

# **RIGIS Initiative to Promote and Foster GIS Internships in RI**

From the RIGIS Outreach and Education Working Group

The purpose of this initiative is to establish a mechanism for organizations seeking student interns and students in educational institutions seeking internship opportunities involving GIS technology. RIGIS and other organizations of GIS practitioners realize the value of internships as incubators for future GIS professionals. Students seek internships for course credit, money, resume building experience, or a lead-in to future jobs. Colleges and universities desire to place students in internships to supplement their education experience and as a service to students seeking future careers. Organizations seek interns for short-term or part-time entry level technical help.

There currently is no coordinated effort to either list GIS internship positions or for students to locate available GIS internships for which they may apply.

With this initiative, RIGIS...

1. Encourages organizations using GIS interns to post positions available on an existing common web site (such as [bRIdge.jobs](#), [JobsinRI.com](#) and [internships.com](#))
2. Encourages organizations using GIS interns to post positions available on the [RIGIS-L listserv](#).
3. Encourages Colleges and Universities to list a common web site (such as those mentioned above) and the RIGIS-L for GIS interns on their respective career services web sites and to make instructors and professors teaching GIS courses (or using GIS tools in courses) aware of these resources.
4. Will coordinate with the RI Board of Governors for Higher Ed. and the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities ([www.AICURI.org](#)) to reach the respective public and private institutions of higher education in Rhode Island. The goal is to let them know who RIGIS is and suggest to them that if they have a point person for interns that he/she monitor RIGIS-L and [NEARC-L](#) and keep the career placement centers at colleges and universities informed of internship opportunities.
5. Will continue to stay informed on efforts by other organizations such as [URISA](#), [NSGIC](#), [NEARC](#), etc. to address this or similar issues concerning GIS internships or future career opportunities.

## Students seeking internships should:

- Subscribe to RIGIS listserv and keep an eye out for postings
- Post to the RIGIS listserv to introduce themselves and put out a resume and contact info
- Look on bRIdge.jobs (and other potential job board websites such as [jobsinri.com](#) and [Internships.com](#)) for potential existing postings in the area
- Contact local organizations to discuss an internship (where you may wish to work later)
- Contact your Educational Institution's GIS point person or Career Services:
  - University of Rhode Island (URI)

- Dr. Peter August
  - Professor of Landscape Ecology
  - 401-874-4794
  - [pete@edc.uri.edu](mailto:pete@edc.uri.edu)
- Rhode Island College (RIC)
  - Seth Dixon
  - Assistant Professor
  - 401-456-8378
  - [sdixon@RIC.edu](mailto:sdixon@RIC.edu)
- Community College of RI (CCRI)
  - Dr. Pranab Banerjee
  - Professor of Physics
  - 401-825-2462
  - [pbanerjee@ccri.edu](mailto:pbanerjee@ccri.edu)
- Brown University
  - Lynn Carlson, GISP
  - GIS Manager
  - 401-863-9917
  - [lynn\\_carlson@brown.edu](mailto:lynn_carlson@brown.edu)
  - Web - <http://www.brown.edu/Research/Earthlab>
  - GIS @ Brown on Facebook - <http://tinyurl.com/y9cpklv>
- Bryant University
  - John Stachelhaus
  - [jstachel@Bryant.edu](mailto:jstachel@Bryant.edu)
- Roger William Univ.
  - Mark Brickley
  - Professor of Computer Information Systems
  - 401-254-3025
  - [mbrickley@rwu.edu](mailto:mbrickley@rwu.edu)