

Notes from Geospatial/GIS Meetup

August 12, 2021

via Zoom

Attendees: Janet Reyes, facilitator;
Via Zoom: Ademide Adelusi-Adeluyi, Ahmed Eldawy, Canserina Kurnia, Elizabeth Perez, Jenny Chen, Joseph (Jay) Spencer, Karen Pinto, Mike Cohen, Olakunle Muniru, Rey Castillo, Salvador Olguin, Shanon Langlie

Announcements

This meeting was recorded; [video is available here](#). The access passcode to view is ^e!M8u!A

The next [Geospatial/GIS meetup for summer 2021](#) will be held on Thursday, September 9. At present we have no speakers lined up for future meetups - please feel free to volunteer, or to suggest a presenter or a topic to discuss! The October meetup, tentatively on Oct 14, will provide students with an overview of GIS at UCR and allow time for Q&A.

Ahmed asked whether the meetups would go back to being held in person. Janet replied that the current plan is to offer events virtually (or possibly hybrid) at the start of Fall Quarter, and reevaluate halfway through the quarter about offering them in-person.

The [FOSS4G Conference](#) will be held online September 27 to October 2. It includes workshops and presentations, all relating to Free Open Source Software for Geospatial. It costs students \$50 to attend; others in the US would pay \$100. Workshops cost extra.

The R'Geospatial Club officers are thinking about a **GIS project** for the club to complete in the course of the academic year. This would give members a chance to learn new skills while creating a product of value. Ideas regarding potential projects are welcome.

Janet shared a few links of interest:

- [The Attack of Love](#) is a **story map from Stanford Libraries**, first in a series regarding stand-out maps in their collection. It features witty commentary about this metaphorical siege map from 1735.
- In the August Esri GIS in Higher Education Chat, John Nelson demonstrated a “trick” for **making a raster map out of a pivot table**. He provided [instructions for making the map](#) in an article several years ago.
Canserina provided this link for watching John’s presentation: <https://gis-in-higher-education-chat-edresources.hub.arcgis.com/>. She also shared that the next higher education chat (on Sept. 7) will be about Drone2Map and Site Scan for working with drone imagery.
- The [Bloomberg CityLabMapLab newsletter](#) provides content regarding mapping contemporary issues, especially ones that impact the urban environment.

First-time Attendees

Karen Pinto and **Olakunle Muniru** were our first-time attendees at this meetup. Thanks for joining us, and we hope you'll return in the future!

Discussion

We discussed some of the key takeaways from the 2021 Esri Education Summit and the User Conference. This [notes document](#) guided the discussion.

Regarding the **Esri Education Summit**, Canserina provided the following **additional information**:

- A new, free MOOC on [Imagery in Action](#) started yesterday. It's still open to join.
- In addition to the two e-learning guides mentioned, there's an [e-learning guide for remote sensing](#).
- Another resource for instructors for teaching remote sensing is <https://www.esri.com/en-us/industries/higher-education/imagery-remote-sensing-education> . It includes slide decks that can be customized, as well as ready-to-use datasets and deep learning models that include data samples.
- The recordings of the Education Summit sessions aren't yet available, but should be soon.
- The notes included a caution against using OneDrive or GoogleDrive for storing files to be used in ArcGIS; to clarify, this applies to when ArcGIS is being used in a virtual machine. Mike commented that he hasn't had problems using these cloud drives for storage when using a desktop version of ArcGIS Pro.

Here's **additional information regarding the User Conference**, beyond what is presented in the document:

- Plenary sessions can be viewed [here](#); but any session (including the plenaries) can be viewed by going to uc2021.esri.com and logging in with your Esri account.
- A more accurate quote than provided in the notes document of Jack Dangermond during the plenary, regarding climate change and sustainability: It's getting late but it's not dark yet.
- The cartographic capabilities of the new Map Viewer in ArcGIS Online have improved dramatically.

Other discussion and information:

- The theme for the ArcGIS [story map challenge for 2021](#) focuses on restoring our ocean. The challenge opens on August 16.
 - Meet the guest judges and ask questions on this webinar: https://esri.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_E2nGuBy8S4-eVNFEKcmQuw
- Shannon appreciated having both the Education Summit and the UC this summer; the content and emphasis at each event were helpful in their own way.

- At the Education Summit, Jay appreciated hearing how high school instructors are incorporating maps into the curriculum.
- Jenny is interested in location intelligence for business. Canserina supplied this link in the chat for more resources:
<https://www.esri.com/en-us/landing-page/industry/education/2020/business-education>

Map sharing

- Drying reservoirs: <https://flowingdata.com/2021/07/13/map-of-drying-reservoirs-in-the-west/>
- Mapping Inequality: <https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/#loc=5/39.1/-94.58>