



Annual Report

2023-2024

The Geospatial Professional Network is your home for GIS professional education, engaged community, and professional development

The Geospatial Professional Network (GPN), formerly known as URISA, is a nonprofit 501(c)3 association incorporated in 1966. The GPN provides education and training, a vibrant and connected community, advocacy for geospatial challenges and issues, and essential resources for GIS professionals throughout their careers.

URISA chose to rebrand as the Geospatial Professional Network (GPN) to better reflect the evolving needs and diversity of the global geospatial community. The decision was primarily driven by research and member feedback indicating that the original name, “Urban and Regional Information Systems Association,” no longer conveyed the inclusive and far-reaching mission of the organization. Members expressed that a new identity would help represent the wider spectrum of geospatial professionals across different industries, geographic regions, and career stage, and foster a sense of belonging beyond the urban and regional planning sectors. The rebranding also aims to simplify communication about the organization’s value, making it more approachable for new and emerging professionals, and positions GPN as a vibrant, supportive network committed to professional growth, innovation, and collaboration in the geospatial field.

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Who We Are

Our Mission

The GPN is a multi-disciplinary geospatial organization that provides professional education and training, a vibrant and connected community, advocacy for geospatial challenges and issues, and essential resources. GPN fosters excellence in GIS and engages geospatial professionals throughout their careers.

Our Strategic Goals



Protect, promote, and grow the geospatial profession

Support geospatial professionals at all stages of their careers with essential training and resources



Sustain and strengthen the organization

What We Do



Education & Training

The GPN delivers exceptional education and training experiences, and invites GIS professionals to share their good work, lessons learned, and research. Knowledge transfer is key!



Membership

Relevant peer-to-peer interactions, opportunities to contribute to the advancement of the profession, GPN newsletters, and career resources to accompany you on your GIS journey.



Resources

Countless and ever-growing library of publications, geospatial fact sheets, podcasts, conference proceedings, peer-reviewed GPN Journal articles, GIS maturity models, Salary Surveys, and white papers comprise the GPN's Body of Knowledge.



Contributions

Contributing to the growth and success of your profession is the best way to ensure its future. The GPN offers many opportunities to contribute including volunteering as a mentor, participating on a committee, and lending your voice to issues that are vital to the profession.



Local Chapters

GPN Chapters make it happen on the ground – from Alaska to the Caribbean. Discover a local GPN network and get involved. When you join the GPN, you automatically join your local chapter.



Next Generation

The GPN is dedicated to supporting the next generation of leaders. Opportunities to meaningfully contribute and get noticed are plentiful! GPN's Vanguard Cabinet is an amazing career steppingstone!



Recognition

From the GIS Hall of Fame to Exemplary Systems in Government Awards, GPN celebrates the individuals and organizations that represent Excellence in GIS.

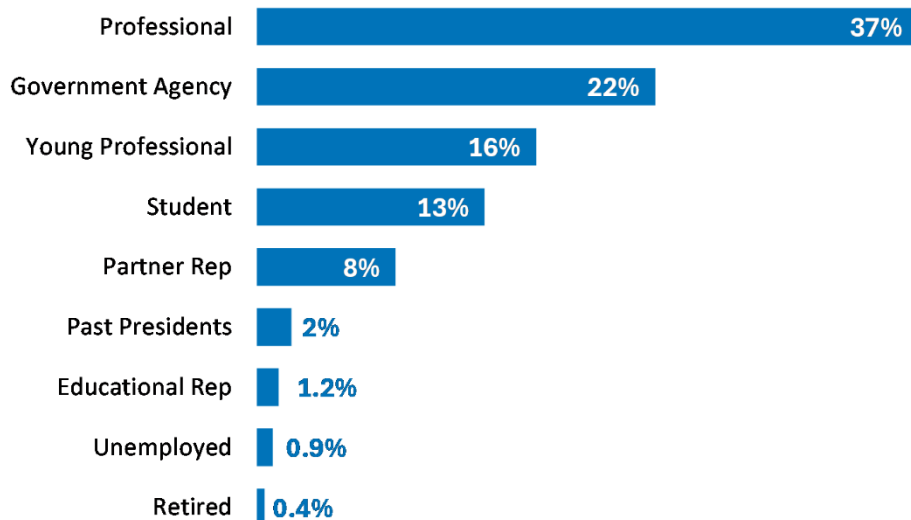


GPN's GISCorps

GISCorps' dedicated volunteers provide GIS expertise for underdeveloped countries and support for disaster recovery efforts across the globe. GISCorps was organized as a GPN program in 2003. GIS for Good!

Membership

There are 9 individual membership categories.



Source: GPN membership as of December 31, 2024.

Individual Memberships

Professional

The GPN is a multi-disciplinary, inclusive organization and our more than 2,000 professional members encompass all levels of experience and backgrounds, they work for a variety of organization types and disciplines. That's what makes the GPN unique - a variety of perspectives to learn from!

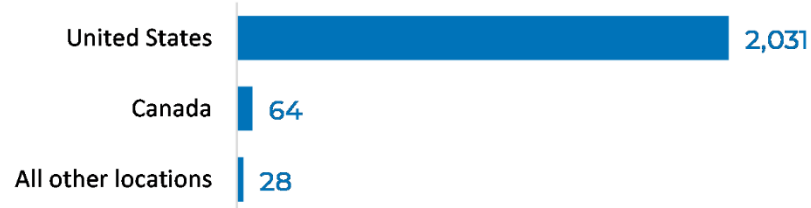
Young Professional

The GPN is committed to the next generation of GIS leaders through its Vanguard Cabinet, Young Professional Scholarship, and a multitude of opportunities to connect and make an impact. Individuals who are 35 years of age or younger qualify for this discounted membership.

Student

Some of the GPN's most impactful leaders and professional superstars started their journeys as GPN student members. Full-time students who are currently enrolled as graduate students and have 9 credit hours or more or are undergrads and have 12 credit hours or more of courses qualify for this discounted membership.

Where GPN members are located.



