TUgis
Annual Geographic Information Sciences Conference

TUgis 2012 Call for Presentations

Introduction

The Towson University Department of Geography and Environmental Planning is pleased to announce our 25th Annual Geographic Information Sciences Conference. **TUgis 2012** will be held on Monday, March 19 and Tuesday, March 20, 2012 on the Towson University campus. The conference emphasizes information sharing, or technology transfer, by anyone currently using GIS and anyone considering using GIS. Over 600 representatives from government agencies, businesses, and academic institutions are expected to attend **TUgis 2012**. The keynote speakers for **TUgis 2012** include:

- Jack Dangermond, President, ESRI
- To be announced.

TUgis 2012 continues a tradition of offering an exceptional education and networking value to GIS practitioners. Conference features include:

- Presentations in plenary, concurrent, and poster sessions;
- Mini-workshops and panel sessions on current GIS topics;
- Exhibit area with up to 50 exhibitors;
- Map design competition;
- Job mart;
- Special sessions for K-12 teachers;
- Post-conference workshops on several current GIS topics'

We are currently seeking proposals for presentations at **TUgis 2012** (including proposals for a Student Paper Competition). Preference will be given to presentations related to the 2012 conference theme, "Celebrating 25 Years of Service to the Mid-Atlantic Geospatial Community." Presentations on other topics related to GIS will also be considered. Proposals will be judged on their value and relevance to the conference program. Written papers are not required (except for the Student Paper Competition). However, presenters will be expected to develop a high-quality PowerPoint presentation. The deadline for receipt of proposals is Friday, January 27, 2012. Notification of acceptance will be sent by e-mail prior to Friday, February 3, 2012.

Presentation Format

Concurrent Sessions consist of three, individual presentations on a related topic. Each presenter is allotted 30 minutes for his/her presentation with 20-25 minutes to speak, plus 5-10 minutes for questions from the audience. *Mini Workshops and Panel Sessions* focus on a specific application or topic and may be organized as an individual 90-minute presentation, two 45-minute presentations, or three 30-minute presentations. The primary presenter is responsible for organizing and arranging the presentations.

Poster Sessions present visual material in a casual setting that offers presenters an opportunity to answer questions about their posters. Live software demonstrations will also be considered for a Poster Session.

Please refer to the list below of suggested topics as a guide and be sure to indicate the type of session format that best suits your proposed presentation. Please note that "sales presentations" are not appropriate for TUgis concurrent sessions, mini workshops, and panel sessions. Rather, we encourage vendors of GIS products to demonstrate their products and discuss their services via exhibiting at **TUgis 2012**.

In addition to the conference theme, suggested session topics for **TUgis 2012** include:

- Data Policy Issues and Standards;
- Emergency Management Applications;
- Enterprise Integration;
- Environmental Applications;
- GIS Certification;
- GPS/GIS Integration;
- GIS Education and Training;
- Homeland Security Applications;
- Human Services Applications;
- Internet Mapping Applications;
- Interoperability/OGC Compliance;
- Non-Traditional Data Integration;
- Overcoming Obstacles to Data Sharing;
- Public Health Applications;
- Public Safety Applications;
- Remote Sensing-GIS Linkage;
- Social Media and GIS;
- Spatial Analysis and Modeling;
- State and Local Government Applications;
- Transportation Applications;
- Visualization Techniques;
- Web Map Services.

<u>How to Submit a Presentation Proposal</u>

To submit a presentation proposal, applicants must submit an abstract (200 word maximum) and the following information by Friday, January 27, 2012:

- Names, Titles, Company Names or Academic Institutions, Addresses, Phone and Fax Numbers, and Email Addresses for the Presenter and All Co-presenters.

- Descriptive Title of Presentation (20 word maximum).

- Presentation Format (indicate type – Individual, Mini-Workshop, Panel, Poster Session, or Student Paper Competition).

- Abstract (200 word maximum)
- Biography of presenters (100 word maximum for each presenter).
- Special Audio/Visual Equipment Requirements

A Word document (.doc file) is available for download on the Conference Web site with this information.

