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## Center for Geospatial Studies Newsletter. 2015 no.4 (May)

Minnesota State University Moorhead, Center for Geospatial Studies

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## **A Busy First Year**

As we come to the end of our first full academic year as the Center for Geospatial Studies, we would like to thank you all for your support and interest in the Center. We apologize for this lengthy posting, but we have much to report! Although the Steering Committee will not meet over the summer, we have a number of activities planned, in addition to attending the ESRI Education and User Conferences, as you will read below.

## **MSUM Remote Location for MN GIS/LIS Spring Workshops (May 20<sup>th</sup>)**

There is still time to register for remote sessions of the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium spring workshops. Registration will remain open through May 20<sup>th</sup>. Three (one morning and two afternoon) sessions will be available via ITV at MSUM. The morning session "Parcel Fabric Migration is Done—Now What?" has been cancelled. To date we have 13 individuals registered, 6 for the full day.

### ***AM Session***

**Getting Started with ArcGIS Professional**                      Kyle Heideman & Brandon Crissinger, Pro-West & Associates Inc.  
**Level:** Intermediate    **Type:** Lecture Style

### ***PM Sessions***

**Geocoding**    Victor Barnett, Ramsey Count Emergency Communications Center  
**Level:** Beginner    **Type:** Hands-On, BYOL (bring your own laptop)

**ArcGIS Server 10.1 & Beyond**                                      Justin Hansen, WSB  
**Level:** Advanced    **Type:** Lecture with demos

The morning session runs from 9-12. Parallel afternoon sessions run from 1-4. Sessions will be held in Library 109 (Geocoding) and Lommen 003 (Getting Started with ArcGIS Pro and ArcGIS Server).

Free parking is available in lot G1

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

For more information and registration information, visit [http://www.mngislis.org/?spring\\_works\\_2015](http://www.mngislis.org/?spring_works_2015)

## **Grade 4-12 Teacher Training**

In our last posting, we included information on a two-day ArcGIS Online training workshop for Grade 4-12 educators that will take place June 17-18 at Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls. The Minnesota Department of Education along with the Minnesota Center for Social Studies Education (CSSE) received a grant from ESRI for teacher stipends to support this event. Twelve teachers, from Thief River Falls, Tenstrike, Fertile, Crookston, Bemidji, Badger, and Burnsville have registered for this workshop.

We are looking for GIS professionals who would be willing to participate in the second day of the workshop and/or serve as a mentor/resource for the teachers. The agenda for the morning of June 18 includes time for participants to meet and collaborate with professionals from the region. The plan is to connect each professional with a teacher and classroom project. This mentoring relationship is essential to supporting the use of ArcGIS Online in K-12 classrooms.

Please contact Jessica Winkelaar at [jessica.winkelaar@mnhs.org](mailto:jessica.winkelaar@mnhs.org) if you are available to join us at the workshop and/or if you would be interested in serving as a mentor for a classroom teacher in the region.

## **Partnership with HERE**

MSUM is partnering with HERE to create a highly accurate and detailed digital map of the campus. Students from across the university will have a chance to get hands-on experience managing a project, building a map, and working with Myriad Mobile to get the maps into the new MSU Moorhead app. The

project will kick off this summer as HERE brings in graphic design interns to begin the process of creating the streets, walkways, and buildings.

### **Midwest Aerial Technologies Campus Flight**

In conjunction with our campus map initiative, we have also partnered with Midwest Aerial Technologies (<http://www.midwestaerialtechnologies.com/>) to have their drones collect high-resolution imagery of the MSUM main campus and the Regional Science Center. The first round of collections are expected to take place in the near future.

### **Technology Fee Requests Funded**

In our last newsletter, we reported on two Student Technology Fee requests connected to the Center for Geospatial Studies. We are pleased to report that the Student Senate approved both proposals. This summer we will purchase and configure iPads for mobile mapping in tandem with establishing Wi-Fi connectivity at the Regional Science Center. Both projects will be integrated into the restoration project described below.

### **MSUM Science Center Restoration and Monitoring**

On May 11, 2015, S.F. 698, the 2015 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) appropriations bill, was adopted by the Senate. Following passage in the House and signature by the Governor, the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) will begin to approve work plans for projects so that they may begin on July 1. ENRTF projects help maintain and enhance Minnesota's environment and natural resources, and one of these projects involves the restoration and monitoring of 160 acres of prairie and riparian habitat at the Regional Science Center by MSUM in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources. This project will contribute to the MN Prairie Conservation Plan through permanent protection, restoration, enhancement and monitoring of a Core Focus Area; develop and disseminate monitoring protocols for assessing restoration; and engage and educate generations of undergraduate students, building capacity in the region for restoration ecology through development of future restoration ecologists and an educated citizenry that understands the importance of conserving Minnesota's natural resource heritage. A customized GIS database will be used to develop restoration and monitoring strategies and protocols and to build interactive maps and capabilities using mobile apps for monitoring and data sharing.

### **Precision Agriculture Grant**

The collaborative grant activities between Northland Community & Technical College (NCTC) and MSUM that were funded by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture are kicking off. We are in the process of selecting 12-18 wheat and ryegrass growers from northwestern Minnesota that will enroll at least 80 acres of their land into the pilot research study that is looking at integrating drone, satellite, elevation, yield, and soils data to create zones for prescription maps. Dr. Kirk Stueve will be visiting NCTC for their field day activities in June of 2015. These activities involve drone demonstrations and other field activities for growers, research scientists, and others involved in the industry. Once the growers are selected, Dr. Kirk Stueve will take the lead in the satellite mapping activities.

### **Alumni Foundation Support**

The Center for Geospatial Studies had the opportunity to tell the MSUM Alumni Foundation Board about the goals and activities of the Center at their meeting on April 24. A discretionary fund (Fund #R8882) has been established to support student scholarships, conferences, training, and other events. We look forward to collaborating with the Alumni Foundation to build the capabilities of the Center.

### **Fall 2015 MSUM GIS Courses**

**GEOS 205**  
**Thinking Spatially**  
H 7:15-9:45 pm

**GEOS 207**  
**GPS Field Techniques**  
H 4:30-7:00pm

**Questions?**

For questions regarding the Geographic Information Science certificate, Steering Committee meetings, or partnerships with the Center for Geospatial Studies, please contact Dr. Rinita Dalan, Chair, Anthropology & Earth Science at 218.477.5900 or [dalanri@mnstate.edu](mailto: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](mailto:msum_gis@lists.mnstate.edu)

General information about the mailing list and how to subscribe/unsubscribe is available at:

[http://lists.mnstate.edu/mailman/listinfo/msum\\_gis](http://lists.mnstate.edu/mailman/listinfo/msum_gis)