

URISA – THE ASSOCIATION FOR GIS PROFESSIONAL

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Presidents' Letter

URISA's Bylaws require the Association's Secretary to make a report to the membership on the activities of the organization at the Annual Business Meeting, which occurs on the last day of the Annual Conference (GIS-Pro). In practice this report is brief and the number of members who attend the Business Meeting is low. This report is intended to supplement the Business Meeting report, by including more detail about URISA strategy, activities, and accomplishments. It will also reach all members who care to read it and serve as a future record of URISA accomplishments.

During 2010-2011 URISA continued to refine the use of a balanced score card approach to focus resources and energy on priority initiatives. URISA's 'Introductory Membership offer in 2011 increased our membership 15% over 2009. A new sponsorship model was put in place to attract new business sponsor and an Industry Relations Council developed to provide corporate sponsors an advisory link to the URISA decision making process.

In 2011, URISA continued to offer four specialty GIS conferences, as well as the URISA Leadership Academy, and the 49th Annual Conference, GIS-Pro. Other educational offerings included URISA certified workshops and our new *URISA Connect* online seminars. URISA publications included the *URISA Journal*, the *GIS Professional*, and the 2011 edition of the URISA Salary Survey.

URISA continues to advocate for its members via representation on the GISCI Board and participation as a member of COGO. The new Vanguard Cabinet continues to work to define a clear path for energetic young members with leadership potential to contribute to the development of URISA. New URISA chapters are formation in Texas, Tennessee, and the United Arab Emirates. GISCorps continues its work responding to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, as well as 2011 missions in Asia, Africa, Europe, the U.S., and Caribbean.

URISA has needed to respond to the effects of the financial downturn which has impacted the budgets of government agencies, which represent much of our membership base. Our budgets have been lean and headquarters staff has worked diligently to minimize costs and nurture new revenue sources.

During GIS-Pro 2011 the URISA Board approved four new priority initiatives as our balanced scorecard based strategic plan. These initiatives represent the thrust of URISA during the coming year. They recognize that we need to secure the foundation of our organization through sound finances and the effective use of our headquarters staff and our many volunteers.

The priority initiatives will also leverage the foundation of knowledge that URISA has created during the past five decades by putting these resources online and searchable. And building towards the future, a new initiative in 2012 will focus URISA on geospatial management, best practices, and ROI.

URISA will also be reexamining its role as an international organization. This should provide new benefits for our current North American members and for those from other regions who join the URISA community.

If you have been actively involved in URISA, we thank you for your service. If you are new to URISA or have not volunteered in the recent past, we invite you to join in building the URISA of the future.

Sincerely,

Cy Smith, URISA President 2010-2011
Greg Babinski, URISA President 2011-2012

Strategy

Strategic Planning Committee Chairs:

- 2010-2011: Greg Babinski
- 2012-2012: Al Butler

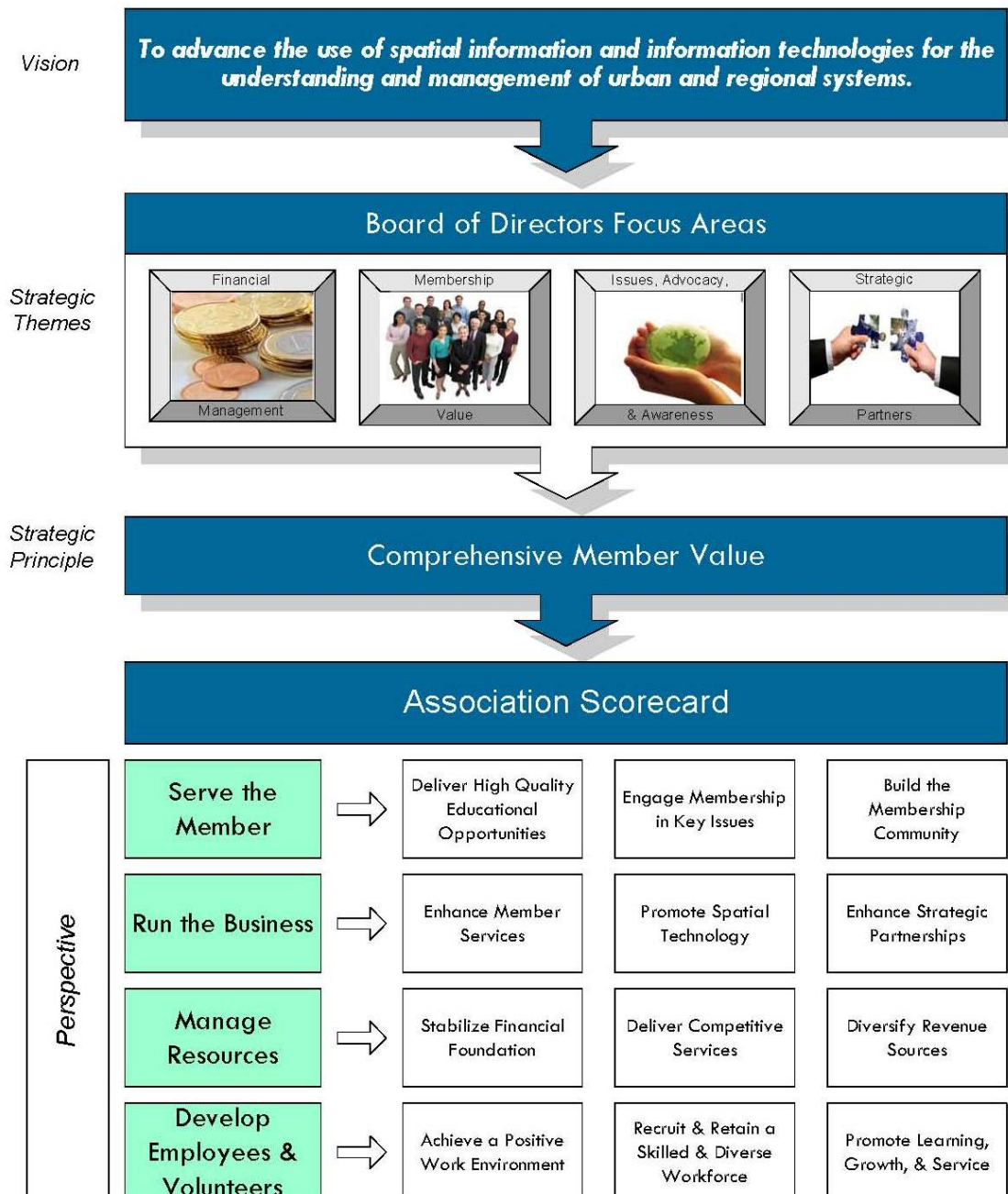
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URISA's constitution states:

URISA is an international Association to stimulate, encourage and otherwise provide for the advancement of an interdisciplinary and multi-professional approach to planning, designing and operating urban information systems. The Association shall operate as an objective educational organization without political, social, financial or national bias. Its main objectives shall be to foster exchange of ideas and promote studies focusing on urban information systems for planning and operational needs as well as for analyzing the broader issues and the consequences of such systems. The Association shall support these objectives by promoting acquaintance and discussion among its members and with scholars in related fields, by stimulating research, by encouraging the publication of scholarly studies, and by performing services to aid the advancement of its members and the field of urban development.

Recently URISA initiated a balanced score card approach to strategic planning.

URISA Balanced Scorecard



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Membership

Membership in URISA is open to any individual or corporation with a mature, deep interest in the field of urban and regional information systems and in agreement with the objectives of the Association. During 2011 the maximum individual membership of URISA was 2,313.

Education Division:

Education Division Directors:

- 2010-2011: Carl Anderson
- 2012-2012: David DiBiase

URISA's 2011 educational events included conferences, workshops, webinars, and the URISA Leadership Academy.

- 15th Annual GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference, Memphis, Tennessee, February 2011
- CalGIS, Fresno, California, March 2011
- GIS in Public Health Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, June 2011
- URISA Leadership Academy, St. Louis, Missouri, June 2011
- URISA/NENA Addressing Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, August 2011
- GIS in Public Transit Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, September 2011
- GIS-Pro, URISA's 49th Annual Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 2011

In 2010 the variety and number of URISA certified workshop offerings increased 12%. 36 individual workshops presented 15 different topics. Workshop locations ranged from Anchorage to Florida and from California to North Carolina. The URISA GIS Program Management workshop was also presented in Australia, under license to SSSI. In addition, we began offering online URISA Connect webinars, generally one hour classes tailored to provide key topics at low cost with no travel required.

