



GIS CERTIFICATION INSTITUTE



GISP: A Student Perspective

**Presented By: Bill Hodge, GISP
Executive Director GISCI
November 18, 2015
GeoTech Center Webinar**



GISP – A Student Perspective



- GISCI Structure
- GISP Certification History
- GISP Current Process
- Exam Creation
- Future Direction



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GISP – A Student Perspective

WHY CERTIFY?



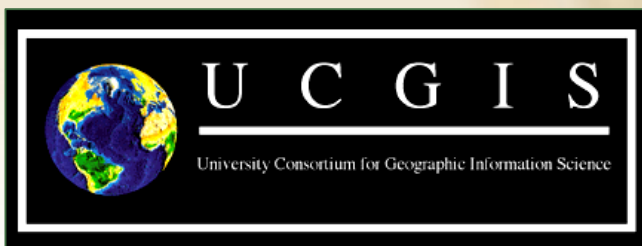
GISP – A Student Perspective

- The GISP is becoming increasingly recognized in the profession!
- More jobs include it as a preferred certification
- The GISCI Exam will become a 'rite of passage' for graduating geospatial students



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Member Organizations





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Strategic Partners 2015





Board Members

One of the strengths of GISCI has been the strong and diversified Board representation over the years!

Our current Board makeup reflects that same passion, experience, and service.



Board Members



Martin Roche GISP
GeoPlanning Services LLC
URISA Representative

Allen Ibaugh GISP
Data Transfer Solutions
URISA Representative





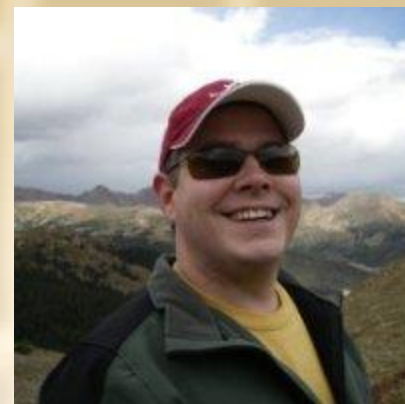
Board Members



Tony Simental GISP
W VA Office of GIS Coordination

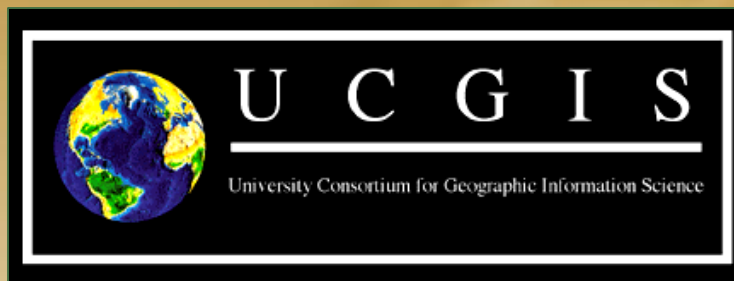
NSGIC Representative

Mike Vanhook GISP
AL Dept of Finance
NSGIC Representative



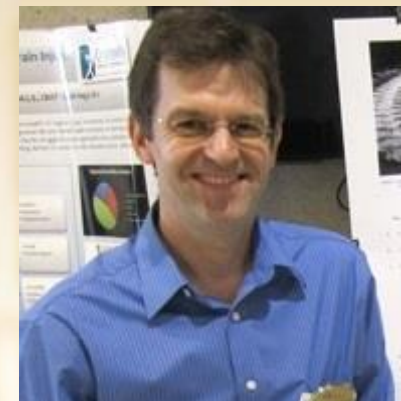


Board Members



Jeff Hamerlinck GISP Secretary
WY Geographic Information Science Center
UCGIS Representative

Dr. Helmut Kraenzle
James Madison University
UCGIS Representative





Board Members



John Kelmelis, PhD.

AAG

AAG Representative

Michael S. Scott, Ph.D. GISP

Salisbury University

AAG Representative





Board Members



Becky Shumate GISP Vice President
PennWell Publishing
GITA Representative

Talbot Brooks GISP
Delta State University
GITA Representative





Board Members



William (Bill) Coleman RPLS GISP
Coleman & Associates Land Surveying

GLIS Representative

Richard Smith, Ph.D
Texas A&M – Corpus Christi

GLIS Representative





GISP – A Student Perspective

GISCI Structure



GISP Certification History

GISP Current Process

Exam Creation

Future Direction



HOW DO WE MOVE FROM THE BIRTH OF AN INDUSTRY TO CERTIFICATION?





