The GISCI Board is pleased to announce the long-anticipated changes to the GISP certification process that were decided during the first meeting of 2015. These changes affect both current and future GISP certification holders and were made in order to increase the value, recognition and long term viability of the GISP certification and the GISCI organization.

**Changes for Future GISP Applicants**

Effective July 1, 2015, all professionals applying for their initial GISP certification will be required to take and pass the GISCI Geospatial Core Technical Knowledge Exam, now being developed, in addition to meeting the current standards for certification via a portfolio based review based on ethics agreement, education, experience, and professional contributions.

After July 1, 2015, anyone can start the application process at any time, either via the exam or portfolio review.

In response to requests from GISPs and the geospatial community, GISCI will offer the GISCI Geospatial Core Technical Knowledge Exam to individuals independent of the application for the portfolio review process. This means that GISP applicants after July 1, 2015 can start the certification process by completing an application and taking the examination any time prior to attaining the professional experience required for the professional portfolio. All applicants will be required to fulfill all certification process requirements within 6 years from the date of their initial application to be awarded a GISP certification. A key benefit of this change in policy is that students and others new to geospatial professions will have the opportunity to begin the certification process and take the exam whenever they believe they are prepared, rather than having to wait until they have completed all of the requirements of the peer reviewed portfolio.

After July 1, 2015 the certification process will include a $100 application fee, a $250 exam fee, and a $100 portfolio review fee. Upon completion of the certification process, an individual will be certified for a 3 year period. Annual renewal fees of $95 are due on the anniversary of initial certification and will be required to be paid in full prior to recertification. Recertification of the GISP will be required at the end of the 3 year period with a procedure similar to the current review process where submission of information on completed continuing education and

*continued on page 2*
service to the profession is required. Until July 1, 2015, GISCI will continue to accept GISP applications under its current process and fee structure.

Changes for Current GISP Professionals

All current professionals holding GISP certification with a recertification date after July 1, 2015 will recertify for a 3 year period, and will pay an annual renewal fee of $95 for each of the three years of the new recertification period. The portfolio points for continuing education and service to the profession required for the 3-year recertification will be reduced proportionately from the current 5 year requirements.

All professionals certified or recertified before July 1, 2015 will remain certified under the current 5 year recertification policy and fees until the next certification expiration date and then will begin the new 3-year renewal and recertification process.

This will provide GISPs with certification expiration dates prior to July 1, 2015 the opportunity to recertify under the current policies for an additional 5 years. A table summarizing changes is shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GISP Status</th>
<th>Fee(s)</th>
<th>Renewal Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current GISP with expiration prior to July 1, 2015 and completes recertification before July 1, 2015</td>
<td>$115</td>
<td>5 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current GISP with expiration date prior to July 1, 2015 recertifies after grace period*</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current GISP with expiration date after July 1, 2015</td>
<td>$95/yr</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New GISP application prior to July 1, 2015</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>5 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New GISP application after July 1, 2015 (application fee + portfolio review + exam fee)</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*GISCI currently offers a 1 year grace period for recertification after expiration. Any GISP that fails to reinstate their credential within the grace period will be required to reapply for certification under the standards in place at the time of recertification.

Abstract Submissions Invited for 9th National GIS in Transit Conference

The National Center for Transit Research, Urban and Regional Information Systems Association and the Transportation Research Board are jointly sponsoring the 9th National GIS in Transit Conference, September 1-3, 2015, in Washington, DC.

Managing data to drive decision making has never been more important. As large data systems are capturing significant performance, operational and planning data in the transit industry. These data can improve decision making, service evaluation, customer satisfaction, operational efficiency and overall system performance. At the core of many of these data are spatial elements, that describe the location of relevant transit data. Transit boardings, customer location, activity centers, assets and transit service. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) provides a unique platform for organizing, evaluating and communicating data; transforming data into information.

This conference will bring experts from around the country on how GIS is being used every day to improve transit systems. The conference will provide a breadth of GIS experiences to showcase how agencies of all sizes and budgets are managing its GIS data and improving transit service and ultimately customer service.

Share your research, projects and ideas with this informed audience. Abstract submissions are invited until March 23. For an online form and additional information, click here.
Citizens Report Navy Jet Noise via GIS Website
By: Nick Peihl, GIS Coordinator, San Juan County

The San Juan County Jet Aircraft Noise Reporting app is a website for San Juan County citizens to submit reports of disruptive military jet noise coming from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. San Juan County Council members have received complaints from residents who say jet noise from the military base has interrupted conversations and activities. The Navy has been transitioning from EA-6B Prowler jets to EA-18G Growler electronic attack aircraft that many locals feel is much louder and more disturbing.

The County Manager, Mike Thomas, asked the County’s GIS Coordinator, Nick Peihl, if the GIS team could create a website for collecting citizen complaints. Peihl previously created a citizen engagement app for receiving ongoing complaints about stormwater issues by configuring an open source Esri web application called “Citizen Service Request application” (http://github.com/esri/citizen-service-request). Peihl worked with Thomas and the County Council to determine the requirements and goals of the proposed website. The website had to collect date and times of reports, the “loudness” of the jet aircraft noise, type of aircraft (if known) and the location of the report. The website would be active for six months and a database of the reports would be sent to officials at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island.

Based on the needs and requirements of the project, Peihl decided to use the Citizen Service Request application as a starting point for the Jet Aircraft Noise Reporting app. Peihl “forked” (made a copy of open source software) Esri’s Citizen Service Request application hosted on GitHub.com into the SJCGIS GitHub account (http://github.com/SJCGIS). Modifications made to the Jet Aircraft Noise Reporting app are tracked by the Git version control system and visible to anyone on GitHub.com. Peihl feels that sharing his modifications could benefit other agencies and communities looking to build their own similar projects.

Peihl demonstrated the Jet Noise Reporting app to County Council in May 2014. The demonstration showed how citizens could use a computer or mobile device to locate their position on the map either by address or GPS, report a noise complaint or view other complaints. Council members were pleased with the demonstration and the Jet Aircraft Noise Reporting app went live on May 16, 2014.