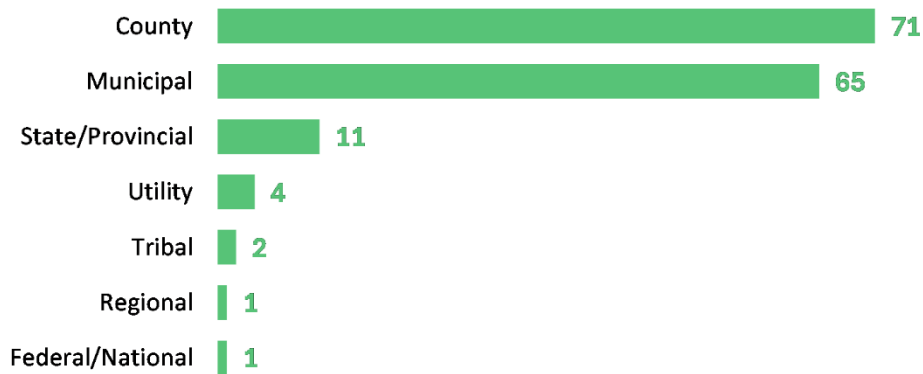
Source: GPN membership as of December 31, 2024.

Organizational Memberships

Government Agency

Most current GPN members work for a government agency – from rural towns and urban counties to tribal, state or provincial, and federal government. Government agency membership offer an opportunity for multiple individuals to participate as members while taking advantage of cost savings and efficiencies.

The majority of government agency members work for county or municipal governments.



Source: GPN membership as of December 31, 2024.

Partner

A partnership with GPN raises your company's visibility, facilitates the exchange of information and ideas, and builds relationships with industry leaders. The partnership is much more than sponsoring a conference or event. Discover opportunities for small start-ups with a couple of employees to global software leaders with thousands of associates.

Partners by Type



Educational Institution

GPN has long valued its relationships with the academic community. Outreach to future GIS professionals at community colleges and universities is one of our most important responsibilities. An educational institutional membership includes individual membership benefits for faculty members and students.

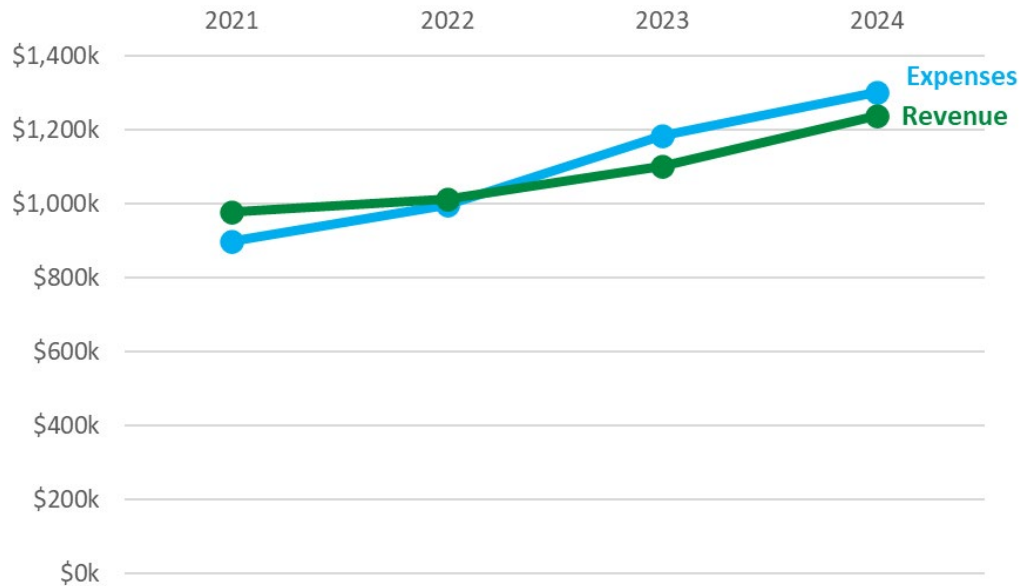
There are 15 educational institution members that include 297 individual GPN memberships, including both students and faculty.

Finances

GPN's Finances are managed on a calendar year basis, while the GPN "program year" spans between each GIS-Pro annual conference (e.g., October 2023-October 2024). Over the past four years, GPN has steadily increased both its revenue and program investments, reflecting the organization's continued growth and service to the geospatial community.

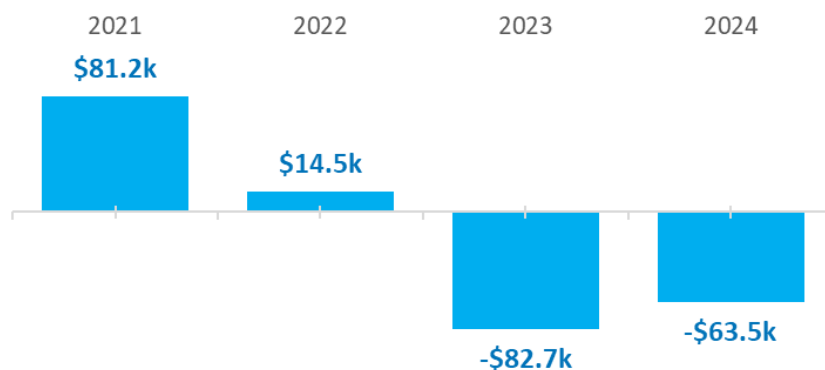
Revenue and expenses have steadily increased, reflecting our expanded programs, outreach, and investments in strategic initiatives like rebranding and modernization. The chart below shows recent trends in revenue and expenses.

Annual Expenses and Revenue



Net income was positive in 2021 and 2022. Modest operating deficits occurred in 2023 and 2024 as part of a planned investment strategy in the organization's rebranding and platform enhancements.

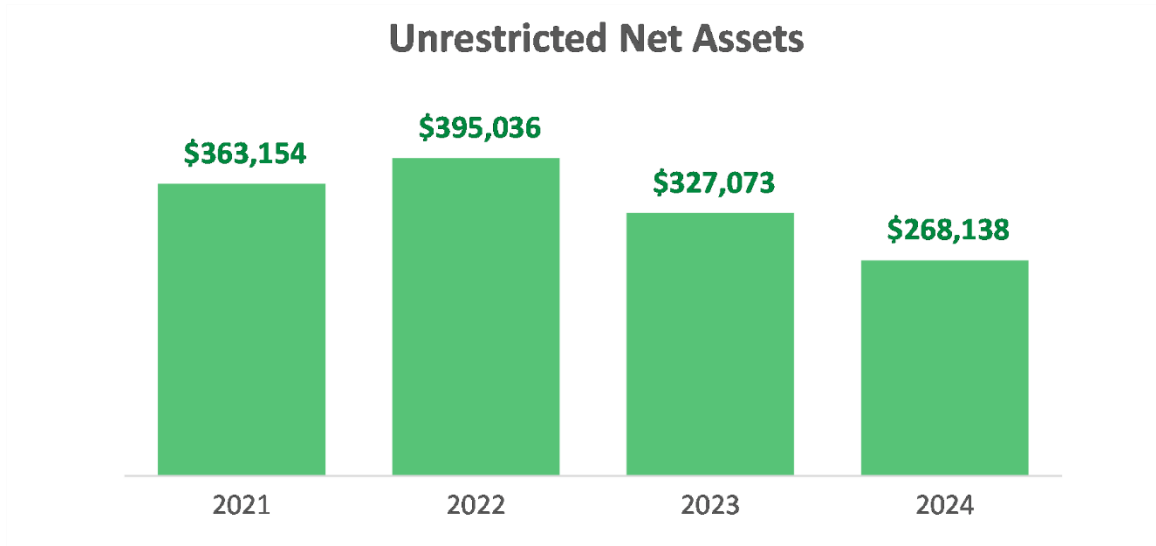
Net Income/Loss



Unrestricted net assets, which represent GPNS's financial reserves, declined from \$395k in 2022 to \$268k in 2024. This reduction reflects planned investments in strategic initiatives, including the organization's rebranding effort and virtual learning system.

