

# Birgit Muehlenhaus

## 2003-2004 ANNUAL REPORT, DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, PENN STATE

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year MS student** (entered program Fall 2002)

### **Accomplishments and Goals for 2004-2005:**

Since the last annual report I have completed PSU's online World Campus GIS Certificate program (including a programming course), attended ESRI's International User Conference in July 2003 as a student assistant, was hired in May 2003 as the GIS Specialist for PSU's Outreach Marketing office, and completed data collection for my thesis.

At this point in the semester, I am focusing on my thesis in order that I graduate in May 2004. As I have completed drafts of all content chapters, created and inserted figures into chapters, sent my thesis to the Graduate School for format review, I am now concentrating on editing and revising chapter drafts as well as writing my introduction and conclusion. Also in this semester, I will complete the necessary requirements for the graduate non-credit "Teaching with Technology Certificate" offered in part by the Graduate School. Lastly, I will be contacting and setting up interviews with firms employing GIS specialists/technicians, such as consulting firms, state government offices, IT firms etc.

### **Specialization:** GIS

**Thesis title:** The Diffusion of Location-based Services: Does Societal Context Matter?

**MS Committee:** D. O'Sullivan (Advisor), C. Flint (2<sup>nd</sup> reader), C. Benner (3<sup>rd</sup> reader)

### **Progress:**

May 2003: Committee meeting

September 2003: Proposal defense

### **Employment:**

FA 2002: TA 121 for D. DiBiase

SP 2003: TA 121 for J. Sloan

FA 2003: TA 321 for A. Griffin

SP 2004: TA Earth 002 for R. Crane

### **Awards:**

Student Assistantship for ESRI's International User Conference - July 2003

I do not request graduate assistantship funding for the 2004/2005 academic year.

Signatures: \_\_\_\_\_  
David O'Sullivan

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Birgit Muehlenhaus