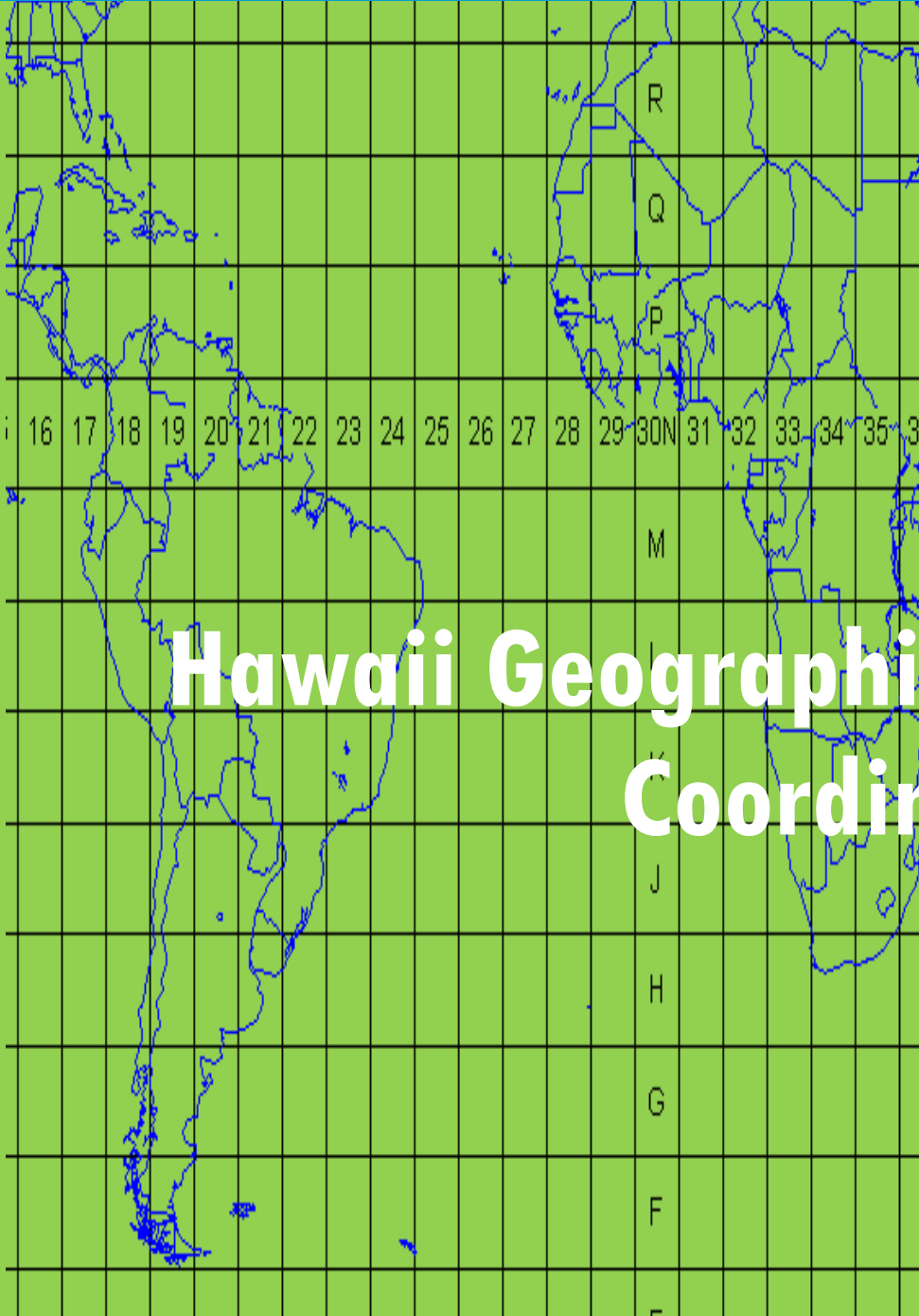


2011-2012

Annual Report



Hawaii Geographic Information Coordinating Council

The Hawaii Geographic Information Coordinating Council (HIGICC) is a private non-profit organization of professionals and students from the federal, state, county, education, and private sectors of Hawaii's GIS community. Our goal is to provide coordination of GIS activities among a wide range of GIS users in order to avoid duplication of effort, promote data sharing, and maintain data standards throughout the state.

