

NYS GIS Association Education Committee

SUBJECT: Education Committee Summary

DATE: 21 June 2011

LOCATION: Conference Call

The teleconference meeting began at 11:00 a.m. and ended 11:53 a.m.

Meeting Purpose

Panel for NEARC, Update on ESRI K-12 Statewide Site License (Alex, Amy), TwiST support (Ann)

Attendance

Alex Chaucer, Ann Deakin, Susan Hoskins, Bob Jones, Rich Quodomine, Amy Work

Panels at NEARC

- Ann sent out a draft of the Conference panel abstract prior to the meeting for discussion.
- Rich has lined up Eric Newman of Waypoint Technology and Larry Harman, tentatively, for the Conference panel and Lara Bryant of Keene State College for the Educators panel. Ann has lined up Jim Daly of Suffolk County for the Conference panel.
- Amy is going to contact Ann Johnson and Phil Davis of the GeoTech Center as possible panelists.
- Other possible panelists include Katherine Meierdiercks of Siena College and John Van Hoesen of Green Mountain College.
- Revisions to the Conference panel abstract were discussed. Ann will revise and circulate for review by the Committee prior to the 13 July deadline.
- Ann solicited input for the Education panel abstract.
 - Susan H. observed that the ASPRS Ten-Year Industry Forecast and other models would be helpful in framing the discussion. She also recommended the K-12 Challenge Questions that were posed to the geospatial community at the NASA HiGETT (High School Integrated Geospatial Education and Technology Training) exploration meeting in April 2011. Both she and Amy attended. Susan e-mailed a summary of the Challenge Questions, which follows these minutes.
 - Rich acknowledged the importance of technical skills in the education process, but would like to have the panelists address the critical “soft skills.” He cited a course offered at UB that teaches cultural awareness when working with international colleagues. Alex agreed, noting that the Department of Labor’s Geospatial Competency Model includes such skills – problem-solving, teamwork, etc.
 - The importance of student participation in research and applied projects was stated, as was the theme of “Return-on-Investment” at the personal or individual level.
- Ann will send out a draft of the Education panel abstract to the Committee for review prior to submission by the 30 June deadline.

ESRI Statewide K-12 Site License

- Amy was able to chat with Charlie Fitzpatrick at T3G last week about the NYS proposal. The contract is at NYIT.

- Alex was able to talk to Chris French at the Summit. He also reported that Darren from NYIT was able to provide some guidance regarding the use of teacher training centers. He'd like to see what other states have done, how their implementation is working, including the roll-out, training, assessment, etc.
- Alex and Amy are looking to add more meat to the bones of the Implementation Plan, which is posted on Google Docs.
- Alex, Amy and Ann will meet following the Education Committee meeting to discuss the latest on the effort to bring an Esri Statewide K-12 Site License to NYS.

TwIST Support

- Ann stated that the Association will be able to determine how much support can be provided for TwIST following a review of the Summit's financial outcome.

Other

- Amy was one of the instructors at the Esri T3G Institute last week (June 12 - 17) in Redlands, and encouraged everyone to participate the next time around if able. This year was the 3rd annual "train the trainer" or "Teachers Teaching Teachers GIS" institute. There were a number of participants from NYS there this year, so we should keep that momentum going for next year. She thought the application for next year might be out in August with a deadline sometime later in the Fall.
- Alex attended WhereCampDC 2011 (June 10 - 11) and shared a great Ignite Spatial presentation titled Old Weather by Javier de la Torre <<http://www.wherecampdc.org/2011/04/friday-ignite-spatial/>>
- Alex also reported on the NYS Geospatial Summit at Welch-Allyn Lodge last week (June 15 - 16). He and Rich gave the Education Committee report at the Association meeting.
- Susan H. reported that the New York Geographic Alliance will be conducting a survey on the perception of the status of GIS and remote sensing in K-12. The survey will be in the form of in-person interviews. If anyone is interested in participating, she has the contact information.

Next Meeting

- Ann will send out a Doodle request for July meeting.

Geospatial Technology and K-12 Education
NASA HiGETT (High School Integrated Geospatial Education and Technology Training) Meeting
April 2011

Challenge Questions

"How might we overcome IT obstacles in geospatial education?"

"What are all the ways to demonstrate the worth of this subject?"

"How might we demonstrate the connection between geospatial technology & other subjects?"

"How might we leverage NASA resources to overcome obstacles?"

"How might we build community to sustain geospatial education for teens?"

"In what ways can we engage teens in geospatial technology?"

- 13 & 14 yrs?
- 15-17 yrs?

"How might we build enthusiasm for geospatial education among educators?"

- High school & junior high teachers?
- Informal educators?
- Pre-service educators?"

"How might we encourage corporate involvement in geospatial education?"

"How do we demonstrate that RS/GIS is something worth spending learning dollars on?"

"What are all the ways to demonstrate program effectiveness?"