



THE POLIS CENTER ANNUAL REPORT

A unit of the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts

About The Polis Center

Through collaboration, civic engagement, and innovative technology, The Polis Center builds capacity, creates actionable information, and develops knowledge platforms and place-based solutions that lead to healthy and resilient communities.



IndyVitals tool nominated for a TechPoint Mira Award, the “Oscars” of the Indiana technology community.



IN-PHC completed largest contract to date with Parkview Health Systems in northeast Indiana.



Polis partnering on IU Challenge Initiative, “Prepared for Environmental Change,” developing data and analysis infrastructure and deep mapping.

Overview

The Polis Center is engaged in innovative work in a variety of activities important to Indiana communities and beyond. We managed more than 65 projects in FY2017 within our areas of emphasis; 40 percent of these projects were new grants or contracts. The following descriptions highlights our major accomplishments in each area of emphasis and in the major civic enterprise, the Spirit & Place Festival, which we direct on behalf of IUPUI and the IU School of Liberal Arts.



“The Polis Center advanced its mission in FY2017 with innovative projects and new collaborations in each of our emphasis areas, thanks to the work of a highly productive, engaged staff. I am pleased to share this report of their accomplishments. Above all, it is testimony to their 28-year tradition of excellence in service to communities across Indiana, the Midwest, and Nation.”

David Bodenhamer,
Executive Director

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Our accomplishments during FY2017 are a true measure of our most valuable assets of all – our outstanding staff.



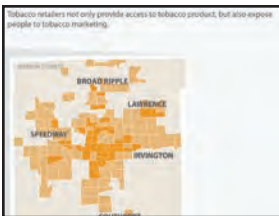
Community Informatics

This area focuses on building customized data solutions that support place-based decision-making to help nonprofit and community-based organizations be more strategic and effective. We transform and integrate administrative data from local, state, and national sources; develop and analyze community-level indicators to understand social issues and how they impact communities; build online data dashboards and decision support tools to make the data accessible in meaningful formats; create actionable information; build data literacy; and build capacity in organizations to use the data to achieve greater impact.



Geoinformatics

In our geoinformatics initiatives, we combine geospatial analysis, modeling, and outreach activities to address problems faced by planners, engineers, and government officials. The majority of our FY2017 grants and contracts supported activities to prevent or reduce significant losses from natural disasters.



Health Geoinformatics

Here, we focus on advancing the application of spatial information and methods for translational health research toward improved community health planning and intervention, public health decision support, and patient-centered decision support. It supports the growing disciplines of public health and population health management. Our associated research goals are to facilitate spatial data mining of synthesized clinical and community data, develop spatial analytics, create tools for assessment and decision-making, and build community engagement platforms.



Professional Education

The Polis education program has delivered workshops, presentations, and related services in more than 100 cities in 40 states and multiple countries since its inception. While this program services a wide range of audiences, one of the key focuses of program activities during the period covered by this report has been the application of geospatial technologies for reducing social and economic impacts from natural hazards.



Spatial Humanities

This area of emphasis serves an international community of humanities scholars who are interested in applying geospatial technologies to the disciplines within the humanities to explore new questions about the relationship of space to human behavior and social, economic, political, and cultural development.



Spirit & Place

Spirit & Place is a community initiative managed by The Polis Center at IUPUI with a mission is to be a catalyst for civic engagement and enduring change through creative collaborations among the arts, humanities, and religion. Through its annual November festival, people-centered community engagement, and year-round activities, Spirit & Place facilitates cross-sector collaborations, training sessions, and public events that spark connections and build bridges between people, ideas, organizations, and places.