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Introduction

The **Hawaii Geographic Information Coordinating Council (HIGICC)** is a private non-profit 501(c)(3) organization consisting of members of Hawai'i's geospatial community. Our goal is to provide coordination of geospatial activities among a wide range of users in order to avoid duplication of effort, promote data sharing, and maintain data standards throughout the state. HIGICC is a member of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC), "an organization committed to efficient and effective government through the prudent adoption of geospatial information technologies."

HIGICC strives to bring together and continue to build the geographic community into a cohesive, recognized coordinating body that facilitates the use, development, sharing, and management of geographic data and communicates the value of geographic information to citizens and decision-makers. In the State of Hawaii, GIS is recognized and effectively used as an invaluable tool by the government, business and the citizens for understanding and managing our aina (environment). The Hawaii GICC is a shared mechanism for the diverse community to identify, explore, and solve problems with geospatial information.

Board of Directors

Royce Jones	At Large	<i>President</i>
Isla Young	At Large	<i>Vice President</i>
Malie Beach-Smith	State	<i>Treasurer</i>
Christin Reynolds	Federal	<i>Secretary</i>
Derek Masaki	Federal	
Alexa Jacroux Biggs	Other	
Craig Clouet	Other	
Rich Nezelek	At Large	
Ken Schmidt	County	
Dan McNulty-Huffman	County	
Joan Delos Santos	State	
Sheri Schneider		<i>USGS Liaison</i>
Arthur Buto		<i>Ex officio, Past President</i>

Article V, Section 2 of the Bylaws: "The Board shall total eleven (11) members representing the broad composition of the membership of the HIGICC. The Board membership shall be composed of two (2) members from each of the following four categories: a) U.S. Federal government agencies, b) State of Hawaii government agencies, c) City and County government agencies within the State of Hawaii, and d) other organizations and individuals. The remaining three (3) members shall be at- large representatives.

President's Report

2011-2012 Review

In 2011-2012 HIGICC continued to show strong support and commitment to our Hawaii geospatial community. It was a busy year for HIGICC— we are pleased to have provided several successful events for our members and geospatial users from across the state.

We once again hosted an exciting GIS Day event. The 2011 event was hosted at the Bishop Museum, which generously allowed us the use of their facilities and some of their support staff. As it has in the past, GIS Day offered a wonderful opportunity for HIGICC members and organizations to show their support for and lend their resources to this fun and educational activity for our schoolchildren. In addition, HIGICC participated in the statewide Hawaii STEM Conference with over 250 students and teachers engaged in all things STEM. HIGICC was in good company with national partners Google and National Geographic joining in the amazing two day conference.

Our scholarship program continues comprised of two awards of \$1,000 each, one for an undergraduate and one for a graduate level student. The high quality of the applications this year was an encouraging sign to the Scholarship Working Group of the future of geospatial studies in Hawaii's schools.

We successfully put on the Hawaii Pacific GIS Conference and follow on workshops/tours the week of March 5 - 9th, 2012. Over 230 conference participants enjoyed informative and timely breakout sessions, networking, and top-notch keynote speakers. The "Unconference" allowed for HIGICC to truly hear our members top needs and interest as we continue to help shape our support statewide GIS initiatives. A special congratulations to Karen Kemp, recipient of the HIGICC President's Award for her amazing impact on the geospatial world — both here locally in Hawaii, and throughout the world.

As we move into this next year, lets take a moment to identify what key issues and opportunities are available to us here in Hawaii. What can we do as an organization and individually to continue the mission and vision of HIGICC?

We hope that there is value in your HIGICC membership, and we'll be asking for your feedback throughout the coming year. Mahalo for your continued support.

~~ Submitted by Isla Young on behalf of Royce Jones

2011-2012 Preview

The coming year promises to be just as eventful as this year has been. GIS Day will continue this year and HIGICC members are encourage to participate in the event. In addition, the Hawaii STEM Conference will be another excellent venue to showcase geospatial technologies, and the many exciting career paths for our Hawaii STEM students.