These reserves are critical because they give GPN the flexibility to respond to opportunities, cover unexpected costs, and invest in long-term growth. While it's natural for net assets to fluctuate with

planned spending, maintaining a healthy reserve is essential for organizational stability and sustainability.



In 2024, the Finance Committee developed an investment policy to better manage any surplus funds of the association. The policy created two funds, an Operating Reserve and an Opportunity Reserve. The Operating Reserve holds funds intended to cover budgeted expenses without having to access long-term investments. The Opportunity Reserve holds long-term investments intended to generate additional revenue and allow the association to build capital over time for strategic initiatives. For more details on the accounts see the GPN Investment Policy: April 2024.

Committees, Task Forces, and Groups

Did you know that GPN members support all these committees and programs? Some are appointed committees and others are open to all members and welcome your involvement. Sign in to the GPN member portal and join one or more. Attend the committee's next meeting to see what it's all about. Get involved. Contribute!

GPN committees, task forces, and groups may develop content, may provide support, and/or may be organizational or administrative in nature. Below are the committees, task forces, and groups represented in this report:

- Chapter Development and Relations Council (CDRC)
- Committee Coordination Group
- Climate and Community Resilience Committee (CCRC)
- Conference Committee - Annual Conference (GIS-Pro)
- Core Documents Committee
- GISCorps Core Committee
- GIS for Equity and Social Justice (ESJ) Committee
- Leadership Development Committee (LDC)
- Marketing Committee
- Membership Committee
- Location, Enterprise Addressing, and Public Safety (LEAP) Committee
- Pro-Equity and Anti-Racism (PEAR) Committee
- Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Professional Education Committee (PEC)
- GPN GIS Leadership Academy (GLA) Committee
- Vanguard Cabinet (VC)

Chapter Development and Relations Council (CDRC)

The CDRC promotes the health and growth of GPN chapters and facilitates communication and support by and between GPN and its chapters.

Accomplishments

- Transitioned to Connect platform and archived Podio records to provide a streamlined communication location
- Opened communication with chapter leaders and explored pathways to increase participation

Goals for 2024-25

- Provide enhanced support for chapter and chapter leaders
 - Encourage member participation at the chapter level
 - Increase meeting cadence to support chapters better
 - Assist chapters through the rebranding to GPN
-

Committee Coordination Group

The purpose of this group is to provide: 1) collaboration space for the committee chairs and board liaisons and to align activities and initiatives with the adopted Strategic Plan, and 2) an opportunity for notifying committees of significant organizational level initiatives and policies.

Accomplishments

- With the new branding the committee coordination group has successfully partnered with the various committees to build collaboration and promote the new brand.
- The group coordinated both membership and marketing to develop new strategies for the new brand and work with the various other committees to create branding.
- The group continues to develop strategies for collaboration with the various committees and the newly formed communities of the Geospatial Professional Network.

Climate and Community Resilience Committee (CCRC)

This committee seeks to both engage and inform GPN members and other stakeholders in matters related to the role of GIS in community resiliency. One of the key goals of the committee is to share existing and new best practices that apply to community resilience and the ability of individuals, communities, organizations, and states to effectively incorporate geospatial technologies and data to reduce risk and impacts of natural disasters. Community resilience is comprised of elements that leverage geospatial technologies to manage, analyze, and produce information in pursuit of a holistic approach to resilience.

Accomplishments

The Climate and Community Resilience drafted the GPN's Board adopted Call to Climate Action. Each action was promoted over a 3-month social media campaign. The committee also drafted climate actions for the geospatial community which are highlighted in a rollout for the next year.

2023-2024 was a successful year of the Climate and Community Resilience Webinar Series, which included:

- FEMA's HAZUS and National Risk Index (82 Registered)
 - FEMA's Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool (RAPT) (115 Registered)
 - The Role of GIS in Determining the FEMA Community Disaster Resilience Zones (115 Registered)
 - GIS Workflows for Urban Heat Mapping (560 Registered)
 - The Role of GIS in Flood Hazard Identification, Analysis, and Solutions (231 Registered)
 - Seawalls, Managed Retreat, and Climate Gentrification: Notes from a Drowning City (114 Registered)
 - USGS Hazards 101: Tools and Data for Enhancing community Resilience (70 Registered)
 - InSPIRE 2024 Highlights: Innovation Summit for Preparedness and Resilience (156 Registered)
 - Artificial Intelligence in Emergency Management (183 Registered)
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- Beyond the Headlines: Practices and policies to improve the use of GIS for Pandemic Response and Public Health (138 Registered)
 - A New Resolution Coastal Land Cover for the Nation (88 Registered)

Goals for 2024-25

- Continuing to build and promote a robust Climate and Community Resilience Webinar Series.
- Continue to build resources for the Climate and Community Resilience Hub with climate and community resilience relevant data resource links and case studies. Expand additional resources to include a compilation of current grants and other resources that support climate and community resilience.

Conference Committee - Annual Conference (GIS-Pro)

The committee is charged with producing GPN's annual educational conference.

Accomplishments

- Successful GIS-Pro Conference in Portland Maine. (409 attendees)
- Successfully brought open source, developers and AI to the table during the 2024 conference.

Goals for 2024-25

- Reach a 600-person attendance level by providing an unmatched program and memorable conference.
- Raise money for GIS Corps through an energized, updated approach to the silent auction.
- Recruit a large number of new, local GIS professionals and GIS User Groups/Communities to the GIS Pro Committee for Denver in 2025

Core Documents Committee

The Core Documents Committee, under the direction of the Board of Directors, is charged with identifying and reviewing amendments to the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA dba GPN) Core Documents including the Constitution and Bylaws, the Policy Manual and additional policies, manuals and plans generated by committees, and other documents that are identified to be critical to the governance and operations of the GPN organization by the Board of Directors.

