

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS AND PARTICIPATION

Workshop on Access and Participatory Approaches in Using Geographic Information

Submission Deadline: **October 1, 2001**

Workshop: **Spoletto Italy, December 5 - 9, 2001**

Travel funds provided.

The National Science Foundation and the European Science Foundation are cooperatively funding a workshop on two highly active research areas within the general domain of "GIS and Society" research: (1) accessibility and access to geographic information and (2) participatory processes involving geographic information technologies or data.

Under the topic of *access*, the workshop will place a particular emphasis on (a) exploring the concept of accessibility within the milieu of physical space and virtual space interactions and (b) exploring alternative models for providing access to public and private geographic information including the social, legal, economic, government policy, and technical issues affecting and affected by each model. Under the topic of *participatory processes*, the workshop will place a special emphasis on use and access to geographic technologies in local level decision-making, including participatory models for involving local-level advocacy groups, businesses, local governments, scientists, and combinations of near and distant interested parties.

Approximately fifteen U.S. research scholars will be funded to attend the workshop which will be hosted by the European Steering Committee in Spoleto, Italy from December 5-9, 2001.

Participants will be selected based on their ability to contribute substantively to one or more of the major focus areas of the workshop. At least five of the scholars will be in the first five years of receiving their PhDs or be active current PhD students. The workshop will be structured as a series of plenary presentations, breakout small group discussions, and plenary discussions. Findings will be issued in a workshop report and several print and electronic means will be exploited to distribute additional workshop results.

SUBMISSION INVITATION

Please provide (a) a two-page statement (1000 words or less) that describes your interests and/or past contributions in addressing one or more of the workshop topics, and (b) a short biographical sketch (1000 words or less) with content and format similar to that required for NSF proposals. [See Grant Proposal Guide at www.nsf.gov and address items a through d on page 13]

Submit the interest statement and biographical sketch on or **before October 1, 2001** in MS-Word or pdf format to **onsrud@spatial.maine.edu**

A copy of the full workshop proposal may be found at <http://www.spatial.maine.edu/~onsrud/NSFESFWorkshop.html>

Individuals selected will be notified on or before October 15. If selected, participants will be expected to fully participate in the entire workshop and will be requested to provide a short position statement in response to one or more workshop keynote papers that will be posted on the web well in advance of the workshop.

EXPENSES

Participants will be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses in conjunction with attending the workshop up to a specified maximum, an amount that should reasonably cover your expenses assuming you reserve your flight soon after acceptance.

U.S. Steering Committee

Gregory Elmes, Geography, West Virginia University

Michael Goodchild, Geography, University of California - Santa Barbara

Susan Hanson, Geography, Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts

Nancy Obermeyer, Geography, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana

Harlan Onsrud, Spatial Information Science and Engineering, University of Maine

European Steering Committee

Massimo Craglia, University of Sheffield, UK

Ian Masser, ITC, Netherlands

Mauro Salvemini, Universita' La Sapienza, Italy

Anders Ostman, University of Ulea, Sweden)