued to advance the TeachGIS.org referatory project.
- b. The committee reviewed hosting possibilities, including the current TeachGIS.org WordPress site, the UCGIS content management system, and LibGuides (a turnkey publishing platform used by academic libraries worldwide).

- c. The committee has decided to use the current WordPress site to test development of the referatory. Some work on retrofitting the site took place during May 2018.

3. 2019 UCGIS Symposium Education Themes

- a. Two education themes for the 2019 UCGIS Symposium were discussed by the Education Committee: (2) a symposium theme focusing on geohumanities and Geographic Information Science and (2) a symposium thread focused on the use of the Body of Knowledge as an instructional resource in higher education.
- b. The committee made plans to discuss these ideas at the 2018 UCGIS Symposium. The possibility of seeking funding to support the geohumanities theme is on the agenda for the 2018 symposium meeting.

4. 2018 UCGIS Education Award

- a. A call for nominations for the 2018 Education Award was distributed in November 2017, and three nominations were received, including two re-nominations from last year's process. An Education Awards committee was established and chaired by Ann Johnson, the 2017 awardee.
- b. Members of the committee included: Ann Johnson, Chair, Eric Shook (University of Minnesota); Jerry Davis (San Francisco State University); and Sven Fuhrmann (George Mason University). Eric Shook recused himself from the deliberations after identifying a conflict of interest with one of the nominees. After deliberation, the committee selected Jochen Albrecht for the 2018 UCGIS Education Award.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Moore
Chair, UCGIS Education Committee
May 20, 2018