

July 2023

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July 2023 Newsletter

Dear NYS GIS Association Member,

Here are a few items of news:

- President's Message
- Proposed Bylaws Changes
- NYGeoCon 2023 Updates
- Reminders
 - Awards Nominations Open
 - Membership Renewal
- Upcoming Opportunities & Events

Sincerely,

The NYS GIS Association Communications Committee



Image: E. DeGironimo (Acting NYS GIO), K. Tareen (Past-President NYS GIS Assn, NYGeoCon 2023 Chair) | 13 July 2023 | 2023 Esri User Conference, San Diego CA

President's Message

23 July 2023

Greetings All,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to rally round and attend this year's NYGeoCon, Monday, September 24th, thru Wednesday, the 27th, at the Desmond Hotel in Albany.

Let's gather to see our friends and colleagues. There will



The Board is pleased to report that we'll be voting on changes to the Association Bylaws at the annual meeting held at the NYGeoCon from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Tuesday, 26 September 2023. These are designed to strengthen the Board and add additional talent and focus. We are recommending that the size of the Board be increased to six (6) Directors. This will create two (2) new Director positions with the alternate year terms currently in place. It is also proposed that the requirement that past presidents wait two (2) years before running for Director be removed. The most forward-looking change is the creation of a new position: Information Technology Officer (ITO). The back office of the Association needs rejuvenation. This appointed position will focus on achieving that goal.

As members, you find yourself equipped with the most powerful tools and concepts of this age and you want to put them to maximum effect. What to do? Leverage the Association and join a committee, better yet, become a Committee Chair. This is a watershed moment and with the leadership of the ITO, we mean to build a better member space for collaborative work. We have 700 followers on LinkedIn and 400 active members. What does that tell us? Social media was not even imagined twenty years ago when the Association was formed. Step up to be Communications Co-Chair with Max Villanueva or consider being a Chair for the Membership Committee. Being a part of a collaboration advances careers and strengthens your network.

Professional Associations like ours are where consensus happens. Our current Legislative Committee focus now is to encourage government to use the new and improved tools at their disposal. At the 2023 NYSAPLS conference, Dawn McCall, our President-Elect, organized a roundtable of surveyors and GIS professionals. Thanks to her efforts, a new collaboration has been started with the Surveyors to encourage the State to leverage GIS to improve access to essential spatial records. At this year's NYGeoCon, we will be continuing and broadening that roundtable discussion, exploring how shared services can empower frictionless information flow among all stakeholders. This Roundtable will be held on Monday afternoon, September 24th, and is open to the public.

There is another technology convergence on the way: GIS, CAD (both flavors), and BIM that uses cloud services rather than the desktop. It scales. Solutions that were unimaginable in the near past are trivial now, from mylar to field maps in less than twenty years. It is breathtaking really. We all know that the power of GIS can make almost any problem simpler to solve and now it is time to spread the word. This year, invite a colleague from another organization to join you at the NYGeoCon.

Let's bang the drum, make some noise, and have some fun. There is so very much to do.

Best Regards,
Mary Susan (Suzie) Knauss, MSIS GISP
NYSGISA - 2023 President

President's Message 2023

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Please join us at the **2023 NYS GIS Association Annual Meeting** to be held on **Tuesday, September 26, 2023 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Desmond Hotel, Albany, NY, at NYGeoCon**. In addition to the summary of the past year's accomplishments, changes to the bylaws will be voted on.

The changes to the bylaws are highlighted in this proposed bylaws document: <https://www.nysgis.net/2023-proposed-bylaws/>



NYGeoCon 2023

The NYGeoCon Committee has announced Professor Laefer of the NYU Center for Urban Science + Progress as the 2023 Keynote Speaker!

Join us at the biennial [NYGeoCon](#), **September 25 – 27, 2023**, where **Professor Debra F. Laefer** will present ***Just Below the Surface: Underground Infrastructure Mapping***. The conference will take place at the **Crowne Plaza Albany – The Desmond Hotel in Albany, NY**, with Professor Laefer's presentation during lunch on Tuesday, September 26th.

