Geo4All: ICA-OSGEO-ISPRS Global network

Helena Mitasova
member of OSGeo education committee
Department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
and OSGeo REL, Center for Geospatial Analytics
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
Geo4All initiative

Global network of Open Source Geospatial Research and Education Laboratories:

- 2011 ICA-OSGeo MOU: build teaching and research infrastructure worldwide
- open network
- 6 founding laboratories

http://www.geoforall.org/

Lead coordinator: Suchith Anand, Nottingham University
Contact for North America: Helena Mitasova: hmitaso@ncsu.edu
Global network: current status

85 Labs in September 2014


Spatio-temporal map: [http://www.geoforall.org/locations/](http://www.geoforall.org/locations/)
Geo4All: what is new in 2014

- ISPRS joined the initiative
- FOSS4G Academy (more from Phil)
- Growth of membership: Over 80 labs
- Advisory board was established
  - Professor Georg Gartner (ICA President & co-chair)
  - Jeff McKenna (OSGeo President & Co-chair)
  - Professor Maria Brovelli (ISPRS, Italy)
  - Professor Josef Strobl (Austria)
  - Professor Marguerite Madden (USA)
  - Professor Mike Jackson (UK)
  - Sven Schade (Germany)
  - Gavin Fleming (South Africa)
  - Sergio Acosta y Lara (Uruguay)
  - Dr Chris Pettit (Australia)
  - Professor Venkatesh Raghavan (India/Japan)
  - Geoff Zeiss (Canada)
  - Jeroen Ticheler (Italy)
  - Phillip Davis (USA)
  - Arnulf Christl (Germany)
  - Dr Rafael Moreno (USA)

Three presidents at AfricaGEO in Cape Town:
  - Prof. Georg Gartner, ICA
  - Jeff McKenna, OSGeo
  - Prof. Chen Jun, ISPRS
Geo4All: planned for 2015

Competitive **travel scholarships for students** working on FOSS4G projects to the FOSS4G, ICA and ISPRS annual conferences.

**Special issue** of ISPRS International journal of Geo-Information on “Open geospatial science and applications”, Abstracts due in August, manuscripts in February 2015.

**Criteria for admission** and for keeping the membership are being formalized

+ many other activities such as workshops, webinars, conference sessions, research and collaborative networks grant proposals educational material development
Geo4All membership rules

To establish:

- commitment to the MoU vision: opportunities for FOSS4G and open data
- expertise and vision in geospatial knowledge
- set up website listing people, research and training/education
- promote geo4all activities

To maintain:

- at least once a year updates on activities on labs webpage
- examples of activities:
  • participating at FOSS4G
  • teaching a course, workshop
  • publishing scientific papers
  • GSoC mentoring
  • working in committees
  • contributing to documentation, testing and translations
Geo4All: how to join

see geoforall.org web site, send email to:
Anne Ghisla Asia & Australia, Helena Mitasova North America
Charlie Schweik South America, Suchith Anand Europe & Africa
add to the list of participating labs on wiki
Example: OSGeo REL at NCSU

Lab in the **Center for Geospatial Analytics** focused on

- basic and applied research
- course development
- active participation in OSGeo projects: software, documentation, testing

http://geospatial.ncsu.edu/osgeorel/
NCSU Geo4all Collaborations

GRASS GIS development and applications collaboration with Czech Technical University Prague
http://geo.fsv.cvut.cz/gwiki/
Open_Source_Geospatial_Research_and_Education_Laboratory
GIS and RS Unit at Fondazione Edmund Mach
http://gis.cri.fmach.it/

- module development / bug fixing
- GSoC students/mentors
- PhD assistantships
- Educational material: FOSS4G workshop
Conclusions: vision for the future

Continue building the FOSS4G academic infrastructure:

• integrate open GIS approach into additional courses,
• share all material free on-line, keep it up to date
• teach not only how to use FOSS4G but also how to contribute:
  • code
  • documentation
  • data
  • education material, tutorials, videos
• encourage and organize participation: users and devs lists, GSoC, community sprints
• provide pool of faculty who could serve on student BS, MS, PhD committees or as advisors and mentors in GSoC
• organize student exchange, information about Research Assistant and Postdoctoral positions
The presentation was prepared by
the NCSU OSGeo Research and Education Laboratory
http://geospatial.ncsu.edu/osgeorel/

To join the OSGeo network:
read: http://www.geoforall.org/how_to_join/
email to: hmitaso at ncsu.edu

https://2014.foss4g.org/
Geo4All initiative