Accomplishments

- Monitored organization action for changes to the core documents.
- Organized materials from previous years that inform the policy history of the organization.

Goals for 2024-2025

- Create a list of policy actions as an appendix in the Policy Manual
-

GISCorps Core Committee

The GISCorps Core Committee plans and directs the work of the GISCorps. The GISCorps coordinates short-term, volunteer-based GIS services to underprivileged communities and for humanitarian relief. The GISCorps Core Committee solicits and assigns volunteers to provide GIS services.

Accomplishments

- Launched 14 new missions
- Completed 16 missions
- Supported 10 partner organizations
- Deployed 88 volunteers, including at least 3 volunteers to Africa as part of the PAM program in partnership with National Geographic and ESRI
- Contributed 1700+ volunteer hours
- Added and trained two new / additional Core Committee Members

Goals for 2024-2025

- Expand the number of missions (disaster response and Standard missions) including the GIS Service Pledge Program.
- Increasing the number of projects and deployed volunteers

Leadership Development Committee (LDC)

This Committee is charged with: 1) recommending a slate of candidates to serve on the GPN Board of Directors in accordance with the Association's Bylaws, 2) recommending candidates to serve in the post of Whistleblower Policy Compliance Officer, 3) selecting Members of the Vanguard Cabinet, 4) identifying people for future leadership roles, and 5) training for all volunteers holding leadership positions within the Association.

Accomplishments

- Created president slate for election; discussed options, contacted nominees, submitted to Board.
- Created Board slate; discussed options, contacted nominees, submitted to Board.
- Reviewed applications, interviewed candidates, and selected Vanguard Cabinet members for three-year terms.

Goals for 2024-25

- Develop a slate of candidates for open board positions.
 - Discuss various nomination/appointment processes for leadership positions and determine how to best proceed.
 - Review the process for selecting Vanguard Cabinet members and make updates based on previous experiences and lessons learned.
-

Marketing Committee

This committee is charged with developing and implementing programs to: market the organization; advertise its activities, events, programs and initiatives; and attract and retain GPN members.

Accomplishments

- Started the GPN Member Meet-Up, a monthly virtual social event that gathers on the first Tuesday of each month at 7PM Eastern.
- Leveraged GIS Day as a way to increase GPN visibility via event support announcements and encouragement to participate, as well as a 10% GPN membership discount.
- Started the GPN Book of the Month Club.

Goals for 2024-25

- Set up online sites for the Committee, one public site using the best practices currently being used by other committees and another internal site using GPN Connect.
- Create a Corporate Identity Package consisting of a standardized letterhead, PowerPoint template, logo, and logo usage guidelines.
- Create an Introduction to GPN presentation to be used by staff and members at events.

Membership Committee

The purpose of the Membership Committee is to advance membership growth, retention, and benefits by promoting GPN membership through marketing and communications efforts and best practices to increase participation in GPN through networking, volunteerism and recognition. The committee is responsible for evaluating current and proposed member benefits and potential new categories of membership to be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors.

Accomplishments

- Identified recent members.
- The Committee Developed a survey to better understand why members chose not to renew and what can be done to retain members.
- Piloted the survey with recent members of the New England Chapter.

Goals for 2024-25

- Increase GPN membership retainment by 5%.
 - Expand the recent member survey
 - Share the expired membership list with our chapters for further outreach.
 - Develop a repeatable process for the survey and recent member outreach to share with future committee members.
 - Work with the Marketing Committee to create and collect content for The GIS Professional.
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- Map members and create a Membership Dashboard and other spatial analysis to better understand member demographics, chapters, GIS-Pro proximity and other analysis. The committee hopes to use this data and analysis to increase membership by 5%.

Location, Enterprise Addressing, and Public Safety (LEAP) Committee

GPN's Next Generation 911 Task Force was established to leverage the expertise of key GPN members to support and educate GIS professionals about Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1). In 2024, the task force reorganized as the Location, Enterprise Addressing, and Public Safety (LEAP) committee, reflecting the ongoing innovation and broader base of location and addressing in all public safety. The overall objectives of the task force include: 1) provide information about the critical role GIS plays in location, enterprise addressing, and public safety applications; 2) educate the GIS Community on ways NG9-1-1 facilitates GIS collaboration through the implementation of standards; 3) conduct educational workshops and webinars; 4) solicit input from various organizations across the country about their experience with implementing NG9-1-1; and 5) enhance LEAP membership and involvement in GPN.

Accomplishments

- Successful LEAP 2024 conference in February with a total of 98 individual and 38 team registrations.
- Total estimated attendance was 350-400.
- Revenue was approximately \$30,000.
- Successful Webinar "Life of Addresses" in August 2024 with 122 attendees.

Goals for 2024-25

- Successful LEAP 2025 Conference
- Additional webinars

Pro-Equity and Anti-Racism (PEAR) Committee

The purpose of the Pro-Equity and Anti-Racism Committee is to advance and to achieve GPN's commitment (as documented in the Constitution) to be a pro-equity and anti-racist organization.

Accomplishments

- PEAR-related presentations were given at GIS-Pro and the the Esri User Conference.
 - Delivered a well-attended Introduction to GIS for Equity & Social Justice workshop at GIS-Pro 2023.
 - The team designed a self-assessment equity impact assessment (EIA) form.
 - Drafted Geospatial Employment Equity Charter.
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Goals for 2024-25

- Implement changes to by laws previously identified by the PEAR committee with Core Docs.
- EIA (utilize self-assessment form): 1) Implement self-assessment form with early adopter (early goal); 2) Leadership conducts a baseline EIA for GPN that is reflected in the organizational strategic plan (mid-year); and 3) Committees conduct baseline EIAs that is reflected in their strategic plan (mid-year).
- Work with the Board to develop expectations for committees to operationalize PEAR.

Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)

The Policy Advisory Committee is charged with recommending formal policy positions on matters that: 1) pertain directly to GPN's mission; 2) do not involve partisan political lobbying or direct support for a political party or candidate; and 3) are raised and reviewed, and the position recommended, in accordance with the established procedures of the Committee.

