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State of the GISCI and GISP

Presented By: Rick Smith, Ph.D., GISP
Board Member, GISCI
April 21, 2016

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State of the GISCI and GISP

GISCI Structure

GISP Certification History

GISCI Budget Review

GISP Current Process

Exam Creation

Future Direction

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State of the GISCI and GISP

- GISCI Structure
- GISP Certification History
- GISCI Budget Review
- GISP Current Process
- Exam Creation
- Future Direction

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Member Organizations

NSGIC
National States Geographic Information Council

URISA

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GLIS
GEOGRAPHIC AND LAND INFORMATION SOCIETY
1993

gita
GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

UCGIS
University Consortium for Geographic Information Science

AAG
Association of American Geographers

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Board Members

One of the strengths of GISCI has been the strong and diversified Board representation over the years!

Our current Board makeup reflects that same passion, experience, and service.

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Board Members

Martin Roche GISP

GeoPlanning Services LLC

URISA Representative

Allen Ibaugh GISP

Data Transfer Solutions

URISA Representative

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Board Members

NSGIC
National States Geographic Information Council

Tony Simental GISP
W VA Office of GIS Coordination
NSGIC Representative

Steve Sharp GISP PMP
Dir Enterprise GIS, State of Vermont
NSGIC Representative

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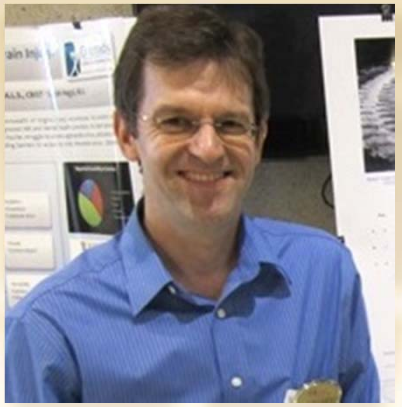
Board Members

UCGIS
University Consortium for Geographic Information Science

Jeff Hamerlinck GISP Secretary
WY Geographic Information Science Center
UCGIS Representative

Dr. Helmut Kraenzle
James Madison University
UCGIS Representative



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Board Members

John Kelmelis, PhD.

AAG

AAG Representative

Michael S. Scott, Ph.D. GISP

Salisbury University

AAG Representative

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Board Members

Becky Shumate GISP Vice President

PennWell Publishing

GITA Representative

Talbot Brooks GISP

Delta State University

GITA Representative

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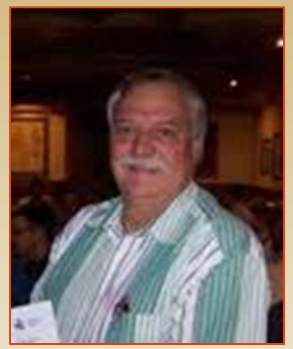
Board Members



William (Bill) Coleman RPLS GISP

Coleman & Associates Land Surveying

GLIS Representative

Dr. Rick Smith, GISP

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi

GLIS Representative

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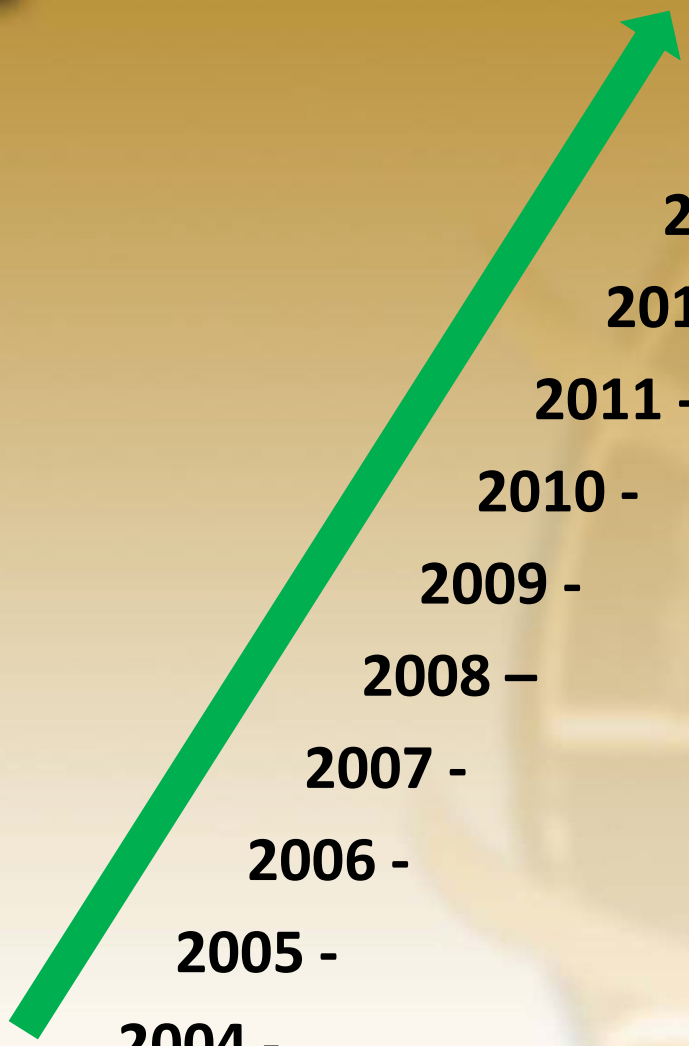
ACTIVE GISPs: CERTIFICATION HISTORY



