HIGICC Newsletter - August 2021

HIGICC Board of Directors Election

The Hawaii Geographic Information Coordinating Council is pleased to announce this year's Board of Directors election results. As usual, there was a great group of candidates. Thanks to all that accepted the nomination and ran for a position. HIGICC Board of Directors elections occur every year with 5 or 6 positions open.

This year there was a mix of new board members and several returning members. We look forward to a new year of great activities and events. Please help in welcoming the new board members for the two-year position.

Christine Chaplin

Katie Taladay

Sarah Rosenthal

Craig Clouet

Mike Wahl

Mark Lierman Memorial Scholarship Awarded

The Mark Lierman Memorial Scholarship is a $1,000 scholarship that recognizes deserving students who have demonstrated an appreciation for and understanding of geospatial data and geographic information systems (GIS). Once again, HIGICC had a variety of well-qualified applicants for the scholarship. This year the award went to Tierra Bartolotti. Tierra is a senior in the Sustainable Community Food System program at UH West Oahu and has been exploring the use of GIS for Sustainability. Tierra has been active in volunteering and environmental education work since high school. We look forward to a presentation from her during the HIGICC's Fall annual meeting. Congratulations to Tierra!

Goro Sulijoadikusumo

We note with sadness the passing of Goro Sulijoadikusumo, one of our founding board members who also served as our first treasurer. Goro was a strong supporter of HIGICC and its mission. If you have any remembrances of Goro you'd like to share with our HIGICC community in our next newsletter, please email your thoughts/photos to joan.m.delossantos@hawaii.gov.

New Esri MOOC Happening Now!

It's not too late to register for Esri's new massive open online course (MOOC) debuting in August: Imagery in Action, a no-cost, six-week course introducing the latest ArcGIS capabilities for working with imagery and remotely sensed data. Participants will learn ArcGIS workflows for tackling critical imagery and remote sensing tasks—from finding, processing, and analyzing imagery to delivering actionable insight. Register today! Link: https://www.esri.com/training/catalog/6074ab588e68a831e4d8974b/imagery-in-action/

National Tropical Botanical Garden Tour

Christine Chaplin, Hawaii Statewide GIS Program

In the beginning of June, HIGICC Director Christine Chaplin joined the National Tropical Botanical Garden's Ben Nyberg, GIS Coordinator & Drone Specialist, and Dustin Wolkis, Seed Band & Laboratory Manager, on a botanical/data collecting tour on the Pihea Trail on Kokee, Kauai. Christine provided the following recap:

First, Ben gave us a demonstration on how they are using drone technology to survey Kalalau Valley for rare and endangered plant species. The cliffs are inaccessible to pigs, goats and humans, which make them a biodiversity hotspot in the islands. His team uses a Mavic DJI Phantom 4 Pro model drone with a 20 mega-pixel camera to survey, map & inventory rare plants. In addition to surveying cliffs, his team uses the drones to create imagery and elevation models of their gardens, and to monitor landslide features and disease spread (fungal pathogens that cause rapid ohia death).

After the survey is complete, Ben uses Adobe Lightroom to post-process and meticulously review each image to identify plant species of interest and map the locations using ArcMap 10.4.

The NTBG is working on an automated survey using AI to identify plants. Researchers are working on cutting mechanisms for drones to collect plant material remotely, and a robotic arm to help with pollination.

On the trail, Dustin spots a fruiting Clermontia fauriei, common but endemic to Kauai. He demonstrates best way to take a specimen sample, pressing the plant material between sheets of newspaper and diligently noting the information in his field log. After he assigns the specimen a unique ID, he uses

his cellphone with KoBoToolbox, an open-source app, to record the location, attributes and photographs.

When he returns to the lab, the attribution data is synced to their herbarium and living collection databases, the specimen is deposited into the herbarium, and seed collection is added into the seed lab. The location data is also synced and loaded into ArcGIS Collector to help his team navigate to species of interest for monitoring purposes.

Since the 1990s, NTBG has played a leading role in plant discovery and seed conservation in Hawaii and the Pacific. Working in partnership with state, federal, and private conservation agencies and organizations, NTBG continues to conduct field surveys, discovery, and the collection of rare and endangered plants across Hawaii and the greater Pacific region. For more information, visit https://ntbg.org/

2021 Esri User Conference Recap

Gretchen Chiques, Esri

The 2021 Esri Users Conference was hosted virtually from July 12 - 15. With more than 70,000 registrants and more than 200 countries represented, the conference focused on "GIS - Creating a Sustainable Future" this year. The conference Plenary session highlighted how GIS is helping users to shape science and policies, and to inspire our users to use their work to shape a

more sustainable future.

We want to congratulate Joshua Black & Asia Wasser from Hawaii County Civil Defense and Erik Lash from the County of Hawaii Department of Technology for winning the 2021 Special Achievement Award for their fantastic work in the county for the preparation and response to COVID-19! To learn more about their work, visit: https://events.esri.com/conference/sagList/index.cfm?fa=Detail&SID=3197

ArcGIS Pro 2.8 was released in time for the conference, with new workflows for Data Engineering, Business Analyst, Deep Learning, Full Motion Video, and new animation capabilities. There is also new command search tools, the ability to export layouts as accessible PDF files and so much more. To learn more about what's new in ArcGIS Pro 2.8 visit: https://pro.arcgis.com/en/pro-app/latest/get-started/whats-new-in-arcgis-pro.htm

For ArcGIS Enterprise, the hot topic of the conference was Kubernetes, an emerging new solution for Geospatial Infrastructure. Kubernetes is a cloud-native architecture. Deploying ArcGIS Enterprise on Kubernetes will support high availability environments, accelerate patching, and provide more granular control of your enterprise environment, among other features.

The major highlight for ArcGIS Online was the introduction of ArcGIS Image for ArcGIS Online. ArcGIS Image for ArcGIS Online extends the capabilities for hosting, analyzing, and streaming imagery and raster data.

To learn more and for general conference Stats and Recap Videos from the conference, visit this link: https://community.esri.com/t5/user-conference-blog/esri-uc-closing-session-conference-stats-esri/ba-p/1079554

Access to UC 2021 will be available to anyone with an Esri account (including free ArcGIS Public Online Accounts) through October 13, 2021.

And before we go, save the date for UC 2022, July 11-15, 2022. See you there!

Job Posting

Hawaiʻi Green Growth Data Analytics/Software Developer - ID# 221426

Regular, Full-Time, RCUH Non-Civil Service position with the Hawaiʻi Green Growth (HGG) project located in Honolulu, Hawaiʻi. Collaborates with the Aloha+ Dashboard & Partnerships Manager to support stated strategic priorities by writing scalable code using preferred programming languages. Creates dynamic software solutions that will enhance the Aloha+ Dashboard Platform. Telework is permissible with Principal Investigator's approval.

The closing date for this recruitment is Sept. 1, 2021

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