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Center for Geospatial Studies Newsletter. 2015 no.7 (December)

Minnesota State University Moorhead, Center for Geospatial Studies

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GIS Day Recap

We had a diverse and interesting group of guest speakers on campus for GIS Day. The speakers gave attendees insight into how GIS is used in a range of different careers in the private and public sectors. Attendees learned about an array of exciting GIS applications ranging from the tracking and mapping of high-speed police chases to city infrastructure management to invasive species mapping. We would like to thank the following speakers for making this an interesting and successful event: Brad Anderson (City of Moorhead); Jonathan Braski (City of Fargo); Matt Mecklenburg (The Nature Conservancy); Alex Gwaltney (HERE Summer Intern); Kay Anderson (Cass County); Mike Detloff (Moorhead Police); and Brian Carroll (HERE). *-Kirk Stueve, Anthropology and Earth Science*

The Library's table gave GIS Day attendees an opportunity to talk with librarians about the collections available at the Livingston Lord Library related to GIS and digital cartography. The table display presented many of the recently published holdings in these areas, and a computer was available to demonstrate the Library's growing list of electronic titles. In addition, a computer was made available to assist faculty in requesting review copies of books published by ESRI Press. Approximately 14 titles were requested during the event. *-Travis Dolence, MSUM Library*

The HERE table at GIS Day featured the 3D map of MSUM, allowing users to explore the virtual campus. Visitors to the table were able to see the indoor maps of campus buildings along with 3D models of the buildings.



Attendees were surveyed about the features they would like to see included on a map of MSUM. HERE employees and MSUM students who interned at HERE hosted this table and answered questions. *-Kyle Daily, HERE*

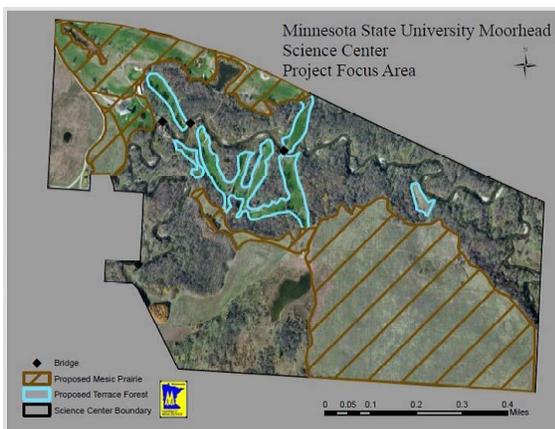
A popular stop at GIS Day was the Geospatial Certificate Table (ESRI swag was distributed at this location). This table provided a one-stop shop for course and certificate advising, demonstrations, and print materials. Among the displays were examples of maps from classes and student research. Thank you to certificate student and GIS TA Rebecca Wallace for helping to host this table. *-Paul Sando, Anthropology and Earth Science*

GIS Day offered a great opportunity for MSUM Graphic Communications students studying interactive multimedia to showcase the map they developed for the World Garden Commons on The Fargo Project website. The World Garden Commons at Rabanus Park is the first installation of The Fargo Project, a collaboration between artists and residents to transform an 18-acre storm water basin into an ecological community commons. Students worked with Mapbox and Leaflet.js to create an interactive map providing valuable information about the proposed site.



The interactive features of the map include outlines for key pathways and boundaries, as well as clickable icons providing additional information about the site's features. -*Alexandria Fogarty, Graphic Communications - Interactive Multimedia*

A GIS Day table and display highlighted a Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) grant (ENRTF 123-f) for prairie restoration and monitoring at the MSUM Regional Science Center (RSC). Restoration of native prairie and riparian forest will begin spring 2016 with projected completion of major restoration activities in 3-5 years. Assessment of restoration progress includes pre-restoration surveys as well as ongoing monitoring during and after restoration activities with potential for the RSC to become a long term ecological field station for productive biological research and citizen science. Two geographic areas will be restored: (1) land that has been managed as a golf course, and (2) an unmanaged former agricultural field. Both areas present ecological challenges as well as management opportunities. MSUM Biosciences faculty have established research programs for the monitoring and assessment of biological communities, investigating the diversity of small mammals, plants, pollinators, and microbes in response to restoration efforts. These activities will employ a customized GIS database and mobile mapping solutions developed by Anthropology and Earth Science faculty and students. To ensure that restoration activities do not adversely impact cultural resources, the project has involved a systematic archaeological survey. MSUM students are gaining “real world” experience in research, management, and assessment as well as networking opportunities with agencies such as the MN DNR, TNC, and other land management organizations. -*Sara Anderson, Biosciences*



What's in a name?

Should the Center for Geospatial Studies consider a name change? Visitors to GIS Day placed suggestions for a name for the center in a box or wrote them on a flipchart. Leading candidates included: The Place, The MAP, Geospatial Analysis Center, Lab, Where the world starts, MSUM Geospatial Center, and MSUM Center for Geospatial Studies. If you have additional suggestions or feedback on proposed names, please let us know. -*Tony Bormann, Regional Science Center*

Prairie Nations Research Group

Dr. Erik Gooding's Prairie Nations Research Group has been working on two Geospatial projects this year. The first project, funded by a Dille Grant, is a geospatial ethnogeography project with the Meshkwaki Nation in Iowa. The group collected indigenous geographic terminology from community members and then found representative examples within the tribal landbase. The second project, Prairie Nations Geo-Spatial Ethnography, funded by a grant from the College of Science, Health, and the Environment, is a larger project with the Ioway Nation of Nebraska and Kansas. In addition to doing ethnogeography, the project will include a 10 map series on topics of interest to the tribe, including maps of the changes in the reservation landbase, tribal properties, allotments, historic sites, as well as important natural and cultural properties. – *Erik Gooding, Anthropology and Earth Science*

Spring Steering Team Meetings

Center for Geospatial Studies Steering Team meetings scheduled for spring 2016 are:

January 28	3-4 pm	Flora Frick 154A (Note the room change for this date)
February 25	3-4 pm	MacLean 268
March 24	3-4 pm	MacLean 268
April 21	3-4 pm	MacLean 268

All meetings are open and visitors are encouraged to attend.

Convenient metered parking can be found directly south and west in lots M1-3.

(<http://www.mnstate.edu/uploadedFiles/Content/Parking/Parking%20Map.pdf>)

Spring GIS Courses

There has been a change in the schedule of GIS classes for spring 2016. Due to popular demand, we have added a section of Geos 205: Thinking Spatially. Geos 407: Spatial Analysis will be offered summer 2016 instead of spring 2016, allowing students enrolled in Geos 307 this spring the opportunity to take the advanced course in spatial analysis this summer.

GEOS 205 Thinking Spatially T&H 1:30-2:45am Dr. Kirk Stueve	GEOS 210 Cartography T&H 10:30-11:45am Dr. Paul Sando	GEOS 307 Introduction to GIS H 4:30-7:00 pm Dr. Kirk Stueve
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Questions?

For questions regarding the GIS certificate, Steering Committee, or partnerships with the Center, please contact Dr. Rinita Dalan, Chair, Anthropology & Earth Science at 218.477.5900 or dalanri@mnstate.edu.

MSUM GIS

Msum_gis is a mailing list for those with an interest in geospatial applications.

To post to this list, send your email to:

msum_gis@lists.mnstate.edu