NYU's GIS Services

NYC OGP Meeting Ignite Talk
December - Friday the 13th

H I M M I S T R Y
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Data Services, New York University
- **Context:**
  
  New York University (NYU) Data Services (DS)
  
  - Background
  - Patrons / Clients
  - Current GIS Services

- **Academic realm - NYU**
  
  Service Philosophy - Data Life Cycle
  Challenges or Opportunities

- **Questions**
- **Context:**
  
  **New York University (NYU)**
  
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New York University (NYU):

- NYU is one of the largest private universities in United States
- 40,000+ students
- 18 schools & colleges
- 5 major centers in Manhattan
- Global Sites in Africa, Asia, Europe, & South America
- 2,500+ courses offered
- Students come from every state & 133 foreign countries
- No Geography or Geospatial degree or certificate program
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- **Conclusion**
Data Services (DS):

- **Background**
  
  i. Pre-cursor to DS
  
  • Started as an ITS facility in one small room
  • Not in a central location
  • One staff member with quantitative background & working knowledge of GIS
  • Few on and off students
  • GIS Patrons/Clients - based on one-one rapport

  
  ii. Formal DS came into being in 2008
  
  • Library and ITS - Joint venture
  • One small Lab with 10 workstations in a Bobst Library
  • 4 staff members + 3/4 students
    - 2 Specialist (quantitative)
    - 1 Specialist (GIS)
    - 1 Data Librarian (20%)
  • GIS Patrons/Clients - mainly Urban Planning + few researchers
Data Services (DS):

- **Background**

  iii. Current DS

  - One Larger Lab with 26 workstations in Bobst Library
  - A small teaching space with 10 workstations
  - Part of Research Commons
  - 5 staff members + 3/4 GIS students + 3/4 quant students
    - 2 Specialists (quantitative)
    - 1 Adjunct Specialist (quantitative)
    - 1 Specialist (qualitative + survey)
    - 1 Specialist (GIS)
    - 1 Data Librarian (25%)
  - GIS Patrons/Clients - Much broader range of disciplines, schools, and research projects …
Data Services (DS):

- **Current GIS Services**
  - Conduct introductory classes
  - Tutorials documentation
  - Consultations: Walk-ins and by Appointments
  - Provide lab workstations for GIS users
  - Licensed datasets (acquisition, storage & distribution)
  - The Spatial Data Repository
  - NYU project-based support
  - GIS coursework support
- **Context:**
  New York University (NYU)
  Data Services (DS)
  - Background
  - Facility
  - Patrons / Clients
  - Current GIS Services

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ACADEMIC REALM:

Service Philosophy:

• Unique as we are in teaching, research & scholarship realm

• Aim to support Data Life Cycle
  - Collection
  - Search & Discovery
  - Analysis
  - Visualization
  - Storage
  - Contribution
  - Preservation
Challenges:

• Volatile client base viz. active demand of services
• Vast fields of study and research
• Varied demands for spatial data, tools and information
• Various levels of support – type, quality, capacity, availability and content

all of which translates into …
Opportunities:

- Efficient Search & Discovery environment to self-serve patrons/clients
- Metadata creation for student/researcher collected data (biggest industry-wide challenge)
- Robust Spatial Data Repository with varying degree of access (with respect to license agreement of data)
- A goal to preserve spatial data

all of which requires ...
Expertise:

We need an ideal team of:

- GIS Experts
- GIS Librarian
- GIS Metadata Librarian
- GIS App. Developer
- Map Librarian
- ....
One step at a time:

- Join hands with OGP consortium
- Host OGP Meeting :)
- Learn about OGP
- Search for GIS Librarian & Adjunct GIS Specialist (please apply / spread the word..)
QUESTIONS

THANK YOU

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