Key Areas of Emphasis

Community Informatics



Key Accomplishments

Involved in several major initiatives

- United Way of Central Indiana's Data Integration Plan, an effort to integrate data from 89 nonprofit agencies with SAVI and other sources to inform better programming, funding allocations, and strategy alignment.
- Great Families 2020, a major Social Innovation Fund grant (Corporation for National and Community Service) awarded to United Way of Central Indiana that targets four high-risk neighborhoods in Indianapolis to address key factors that impact family stability.
- Domestic Violence Network data integration and analysis project (our third phase), which links domestic violence data with data from SAVI to understand domestic violence victims and perpetrators in Marion County.
- Several dashboards and predictive models:
 - >University of Indianapolis' Poverty Center proof-of-concept simulation model about how various programs will impact poverty.
 - >City of Indianapolis' simulation model, which informed the design of the new criminal justice reform effort.

>Local Initiatives Support Corporation of Indianapolis (LISC)'s Great Places 2020 and quality of life program dashboard.
>Plan 2020. We developed the *IndyVitals* (<http://IndyVitals.org>) neighborhood monitoring dashboard, powered by SAVI and its data, for Plan 2020.

Developed new technology infrastructure for better data security

- Polis partnered with the Carmel-based technology company Allegient (now part of DMI, Inc.) in designing the new data security infrastructure, which will also bolster our capacity for data analytics, data and text mining, and predictive analytics.

Improved access to SAVI's data with online dashboards and decision support tools

- In March 2017, we launched a new *Community Assessment & Planning Tool* (<http://assessment.savi.org/>) in collaboration with United Way that allows nonprofits to define a custom geographic boundary and access a wealth of data describing the health, basic needs, income, and education needs of its residents and the existing resources to support those needs.
- In July 2016, we launched *IndyVitals* in collaboration with Plan 2020 and the City of Indianapolis. Funded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), *IndyVitals* provides quick access to SAVI's neighborhood-level data through a dashboard for tracking neighborhood progress on several neighborhood health and sustainability indicators.
- We refreshed *IndianaImpact* (<http://IndianaImpact.org>), which provides access to a community dashboard for each county that describes the health, education, income, and basic needs of residents.

Increased data literacy and built capacity to use data

- Trained 242 representatives from 102 nonprofit organizations and supported 81 individuals in their use of community data.
- Published actionable information, such as reports on affordable housing and unequal access to tobacco retail outlets, and the *SAVI Online*

Magazine which features case studies on how area organizations have used SAVI for strategic planning and proposal writing.

- Convened 150 people for SAVI Talks events, bringing together multiple sectors to discuss important community issues using data as the starting point for conversation.

Recognition for Community Informatics work

- Nominee for a Mira Award, the “Oscars” of the Indiana technology community. *IndyVitals.org* was nominated for Innovation of the Year.
- More than 20 media mentions for our reports and new online data tools. Coverage included two front-page articles in the *Indianapolis Star*, two appearances on *WFYI’s No Limits*, and several local television and radio news outlets.
- The *IndyVitals* tool was submitted for consideration for URISA’s Exemplary Systems in Government (ESIG) award, which recognizes extraordinary achievements in the use of geospatial information technology that have improved the delivery and quality of government services. Winners will be announced October 2017.

Created online data visualization tools about US philanthropic giving patterns

- In partnership with IU Lilly School of Philanthropy, we created a set of online data visualization tools to disseminate information about philanthropic giving patterns across the US. Tools include a Give-o-meter, Generosity Maps, and Generosity Reports. We published the *GenerosityforLife.org* beta website this year, with the final version to be publically launched in fall 2017.

Associations/Presentations

- United Way of Central Indiana, Community Impact Committee, Member
- National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP, Urban Institute, Washington, DC), Member
- Indiana Geographic Information Council (IGIC), Member
- “A World of Dashboards.” National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership Conference. Sharon Kandris, Director of Community Informatics, with Bob Gradeck, University of Pittsburgh, and Peter Tatian, Urban Institute. Baltimore, MD. May 18, 2017.
- “The Polis Center: Community Engagement, Environmental Justice, and Hazard Planning.” Presented by Kandris to a delegation of Chinese

scholars visiting IUPUI to learn about cutting edge research and community engagement in the area of environmental quality and health. Indianapolis, IN. Jan. 17, 2017.