Citizens using the Jet Noise Reporting app can search for their address or use their mobile device’s internal GPS to locate their position on the map. They can then click or tap their location to submit a noise report. Reports include date and time of the incident, type of aircraft, intensity of jet noise, contact information for report and comments about the incident. By capturing the locations and plotting the reports on a map, the County and Navy could compare the reports with their flight schedule maps and see how the flights are affecting San Juan County citizens in different locations.

The County Council urged citizens to report all jet noise incidents as quickly and accurately as possible. The Jet...
Citizens continued from page 3

Aircraft Noise Reporting app received 159 jet noise reports in its first month. By the end of three months there were 651 reports, including a record 66 reports on a single day, July 3. After six months, 1340 reports had been received. As the number of submitted reports climbed, the loading time for the webpage grew and performance took a major hit. Internet bandwidth on the San Juan Islands is dismal in many areas and citizens grew frustrated with waiting for the website to load.

The Jet Aircraft Noise Reporting app was originally planned to be retired after six months. But jet noise was still an issue for many citizens and the County Council decided to keep it active indefinitely. However, something needed to be done about the increasing webpage load times. Peihl had discussions with County Manager Mike Thomas and Lopez Island councilmember Jamie Stephens about website performance and suggested limiting reports shown on the website to those received within the past month. The County Council agreed to this change provided the older reports were still accessible in the County’s database. Peihl made the changes to the Jet Aircraft Noise Reporting app and website performance improved dramatically. A separate website was created for users to view all noise reports received since May 2014.

Naval Air Station Whidbey Island is gathering data and comments for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed expansion of operations. Data accumulated from the noise reports submitted on the Jet Aircraft Noise Reporting website have been forwarded to Naval Air Station Whidbey Island for use in conjunction with the EIS.

Originally published in the Winter 2015 issue of The Summit, a publication of Washington URISA.

URISA Leadership Academy (ULA)
Five Days of Targeted GIS Leadership Training...
Taught by GIS Leaders

ULA 2015: June 22-26, 2015
Denver, Colorado

“Most of us spend a good bit of time and effort to hone and update our technical skills as we progress in our GIS careers. We take classes on how to build GIS databases or geocode addresses or maintain parcels or create python scripts and so on. We work in a technology driven field so it makes sense we place our focus on these types of skills.

That is until you find yourself managing a project or team or department. Then all that technical training only covers a portion of what we are required to deal with. Suddenly you are having to develop budgets, calculate ROI, handle HR issues and so on. All of these your technical training has not prepared you for. The ULA is a great program for overcoming that gap many of us have in our education and unlike other management training programs it was built by GIS Professionals who know our industry and the issues we face.

I hope everyone will take advantage of this great opportunity URISA is providing and attend the ULA. I really wish this had existed when I first moved up into management.”

Tripp Corbin, MCP, CFM, GISP | Chief Executive Officer
eGIS Associates, Inc.

Need to Earn GISP Certification or Renewal Points... or do you simply want to share some ideas?

Write an article for THE GIS PROFESSIONAL! We publish six issues each year and are always happy to consider new contributors and content. Send an email to Wendy Nelson with a brief description of what you’d like to write. Articles typically range from 1,000 to 3,500 words and hi-res graphics and images are encouraged.
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Education is Continuous
Five Pillars to Ensure You Never Stop Learning
By: Walt Grassl

Many talented people feel that they do not have anything new to learn in their chosen field. They believe what got them there is enough.

Those who are determined and who work hard often spend a lot of time and effort to learn new skills and maintain their existing ones. They display the most current knowledge of new technology and ideas. Having employees who will improve themselves over and above the company-sponsored training is critical to an organization wanting to innovate and improve.

Eleven years ago, Ben got a job working in the mailroom at a local business during the summer before starting college. The company had been in existence for over sixty years and was currently being led by Jack—a long-time employee and company legend who started in the mailroom. Three weeks into the job, on his way from the basement to the top floor, the elevator stopped and who should enter the elevator but Jack. He smiled at Ben, introduced himself, and mentioned that he started out in the mailroom. Ben was a little star struck, but as they both exited the elevator, Ben asked if Jack had any advice for him.

“Never stop educating yourself,” Jack said. “In fact, come into my office and let me elaborate. I have 15 minutes before my next meeting.”

Jack proceeded to share these five pillars for continued education:

1. You are responsible for your education
You alone are responsible for your education. Whether or not it makes sense to invest in a formal education, there are free and for-fee learning opportunities available to everyone. The public library and the Internet are two examples.

Another invaluable source of education is through people. Spend time with people who can do things that you can’t. It may mean volunteering to stay late to observe someone, going to lunch with more experienced associates or finding a mentor.

You can also learn by taking on challenging assignments that are above your skill level. Discuss the help you will need to be successful and the company leadership may reward your initiative by providing an experienced staff member oversee your on-the-job training.

You can learn pretty much anything, if you work hard at it.

2. No entitlements
Time in service should be no guarantee of advancement in a successful business. It is what one learns with his or her experience that determines the value of the service time. In other words, if you put in your time, you are guaranteed nothing.

As your time with the company grows, seek lateral transfers or increased responsibility without necessarily a corresponding increase in title or pay. Realize you are making yourself more valuable to your employer and view the stretch assignments as an investment in yourself.

Although we are living in a time of an increasing sense of entitlement, we must all take care of ourselves.

3. You can’t rest on your laurels
Many talented people feel that they do not have anything new to learn in their chosen field. They believe what got them there is enough. They become complacent. They decide they don’t need to put in more effort and stop striving for success.

When you reach a goal, celebrate your success, but identify your next goal and begin to take action. When you stop moving forward and rest on your laurels, in actuality you are falling behind all the others who continue to move forward.

4. Staying current
Likewise, you need to stay current with industry trends by reading industry literature and blogs. If you are moving into management, read leadership books and blogs. New trends are frequently entering the workplace. You have the choice to be aware of and lead the change or try to catch up—or even worse—resisting the change.

Joining industry and trade associations is another way to educate yourself on current trends.

