GeoPathway Initiative
Developing the Next Generation of Professionals

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Executive Director, FGDC
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GeoPathways Initiative - Purpose

- **Purpose/Objective:** Developing the Next Generation of Geospatial Professionals

- **Alignment**
  - **NSDI Strategic Framework Strategy III - Action 3.3:** Build workforce development strategies.

  Collaborate with partners to develop skills training for the next generation of spatial analysts, as well as consideration for how we broaden and diversify the spatial workforce.

- **Administration goals and objectives**
  - Executive Order [Expanding Apprenticeships in America](#)
  - M-17-30 – [FY19 Administration Research and Development Priorities](#) – ”Developing a Future Focused Workforce”
GeoPathways Initiative – Concept & Activities

GeoPathway Workforce development concept
GeoPathways Initiative – Concept & Activities

Mentoring & Networking

- Interact with Subject Matter Expert(s)
- Coaching
- Job Shadowing
- Develop network
GeoPathways Initiative – Concept & Activities

- Develop knowledge and skills in the use of geographic information
- Online Courses
- Webinars
- Brown Bags
GeoPathways Initiative – Concept & Activities

- **Research**
  - Conduct research in the application of geospatial data data and services:
    - Various Industry Sectors
    - Topical and Thematic areas
    - Emerging Technologies
GeoPathways Initiative – Concept & Activities

Application
- Participate in pilots
- Use open data resources
- Development of maps and storymaps
- Use GIS tools to support analysis
- Provide presentations
- Develop information resources
GeoPathways – 2017–2018 Pilot Phase

• **Phase 1** – Initiate Federal Pilot 2017-2018
  • Collaborate with Federal Partners
    • Establish Mentors
    • Identifying Education and Training
    • Identify Projects and Activities
    • Engaged the USGS Education Office to develop student opportunities

• **Phase 2** – Expand Engagement in FGDC Community
GeoPathways – 2017-2018

- Leverage State Departments – *Volunteer Student Foreign Service Initiative*
- About VSFS – *Initiated 2009*
  - Volunteer eInternship for U.S. Citizens enrolled in a certificate or degree program
  - Sept-May Academic Year
  - Not Employees—Non-paid
  - Students Work up to 10 hours a week
GeoPathways- 2017-2018 Project Sponsors/Mentors

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**Working with Bruce Quirk on UAV  
**Engaging DHS/FEMA Public Health & Safety  
** Working on request from others
GeoPathways 2017-2018 VSFS Result

- Advertised 3 positions requested 8 students
- 24 Applicants Applied
- Selected 15 students so far
- 12 Universities from West, Central and Eastern U.S.
  - California State University
  - Del Mar College
  - San Jose State University
  - NC State University
  - Coastal Carolina University
  - UCLA
  - Penn State University
  - University of Maryland
  - James Madison University
  - University of Colorado
  - University of Georgia
  - Yale
- Diverse group of Men and Women representing various demographics
Deliverables – Sample List

- Case Studies
- Story Maps
- Fact Sheets
- Posters
- Social Media Content
- Videos
- Infographic Sheets
- Test Results
- GIS Applications and Tools
GeoPathways 2017-2018

- Workforce Development Initiative
- Pilot program this year
- Leveraging VSFS
- Collaborating with CSS/USGS and Other Federal Agencies

*Opportunity to select from a pool of 40 additional students with geographic background through 9/18 – Contact fgdc@fgdc.gov