- “Legal Service Data in Context: Leveraging Public Data for Community Needs Assessments and Planning.” National Legal Aid and Defender Association Conference. Kandris with James Scruggs, Carlos A. Manjarrez, Jon Laramore, and Nan Heald. Indianapolis, IN. Nov. 11, 2016.
- “SAVI Community Assessment Tool Training Workshop.” Kandris for the United Way of Central Indiana Community Impact University. Nov. 4, 2016.
- “*IndyVitals* Tool.” One-hour radio program aired on *No Limits*, *WFYI* Public Radio. Hosted by John Krull. Kandris with Brad Beaubien, City of Indianapolis, and Steven Meyer, King Park CDC. July 12, 2016.

Advisory Board/Committee Members

Our project diversity requires that we operate several boards to achieve the best and most relevant advice for work. These boards are all advisory and meet regularly, as indicated.

SAVI Technology Advisory Committee

Gail Farnsley, Executive Partner, Gartner
Executive Programs (Committee Chair)
Bob Baird, President, Inverse-square
Andrew Bittermann, Business Intelligence and Data
Strategy Solution Manager, Fusion Alliance
David Orit, BI Solution Manager, Allegient
Jeffrey S. Ton, Exec. Vice President of Product
and Service Development, Bluelock

SAVI Community Assessment and Planning Advisory Committee

Bob Cross, Consultant (Retired, Former Director of
Research, United Way of Central Indiana)
Demetrius Glover, Former Vice President of
Strategic Information, United Way of
Central Indiana
Karen Gentleman, Owner and Consultant,
Gentleman McCarty
Carmen Luca, Sugawara Associate Professor,
IU School of Social Work at IUPUI
Denise Luster, Director of Research and
Evaluation, United Way of Central Indiana
Lexie McGillis, Research Associate, United
Way of Central Indiana
Diane Pfeiffer, Consultant

SAVI Community Profiles Steering Committee

Eden Bezy, Director, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity, Indiana State Department of Health

Anthony Bridgeman, Director of Community Initiatives, Children's Museum

Karen Comer, Director of Collaborative Research and Health Geoinformatics, Polis Center

Tricia Frye, Planning Supervisor, Indianapolis Public Schools

Joe Hanson, CFO and EVP of Strategic Initiatives, INHP

Chris Hartley, Data Manager, Renew Indianapolis

Jeff Hasser, CDBG Manager, Department of Metropolitan Development, City of Indianapolis

Tawnya McCrary, Operations Director, Edna Martin (Center for Working Families)

Kelli Mirgeaux, Consultant

SAVI Education Program Steering Committee

Tiffany Hatfield, Director of Foundation & Corporate Giving, YMCA

Denise Luster, Vice President, Impact Research and Analytics, United Way of Central Indiana

Khaula Murtafda, Associate Vice Chancellor, IUPUI Office of Community Engagement

Breanca Merritt, Senior Research Analyst, IU Public Policy Institute

Maury Plambeck, Training & Curriculum Development Specialist, Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center

Mike Simmons, Director, Advocacy and Professional Relations, Eli Lilly & Company

Sarah Zike, Manager, Capacity Building, United Way of Central Indiana

Marcia Williams, Quality Assurance Analyst, EmployIndy

SAVI Data Security & Privacy Task Force

Julie Aders, Manager and University Data Steward, Office of Student Data Mgmt. & Access

Angela Adams, Associate General Counsel, IU General Counsel

Sara Chambers, Chief Privacy Officer, University Information Policy Office

Kelly Davila, Sr. Research Analyst, Polis Center at IUPUI

Tom Davis, University Chief Security Officer, University Information Security Office

Neil Devadasan, Director, System Engineering, Polis Center at IUPUI

Jim Dowling, Database Administrator, Polis Center at IUPUI

Frank Faults, Director, Rooney Foundation
Demetrius Glover, Former Vice President of Strategic Information, United Way of Central Indiana

