

NYS GIS Association Education Committee

SUBJECT: Education Committee Meeting Summary

DATE: 30 September 2011

LOCATION: Conference Call

The teleconference meeting began at 10:02 a.m. and ended at 10:47 p.m.

Meeting Purpose

- Brainstorm topics and content of the next webinar
- Update on ESRI K-12 Statewide Site License
- Update on NEARC panels

Attendance

Ann Deakin, Susan Nixon, Rich Quodomine, Amy Work

Webinar Brainstorming

- The Committee agreed to focus the next webinar on how to use the U.S. Census Bureau's ACS (American Community Survey) data.
- We liked the idea of possibly trying to get Bob Scardamalia to be our presenter. Bruce Oswald suggested him at the August BoD meeting. Even though Bob is retired, he might be willing to come out of retirement to share his expertise. Ann will ask Bruce to extend the invitation.
- Susan pointed out that timing would be important to garner participation. If the webinar could be offered shortly after the release of the data, we could really capitalize on the PR associated with the release.
- We would like to schedule the webinar in mid to late January, given the anticipated 12/22/2011 release of the 2006 - 2010 ACS 5-year estimates. Rich provided much of the background on this for us.
 - <http://blogs.census.gov/censusblog/2011/09/American-community-survey-takes-our-nations-demographic-pulse-each-year.html>
- In terms of the format of the webinar, the Committee agreed that it should begin with an introduction to the ACS, including its limitations and examples of how it might be used by a variety of organizations. A step-by-step approach, similar to what Barb Tewksbury did in the LiDAR webinar, would follow the introduction. The first step would be an explanation of how to extract the data. The remainder of the webinar would be devoted to working with the data.
 - Susan recommended breaks for questions along the way that would be used to divide the presentation into segments so that those who already know about ACS data and how to extract it could join the webinar when the analysis segment started.
 - The presenter (whether it's Bob Scardamalia or some other expert) would, of course, be asked for his/her ideas regarding the format and content of the webinar.
- An hour and a half seemed to be a reasonable length of time for a webinar as long as there's an interactive component. If not, then the webinar should be limited to an hour. Although not discussed in the meeting, Amy and Ann discussed via e-mail (10/3/2011) that the webinar could be delivered in 2 parts on 2 different days.

- For now, the group would like to follow the same, general model for delivering the webinar as was used for the LiDAR webinar. The biggest change will be adding at least 1 more person to provide troubleshooting, particularly for individual participants unable to access the webinar.
- Ann pointed out that she will be able to work on the webinar some, but not to the extent she did this past spring. We'll need to get at least 1 and preferably 2 volunteers to help. This led to a request to the Committee to recruit more members willing to play an active role in achieving our goals.

ESRI K-12 NY Statewide Site License

- No progress has been made toward implementation at this point. Ann will follow up with Darren at NYIT to see whether our listserv announcement has been approved.
- Amy would like to see a web page up to start gathering information for the implementation, but we need to wait for the PR go-ahead from NYIT.
- Ann will schedule a meeting with Amy and Alex (as soon as Alex's office is dry).

NEARC Panel Update

- Ann has contacted all the participants to confirm their participation. She has also contacted Larry Spraker to replace Jim Daly on the conference panel with Frank Winters. Larry has kindly taken care of that for us.
- The Committee expressed its gratitude to Rich for moderating both panels.

Other

- Ann requested that we all do a bit of recruiting to increase the size of the Education Committee. There are too few people to accomplish all that is expected of the Committee.
- Amy suggested the 3rd webinar focus more on the K-12 audience rather than the professionals. Ann agreed, given the signing of the ESRI NYS K-12 Site License, it would make sense to target K-12 for a training session. Indeed, that need to bridge the gap between K-12 and the workplace is why some members signed up for the Education Committee in the first place. In the past, the Board has stated the need for educating professionals first, but this may be a way to increase our ranks in the K-12 arena and extend the PR of the ESRI site license success.
- Susan Hoskins reported via e-mail on the NCGE webinar Charlie Fitzpatrick (ESRI) e-mailed us about. She found it very informative and engaging. She also reported that the 4H-ers attending the ESRI conference came back very excited about ArcGIS Online.

Next Meeting

- Ann will send out a Doodle request for a late October/early November meeting.