1. Activities of the Network

- Ottawa, Ontario, OSGeo Meetup Group meets on the third Thursday of each month. If you are located in the area, go to the link to sign up to the group and get updates about future events.
  (http://www.meetup.com/OttawaOSGeo/)

2. B) GeoAmbassador of the Month

Julia Wagemann

By Suchith Anand
Nottingham Geospatial Institute, University of Nottingham, UK

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of GeoForAll and The Open Source Geospatial Foundation, let me take this opportunity to wish you and your families Happy New Year 2018 and a successful year ahead.

It is my great pleasure to honour Julia Wagemann as our GeoAmbassador. Julia is working at the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts as Technical Data Analyst. She explores new ways of making ECMWF’s open datasets more easily accessible for users with the help of geospatial web services and OGC standards.

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# Editorial Board

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GeoForAll Themes

- OpenCity Smart
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  - Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Opencitysmart

- Teacher Training & School Education
  - Chairs: Elżbieta Wołoszyńska-Wiśniewska (Poland), Nikos Lambrinos (Greece)
  - Mail list: geoforall-teachertraining@lists.osgeo.org
  - Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll_TeacherTraining_SchoolEducation

- CitizenScience
  - Chairs: Peter Mooney (Ireland) and Maria Brovelli (Italy)
  - Mail list: https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-geocrowd
  - Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Geocrowdsourcing_CitizenScience_FOSS4G

- AgriGIS
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  - Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Agrigis

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Email: eu.gfa.chair@osgeo.org
Previous to her current work, she worked at the European Space Agency in Frascati and explored ways to better predict malaria risk with the help of Machine Learning methods. She has a strong interest in open data and free and open-source software. She is especially interested in a better exploitation of geospatial data for humanitarian purposes to improve emergency response and disaster preparedness.

Julia was one of the main initiators and organisers of ECMWF’s Open Data Week in March 2017, which aimed to promote open data from ECMWF and Copernicus. The highlight of the week was a hackathon that brought together around 70 developers and data enthusiasts during a weekend to build applications based on weather and climate data. (https://www.ecmwf.int/en/newsletter/151/news/open-data-spotlight-during-week-events).

She also co-organised a hackathon in order to improve the Global Flood Awareness System (GloFAS) in January 2016 (https://www.ecmwf.int/en/newsletter/147/news/hackathon-aims-improve-global-flood-awareness-system). I had the opportunity to participate in this hackathon, and I would like to thank Julia and all our ECMWF colleagues for hosting this excellent event and all volunteers who gave their time and expertise for helping improve the Global Flood Awareness System.

During the summer of 2017, she co-mentored a project to develop an R plugin for QGIS as part of OSGeo for Google’s Summer of Weather Code. She also gives courses on R, Python (Jupyter Notebooks), and general data sciences at universities. She supports and leads GeoForAll with social media outreach. I am sure Julia will expand these ideas for the future.

Openness is fundamental in harnessing the true potential of Geospatial Science and expanding digital economy opportunities for all. Open innovation is key in driving digital economy opportunities and to make sure that everyone benefits.

We are proud to honor Julia as our GeoAmbassador, and we are extremely grateful for her contributions to GeoForAll.

Best wishes,
Suchith Anand

3. Events

The 15th International Geography Olympiad (iGeo) will be hosted by Canada from July 31 to August 6, 2018, in Quebec City. iGeo-2018 is organized under the auspices of the International Geographical Union (IGU) through the IGU Olympiad Task Force, in cooperation with the Canadian Association of Geographers, the Royal Canadian Geographical Society and the Université Laval. This is an event for students age 16 to 19. For more information, visit: http://igeo2018.ulaval.ca/
4. Conferences

**Asia**

**January 2018**

1. 22-26 January: **WebMapping Using FOSS4G**
   organized by Open Source Geospatial Foundation-India
   Venue: IIIT-Hyderabad, India.

**Europe**

**February 2018**

2. 19-22 February: **FOSS4G-IT 2018**
   Venue: Rome, Italy.

**March 2018**

3. 8-9 March: **FOSS4G UK 2018**
   Venue: London, UK (The Geovation Hub 1 Sekforde Street Clerkenwell Green London EC1R 0BE)

**April 2018**

4. 17-20 April: **GISRUK 2018** - 26th annual GIScience Research UK conference
   Venue: University of Leicester, UK.

**June 2018**

5. 13-15 June: **21st International AGILE Conference, AGILE 2018** "Geospatial Technologies for All".
   Venue: Lund, Sweden

**October 2018**

6. 1-5 October: **ISPRS Com IV Symposium**
   Venue: Delft, The Netherlands

**North and Central America and the Caribbean**

**March 2018**

7. 19-23 March: **10th International Congress of Geomatics GEOMÁTICA 2018**
   Venue: Havana, Cuba
   Convention Website: http://www.informaticahabana.cu/es

**May 2018**

8. 14-18 May: **FOSS4G North America**

**Africa**

**April 2018**

9. 17-19 April: **7th Digital Earth Summit** “Digital Earth for Sustainable Development in Africa”
   Venue: Faculty of Science, Chouaib Douakkali University El Jadida, Morocco.

