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Contributors: Tracey Hughes, UC San Diego GIS Coordinator & your name here next time!

Events & Opportunities

"Spatial Epidemiology: Potential uses of GIS in Public Health Studies" – Dr. Kimberly Brouwer
2nd GIS Lunch Series - UCSD Biomedical Library Events Room
August 1, 2007 Noon – 1 pm

Co-sponsored by the UCSD Biomedical Library and the Social Sciences & Humanities Library, we are very pleased to bring you Dr. Kimberly Brouwer, Assistant Professor in the Division of International Health & Cross Cultural Medicine of UCSD's Department of Family and Preventive Medicine. In her talk, Dr. Brouwer will provide a brief introduction to the emerging field of spatial epidemiology. Data collection techniques and ethical considerations for mapping in health studies will be discussed. A number of practical examples, from using geographic information systems (GIS) to track epidemics to identifying unhealthy neighborhoods, will be presented. Particular emphasis will be placed on studies of injection drug use in Tijuana, Mexico.

Seating for the event is limited. Lunch will be brown bag on your own and we will provide cookies and drinks. Please RSVP by July 27, 2007 to vkanderson@library.ucsd.edu to reserve a seat and cookies.

A little background on our speaker...

Dr. Brouwer pursues research into the spatial and molecular epidemiology of infectious diseases. Her interests lie in studying the dynamic between the host and environment, and how this relates to susceptibility to and spread of infections. Dr. Brouwer is currently collaborating with Mexican officials in studies of HIV/AIDS and injection drug use in cities along the Mexico/U.S. border, in an effort to inform public health interventions. As principal investigator of a five-year grant to explore social and environmental factors affecting disease transmission and risk behaviors in Tijuana, Mexico, her group is building a geographic information system (GIS) model to measure disease clustering and recommend better distribution of health services. Dr. Brouwer's research interests also encompass the epidemiology and molecular epidemiology of tropical infectious diseases. She is co-investigator on a project to explore environmental and immunologic factors affecting malaria transmission in the Peruvian Amazon and is leading a qualitative study of health needs of refugees in San Diego.

If you would like to showcase your GIS work at a GIS Lunch Series, just send an email to t2hughes@ucsd.edu.

Geisel GIS Lab & Software Updates

- GIS Lab Assistants Needed –

The changing of the academic quarter means that students graduate and move into their post-college life...and this means that the GIS Lab needs new people! The job will be posted in the next week to Port Triton and a link will be provided from the GIS website at <http://govinfo.ucsd.edu/gis>. Eligible applicants are limited to UCSD students paying regular UCSD dues. If you know of any GIS-savvy students who might be a good fit, be sure to let me know at t2hughes at ucsd.edu.

Many thanks and congratulations go to our excellent 2006/07 Lab Assistants
Alexis Steiner, Morgan Chee & Thu Nyugen.

- San Diego GIS Data (with metadata!) on the “X” Drive -

Thanks again to the hard work of the GIS Lab Assistants, the Geisel GIS Lab is now offering ready-to-use GIS data for the San Diego region. All data layers are complete with metadata and are available from the X drive while in the Geisel GIS Lab. Now it is easy to obtain GIS data for San Diego's roads, hydrology, topography, environmentally sensitive areas and much more.

Additional data is being put on the X drive on a regular basis. Please let Tracey know if there is data specific to your research or coursework that would be helpful – we'll do our best to help you obtain it.

- GIS Lab Workstations to upgrade to ArcGIS 9.2 –

In July all five Geisel GIS Lab workstations will be upgraded to ArcGIS 9.2 SP2. Please be sure to come into the Lab to take advantage of the additional functionality offered in 9.2. If you are upgrading to 9.2, don't forget about the ESRI Support Center (<http://support.esri.com/>) for troubleshooting and to learn how your peers have handled some of the unavoidable upgrade issues.