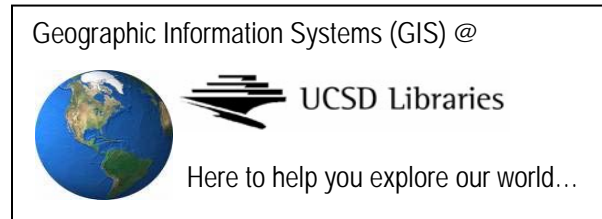

GIS@UCSD, Issue 1 – October 2006

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Your name here next time!*

1) Why GIS@UCSD?

Almost three months have passed since I started as GIS Coordinator and I've learned quite a bit about our campus community in that time. Meetings with several faculty members and students reveal some of the amazingly interesting applications of GIS happening across UCSD. But perhaps the most interesting thing I've learned is that none of us knows what the others are doing!

For my part, I'm testing out the idea of using a more structured communication on our GIS-L called GIS@UCSD. My hope is that this roughly monthly newsletter will offer an avenue to strengthen our GIS community by sharing information on GIS issues, data needs, projects, events, cool new software and visualization tools, or just about anything else related to the geospatial.

We have much to gain from strengthening our GIS community. Financially, we can share in the costs of data acquisition. Intellectually, we can spark each other's imaginations. Plus, sometimes it can just be fun to hear what others are doing.

All are encouraged to contribute to GIS@UCSD by sending an email to t2hughes@ucsd.edu. :)

2) What is the GIS Coordinator anyway?

The GIS Coordinator is charged with supporting the GIS needs of students, faculty, or staff members across the entire UCSD community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you think I can be of service to you - that's why I'm here!

A non-exhaustive list of the details of the position...

Outreach: Explain what GIS is and how it can help through **individual sessions and course presentations**, network across campus to promote GIS & my services, make GIS resources and geographic information on campus more visible & accessible, improve the website, interact with members of the GIS community at UCSD, the UC system & in the region.

2) What is the GIS Coordinator anyway? (continued)

Instruction: One-on-one instruction, group instruction, workshops, project consulting and brainstorming, disseminate online Virtual Campus GIS courses offered by ESRI.

Data: Initiate and coordinate purchases, organize resources, eventually make data available through the Web to authenticated users as permitted by licenses.

Facilities: Ensure Geisel GIS Lab has relevant up-to-date hardware & software, provide technical assistance for those working in the Lab.

I'm still learning what my position entails as time goes on. It is not the intention to duplicate the efforts of others on campus with respect to GIS, but rather try to fill the voids and attempt to provide a centralized location for GIS on campus.

I need your participation in order to be successful - please tell me what you need to make GIS a part of your academic realm.

3) UCSD GIS Resources (all are free!)

These resources are summarized in a PDF available on the UCSD Libraries GIS website at <http://govinfo.ucsd.edu/gis/>.

- **GIS Coordinator:** Here to help students, faculty, and staff with their GIS needs.

- **GIS Computing Facilities:** Geisel GIS Lab - 5 dedicated PC workstations, 36" large scale plotter and an 11x17" flatbed scanner. Lab software includes ArcGIS Desktop, ArcView, Crystal Reports, Google Earth PRO, Microsoft Office Suite, MapPoint. Additionally, Arc software is located in some campus ACS Labs.

The Lab is now available for use whenever the Geisel Library building is open! If the door is closed simply ask Circulation or the Info Desk to be let in. For your comfort, sweatshirts are now available for use while working in the Lab.

- **GIS Instruction:** Online courses from ESRI, maker of Arc software. Courses range from beginner to advanced. Take them at your own pace, on your own schedule. Only three easy steps and you'll be on your way. Really, it is that easy!

- 1) Go to <http://campus.esri.com>
- 2) Choose a course from the self-study (Virtual Campus) list
- 3) Send an email request to t2hughes@ucsd.edu with the name of the course you want to take. I'll email you the course code & detailed instructions.

- **GIS workshops:** Scheduled periodically throughout the academic year.

3) UCSD GIS Resources *(continued)*

- **GIS Software:** As part of the campus community we are lucky to offer two free geographic software packages.

1) Free one-year time out student versions of ArcGIS Desktop (For educational use only)

2) Free one-year renewable Google Earth PRO subscriptions (Per Google, you must be faculty, staff, or graduate student)

- **GIS Data:** Access to UCSD's GIS data and imagery. Currently only available while in the Geisel GIS Lab...but stay tuned for changes to make this accessible across campus!

4) Geisel GIS Lab Update

All Geisel GIS Lab computers were recently updated to ArcGIS Desktop 9.1 and Google Earth PRO!

5) GIS Website Revamp

If you have seen the GIS website (<http://govinfo.ucsd.edu/gis/>) then you know it is desperately in need of a major revamp. And I'm in the process of doing just that. Please let me know what types of information and/or services you would like to see on the website - no suggestion will be turned away!

6) The Free GIS Lunch Series

The plans for the Free GIS Lunch Series are underway and we hope to present our first session sometime in November 2006. Keep your eye out for more details and please feel free to send suggestions on speakers or topics to t2hughes@ucsd.edu.