

Fall Report

spatial
analysis
smith college
lab



2010

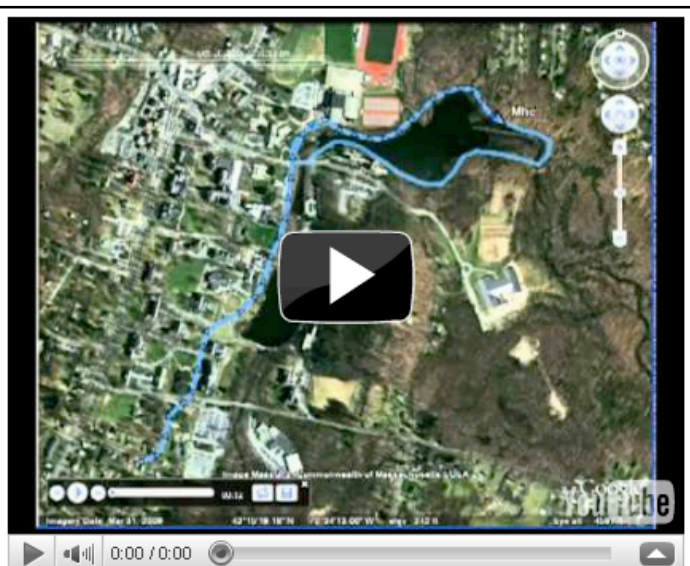
Contents

Initiatives	3
News of Interest.....	4
Classes	4
Support and Service.....	4
Faculty / Staff / Student Support.....	6
Outreach	6
General Support.....	6
Ongoing Program Support and Development.....	6
Programmatic.....	6
Student Assistants	6

Google Earth : A download of **Google Earth**  lets you import KML files into this application, and animates path on a satellite image.

Video to the right provided by Jon Caris, GIS Specialist at Smith College.

from CSC220 wiki



Initiatives

- Selected (with Ginny Hayssen) to participate in the CEEDs Curricular Enhancement Program. *“Ecological literacy and GIS: Mapping the vertebrate ecology of the MacLeish Field Station”* Link to the final report
- Participated and worked extensively with students in the Advanced Programming Techniques class (CSC220) to support [class project](#) requiring both GPS and GIS technologies. The project involved gathering mobile phone-generated GIS files, in KML format, storing these files in a database, and generating a visualization of the paths.
- Continue support and development on [“Mapping Paris” A Digital Humanities Project at Smith College](#), with Hélène Visentin, Department of French Studies, and Amherst College IT Department ([MapApp](#)). January 2010 – present.

The project “aims to create and construct an interactive, web-based platform of the city of Paris by using a hypermedia environment with the Geographic Information Sciences (GIS) technology in order to explore and study the historical layers of Paris and foster critical thinking skills through the combination of time and space.”

- [Paris Demo Site](#)
- [Mapping for the Food Bank](#) of Western Massachusetts. A series of seven (7) maps depict themes such as vulnerable populations, food security, and community nutrition for the Northern Berkshires, Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden Counties, and the Mason Square area of Springfield.
- Asked to participate in an IPCSR workshop (<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/>) sponsored by the 5-College Libraries on Digital Preservation at Mount Holyoke College, June 2010.
- Asked to participate and contribute to the Faculty Learning Communities: Data Visualization, organized by Dominique Thiebaut.
- Help plan the relocation of the Spatial Analysis Lab from Bass Hall to Sabin Reed Hall.
- Plan and teach Interterm 2011 GIS class (12 students, 1 faculty, 2 staff)
- Prepare documents to support Drew Guswa’s December 2010 meetings with potential donors.

News of Interest

- Begin planning for 6th annual spring NEARC conference at Smith College.
- Interviewed for the first installment of NITLE's [Spatial Perspectives: A Podcast Series](http://blogs.nitle.org/2010/08/30/spatial-perspectives-a-podcast-series/) or <http://blogs.nitle.org/2010/08/30/spatial-perspectives-a-podcast-series/>

While modern life leaves little opportunity for fire-side tales, we can connect with one another through the stories we share. In this first installment of Spatial Perspectives, Jon Caris (GIS Specialist) describes his work at Smith College's [Spatial Analysis Lab](#) and shares his reflections on cross-curricular uses of GIS, the growing interest in spatial humanities, and much more.

