



2019 Chapter Leadership

Chris Akin, GISP - Chairman



President Chris Akin manages Dunaway Associates' GIS division and has almost 2 decades of experience in the development and management of geospatial projects, strategies and processes. His strategic and technical expertise allows him to seamlessly act as a liaison between clients, technical specialists, and senior management. Chris received a Bachelor's degree in Geography with a GIS emphasis from Texas A&M University and a Master's in GIS for Business and Service Planning from the University of Leeds, England. Chris is a certified GIS Professional (GISP), served on the URISA Board of Directors as the Chair of the Chapter Advisory Board in 2016, and served on the New England URISA Board of Directors for 8 years, including 2 years as NEURISA President.

Olesya Powers, GISP – Vice Chairman



Vice-Chairman Oly Powers discovered the world of GIS in 2008 and received her Honours Bachelor of Science from the University of Toronto in 2011. She went on to work with World Wildlife Fund – Canada as part of the team that developed the foundation's freshwater health assessment report. In 2013 she received her Graduate Certificate from the Geomatics Institute at Fleming College in GIS – Cartographic Specialist. Oly accepted a position with CCCMaps (formerly Rand McNally Canada) as a cartographer and was involved in the publication of several road atlases. In 2015 she made the move to Texas and started with the City of Mesquite, TX, becoming a public works GIS subject matter expert. Oly currently works with NewEdge Services as a GIS specialist focusing on GIS services, and Asset Management Implementation. She is also a member of the Texas Emergency GIS Response Team (TxEGRT) and has worked events such as the Dec 26, 2015 tornado recovery, and serves as the TxEGRT Liaison for the NCTCOG PWERT group.

Adailin Lebron – Secretary



Secretary Adailin "Adi" Lebron received a Bachelor of Liberal Arts from the University of Texas, Austin and a Master of Applied Geography in Geographic Information Science from Texas State University in 2018. Her Master's research included working with Spatial Big Data (SBD) and database management. Adi's professional background includes GIS internships with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas General Land Office. She began working at AECOM as a GIS Intern in January of 2017 and was later hired on as a GIS Analyst where she was involved in various projects including planning and environmental land use. Adi currently works as a Business Intelligence/GIS Analyst for the City of Plano.

Kristina Dietz, GISP – Treasurer



Treasurer Kristina Deitz received her Master's Degree in Geospatial Surveying Engineering from Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi in 2015. She discovered GIS back in 2007 and had several summer internships working with multiple companies ranging from environmental mapping to oil/gas while working on her Bachelor's degree in GIS. While working on her Master's degree she worked as a Teaching Assistant with various labs ranging from basic GIS concepts to the more advanced GIS classes. After graduating with her Master's degree she went on to work in the consulting realm for AECOM where she is currently a GIS Specialist utilizing skills in environmental planning, transit planning, cultural resource studies, and basic python scripting. She has also been an active member of URISA's GISCorps where she has previously served as a data manager for a Community Solutions partnering with the Northeast Hartford project.

Brian King, GISP, RPA, CFM – Director-At-Large



Past President 2012-2015 and current Director-at-Large Brian King, has been involved in geospatial science since 1999. He has a master's degree Geographic Information Systems and a Graduate Certificate of Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT), from the Pennsylvania State University and the United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF). Mr. King is a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA), having 15 years of experience in the field of archeology, and a Certified Floodplain Manager. He earned a BA in Anthropology from the University of Kentucky in 1997 and an Associates of Architecture from the Lexington Community College in 1993. Mr. King is currently employed by Freese and Nichols, Inc. since 2011 and has worked for other engineering and cultural resource management firms since 1999. Over the years he has gained experience in drafting and design tasks in areas of floodplain modeling and mapping, remote sensing, Lidar processing, land development, hydrology and hydraulics, residential sites, and highway projects in the state of Texas. Other areas of expertise include ModelBuilder, Mobile GIS applications, Amazon EC2 web mapping, ArcSDE, and engineering and archaeological reporting writing. He is one of the original members involved to form the statewide Texas URISA Chapter. Mr. King is a member of the international Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), the GIS Certification Institute (GISCI), and Texas Floodplain Management Association (TFMA)

Patrick Young, GISP – Director-At-Large



Director-At-Large Patrick Young, GISP, has over 13 years of experience working with geospatial technologies. After obtaining his Master's degree in GIS from the University of Texas at Dallas, he got his feet wet working in local government at the county and later the city level. The last 10 years, however, have been spent in the consulting world where he's utilized his skills in support of projects in environmental permitting, transit planning, cultural resources studies, remediation, electric transmission line routing, and mining reclamation. His current role is GIS Manager for AECOM in the Dallas office. Mr. Young has also been an active member of URISA's GISCorps where he served as a project manager on the multi-year DPRK basemap project.

Daniel Haverlah, GISP – Director-At-Large



Director-at-Large Danny Haverlah has been in the geospatial professional realm for over twelve years with experience in Oracle databases, SQL Server, Maximo geospatial integration, web mapping applications, GIS solution based work flow design, ArcSDE database management, ArcGIS Online application architecture design, mobile data collection, and leading GIS technical teams. He has been employed as an IT Geospatial Analyst with the City of Austin in the Public Works Department for the last five years and continues to be a member of Austin's Geospatial Information Management Operations Board. Danny is the head organizer of the Austin GIS User Group, a member of The Austin Python Meetup, Maptime ATX, and sits on the CenTex GIS Committee. He holds a Bachelor degree in Geography from the University of North Texas and has a strong passion for being involved in the local and regional GIS Community.

2019 Chapter Officers

Chris Akin, GISP – President

Oly Powers, GISP – Vice President

Adi Lebron – Secretary

Cristina Lara, GISP – Communications Coordinator

Patrick Young, GISP – Events Coordinator

Daniel Haverlah, GISP – Outreach Coordinator

Michelle Swindle – Associate Officer

Robert Wood – Associate Officer