5. New and old generation
A big issue in many industries is getting several generations to work well together. Each generation has different learning and working styles. You have several options to handle this reality. The first is to do nothing, since it’s your fellow employee’s responsibility to get with the program. You can leave it to your company’s leadership to implement a program to fix the problem. The higher percentage choice is to educate yourself on the differences between generations, the issues these differences these issues bring to the
workplace and some things others are doing to address the issues.

You can use this information to change how you interact and to the extent you can, help your company improve their processes.

Ben took Jack’s advice to heart. After graduating from college, he got a job with another company in another field. His education did not stop when he left school. He subscribes to industry and management blogs, has joined his industry association and seeks out challenging assignments and develops relationships with other successful employees at his company. He has been identified by his management as a high-potential employee and is one of the youngest employees at his level. Ben’s future is bright. Amazing what a chance encounter in an elevator can do.

Walt Grassl is a speaker, author, and performer. He hosts the radio show, “Stand Up and Speak Up,” on the RockStar Worldwide network. Walt has performed standup comedy at the Hollywood Improv and the Flamingo in Las Vegas and is studying improv at the Groundlings School in Hollywood. For more information on bringing Walt Grassl to your next event, please visit www.WaltGrassl.com.

The Cumberland Chapter of URISA held its second annual meeting in Nashville this past January. This year, I suggested we step out and invite some surveyors to join us. I sent out an invitation to the Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors and they agreed to talk to us about their perceptions of and concerns about GIS. Three surveyors from across Tennessee came and talked about what they saw as concerns they were seeing with GIS. Of course, anytime accuracy is mentioned they have concerns about validating stated accuracy and misrepresentation or incorrect interpretation of data on public sites.

The GIS professionals quickly acknowledged the concerns of our Surveying brethren and in some cases suggested ways we may need to change how we present data to help prevent incorrect assumptions about accuracy. At other times, we also expressed confusion and frustration over statements or assumptions by public officials that were just plain wrong.

Did everyone leave with a clear understanding of our respective boundaries of practice? No, but we do at least know each other now. I believe a bit of mutual respect came from this and a general agreement that we need to talk more and begin to develop a constructive relationship. It won’t be an easy process and there will probably be times when the discussion gets tense. But, at least we are talking.

Towards the end, one of the participants looked at me and said: “You know, you’ve opened a can of worms here.” I agree, we have. But I think it is fine can of worms. Now, we have laid everything out in the open. If we persist with an attitude of mutual respect and support, this can of worms can turn into something good.
COGO Releases Report Card on the U.S. National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI)

The Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) announces the release of its Report Card on the U.S. National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) that depicts the condition and performance of the nation’s geospatial “infrastructure” which includes surveyed, mapped and remotely-sensed information. The NSDI Report Card is in the familiar form of a school report card—assigning letter grades that are based on physical condition and needed investments for improvement.

The report card was developed by an expert panel chaired by The Honorable James E. Geringer, former Governor of Wyoming, with Dr. David J. Cowen, John J. Moeller, Dr. John D. Bossler, Susan Carson Lambert, The Honorable Tom D. Rust, and The Honorable Robert T. Welch. This effort is loosely patterned after the successful Report Card for America’s Infrastructure, published by the American Society of Civil Engineers. COGO initiated this effort in 2009 by securing the commitment of the expert panel members who worked on a volunteer basis to produce this report.

As noted in the report’s foreword, COGO “recognizes the individual contributions of all Federal, state, regional, tribal, and local government agencies that have worked in concert with the private and academic sectors to develop the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) as it exists today. This work has spanned entire careers, and COGO applauds the sincerity of their efforts and the value of their contributions.”

The COGO member organizations (which include URISA) represent approximately 170,000 individual geospatial practitioners. Together, the coalition is delivering this assessment to help Congress, the Administration, Federal agency executives, and others understand the importance of geospatial data to the nation, as well as shortcomings of the NSDI. The member organizations want to engage Congress, Federal agencies, and the FGDC to discuss and identify common sense improvements that will lead to a more robust National Spatial Data Infrastructure.

Michael Vanhook, COGO Chairman, stated “Federal agencies have worked for many years to improve their geospatial programs, but the COGO member organizations believe that the national data sets and delivery systems (the NSDI) generally need improvement. It is time for the Federal government to more effectively engage the entire stakeholder community to ensure that America has the highest quality geospatial infrastructure. Doing so will allow us to more efficiently and effectively deal with society’s needs, and to reduce duplication of effort.”

Read the Report Card on the U.S. National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) - http://cogo.pro/
Each year, URISA recognizes individuals and organizations for significant achievement, contributions, dedication and service to the association and to the profession. URISA is currently accepting nominations for the following:

- **URISA’s GIS Hall of Fame:** Honors persons and organizations that have made significant and original contributions to the development and application of GIS concepts, tools, or resources, or to the GIS profession. Anyone may nominate a person or organization for induction to URISA’s GIS Hall of Fame. Hall of Fame laureates are expected to exemplify vision, leadership, perseverance, community-mindedness, professional involvement, and ethical behavior.

A number of URISA Awards recognize members for their contributions to the association and the community at large:

- **Horwood Distinguished Service Award:** An occasional award given for long-term service to URISA and the profession. This award is URISA’s ultimate award for service and leadership to URISA and within the geospatial industry. Awarded will have demonstrated significant contributions to both URISA and the geospatial technologies industry. The Horwood Distinguished Service Award is named after founding member and first URISA President, Edgar Horwood.

- **Leadership Award:** Presented to members who have demonstrated exemplary leadership to URISA, creativity, innovation, and dedicated support of URISA programs. The recipient should be a member of URISA for enough years to show a pattern of leadership. Typically the recipient will have been responsible for new programs or activities, or significantly enhanced an existing activity or program, so that it takes URISA in a new direction and/or enhances our standing in the professional community.

- **Service Award:** Presented to members who have demonstrated faithful service to URISA and participation in its program over a period of several years. This award is for specific service to URISA. It should require a significant number of years of (not necessarily consecutive) service in a number of programs or committees, and a willingness to take on challenges without regard to the potential for recognition.