For more information about URISA conferences and workshops, see:

Publications Division:

Publications Division Directors:

- 2010-2011; David DiBiase
- 2012-2012: Nancy Obermeyer

URISA Journal

The URISA Journal is the flagship publication of the Urban and Regional Information Association. It is published both in print and online. Members of URISA receive copies of the URISA Journal as a member benefit while libraries and other institutions may receive the Journal by subscribing. In 2011 Dr. Piyushimita (Vonu) Thakuriah, Department of Urban Planning and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago became the new Chief Editor of the IRISA Journal. Two issues of the URISA Journal (Volume 23) were published in 2011.

The GIS Professional

The GIS Professional provides industry and association news and also includes feature articles from two volunteer editors. Keri Shearer, GISP, City of Charlotte, NC, focuses on hot topics, trends and case studies. Comfort Manyame, GISP, Mid South Synergy Electric Cooperative, Texas, focuses on technology and applications. The GIS Professional is published six times per year.

Conference Proceedings

URISA has published conference proceedings going back to the 1960's. In 2011 a project was started to put all past conference proceedings online.

2010-2011 Salary Survey

URISA published a new update to its popular Salary Survey in 2011.

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Other Publications

URISA online publications resources include:

- 18 Quick Study Guides
- 14 Books and Compendiums
- Member's only online resources, including membership directory and URISA Knowledge Database.

For more information about URISA publications, see: http://www.urisa.org/urisa_publications

Operations Division and URISA Awards Program

Operations Division Directors:

- 2010-2011: Mike Lovett
- 2011-2012: Twyla McDermott

Operations Division responsibilities include marketing, leadership development, compliance, and a variety of awards. URISA's Compliance Officer for 2011-2012 is Mark Sievers.

During 2011 the following awards were made by URISA:

URISA Exemplary Systems in Government Award:

- Enterprise Systems Award: Republic of Singapore, Urban Development Authority, 3D Urban Model System
- Enterprise Distinguished System: Cincinnati Area Geographic Information System, CAGIS Enterprise County Wide Construction Coordination System
- Enterprise Distinguished System: City of Calgary, Cadastral Management System
- Enterprise Distinguished System: Wake County GIS and City of Raleigh GIS (NC) iMaps
- Enterprise Distinguished System: Portage County (OH) Enterprise Wide GIS
- Single Process System Award: City of Philadelphia Water Department, PhillyStromwater
- Single Process Distinguished System: Clark County (WA) Utility Tracker

URISA Student Paper Competition

- First Place: Taylor Riso, Lewis & Clark College
- Second Place: Yingying Chen and Nicholas Cuba, Clark University
- Third Place: Laura Reading, University of Southern Maine and University of Michigan

URISA Poster Competition

- First Place: Scott Jablonski and Nicola Mammes, Rutgers University
- Honorable Mention: John Owens, Chicago State University
- Honorable Mention: Rebecca Davoudian and Nicola Mammes, Rutgers University
- Honorable Mention: Erin Hodgess, University of Houston

URISA GIS Hall of Fame

- William Huxhold
- Barry Wellar

URISA Horwood Distinguished Service Award

- Martha Wells

URISA Leadership Award

- Allen Ibaugh

URISA Service Award

- Sandi Majewski

URISA Barbara Hirsch Special Service Award

- Martin Roche

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Outstanding URISA Chapter Award (coordinated by the Chapter Relations Committee):

- Ontario Chapter

Complete information about URISA Awards, including selection criteria and past recipients can be found at:

<http://www.urisa.org/awards>

Outreach

Outreach Division Directors:

- 2010-2011: Kathrine Cargo
- 2011-2012: Cy Smith

The Outreach Division includes responsibility for the following committees:

Chapter Relations Committee

The CRC facilitates communications between Chapters and between the URISA Board and the Chapters, and assists Chapters with chapter organization and development. See list of current URISA Chapters below.

Industry Relations Committee

The IRC encourages the active participation of companies in URISA to support its educational programs and to provide the industry with a forum for communication with spatial information technology users. See list of current URISA sponsors below.

Liaison

Liaisons are appointed by the Board to interface with related organizations to facilitate the active participation, cooperative programs, and exchange of ideas.

