



Anthony J. Giarrusso

Research Scientist II
The Center for Geographic Information Systems (CGIS)
College of Architecture
Georgia Institute of Technology

Education

MCP, 2000, Georgia Institute of Technology
B.S., 1992, Georgia State University

Research Interests

Mr. Giarrusso received his Bachelor's degree in biology from Georgia State University in Atlanta. During his time at Georgia State, Mr. Giarrusso was the recipient of an undergraduate research award through the National Science Foundation's Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program. Mr. Giarrusso REU research focused on the geology of Georgia's barrier islands. After graduating from Georgia State, Mr. Giarrusso spent five years in rural Africa as an aquaculture extension agent with the Peace Corps. Mr. Giarrusso then returned to Atlanta where he received his Masters degree in City Planning from Georgia Tech in 2000. While studying for his Master's degree at Georgia Tech, Mr. Giarrusso worked as a research assistant at the Center for GIS. Mr. Giarrusso remained at the Center for GIS after graduation where he has served as a Research Scientist since 2000.

Mr. Giarrusso's research focuses primarily on GIS based solutions to environmental, public health, and planning related problems. Mr. Giarrusso has worked with numerous agencies in Atlanta concerned with greenspace protection, creating GIS tools to help these agencies identify, prioritize, and acquire land for parks, greenspace, and civic areas. Mr. Giarrusso has also created several GIS based decision support systems for a number of non-profits, including The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation (AMBFF) and the Beltline Partnership. Over the last few years, Mr. Giarrusso has helped the Blank Foundation identify and target organizations and areas in Atlanta in need of assistance as it relates to youth physical fitness and greenspace protection.

Apart from research, Mr. Giarrusso teaches an introductory GIS course to International Affairs students at Georgia Tech. He has taught this class for the last four years.

Currently, Mr. Giarrusso's research is focused on using GIS based tools to address Public Health concerns. He recently completed a project, highlighted in the 2007 October issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, in which he estimated the number of children by age and grade that can potentially walk to school in Georgia. He is also working with Emory's Center for Global Safe Water, creating interactive maps to help researchers, local government and non-profits, better understand the relationship between water, schools, sanitation and public health in rural Kenya.

For more information, please visit <http://www.coa.gatech.edu/cgis/>