



Society for
Conservation GIS

2019-2020

Annual Report

www.scgis.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



On behalf of the SCGIS Board of Directors, I am pleased to share our recent accomplishments through this **2019-2020 SCGIS Annual Report!**

While this board year has included many highlights for SCGIS, it was also an extremely difficult year with the start of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Members of our community, who are spread all over the world, have been and continue to be significantly affected in very different ways. Individually, we are stretched in navigating new challenges, making major adjustments to our lifestyles, and caring for the health and well-being of ourselves and of those whom we love.

SCGIS made the difficult decision to postpone our 2020 Global Scholars Program and our in-person Annual Conference, which are premier events that bring our community together. Led by our Conference Committee, SCGIS regrouped quickly to overcome major challenges to successfully develop our first-ever virtual conference series. Our community responded and the virtual event set a new record for SCGIS conference attendance with more than 200 participants!

Early stages of the pandemic also brought concerns of potential budget shortfalls associated with loss of membership income and conference revenue. However, we received an enormous response to our call for support through a GoFundMe effort, annual membership drive, and participation in our 2020 virtual conference series! I am very grateful to everyone who offered their support to bring our community together this year.

When the Black Lives Matter protests reignited in response to the police brutality that took the life of George Floyd and many other Black Americans and people of color, SCGIS shared resources on our social media channels to raise awareness about racism and marginalization of people of color in the field of conservation. We also developed a [SCGIS Statement of Inclusion](#) and integrated several related goals into our strategic planning processes that seek to promote and cultivate diversity.

In this Annual Report, you will learn more about these efforts as well as our release of a new [SCGIS 5-Year Vision](#) that will guide our efforts to 2025 and our revised [Mission, Vision and Values statements](#) that communicate who SCGIS is and what we value among a membership across hundreds of diverse communities around the globe.

Our thoughts are deeply with those who have faced health, economic, or other challenges during this time. We stand together with you to overcome challenges and identify new ways to connect with the SCGIS community. Through the collective efforts of our SCGIS Board of Directors, Advisory Council, and members of our programmatic committees, we remain committed to build and support a strong, diverse and representative global network of conservation GIS practitioners. Thank you for being a part of our community.

Janet Nackoney

President, Society for Conservation GIS

Associate Research Professor, University of Maryland

www.scgis.org

The mission of the Society for Conservation GIS (SCGIS) is to support and grow an inclusive global community using geospatial technology for conservation of biodiversity, natural environments, and cultural heritage.

2019–2020 SCGIS ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Formally established a new SCGIS domestic chapter for Hudson Valley, New York.



The global pandemic affected us all, and SCGIS responded by seeking expanded virtual opportunities to build and support a strong, global network of people using GIS for conservation.



With limits on international travel, SCGIS reshaped efforts to plan a strong future for the global SCGIS community with ongoing strategic planning to refine and improve the missions of the Global Scholars and Train the Trainer (TTT) programs. We used the virtual format for this year's SCGIS Annual Conference to connect with global scholars from previous years and hosted virtual presentations from 11 international chapters. SCGIS also provided a significant update to TTT and scholar training materials.



Developed revised Mission, Vision and Values statements that communicate who SCGIS is and what we value, as well as a Statement of Inclusion to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.



Engaged the conservation GIS community to share SCGIS messages through social media and SCGIS networking events; expanded our social media network to over 3,800 followers.



The 23rd annual SCGIS Conference was reshaped into our first virtual conference and brought together conservation practitioners from around the world focusing on a theme of *The Stories We Tell*. As the premier international event for conservation GIS, the conference featured two special panel discussions, eight technical workshops, paper presentations contributed by the Conservation Remote Sensing Network (CSRNet), The Nature Conservancy, Esri, the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit, and twelve SCGIS chapters; and many opportunities to network among the SCGIS community.



Developed a 5-Year Vision to guide SCGIS efforts through 2025 with strategic priorities to strengthen the organization, build a worldwide community, and support conservation GIS professionals.



Hosted two webinar series that shared conservation GIS practices with over 1,500 participants.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Executive Committee – The SCGIS Executive Committee, comprised of the board-elected officers of SCGIS, is the group of individuals that has accepted the highest level of responsibility for the governance of SCGIS.



Janet Nackoney (President) University of Maryland
Vivienne Sclater (Vice President) Archbold Biological Station
Jason Winner (Treasurer) Marstel-Day
Ellen Brown (Secretary) Austin Peay State University

The SCGIS Executive Committee had a busy year! Our board year traditionally runs from after the annual conference through the end of the next conference. This report focuses on accomplishments between August 2019 – October 2020. Members of the Executive Committee led the development of a set of revised [Mission, Vision and Values statements](#) that communicate who SCGIS is and what we value, as well as a [Statement of Inclusion](#) that communicates SCGIS's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. The Executive Committee also developed a [Code of Conduct](#) that clarifies SCGIS's standards of professional conduct within our leadership and at SCGIS events. These statements were developed by smaller sub-committees and led by different members of the Executive Committee; once drafted, the statements went through a review process by our SCGIS membership community and were eventually approved by a membership vote. The Executive Committee hopes that the development of these statements will help SCGIS continue to grow a diverse global community that is supportive, respectful, professional, and inclusive.

