

## NYS GIS Association Education Committee Meeting Minutes

14 August 2014 | 2:00 – 3:12 p.m. | Conference Call

**Attendees:** Alex Chaucer, Ann Deakin, Susan Hoskins, Mike Jabot, Lisa Matthias-Wiza, Andy Mendola, Rich Quodomine, Pete Walsemann

- Ann included the New Hampshire Extension webinar, “Teachers, start your mapping!” (8/19/2014 from 11:00 AM to Noon, <https://learn.extension.org/events/1678>) in the monthly updates in addition to the following as content for the Esri NYS K-12 GIS web page at the Association web site:
  - Link to Esri UC videos on how elementary schools are using GIS.
  - Link to Joseph Kerski’s essay on using ArcGIS Online for student presentations
  - Link to the *Geospatial World Magazine* July 2014 interview with Jack Dangermond, I want GIS to be as easy to use as iPhone.”
  - NCGE/NSSS webinar: “Sparking Curiosity – Geography, C3 Framework and the Inquiry Arc” (9/3/2014, 8:00 – 9:00 PM EDT, <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6527190664680579329>)
  - NCGE/Esri webinar: “ArcGIS Online, ConnectED & GeoMentors – A Beautiful Friendship.” (9/10/2014 8:00 – 9:00 PM EDT, <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2004659646104720130>)
- Andy had a conference call with Sue Nixson and the CUNY Public Health program on Monday
  - They plan on becoming a sustaining academic member of the Association and coordinating closely with GISMO
- Susan’s abstract was submitted to PECORA
- Andy spoke at a STEM luncheon. He presented to STEM teachers along with some engineering firms, Harris Electronics, Pathfinder, etc. He got great feedback from most of the attendees. Andy will be working with some teachers at Webster High School. The NYS DEC representative, Betsy Ukeritis, state that we don’t do enough in NYS to support K-12 folks trying to get involved.
- Susan reported that the NYGA GeoFest will be held on 10/18/14 in Rochester at MCC. Tim McDonnell is looking for people to do workshops as part of that. Ann will add this to the items that are added to the web page.
- Susan, Mike and Alex participated in the NYGA Waterways Conference.
- Mike worked with the Erie 2 BOCES Superintendent to get the word out to those schools regarding access to Esri products. He continues to work with Monroe BOCES and their Science Education group. Ann asked whether Jon Little is also involved with the Monroe County K-12 groups.
- Susan is piloting the new Rockets to the Rescue 4H national project. Susan sees this a great connection between remote sensing and the aerospace industry. For more information, follow this link: <http://www.4-h.org/nysd/>

- Rich shared that he is unable to attend the IGU Regional Conference in Poland due to funding constraints.
- Ann will send an e-mail announcement out to the Education distribution list on the upcoming GeoTech Center webinar.
- Andy reported making a connection with Buffy Quinn of Onondaga Community College' Physical Sciences program. She is using geospatial technology in her Natural Hazards & Disasters course.
- Susan will set up a spreadsheet with all our contact information to make sure everything is current.
- Pete is looking forward to his course, GIS 150, starting up this fall. This is the GIS course he teaches at Carthage High School, which is cross registered at Jefferson Community College.
- Still no word from SUNY Geneseo regarding their logo and other promotional information that is part of their sustaining academic membership. Andy will contact Mary Kuhn, the Geography department secretary.
- Based on the poll Susan sent out, the second Wednesday of each month will be the standing meeting time.
  - **Next month's meeting will be on September 10 at 10 a.m. Wednesday.**
- Alex reiterated the UAV implications for the geospatial industry. Any use beyond that of a hobbyist would be considered illegal by the FAA, even for use in teaching. For more information on the consortium of schools participating in this type of research see the following website.
  - NUAIR: <http://nuairalliance.org/>
  - Rich shared the following link to Directions Magazine's webinar, "Operating UAVs in U.S. Airspace – the Legal Implications." <http://www.directionsmag.com/webinars/register/operating-uavs-in-u.s.-airspacethe-legal-implications/411368>
- Lisa announced that as of January 2015 there will be no GIS program at ECC. There will still be several courses taught as the Construction Management Engineering Technology, Environmental Science, and Electrical Engineering programs require it. Lisa is teaching one of the courses online.
  - It was generally agreed that partnering with other departments is very important and might be the way to instill geospatial as a key component of Community College's infrastructure. Marketing is, of course, another big part of the puzzle. As Alex pointed out, programs can't survive without students being enrolled in them.
  - Alex reminded us that Fulton-Montgomery Community College's program is also defunct, as is Niagara County Community College's.
  - There was some speculation on whether IAGT is still active, given the success Cayuga Community College continues to have.
  - Pete asked about what we see as exit vocations for those graduating with a 2-year degree. There may be opportunities for field work and data collection. Pete is working to implement an early college experience by targeting specific sectors and industries. Lisa found that one of the challenges

to students with an associates degree from ECC was competing with SUNY Buffalo students who advanced degrees. Rich suggested that associates degree graduates may need to be more mobile. Susan pointed out the needs of a local industry can play into the vibrancy of a program. Similarly, Alex mentioned DACum (Designing A Curriculum). Andy will contact Scott Jeffries at Baltimore County Community College for his thoughts as he has a 100% placement rate for his graduates.