

NYS GIS Association Education Committee Meeting Minutes

24 April 2013 | 9:00 – 9:40 a.m. | Conference Call

Attendees: Eileen Allen, Ann Deakin, Susan Hoskins, Mike Jabot, Jon Little, Sue Nixon, Amy Work

1. **NYGeoCon 2013.** Sue sent out an e-mail to the group summarizing the Conference Committee's response to the Education Committee's suggestions. Based on that and some discussion of the speed networking session at the GIS-SIG Conference, Ann will write up a proposal of sorts for the Conference Committee to decide what exactly we should begin to organize. Regardless of what we do, the Education Committee will use the Higher Ed e-mail list to suggest strategies to get students to attend. Ann and Jon, for example, will start announcing it in classes for students we know will be back in the Fall, and perhaps coordinate in transportation and lodging. Sue N. pointed out that there is a concerted effort to draw more students.
2. **NYS Esri K-12 License.** Ann mentioned that she shared the program with a few folks at the GIS-SIG conference and that the web pages are just about complete. Jim Kernan of SUNY Geneseo volunteered to help. Alex plans to start up regular meetings of the Implementation Team once the semester ends.
3. **NYS K-12 Resources.** Susan H. and Amy sent an e-mail around to the Committee soliciting input for resources to K-12 educators:
 - List 5 websites you would recommend to NY educators or students (curriculum, data source, fun, etc.) for GIS, GPS or remote sensing.
 - Suggest 5 resources you consider important to NYS K-12 geospatial education
 - Please provide any names who you think are K-12 geospatial education advocates who we might want to include in a larger conversation.

If you haven't gotten back to them, there's still time. (This information could eventually be linked to the NYS Esri K-12 License web page.)

4. **Recruiting Strategies for Membership Committee.** In response to Razy Kased's e-mail regarding membership, the following were suggested as possible strategies for increasing membership among the Education community:
 - Susan H. suggested adding a link to the Association on our respective education web pages.
 - Jon will write an article for the New York Geographic Alliance (NYGA) Newsletter relating the value of membership. Ann will forward materials put together by Mike Zoltek and the Marketing Committee for inclusion in his article.
 - Eileen suggested an incentive for students to sign up, perhaps along the lines of CNY ASPRS and the national-level organization of ASPRS. Could student membership in the NYS GIS Association be a stepping stone for membership in a national organization?

- Mike suggested making it a course requirement for students. Ann and Jon both thought that would be reasonable for their 2nd semester courses rather than their introductory courses.
- There was further discussion on the possibility of a geospatial fraternity for students, perhaps affiliated with or similar to the Geography fraternity, GTU (Gamma Theta Upsilon).

Ann will forward these suggestions to Razy and the Membership Committee.

5. **Summer Camps in NYS with a Geospatial Component.** Jon solicited information on this and heard back from some folks at Esri. Their response was focused more on the educator side with links to esriurl.com/mappingwithago and edcommunity.esri.com/blog. In this vein, Susan H. recommended the NCGE/Esri webinars. Jon will also write an article for the NYGA Newsletter soliciting information on summer camps in NYS that have a geospatial component. Both Susan H. and Jon shared the significant role Andy Mendola of Pictometry has played in terms of K-12 support. Ann shared the Committee's interest in supporting such camps at the Board meeting last week and reported that Bruce Oswald, Past President of the NYS GIS Association, expressed enthusiasm for financial support of such an effort. Sometime over the summer, Ann will draft a brief RFP for the Committee to review.
6. **Flickr Site for Adopt-A-Pixel.** Susan H. shared the Flickr website for the LDCM Adopt-a-Pixel pilot study: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/landsat-adopt-a-pixel>. NASA will support the website for at least a year while the program, web app and smartphone app are developed. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or feedback, please let Susan know.
7. **Balloon Mapping Kit.** Sue N. is interested in pursuing balloon mapping for the purpose of a possible student project on mapping tree canopies. Both Susan H. and Eileen will share information they have on the topic. Ann is interested, too, as she has a student who would like to do something like that as part of her project.

Review of Action Items from 27 March 2013 Meeting:

- Amy will pursue possible members based on her K-12 contacts. **Ongoing**
- Alex will continue to work on the NYS GIS K-12 Consortium MailChimp template. **Ongoing**
- ~~Susan H. will keep us apprised of the NASA Adopt a Pixel program. **Done.**~~
- Ann will start an e-mail discussion of Alan Leidner's suggestion for NYS GIS internships. **Not done, deferred to May.**
- ~~Ann will introduce to the Board the idea of an annual RFP for camps and institutes promoting geospatial education. **Done.**~~
- ~~Susan H. and Amy will meet to further discussion of a NYS Forum for GIS Applications in Education. **Done.** They are compiling a list of resources.~~
- Jon will endeavor to gather information regarding camps/institutes with a geospatial component through NYGA. **Ongoing.** See item 5, above.

- ~~• Ann will follow up with Susan N. regarding the Conference Committee's reaction to our suggestions/ideas for keeping the cost down for students and the Birds of a Feather session. **Done.** See item 1, above.~~
- Ann will follow up with Bruce Oswald regarding the career panel to see how we want to proceed with that. **Not done, deferred to week of 4/29.**

Action Items for May

- Ann will submit a brief proposal to Sue N. regarding the Education Committee's commitment to NYGeoCon 2013 in time for her meeting with the Conference Committee on 4/26.
- Ann will set up a Doodle poll for the May meeting.

Long Term Action Items

- Ann will write a brief RFP for organizations conducting NYS summer camps for students with a geospatial component.
- Ann, Eileen and Rich will spearhead the Committee's sponsorship of the career panel for NYGeoCon 2013.
- Arrange for Andy Mendola of Pictometry to join us on one of our conference calls to talk about their K-12 efforts.