Biography:

With degrees from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (MS, Ph.D.), NYU (MEng), and Columbia University (BS, BA), Professor Debra Laefer has a wide-ranging background spanning from geotechnical and structural engineering to art history and historic preservation. Not surprisingly, Professor Laefer's work often stands at the cross-roads of technology creation and community values such as devising technical solutions for protecting architecturally significant buildings from sub-surface construction. As the density of her aerial remote sensing datasets continues to grow exponentially with time, Professor Laefer and her Urban Modeling Group must help pioneer computationally

bridge the gap between data availability and its usability for the engineering community. Professor Laefer received a [GIS Spatial Application Award in 2022](#) and a [COVID-19 Application/ Dashboard Award in 2020](#) from the NYS GIS Association.



Abstract:

The configuration and administration of aboveground spaces is a daily consideration in municipal governance and the topic of extensive legislation. Zoning, building permits, congestion charges, curb management, and air rights are just a few examples. While efforts to control and design municipalities can be traced back to at least Vitruvius, there is a paucity of consideration for equivalent below ground spaces, even in the twenty-first century. Yet, with two-thirds of the world now living in cities, comprehensive mapping and management of the urban subsurface is a critical component to providing the efficient and resilient infrastructure needed to protect cities as healthy, functioning centers of economic growth. Her talk addresses the scope and complexity of such an undertaking, highlights current efforts in the mapping and management of our subsurface, and illustrates the imperative of doing this now.

Other Conference Highlights

- **Concurrent Technical Sessions:**
 - The detailed schedule of technical sessions is available at <https://nysgis.net/nygeocon2023/techsessions/>
- **Workshops:** There will be a series of four immersive workshops to enhance your skills and knowledge:
 - Workshop 1 - USNG for Unique ID and Locations
 - Workshop 2 - ACS Census Data for GIS Users
 - Workshop 3 - ArcGIS Pro Migration
 - Workshop 4 - ESRI and Autodesk Data Interoperability Workflows Past, Present, and Future
- **Roundtable Collaboration with NYSAPLS (NYS Association of Professional Land Surveyors)**
 - Government and Business Information Alliances: A Conversation about Portals and Shared Services

Lodging Information

Overnight accommodations are available at the Crowne Plaza Albany – The Desmond Hotel at a discounted group rate of \$159.00 per night.

- These rates are available until the **cut-off date of Sunday September 3, 2023 or until the block is full**, whichever occurs first.
- Call **(518) 869-8100** to make your reservation.
- Be sure to identify yourself as a member of the **NYGeoCon** event.

Registration Information

To Register as an Attendee: <https://nysgis.net/nygeocon2023/>

Early bird registration ends on Monday, August 7th.



Reminders

- **Awards Nominations are due by Friday, 1 September 2023!**

- Nominate a colleague who is passionate about GIS or an individual who has contributed to the betterment of the GIS community here in New York State for recognition in one of the categories below.

- Lifetime Achievement
- Individual Contributions to the Profession
- GIS Champion Award
- GIS Applications

- For more information on the eligibility requires and procedures for submitting a nomination, visit <https://www.nysgis.net/committees/awards/>



- **New Membership Year Started July 1st!**

- Take a moment to see if your membership is up-to-date by clicking the link below. You can use the same link to renew.
- Once you log in, click on the **Members Only Section** link and then click on the **View Membership Information** button.
- <https://www.nysgis.net/joinus/>



- **NYGeoCon 2023 Early Bird Registration Closes** | 7 August 2023
| More Information: <https://nysgis.net/nygeocon2023/>
- **NYS GIS Association Awards Submission Deadline** | 1 September 2023 | More Information: <https://www.nysgis.net/nys-gis-association-awards-program-nominations-open-2023/>
- **NY Upstate APA Mini Conference** | 15 September 2023 | Hotel Syracuse | More Information: <https://www.nyupstateplanning.org/annual-conference>
- **NYGeoCon 2023** | 25 - 27 September 2023 | Crowne Plaza Albany - The Desmond Hotel | More information: <https://nysgis.net/nygeocon2023/>
- **NACIS 2023** | 11 - 14 October 2023 | Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel at Station Square | More Information: <https://nacis.org/annual-meeting/current-meeting/>
- **GIS Day 2023** | 15 November 2023 | More Information: <https://www.gisday.com/en-us/overview>
- **GEO Week** | 11 - 13 February 2024 | Colorado Convention Center, Denver | More Information: <https://www.geo-week.com/>



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