



Public Participation Geographical Information Systems

Joint Worldwide
Universities Network,
RGS(with IBG) Quantitative
Methods Research Group &
UCGIS e-seminars
Autumn 2007



Introduction: Aims and Objectives

The WUN Global GIS Academy's 2007 seminar series is intended to reflect the growing importance of public participation GIS. As usual it will enable participants to access contributions from some of the best-known names in the field, but in addition we hope and expect that provision of an international dimension to the discussions will add greatly to the experience.

Following the seminar series should enable participants to:

- follow current literature in the field;
- compare and contrast participatory GIS, public participation GIS, Internet GIS and Web GIS information technologies;
- understand the advantages and disadvantages of different research approaches for assessing PPGIS use.

Who can participate

The seminar is open to faculty and students in universities that are part of the WUN, together with members of the Quantitative Methods Research and GIScience Research Groups of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), Universities in the UCGIS, and other interested parties.

Although the series carries no activities for which a formal assessment is appropriate, our hope is that graduate student classes, in particular, will build on it by creating some formal, assessed activity that enables the series to be 'hard wired' into their research training programmes. Possible activities might be completion of an individual essay based on some or all of the presented materials. A note giving the timetable, suggested reading, and possible student activities, is available by request from Dave Unwin (d.unwin@wun.ac.uk).

Seminar Environment

Building on its successful use in our 2005 and 2006 seminar series, the seminars will use the Marratech™ platform, which is an extended desk top video and audio-conferencing environment (see www.marratech.com for details). This platform enables a moderately sized client to be downloaded and used with Windows™, Linux and Mac-OS™ systems. Provided broadband access is available, participants can use this system with a simple headset/webcam from home, or via a pre-arranged video suite at the home university, which is what we would recommend for entire classes of graduate students. If you intend to set up such a suite, please note that institutional firewalls can generate problems in using the client, but these are not insurmountable. Dave Unwin has prepared a fairly full guide that details all the wisdom about using this system that we have accumulated over the past two years, available on request from him at d.unwin@wun.ac.uk

List of dates & topics

*All seminars will commence at 1600 UK time, initially BST then GMT.
Please check carefully that you have the correct local time.*

| # | Date | Topic | Presenter | Chair |
|---|---------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | Wed. 17 th Oct | PPGIS: Who are the 'public' and what are they 'participating' in? | Robin Smith (Sheffield) & Richard Kingston (Manchester) | Dave Unwin (WUN) |
| 2 | Wed. 24 th Oct | Designing participatory GIS/SDSS | Piotr Jankowski | Robin Smith (Sheffield) |
| 3 | Wed. 7 th Nov | Unpacking the complexities of PPGIS | Rina Ghose (Wisconsin at Milwaukee) | Tim Nyerges (Washington) |
| 4 | Wed. 14 th Nov | Critical GIS: Methods for Exploring PGIS and PPGIS Use | Sarah Elwood | Derek Karssenbergh (Utrecht) |

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|---|---------------------------|---|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 5 | Wed. 28 th Nov | Quantifying the qualitative: capturing environmental perception in space/place problems | Steve Carver | David Dibiase (Penn. State) |
| 6 | Wed. 5 th Dec | Reflections on and Directions for PPGIS Research | Tim Nyerges | Dave Unwin (WUN) |

To view the seminars in real-time and participate

On the day of the seminar, from 3.45pm (UK local time) or earlier, there are two ways by which the Marratech™ is client software can be accessed:

- The simplest way is to point your web browser to the URL given for 'Java Webstart', at <http://marratech.wun.ac.uk:8000/launch.jsp?sid=10002>. Clicking on this link will install some Java based software on your system. The install sequence is obvious and should give you no problems. We recommend you do this well in advance of the seminar;
- Alternatively, you can download a free desktop client (Marratech Pro) from the supplier's website at www.marratech.com/download/. And then from this point to the slightly different URL at <http://marratech.wun.ac.uk:8000/connect.jsp?sid=10002> to direct it to the designated website.

The seminars commence at 4pm UK local time. Instructions on how to access them are also available at the website <http://www.wun.ac.uk/ggisa/seminars.html>. We strongly recommend that you 'enter' the virtual seminar room in good time for the advertised start and hope that you have at least 'played' with the client's interface to understand how the interactions it offers can be used..

The archive

The 2005 and 2006 seminars, on *Hot Topics in GISc*, *Spatio-temporal modeling in GISc* and *Graduate research in GIS* have been archived on the WUN GGISA website at <http://www.wun.ac.uk/ggisa/seminars/archive/>. The precise form of any one session archive depends upon what we were able to acquire, ranging from PowerPoint™ or PDF files of the materials used through to complete recordings of the session that can be viewed off-line using the Marratech™ client. Instructions on how to do this are on the same website. We hope that you might find them a useful source of materials for your students to browse.

Dave Unwin (WUN)
Tim Nyerges (University of Washington)