Accomplishments

- Continued to monitor federal and state legislation that would be of interest to GPN members or impact them positively or negatively.
 - Federal legislation passed in 2022 that we followed: S.558 FLOODS Act; S.3875 Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act of 2022; S.198 Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act; S.2433 Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform Act of 2021 (Companion bill H.R.5522) language was included in H.R.2617 Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023.
 - Monitored state legislation in Pennsylvania and California.
 - Monitored actions of state licensing boards.
 - Identified legislation that is of interest to the NG 9-1-1 Task Force and Climate and Community Resilience Committee.
 - Followed the work of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC), and implementation of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 3D Elevation Program (3DEP).
 - Followed actions by the Census Bureau and sponsored the GPN webinar by Esri on "2020 Census Content Tour of ArcGIS Living Atlas".
 - Some of these efforts were achieved through participation in the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO).
 - Followed various actions by the FCC including Ligado and The Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric (Fabric), a dataset that includes all locations in the United States and Territories where fixed broadband internet access service has been or could be installed. The Fabric allows broadband data filers and the FCC to work from a single, standardized list of locations for the Broadband Data Collection (BDC) showing where broadband services are currently available or need to be installed.
 - Formed work group with participation of the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) to submit to the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) a revision of their Model Laws and Rules that more closely defines what actions
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must be done by a license surveyor and what actions can be done by non-surveyors like GISPs.

Goals for 2024-25

- Continue to monitor federal and state legislation and rulemaking that is of interest to GPN members. Communicate any actions or legislation that would be of interest to other GPN committees. Recommend to the Board if GPN should take a position. Of special interest is the reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program's floodplain mapping program.
- Continue to monitor federal agencies like the FCC for the Ligado situation and the Broadband Data Collection process. Monitor and work with the FGDC/NGAC, 3DEP implementation, Geospatial Data Act (GDA) implementation and others.
- Continue to work with NSPS to accept the revisions to the NCEES Model Laws and Rules.

Professional Education Committee (PEC)

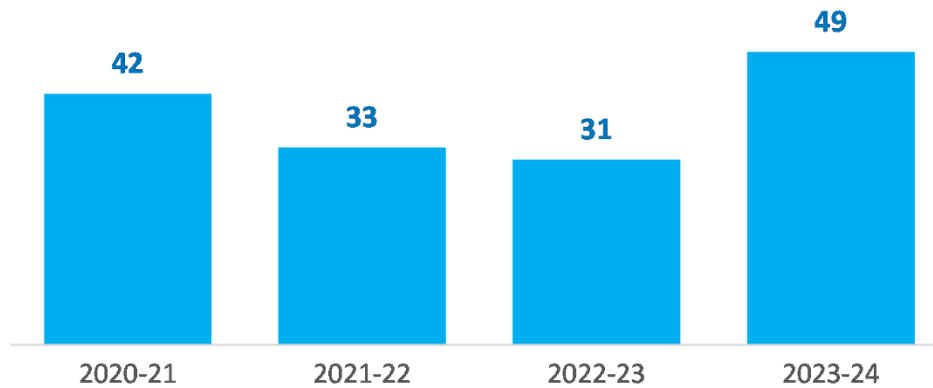
The PEC oversees the development and maintenance of GPN-approved professional educational materials and standards. It establishes guidelines, policies, and standards for the development, review, and publication of GPN-approved professional educational materials. The committee ensures that these materials are developed and presented in accordance with GPN policies, membership interests, and Board strategic goals. The committee also coordinates the GPN portfolio of educational materials, identifying gaps, resolving overlaps, and assessing balance. Originating committees may establish appropriate authorship and peer review policies and procedures for their materials, within the guidelines established by the PEC.

Accomplishments

- Coordinated a am packed virtual education and webinar series for the 2023-2024 program year spotlighting leadership, climate change series and ESIG winners.
 - Assisted with the salary survey job titles and descriptions to include with the 2024 salary survey.
 - Took steps to make the Job book into a dynamic database to be updated as submittals arise through a task force/working group/committee to review and update on demand.
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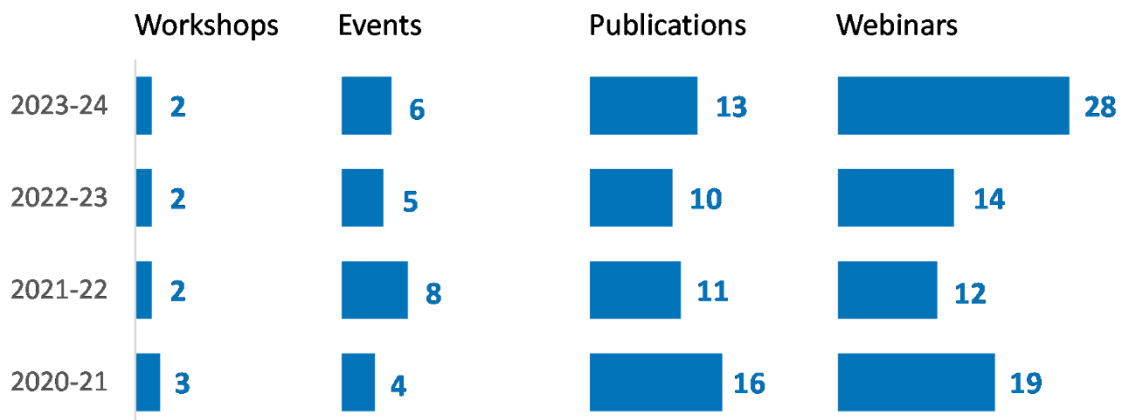
Professional Education

Total Activities by Program Year



Professional Education

by Type and Year



Goals for 2024-25

- Goal 1: Continue to leverage GPN/URISA communications platforms
 - Identify one monthly topic to post to GPN/URISA communications platforms and encourage people to participate.
Evaluate feedback for each topic and, where appropriate, consider developing additional education content that reflects on the conversation.
- Goal 2: Content and Delivery
 - Continue to encourage URISA committees, task forces, special interest groups, and members to organize, host, and produce live, on-demand, and virtual discussions, panels, webinars, and podcasts using the URISA Communications and Education Platform guidelines by encouraging committees, task forces, and special interest groups.

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- Continue to encourage content producers to alert PEC to their work to ensure coordination.
 - Mentor, sponsor, and support new content providers and instructors from diverse backgrounds.
 - Encourage the development and submission of at least one new URISA certified workshop per year.
 - Work with workshop leads and presenters to offer four workshops throughout the program year.
 - Review existing publications such as Quick Studies and FAQs. Identify opportunities for new publications, updates or transformation or transformation into new forms of content.
 - Goal 3: Continue strategic development of the Professional Education Committee
 - Share opportunities for involvement, encourage/foster volunteer engagement.