2016 – 8,000 +

2015 – 7,000+

2014 – 5,900

2012 – 5,159

2011 - 4,946

2010 - 4,729

2009 - 4,526

2008 – 3,224

2007 - 1,920

2006 - 1,375

2005 - 974

2004 - 552

2003 - PILOT 29

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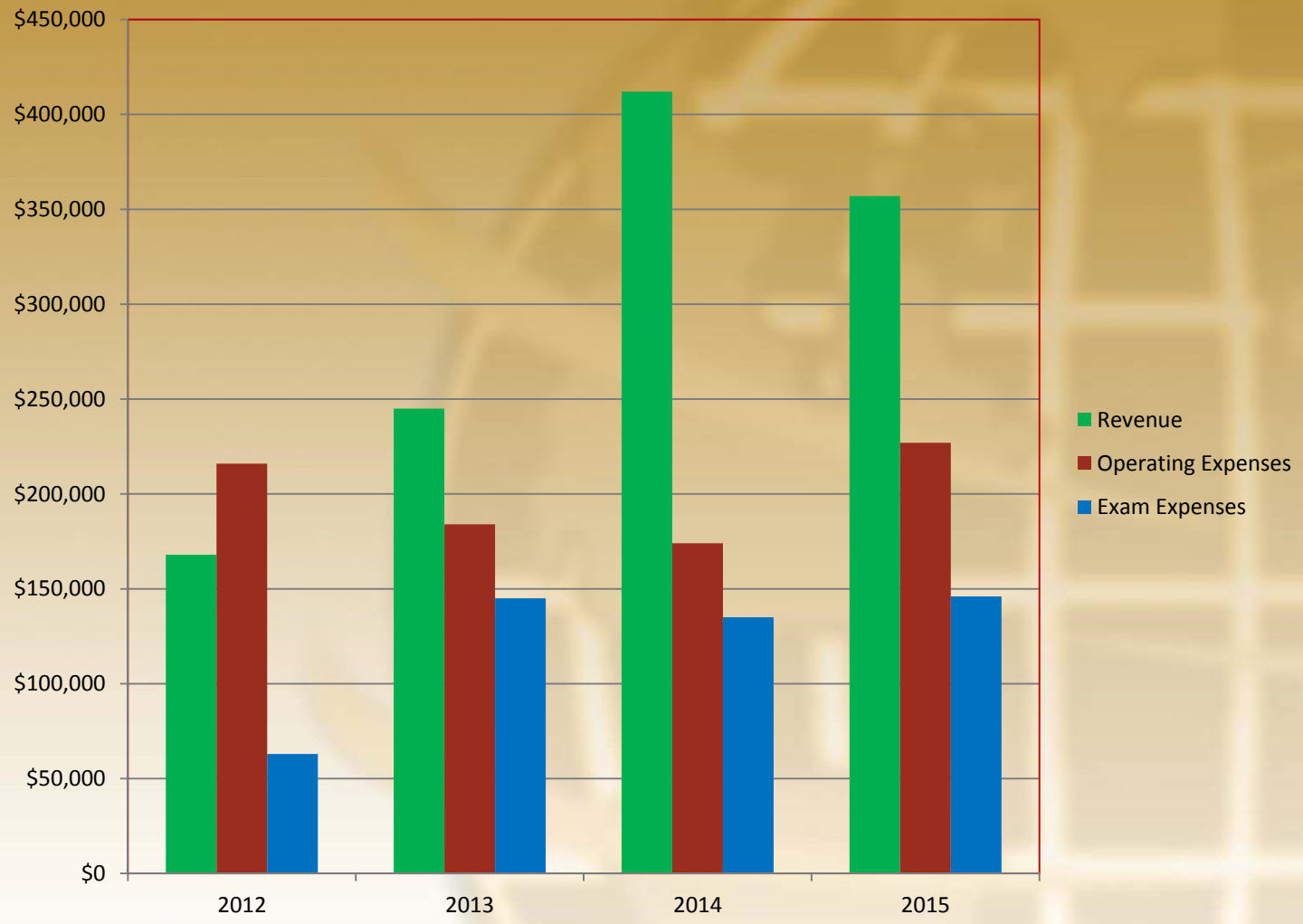
GISCI Budget Comparisons