In addition, the Executive Committee finalized a [Five-Year Vision](#) to define and guide SCGIS activities until 2025. This effort began at the end of the 2018-2019 board year with the development of a SCGIS Identity Survey. From this survey, we learned from our members which parts of SCGIS are most important to them. In addition, the Executive Committee conducted a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis with the SCGIS Board and Advisory Council at the end of the 2018-2019 board year. Results of the SWOT analysis helped to identify areas of opportunity for enhancing SCGIS programming and operations according to its capacity and resources, and areas to direct extra effort for improvement. Once drafted, the Five-Year Vision underwent a review process by the SCGIS membership community and was later approved by a membership vote. The Executive Committee is very proud of this effort to strategically guide our future activities and priorities!

Finally, the Executive Committee recruited and led a SCGIS Branding Task Force composed of members interested in developing and improving a cohesive set of SCGIS branding materials, including a planned update for the SCGIS logo. Efforts will support broader communication needs and better convey the SCGIS identity with a cohesive suite of modern designs for a new SCGIS logo, a new SCGIS website, and other materials.

Communications Committee - The Communications Committee works to share the story of SCGIS with current and prospective members and the greater conservation GIS community to promote awareness of and engagement in Society activities, events, webinars, and initiatives.

			Rebecca Degagne (co-chair)	Conservation Biology Institute
			Meg Southee (co-chair)	Wildlife Conservation Society Canada
			Ellen Brown	Austin Peay State University
			Li Ling Choo	Wildlife Conservation Society
			Sarah Graves	University of Wisconsin - Madison
			Ellie Linden	NatureServe
			Declan Pizzino	Conservation Biology Institute
			Kari Signor	Geo Owl, LLC
			Jocelyn Tutak	Ecotrust

The Communications Committee works to strengthen connections, build awareness about SCGIS, and provide resources for the SCGIS community. Each year, the Communications Committee hosts the [SCGIS Webinar Series](#), which is co-sponsored by [Conservation Biology Institute \(CBI\)](#). In 2020, the webinar series was titled "Conservation in Times of Crisis" to highlight content particularly relevant to the SCGIS community as the global pandemic began. This series consisted of four webinars with a total of 1530 global participants and focused on topics that included: responding to natural disasters in South America, building community resilience around climate change, and examining the human-animal interface in the context of COVID-19.

As part of ongoing strategic planning undertaken by SCGIS leadership, members of the Communications Committee supported the Rebranding Task Force and forthcoming logo redesign process to develop materials for the communication of a more cohesive SCGIS brand. In addition, the Communications Committee created an [SCGIS Overview & Member Benefits presentation and recording](#) for the SCGIS website and virtually recruited new members to their committee. Through social media connections and outreach, the committee has worked to foster community-building and inclusivity in a digital environment. The Conference Committee also hosted a "Geospatial Conservation Applications Meetup" at the 2020 Geo for Good conference, where people from 42 countries joined to hear from Black scientists sharing their personal experiences about the Black Birders & Black In Nature movements.

The Communications Committee continues to support all other SCGIS committees in developing social media content for announcing the Annual Conference and chapter events, highlighting member stories and accomplishments, organizing projects that recognize and fulfil the needs of the SCGIS community, and amplifying diverse voices in the fields of GIS and conservation.

Conference Committee - The SCGIS Conference Committee plans, organizes, and carries out the SCGIS Annual Conference. The SCGIS Annual Conference is the focal event hosted by SCGIS for its members and the greater conservation GIS community.



Vivienne Sclater (chair)	Archbold Biological Station
Jayita Bhojwani	GreenInfo Network
Sandra Coveny	Sandra Coveny, LLC
Abby Cramer	National Geographic
Zach Ferdaña	The Nature Conservancy
Andy Lyons	UC Agriculture and Natural Resources
Janice Thomson	The Wilderness Society
JayLee Tuil	University of California, Davis
Mary Jo Weatherford	Esri

Faced with the global pandemic, SCGIS moved its 2020 Annual Conference to a virtual event. Within a short time span, the Conference Committee developed a new event format and identified the technology solutions to support it. Our 23rd annual SCGIS conference was therefore reshaped to be our first virtual conference.

The online event included a variety of topical sessions led by invited speakers, a selection of technical workshops, and paper presentations organized by SCGIS chapters and volunteers. All sessions were free to attend during the live event with the exception of the technical workshops, which were offered at an accessible cost of \$20 each. The conference event included a welcome session, panel discussions on lands trusts and career development, and paper presentations contributed by the [Conservation Remote Sensing Network \(CRSNet\)](#), [The Nature Conservancy](#), [Esri](#), the [Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit](#), and a selection of twelve SCGIS chapters. These SCGIS chapter presentations were led by chapters from Brazil, Cameroon, India, Latin America (regional), Madagascar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russia, Slovenia, South Africa, Ukraine, and the United States (Washington DC).