One certification leads to another

**Managerial
Certification**

**Higher Level
Certification**

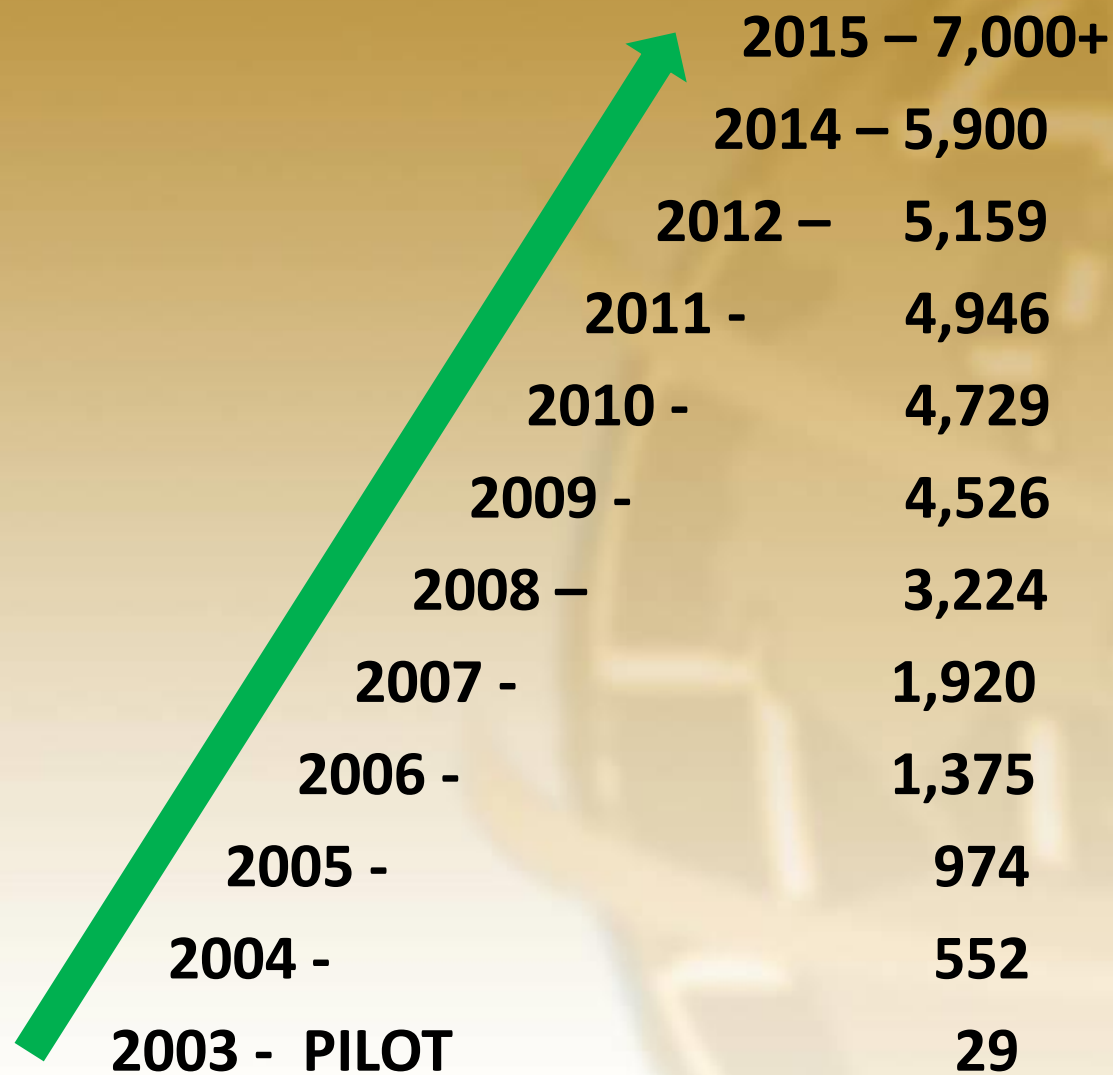
**Entry Level
Certification**

**General
Certification**

**Provisional
Certification**



ACTIVE GISPs: CERTIFICATION HISTORY





GISP – A Student Perspective

GISCI Structure

GISP Certification History



GISP Current Process

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GISP Current Process

Initial GISP: Portfolio Requirement + Exam

- Ethics Statement
- 4 Years Min Geospatial Experience
- Portfolio Application
 - Education, Experience, Contributions
- **GISCI Geospatial Core Technical Knowledge Exam Required**



