

Review of 2017 Events:

A big thank you to both Buck Defee and Kathrine Cargo for their presentations at our final Lunch & Learn of 2017. We look forward to helping enact the URISA One Initiative during the next year.

GISCI Releases Practice Exam 8/3/17 (GIS Certification Institute) - GISCI has produced its first Practice Exam, designed to provide 50 sample questions based on most of the KSAs listed in our Exam Blueprint. The practice exam is available for download [here](#). We hope that this will be the first of several practice exams GISCI will provide to assist exam candidates in adequately preparing to sit for the Geospatial Core Technical Knowledge Exam.

Thanks also to the 2017 LaURISA Board Members for their time and efforts in helping continue the LaURISA mission and hosting events throughout the past year. Those of you who attended the 2017 events, including workshops and Lunch & Learns, can soon find the scanned Sign-In Sheets, used to document GISP points, [here](#). Sign-in Sheets will be posted by the end of the calendar year. LaURISA thanks you for your interest and attendance and hopes to see you at some of next years' events.

Would you like to give a LaURISA presentation, or host a workshop next year? The LaURISA Board is currently looking for presenters for our 2018 Lunch & Learn series. If you are interested in presenting or have an idea you'd like to see presented, please let us know by emailing the Board at LouisianaChapterURISA@gmail.com.



Other Items of Importance:

Latest URISA Digest – Read about all the activity happening for URISA Members [here](#). Shouldn't you be a URISA member too?

The ever popular **GIS Leadership Academy Program** will be offered twice in 2018. Members will learn five days of targeted GIS leadership training, taught by GIS leaders. The Academy will take place first, in Columbus, Ohio April 9-13, 2018 and again in Salt Lake City, Utah July 23-27, 2018. Details can be found [here](#). Do you have a question about the Academy Program? John Adams, a 2016 Program graduate, and currently of the Orleans Parish Communication District, would be happy to answer them. Please send inquiries to jadams@911nola.org.

The 5th Biennial State of the Coast Conference will take place May 30 through June 1, 2018 in New Orleans. SOC18 is currently accepting Abstracts for Oral and Poster Presentations. The Program Committee is especially interested in submittals focused on the Chenier Plain, Ecosystem Science, Protection in Practice, Human Dimensions and Our Future Coast, although all other themes and topics are very welcome and also will be included in the program. Abstracts are due January 5, 2018 and can be submitted [here](#).