The technical workshops included training on Spatial Analysis with R, Creating Dashboards from Field Data, Spatial Analysis workflows in ArcGIS Pro, Introduction to Remote Sensing Using Open Source Tools, and Advanced Remote Sensing: Land Cover Change Analysis.

The SCGIS 2020 Virtual Conference Series reached over 200 participants from 32 different countries and at least two First Nations. The welcome session is posted on the SCGIS website and access to the video proceedings is free to SCGIS members with their SCGIS login. Feedback on the virtual conference format was positive, with individuals appreciating the free registration, low-cost technical training and the schedule spread out over several weeks across multiple time zones to facilitate participation. The virtual format was also positive for SCGIS; thanks to lower expenses for the virtual conference plus income netted from the training and generous donations from attendees, the net proceeds for the conference were higher than previous years and helped compensate the organization for the purchase of a webinar hosting account and continued support for our programming.

Domestic Chapters Committee - The SCGIS Domestic Chapters Committee facilitates the creation of local SCGIS chapters in the United States that support the mission of SCGIS.



Derek Masaki (chair)	US Geological Survey
Tommy Albo (Portland, OR)	OregonMetro
Connor Bailey (Colorado)	The Wilderness Society
Francis Hourigan (San Francisco)	Jackson Family Wines
Sophia Kean (Washington, DC)	The World Bank
Janet Nackoney (Washington, DC)	University of Maryland
Whitney Newcomb (San Francisco)	Lettis Consultants
Jovian Sackett (North Carolina Triangle)	Southern Env Law Center
Florencia Sangermano (Western & Central Massachusetts)	Clark University
Alina Tarmu (New York/New Jersey)	NYC Dept of Env Protection

SCGIS has eight chapters in the United States: San Francisco CA, Colorado, Western/Central Massachusetts, New York/New Jersey, North Carolina Triangle, Portland OR, and Washington, DC.

In 2019–2020, SCGIS added a new chapter, the New York Hudson Valley chapter! The new chapter held their first meeting virtually in May 2020, with participation from over 30 individuals including employees working for local land trusts, regional land conservation organizations, state agencies, and consultants and professors from throughout the Hudson Valley of New York. The chapter also met virtually in July to discuss data sharing related to trails and protected lands. Participants identified ways to make data sharing more open and efficient, and identified opportunities for further partnership and collaboration.

Though the COVID pandemic posed challenges for SCGIS’s local chapters to hold events this year, our chapters continue to network and build community. Before the start of the pandemic, the Washington, DC chapter held an in-person happy hour in conjunction with the Esri Federal GIS Conference, which attracted about 50 people. In addition, the Portland OR chapter, with the help of [Esri](#) and SCGIS, co-sponsored the 8th annual GIS day celebration in November 2019. It was the largest yet, with over 150 people attending the evening event at [EcoTrust](#). In addition, the San Francisco chapter of SCGIS and [BayGeo](#) teamed up with the [North Bay GIS](#) to host a series of virtual presentations in March. The Western and Central Massachusetts chapter launched a [new website](#) that features GIS resources and a calendar of events.

During the pandemic, the New York/New Jersey chapter of SCGIS continued to hold virtual monthly happy hours; their online meetings covered topics associated with networking and building a successful career in conservation GIS. In addition, the chapter celebrated GIS Day and Space Week with a virtual online gathering. The North Carolina Triangle chapter used this year as a planning opportunity and are preparing to start hosting virtual gatherings in the coming year.

Finance Committee - The SCGIS Finance Committee improves understanding of SCGIS income assets and sources, assesses SCGIS expenses and costs, and builds sustainable financial structures to support activities that ensure full compliance with all Society reporting obligations as a 501(c)3 organization.



The SCGIS Finance Committee provides transparency, monitoring, and board engagement for SCGIS fiscal management and planning by delivering routine financial reporting at board meetings and by managing legal tax and business reporting requirements.

In 2019–20, the Finance Committee monitored membership trends and organizational financial health during the pandemic. The committee worked closely with Conference and International Committees to adjust budgets and support plans through travel restrictions and the creation of a virtual conference. The Finance Committee partnered with the Executive Committee to support fundraising opportunities and initiate a new SCGIS Development Committee.

In support of the SCGIS Five-Year Vision, the Finance Committee advanced a long-term budgeting process to look beyond current year requirements and identify financial requirements and support opportunities over a five-year window for major programs. The committee engaged with all committees to develop a comprehensive SCGIS annual budget, which included customized details of income and expenses for each committee. The Finance Committee also contributed content and coordinated the creation of the [SCGIS Annual Report](#) (2018–2019).