Then in March 2012, coinciding with the 500th birthday of Mercator, HIGICC and the State of Hawaii are hosting a GIS Conference at the Hawaii Convention Center. The conference is tentatively themed, "*Geospatial: It's Everywhere,*" and will feature professionals from multiple disciplines highlighting their use of GIS and geospatial technologies in their fields.

The newly minted Metadata Trainers will be scheduling training sessions throughout the year, so please check the HIGICC website for the latest information.

We're hopeful that the activities will continue to engage not only HIGICC members, but also will be of interest to the community at large. With your active participation we can be a more visible presence and advocate for GIS and geospatial issues in Hawaii.

Finance Committee

Makes budget recommendations, monitors the annual budget and identifies new and existing income sources and strategies to support HIGICC objectives. The Grants and Scholarships Working Groups are under the leadership of the Finance Committee.

Financial

HIGICC's biggest financial commitment for the year was the Hawaii-Pacific GIS Conference with expected revenue and expenses of \$110,000 each and a fiscal plan to break even. Although the revenue was only a third of expected (\$31,061.37), HIGICC profited \$9,756.67 thanks largely to the audio/visual donation by CZM.

Other revenue (membership dues and donations) remained consistent with last year's revenue and met expectations (within an order of magnitude). (Membership dues, to-date, are slightly lower than last year's, but continue to increase daily.)

Fixed operational costs (domain name, contact management, email, P.O. Box, insurance, licensing and permit expenses) increased by approximately 1% (about \$166). Flexible operational costs (postage, committee, and professional services (accounting and legal)) were \$2,250 less than had been budgeted due largely to filing of taxes without professional accounting services and to postponing revision of the by-laws, eliminating legal fees.

Aside from the conference, there were few events and activities with the exception of GIS day. \$500 was budgeted for GIS Day, but no costs were incurred thanks to a grant from the National Geographic Society. No speaker luncheons or networking events were planned despite budgeting \$500. Board education costs were \$415 less than budgeted. Member education costs were zero despite budgeting \$200. HIGICC did not send a member to the NSGIC Conference despite budgeting \$3,000. Annual meeting is costs are expected to be \$319 less than budgeted. Overall, "event and activity" expenses were \$1,934.35 less than budgeted.

One expense exceeded the budget – board member travel. \$1,500 was budgeted for board member travel to Oahu for board of director meetings every six weeks. Actual costs were \$2135.96 by June 28 and projected to be \$2,855.96 by the end of the fiscal year (June 30), exceeding the budget by \$1,356.

With all income and expenses combined (including the conference), HIGICC budgeted a net loss of \$9,593 and ended the year with a net gain of \$11,657.34. The bank balance as of June 27 is \$55,938.12. See 2012 Proposed Budget on following pages.

~~ Submitted by Malie Beach-Smith

Mark Lierman Memorial Scholarships

This year HIGICC offered two \$1,000 scholarships — one for an undergraduate student and one for a graduate /doctorate student. The scholarships are intended to help offset costs for the 2012-2013 academic year, so applicants are expected to be enrolled in an academic program for that time period.

HIGICC received nine applications for the two available scholarships. While this may not seem like a large number of applicants, a significant effort is expected from the applicants. In addition to completing the application form itself, they must provide representative samples of their work, a written essay, as well as recommendations.

As our intent as the **HIGICC** is to aid students who will promote GIS in the state of Hawaii, the committee recommends that the website state that preference will be given to students from Hawaii or students attending school in Hawaii.

All applications were reviewed and evaluated according to a matrix developed by the scholarship committee. The quality of applications we received were stellar. The depth of interest and experience demonstrated by the candidates reveals a hopeful future for GIS in Hawaii.

Congratulations to the 2012 winners!

Kathryn Massaro, a student attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa pursuing a degree in Natural Resources & Environmental Management; and

Eric Franklin, a student attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa pursuing his PhD in Biology.

~~ Submitted by Carol Kennedy, Arthur Buto, and Isla Young, Scholarship WG

Membership Committee

Recommends policies, procedures, initiatives and strategies for retaining and enhancing the current membership of HIGICC.

Membership increased 24% during the 2011–2012 time period with 120 new members. 20% of the membership represents federal agencies, 20% represent state agencies, 10% represent the counties, and 40% represent non-governmental organizations and the remainder represents other or unknown.

