

FALL 2023

WVAGP WEBSITE WWW.WVAGP.ORG

FACEBOOK WVAGP.ORG



WVAGP News

West Virginia Association of Geospatial Professionals



WV GEOCON 2024 CALL FOR PAPERS

WVAGP is currently accepting submissions for presentations for WV GeoCon 2024, to be held at the Embassy Suites in Charleston from May 13-16, 2024!

This year's theme is "Bridging the Gaps" with a focus on Society & Culture, Environment & Conservation, Infrastructure & Technology, Planning & Economic Development, and Education & Engagement.

We are soliciting for 15 and 30 minute presentations that fall into these areas of focus.

If you have any questions, please reach out to WVAGPConf@gmail.com. We look forward to your submissions!

Newsletter Highlights

Announcements

Member Spotlight

WVAGP Wins!

Message from the President

Upcoming Training

Visit our website for additional training, employment opportunities, and other announcements.

www.wvagp.org

Facebook
[@wvagp.org](https://www.facebook.com/wvagp.org)

Have news for the newsletter, Facebook, or other media?
Contact Barb MacLennan,
WVAGP Strategic Committee
Chairperson

WVAGP Spotlight



DR. ERIKA KLOSE
COORDINATOR, SCIENCE, COMPUTER
SCIENCE, STEAM, AND GIS

What is your nickname at work?

My nickname at work will always be MapGirl. "Hey, MapGirl, where is xyz?", "Oh no, there's a map, we've lost MapGirl."

How did you become a geospatial professional?

As a geology major in college and grad school, GIS was both inevitable and necessary. My one GIS course in my MS program landed me my first job at the USGS. I became a geospatial professional in 1999 in Woods Hole, MA in a trial-by-fire situation using ArcInfo to evaluate coastal vulnerability to sea level rise. I remember the first GUI interface and have been using GIS, and now sharing GIS with students, ever since.

"WE CANNOT TEACH CONTENT WITHOUT CONTEXT. GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGIES BRING CONTEXT TO THE CONTENT WE NEED OUR STUDENTS TO LEARN. A SENSE OF PLACE CAN ACT AS ONE OF MANY FRAMEWORKS UPON WHICH STUDENTS CAN CONSTRUCT KNOWLEDGE."

What is your favorite memory as a geospatial professional?

The first day I actually used GIS in a sixth-grade middle school classroom was in August of 2011, the day of the magnitude 5.8 earthquake near Mineral, Virginia. We felt it at Winfield Middle School, and I immediately projected ArcGIS for my students and brought up a layer of earthquake epicenters. I had a student ask, "Miss Klose, what is this?"

"Earthquakes!" I replied.

The student asked again, "No, Miss Klose, what is this?"

"Earthquake epicenters!" I replied.

The student asked a third time, "No, Miss Klose, what is this software?"

"Oh! GIS!" I replied.

The student asked in wonder, "What is GIS? Is it magic?"

"Almost! It's the best tool ever!" I replied.

Want to spotlight a WVAGP member?

Know someone who is making a real contribution in the state, profession, or community?

WELCOME TO THE NEW WEST VIRGINIA STATE GIS COORDINATOR, TARYN MOSER

In August 2023 we welcomed our new West Virginia State GIS Coordinator Taryn Moser. Taryn is a resident of Monongalia County and has geospatial experience in both public and private sectors, most recently as the GIS Manager for Morgantown Utility Board. She has been on the WVAGP Board of Directors since July 2022, but with assumption of the State GIS Coordinator role will move to an ex-officio role on the Board per the WVAGP Bylaws. Eric Bess will fill the voting member vacancy on the Board of Directors for the remainder of the fiscal year. Please join us in welcoming and congratulating Taryn on her new role!



TARYN MOSER, WV STATE GIS COORDINATOR

Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life."