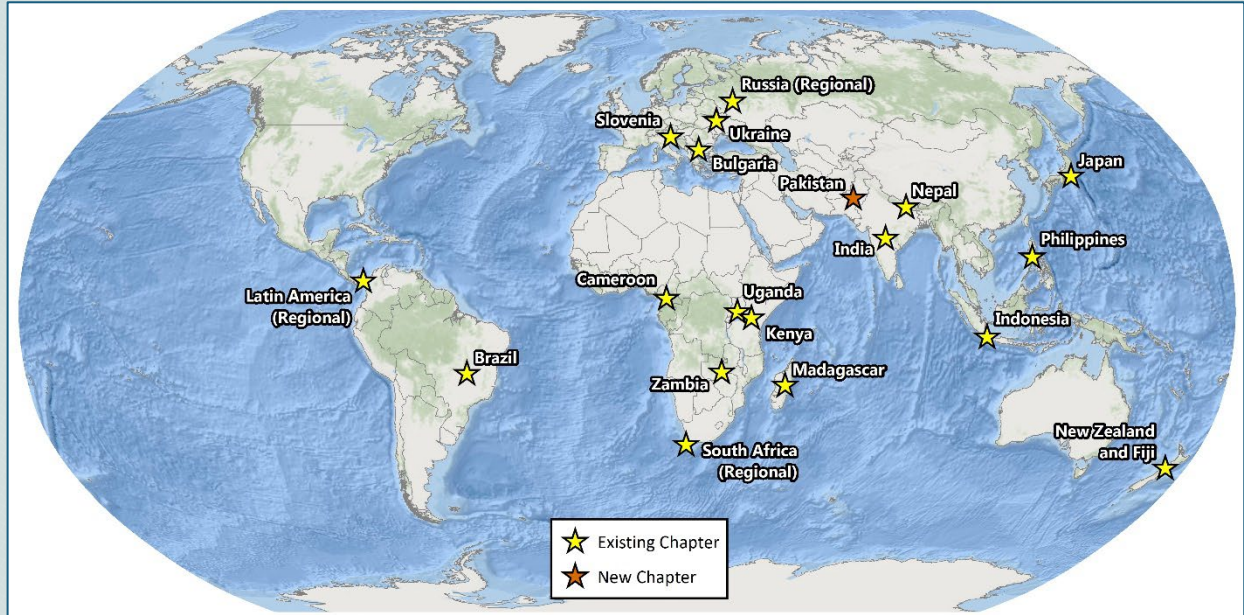
International Committee - The SCGIS International Committee fosters communication and networking among conservation GIS professionals and students through a well-defined annual scholarship program; development and support of regional and national groups; outreach and support to diverse conservation workers in developing nations and Indigenous and marginalized communities worldwide; and training and technical support programs.

			Karen Beardsley (co-chair)	University of California, Davis, USA
			Mervyn Lotter (co-chair)	Mpumalanga Tourism/Parks Agency, South Africa
			Leslie Backus	Royal Thimphu College, Bhutan
			Charles Convis	Esri, USA
			Sandra Coveny	Sandra Coveny, LLC, USA
			Carlos De Angelo	Instituto de Biología Subtropical, Argentina
			M Abdullah Abu Diyan	Bangladesh
			Prashant Hedao	Asian Nature Conservation Foundation, India
			Lata Iyer	Auroville, India
			Michelle Kinzel	SWC, SDMC, National Geographic, USA
			Indraniil Mondal	Wildlife Institute of India, India
			Lisa Pierce	Redlands Conservancy, USA
			John Schaeffer	Juniper GIS, USA
			Miriam Schmidts	Esri, USA
			Stefan Stamenov	SRTI-BAS, Bulgaria
			Vanya Stamenova	SRTI-BAS, Bulgaria
			Angela Tarimy	Finnish Association for Nature Conservation, Madagascar