GIS Leadership Academy (GLA) Committee

The GLA Committee produces the GLA, a one-week leadership and management course for developing GIS leaders and the Advanced GLA (AGLA), a one-week follow-on course designed for those who have attended the GLA and are ready for more. The GLA and AGLA focus on GIS leadership and management techniques, strategic planning, team development, organizational capacity building, program investment and justification, change management, and ethics and professional challenges, among other topics. The GLA and AGLA are the only leadership training programs of its type, tailored to industry leaders and practitioners faced with unique challenges of GIS leadership and management who want to make an impact leveraging the power of GIS. The GLA has typically been held annually at locations around North America. This year was the inaugural AGLA course and it was held in North America.

Accomplishments

- Held two successful GLAs, one in Seattle, WA and one in Ft. Worth, TX.
- Completed the development of the Advanced GLA and held it in Chicago, IL.
- Transitioned Chair role to new leadership.

Goals for 2024-25

- Hold two successful GLAs in person in Savannah, GA and Chicago, IL.
 - Hold one successful virtual GLA.
 - Hold another successful AGLA in New Orleans, LA.
 - Train new GLA and AGLA instructors.
-

Vanguard Cabinet (VC)

The Vanguard Cabinet provides the means for young professionals to receive encouragement and to have a stronger role in the guidance of GPN. The Cabinet's mission is to collaborate with the Board of Directors in creating and promoting programs and policies benefiting young professionals.

Accomplishments

- Outreach Subcommittee: Created a central VC ArcGIS Hub site as a repository for all past and future VC content. This is a new center of the VC brand that addresses content and needs from all subcommittees.
- Started Quarterly "Mappy Q/A" webinars, where Cabinet members answer wide-ranging questions regarding professional development. Videos are posted to the GPN YouTube channel.
- Conference Subcommittee:
 - Created and implemented the first ever GIS Pro Morning Social "Donuts and Coffee" Walk event, which amassed over 70 individuals. VC will plan to continue this tradition for GIS Pro 2025.
 - Hosted Networking Bingo event at GIS Pro, with over 115 attendees. VC will plan to continue this tradition for GIS Pro 2025.
 - Hosted YP Social with over 100 attendees. VC will plan to continue this tradition for GIS Pro 2025.
- Mentoring Subcommittee:
 - Improved the Mentoring Network Hub website with updated dashboards and resources for mentors and mentees
 - Revised the Mentoring Network application process so that returning mentors are easily identified and don't have to re-submit answers to questions every cohort.
 - Improved the matching rate to 83% for 2024 Cohorts, including a 100% match rate in cohort 3, a program first!
 - Created a "Mentor/Mentee Resources" repository to assist individuals in the mentoring network.

Goals for 2024-25

- Conference: Help facilitate more student involvement at GIS Pro 2025 by interacting with local universities during the planning phase.
 - Outreach: Continue to build out Vanguard Cabinet Hub Site to better connect with young professionals, focusing on locating and placing historical blogs and videos to create the hub site as a central repository moving forward.
-

GPN Chapters

GPN has more than a dozen chapters. Chapter meetings, workshops, conferences, and social events occur regularly throughout the United States, Canada, and in the Caribbean. Chapters connect GIS professionals locally and the networking and education is invaluable.

Many of GPN's leaders got their first 'taste' of GPN at the chapter level. Their chapter experience was instrumental in developing leadership skills which have served them not only in their profession, but also as they continue volunteering throughout the organization. Many of GPN's Board members, Committee Chairs, and Presidents joined GPN chapters when they began their careers. The connections made and experience gained through chapter volunteer work were important in their careers. Volunteering at the chapter level also earns GISP Contributions Points.

Chartered GPN Chapters

Alaska	Louisiana	Oklahoma
California	Mid-Atlantic	Oregon and SW Washington
Carolina	New England	Rocky Mountain
Chesapeake	Gem State	Texas
Florida	Ohio Valley	

A separate implementation process is currently under review for international chapters. These chapters include:

- GPN Alberta: <https://www.urisab.org/>
 - GPN British Columbia: <https://www.urisabc.org/>
 - BeSpatial - GPN Ontario: <https://www.bespatialontario.ca/>
 - GPN Caribbean
-



Alaska

Geographic Area: Alaska

Number of Members: 21

Website: <https://urisa-alaska.org/>

Goals:

- Increase membership and member involvement.
- Increase revenue with increased membership and sponsorship outreach.
- Provide GPN workshops for further education and professional development opportunities.



California

Geographic Area: California

Number of Members: 500

Website: <https://www.calurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Grow membership and Volunteer participation engagement.
 - Continue to develop board leadership transparency through policy documents.
 - Promote value of professional associations.
-



Carolina

Geographic Area: North Carolina and South Carolina

Number of Members: 118

Website: <https://carolinaurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Increase the number of volunteers.
- Prepare members for Board positions.
- More outreach through webinars, workshops, and social media.



Chesapeake

Geographic Area: District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia

Number of Members: 180

Website: <https://chesapeakeurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Continue to collaborate with local, state/provincial, or federal agencies.
 - Continue to collaborate with educational institutions.
 - Continue to participate in educational activities with GPN.
-



Florida

Geographic Area: Florida

Number of Members: 56

Website: <https://flurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Migrate to a GPN-hosted Hub for website.
- Gain at least 3 new sponsorships.
- Implement board assignments to better engage board members.



Louisiana

Geographic Area: Louisiana

Number of Members: 46

Website: <https://laurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Start annual conference in 2025.
 - Increase recruitment of membership and participation in hosted local events like webinars, workshops and Mappy Hours.
 - Improve website visibility and promote the additional benefits of joining the local chapters.
-



Mid-Atlantic

Geographic Area: New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and Delaware

Number of Members: 67

Website: <http://www.macurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Plan October 2024 conference.
- Build our membership and enhance community engagement.
- Evaluate and plan for the long-term administrative strategies including Chapter financial investments and establishing a sustainable scholarship program.



New England

Geographic Area: Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Vermont

Number of Members: 73

Website: <https://neurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Assist with the organization and promotion of GIS-Pro in Portland, Maine.
 - Improve communication methods to further develop our chapter outreach by transitioning away from Wild Apricot.
 - Continue to provide informative and educational opportunities for our membership, with a supporting goal of increasing membership participation.
-



Gem State

Geographic Area: Idaho

Number of Members: 34

Website: <https://www.nrurisa.org>

Goals:

- Reach out to K-12 teachers and administrators to help raise awareness on GIS. Provide guidance on accessible tools and opportunities for bringing GIS into the classroom.
- Continue to raise awareness, engage in, and provide support for the GIS community in Idaho which will hopefully increase membership and involvement from GIS Professionals and Young Professionals.
- Host and sponsor more meetups and mappy hours to help engage and provide networking opportunities for the GIS community.



