



**Saint Mary's
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Data Intelligence & Geo Analytics Newsletter

MS DIGA | GIS Certificate | Data Engineering Certificate

Summer 2022

Welcome

Program alumni, students, and friends - we would like to take a few moments to share a few highlights about what's been happening in the program recently as part of our bi-annual short newsletter series (summer and winter/spring).

Alumni and current students, if you have news or exciting things happening, please let us know!

Lastly, we hope that everyone is enjoying their summer!

Program/University News

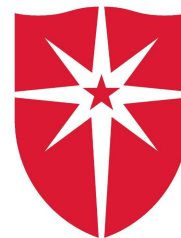
A few exciting updates from around campus and the program:

➤ **Fully Online!** The **MS. DIGA** | **GIS** and **Data Engineering** Certificates are fully online for the Fall of 2022! Of course we will still find plenty of time to get together!

➤ **New Saint Mary's logo?** You may have seen this new logo (shown right)! The university recently announced a **new brand and logo** to reflect the outcomes and values of the university.

➤ **Cybersecurity!** As some of you may know, we recently assumed leadership of the **Cybersecurity** program and Cybersecurity **Management** and **Technology** Certificates as well. Look for new and exciting synergies and opportunities between our programs!

➤ The **alumni map** was recently updated. **Check it out** and please **add or update your point**.



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Massive Demand in the "Tech" Industry!

It has been a strong year for job growth in the data and technology field. Below is a sample of new positions our students and alumni have found recently. Congratulations! Do you have a new job? Please let us know.

➤ **Mike Etter** ('15; MPLS) - GIS Solution Architect at de maximis Data Management Solutions, Inc.

➤ **Jason Hall** (In Progress; MPLS) - Market Research Analyst at MTN Retail Advisors

➤ **Jorida Latifi** ('18; MPLS) - Solar Designer at Cedar Creek Energy

➤ **Jake Johnson** ('10; WIN) - Chief Operating Officer at MTN Retail Advisors

➤ **Al Rabine** ('17; MPLS) - GIS Analyst at The Environmental Working Group

➤ **Matt Reid** ('20; MPLS) - Environmental Specialist at Novel Energy Solutions

➤ **Jessica Schuler** ('17; MPLS) - Solutions Architect at Accela

➤ **Emily Weber** (In Progress; MPLS) - GIS Specialist at Pro-West & Associates, Inc.

Alumni News

As part of our continued stories of 'where are they now,' we are featuring two alumni who have gone on to contribute excellence and improvements in the evolving technology, data, and analytics industry!

Ryan Moore ('06; Winona) is currently the GIS Manager at Rochester Public Utilities (RPU) in Rochester, Minnesota. Since graduation, Ryan transferred from the Rochester Public Works Department in 2007 to the RPU Department. Here, he is responsible for collaborating with the GIS team to improve work processes across the utility and integrate GIS with other business software. In addition, Ryan obtained his Part 107 license and successfully secured funding for purchasing two drones for inspecting infrastructure at RPU such as poles, water towers, and electric sub stations. He is also involved as a Steering Committee member of Mid-West ESRI Utility Users Group. Ryan shared a favorable memory during his time at Saint Mary's: "The camaraderie in the computer lab while working on homework/projects and occasional happy hour." Congratulations, Ryan! (photo right)



Michelle Traeger ('00; Winona) is currently the GIS Coordinator at Rice County, Minnesota. Since graduation, she has been working at Rice County - first as an intern, and then as a GIS Planner. Michelle works with all kinds of "geo"technologies, including web-mapping, addressing, and data development; recently Michelle championed a redistricting project and is updating NG911 workflow data. In recognition of Michelle's outstanding work, she received the MN GIS/LIS Consortium Polaris Award in 2016. She has been on the Steering Committee for the SE MN GIS User's Group since 2007. She also served on the MN GAC as the at-large and local government rep from 2012 to 2017 and was part of the leadership team from 2015-2017. Michelle currently serves on the MN GIS/LIS Consortium Board and was a past chair of the board. Michelle shared a favorite memory of her time at Saint Mary's involving a complex cave project: "I remember mapping Niagra Cave. That was a fun project!" Congratulations Michelle! (photo right)



Current Students

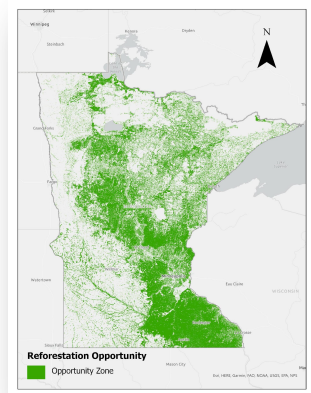
The following graduate candidates are defending graduate research this summer (congratulations!):

Sarah Waterman: "Performance of ARIMA and Convolutional Neural Network Models for Sales Forecasting."

Per Lundmark: "Remote Sensing Forest Carbon: A Study of Carbon Sequestration Opportunities in Minnesota's Whitewater Valley." (Minnesota Reforestation Opportunity shown at right)

Annika Freight: "Analyzing Prudent SARS CoV-2 Vaccination Sites: A Case Study of Duluth Minnesota."

Ian Robertson: "Using Supervised Image Classification to Identify Potential Wetland Habitats in the North Slope Borough of Alaska."



Faculty and Staff Tidbits & News

Wesley Tilford is enjoying his recent theatre performances in and around the metro area!

Greta Poser is enjoying spending time outside gardening and biking this summer.

Dr. John Ebert is wondering where the summer went so far! He has been serving as Chair of the new Rank and Promotion Committee and is excited about new program partnerships for custom and applied training. He also has been helping neighbors with "farm chores" and trout fishing time to time with his good friend and neighbor, Kenny Salwey - "The Last River Rat." He is also awaiting the Green Bay Packer season - cue the rivalries! (especially with Doc Dave) :-)

Dr. (Doc) Dave McConville (retired) is enjoying life in Minnesota this summer spending some time on the river!

Check out our Master of Science: *Data Intelligence and GeoAnalytics*

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