University Consortium for GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE

The University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS) is a non-profit scientific and educational organization comprised of 60+ member institutions. It was established in 1995 to advance research in the field of Geographic Information Science, expand and strengthen multidisciplinary Geographic Information Science education, and advocate policies for the promotion of the ethical use of and access to geographic information and technologies, by building and supporting scholarly communities and networks. UCGIS is the hub for the GIS research and education community in higher education in the United States.

Learn

- **Specialized training and career-enhancement for graduate students and junior faculty.** Examples include week-long NSF-supported Summer Schools focused on building practical experiences working with CyberGIS at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, or shorter workshops for disaster management with Texas A&M University. Participants use CyberGIS and AI to address problems across themes of big data and reproducibility and replicability, among others. For educators, full- and multi-day workshops on curriculum development result in turnkey modules that can be plugged right into a course. These activities typically include funding support for participants. Currently pending proposals would continue to fund these programs over the next five years.

- **Priority or Exclusive Access to UCGIS Webinars and Workshops:** UCGIS presents an ongoing [series of workshops and webinars](#) on a range of topics within GIScience. Member institutions receive early notification and priority or exclusive registration for all UCGIS programs.

- **Discounted Registration to Online Courses from the Institute for Statistics Education:** UCGIS members receive a 25% discount on registration for courses offered by the [Institute for Statistics Education](#).

- **Open Access to the GIST Body of Knowledge (BoK):** As its steward, UCGIS maintains and publishes the one and only [Geographic Information Science and Technology Body of Knowledge (GIST BoK)](#). This resource for students, educators, and professions documents the core knowledge for our discipline and serves as a comprehensive touchstone for our dynamic discipline. In forthcoming versions, UCGIS affiliated members will have free access to additional analytical functionality.
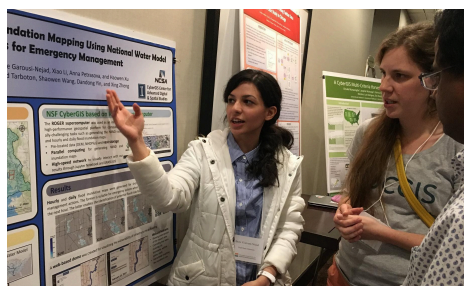
Lead

- **Career-Enhancement and Leadership Programs for Women in the Geospatial Sciences:** In partnership with the University of Maine and the National Science Foundation (NSF), UCGIS hosted and supported the [Training and Retaining Leaders in STEM-Geospatial Sciences (TRELIS)](#), a unique professional and resource development program for women in the geospatial sciences. Golden Compass Onward: Geospatial sciences Alliance for International women faculty Advancement (GAIA) is an NSF-funded program to support retention and recruitment in geospatial programs (currently archived). We make sure to announce such opportunities early and often to our member institutions.

- **Eligibility to Hold National-Level Leadership Positions:** Our [Board of Directors, Officers, and Committee Chairs](#) are elected or appointed positions held by individuals from our numerous member universities, and the GIS&T BoK's Editorial Team is comprised almost entirely of UCGIS-affiliated scholars. Being a member of our leadership team is an unequaled opportunity for recognized service to our discipline.

Connect

- **Inclusion in the Global UCGIS Academic Network and Community of Experts:** Our amazing network of 60+ member institutions is our greatest resource. UCGIS is dedicated to supporting connections between members and institutions within the UCGIS community through our programs, initiatives, and social platforms.

- **Discounted Registration to the UCGIS Annual Symposium:** UCGIS' week-long annual symposium is an amazing opportunity to share, learn, and network within the GIScience community. The event also has multiple student presentation competitions.

- **Collaboration and Research Enhancement:** UCGIS supports and collaborates with our institutional members and partners to engage in basic and applied research and produce grant proposals. Recent examples include the [Open Knowledge Network for Spatial Decision Support](#), the NSF-funded [Institute for Geospatial Understanding through an Integrative Discovery Environment (I-GUIDE)](#), and we keep the proposals flowing!

- **Eligibility to Make Nominations for our Annual Awards and Our Fellows Program:** Each year UCGIS recognizes leaders in the GIScience community with our [Education Award, Education Award, Carolyn Merry Memorial Mentoring Award](#), and [Fellows Program](#). While exemplary scholars worldwide are eligible recipients for any of our awards or for the fellows program, nominations can only be made by members of UCGIS institutions and partners.

- **Eligibility for Student Awards:** Each year during the annual Symposium, UCGIS highlights the scholarly achievements of students from UCGIS member institutions, offering Student Awards for poster, paper, and lightning talk presentations**.**

- **Unlimited Free Postings on the UCGIS Job Board:** Active postings on our [job listings site](#) are also heavily advertised on our social media accounts. Non-members pay a fee per post for this service.

Our activities are possible because of our member institutions, and in turn we enable the faculty, academic staff, and students of our member institutions to participate and contribute. Our size allows us to be both flexible and responsive in support of our members, while our scope reaches throughout the geospatial academic community in higher education. Have your voice be heard within that community by being part of the UCGIS network.

Find us at www.ucgis.org, or send a note to arock@ucgis.org to learn more.