- **Barbara Hirsch Special Service Award:** Presented to members or staff who have made special contributions to URISA. This award was created (in 2004) to honor URISA’s former Chief Financial Officer, Barbara Hirsch. Barb made her mark at URISA by being an exceptional professional who would always step forward when a point needed to be made, but never stepped to the front for recognition. It is in the spirit of this dedication that the Board of Directors has created an award for special service to URISA. This award will be given to individuals or committees who have shown a similar consummate level of service to URISA through an ongoing commitment to our success as an organization.

The 2015 **Exemplary Systems in Government (ESIG) Awards** process is also underway. Since 1980, URISA’s ESIG Awards have recognized extraordinary achievements in the use of geospatial information technology that have improved the delivery and quality of government services. The award competition is open to all public agencies at the federal, state/provincial, regional and local levels. Submissions are invited in two categories:

- **Enterprise Systems:** Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of using information systems technology in a multi-department environment as part of an integrated process. These systems exemplify effective use of technology yielding widespread improvements in the process(es) and/or service(s) involved and/or cost savings to the organization.

- **Single Process Systems:** Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of applying information system technology to automate a specific SINGLE process or operation involving one department or sub-unit of an agency. The system application results in extended and/or improved government services that are more efficient and/or save money.

Nominations and submissions are due by May 1, 2015. For details on each award, including past winners and nominations/submission instructions, visit [http://www.urisa.org/about-us/awards/](http://www.urisa.org/about-us/awards/).

All honorees will be recognized during the Awards Ceremony at GIS-Pro & NWGIS 2015 in Spokane, Washington, October 18-22, 2015.
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Why Geography Matters
by Harm de Blij
Paperback: 368 pages
Publisher: Oxford University Press; 2 edition (August 17, 2012)

Reviewed by F. Peirce Eichelberger

While traveling to GIS-Pro 2014 in New Orleans I had a chance to finish a book I had wanted to read for a few years. At URISA we talk a lot about mentoring and sharing. Let me share one idea... read!

Harm de Blij was the author of my Political Geography text in my undergraduate work at the University of Florida (1972). As we talk about mentoring, we notice many GIS users coming to GIS from another discipline without a geography background. These GIS “tool users” bring their important interdisciplinary perspective, especially to an enterprise GIS. This book begins to fill in some of the holes that some GIS users may have about Geography. An early chapter describes map basics and map reading in a nice overview. Another laments the loss of geographic skills and the dilution of geography into a generic social studies curriculum where we are continuing to pay a price for our spatial ignorance. (He quoted a statistic from one college where only 42% of the students named Mexico as our southern neighbor.) The book was also a good refresher on physical and population geography—usually required geography classes for a geography major.

At a higher level the book develops three challenges facing America that provide an amazing background to today’s current events. The challenges are climate change, the rise of China, and global terrorism. His descriptions of Europe, Africa, Russia, Latin America and the Middle East are quite interesting and useful. His mix of history, geography and current events is a cocktail of thought-provoking reading. Geography is the best framework for understanding much that is going on in the world today.

He tells his story with a bunch (30+) of neat and informative maps that all tell an incredible story in themselves. Germany, we are reminded, is only the size of Oregon. Fewer than half of today’s Russian teenage males will reach 60. Russia extends over 11 time zones. China covers a north-south distance north of Maine and much further south than Florida and as far east-west as both U.S. coasts. His maps bring us up-to-date on the post Soviet administrative geography, France’s new administrative regions and Islam’s historic-geographic context. The maps and statistics give us many insights into what is happening in the world today. The maps also reminded me about why our GIS maps should always tell a story and so often they do not.

This book tells us that geography provides for our understanding of most everything and brings us back to our local situations. Geography may be the near constant to helping us explain things and solve problems.

You may be asked to use your GIS tools to help solve some of the following:

• Emergency Management activities (could you generate a Countywide map of all the gas stations in your jurisdiction?)
• Contact tracing (could your GIS help with this epidemiological activity?)
• Dealing with droughts and wild fires (do you have a land cover data-set available in GIS?)
• Flooding examples and FEMA maps (do you have historical maps of past flooding situations that could be used for planning purposes?)
• Economic development (do you have small area employment totals by NAICS codes?)
• All residential units identified (do you have a complete registry of all dwelling units, by situs address with apartment numbers, for your jurisdiction?)

Let me know your thoughts: peirceeeichelberger1@mac.com
Welcome New URISA Members

Brad Acheson — St. Charles, IL
Gene Agnew, GISP — Chickaloon Native Village — Palmer, AK
Keith Albury — Greenville, SC
Christopher Ard — City of New Orleans — CHALMETTE, LA
Sean Barclay, GISP — Tahoe City PUD — Tahoe City, CA
Kayla Barnowsky — Madison, WI
Charles Barnwell — Merrick — Anchorage, AK
Heidi Beck — Birmingham, AL
Penny Black, MS — University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute — Madison, WI
Lucas Braun, GISP — Town of Lincoln, MA — Arlington, MA
Kari Chael — CDM Smith — Chicago, IL
Joshua Chris, GISP — KAYA Associates, Inc. — Huntsville, AL
Christopher Conaway — Naples, FL
Christy Cox — Sacramento, CA
Aaron D’Amario — Feeding Hills, MA
David Denham, GISP — City of Plano — Frisco, TX
Ed DeYoung — Idaho Dept of Lands — Coeur d’Alene, ID
Christopher DiMaggio — Glendale, CA
Josef Drechsler, GISP — Northwest Hydraulics Consultants — Edmonton, AB, Canada
John Dupree, GISP — Trotter and Associates, Inc. — Saint Charles, IL
Adrienne Edwards, GISP — Town of Easton Massachusetts — West Bridgewater, MA
Bartley Estes — CEC Infrastructure Solutions — Oklahoma City, OK
Tonya Fallis, GISP — New Mexico State Historic Preservation Div. — Santa Fe, NM
Sandra Faricellia — Seneca Resources Corporation — Pittsburgh, PA
Andrew Fortlage — Bowling Green, OH
Jason Fultz, GISP — Golder Associates — Ballwin, MO
Mark Gallant, GISP — National Capital Commission — Ottawa, ON Canada
Deirdre Garrity-Benjamin — Haddonfield, NJ
Drew Geswein — Anthem, AZ
Laura Giboo, GISP — Lincoln Electric System — Lincoln, NE
John Graham, GISP — American Forest Management, Inc. — Spartanburg, SC
Rainor Gresham, GISP — Atkins — Raleigh, NC
Ross Hall, GISP — L3 Communications — APO, AE
Brian Hartz — Naples, FL
Bryan Haviland — Univ. of LA at Lafayette; LA National Guard — Pineville, LA
Charles Jones — Brea, CA
Dave Kealey — Somerville, MA
Kurtis Kettler — Coralville, IA
Mele Koneya, GISP — City of Scottsdale — Scottsdale, AZ
Kaitlyn Little — Edmonton, AB Canada
David Littlejohn — CEC Infrastructure Solutions — Oklahoma City, OK
Simone Lloyd — National Spatial Data Management Division — Kingston, Jamaica
Omkar Lochan — Georgetown, Guyana
Stephanie Long, GISP — Headington Energy Partners — McKinney, TX
Krischelle Love, GISP — San Jose Water Company — San Jose, CA
Ken Mancuso — Baton Rouge, LA
David Mangold — Clean Water Services — Tigard, OR
Darren Marks, GISP — SM Energy — Billings, MT