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GISP Current Process

Initial GISP: Portfolio Requirement + Exam

- Ethics Statement
- 4 Years Min. Geospatial Experience
- Portfolio Application
  - Education, Experience, Contributions
- **GISCI Geospatial Core Technical Knowledge Exam Required**

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GISP Current Process

Recertification: Portfolio Requirement

- Education & Contributions Required
- Experience (Optional)
- Exam Not Required for Recertification
- Online Application
- 3 Year Recertification Period

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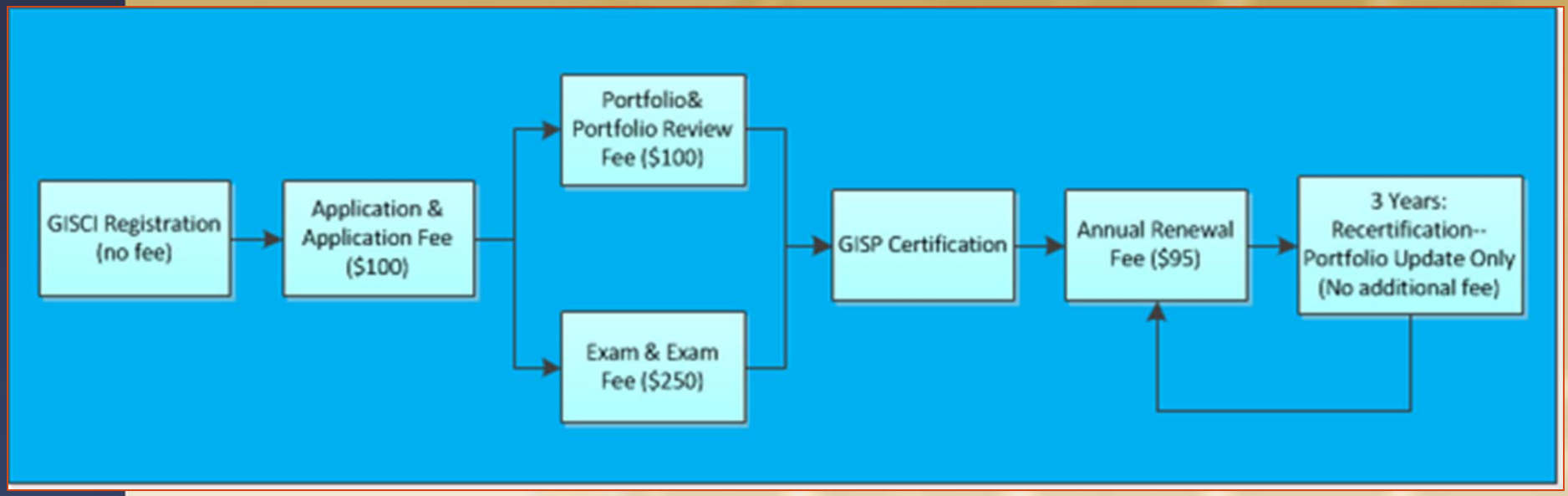
GISP Current Process