There is a consistent group of members who continue to contribute to HIGICC over the years between 10% - 15% of membership have been members for at least 4 years.

The process of membership renewals and updates will be examined in 2012-2013 to streamline some of the existing manual updates.

~~ Submitted by Christin Reynolds, Secretary

Education and Outreach

Promotes geospatial education through outreach, creative programs and online resources, builds awareness of and support for geospatial technology and resources in the community at large, and identifies training needs and opportunities.

- *GIS Day/Event Planning*
- *Curriculum Development - K-12 Support for Educators and Students*
- *Special Events and Conferences*
- *Luncheon Series*
- *HIGICC Newsletter*
- *Outreach*

National GIS Day Celebration

Hawaii Geographic Information Coordinating Council (HIGICC) and MEDB's Women in Technology (WIT) Project partnered to host the Hawaii GIS Field Day for K-12 Schools at the Bishop Museum. Over 400 students and teachers participated from throughout the state. Other supporting organizations included NOAA, USGS, Oceanit, City and County of Honolulu, ESRI, UH Geography Department, Pacific Disaster Center, and EPSCOR. Specially designed hands-on sessions with iPad and iPod Touch (GPS Treasure Hunt, a GPS Treasure Hunt, a Map Gallery, etc.) offered numerous activities to inspire students to explore career possibilities in geospatial fields. So much fun!

In addition, a statewide GIS Day webinar for Hawaii K-12 classes providing access to Hawaii GIS Industry professionals. Students and teachers learned about geospatial careers, how the professionals got their start, and why they should consider a geospatial career path. It was a wonderful time and much appreciation to all of the GIS professionals who participated in the day.

Hawaii STEM Conference

The Hawaii STEM Conference attracted student teams from across the state of Hawaii to showcase and share their technology savvy in advancing environmental stewardship and making a difference in their respective communities. Student teams from each school were tasked with showcasing the following categories – Self Directed Learning, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Teamwork, Community Involvement and Collaboration, and High Tech Resource Integration. In 2012, the STEM Conference expanded its reach to include some of the stellar Digital Media programs in addition to the STEMworks programs. This year, we were thrilled to have featured our national partners – Google and National Geographic – who along with our key Hawaii partners conducted stimulating hands-on sessions, as well as presenting the latest information on a wide range of engaging and informative STEM topics (GIS/GPS, CAD, Web Design, Video, Engineering, App Development, Game Design, Optics, Leadership, Google, and more).

~~ Submitted by Isla Young

GIS Day™ 2011 Hawaii



2011 Hawaii GIS FieldDay

SAVE THE DATE!

Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2011
Time: 8 AM – 1:30 PM
Place: Bishop Museum
Audience: HI K-12 Classrooms & General Public



Join us for hands-on sessions designed to excite & inspire our Hawaii students as to the amazing career possibilities in the geospatial fields!

- Hands-on i2g2 GIS activities
- Hands-on iPad Touch GIS activities
- GPS Treasure Hunt
- Science on a Sphere (SOS)
- GIS Young Professionals Panel
- And more!!

GIS Day is a global event to make people aware of geographic information system (GIS) technology and the important contributions it makes in the fields of science, technology, information, & the humanities.



To register please send an email with your name, school, and contact information to isa@medb.org.

For more information email Iula Young at ilya@medb.org.

Hawaii GIS Day provides an opportunity for those interested in learning about GIS to see its applications in action.

SPONSORED BY THE HAWAII GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATING COUNCIL, WITH SUPPORT FROM THE HAWAII ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, & THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LEARNING ALLIANCE. MANAGED BY THE BISHOP MUSEUM FOR THE USE OF THEIR FACILITY.

www.hicr.org
 www.womenintech.org
 www.mediab.org
 www.geospatial.com
 www.esri.com
 www.nationalgeographic.com



Education and Outreach

Higher Education:

HIGICC members provided a great demonstration of support for the Department of Labor grant proposal for developing a GIS curriculum and implementing a GIS certificate program at three neighbor island colleges (UH Maui, Hawaii Community College and Kauai Community College). The grant submitted with UH Maui and Rural Development Program requests support for a 4 year initiative that will fund three lecturers, support staff, equipment and course development. The GIS Certificate initiative is aimed at non-traditional students looking at career change opportunities and to enhance existing workforce skills. The effort to develop the proposal has brought many community college faculty into awareness of the potential for GIS to enhance their current course offerings. Awards should be known by Fall 2012.