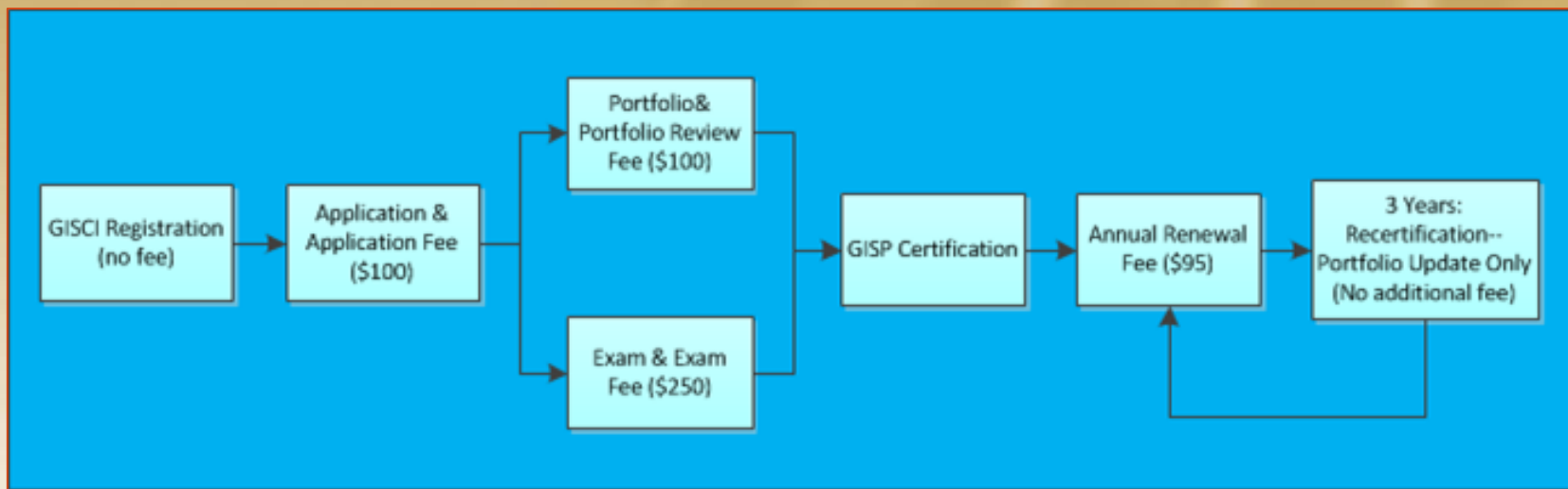
GISP Current Process

Recertification: Portfolio Requirement

- Education & Contributions Required
- Experience (Optional)
- Exam Not Required for Recertification
- Online Application
- 3 Year Recertification Period

