

**Notes from Geospatial/GIS Meetup
September 22, 2026**

Zoom

Attendees: Janet Reyes, facilitator

Via Zoom: Ahmed Eldawy, Alex Jorion, Andres Zamorano, Canserina Kurnia, Dennis Lopez, Joshua Iniguez, Kate Huang, Kylie Mago, Luis Barrios, Lynn Sweet, Mary-Michelle Moore, Mike Cohen, Nic Barth

Announcements

This meeting was recorded; video is available [here](#). The passcode to view is jzAj!++7

The **Inland Empire GIS User Group** (IEGIS) is holding a [virtual meeting](#) on September 24. The topic is modern innovations and workflows across the utilities sector.

The topic of the **Esri GIS in Higher Education Chat**, on October 6, is [AI Assistants in ArcGIS: What They Mean for Your Classroom](#).

Registration is open for the [Esri Fall Education Open House](#), which will take place on October 7 from 12:30-5:00 pm at Esri's headquarters in Redlands. Students are the target audience.

What are the possibilities for **geospatial computing using modern hardware** instead of legacy infrastructure? Find out at the next [Geospatial/GIS meetup](#) on October 14.

UC GIS Week 2026 is looking for your submissions! [Sign up](#) by October 16 to present a lightning talk, presentation, or workshop at this annual virtual event, scheduled for November 17 - 19.

Riverside County GIS Day 2026 is [looking for speakers](#) from the UCR community. The event will be held on November 5 at the Riverside County Administrative Center.

The **City of Riverside** is also looking for presenters for its **GIS Day**, which will be held November 17. If you are interested, please contact Lisa Pierce at lpierce@riversideca.gov

The [Spatial Data Science Conference](#) will be held in New York October 20-21.

The 2026 [ArcGIS StoryMaps Competition](#) will accept submissions from September 8 - December 11. The theme is "Maps are for the Bold."

Mary-Michelle Moore, the STEM Teaching Librarian, will help "keep the lights on" for GIS support in the time between Janet's retirement and the onboarding of Janet's replacement. Mary-Michelle will be giving a StoryMaps workshop in the Fall.

Shared links

[The presentation slides](#)

Presentation

Janet presented an **Overview of Geospatial Resources at UCR**.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Services provided by UCR Library
 - The transitions as Janet retires were discussed.
 - Mary-Michelle Moore, the library's STEM Teaching Librarian, will be a point of contact for GIS-related questions.
 - Michele Potter, the library's Collection Strategist for STEM, can be contacted about paper maps and our historical aerial photos collection.
 - Email libstemteam@ucr.edu to request assistance from Mary-Michelle, Michele, or another STEM Team member who may be able to help
 - Contact BearHelp for assistance with ArcGIS Online or other Esri-related issues
- Information provided by UCR Library
 - How to find physical or digital maps and atlases
 - Library databases and mapping tools
 - PolicyMap and Social Explorer are mapping tools that provide Census and other socioeconomic data
 - Library guides for Maps and GIS and for Aerial Photos
 - Recordings of past workshops on the Library's YouTube channel
- GIS at UCR
 - How to access GIS software
 - STAR Lab in Orbach, Watkins computer labs, itopia virtual machines
 - ArcGIS Online and ArcGIS Pro available to all UCR affiliates
 - Courses, research, and more
 - Geospatial Analysis minor for undergraduates, through SPP
 - Possibility of reviving a GIS student club that has been dormant
- UC resources
 - UC GIS Leadership Team resources
 - GeoNavigator - a choose-your-own-adventure platform (in beta) for learning how to make a map
 - UC ANR Informatics and GIS program
 - virtual and recorded workshops
- Inland Empire and California resources
 - Esri has many offerings
 - IEGIS Users Group
 - State of California GIS Community of Practice

[Refer to the slides](#) for more detail and links.