

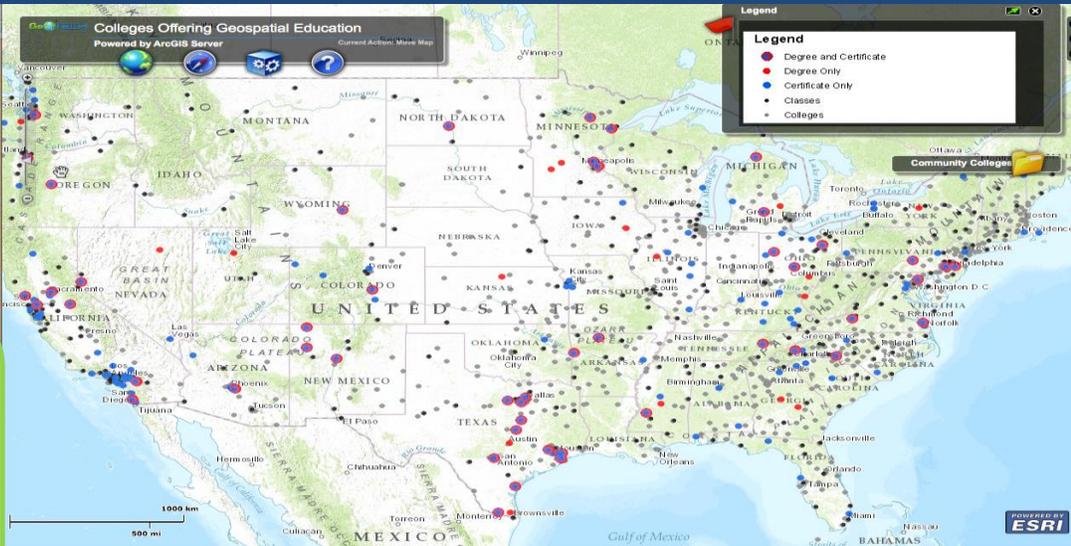


A Monthly Newsletter of the
National Geospatial Technology
Center of Excellence

Innovation in Geospatial Science and Technology Education

Empowering Colleges: Expanding the Geospatial Workforce

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The GeoTech Center is virtual, comprised of a Director, four Associate Directors, and nine Assistant Directors from institutions across the nation. The central office is located at Jefferson Community and Technical College in Louisville, KY.

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iGETT: Remote Sensing Faculty Development Institutes

iGETT helps meet the growing workforce demand for technical-level remote sensing skills by providing professional development and instructional resources. The project is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education Program to the National Council for Geographic Education. The first phase, **iGETT**, was funded from 2007 to 2012 and the second, **iGETT: Remote Sensing**, from 2012 to 2015. Essential in-kind support has been provided throughout the project from several collaborators who are listed in the side-bar.

The original iGETT participants included two cohorts of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) instructors from 36 two-year colleges, two high schools, and two universities. Professional development over 18-month periods included two summer institutes, monthly webinars, and on-line courses. All activities focused on integrating remote sensing data into GIS instruction and on developing new courses and programs based on remote sensing and the integration of remote sensing and GIS. The iGETT experience transformed the participants' teaching and made them enthusiastic change agents for incorporating remote sensing data and technology into their geospatial education programs. Their culminating experience with the project was the development of over 30 student exercises, complete with instructor guidelines. These resources have been classroom tested and examined by geospatial professionals for accuracy and workforce relevance.

Each exercise provides two to three weeks of instruction in the integration of remote sensing and GIS, and all are included on this website as free resources. Also available on the website are instructional materials used in iGETT summer institutes and a number of other resources for learning or teaching remote sensing concepts, acquiring remote sensing data, and integrating remote sensing data and GIS.

The second phase of the project, iGETT: Remote Sensing, provides a similar program of professional development for GIS instructors from 28 two-year colleges, four high schools, and four universities. The larger number of high schools and universities reflects the project's commitment to develop models for encouraging students interested in geospatial technology to move from one level of education to the next.

The new participants have the benefit not only of the iGETT curriculum materials, but also of instruction that can address much more specific workforce needs. By the end of the first phase of the project, the U.S. Department of Labor had designated a new occupational code for remote sensing technicians, thereby making this a formal job category. The specific skills and competencies for this occupational code are integrated into the iGETT: Remote Sensing instruction and will be keyed to the instructional materials - student exercises and short teaching modules - developed by the participants.

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iGETT continued

The NSF funded iGETT: Remote Sensing (Integrated Geospatial Education and Technology Training) faculty development project hosted 36 faculty from high schools, community colleges and universities across the U.S. at Northern Virginia Community College in Reston, VA. iGETT is directed by Osa Brand from the National Council for Geographic Education with additional support from NASA Goddard and the USGS. Participants were immersed in remote sensing concepts and data access techniques based on the skills and competencies identified by the GeoTech Center for a remote sensing course aligned with workforce needs. The faculty are creating Concept Module videos based on those competencies and posting them on YouTube at the iGETT Remote Sensing Education Channel. Faculty are also updating and creating exercises that can be used to teach remote sensing (igettdelmar.edu) at all levels. The participants excelled at understanding the concepts and it was a pleasure to work with them all at the excellent NOVA facility in Reston. Michael Krimmer, director of the NOVA GST labs assisted in facilitating the event and also provided the participants a role model as he attended an earlier iGETT faculty development project.

For additional information regarding iGETT, including being a participant, please visit:

<http://igettdelmar.edu>

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iGETT Cohort 2014



Esri EdUC 2014 News: ArcGIS Pro and ArcGIS Online

ArcGIS Pro

If you “get” (have licenses for) ArcGIS Desktop, you automatically get access to ArcGIS Pro. You **MUST** have an ArcGIS Online Organization account to use it. Some details:

- Is work in progress with release in Q4 (maybe).
- It is a 64-bit multi-threaded software but will NOT run on a 32-bit system.
- Uses “smart ribbons” that expand depending on what you are working on (ala Windows Office).
- Can be on same computer as ArcGIS 10.3 and have the same “level” – basic, standard or advanced (old level names were ArcView to ArcInfo) and use all extensions.
- Can have multiple layouts, 2D and 3D with Scene or Globe.
- Can import .mxd and create .aprx projects. BUT you can’t export back into ArcGIS 10.3.
- Has new “Task” tab with functionality where you can create a “named” task that has a “list of steps” that are displayed when you click on a Task with steps (functions) that need to be executed in order to execute your defined task (analysis).
- Can bring in Landsat 8 as a tiled image that displays the “5 best” images for area you review. You can then carry out a lot of predefined functions on the L8 images. The Functions will be available “free” on the Esri Resource page.
- Includes all geoprocessing functions in desktop but adds additional functions.
- Uses Python 3.4 (so you will have to have two versions 2.7 for desktop).
- You can download a Beta version of Pro now at <http://pro.arcgis.com/en/pro-app/>

ArcGIS Online for Organizations and Site Licenses:

Lots of updates and geoprocessing functionality now or will soon be available. The big news is that all K-12 schools can get an Organizational account and can be used with GeoMentor Program.. Also all current education licenses will get 500% more credits. The new credit limit should come out in the next month or so. Organization administrators are encouraged to customize their “users” so the users **cannot** geocode. **Also there is a credit estimator. Note that ArcGIS Online is for Education and Research use ONLY, not administrative use.** Students will get access to the newest (latest) version of 10.3 “soon.” Take a look at <http://www.connected.esri.com> for a detailed, step by step introduction to using ArcGIS Online with Skill Builder Activities.