

# NYS GIS Association Education Committee Meeting Minutes

20 May 2015 | 11:00 – 11:59 a.m. | Conference Call

**Attendees:** Alex Chaucer, Ann Deakin, Susan Hoskins, Mike Jabot, Jonathan Little, Andy Mendola, Dave Stern, Pete Walsemann

1. General discussion of the 4-H retreat that Susan and Mike participated in.
2. Andy asked Pete about Sodus Rotary Project for use in Sam Wear's blog. Pete reported that the grant opportunity has been postponed to the future – possibly next year.
3. Jonathan reported that GeoTech Consortium of Western New York (GTCWNY), Monroe Community College (MCC), and the New York Geographic Alliance (NYGA) will be hosting a two day geospatial professional development workshop on August 19(8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.) and 20 (8:30 a.m. – Noon) at MCC for high school teachers. With a maximum participation of 10 to 12, 8 have already registered. This summer's group of high school teachers will be a part of Cohort 1. Each cohort will complete the following:
  - a. attend the two day summer workshop
  - b. integrate a ~160 minute GIS activity into their classroom in the Fall. An informal observation will occur per the grant.
  - c. attend one or two after-school professional development sessions in the fall.

All participants successfully completing the program will receive a small stipend (TBA). A technology tool (e.g., tablet) may also be provided as funds permit.

4. Discussion on what can be done to increase student attendance at the NY GeoCon.
  - a. Perhaps lightning talks, panels/sessions geared toward students.
  - b. It was acknowledged that perhaps the biggest challenge is to get them out the door... unwillingness to miss classes and spend money.
  - c. Jon suggested that perhaps a grant proposal could be written for student stipends.
  - d. Alex recommended a session on the GIS profession and GIS certification, similar to what was held at NEARC at UMass-Amherst.
  - e. Given that the latest member count is 614 (one of the largest, if not the largest, state GIS associations in the country), we should be able to garner financial support for students. Pete suggested giving members and companies attending an option to underwrite student conference attendance.
  - f. Dave suggested student chapters of the NYS GIS Association. Student participation on the Committee would extend perhaps from September to April. Perhaps the Association could underwrite the registration for these student representatives.
    - i. Andy, Susan, Ann, Eileen, and Alex will meet to establish a short list of expectations for student representatives and talk about recruiting 2 to 3 students for this Fall.
  - g. Alex brought of the NYS GIS Association Sustaining Academic Institution effort, which does include one student registration at either the Summit or the GeoCon. Ann will resend flyer to everyone.

## 5. Individual Reports

- a. Pete Walsemann is taking a 5-course sequence through DelMar for QGIS certification. It's \$25 per course. You don't have to have a Facebook account.
- b. Dave is working with SUNY Farmingdale, as they have a Science, Technology & Society program and are now including GIS in their curriculum.
- c. Dave was wondering whether anything had happened with regard to GIS as part of the SUNY Pathways. There doesn't appear to be much happening on this front as many SUNY campuses are fighting to just to keep science courses, in general, as part of the general education curriculum.
- d. June is Susan's busy month with workshops and activities. They will be taking their workshops on the road to St. Lawrence and Oneida Counties and New York City. Susan reported that students from Ulster and Broome Counties will be presenting at the Esri EduC.
- e. Andy is conducting a 4 hour workshop at the GeoEd '15 conference Louisville, KY. He will also be participating in the education round table. Jonathan attending as well.
- f. Andy asked if anyone had uploaded any materials to the FTP site. Mike is working on that.
- g. Alex announced the State of the Map Conference Alex at the UN. Today is the last day to register: [stateofthemap.us](http://stateofthemap.us)

6. June meeting date. June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, or 26<sup>th</sup>. Susan will send out a Doodle poll.