**August 2018**

10. 27-28 August: **FOSS4G 2018 Workshop**
    28-31 August: **FOSS4G 2018: Main Conference**
    Venue: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
    The deadlines of the FOSS4G Academic Track in Dar Es Salaam have been changed in this way:
    Abstract Submission deadline is 15 February 2018
    Abstract acceptance notice is 15 March 2018
    Early Bird Registration closes 15 May 2018
    Camera ready paper for the Proceedings has to be submitted by 30 April 2018

**September 2018**

11. 1-2 September: **FOSS4G 2018: Code Sprints and Community Events**
    Venue: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

**October 2018**

12. 22-26 October: **International Data Week** ‘Digital Frontiers of Global Science’
    Venue: Gaborone, Botswana

5. Webinars

Free software days 2018 in Girona, Spain in June 7-8, 2018 (http://www.sigte.udg.edu/jornadassiglibre)

The call for workshops proposals is now open:
http://www.sigte.udg.edu/jornadassiglibre/convocatoria-talleres/

People can propose two kind of tutorials:
+ 1 hour demo of a tool.
+ 4 hours workshop for any topic related with free GIS.
7. Training programs

- GeoForAll educational inventory system, a place to search and share educational materials

10. New free and open software, open data, etc.

- **gvSIG Mobile**: An updated gvSIG mobile app is available in the Google Play Store on Android devices.

- You may find the new version of **WebWorldWind** from NASA at [https://worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/](https://worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/)

12. Articles

**Abbreviations**

by Nikos Lambrinos, Chief Editor, and Michael Finn.

For those who would like to support this effort, please send any abbreviations to the Chief Editor (labrinos@eled.auth.gr).

- **3DEP**: 3-D Elevation Program
- **AAG**: Association of American Geographers
- **AGS**: American Geographical Society
- **AM/FM**: Automated Mapping/Facilities Management
- **ASPRS**: American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
- **AURIN**: Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network

- **BBSRC**: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
- **BIM**: Building Information Modelling
- **CAADP**: Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
- **CAD**: Computer Aided Design
- **CaGIS**: Cartography and Geographic Information Society
- **CEGIS**: Center of Excellence for Geospatial Information Science
- **CEOS**: Committee on Earth Observation Satellites
- **CI**: CyberInfrastructure
- **CLGE**: The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors
- **CODATA**: Committee on Data for Science and Technology
- **COGO**: Coordinate geometry
- **CRS**: Coordinate Reference System
- **CSA**: Canadian Space Agency
- **CUDA**: Compute Unified Device Architecture
- **DAAC**: Distributed Active Archive Center (of NASA)
- **DEM**: Digital Elevation Model
- **DSM**: Digital Surface Models
- **DWG**: Design file format
- **DXF**: Drawing Interchange File
- **ECMWF**: European Center for Medium range Weather Forecasting
- **EOS**: Earth Observation Science
- **EOSDIS**: Earth Observing System and Data Information System
- **EPA**: Environmental Protection Agency
- **EPSG**: European Petrol Survey Group (used in projection IDs)
- **ESA**: European Space Agency
- **ESERO**: European Space Education Resource Office
- **EUROGI**: European Umbrella Organisation for Geographic Information
EuroSDR: European Spatial Data Research
FOSS: Free and Open Source Software
FOSS4G: Free and Open Source Software For Geospatial
GCP: Ground Control Point
GloFAS: Global Flood Awareness System
GNSS: Global Navigational Satellite System
GPS: Global Positioning System
GPX: GPS Exchange Format
GRASPGfs: Geospatial Resource for Agricultural Species and Pests and Pathogens with workflow integrated modeling to support Global Food Security
HOT: Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team
HPC: high-performance computing
ICA: International Cartographic Association
ICSU-WDS: International Council for Science – World Data System
INSPIRE: Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe
ISPRS: International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
JAXA: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
KML: Keyhole Markup Language
LiDAR: Light Detection and Ranging
LOC: Local Organizing Committee
LOD: Level Of Detail
MIL: Media and Information Literacy
MoU: Memorandum of Understanding
NAD: North American Datum
NCSA: National Center for Supercomputing Applications
NED: National Elevation Dataset
NEPAD: NEw Partnership for African Development
NGA: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency
NHD: National Hydrologic Dataset
NLCD: National Land Cover Dataset
NSDI: National Spatial Data Infrastructure
NSF: National Science Foundation
OER: Open Educational Resources
OGC: Open Geospatial Consortium
OSGeo: Open Source Geospatial Foundation
OSM: OpenStreetMap
OTB: Orfeo Tool Box
RCMRD: Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
RDA: Research Data Alliance
ROSHYDROMET: Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorologyand Environmental Monitoring
RUFORUM: Regional Universities Forum for capacity building in agriculture
SaaS: Software as a Service
SDI: Spatial Data Infrastructure
SIGTE: The GIS and Remote Sensing Service of the University of Girona, Spain
SQL: Structured Query Language
STISA 2024: Science Technology Innovation Strategy for Africa
STSM: Short Term Scientific Missions
TIN: Triangulated Irregular Network
UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
UN-GGIM: United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management
USGS: U.S. Geological Survey
USGIF: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation
VGI: Volunteered Geographic Information
XSEDE: Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment
WCS: Web Coverage Service
WFS: Web Feature Service
WGCapD: Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy
WGS: World Geodetic System
WISERD: Wales Institute of Social & Economic Research, Data & Methods
WMO: World Meteorological Organization
WMS: Web Map Service
WMTS: Web Map Tiles Services
WOIS: Water Observation Information System
WPS: Web Processing Service