Ohio Valley

Geographic Area: Ohio, West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania

Number of Members: 50

Website: <http://www.ovurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Increase Membership.
 - Coordinate, source, and offer workshops
 - Make more inroads into colleges
-



Oklahoma

Geographic Area: State of Oklahoma

Number of Members: 21

Website: <https://www.okurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Reach out to local governments and teach them the importance of GIS.
- Organize regional workshops.
- Work with our local GIS Professional group and expand our influence.



Oregon and Southwest Washington

Geographic Area: Oregon and Southwest Washington

Number of Members: 60

Website: <http://www.orurisa.org/>

Goals:

- Engage with ORGPN Board of Directors and evaluate ways to preserve the organization's longevity through knowledge transfers, improving documentation, and building relationships with our community.
 - Provide additional events that offer group and development opportunities for our community and members as well as increasing ORURIA's overall presence in the area we serve.
 - Develop membership standards and consider a fee structure while increasing ORGPN membership and participation.
-



Rocky Mountain

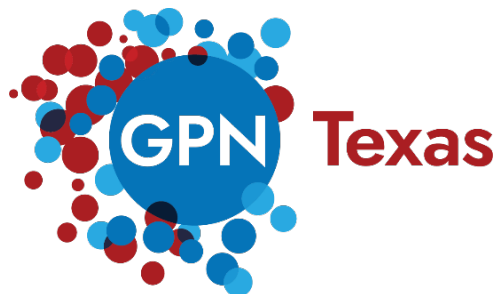
Geographic Area: Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming

Number of Members: 150

Website: <http://www.rm-urisa.com/>

Goals:

- Host the GIS-Pro 2025 Conference in Denver
- Increase membership and exposure
- Host virtual meet-ups at least twice a year



Texas

Geographic Area: Texas

Number of Members: 156

Website: <https://uristexas.org/>

Goals:

- Plan and execute an annual 1-day conference
 - Increase leadership, volunteers, membership, workshops
 - Share and promote GPN activities
-

2024 Events by the Numbers

GIS-Pro Annual Conference (Portland, Maine): **409**

GIS/Valuation Technologies Conference (Charlotte, North Carolina): **350**

Location, Enterprise, Addressing, Public Safety (LEAP) Conference (Virtual): **175**

GIS Leadership Academy:

- June 2024 (Seattle, Washington)
- November 2024 (Fort Worth, Texas)
- December 2024 (virtual)

Advanced GIS Leadership Academy (Chicago, Illinois): **13**

Awards

GPN GIS Hall of Fame

GPN's GIS Hall of Fame Honors persons and organizations that have made significant and original contributions to the development and application of GIS concepts, tools, and/or resources, or the GIS profession.

Their contributions have had a significant and enduring impact on the GIS field or profession, and their work has benefited society as a whole.

Persons inducted into the GIS Hall of Fame have, in their work and professional conduct, exemplified vision, leadership, perseverance, community-mindedness, professional involvement, and ethical behavior.

GPN did not add to the GIS Hall of Fame in 2024.

GPN Service Awards

Each year, GPN recognizes members for their contributions to the association and the community at large.

[2024 Press Release](#)

Horwood Distinguished Service Award

An occasional award given for long-term service to GPN and the profession. This award is GPN's ultimate award for service and leadership to GPN and within the geospatial industry. Awardees will have demonstrated significant contributions to both GPN and the geospatial technologies industry. The Horwood Distinguished Service Award is named after founding member and first GPN President, Edgar Horwood. Horwood was an early pioneer in the field of information systems for local government and admired by all for his intellectual and organizational contributions to GPN. Horwood was the Chair of the constitutional drafting committee, giving GPN the "open membership" model that has led to our interdisciplinary organization.

2024 Recipient

Shoreh Elhami



2024 Recipient

Brent Jones



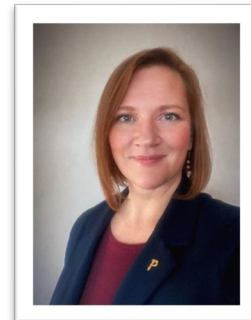
Leadership Award

Presented to members who have demonstrated exemplary leadership to GPN, creativity, innovation, and dedicated support of GPN programs. The recipient should be a member of GPN for enough years to show a pattern of leadership. Typically the recipient will have been responsible for new programs or activities, or significantly enhanced an existing activity or program, so that it takes GPN in a new direction and/or enhances our standing in the professional community.

2024 Recipients



Kara Utter



Hillary Palmer



Deb Rozeboom

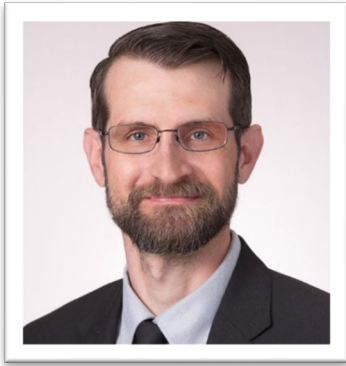


Tim Nolan

Service Award

Presented to members who have demonstrated faithful service to GPN and participation in its program over a period of several years. This award is for specific service to GPN. It should require a significant number of years of (not necessarily consecutive) service in a number of programs or committees, and a willingness to take on challenges without regard to the potential for recognition.

2024 Recipient



Matt Gerike

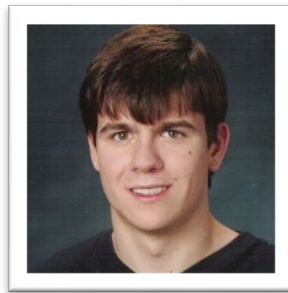
Barbara Hirsch Special Service Award

Presented to members or staff who have made special contributions to GPN. This award was created in 2004 to honor GPN's former Chief Financial Officer, Barbara Hirsch. Barb made her mark at GPN by being an exceptional professional who would always step forward when a point needed to be made, but never stepped to the front for recognition. It is in the spirit of this dedication that the Board of Directors has created an award for special service to GPN. This award will be given to individuals or committees who have shown a similar consummate level of service to GPN through an ongoing commitment to our success as an organization.

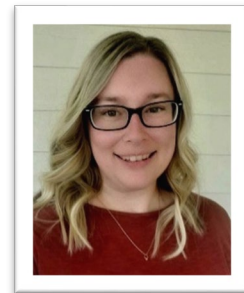
2024 Recipients



Alex Lopez-Rogina



Ryan Norton



Christina Brunsvold

Chapter of the Year

Each year, GPN recognizes an outstanding Chapter that has sponsored particularly effective activities or has otherwise excelled in serving its membership. Outstanding Chapter Award criteria include Innovation, Outreach, Education, Community Impact.