Note: We will provide laptops with the Microsoft Office suite, Internet access, an LCD Projector with a minimum of 1024 x 768 resolution, and a screen in each presentation room. To ensure compatibility, your presentation should be in Microsoft Office PowerPoint 2007 format (.pptx or .ppsx). We prefer that presenters not use their own laptops to limit the amount of time required for "laptop swapping" between presentations. If you choose to use your own laptop for your presentation, the time required for you to connect and disconnect your laptop will be deducted from your presentation time.

We recommend that you save your presentation to optical media such as CD-ROM, CD-R, DVD-R, DVD+R. We can also accept USB drives that have native Windows XP drivers. Please specify any additional need for specific software, flip charts, markers, and easels. For poster presenters, we will provide standard sized wooden easels for displaying posters. As such, you should mount your poster on foam core board before coming to the conference.

To submit an abstract, e-mail a Microsoft Word 2007 document (.docx) containing the information listed above to Jay Morgan at jmorgan@towson.edu, or fax the document to 410-704-4702. If you have any questions about submitting a proposal for presentation, please contact Jay Morgan at 410-704-2964.

The primary presenter and all co-presenters must register for the conference. Presenters who register before or on Friday, March 2, 2012 are entitled to a discounted rate. Presenters who have not registered by Friday, March 2, 2012 will have their presentation (and name) removed from the final conference program.

Review Procedures

Dr. Jay Morgan and the **TUgis** Advisory Committee members will choose the presentations for **TUgis 2012**. Proposals will be judged on value and relevance. Notification of acceptance will be sent by e-mail on or before Friday, February 3, 2012.

Student Paper Competition

Submissions are being solicited for the "Student Paper Competition" for papers highlighting applications of GIS. A cash award ($250) will be given for both the best undergraduate and the best graduate student papers.

To enter the Student Paper Competition, a student:

- Must be currently enrolled at an accredited community college, college, or university.

- Must submit an abstract along with requested contact information and biography by Friday, January 27, 2012.

- Must follow their university's guidelines for manuscript and bibliography preparation. There is no minimum or maximum page limit for student papers.

- Must submit a .pdf copy of their paper to Dr. Martin Roberge at mroberge@towson.edu by Friday, March 16, 2012.

- Must present their paper in the student paper concurrent session(s), which will be attended by several faculty judges. Students will be limited to 20-25 minutes for their presentation followed by 5-10 minutes for questions from the audience (30 minutes maximum for each presentation).

- Student presenters who register before or on Friday, March 2, 2012 are entitled to a discounted rate. Student presenters who have not registered by Friday, March 2, 2012 will have their presentation (and name) removed from the final conference program.

Winners of the Student Paper Competition will be announced at the plenary session on Tuesday, March 20, 2012.

GIS Awards Nominations

Nominations are being solicited for the following GIS awards to be given at **TUgis 2012**:

- The "Outstanding Contribution to GIS in Maryland" award recognizes individuals for their recent GIS achievements. The 2011 recipients of this award were Ashley M. Buzzeo, Towson University Center for GIS and David Doyle, NOAA/National Geodetic Survey.

- The "Lifetime Achievement" award recognizes individuals who have devoted 10 or more years of their professional career to GIS and related activities. The 2011 recipient of this award was Philip R. Canter, Baltimore County Police Department.

- The "GIS Educator of the Year" award recognizes K-12 teachers who have incorporated GIS instruction in their classroom. No nominations were received for this award for 2009, 2010, or 2011. The 2008 recipient of this award was Erol K. Miller, Montgomery County Public Schools.

- The "GIS Student of the Year" award recognizes college/university and K-12 students who have had significant involvement in a practical GIS project. No nominations were received for this award for 2009, 2010, and 2011. The 2008 recipient of this college/university student award was Matthew Sadecki, Towson University. The 2008 recipient of the K-12 student award was Zachary J. Morgan,

St. Philip Niery School. A faculty member must nominate a student for this award.

To nominate candidates for these awards, send an email listing the award, the proposed nominee's name and contact information, and description of why the proposed nominee should receive the award to Dr. Jay Morgan at jmorgan@towson.edu. The deadline for receipt of awards nominations is Friday, February 3, 2012. Information about prior award winners is available at http://tugis.towson.edu/pages/followup-awards.

Additional Conference Information

For additional information about the Conference, please contact:

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