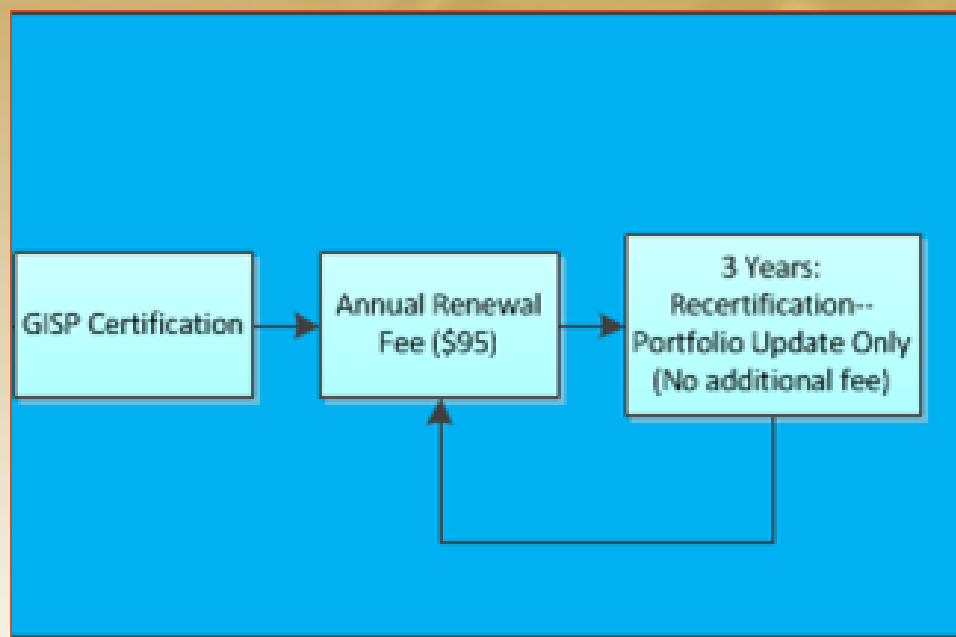


GISP Current Process





Recertification Process





GISP Current Process

Initial GISP Cost:

- Application Fee - \$ 100
- Portfolio Review Fee - \$ 100
- Exam Fee - \$ 250
- 3 Year Certification Period



GISP Current Process

Recertification Cost:

- Annual Maintenance Fee - \$ 95/year or
- \$ 285 as one payment
- No Exam Required
- 3 Year Certification Period
- Recertification Application Online



GISCI – A Student Perspective

GISCI Structure

GISP Certification History

GISP Current Process



Exam Creation

Future Direction



Exam Creation History

- July 2010 - GISCI Considers Updates to Certification Program**
- March 2011 - GISCI Accepts Public Comments Re: Exam**
- May 2011 - GISCI Board Decides to Update the GISP Process**
- June 2011 - GISCI Endorses GTCM**
- Aug 2012 - GISCI Board Selects Exam Development Project Mgr**
- July 2013 - GISPs Solicited to Participate in Exam Development**
- Sept 2013 - GISCI Selects Test Development Contractor**
- Oct 2013 - GISCI Releases Exam Development Process Summary**
- May 2015 - GISCI Prepares Bank of Exam Questions**

- Nov 2015 - Exam Deployment**



Exam Consultants



Rebecca Somers GISP
Exam Development Project Manager
Somers- St. Claire

Test Development Consultant
HumRRO/PSI





Exam Creation

- Written by GISPs for GISP
- GISPs received direct invitation to participate
- GISCI received 450+ responses
- 350+ were qualified to participate



Exam Creation Considerations

MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS

- **The Exam will be in addition to the Portfolio Process**
- **Implementation is scheduled for November 2015**
- **All GISPs are considered equal**
- **No Exam required for renewal**
- **At Exam Implementation, all new applicants will be required to test**
- **The entire GISP Process will be accredited by a 3rd party agency**
- **Exam offered twice each year**



Exam Creation Process

EXAM BLUEPRINT: Exam Components

Knowledge Category

Conceptual Foundations
Cartography & Visualization
GIS Design Aspects & Data Modeling
GIS Analytical Methods
Data Manipulation
Geospatial Data

Exam to be offered every 6 months



Exam Creation and Addition

ADVANTAGES OF AN EXAM

- Provides Increased Rigor Of Professional Certification
- Builds Upon The Established, Successful GISP Portfolio
- **Increased Student Participation**
- Provides An Entry For Students Early In Their Careers
- Provides A Basis For A Move To More Specialized Certifications
- **It Continues To Advance And Consolidate The Profession**



Exam Creation and Addition

ADVANTAGES OF AN EXAM TO A STUDENT

- Provides entry into a process of Professional Certification
- Provides an opportunity to differentiate yourself
- Provides An Entry For Students Early In Their Careers
- Allows you to show capability in addition to a degree
- **Shows an employer you are looking to the future**

- **The exam will become a rite of passage for graduating geospatial students in the future**



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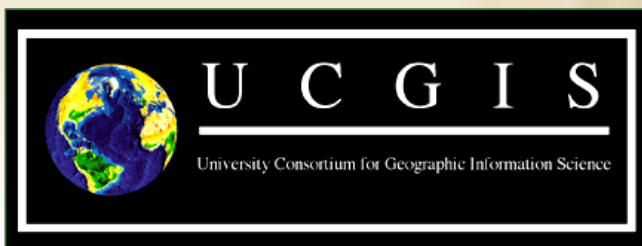
Future Direction

- **Exam Maintenance & Updating**
- **GISP Certification Specializations**
- **International Growth**
- **Benefit to Member Organizations**
- **Increased participation - 20,000 GISPs by 2024?**



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Member Organizations





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THANK YOU!

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www.gisci.org

