

A Lively Discussion of GIS in the Practice of Institutional Research
Association for Institutional Research Forum
Wednesday, May 17, 2006, 1:50 pm - 2:30 pm

Table Topic Facilitator

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Discussion Questions

These questions should be considered a place to start. There is limited time for the discussion, so participants will be encouraged to select questions that they are most interested in discussing or to suggest their own questions.

GIS in Institutional Research - General Uses

- What kind of geographic information do you analyze at your institution? Are you using GIS to make maps or perform analysis?

GIS Resources on Campus/Software/Licenses

- How much support is there for using GIS for institutional research purposes? What kinds of resources have been allocated to using GIS? Do you have access to GIS software through campus-wide site licenses?
- Which GIS packages are you using (ArcGIS Desktop, BusinessMAP, others)? Which extensions (if any) do you use?
- Do you present GIS maps or data layers on your website? If so, how?
- What kind of challenges have you encountered in either using GIS or considering its use in institutional research at your institution?

GIS Data Management and Data Display

- What sources do you use for GIS data? How do you manage your GIS data?
- Do you geocode data? If so, do you geocode in-house or send to a geocoding service?
- What projections do you use to display your data?
- Do you produce maps with normalized data?

Assessment and GIS in the Curriculum

- Is your office involved in assessing the use of GIS in the curriculum or the assessment of spatial reasoning?

GIS Resources

Listservs/Bulletin Boards

GIS in IR Listserv

Association for Institutional Research

E-mail Chris Call - ccall@garnet.acns.fsu.edu

Or Jenni Minner - minnerj@evergreen.edu

User Forums at ESRI

<http://support.esri.com/index.cfm?fa=forums.gateway>

You can select forums such as Education or Address Management

The Evergreen State College has a GIS Users Group listserv and a GIS Users Bulletin Board which have been set up for the Evergreen community.

Websites

Color Brewer

A website to assist with creating accessible maps.

www.colorbrewer.org

ESRI website

Look particularly at the Training and Events page for training information and for information about the annual ESRI Education User Conference and International Users Conference. Your local ESRI regional office can also be a resource for open houses.

www.esri.com

ESRI - GIS for Higher Education

GIS information and updates specific to Higher Education

www.esri.com/industries/university/user-showcase/case-studies.html

To download Census Tiger Lines files go here on the ESRI website:

http://www.esri.com/data/download/census2000_tigerline/

and then navigate to Preview and Download on left navigation. This used to be on the geography network website.

The Evergreen State College

Data Maps on Institutional Research website

www.evergreen.edu/institutionalresearch/maps.htm

The Evergreen State College

Mapping - Library website

www.evergreen.edu/library/govdocs/quickref/mapping.html

The Evergreen State College

Evergreen Center for Geographic Information Systems

<http://gis.evergreen.edu/>

Geography Network

You can find free shape file downloads and maps here.

www.geographynetwork.com/

Harvard Design School GIS Information

This is a great information source on cartography, normalizing data, etc.

www.gsd.harvard.edu/gis/manual/

Open Geospatial Consortium

Consortium that works to create open software applications for geographic information systems (GIS) and other technologies

www.opengeospatial.org/

Books and Articles

Enhancing Survey Research Using with Geographic Information: Contributions of GIS to Survey Design, Analysis, and Reporting. White paper by David Blough.

www.uwsa.edu/budplan/market/papers/Blough_AIR2002.pdf

Ormsby, Tim, Eileen Napoleon, Robert Burke, et al. 2004. *Getting to Know Arc View GIS*. Redlands: ESRI Press.

Teodorescu, Daniel. January 2004. *Using Geographic Information Systems in Institutional Research: New Directions for Institutional Research*, No. 120.