13. Scholarships for students, staff, etc.


- The cutting-edge Ph.D. program in Geospatial Analytics (go.ncsu.edu/geospatial-phd) at North Carolina State University’s Center for Geospatial Analytics (geospatial.ncsu.edu) is now accepting applications for Fall 2018 enrollment. Twelve fully funded graduate assistantships with $25,000 salary, benefits, and tuition support are available. The application deadline is February 1, 2018. The Center for Geospatial Analytics at NC State is an internationally recognized collaborative hub for interdisciplinary data scientists advancing novel understanding of spatial phenomena and applying new knowledge to grand challenges. Ph.D. students will receive multidisciplinary advising and the opportunity to work with over twenty faculty fellows with diverse expertise from nearly a dozen departments across NC State. Students with backgrounds in quantitative methods in geography, geomatics, informatics, and remote sensing are strongly encouraged to apply. We welcome students interested in pushing the boundaries of geospatial analytics and technology from a variety of perspectives, including design, cognitive science, natural resources and the environment, computer science, engineering, and more. Faculty at the center develop and apply innovative techniques that include tangible user interfaces and 3D visualizations, novel remote sensing and image processing algorithms, open source software solutions, dynamic spatio-temporal modeling, participatory research with stakeholders, and citizen science. NC State’s unique graduate program in Geospatial Analytics also includes an off-campus professional internship within government (local, state, federal), industry, nonprofit, private, or academic research organizations. Additional details and complete application instructions are available at go.ncsu.edu/geospatial-phd. Interested students are also encouraged to contact Rachel Kasten, Graduate Services Coordinator (rachekasten@ncsu.edu or 919-515-2800), with any questions.

- The GeoTech Center is pleased to announce the 2018 Undergraduate Geospatial Technology Skills Competition! The intent of the competition is to showcase the geospatial technology skills of U.S. undergraduate students. Competing students will create a project that utilizes geospatial technology to address a real-world problem. The student will then present the project and the resulting deliverables as a Poster that not only highlights their use of geospatial technology, but also demonstrates their communication and presentation skills.

The competition is software neutral. Applicants must meet all of the requirements below to qualify for the competition (questions regarding eligibility can be directed to either Tom Mueller (Mueller@calu.edu):

- Applicants must be the age of 18 or older;
- Applicants must be enrolled during the Spring 2018 term in a geospatial technology course
(e.g., geographic information systems, remote sensing, GPS/GNSS, etc.) or geospatial technology program at an accredited 2-year or 4-year U.S. institution (undergraduate status);

- Applicants must reside in the U.S.;
- All work and cartographic output must be the original work of the applicant;
- Only one entry allowed per student; and
- Only individual student submissions allowed (no group projects).
- The winners will be awarded registration, travel and accommodations to the 2018 GeoEd Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The winners will also present their posters at this conference.
- Applications due April 20th at 1pm eastern.

You are highly encouraged to visit the website of the competition and get more information.

17. Ideas / Information

1. To post your FOSS4G educational information go to http://www.osgeo.org/education. There you can find more educational activities posted by members of our community.

2. The new gvSIG Mobile is already available. The open source mobile GIS of the gvSIG Suite.

   gvSIG team started this year 2017 celebrating one day events in different universities. In 2018 we want to extend this practice and make gvSIG known more and more in the academic world.

   This type of conference consists of a series of activities to celebrate in 1 day (or half day, depending on the case). Introductory presentations to the gvSIG suite and exhibition of use cases that may interest the audience, complemented by workshops for users and developers, both for general use and applied to different topics (geostatistics, urbanism, criminology, etc.). In some cases, the audience has been merely university, and in others the option of assistance from the general public has been opened. The options are many, and they adapt to each of these “gvSIG University Days.”

   If you would like your university to have its gvSIG day ...
   get in touch with the gvSIG team at: info@gvsig.com

4. You can find Map and GIS related competitions listed in order of the competition deadline here.

5. We would like to welcome our colleagues from Spatial-Ecology and GeoComputation at Yale, New Haven, CT, USA, as the 121th member of our community.