Amy Poehler

	<p>Taryn A. Moser</p> <p>WV GIS Coordinator</p> <p>(304) 594-2331</p> <p>tmoser@wvgses.suwest.edu</p>	<p>1 Mont Chateau Morgantown, WV</p> <p>  </p>
--	---	---



THE WVAGP IS THE PLACE WHERE I AM CONSISTENTLY INSPIRED BY EVERYONE IN THE GROUP. THIS ASSOCIATION HAS NOT ONLY SUPPORTED ME THROUGHOUT MY CAREER, BUT ALSO YOU HAVE CHANGED MY LIFE. BECAUSE OF THIS ORGANIZATION I AM NOW THE GIS COORDINATOR FOR THE STATE THAT I TRULY HAVE A GREAT PASSION FOR. I THANK EVERYONE FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO ME AND THE WVAGP.

TARYN MOSER, WV STATE GIS COORDINATOR

WVAGP MEMBERS BEING SPATIAL

WVU Career Fair for Agricultural & Natural Science

WVAGP Members participated in the WVU Career Fair for Agricultural & Natural Science hosted in the West Virginia University Rec Center on September 13th, 2023, to network with students and other professionals in the Morgantown and WVU community, and assist members in recruiting for geospatial job openings featured on the WVAGP website, under the WV GIS Jobs tab.

REMINDER : If you or your organization are hiring a position and you would like the job to be included on the WVAGP jobs board, please follow the link and complete this form.

WVAGP at the Eastern Panhandle GIS User Group Meeting

The Eastern Panhandle GIS Users Group Meeting was held on September 28th at the Purple Iris in Martinsburg, WV. Several of our members were present for the event and presented on their projects or current research activities. Presentations discussed a wide variety of geospatial topics, like ArcGIS Survey 123, LiDAR Acquisition, a Workflow for Summarizing Landscape Data, Distance Education and Geospatial Training in WV, and others. For a full list of presentations and presenters, visit the Eastern Panhandle GIS Users Group Meeting Website. WVAGP President Marvin Davis's report on his attendance at the event can also be found here.



DR. MICHAEL HARMON PRESENTS ON WVU'S ONLINE GIS M.S. PROGRAM

A Message from the WVAGP President

Hello WVAGP!

We have had a very active summer and fall so far moving forward with “WVAGP 2.0.” The primary planning has revolved around the 2024 WV Geospatial Conference (WVGeoCon for short) and bringing it back to the Kanawha Valley for the first time since 2018! We’ve also worked on some major events for the conference, including the Spatial Student Awards. This will be a student presentation competition where the top 3 winners will receive a prize, and we will announce that through our email list soon!

I’ve been working closely with Taryn Moser in her role as State GIS Coordinator as she has included me in meetings with regional planning councils, the WV GIS Technical Center, the WV Municipal League, and many others. It is my goal to ensure WVAGP has a voice in these discussions to continue promoting geospatial technology to all.

As we gear up for our Fall Meeting on Wednesday, November 8th in Buckhannon on the campus of West Virginia Wesleyan College, we are bringing a few bylaw amendments that you can view on our website and we hope to have some news for 2024 WVGeoCon. However, the big event for our Fall Meeting is the resurrection of the State GIS Steering Committee under the leadership of Coordinator Moser.

Our goals for the year are on their way to being met and I am excited to see what the next few months bring for our organization. I look forward to working with you all as we roll into 2024!

Marvin A. Davis, WVAGP President

UPCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS:

ESRI MOOC: GIS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

October 25, 2023 – December 6, 2023

Discover how GIS is being used today to understand and prepare for the future that requires more resilient communities, systems, and infrastructure. For additional details and registration, visit the WVAGP.org web page.

WVAGP FALL MEETING

November 8, 2023

Social Hall, Benedum Campus Center, West Virginia Wesleyan College, Buckhannon, WV. For additional details and registration, visit the WVAGP.org web page.

SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION OF AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GEOGRAPHERS (SEDAAG) 2023 MEETING

November 18, 2023 – November 20, 2023

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, Norfolk, VA
For additional details and registration, visit the [SEDAAG](http://SEDAAG.org) web page

URISA – GIS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

November 27, 2023 – December 1, 2023

Denver, Colorado (delivered online and in-person) URISA GIS Leadership Academy -5 days of targeted GIS Leadership Training Taught by GIS Leaders. For more information and registration, visit the following site: [URISA GIS Leadership Academy](http://URISAGIS.org)