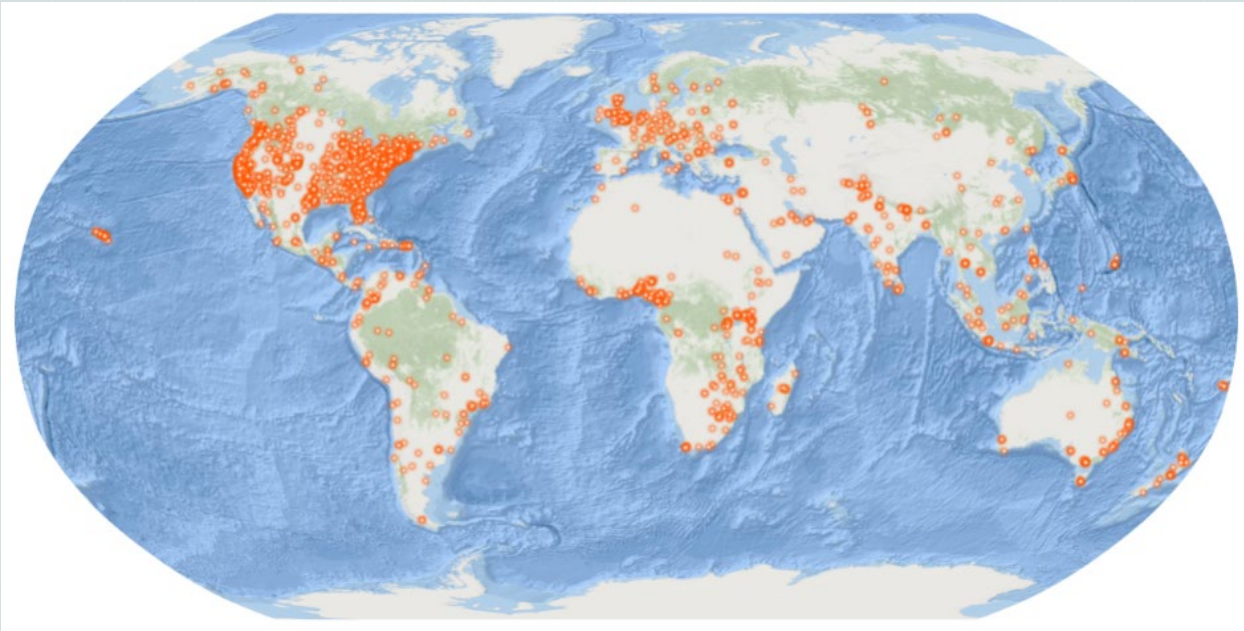
Though the 2020 Global Scholars program was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SCGIS International Committee was able to provide support for 2020 scholars and international honors recipients. Specific support included complimentary SCGIS memberships to all finalists and semifinalists, access to Esri training, a personal copy of ArcGIS Pro, and a few Esri-donated training laptops to scholars. The International Committee continued its strategic planning efforts to strengthen the individual missions of the Global Scholars and Train-the-Trainer (TTT) programs and completed a significant update to the Global Scholars and TTT training materials. Members of the committee explored the history of conservation and need for inclusivity, discussing ways to bring underrepresented members into SCGIS and elevate diverse voices. This year, SCGIS welcomed its first Tribal Scholar.

The virtual format of the SCGIS Annual Conference allowed members of the SCGIS community to reconnect with Global Scholars from previous years and learn more about SCGIS's wide array of international chapters. This virtual format provided a unique opportunity for past global scholars to present their work and for chapter leads and members to present their scientific research and chapter updates. With presentations from eleven of the international chapters during the annual conference, the International Committee was able to capture the personality and evolution of each of these chapters, raise awareness of the nature of their conservation work, and showcase their remarkable accomplishments. Inclusion of these presentations in the SCGIS conference proceedings this year was a notable opportunity to document the global impact of the TTT and Global Scholars training program.

SCGIS is proud to have helped develop a worldwide footprint of conservation GIS training capacity and community support through its Global Program with over 1034 students trained since 2011. In addition, the committee welcomed the Pakistan Chapter as an official SCGIS chapter. Stay tuned for news about developing SCGIS chapters across the globe!



SCGIS International Chapters



SCGIS Members

Membership Committee - The SCGIS Membership Committee confirms and administers memberships, provides support for membership questions and payments, and supports membership recruitment and renewal activities for SCGIS.



Miriam Schmidts (co-chair) Esri
 Nathan Walker (co-chair) USDA Forest Service
 John Cannon Marstel-Day
 Abby Cramer National Geographic
 Mervyn Lotter Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency

This has been a difficult year for many, and SCGIS has worked to support its membership in these trying times. Membership Committee efforts inspire current and potential members to join and renew their SCGIS memberships, while promoting membership benefits like SCGIS ArcGIS Online organizational accounts, webinars, access to training videos, community resources, and more.

This year, SCGIS completed the pilot of an organizational membership program with [Conservation International](#) and [The Nature Conservancy](#) as SCGIS’s first organizational members, which provided each organization with 20 SCGIS memberships. As the organizational membership program expands, the Membership Committee hopes that it will strengthen SCGIS’s collaboration with additional non-profits, private businesses, academic institutions, and government agencies, and help members within these organizations to build longer-term connections with SCGIS. SCGIS is very grateful to Conservation International and The Nature Conservancy for their early participation as the organizational membership program was developed, and the Membership Committee looks forward to expanding the program in the coming years.



This year, the Membership Committee also provided complimentary memberships to each of the Global Scholars Program finalists and semifinalists. In the absence of the traditional programs at the in-person conference, the committee hopes that the free memberships and corresponding training support through our membership benefits will help these Global Scholars build more connections and deepen their skills. Finally, the Membership Committee has been successful in expanding the use of SCGIS organizational ArcGIS Online accounts by SCGIS members, with nearly 100 accounts added since SCGIS started this membership benefit program. This ArcGIS Online membership benefit helps SCGIS members to collaborate and share ideas with others working on conservation projects around the world.

Website Committee - The purpose of the Website Committee is to establish and implement the SCGIS web presence by coordinating the design, development and maintenance of the public SCGIS website and any other web channels.