Platinum Corporate Partner
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• Ken Hamilton
• David Holmes
• William La Rocque
• Brandon Tourtelotte
• Lori Ward
• Bruce Aquila
• David Beddoe
• Wes Clain
• Dwayne Wiginton

Government Agency
City of Montgomery
• Blake Randolph, GISP
• Anita Bowen
• Anderson Brooms
• Shelby Hutcheson

McClain County 911 Trust Authority
• Dave Brown
• Jessica Colvin

Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment — Georgetown, Guyana
• Gavin Agard
• Karen Anthony
• Kerry Anne Cort
• Ronda Floris
• Terry More
• Naseem Nasir
• Haimwant Persaud
• Darshini Seeram
• Donald Singh

continued on page 13
We are pleased to announce that next year’s URISA annual conference will be presented in partnership with the Northern Rockies URISA Chapter and the Northwest GIS Users’ Group, along with the Washington URISA Chapter!

Expect a phenomenal conference program in a beautiful setting! Natural, walkable, friendly... Spokane is a vibrant city, a roaring river, a gateway to the American west. Book a whitewater adventure, shred fresh powder, bike the beautiful Centennial Trail or hike through countless nature preserves. But it’s not just about the outdoors! Taste Washington’s renowned grapes and hops at any number of local wineries and craft breweries.

Mark Your Calendar!

URISA’s GIS-Pro & NWGIS 2015

October 18-22, 2015 • Spokane, Washington
Hexagon Geospatial helps you make sense of the dynamically changing world. Hexagon Geospatial provides geospatial technology products and platforms to our customers, channel partners, and Hexagon businesses.

CUSTOMERS. Our first priority is to deliver products and solutions that make our customers successful. We strive to deliver the right geospatial technology to our customers so that they can quickly sense, understand, decide and act as the earth changes.

TECHNOLOGY. We offer configurable, extensible, scalable and collaborative products and platforms that enable our customers to work easily and securely in the desktop, cloud and mobile environments.

PARTNERS. As an organization, we are partner-focused, working alongside our channels to ensure mutual success. We provide the right tools, products and support to our business partners so that they may successfully deliver sophisticated solutions for their customers.

TEAM. We recognize that the success of our business is the result of our highly motivated and collaborative staff. At Hexagon Geospatial, we celebrate a diverse set of people and talents; we respect people for who they are and the wealth of knowledge they can share.

HEXAGON. Hexagon Geospatial is part of Hexagon and plays a key role in Hexagon’s multi-industry focus, leveraging the entire portfolio for a wide variety of geospatial needs. Hexagon is a leading global IT company, providing solutions for Geospatial and Industrial design, measurement and visualization technologies.

Why Hexagon Geospatial?
As a part of the Hexagon family, Hexagon Geospatial can provide a full life cycle of geospatial solutions for our global user base. From airborne sensors operating in the skies, down to enterprise-connected field workers on the ground, Hexagon is the only one-stop provider for all geospatial needs for any organization across vertical industries.

As Hexagon Geospatial, our products comprise the geospatial software platform across our global partner network and other Hexagon companies, including the core geospatial technology stack within Intergraph’s vertical market solutions. From local, state and national mapping agencies, to transportation departments, engineering and utility companies and businesses serving agriculture and natural resource needs, a wide variety of organizations across the globe rely on our products.

With the release of the Hexagon Geospatial Power Portfolio 2015, we’ve harmonized our product offerings, making it even easier to identify the right technology you need to succeed. Simply put, the Power Portfolio organizes our products into suites, combining the best photogrammetry, remote sensing, GIS and cartography technologies available. The Producer, Provider and Platform suites contain the globally-recognized products that you rely on every day.

The Power Portfolio simplifies the way you think about geospatial data. The Producer Suite empowers you to collect, process, analyze and understand raw geospatial data, converting it into usable information. The Provider Suite allows management and data delivery to others. The Platform Suite provides the Power to Build custom geospatial solutions and deliver information through the development of a web, mobile, or smart solution.

At Hexagon Geospatial, we strive hard to constantly reinvent, delivering new ways to conceptualize the lifecycle of geospatial data. Our mission is to get you the tools that help you harness the continuous flow of data to solve the world’s problems. Whether for utilities, state and local governments or first responders, we will continue to deliver the right geospatial technology for organizations that need to be able to quickly sense, analyze, decide and act as the earth changes.

Synchronizing all geospatial needs and transforming multi-source content into actionable information – that’s shaping smart change!
URISA is pleased to announce the 2015 members of its Vanguard Cabinet. The Vanguard Cabinet (VC) is a URISA initiative (which debuted in 2011) 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 who represent the young membership of the organization. The Cabinet’s mission is to collaborate with URISA’s Board of Directors and Committees in creating and promoting programs and policies of benefit to young professionals.

