From: Charles (Jay) Emerson, Chair, UCGIS Membership Committee

To: UCGIS Board/Council

23 May, 2012

UCGIS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Status

Current active members of the committee:

> Will Craig
> Charles Emerson (Chair)
> Gary Jeffress
> Mary Lou Larson
> Marguerite Madden
> Carolyn Merry
> André Skupin

Membership

Three institutions have applied to join UCGIS at the 2012 Annual Symposium. These applications will be voted on by the UCGIS Council during the Symposium's Thursday, May 31 lunch session. The UCGIS membership committee has reviewed the applications and has passed along suggested portfolio revisions to the applicants.   URLs for the application materials were forwarded to UCGIS delegates on May 14 for review prior to the 2012 Annual Symposium

The Z-GIS Centre for Geoinformatics at the University of Salzburg has applied to become an international affiliate, with Josef Strobl and Thomas Blaschke as delegates.   James Madison University has formally applied to be a full member of UCGIS. Their proposed delegates are: James Wilson, Steve Whitmeyer, and Helmut Kraenzle (alternate). Johns Hopkins University has also applied to join UCGIS. Their proposed delegates and alternates are: Gregory Glass, Michael Harrower, Regina Ryan, and Peter Wilcock.   The Membership Committee supports all three applications.

UCGIS Membership (May 15, 2012)

Academic Institutions	56
Professional Organizations	3
Affiliates:	
Corporate	3
Government	1
International	2

Multi-Campus	2

New Member Recruitment

In addition to the three applicants mentioned above, the membership committee chair communicated with: Olga Wilhelmi, National Center for Atmospheric Research; Xinyue Ye, Bowling Green State University; Shawn Newsam, UC Merced; and Dennis Klein, Boundary Solutions about joining UCGIS. Boundary Solutions is a sponsor of the 2012 UCGIS Annual Symposium. In the case of the University of Salzburg and Boundary Solutions, contact was initiated by the Executive Director after inquiries regarding access to the UCGIS listserv. James Madison University has been attending UCGIS events for some time, and Johns Hopkins was referred by the UCGIS President. The membership committee encourages all delegates and officers to pass along contact information for any potential members or affiliates to the membership chair or a committee member.

The UCGIS website is another important recruiting tool. Updates that have been posted to the new website (www.ucgis2.org) include revisions to the membership FAQs, member benefit, and application procedure pages that reflect the current deadlines for the (now) once a year symposium.

Membership Structure

At the 2011 Summer Assembly in Boulder, the Board and Chairs discussed revising the membership structure to possibly include individual memberships. As this significantly alters the current institutional membership structure, Ling Bian and the membership chair researched how similar organizations classify their members. We looked at 11 organizations, including: the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), the International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB), the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), and the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science (CUAHSI). CUAHSI and NCAR have institutional membership structures that are similar to UCGIS. ICSB and ACSP have both institutional and individual memberships. An underlying theme in member benefits is that institutional membership sometimes involves a library copy of a journal, or it applies to accreditation or certification. Voting and office holding privileges are also often tied to institutional membership.

Steve Prager has put together a list of potential membership categories including: flagship institution, standard institution, department/center (sliding scale), international department/center affiliate, individual membership, and reciprocal exchanges with similar organizations. The Membership Committee will review and discuss these options at the 2012 Annual Symposium and will provide recommendations to the board and chairs