Meg Southee (chair) Wildlife Conservation Society Canada
David Asbury Esri
Li Ling Choo Wildlife Conservation Society
Nasser Olwero World Wildlife Fund
Nick Santos University of California, Davis
Stephanie Smith Grand Canyon Trust
Nathan Walker USDA Forest Service

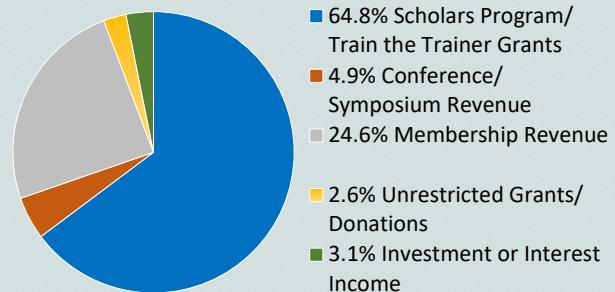
The Website Committee improved internal workflows to deliver content from the 2020 virtual conference proceedings by directly embedding the conference videos into the SCGIS website using Vimeo. These video recordings are accessible to SCGIS members on the conference subpages. The Website Committee also began using Google Analytics to generate metrics of SCGIS’s website use. These analytics have allowed SCGIS to compare web traffic from previous years and better understand how users are interacting with the site. Location analytics showed that the majority of SCGIS website users live in the Americas, followed by Asia, Europe, Oceania, and Africa.

The largest undertaking this year by the Website Committee was diligently working with our website contractor [OneBigRobot \(OBR\)](#) to design a new SCGIS website with advanced front-end capabilities that will enhance the user experience and provide a new database management system for enriching back-end functionality. The Committee led multiple phases of the project including an initial phase to design, vet, and refine the look and feel of the site for graphics, color schemes, interactivity, navigation, layout, and user interface. As website drafts were developed, committee members provided detailed reviews of site functionality and identified areas for refinement. The Website Committee also helped to support development of back-end database requirements and functionality. The committee is currently working on the robust task of migrating and updating content from the current website to prepare for the new website debut in 2021.

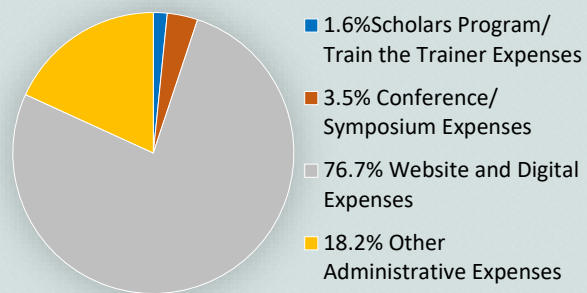
FINANCIAL AND MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Financial Summary: SCGIS had total net assets of \$310,498 as of September 30, 2020 including endowment assets of \$124,683. The Society is supported by revenue from investment income, donors and grants, membership fees, and event fees. Based on available data as of September 30, 2020, net income for the fiscal year of October 2019 through September 2020 was \$93,512. Note that impacts from the pandemic and changes to programming have had a significant impact on finances compared to typical years. Net assets and net income are significantly higher than normal because the pandemic prevented use of restricted grant funding that must be applied to future programming. Future adjustments may offset most or all increases this year. Financial strength in recent years has provided support to maintain programming during the pandemic and support hiring a consultant to redesign the SCGIS website.

FY2019-20 Consolidated Revenue

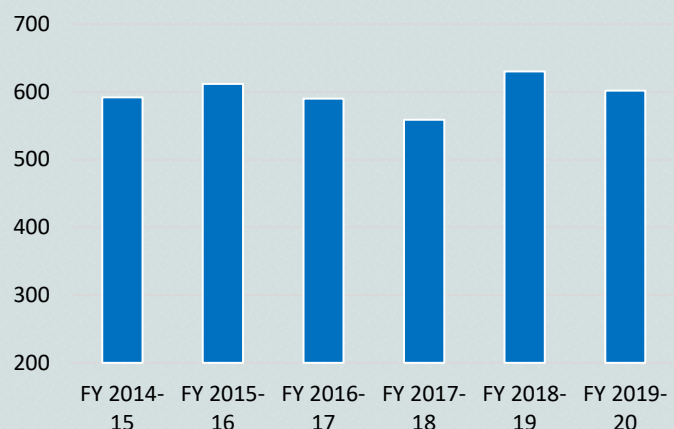


FY2019-20 Consolidated Expenses



Membership Summary: SCGIS had 602 members in 2020. The membership renewal rate was 49.2%, which is a decrease of 8.0 percentage points compared to one year prior, and a decrease of 2.5 percentage points compared to the average over the past five years. Membership numbers were significantly affected at the beginning of the pandemic, but SCGIS promoted new virtual initiatives to better connect with new and renewing members.

SCGIS Membership



SUPPORT AND DONATIONS

SCGIS depends heavily upon membership revenue and donor support to continue our activities and mission. Several organizations and individuals have donated both in-kind and financial support to help sustain SCGIS's programmatic activities. We are very grateful for their contributions and support!

Virtual Conference Series - We would like to thank the following organizations for lending in-kind support that helped ensure that our virtual conference series ran smoothly -- whether it was the use of their virtual platform, or hosting a session. This support was immensely important to the success of our virtual conference!