Comprised entirely of passionate young members selected from different geospatial disciplines, the Cabinet aims to position URISA as the center of opportunities for ambitious young professionals who are committed to improving URISA and the geospatial profession via innovation, collaboration, networking, and professional development.

2015-2016 URISA Vanguard Cabinet Members:

Daniel Behnke, GISP - Data Transfer Solutions, Orlando, Florida

Yuriy Czoli - Development Seed, Toronto, Ontario Canada

Derreck Deason - WhoData.org, New Orleans, Louisiana

Carey-Lee Dixon – National Spatial Data Management Division, Kingston, Jamaica

Damian Graham, GISP - GE Capital, Chicago, Illinois

Kitty Hurley, GISP - State of Minnesota, Saint Paul, Minnesota

Each member serves a two-year term. Meet each member and learn more about VC activities here: [http://www.urisa.org/about-us/vanguard-cabinet/](http://www.urisa.org/about-us/vanguard-cabinet/)

Wendy Peloquin Named URISA Young Professional of the Year

URISA is pleased to announce that Wendy Peloquin, GISP has been named URISA’s Young Professional of the Year in recognition of her outstanding contributions as part of URISA’s Vanguard Cabinet. Wendy is a Senior Geospatial Analyst at GISi in Jacksonville, Florida and is a Certified GIS Professional (GISP). She notes, “Serving on the Vanguard Cabinet was an invaluable experience. I appreciate the opportunity to work with not only other passionate young professionals, but also leaders within the GIS community.”

An active and contributing member of numerous URISA committees and programs, Wendy leads a workgroup in URISA’s Professional Practice Division and serves as the Associate Program Chair for GIS-Pro and NWGIS 2015 (October 18-22, 2015 in Spokane, Washington). She’s also active locally in both the Georgia and Florida URISA Chapters. Congratulations!!

Cabinet members are selected through an application process, with a review by the Vanguard Steering Committee. The application process for 2016 Vanguard Cabinet members will open in September 2015.
Apply for a 2015 URISA ESIG™ Award!

Has your organization improved the delivery and quality of government services through the application of geospatial information technology? If so, that achievement should be recognized and shared with your peers. Nominate your organization for a prestigious URISA Exemplary Systems in Government (ESIG™) Award. Or convince a colleague to participate!

Why Participate?

"I believe the award has done two things for me professionally. The first relates to leadership. The award was a source of pride for my team and reinforced the team’s belief in my ability to pull all the pieces together to develop a product worthy of national recognition and their ability to be successful in their roles. The second relates to credibility. Many of the District’s senior leaders have little experience in GIS. However, many of these leaders are familiar with URISA. Receiving this award has reinforced their decision to entrust me with this large, complex project and has demonstrated that I can deliver despite the statistics related to failed and overly expensive IT projects." - Don Nehmer, Capital Program Business Manager, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, WI - SewerView, ESIG Enterprise Systems Category - Distinguished System

"By participating in the ESIG process we are able to demonstrate how GIS technology benefits the whole organization in a very broad scope. Winning the award also greatly increased “GIS awareness” in the organization. The project eventually received an internal “City Manager Award”, boosting the importance of GIS in the organization’s technology environment." - Nianwei Liu, GISP, Senior System Analyst, City of Charlotte, NC - Virtual Charlotte, ESIG Enterprise Systems Category Winner

"One of the most rewarding aspects of participating in the ESIG Awards process was the rare opportunity to formally acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our staff and regional partner agencies for their collaborative work. Recognition of their achievements by URISA’s respected community of GIS professionals and peers has provided quite a charge." - Eric Brandt, GISP, GIS Program Manager, Lane Council of Governments, OR - Regional Land Information Database (RLID), ESIG Enterprise Systems Category - Distinguished System

Winners will be recognized during the Awards Ceremony at GIS-Pro & NWGIS 2015 in Spokane, Washington. One person from each winning system will receive a complimentary full registration for the conference (Distinguished System winners will receive a discounted registration). ESIG award recipients will also have the opportunity to showcase their accomplishments in a conference session during the conference. Winners will receive additional recognition in URISA publications and an announcement of their accomplishment will be made to media representatives around the world.

In order for the ESIG™ Review Team to fairly evaluate each system, specific information (A-F below) must be included in your submission. When submitting this application, send it as an email attachment to URISA at info@urisa.org in PDF or Microsoft Word format. Include “ESIG™ Application” in the email subject field. Provide all requested information in your submission. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The application deadline is: May 1, 2015

A. System

1. Name of system and ESIG™ category for which you are applying (Enterprise System or Single Process System).

ESIG™ Award Categories:

- **Enterprise Systems**: Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of using information systems technology in a multi-department environment as part of an integrated process. These systems exemplify effective use of technology yielding widespread improvements in the process(es) and/or service(s) involved and/or cost savings to the organization.

- **Single Process Systems**: Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of applying information system technology to automate a specific SINGLE process or operation involving one department or sub-unit of an agency. The system application results in extended and/or improved government services that are more efficient and/or save money.

2. A letter from the executive administrator authorizing submission of the system application (letters must be signed and scanned).

3. One (1) page, or less, summary of what the system accomplishes and why it is exemplary.
4. Three “user testimonials”. These testimonials should include the title of the system, the person’s name, job title (if relevant), a statement of what specific ways the system improves their work and/or the work of their organization, and how frequently they use the system (testimonials may be signed and scanned).

B. Jurisdiction
1. Name of jurisdiction
2. Population served by the organization/agency
3. Annual total budget for jurisdiction
4. Name, title, and address of chief elected and/or appointed official
5. Name, title, address, telephone, FAX, and email for contact person for system

You must answer each of the following questions. Please cross-reference your responses to each of the topics/questions listed below. Be sure that your responses are clearly written and sufficiently comprehensive for reviewers to develop a clear understanding of the system. Responses should be in complete sentences and as brief as possible while communicating the necessary information. If appropriate, include graphics.