~~ Submitted by Derek Masaki

Education and Outreach



In March 2012, coinciding with the 500th birthday of Mercator, HIGICC and the State of Hawaii hosted a GIS Conference at the Hawaii Convention Center. The conference theme, "Geospatial: It's Everywhere," featured over 200 professionals from multiple disciplines highlighting their use of GIS and geospatial technologies in their fields.

Breakout sessions

President's Award

The President's Award is bestowed on a deserving individual who has made a meaningful impact on Hawaii's geospatial community. This award is selected by the Board's President and announced at the HIGICC annual meeting.

Data and Inventory Assessment Committee

Facilitates data acquisition and development of data standards by taking a leadership role in coordinating data acquisition efforts, establishing and promoting data standards, and facilitating data distribution.

The main focus of the DIAC this past year has been on Portals. In March at the GIS conference, the unconference topic that received most votes was Portal. It was a large group. Much good discussion occurred. It was followed on by a DIAC meeting in April. Again a good representative group participated. The recommendations are mainly supportive of a metadata portal, which is fed from existing data sites in Hawaii and the Pacific.

There is general support for the State of Hawaii to house a comprehensive site. The Office of Information Management and Technology was sent a request for hosting a portal as they are planning something similar and so the timing is good. Cap grants are not announced until the Fall. We are expecting to submit one for the Portal work, or related metadata issues.

~~ Submitted by Craig Clouet

Federal Updates

NOAA and USGS partnered to acquire lidar data for the low-lying islands in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The data are currently being used to model sea level rise and determine impacts on coastal habitat.

NOAA PMNM and NOAA PSC contracted with Digital Globe to acquire high-resolution satellite imagery for several islands and atolls in the NWHI. The data will be used for estimating bathymetry in previously uncharted areas, as well as deriving land cover data for these remote areas.

Craig Clouet and Royce Jones attended the Pacific Digital Coast Partnership meeting as the NSGIC/HIGICC representatives. http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/_/pdf/product-page-pacific-island.pdf

Un-conference session at HIGICC – Historic Imagery

At the Pacific regional Digital Coast Partnership meeting (<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/>) a need to access historic aerial imagery was outlined as a priority for many of the partners. To respond to this need NOAA Pacific Services Center (PSC) applied for and received funding through the coastal storms program to inventory Pacific region aerial imagery. The scope includes Hawaii, Guam, CNMI and American Samoa. There are two phases, the first is to do an inventory and the second to scan and georeference as well as serve up priority data sets. There is a need to prioritize as funding will not cover everything.

The purpose of this un-conference session was to understand what uses people have for aerial imagery, what imagery they have or know of and finally how can HIGICC help to meet some of these needs.

HIGICC will play an active role to support this project by providing a formal request from HIGICC to Federal Agencies to release imagery, approach private companies with the request of negatives of aerial images and get the word out about the project to partners to prioritize needs.

~~ Submitted by Christin Reynolds

State Initiatives and Updates

2011-12 has proven to be a very good year for the State GIS Program. We have developed a close working relationship with the newly established State Office of Information Management and Technology (OIMT), and the new State CIO, Mr. Sonny Bhagowalia. An outcome of the partnership is funding from the legislature for enterprise GIS initiatives for the first time in over a decade. Some plans for the funding include acquisition of cloud infrastructure to house the enterprise GIS, conversion of all State GIS data to a relational database and creation/conversion of all State GIS metadata to a federally compliant format. In addition, for the past six months, the GIS Program, in partnership with OIMT, has been conducting a high level State GIS strategic planning process, gathering input from State agencies and our partners in other sectors. The outcome of the working group meetings will be a plan for GIS investments at the State level for the next 10 years. Of course, we have also continued our usual activities of providing data and information to our partners and the public and conducting geospatial analysis for the Office of Planning, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and other State agencies.

~~ Submitted by Joan Delos Santos



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