COGO

URISA's participation in the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations is our most significant and active liaison. COGO allows URISA and other allied organizations to leverage their collective influence to promote policies, implement initiatives, and advocate for the geospatial community on a unified basis.

Policy Advisory Committee

The PAC is charged with recommending formal policy positions on matters that:

- Pertain directly to URISA's mission
- Do not involve partisan political lobbying or direct support for a political party or candidate
- Are raised and reviewed, and the position recommended, in accordance with the established procedures of the Committee

Vanguard Cabinet

The VC is a new URISA initiative to engage young GIS practitioners, increase their numbers in the organization, and better understand the concerns facing these future leaders of the GIS community. The VC is an advisory board made up of URISA young professionals who represent the young membership of the organization.

GISCorps

GISCorps operates under the auspices of URISA to coordinate short term, volunteer based GIS services to underprivileged communities. For more information, see: <http://www.giscorps.org>.

Chapters and Affiliations

Chapters

URISA has more than two dozen state, provincial, and regional chapters. Chapter meetings, workshops, conferences, and social events occur regularly throughout North America. Chapters connect GIS professionals locally and the networking and education is invaluable.

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Alabama	Caribbean	Northern Rockies
Alaska	Carolina	Ohio
Alberta	Central Appalachian	Ontario
Arizona	Chesapeake	Oregon
British Columbia	Chicagoland	Quebec
BAAMA - Bay Area Automated Mapping Association	Florida	Rock Mountain
Central California	Georgia	Tennessee (in formation)
Northern California	Louisiana	Texas
Southern California	Mid-Atlantic	United Arab Emirates (Organizing)
	Midwest-Gateway	Washington State
	New England	

SSSI

URISA and the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (and its predecessor AURISA) in Australia and New Zealand have coordinated activities since the mid-1980's. In 2010 a formal MOU between SSSI and URISA was signed and periodic Board to Board conference calls initiated. In 2010 SSSI licensed URISA GIS Program Management Workshop for 2010-2012. SSSI Representative Nick Lawrence attended GIS-Pro 2010. URISA Past-President Kathrine Cargo visited SSSI in 2010 and Past-President Cy Smith visited SSSI in 2011.

Other Affiliations

Other URISA organizational affiliations include:

- Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA) (see: www.wlia.org)
- MidAmerica GIS Consortium, Ltd. (MAGIC) MAGIC states include, but are not limited to: Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma & South Dakota. (<http://magicgis.org/>)
- IMAGIN – Michigan (see: www.imagin.org)

Sponsors

URISA Sponsorship provides distinct benefits:

Visibility as a leader in the GIS Community

Direct access to international URISA members who are shaping the future of the industry

Participation in the development of URISA's advocacy agenda on behalf of its members

URISA sponsors represent companies and other organizations that are interested in making a strategic investment in the association's future and in playing a special role in shaping the industry. The partnership is about sponsoring the association in all of its activities, not just sponsoring a conference. URISA sponsor participate directly in URISA's planning activities through membership in the URISA Industry Relations Committee.

URISA's 2011 Sponsors

<p>Platinum Corporate Sponsor: Esri</p> <p>Gold Corporate Sponsor: CDM</p> <p>Silver Corporate Sponsors: Data Transfer Solutions LLC Pictometry International</p> <p>Federal Agency Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau</p>	<p>Bronze Corporate Sponsors: Manatron Merrick & Company Milsoft Utility Solutions Inc. Sanborn - NEW The Sidwell Company Valtus Imagery Services</p> <p>Media Sponsors V1 Magazine GIS Cafe</p>	<p>Business Members 24GIS Geographic Data Base Management Systems, Inc. GeoTechVision Enterprises LTD GIS Innovations LTD. GPS GIS H Davis Cole and Associates LLC Highland Mapping Inc. North River Geographic Systems, Inc. Spatial Focus Inc. Wellar Consulting</p>
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For more information about URISA sponsorship, see: <http://www.urisa.org/sponsorship>

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Donors

Contributions to URISA — a 501(c) (3) organization — are tax deductible. All contributions will be used to further the mission of URISA through the support of existing programs and the development of new programs.