Classes

- [GEO105](#): Natural Disasters: Understanding and Coping {16 students}
- [BIO363](#): Animal Behavior: Methods {6 students}

Support and Service

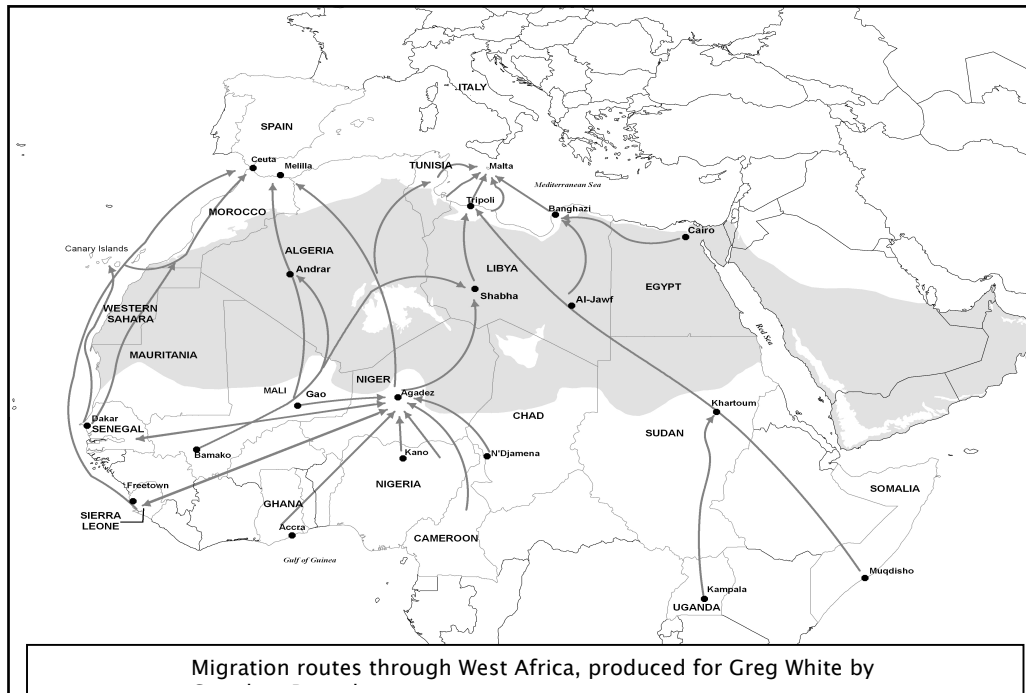
- Continue working on third iteration of the “[Easthampton ~ Northampton Trail and Bike](#)” map (with Nick Horton and [Friends of Northampton Trails and Greenways](#))
- Member of the Digital Asset Management¹ (DAM) Ad Hoc Committee which includes Tom Laughner, Elisa Lanzi, and Chris Loring.

This effort began last summer arising out of conversations with Drew Guswa and his CEEDS colleagues about how the college might best curate data from the MacLeish Field Station. Further context for our initial focus on data are the requirements from NIH and NSF to include data sharing plans in grant applications.

- Member of the Digital Preservation ad hoc working group which includes staff from the libraries and digital imaging center. Developed a 10 question survey and distributed to 23 department representatives.
 - [Survey Results Summary](#)
 - [Draft Report](#)
- Mentored 2 Botanic Garden interns during Summer 2010.

¹ **Digital Asset Management** is a set of services that provides a centralized environment for the collection, storage, organization, administration, management, access, use, and preservation of digital assets.

- Supervised successful student cartography as service project for Greg White (Government). Map to be included in Greg's book "Climate Change and Migration: Security and Borders in a Warming World" (Oxford University Press, 2011).



Paris Demo Site:
The Art, Literature, and Politics of France's Modern Capital

This is a demo site. As such any data on this site may be altered or deleted at any time. Also, as development work proceeds individual features on this site may or may not work.

Just by coming to this site users have Limited User status which is the most you should need.

Faculty / Staff / Student Support

- Bob Burger
- Jamie Hubbard
- Elaine Chittenden
- Cheryl Obremski
- Jesse Bellemare
- Helene Visentin
- Greg White

Outreach

- Presenter at [Visual Literacy and Effective Display of Quantitative Data](#) seminar, April 2010, Smith College
- CSC220 (see Initiatives)
- NITL Interview- Spatial Initiatives (see News of Interest)

General Support

- Poster printing
- System Administration
- Programming / Scripts
- Mapping/Cartography Projects

Ongoing Program Support and Development

- Continued support for Botanic Garden tree and plant mapping

Programmatic

- Web Page Update and Maintenance
- System Administration
- Valley GIS Meetings
- Five College GIS Meetings
- Purchasing and Budget
- Software License Administration

Student Assistants

- Jewels Rhode '11
- Wei Xin '13
- Brittany Innis '13