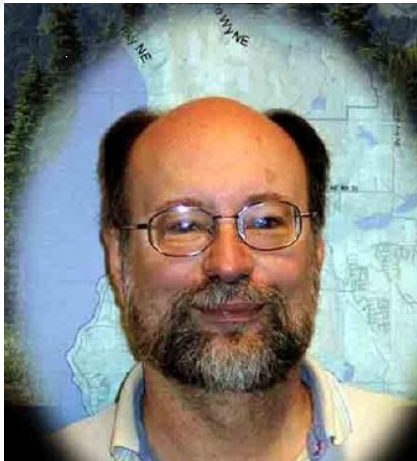




## Washington GIS Conference



Richard 'Dick' Thomas, 1947-2006

## Communicating Our World

May 12-14, 2014

Greater Tacoma  
Convention &  
Trade Center

For more information:

[www.waurisa.org](http://www.waurisa.org)

8th Annual Richard 'Dick' Thomas Memorial  
Student Presentation Competition & Award

## GUIDELINES

WAURISA, the Washington State Chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association, announces the 8th annual Richard "Dick" Thomas Memorial Student Presentation Competition & Award. This award was established in 2006 to honor Washington State GIS pioneer and mentor Richard "Dick" Thomas. The intent of this award is to honor Dick by continuing his work of encouraging students to excel in their studies and transition successfully into careers in the field of GIS. WAURISA's objective is to inspire students to present their original work related to GIS, geography, or geographic research at the annual Washington GIS Conference.

### Prizes

#### First Place

Dick Thomas Award Plaque

\$1000

One year membership in WAURISA

Free registration to the 2015 Washington GIS Conference

Publication of paper in *The Summit* (Washington GIS  
Newsletter)

Plus, possible additional prizes

#### Second Place

Dick Thomas Second Place Award Certificate

\$300

One year membership in WAURISA

Publication of paper in *The Summit* (Washington GIS  
Newsletter)

Plus, possible additional prize

#### Third Place

Dick Thomas Third Place Award Certificate

\$200

One year membership in WAURISA

Publication of paper in *The Summit* (Washington GIS  
Newsletter)

Plus, possible additional prizes

This year we are continuing the cash award given to the advisor or professor of the first place winner. This year's prize is \$250.

### About the Competition

The competition has two parts:

- Selection of at least four (4) abstracts by the WAURISA Student Competition Committee for papers to be Presented and judged during the Student Presentation Session at the 2014 Conference

The competition is limited to:

- Current students enrolled at least 6 hours in a relevant curriculum at a Washington State secondary school, community college, technical school, or university program
- Current Washington residents enrolled at least 6 hours in a relevant on-line GIS program

Entries must be:

- The original work by the student(s)
- Only one submission per lead student presenter
- Conducted as a school project or under the supervision of a student advisor or professor
- Students must be enrolled in a GIS, geography, technology, or related academic program
- Papers should relate to geography, GIS, or allied technologies as applied to a social, natural resource, business, government, or similar subject

### Submittal Guidelines

All submitted entries must include:

- An abstract of the project using a maximum of 300 words that describes the proposed presentation;
- And, after an invitation to present at the 2014 Conference is tendered, a letter from the students' professor or faculty advisor verifying the student's status and hours of enrollment on institutional letterhead is required. The letter can be faxed or sent as an e-mail attachment.
- On the day of the presentation, a PDF of the presentation slides must be given to Sarah Myers, Dick Thomas Award Coordinator, to be included on WAURISA's website.

Go to the following website to submit the abstract: **Submission Link COMING SOON.**

**Deadline to submit abstracts: Friday, April 11, 2014**

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The WAURISA Student Competition Committee will review and score submitted abstracts.

The DTA Coordinator will notify the presenters chosen to present at the Conference by **Wednesday, April 30, 2014.**

### **Registration**

The contact presenter from each selected paper and group members, up to 3 team members, will receive a 1- day pass to the **2014 Washington GIS Conference** for Wednesday, May 14th, only. For the first time, we are offering a limited number of 1-day passes for student advisors/professors interested in attending Wednesday only.

### **Presentation of Selected Papers: Wednesday, May 14, 2014**

#### **Judging Criteria**

Abstracts and presentations will be judged on the following criteria:

- Demonstration of expertise and understanding of geographic concepts

- Demonstration of expertise and understanding of GIS, related technology, and its application

- Explanation of how the work presented relates to the topic and contributes to greater understanding or knowledge of the topic and GIS

- Demonstration of innovative approach and/or critical thinking

- Equal weight is given to the Quality of the written abstract AND public presentation

More detailed information can be found in the [DTA's FAQ](http://www.waurisa.org/conferences/2014/DickThomasAwardFAQ_2014.pdf) , [http://www.waurisa.org/conferences/2014/DickThomasAwardFAQ\\_2014.pdf](http://www.waurisa.org/conferences/2014/DickThomasAwardFAQ_2014.pdf)

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The logo for WAURISA, featuring the word "WAURISA" in a stylized, bold, blue font with a white outline. The letters are slightly slanted and have a dynamic, energetic feel.