



Call for Proposals

Mapping for Sustainability University of Redlands, April, 23-25 2009

- Deadline for submission of proposals: January 30, 2009
- Notification of acceptance: February 13, 2009
- Conference registration deadline: February 27, 2009

NITLE is currently accepting proposals for “[Mapping for Sustainability](#).” This conference will focus on the role that spatial information plays in shaping our understanding of sustainability as a canon for educational institutions and community practice while also addressing the broad scope of human impacts on the environment and society. With examples drawn from participating campuses and an emphasis on peer-to-peer discussion and instruction, this conference will provide a key occasion to exchange information and discuss insights from digital cartography that lend context to our choices, interactions, and relations to all living things.

Questions for consideration in this conference may include:

- How can spatial technologies help define and provide a nexus for sustainability and collaboration within the academic environment?
- What are the benefits and risks of spatial visualization to portray complex social, economic, and environmental systems?
- Does mapping shape our sense of community and what might we lose in defining communities from spatial data?
- How might we use GIS and other spatial technologies to generate interactions with one another that are sustainable and mutual?

Faculty, technologists, facility managers, and others from participating institutions who use spatial applications to understand or human-environmental systems are invited to submit proposals related to these questions. Proposals should be submitted electronically at <http://tinyurl.com/MapSustainCFP> by Friday, January 30, 2009.

If you are interested in assisting in planning this conference or in reviewing submitted proposals, your contributions would also be welcome. Please contact Sean Connin at sean.connin@nitle.org to find out how to get involved.

Proposals should use mapping and spatial analysis to address one or more of these themes:

The modern geography of poverty, pollution, and conflict

- health risks from environmental and social factors
- globalization and the redistribution of wealth
- grass-roots advocacy and citizen empowerment
- understanding the spread of disease
- GIS for environmental risk assessment and monitoring
- social impacts of political redistribution
- spending on health and the environment

Our carbon foot-print

- maps and global warming policy
- spatial linkages in between land-water-air
- carbon costs of food and transportation networks
- spatial distribution of energy production, consumption, and costs
- carbon use and the distribution of socioeconomic variables

Community service through the classroom

- maps as tools for communication and conflict resolution
- supporting smart-growth initiatives
- engaging decision-makers in local government
- supporting social justice, environmental, and similar not-for-profit organizations
- mapping at-risk populations

Campus practices and sustainability assessment

- 3-D map models for building, infrastructure, and landscape design
- understanding patterns of student movement and campus-use
- spatial analyses for environmental restoration and monitoring
- the geography of campus safety
- spatial data for campus inventories
- waste reduction management

Learning from the past: new insights

- corollaries between ancient and modern society
- maps as agents of change in human history
- spatial evidence of carrying capacity
- environmental stress and internecine conflict
- land-use patterns and environmental thresholds

Suggestions for other topics in these or related areas are welcome and may be sent to Sean Connin (sean.connin@nitle.org).

Session Formats

Proposals should suggest one—or more—of the following formats as appropriate for the topic. During the conference, moderators will introduce and close each presentation or panel session on time, distribute handouts, and facilitate questions from the audience.

Presentation Sessions (1 or more presenters): 30-60 minutes

Presentations should be well-organized and should offer explicit goals and/or learning outcomes that participants might expect to attain as a result of attending. Presentations that highlight collaborative projects or campus initiatives for sustainability are particularly welcome.

Workshop Sessions (1-2 workshop leaders): 60-120 minutes

We encourage ideas for instructional workshops in which participants will be able to work hands-on with a specific mapping application or process.

Panel Discussions: 60-90 minutes.

We encourage participants to submit proposals for single presentations that can be combined with those from other participants. Panels will be constructed to facilitate comparisons of pedagogy and method, discuss emerging trends, and reflect on particular issues in sustainability relevant to liberal arts institutions. Panels will be composed with a view to optimizing interaction among panelists and the audience.

Submission and Review of Proposals

Proposals should be submitted online at <http://tinyurl.com/MapSustainCFP> no later than January 30, 2009.

- The title and description of the session, presentation, or poster. The description should be 300 words or less.
- Type of session: presentation, workshop, or panel
- Target audience: beginner, intermediate, expert, all
- Name, title, institution, address, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail address for each session presenter. Proposals for group presentations—both intra- and inter-campus—are especially welcome.

Acceptance

Proposals will be reviewed and accepted based on the following criteria:

- Clarity of the session title and description
- Significance and relevance of the topic
- Interdisciplinary appeal
- Learning outcomes for the audience (please be explicit)

Proposal submitters will be notified of the results of the review process by February 13, 2009.

Location

The conference will be hosted by University of Redlands, located in the City of Redlands, 90 minutes east of Los Angeles and 40 minutes west of Palm Springs. Note that if you're traveling during peak commuter times (7-9 a.m.; 4-6 p.m.), a 60-mile drive on Interstate 10 or adjoining freeways can take up to two hours. Keep traffic in mind when scheduling your visit to the university or return flights.

Important note: Presenters and others interested in attending this conference must register to participate by February 27, 2009. Please consult your institution's liaison to NITLE about your institution's policies on purchasing program units and using them to participate in NITLE events. Registration is first-come, first-served and is a separate process from proposal submission; the registration fee is 7 program units. NITLE is a not-for-profit organization. The viability of its events depends upon the registrations of all participants, including presenters. Only the names of officially registered participants will appear in the conference program.