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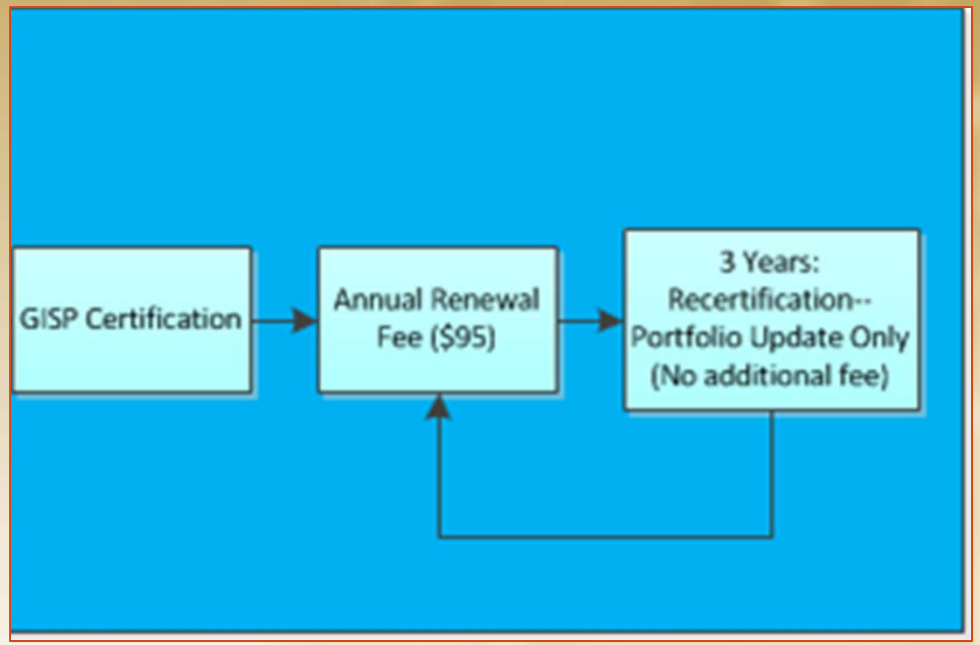
Recertification Process



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GISP Current Process

Initial GISP Cost:

- Application Fee - $ 100
- Portfolio Review Fee - $ 100
- Exam Fee - $ 250
- 3 Year Certification Period

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GISP Current Process

Recertification Cost:

- Annual Maintenance Fee - $ 95/year or
- $ 285 as one payment
- No Exam Required
- 3 Year Certification Period
- Recertification Application Online

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Exam Creation History

July 2010 - GISCI Considers Updates to Certification Program
March 2011 - GISCI Accepts Public Comments Re: Exam
May 2011 - GISCI Board Decides to Update the GISP Process
June 2011 - GISCI Endorses GTCM
Aug 2012 - GISCI Board Selects Exam Development Project Mgr
July 2013 - GISPs Solicited to Participate in Exam Development
Sept 2013 - GISCI Selects Test Development Contractor
Oct 2013 - GISCI Releases Exam Development Process Summary
May 2015 - GISCI Prepares Bank of Exam Questions

Nov 2015 - Exam Deployment

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Exam Consultants

Rebecca Somers GISP

Exam Development Project Manager

Somers- St. Claire

Test Development Consultant

HumRRO/PSI

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Exam Creation

- Written by GISPs for GISP
- GISPs received direct invitation to participate
- GISCI received 450+ responses
- 350+ were qualified to participate

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Exam Creation Considerations

MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS

- **The Exam is required in addition to the Portfolio Process**
- **Implementation took place November 2015**
- **Two Exam offerings scheduled for 2016**
- **All GISPs are considered equal**
- **No Exam required for renewal**
- **All new applicants will be required to test**
- **The entire GISP Process will be accredited by a 3rd party agency**
- **Students can test at the time they graduate**

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Exam Creation Process

EXAM BLUEPRINT: Exam Components

Knowledge Category

Conceptual Foundations	**12%**
Cartography & Visualization	**14 %**
GIS Design Aspects & Data Modeling	**29%**
GIS Analytical Methods	**17%**
Data Manipulation	**15%**
Geospatial Data	**13%**

Exam to be offered every 6 months

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Exam Creation and Addition

ADVANTAGES OF AN EXAM

- Provides Increased Rigor Of Professional Certification
- Builds Upon The Established, Successful GISP Portfolio
- Provides An Entry For Students Early In Their Careers
- Provides A Basis For A Move To More Specialized Certifications
- **It Continues To Advance And Consolidate The Profession**

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Future Direction

- **Exam Maintenance & Updating**
- **GISP Certification Specializations**
- **International Growth**
- **Benefit to Member Organizations**
- **Increased participation - 20,000 GISPs by 2024?**

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Possible Specializations beyond the GISP

- Managerial Certification
- Programming Certification
- Database Certification
- Enterprise Certification
- Entry-level Certification

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THANK YOU!

Richard.Smith@tamucc.edu @CartoSmith

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