Global Scholars Program and Train-the-Trainer (TTT) Program - We would also like to thank the following organizations for lending valuable in-kind support to our Global Scholars Program and Train-the-Trainer (TTT) Program.



Esri is our premier donor and primary funder of the Global Scholars and TTT programs. This year, they provided in-kind support that consisted of software donations to assist our 2019-2020 Global Scholars during the pandemic.



While the Global Scholar Program was suspended in 2020, UC Davis typically provides three weeks of classroom space, a GIS computer lab, and technical support from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences in support of the ArcGIS Pro desktop training portion of the Global Scholar Program. Additionally, during normal years UC Davis Global Affairs connects scholars with the Mandela Washington Fellowship program and supports joint on-campus activities. We hope to continue this synergistic programming in person in summer of 2022.



Juniper GIS Services continued to provide strategic training support although no formal classes were held due to Covid-19.



Finally, Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency provided in-kind support to assist with the volunteer effort needed to convert the core Global Scholar trainings from ArcMap 10x to ArcGIS Pro.

Other In-kind Support - We thank Rebecca Degagne and the Conservation Biology Institute (CBI) for hosting our bi-annual [SCGIS Webinar Series](#) on conservation and the application of geospatial technology. All webinars and webinar recordings are freely available to the general public. Thank you for this valuable service to SCGIS!



\$100+ Sponsor Members - The members listed below have chosen to give at the \$100+ sponsor level to provide additional support to SCGIS and our programmatic activities. We are very grateful for this additional support!

Tommy Albo	Jennifer Dungan	Christopher Jeffrey	Jonathan Ocon	Donna Taylor
María José Andrade Núñez	David Favero	Abhishek Kala	Doug Olcott	Sage Tezak
Wynette Arviso	Kim Fisher	Pam Kersh	Robert Pendergrass	Janice Thomson
John Bauer	Linda Gray	Joseph Kinyon	Lisa Pierce	Nathan Walker
John Cannon	Dejan Gregor	Danielle Labruna	Lilian Pintea	Stuart Weiss
Steve Capps	Peg Gronemeyer	Mary Lackner	David Smith	Yolanda Wiersma
Bob Christensen	Gary A. Hallbauer	Jennifer Lipton	Mero Stalmans	Alex Young
Priscilla Cole	Healy Hamilton	Melanie Masessa	David Stolarz	
Deborah Dennison	John Isom	Dorn Moore	Casey Sullivan	

Other donors and supporters - We would also like to acknowledge and thank the individuals listed below who have provided extra financial support to SCGIS this year through our GoFundMe effort and Giving Tuesday event, and who gave donations through our website. This was an especially difficult year with having to cancel our in-person Annual Conference and facing a loss of income from membership renewals associated with the conference, so we are very appreciative of this additional support!

Jon Belak	Crystal Goodison	Janet Nackoney	Ciprian Samoila	Nathan Walker
Ellen Brown	Healy Hamilton	Odgen/Judith Nackoney	Eric Sandoval	Dean Walton
David Cameron	Gerald Heston	Monica Noon	Nicholas Santos	Robert Wehrle
John Cannon	Neil Hurwitz	Doug Olcott	Vivienne Sclater	Jason Winner
Priscilla Cole	Nicholas Johnson	Larry Orman	Kirsten Severud	Max Wright
Gabriel Daldegan	Cody Kiefer	Roberta Pickert	Brady Simmons	GreenInfo Network
Fahiema Daniels	Kellee Koenig	Lisa Pierce	Sarah Studebaker	
Madeline Dillner	Victor LaBruna	Declan Pizzino	John Taylor	
Patrick Gannon	Joel Masselink	Johanna Prussmann	Alison Thieme	
Sara Goeking	Robert Anthony McLaughlin	Jane Rombouts	Janice Thomson	
Eldan Goldenberg	Marcia McNiff	Demian Rybock	JayLee Tuil	

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Outstanding Volunteer Recognition - As an all-volunteer organization, our volunteers are the backbone of SCGIS. In addition to the SCGIS Board and Advisory Council, many volunteers from our membership at-large support SCGIS programmatic committees described in the previous sections of this report.

SCGIS would like to recognize and thank **Abby Cramer and JayLee Tuil** for their commitment as volunteers who helped make the 2020 SCGIS Virtual Conference series run smoothly. Mostly behind the scenes, they moderated sessions, drafted emails, curated content for event pages, managed the SCGIS Zoom account, edited and published Conference Proceedings, and more. We are so grateful for their energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to make sure that each session ran successfully. In addition to the Conference Committee, Abby also volunteers on the SCGIS Membership Committee, where she has helped clean up the membership database. Thank you, Abby and JayLee!

SCGIS would also like to thank **Kellee Koenig**, who volunteered with both the Membership Committee and the Finance Committee for four years. Her hard work and insightful comments continually guided the Membership Committee both in its day-to-day efforts to better serve SCGIS’s members and in developing new initiatives, like the SCGIS Organizational Membership program. Kellee’s service to the Finance Committee included helping to start the SCGIS PayPal account, developing new financial policies, supporting portions of the SCGIS Financial Handbook, and providing critical feedback to important financial decisions. Kellee now serves on SCGIS’s Advisory Council. Thank you, Kellee!

