

Proposal for MS in GIS at Geography and Planning

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Why Propose a New Degree?

- Well-documented demand in the private, public, and non-profit sectors for expertise in geospatial tools
 - *Photogrammetric Engineering* (Jan 04) estimated that the annual industry growth rate is in the range of 9-14%
- Targeted at existing and prospective GIS professionals
 - Expands on our current GISSA Certificate

Who Offers the MS in GIS?

- Schools offering the MS with a concentration in GIS
 - University at Buffalo
 - Florida State University
- Schools offering the MS in GIS
 - University of Texas at Dallas
 - University of Edinburgh
- Many more examples of both

An Initial Framework

- 36 credit program
- Built around our current GISSA certificate courses
- Additional applications courses
 - Urban and Demographic Applications of GIS
 - Environmental Applications of GIS
- Additional computational courses
 - Trends in 3D modeling

Our Course of Action

- Create a departmental proposal for the MS
- Send it through the University academic committees
- Forward the proposal to SUNY and then the State Department of Education
- Implement!

Our Expectations

- The MS in GIS will keep the University at Albany at the forefront of GIS development and practice in the Capital District
- It will support our graduates' career goals
- It will serve as a conduit to the PhD program in Informatics at the University at Albany
- Stay tuned!