C. System Design
1. What motivated the system development?
2. What specific service or services was the system intended to improve?
3. What, if any, unexpected benefits did you achieve?
4. What system design problems were encountered?
5. What differentiates this system from other similar systems?

D. Implementation
1. What phases did you go through in developing the system?
2. Were there any modifications to the original system design? Why? What?

E. Organizational Impact
1. What user community does the system serve and how?
2. What are the ultimate decisions/operations/services being affected? If appropriate, provide a few examples including, but not limited to: screen input/output forms, paper products, or other descriptive graphics.
3. What were the quantitative and qualitative impacts of the system?
4. What effect has the system had on productivity?
5. What, if any, other impacts has the system had?
6. How did the system change the way business is conducted with and/or service delivered to clients? Give specific examples comparing the old way with the new.

F. System Resources
1. What are the system’s primary hardware components? Give a brief list or description of the hardware configuration supporting the system.
2. What are the system’s primary software components? Describe the primary software and, if a commercial package, any customizations required for the system.
3. What data does the system work with? List and briefly describe the database(s).
4. What staff resources were required to implement the system? (i.e., report approximate staff and consultant time as FTE’s)
5. Comment on anything unusual about the resources used to develop your system, such as data, software, personnel and financing.

Application Deadline: May 1, 2015

Join the exclusive list of ESIG™ Award winners and review previous winning submissions here:
http://www.urisa.org/awards/exemplary-systems-in-government/

If you’ve successfully improved the way in which government operates, through the use of geospatial information technology, you should apply for a 2015 URISA ESIG™ Award.

If you have any questions, contact URISA Headquarters at (847) 824-6300 or info@urisa.org
Esri
380 New York St, Redlands, CA 92373
Phone: (909) 793-2853
info@esri.com

Since 1969, Esri has been helping organizations map and model our world. Esri’s GIS software tools and methodologies enable them to effectively analyze and manage their geographic information and make better decisions. They are supported by our experienced and knowledgeable staff and extensive network of business partners and international distributors.

A full-service GIS company, Esri supports the implementation of GIS technology on the desktop, servers, online services, and mobile devices. These GIS solutions are flexible, customizable, and easy to use.

Esri software is used by hundreds of thousands of organizations who apply GIS to solve problems and make our world a better place to live. We pay close attention to our users to ensure they have the best tools possible to accomplish their missions. A comprehensive suite of training options offered worldwide helps our users fully leverage their GIS. Esri is a socially conscious business, actively supporting organizations involved in education, conservation, sustainable development, and humanitarian affairs.

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Hexagon Geospatial helps you make sense of the dynamically changing world. Hexagon Geospatial provides geospatial technology products and platforms to our customers, channel partners, and Hexagon businesses.

Cyclomedia Technology, Inc.
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Email: usa@cyclomedia.com
www.cyclomedia.com
www.thedrivingdutchman.com

Cyclomedia is the market leader in systematic imaging of large-scale environments from cities to complete countries. Cyclomedia’s smart imagery solution creates Cycloramas – 360-degree panoramic photos – with high accuracy, providing current and clear views of street-level environments.

The Cyclomedia recording system is like no other. It uses patented technology to determine the exact position and orientation of every picture taken. By creating a dense network of geometric street images, Cycloramas are always focused on the correct address or feature from multiple vantage points.

Our solution revolutionizes the way asset and property assessment is managed and reported. It reduces field visits and provides accurate feature measurements with convenient spot-checking. It simplifies maintenance and enables automated inventory and controlled processes. It also saves valuable resources while simplifying the decision-making process, improving operations and increasing efficiency.

We provide ready-made solutions throughout Europe, North America, and Asia. Our technology is widely used in government GIS, public safety, and security markets, as well as in construction, infrastructure management, and insurance.

We provide a full range of services related to 3D mobile mapping. Data is captured and delivered worldwide.

Our primary market segments include:
• Property Taxation, Appraisal, and Building Inspection
• Transportation and Infrastructure Management
• Public Safety and Homeland Security
• Engineering and Construction Planning

Cyclomedia offers the following licensed products:
• Cycloramas – Seamless, accurate 360° panoramas taken at street-level with our patented recording technology.
• Viewer Software
• GlobeSpotter – Our feature-rich web app for viewing Cycloramas that runs on any browser supporting Flash.
• GlobeSpotter for ArcGIS Desktop – The power of GlobeSpotter inside Esri’s leading GIS software.
• Hosting Solutions
• GlobeSpotter Cloud – Secure, scalable hosting service managed by Cyclomedia that’s free to customers.
• GlobeSpotter Server – Locally hosted option supporting all Cyclomedia’s content and software.
• Developer Tools
• GlobeSpotter API – Integrate GlobeSpotter components into your user’s existing business workflow.
• Panoramic Rendering Service – Extract pictures for reports and texture map buildings with Cycloramas.

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Silver Corporate Partners

Data Transfer Solutions
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Phone: (407) 382-5222
ailbaugh@dtsgis.com

Headquartered in Orlando, DTS is a leader in asset management, geographic information systems, and transportation planning. We specialize in creating solutions to help clients automate their worlds, reduce their workload and organize their data through customized technology.

DTS is comprised of seven divisions, each with its own scope of services. Often however, a single project spans several divisions before completion because we uniquely offer all the necessary cutting-edge services, integrated within one company.

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For over two decades, Blue Marble Geographics has been at the forefront of the GIS data processing software business. Pioneering work in geomatics and spatial data conversion quickly established this Maine-based company as a key player in the GIS software field. Today GIS professionals are turning to Blue Marble for Global Mapper a low cost, easy to use yet powerful GIS software tool that everyone can afford and use. Blue Marble is known for coordinate conversion and file format expertise and is the developer of Geographic Calculator, GeoCalc SDK, Global Mapper and Global Mapper SDK.

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info@connectednation.org

Connected Nation is a non-profit technology organization committed to bringing affordable high-speed Internet and broadband-enabled resources to all Americans. Connected Nation effectively raises the awareness of the value of broadband and related technologies by developing coalitions of influencers and enablers for improving technology access, adoption, and use. Connected Nation works with consumers, community leaders, states, technology providers, and foundations, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, to develop and implement technology expansion programs with core competencies centered on a mission to improve digital inclusion for people and places previously underserved or overlooked.

