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Geospatial Center Newsletters

Center for Geospatial Studies

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2015

## Center for Geospatial Studies Newsletter. 2015 no.5 (August)

Minnesota State University Moorhead, Center for Geospatial Studies

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### Recommended Citation

Minnesota State University Moorhead, Center for Geospatial Studies, "Center for Geospatial Studies Newsletter. 2015 no.5 (August)" (2015). *Geospatial Center Newsletters*. 10.  
<https://red.mnstate.edu/geonews/10>

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## **Starting Year 2!**

Faculty returned to campus on August 18 so we are officially starting our second academic year as the Center for Geospatial Studies. Though Center activities continued over the summer, this means that now the formal part of our structure will resume, including Steering Committee meetings (see Fall Steering Committee schedule below) and periodic updates through this mailing list. We encourage all of you to utilize the MSUM GIS mailing list to post items of interest to our GIS community.

## **Fall 2015 Steering Committee Meetings**

Center for Geospatial Studies Steering Team meetings scheduled for fall 2015 are:

September 3	3-4 pm	MacLean 268
September 24	3-4 pm	MacLean 268
October 22	3-4 pm	MacLean 268
November 12	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>)

## **2015 ESRI Education User and International User Conferences**

A team from the Department of Anthropology and Earth Science attended the ESRI Education User Conference (July 19-21) and the ESRI International User Conference (July 20-24) in San Diego. The team, Erik Gooding (Anthropology), Kirk Stueve (Geosciences), and Paul Sando (Geosciences), covered as many sessions as possible and engaged in conversations with professors and directors from other GIS programs across the United States in order to better evaluate the ongoing development of our own program. In August, they joined other Center faculty in using what they learned at the conference to set goals for the Center for Geospatial Studies for the coming academic year.

From Paul Sando: We attended sessions on Python, the Collector app, Story Maps, campus maps, and many other new products and processes. For my personal research, I attended sessions on cartography, land records mapping, and railway system technology and mapping.

From Kirk Stueve: I attended workshops addressing intermediate to advanced Python coding in GIS and multivariate analysis and modeling with ArcGIS Pro. I also reconnected with dozens of former colleagues and classmates in the oil and gas industry, various federal agencies, and multiple universities.

From Erik Gooding: I attended both the ESRI Education and the ERSI User conferences. During the Education conference I attended several days of workshops focusing on hands-on training with ESRI products, including ARCGIS Pro, Story Mapping, and the Collector app. At the User Conference I attended the Tribal GIS presentations that focused on geospatial technologies and American Indian tribes, and sessions that focused on story mapping and GIS and cultural activities.

## **25<sup>th</sup> Annual MN GIS/LIS Fall Conference & Workshops**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Workshops of the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium will take place October 7-9 at the Convention Center in Duluth, Minnesota. Workshops will be held Wednesday, October 7, with the conference following on Thursday and Friday. For further information go to [http://www.mngislis.org/?25\\_annual\\_conference](http://www.mngislis.org/?25_annual_conference). We will be sending a team from MSUM and hope to see you there.

## **Campus Map Initiative**

We previously reported that MSUM is partnering with HERE and Myriad Mobile to create one of the best campus maps in the world. To learn more about the project, see the attached one-page description. This summer 6 MSUM students interned at HERE learning to build the 3D components of the map. Students from across the university will have the opportunity to provide input and to participate in this project.



*Student interns at HERE*

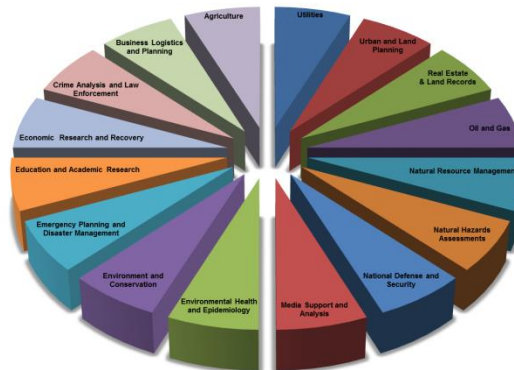


*Interns gather feedback from students at the MSUM Sidewalk Café on August 23*

### **Center for Geospatial Studies Website**

A skeleton website for the Center for Geospatial Studies was aliased this summer. We have not yet created links from other pages, but are providing a “soft launch” for you, our network of regional geospatial users. To access our in-progress website, go to <http://www.mnstate.edu/geospatial/>. We would appreciate your input as we build on this framework over the coming year.

As the Center is guided by input from, and through partnerships with, our regional geospatial network, we would like this website to also inform about applications of GIS that are making a difference in our community. One way we might do this is to incorporate a clickable version of the following pie chart



with links leading to GIS applications in the region in each of these areas. If this is of interest, and you would be willing to submit graphics, descriptions, or links to GIS projects or applications within the community, please let us know.

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

As a reminder, MSUM offers a number of geospatial courses including a 4-course GIS certificate  
GEOS 205 - Thinking Spatially (3 credits),  
GEOS 207 - GPS Field Techniques (3 credits),  
GEOS 210 - Cartography (3 credits), and  
GEOS 307 - Introduction to GIS (3 credits).

Three of these courses are hybrid courses, taught in the evening to make them accessible to community members.

After a successful launch last year (10 students completed the 4-course certificate and another 14 completed two or more of the certificate classes), fall 2015 classes are filled to capacity. This year we are settling into a permanent rotation for the courses, allowing completion in one year (Geos 205 and 207 in the fall, and Geos 210 and 307 in the spring).

A 5<sup>th</sup> course, Geos 407, for users who wish to gain proficiency with advanced GIS techniques, is also offered in the spring.

Conversations have begun between faculty from the geosciences, computer sciences, graphic communications, and economics about options for curriculum development and integration among our areas to better prepare students for geospatial careers.

### **Fall 2015**

**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)