Spring 2007 report

[Available on-line at: http://www.science.smith.edu/sal/docs/reports/]

SAL Initiatives

- Two proposals (*expanding geospatial technology* and *strengthening spatial thinking*) submitted to Smith strategic planning process. Both referred to the Provost.

- Organize and host Google Earth Summit workshop for Smith faculty and staff (October 12th, 2006)

- Develop and Organize first [Five College GIS Day](#) held at Amherst College (November 16th 2006)

- Sponsoring Northeast ArcInfo Users Group ([NEARC](#)) spring meeting (April 27th 2007)

- Working with [Admissions](#) office to explore geodemographic modeling processes to enhance recruitment.

- Broker and support arrangement between Smith student (Hanh Chu) and Baystate Medical Center to conduct a spatial analysis of BMI measurements and risk factors for obesity in Springfield, MA school district. Principal Investigator: James J. Burns MD, Chief Pediatrics, Baystate Children's Hospital. Additional support from [Baystate Health Geographics Progam](#) and Commerce High School.

- Organize and coach Smith student team in the [*Build Your Campus in 3D Competition*](#) sponsored by Google.

- Establish weekly walk-in GIS clinic for GIS and GPS support

- Establish Spatial Analysis Lab [Blog](#)

- Help develop and edit [story](#) about on-line interactive Alumnae mapping for the *Smith Alumnae Quarterly* magazine (winter 2006-2007 edition).

- Continued GPS and mapping support to the Botanical Garden plant and tree inventory mapping.

- CET grant award to purchase large format scanner

SAL Usage

Fall 2006

Class	Course Code	Students
Natural Disasters: Understanding and Coping	GEO105	~ 55
Plant Ecology	BIO356	3

Spring 2007

Class	Course Code	Students
Archeology	ARC211	~ 30
Introduction to GIS	GEO150	27
Island Biology	BIO356	19
Geomorphology	GEO252	21
Oceanography	GEO108	~ 20

Support

Individuals

Thesis / Special Studies

- Cassandra Finger (urban planning techniques and morphology in ancient Rome)

Doctoral

- **Jennifer Seavey**, UMASS; Biology *doctoral research

Jennifer is conducting a temporal and spatial scale analysis of environmental determinates of abundance and productivity in Piping Plover on Long Island, New York. The SAL is supporting Jennifer with GPS equipment and training, as well as base data collection and organization.

- **Megan O'Connor**, UMASS; Biology

Fish Ecology in Hudson River

Other Student / Class Projects Support

- Ruth Indrick (Geology; sustainable development)
- Katie Dick (Geology, EVS300; erosion modeling)
- Hanh Chu (Anthropology; Baystate BMI study)
- JuneYeung (Engineering Design Clinic - *Restoration Design for the Weir Creek Salt Marsh*)
- Amhed Naija (Engineering, Irrigation project in Holyoke, MA)
- GEO150 students (too many to count!)
- GEO252 students (too many to count!)

Faculty / Staff Support

- Tom Litwin
- John Burk
- Bob Burger
- Ann Zulwaki
- Steve Tilley
- Bob Merritt
- Paul Voss
- Tom Hartely
- Larry Meinert
- Al Curran
- Jamie Hubbard
- Eric Jensen
- Eric Brewer

General Support

- Poster printing
- System Administration
- Programming / Scripts
- Mapping/Cartography Projects
    - Land Conservation
    - Buddhism in the Valley
    - Massachusetts School Funding

Ongoing Program Support and Development

Programmatic

- Web Page maintenance
- System Administration
- Valley GIS Meetings
- Five College GIS Meetings
- SAL Blog; Screen casts; podcasts

Student Assistants

- Hanh Chu
- Rachel Brown
- Cassandra Finger
- Bonnie Caldwell
- Moitri Ghosh

Equipment / Space

- Large Format Scanner installed and operating in Sandbox (Bass105)

Software & Data

New software and data acquired and installed during the summer and fall includes:

- ArcGIS 9.2 (server and desktop)
- Erdas Imagine 9.1 (15 seat license)
- Feature Analyst 4.1
- ESRI Maps and Data 2006
- Vision 6 (screen sharing / collaboration software)

Presentations

- Invited speaker at the Northeast Regional Computing Program *Virtual Globes: GIS 2.0* conference (January 19th, 2007)

- Invited speaker at Smith College Technology Fair (November 15th, 2006)