

## PAIGH U.S. National Section Monthly Meeting – February 2024 Meeting Notes

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Meeting attendees: Deirdre Bishop, Emily Carlson, Josh Coutts, Emily Day, Derald Dudley, Lynda Liptrap, Gustavo Maldonado Davila, Paul Riley, Sergio Rodriguez, Chely Sandoval

### 1) Welcome

- Deirdre mentioned how nice it was to be able to meet as a group in person at the Esri Federal GIS Conference. Everyone went around the table and introduced themselves.

### 2) Mexico UN-GGIM Meeting

- Deirdre Bishop and members of the Geography Division led and participated in meetings of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) at the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) in Aguascalientes, Mexico from January 22-26, 2024.
- As Co-Chair of the UN-GGIM High-Level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (HLG-IGIF), Deirdre led the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Meeting of the HLG-IGIF January 22-23, 2024. She delivered a keynote presentation on how the U.S. Census Bureau is using geospatial information and technologies to advance U.S. National Priorities and featured the Geography Division's work on automated change detection.
- Out of 193 member states, 110 responded to the USNS survey on the IGIF.
  - Over 60 member states were using the IGIF.
  - Approximately 40 member states were developing a country-level action plan.
  - The rest of the survey respondents were using the IGIF to strengthen existing infrastructure and policy.

### 3) Geospatial World Forum

- Deirdre will be attending the upcoming Geospatial World Forum (GWF) in Rotterdam, Netherlands in May (<https://geospatialworldforum.org/>) and requested that members let her know if they are also interested in attending.
- Deirdre mentioned that this forum is one of the most effective forums for discussing geospatial information with other experts. There are groups from this conference that take meaningful action on common geospatial issues.
- The U.S. will join other countries this year in setting its own pavilion at the conference to share global expertise.
- Deirdre and the USNS are looking for other government agencies who are interested in sponsoring the U.S. Pavilion. There is already a lot of academic support.
- Paul will follow up with GWF documents to interested members.

### 4) U.S. National Section Website

- Emily Day mentioned that there were plans to redesign the PAIGH USNS website (<https://uspaigh.org/>) and asked the group for suggestions of changes they want to see on the website. Chely provided many good ideas: posting working group information and projects, posting committee activities, providing links to other geography-adjacent organizations such as the Association of American Geographers (AAG), and showcasing work presented by members of the USNS.

### 5) Annual Meeting Planning

- Paul announced that planning for the upcoming USNS Annual Meeting is underway. The meeting will tentatively be held during the second full week of March. There are no official dates yet, but Paul will send out a poll to the group to determine availability.
- The USNS is planning to meet in person this year and USNS officers are exploring potential locations. Derald mentioned that the USNS may be able to use the Department of Transportation Headquarters.
- PAIGH Secretary General Antonio Campuzano may attend in person but at the very least will present PAIGH's accomplishments for the year virtually to the group.

6) USNS Recruitment

- Paul asked the group for ideas on recruiting new members to the USNS, especially younger members.
- Chely suggested setting up a booth at geospatial/geography themed conferences, such as the AAG conference.
- Chely also suggested re-engaging with the U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), especially regarding Enhanced Domain Awareness, and meeting with industry experts to find emerging technologies, especially in Latin America.

7) The next USNS meeting will be the USNS Annual Meeting in March. More details are forthcoming.