<u>Diamond Circle (donations of \$5,000 or more)</u> Jack Dangermond	<u>Silver Circle (donations of \$100-\$499)</u> Carl Anderson, GISP J. Allison Butler, Jr., GISP Greg Babinski, GISP Wayne Bannister Cindy Braddock, GISP Clare Brown, GISP Gilbert Castle Kathrine Cargo, GISP, ENP Thomas Conry David DiBiase, GISP Shoreh Elhami, GISP Randy Gschwind	<u>Silver Circle (donations of \$100-\$499)</u> William Huxhold, GISP Sandi Majewski, GISP Twyla McDermott, GISP Hilary Perkins, GISP Mark Salling, PhD, GISP Cy Smith, GISP Karen Stewart, GISP Michael Waltuch, GISP
<u>Platinum Circle (donations of \$1,000-\$4,999)</u> Barry Wellar, GISP Peirce Eichelberger, GISP Robert Hurst Michael Lovett, GISP Laurel McKay D. David Moyer, GISP Sam Trotter		<u>Bronze Circle (donations of \$1- \$99)</u> Scott Kutz, GISP Philip Lamothe Stephen Sochotsky, GISP
<u>Gold Circle (donations of \$500-\$999)</u> Will Craig, GISP Ken Dueker Joe Ferreira Dianne Haley, GISP Susan Johnson		

Financial Management

Treasurers and Finance Committee Chairs:

- 2010-2011: Clare Brown
- 2011-2012: Carl Anderson

The Finance Committee is charged with reviewing matters referred by the Board of Directors on items related to the financial health and well being of the Association. The Finance Committee works with the Association's Treasurer on matters of budget and finance, as requested by the Treasurer. In particular, the Finance Committee assists the Treasurer in the review of the annual Association budget and with the development of financial policies and investment strategies.

2001-2012 Finance Committee:

Treasurer:	Carl Anderson
Board Member:	Thomas Conry
Board Member:	Teresa Townsend
URISA Member:	Clare Brown
URISA Member:	Allen Ibaugh
URISA Member:	Mark Sievers
URISA Member:	Martin Roche

Auditor:

URISA's annual financial audit is performed by:

Mann, Weitz & Associates, LLC
111 Deer Lane Road, Suite 125, Deerfield, IL 60015

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Leadership and Governance

URISA's Headquarters Offices are located at 701 Lee Street, Suite 680, Des Plaines, IL, 60016

P: 1 847 824-6300 W: www.urisa.org

Headquarters Staff:

Executive Director: Wendy Nelson
Finance Administrator: Anne Bishopp
Meeting Coordinator: Patricia Francis
Education manager: Jennifer Griffith
Database Manager: Verlanda McBride
Office Manager: Katie Morehead

2011 – 2012 Board of Directors:

President: Greg Babinski, GISP, King County GIS Center, WA
Past- President: Cy Smith, GISP, State of Oregon (Outreach Division Director)
President-Elect: Al Butler, GISP, City of Ocoee, Florida (Strategic Planning Committee Chair)
Treasurer: Carl Anderson, GISP, Spatial Focus, Florida (Finance Committee Char)
Secretary: Thomas Conry, Fairfax County, Virginia
Director: Tripp Corbin, GSIP, eGIS Associates, Georgia
Director: David DiBiase, GISP, Esri, California (Education Division Director)
Director: Twyla McDermott, GISP, City of Charlotte, North Carolina (Operations Division Director)
Director: Cindy Post, University of Alberta, Alberta
Director: Nancy Obermeyer, GISP, Indiana State University, Indiana (Publications Division Director)
Director: Christopher Thomas, Esri, California
Director: Teresa Townsend, AICP, Planning Communities LLC, North Carolina

In 2011 the following Directors completed their three year terms on the URISA Board:

- Karen Stewart, Esri, British Columbia
- Clare Brown, New Orleans 911, Louisiana
- Mike Lovett, CDM, Florida

For URISA's current organization chart, depicting all committee chairs, liaisons, and leads, see:

<http://urisa.org/files/URISAOrgChart2011-2012%2820111214%29.pdf>

URISA is governed by its Constitution, which was last updated in 1986: <http://urisa.org/files/Constitution.pdf>

URISA's Bylaws further define the organization, governance, policies, and operation of the Association:

<http://urisa.org/files/URISA%20Bylaws%20revNov2010.pdf>