
GEOSPATIAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BRIEFING TO THE FGDC

Objectives of the Session:

- Provide an overview of the NGAC Geospatial Workforce White Paper
- Dialogue with FGDC member agencies regarding response to recommendations and the role of the FGDC Community in implementing the recommendations

Presented by: David DiSera, Chair, NGAC Geospatial Workforce Subcommittee
March 13, 2012

NGAC Geospatial Workforce Development Subcommittee Update

- Subcommittee Objective: Provide recommendations on approaches to develop intergovernmental and public-private strategies to facilitate the development, training, and retention of a highly skilled workforce to meet the geospatial needs of public and private organizations. Examine opportunities for synergies with the Administration's STEM education initiatives.
- Subcommittee Members
 - Dave DiSera (Chair)
 - Joanne Gabrynowicz
 - Randy Johnson
 - Don McKay
 - Matt O'Connell
 - Cindi Salas
 - Tony Spicci
- Report with recommendations was adopted 01/2012
<http://www.fgdc.gov/ngac/ngac-geospatial-workforce-development-paper-final.pdf>



1. STEM Recommendations

- 1.1 FGDC leadership should work with and encourage CoSTEM to include geospatial technology and geomatics as components of the STEM disciplines.
- 1.2 The FGDC Secretariat and agency members should review and comment on the results of the CoSTEM Inventory of Federal STEM Programs and the CoSTEM Report on Federal Coordination.
- 1.3 The FGDC leadership should encourage awareness among FGDC member agencies regarding the importance of opportunities for geospatial technology related grants, such as the NSF's Geography and Spatial Sciences Program and NOAA's Cooperative Remote Sensing Science and Technology Center.

1. STEM Recommendations

- 1.4 The FGDC leadership should encourage FGDC member agencies to establish internships, fellowship programs, cooperative education, or exchange programs that give students practical understanding and real-world experience with geospatial technology and applications.

- 1.5 The FGDC leadership should encourage FGDC member agencies to support geographic literacy through their respective education and outreach programs.

2. Competency Model Recommendations

- 2.1 The FDGC should collaborate with UCGIS and AAG to determine if the Body of Knowledge for GI Science and Technology's knowledge areas encompasses the breadth of the geospatial technology field from a government perspective.
- 2.2 The FGDC should work with the geospatial community to develop a communication infrastructure and methods to facilitate geospatial information exchange.
- 2.3 The FGDC Secretariat should follow up with UCGIS and the Department of Labor on the status of the partnerships for establishing a clearinghouse for internship, work experience, and service learning programs; and the GeoTech Center on building partnerships for developing a competency model for a program of study that provides guidelines for geospatial education programs.

3. Classification Code Recommendations

- 3.1 The FGDC should partner with the DOI Office of Human Resources to engage OPM in an effort to review, update, and modernize the geospatially-oriented Federal Occupational Series Codes.
- 3.2 FGDC, DOL, and the Federal human resource management community should collaborate with non-federal partners to encourage the use and adoption of the Geospatial Technology Competency Model and the updated Occupational Classification Codes and Series.
- 3.3 FGDC partner agencies should communicate with their academic partners about the revised occupational codes and competency model to facilitate development of appropriate training and curricula to address emerging geospatial workforce needs.

Updates

■ STEM

- OSTP released *The Federal Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Portfolio*, a comprehensive listing of STEM education investments by Federal agencies.

■ Competency Model

- Initial work has begun on the development of management oriented geospatial competencies

■ Classification Codes

- Initial dialogue with DOI Human Resources Staff

Dialogue with FGDC

- What are your agencies currently doing in the area of geospatial workforce development?
- What can the FGDC Community do to ensure a strong geospatial workforce now and in the future?
- How can the three focus areas in the paper (STEM, Competency Model, Classification Codes) and their related recommendations move us toward developing and retaining a highly-skilled geospatial workforce?