

## MAGIP Education Committee May 23, 2012 Conference Call

Members attending: Meghan Burns, Wendy Largent, Denny Rea, Van Shelhamer, Gerry Daumiller, Leslie Zolman, Carrie Shockley, Stephanie Anderson, Allen Armstrong.

The members elected Gerry Daumiller as their chairman and representative on the MAGIP Board of Directors. After the meeting, Gerry sent the following meeting summary to the attendees and to each MAGIP member that marked an interest in the Committee on their MAGIP on-line profile:

The official ongoing responsibility of the committee is to administer MAGIP's higher education scholarship and K-12 grant programs. Traditionally, the call for applicants for these programs goes out early each year and the deadline for applications is March 26. The 2012 scholarship and grant have been awarded, and I will make sure these programs are ready to go in 2013. This fall I will need help getting the word out to potential applicants and next spring I will need volunteers for a committee to select next year's awardees.

The purpose of the Education Committee is to promote GIS technology to K-12 schools and colleges. There are many things we could do, and we had some suggestions at the Wednesday meeting:

- Denny Rea described three needs (I THINK it was he who brought up all three of these):
  - He has been working with students at Bigfork High School who are interested in GIS. Denny said there are staff in the guidance office at the school who do not believe GIS is an appropriate field to encourage college-bound students to be interested in. **We need a volunteer** to meet with Denny and set up a meeting at the school to explain what a great opportunity GIS higher education is for his students and how important it is to society. Can this grow into something that we try to get out to all high schools?
  - The Montana Office of Public Instruction has curriculum standards and assistance documents, but none of these address GIS. **We need a volunteer** to research what the OPI offers to and requires of schools, and figure out where we could insert GIS into their programs.
  - It would have been nice if students who are involved in GIS could have been brought to the GIS Day event in the State Capitol building. I will ask the Board of Directors to consider providing funds to help make this happen. **We need a volunteer** to identify the students who should come.
- Van said that ESRI's program to get free GIS software in the hands of school administrators is not being utilized. **We need a volunteer** to get the word out to school administrators and explain how this can help them.
- The MAGIP Board of Directors sets goals and objectives for its committees each year. All of the current goals for our committee have to do with the grants and scholarships, EXCEPT that one of the goals is to deal with the Geospatial Trunks and work with the Montana Geographic Alliance to replace one of the physical trunks with a virtual trunk. **We need a volunteer** to find out about the trunks and tell us about them.
- It looks like the Board meets every September to set the goals and objectives. We need to come up with ideas for next year.

We decided that we should hold quarterly meetings. If we had our next meeting in July, then the meetings would be in July, October, January, and April. I've set up a Doodle poll for the week of July 9<sup>th</sup> at <http://www.doodle.com/k9zhnk7tgcci74qf>. Please go there and select the dates and times you could meet.

Please send me agenda items for the meeting. If you volunteer to help with one of the items above, please submit an agenda item for it and be prepared to tell us what progress you have made on the item.

The education section of the ESRI web site, <http://edcommunity.esri.com/>, has lots of great resources we could take advantage of. If you volunteer on any of the above items, check out ESRI to see if they have material that can help. We all should browse through it to look for other ideas.