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Iowa Counties Information Technology (ICIT) 2005 Mid-Year Conference, June 15 - 17, Cedar Rapids, IA. Visit http://www.icit.state.ia.us for more information.


USGS Listening Session

On November 12th, 2004, MAGIC hosted a dialogue on "The Changing Geospatial Information Landscape at USGS" with Karen Siderelas, Associate Director for Geospatial Information, and Stan Ponce, Chief of Partnership Development, both from the USGS National Geospatial Programs Office. The event hosted at Tan-Tar-A Resort was an opportunity for MAGIC Steering Committee members to provide feedback on USGS geospatial programs. The framework for comments included:

- Aligning Geospatial Programs: What is the harmony?
- Partnerships: What is the right relationship?
- USGS Products and Services: What is the future market?

The MAGIC participants shared their ideas freely and conveyed a regional perspective unique to Mid-America. USGS is using the feedback from the session to develop the roles and responsibilities for the newly formed National Geospatial Programs Office (NGPO) in supporting the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). The insightful comments from the MAGIC participants will no doubt contribute to expanding the vision of the NGPO and NSDI.

Documentation on the listening session is posted on the MAGIC website at http://magicweb.kgs.ku.edu/, and includes the National Geospatial Programs Office Powerpoint presented by Karen Siderelas, as well as the notes from the dialog.

Rick Miller Honored by Kansas GIS Policy Board

On Friday, July 9th, 2004, the Kansas Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Policy Board hosted a reception and recognition for Rick Miller, former GIS Director, Kansas Information Technology Office (KITO) Director, and Chief Information Technology Architect for Kansas. Rick received thanks and recognition from Joe Harkins, Policy Board chairman and former Director of the Kansas Water Office, as well as many other state, federal, and private industry leaders for his nearly 10 years of developing and leading GIS initiatives in Kansas. Especially noted was the fact that Kansas placed #1 in the GIS division of the National Digital States Survey, three years running during this time. Rick continues to be involved in several regional and national GIS endeavors, and hopes to remain close to Kansas’ GIS developments. Ivan Weichert, recently named to follow Rick as GIS Director for Kansas, presented Rick with a plaque and the deep appreciation of his many friends and colleagues in the industry.
2006 Abstract Submissions

Do you have a project or a specialized field that you would like to present to your peers at the MAGIC 2006 Symposium? If so, please submit your abstract online via the MAGIC web site:

1. Presentations that market specific products or services will not be accepted;
2. Presentations should consist of a) case studies, b) applications, c) techniques, or d) policies and issues. All presentations should be educational, informational, professional and directly related to GIS;
3. Ideally, case studies should be presented by the organization and not the vendor. If this is not possible, the organization will be required to be present;
4. Submissions should be received by **August 15th, 2005**;
5. You will be notified by **September 15th, 2005** if your presentation was accepted;
6. All speakers are required to register and pay registration fees for the MAGIC conference.

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**MAGIC & USGS Sponsor National Map Technical Workshop**

On November 30th through December 2nd, 2004, MAGIC and the US Geological Survey co-sponsored a technical workshop at the Mid-Continent Mapping Center (MCMC) in Rolla, Missouri. The 35 attendees from state, county, and city governments, universities, and non-profit organizations represented the eight states of Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Indiana, Texas, and Louisiana. The workshop began with several states presenting their activities related to The National Map and data development. The remainder of the workshop focused on technical topics related to implementing The National Map. These topics included Open GIS interoperability specifications, Web Mapping Services (WMS), National Map Catalog, symbology using Style Layer Descriptors (SLDs), data download, back-up capabilities for redundant services, and product generation. The presentations and materials from the workshop can be obtained from the MAGIC Website at http://magicweb.kgs.ku.edu/ . In addition, the forum for technical exchange between GIS professionals generated several ideas and outcomes that were documented and posted to the MAGIC website at http://magicweb.kgs.ku.edu/magic/resources/Tech_Workshop_Outcomes.doc . USGS and MAGIC participants hope the success of this workshop will lead to future workshops in 2005.

**10th Annual Missouri GIS Users Conference Summary**

The 10th Annual Missouri GIS Conference was held at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, Missouri, on February 21-23, 2005. Over 350 GIS professional participated in the event. The conference was co-hosted by the Missouri GIS Advisory Committee (MGISAC), the Missouri Spatial Data Information Service (MSDIS) and the University of Missouri Conference Office. The theme of this year’s conference was “Connecting with GIS”. Almost every piece of information collected today can be tied to a geographic position and thus, each other. The conference attendees used this opportunity to seize on initiatives to connect people together to develop geographic information and put it to use. The conference kicked off with nine short courses covering topical areas and some hands-on training. Each morning began with a keynote session. During the opening session James Klahr, Assistant Attorney General for the State of Missouri, spoke on the Missouri Sunshine Law and how it affects geospatial data in Missouri. Tom Schauwecker, the Boone County Assessor, also spoke during the opening session and discussed Boone County’s effort to expand data visibility and access to its citizens. On Wednesday, Bob Franke, an engineer with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) spoke about FEMA’s Map Modernization effort. The conference continued with over 67 concurrent technical sessions offered over the next two days. These sessions included seminars as well as authored papers. In addition, the popular “Tool Time” sessions were back this year with a new slate of educational seminars offering technical solutions.

In all, it was a very successful conference. Wenbo Song (University of Missouri) was honored for the best student poster. Mathew Dunn (Missouri Department of Natural Resources) earned best poster honors and Sgt. Bob Heinberger (St. Louis City Police) received an award for best presentation. In addition, the St. Louis County Police and REJIS were recognized for their “Outstanding Contribution to GIS”. Mark Dougherty, Paul Trudt and Toby Stanerson of St. Louis County Police / REJIS were honored for their work in developing a data sharing system called “CrimeMATRIX”.

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http://magicweb.kgs.ku.edu

April 23 - 27, 2006 Westin Crown Center Kansas City, Missouri