Recognition of SCGIS Committee Chairs	
Conference Committee (Vivienne Sclater/ Janice Thomson)	Facing very unusual circumstances, Vivienne and Janice did an outstanding job of successfully pulling off the first-ever SCGIS Virtual Conference series! They lined up an extremely compelling set of panels and talks that exceeded all expectations with a very small window of time to prepare. The virtual conference attracted over 200 attendees and raised needed funds for SCGIS.
Website Committee (Meg Southee)	Meg has been leading a complete redesign of the SCGIS website and has dedicated significant volunteer hours to ensure that the ongoing and complex process runs as smoothly as possible. In addition, she is always keeping a steady eye on our current website and identifying ways to improve our content.
Finance Committee (Jason Winner)	Jason finished his four-year term as SCGIS Treasurer. He led the development of SCGIS’s 5-Year Vision, which guides SCGIS activities and priorities to 2025, and a process to revise SCGIS’s Mission, Vision and Values statements. He proactively identified budget shortfalls resulting from programmatic shifts in response to the pandemic and led the SCGIS GoFundMe fundraising effort.

<p>International Committee (Karen Beardsley/Mervyn Lotter)</p>	<p>Each year, Karen and Mervyn lead the process of selecting finalists for the SCGIS Global Scholars program and coordinate all logistics of the training program. Although the in-person program was postponed this year, Mervyn worked hard to convert all of the core Scholar trainings from ArcMap 10.x to ArcGIS Pro and offered several short virtual technical sessions for the Train-the-Trainers (TTTs).</p>
<p>Communications Committee (Rebecca Degagne/Meg Southee)</p>	<p>During the Black Lives Matter protests this spring, Rebecca and Meg proactively promoted resources on SCGIS social media channels to raise awareness about racism and marginalization of people of color in the field of conservation. In addition, Rebecca led this year’s SCGIS Webinar Series, “Conservation During Times of Crisis,” which featured scientists addressing topics like climate change, natural disasters, and zoonotic diseases like COVID-19.</p>
<p>Domestic Chapters Committee (Derek Masaki)</p>	<p>Derek Masaki has led the Domestic Chapters Committee for that past four years. Under his leadership, four new SCGIS Domestic Chapters were added. Thank you, Derek for your contributions and leadership!</p>
<p>Membership Committee (Nathan Walker/ Miriam Schmidts)</p>	<p>Nathan and Miriam successfully piloted the new SCGIS Organizational Membership program and expanded the SCGIS organizational ArcGIS Online member benefit. In addition, Nathan also served on the Website Committee and has begun to dedicate a significant amount of time to helping lead the website redesign effort.</p>

SCGIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADVISORY COUNCIL

SCGIS Board of Directors - The Board is comprised of 15 all-volunteer members. Board members serve as Chair leads of our various committees and help advance SCGIS's leadership and governance.



Janet Nackoney (President)	University of Maryland, USA
Vivienne Sclater (Vice President)	Archbold Biological Station, USA
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SCGIS Advisory Council - The Advisory Council supports the Board of Directors and SCGIS committees. Members are former board officers, co-founders, or have otherwise made significant contributions to the development of SCGIS and its programs.

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Healy Hamilton	NatureServe, USA
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John Schaeffer	Juniper GIS, USA
Miriam Schmidts	Esri, USA
Drew Stephens	The GIS Institute
Lucy Waruingi	Africa Conservation Center, Kenya

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR

Though we will need to continue to adjust our programming and operations in response to the global pandemic, we face the coming year with optimism. The SCGIS Board of Directors and SCGIS's programmatic committees will explore opportunities to increase virtual engagement with members. We plan to continue our outreach and communications efforts, including our free webinar series that reaches thousands of conservation GIS users each year, professional networking opportunities, and continuation of our Virtual Conference series.

The SCGIS International Committee will for the first time ever in 2021 provide its ArcGIS Pro Juniper GIS training virtually to the 2020/2021 Scholars. The training will be supported by members of SCGIS's Train-the-Trainers (TTT) Program, who will serve as mentors to the Scholars. In addition, we plan to host a number of virtual training events for our TTTs this year.

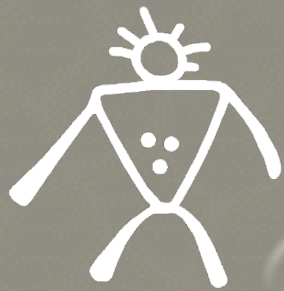
SCGIS will also embark on the final stage of our website redesign process to improve user experience with a more modern, mobile-friendly design. Finally, we will also develop a branding strategy, which will include the design of a new SCGIS logo!

Please follow our progress in 2021 at www.scgis.org, and thank you for supporting SCGIS!

Society for Conservation GIS



SCGIS members at the 2019 SCGIS Conference



Society for Conservation GIS

2019–2020 Annual Report

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