

Meeting Agenda
NAACCR GIS Committee
Wednesday, August 12, 2009

2:00-3:00 PM Eastern Time
1:00-2:00 PM Central Time
12:00-1:00 PM Mountain Time
11:00-12:00 noon Pacific Time
10:00-11:00 AM Alaskan Time

Toll free number: 1-866-731-8994

Passcode: 9275065

A. Roll Call

Present Members: Kevin Henry, Chris Johnson, Frank Boscoe, Mary Mroszczyk, Jim Files, Holly Hodges, Meg Watson, Ed Peters, Simple Singh, Catherine Riddell, Chris Newton, Jennifer Kachajian, Christian Klaus, Recinda Sherman, Dan Goldberg, Karen Knight

Absent Members: Annette Gardner, John Morgan, Bob Borchers, David O'Brien, Pam Agovino, Carrie Fish, Zaria Tatalovich, John Morgan, David Stinchcomb, Yongping Hao, Jesse Stewart, Myles Cockburn, Eileen Kelley

B. Minutes

1. Approval of June and July minutes
 - a. Chris Johnson motioned to approve the June minutes. Jennifer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the June minutes were approved. Frank Boscoe motioned to approve the July minutes. Chris Newton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the July minutes were approved.

C. Old Business

1. Census 2010 NAACCR Fields – Kevin
 - a. Data items are on agenda for the August 18 Cancer Registry Steering Committee meeting – Kevin, David O
 - i. The fields are getting close to final approval.
2. Subcommittee activities updates
 - a. National Health Provider Area Resource File (NHPARF) — Kevin, (no new progress)
 - i. Kevin has been having his staff do some geocoding for this file because the geocodes listed were not all correct. He is near 100% complete now.
 - b. Geographical visualization of cancer data – (activities on hold until September, no new progress) — Recinda

- i. First and third Tuesdays of the month at 1:00 EST for conference calls. Different format – will receive document to review and comment on prior to calls. Can also respond over email if aren't able to make calls.
- 3. NAACCR/Komen Road Network Distance Project – Quantifying Transportation Barriers in Accessing Health Facilities for Breast Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment— Dan G, KH, Frank, Chris J, Holly
 - a. Updates
 - i. Prototype version is working. Have implemented ability to not store detailed information about each transaction. If the node it selects to step into the graph is not connected to the graph, it was returning no result when it should be finding the next closest node that connects to the graph. This is in process. Should be completed by the 18th (hopefully). The basic user interface – the registries will upload the data to the site and only certain users will have access to this application. Chris Johnson wrote two SAS programs, one to extract the information from the NAACCR layout needed for the Komen road network distance calculator and one to merge the results back into the registry's data file.
- 4. Contacting faculty to teach spatial statistics course at NAACCR 2010 (Quebec City) — Kevin
 - a. Multi-level Modeling Course: Discussion and Planning – Ongoing
 - i. Have a list of instructors that would teach the course. Had been plans last year to have a multi-level modeling course. Frank and Chris – while teaching another short course for NAACCR, had another that was on multi-level modeling. Idea was to have it more widely available at the conference. Brenda Edwards, Betsy Kohler, and Shannon Vann are onboard with this course. Moving along. Issues with cost and curriculum. Leaning toward two-day course similarly modeled to the survival analysis course.
 - b. Google Earth Course: Discussion ongoing
 - i. Frank thinks ½ day. Frank would teach. Use Google Earth to do some of the same things that you can do with some GIS software. If you add in Python and SAS, you can do pretty much everything.

D. New Business

- 1. Python program which maps SatScan clusters into Google Earth – Boscoe, Langendorf
 - a. NY involved in project making block-level maps of cancer data. One of the elements they were asked to do was to put together cluster maps of these data. They thought it would be useful to take the output from SatScan (text files) and display them on a map (Google Earth). Tricia Langendorf created a tool in Python that essentially converts the SatScan text files to KML files, opens Google Earth, and then imports the KML files into Google Earth. Frank feels that anyone using SatScan will want this software tool.

2. Bob Borchers & Christian Klaus have a column in the summer NAACCR
 - a. Wrote an article that just came out in the NAACCR newsletter. The article was about the address validation tool in Denver (2006 Annual Conference). The article is a summary of what the tool was originally and what has been added to it.