Resources for Professionals, Scholars, and Students

GIS bibliography tops 75,000 entries

One of the world’s largest online repositories for information about geographic information science (GIScience) and GIS technology is available at no charge from the ESRI Web site.

The ESRI GIS Bibliography, on the ESRI Education and Training Web site (training.esri.com/library), recently surpassed 75,000 entries. The easy-to-search site is an excellent resource for scholars, scientists, geographers, cartographers, and professionals in a wide range of industries. These references not only direct users to published materials but also identify experts in geospatial research and technology.

The bibliography references more than 1,000 sources—mostly journals, magazines, conference proceedings, and books. Though mainly abstracts, the bibliography also includes links to articles, conference papers, book chapters, and theses in PDF format. It encompasses many fields and industries from marine sciences and the environment to defense, petroleum, and health.

For every year since 1993, the bibliography contains all abstracts and submitted papers for the ESRI International User Conference. Many abstracts from the Association of American Geographers’ annual meetings are also posted. Citations from hundreds of journals, such as the International Journal of Geographic Information Science, Cartographica, and Applied Geography, are available as well as material unavailable anywhere else online.

Dr. Duane F. Marble, professor emeritus of geography at Ohio State University, began compiling the bibliography in the late 1980s. Marble saw the need for a more comprehensive public resource. When Marble retired from his academic position, ESRI became the curator of the bibliography.

Mirroring the growth of GIS itself, the bibliography continues to grow steadily. On average, about 2,000 entries are added each month. "Although there are other specialized GIS bibliographies, the ESRI resource covers a broad span of disciplines, applications, and theory as well as representing the history of GIS," said Marble. "The global reach of GIS is also clear. During the early years, North America, Europe, and Australia dominated the contributions, but now we see significant input from other regions such as Asia—specifically China."

The ESRI Library staff in Redlands, California, works with Marble and continues updating bibliography content and maintaining the Web site as a free service to the GIS and GIScience community.

New ESRI Higher Education Head

Director brings extensive expertise and experience

Promoting spatial literacy among students in all disciplines is one of the main goals of ESRI’s new director of higher education. Dr. Michael Gould, who joined ESRI in December 2008, will also concentrate on supporting the implementation of GIS not only across academic departments but also as a tool for improving campus operations such as facilities management and green initiatives.

“When GIS is used for problem solving, a student analyzes data within its spatial context, which allows for more informed decision making,” said Gould. “GIS is used on campuses for teaching and research in traditional spatial disciplines, such as geography and planning, but there are also significant benefits from using geospatial technology in wider areas such as business and public health departments.”

Gould brings 20 years of experience in teaching and research to ESRI. He began his career after earning a Ph.D. in geography (GIS) from the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA), University at Buffalo, New York. Recently, he served as an interdisciplinary professor of information systems and was a cocreator of an Erasmus Mundus-funded geospatial technologies master’s program at Universitat Jaume I, Castellón, Spain. Gould has been involved in creating spatial data infrastructures (SDI); researching standards-based interoperability with the Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc. (OGC), and developing geospatial Web services.

In addition to academic and research pursuits, Gould has worked as a GIS advisor to government agencies in the European Union (EU), businesses (including ESRI and Microsoft), and nonprofit organizations. He is an active member of the Association of Geographic Information Laboratories in Europe (AGILE) and recently completed a two-year term as the chairperson of its management board. He was also nominated by the Spanish government to serve as an expert on a series of research projects with the EU including Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe (INSPIRE).

“Solving the problems of the twenty-first century requires a populace that’s adept at creating and using geospatial technology. Michael Gould is a thought leader in the international GIS community who will help foster the open sharing of information and new forms of cooperation and collaboration with the education community,” said ESRI president Jack Dangermond.