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Thomson Reuters is the world’s leading source of intelligent information for governments, businesses, and professionals, combining industry expertise with innovative technology to deliver critical information to leading decision makers. Our integrated Government Revenue Management (GRM) suite offers end-to-end software with services to ensure revenue through land and property tax administration. Meeting the needs of emerging economies, OpenTitleT is an affordable registry and cadastral tool with an all-inclusive approach to collecting, documenting, and recording the documentary and geographic information relating to property rights. At Thomson Reuters, our goal is to use state-of-the-art technology to develop and deliver sustainable tax and land administration solutions on time, within budget and configured to client requirements.

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Valtus Imagery Services provides best in class solutions for the storage, management and delivery of geospatial information in the form of ortho-imagery and elevation data through web delivery systems.

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2015 Partner Directory (continued)

providing efficient and cost effective Geospatial Solutions that meet the growing needs of public and private sector enterprises. Our mission is to help you consume the “Power of Place” with current technology standards and Applied Spatial Intelligence ©. eGIS offers a wealth of professional products and services including: Enterprise GIS Implementation, Application Development, Business Systems Integration and Geospatial Training and Support. eGIS is committed to customer satisfaction - Relationships Matter. Whether you need advice on your project or are looking for a relevant product or just have a technical question, contact us today.

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Phone: (407) 608-4186
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GeoPlanning Services, LLC of Orlando, FL was founded in early 2009 is a full service provider of geospatial tools and analysis to support urban planning, logistics, real estate and economic development organizations.

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GeoTechVision focuses on “Delivering Value through Innovative Solutions!” We have been assisting Caribbean Businesses, Agencies and Government Ministries to develop and effectively use spatial intelligence in critical decision making! We are very involved with establishing Geographic Information Systems, GPS and Mobility products and solutions, as well as marketing our own “GeO” brand tablet. We consider Human Capacity Building as very critical - right from the classroom to the work environment. Hence our Classroom Management Solution and our strong focus on Training and Development in all our engagements. Our other consulting services include Project Management, Information Security Advisory, Process Audit and Assurance, Business Analysis and Enterprise GIS solution planning and Implementation.

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rjhole@northrivergeographic.com
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Contact: Colin Hobson
Open Spatial is a multi-national company delivering geospatial solutions based on Oracle and Autodesk technologies. Recognized for delivering applications to government and utility sectors, our solutions are based on internationally accepted open standards and world-class best practices. Open Spatial offers innovative spatial infrastructure solutions for information about URISA Partnership, please visit:
http://www.urisa.org/about-us/become-a-urisa-partner/ or contact Wendy Nelson at URISA Headquarters.

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to managing spatial data from survey through to design, construction and ongoing spatial data management. Our clients efficiently manage cadastre, water, wastewater, stormwater, roads, electric and fiber networks.

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Planning Communities, LLC provides a wide range of multi-disciplinary planning services for local, state and federal agencies, tribal nations and community organizations. Community, transportation, environmental and GIS services include local/regional planning, visioning/scenario planning, land use, socioeconomic, market and cost-benefit analysis, community asset mapping, tool/application support and development, process improvement/integration, consensus-building and facilitation.

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Temporal Geo Analytics, Inc. (TGA) is a Land Use and Environmental Litigation consulting firm. We have expertise in using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to develop, manage, and distribute complex spatial databases, as well as creating the presentation-quality visualizations and graphics needed for natural resource litigation and land use projects.

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Using GIS, we transform complex issues into defensible, authoritative, and easily understood maps and graphics. Our clientele consists primarily of natural resource and environmental attorneys, oil and gas companies, mining companies, and land developers.

TGA specializes in the analysis of multifaceted land use issues and environmental impacts over time. TGA is expert at acquiring and integrating historic and current spatial data to build the critical information you need to represent your case.

Using GIS, we transform complex issues into defensible, authoritative, and easily understood maps and graphics. Our clientele consists primarily of natural resource and environmental attorneys, oil and gas companies, mining companies, and land developers.

Leveraging GIS for Environmental, Natural Resource, and Land Use Planning is our core expertise. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) integrate and overlay unlimited layers of themed spatial and tabular data to illustrate and reveal patterns, context, and the intrinsic qualities of any location. A GIS is also a powerful analysis tool capable of querying data for location and its relationship to overall context. At TGA, we have an intimate understanding of these tools and their capabilities.

Working with you and other experts, we build a completely defensible, dynamic analysis data platform with interactive visualizations and related tables that clearly represent the qualities of your project and its relationship to larger political, environmental, and regional contexts.

Wellar Consulting
Ottawa, ON Canada
Phone: (613) 728-3483
wellarb@uottawa.ca

Wellar Consulting services include design and evaluation of education and training courses and curricula for GISystems and GIScience programs; advice and workshops on the development of quantitative measures to assess information system and transportation system performance; critical reviews of IS and GIS RFPs; seminars on the safety and security aspects of interdependent infrastructures; professional opinion on land use planning and zoning issues; and, expert opinion on liability for safety-related incidents involving pedestrians, cyclists, and motor vehicle operators.

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Mark Your Calendar!

**March 2-5, 2015**
GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**June 22-26, 2015**
URISA Leadership Academy
Denver, Colorado

**September 1-3, 2015**
GIS in Transit Conference
Washington, DC

**October 18-22, 2015**
URISA's GIS-Pro & NWGIS 2015
Spokane, Washington

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**RFP Distribution**

URISA members, remember that URISA will distribute your RFP/RFQ announcements to our corporate and business members at no charge. Simply email your announcement to info@urisa.org (Subject: RFP Service) and we’ll send it right out for you!

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**THE GIS PROFESSIONAL**

A publication of URISA – Fostering Excellence in GIS.

URISA is a non-profit professional and educational association that promotes the effective and ethical use of spatial information and information technologies for the understanding and management of urban and regional systems. It is a multidisciplinary association where professionals from all parts of the spatial data community can come together and share concerns and ideas.

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