2024 Recipient New England Chapter



Young Professional of the Year

GPN's Leadership Development Committee selects the Young Professional of the Year to recognize outstanding contributions as part of GPN's Vanguard Cabinet.

2024 Recipient



Kendal Price

Dr. Marilyn O'Hara Ruiz Young Professional Scholarship

GPN established the Dr. Marilyn O'Hara Ruiz Young Professional Scholarship program which selects up to two young professionals (35 years old or younger) to attend GIS-Pro in-person. The participants in this program will have the opportunity to attend a one-of-a-kind geospatial super-event and experience cross-discipline sessions covering the most up to date and emerging GIS technologies, processes and applications, strengthen professional connections through networking with key GPN and industry leaders, and connect with and get involved in local, national and international initiatives and activities, all while obtaining valuable professional/continuing education credits.

2024 Recipients

- Katie Walker
- Olamiposi Fagunloye



Pictured (Left-Right): Olamiposi Fagunloye (2024 Award Recipient), Thomas Fisher, AICP, GISP (URISA President), and Katie Walker (2024 Award Recipient)

Exemplary Systems in Government (ESIG) Awards

The ESIG Awards, inaugurated in 1980 (as the Exemplary Systems in Government Awards), recognize extraordinary achievement by organizations in the use of geospatial systems and technologies. This achievement is defined as the effective application of technology that can be measured in terms of improved services and increased benefits to citizens or customers.

Each year, submissions are invited in two categories:

Enterprise Systems: Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of using geospatial technology in a multi-department environment as part of an integrated process. These systems exemplify effective use of technology yielding widespread improvements in the process(es) and/or service(s) involved and/or cost savings to the organization.

Single Process Systems: Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of applying geospatial technology to automate a specific SINGLE process or operation involving one department or sub-unit of an organization. The system application results in extended and/or improved services that are more efficient and/or save money.

2024 ESIG Award Winners - Enterprise Systems

Exemplary System

City of Frisco, Texas

SAFER: Situational Awareness for Emergency Response

Distinguished System

King County (Seattle, Washington)

King County State of GIS

2024 ESIG Award Winners - Single Process Systems

Exemplary System

City of Rockwell, Texas

Restaurant Inspection Scores Dashboard

Distinguished System

King County (Seattle, Washington)

King County Aerial Imagery Program

2024 is the last year of Exemplary Systems in Government Awards. With the rebrand to GPN, exemplary use of geospatial in any type of organization will be eligible for the award.

Volunteers

THANK YOU!

To our amazing GPN **volunteers** who use their time and expertise to help make things possible!

Donate

If you wish to financially support GPN and GPN Programs, consider donating to one or more of these initiatives:

GPN GISCorps

GISCorps has provided volunteer GIS experience for communities in need worldwide since it was first adopted as a GPN program in 2003. GISCorps volunteers have supported humanitarian relief, disaster response, conservation, environmental quality, health and human services, GIS education, and expert crowdsourcing. The program runs on volunteer passion, enthusiasm, and energy and needs support.

Your individual donations to GISCorps help fund day-to-day operating expenses, making it possible for our all-volunteer Core Committee to continue managing disaster response missions and matching qualified volunteers with nonprofits in need of GIS support. Thank you for helping us do #GISforGood!

Donate to GPN GISCorps

<https://square.link/u/lp8wKVHB>

Dr. Marilyn O'Hara Ruiz Young Professional Scholarship Fund

This scholarship fund was established and honors Dr. Marilyn Ruiz who passed away unexpectedly in 2018. During Dr. Ruiz's career at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, she provided her undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral students with excellent research experiences in her laboratory which helped them to have successful careers in academia, government and industry. Marilyn was passionate about her role as a mentor of graduate education. The scholarship fully supports young professional participation in GPN's annual conference, fostering their professional connections and educational development.

Donate to the Scholarship Fund

<https://square.link/u/ZkYqnWNx>

Pro-Equity and Anti-Racism (PEAR) Fund

The PEAR Committee is focused on fostering Equity and Anti-Racism within GIS and the association. They are reviewing organizational policies and procedures in addition to working on outreach and inclusion. Contribute to this GPN committee to support their efforts.

Donate to the PEAR Fund

<https://square.link/u/OLwhrkXm>

GPN General Fund

Contribute to GPN's General Fund to support development of programs, resources, infrastructure, and more.

Donate to the GPN General Fund

<https://square.link/u/6xolvdTX>

Are donations to GPN tax deductible? Yes.

GPN is a fully qualified 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions to GPN and its programs are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law (EIN 23-7028474). To claim a donation as a deduction on U.S. taxes, please keep your email donation receipt as your official record. Receipts are issued via email upon successful completion of a donation.

Looking Ahead



**DENVER,
COLORADO**

**GIS-Pro
in the
Rockies
2025**

*October 6-9,
2025*

GEO SPATIAL
Professional
Network
*Connect. Innovate.
Lead with GIS.*

GPN Rocky Mountain

GIS
IN THE ROCKIES



GEO SPATIAL
Professional Network
Connect. Innovate. Lead with GIS.

VIRTUAL

**GPN
GIS
Leadership
Academy**

*October 27-31,
2025*



GEO SPATIAL
Professional Network
Connect. Innovate. Lead with GIS.

**NEW ORLEANS,
LOUISIANA**

**Advanced
GIS
Leadership
Academy**

*November 3-7,
2025*



**SAVANNAH,
GEORGIA**

**GIS
Leadership
Academy**

*December
8-12, 2025*

Leadership

GPN Staff

Executive Director | Wendy Nelson

Meetings & Membership Coordinator | Pat Francis

Operations & Membership Coordinator & Office Manager | Katie Morehead

Online Education & Community Manager | Danielle Giza

Accounting Manager | Cardely Tristan

GPN Board of Directors 2024-2025

President | John Nolte, 2023-2026

President-Elect | Wendy Peloquin, 2024-2027

Immediate Past-President | Tom Fisher, 2022-2025

Treasurer | Jami Dennis, 2024-2027

Secretary | Matt Gerike, 2022-2025

Sara Akin, 2024-2027

Christina Brunsvold, 2024-2027

Josiah Burkett, 2022-2025

Adam Carnow, 2023-2026

Clinton Johnson, 2023-2026

Yves Leger, 2024-2027

Sid Pandey, 2023-2025



<https://www.theGPN.org>

info@urisa.org