Melissa Gona, Business Manager, Polis Center at IUPUI

Sharon Kandris, Director, Community Informatics, Polis Center at IUPUI

Andrew Korty, University Info Security Officer, University Information Security Office

Keith Lehigh, University Principal Security Engineer, University Information Security Office

Andrew Marsh, University HIPPA Security Officer, University Compliance

Britney McMahan, Law Fellow, IU General Counsel

Leslie Pfeffer, University HIPPA Privacy Officer, University Compliance

United Way Integration Plan Pilot Project Advisory Committee

Susan Burow, Director of Data-Informed Practice, Early Learning Indiana

Kelly Davila, Sr. Research Analyst, Polis Center at IUPUI

Eric Ellsworth, CEO, Young Men's Christian Association of Greater Indianapolis (YMCA)

Craig Ervin, Finance Manager/Tech, Jewish Community Center (JCC)

Amy Essley, CPD, Big Brothers Big Sisters

Demetrius Glover, Former Vice President of Strategic Information, United Way of Central Indiana

Rhonda Gotch, CQI Coordinator, Nurse-Family Partnership/Goodwill

Tiffany Hatfield, Director of Foundation & Corporate Giving, Young Men's Christian Association

Gina Hays, CEO, Mental Health of America (MHA)

Emily Howard, Vice President of Information Technology, Young Men's Christian Association

Amy Hutcheson, Resource Supervisor, Nurse-Family Partnership/Goodwill

Ira Jaffee, CEO, Jewish Community Center

Arvetta Jideonwo, Director, Development, Bosma Enterprises

Sharon Kandris, Director, Community Informatics, Polis Center at IUPUI

Katie Keesling, Education Director, Mental Health of America

John Lasley, Marketing Research Analyst, Bosma Enterprises

Denise Luster, Vice President, Impact Research and Analytics, United Way of Central Indiana

Tabitha Manross, Manager, Business Intelligence, Goodwill Industries

Ted Maple, CEO, Early Learning Indiana

Cassie Martin, Executive Director, Sheltering Wings

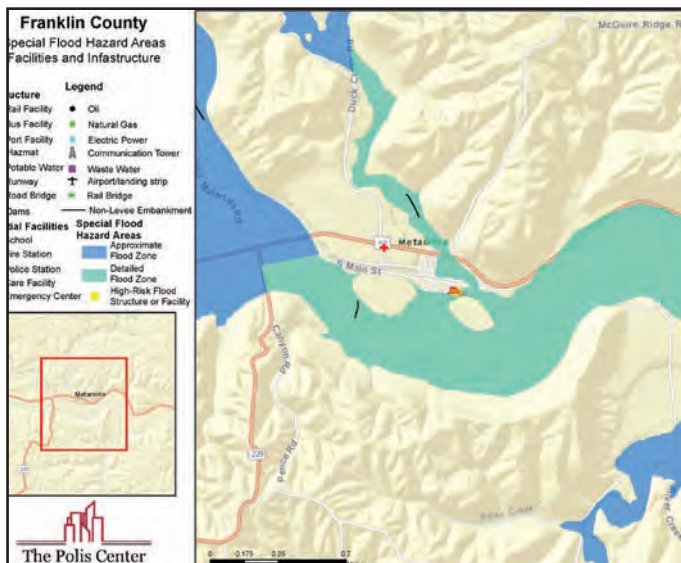
Katherine Matutes, Director of Health & Wellness,
 Jewish Community Center
 Lexie McGillis, Research Associate, United
 Way of Central Indiana
 Kevin Mickey, Director, Professional
 Development & Geospatial Education,
 Polis Center at IUPUI
 Karissa Morris, Administrative Program
 Specialist, Second Helpings
 Darcey Palmer-Shultz, CEO, Big Brothers
 Big Sisters
 Anna Price, Director of Development, Jewish
 Community Center
 Donita Roberts, Grants & Administration
 Coordinator, Sheltering Wings
 Sven Schumacher, CEO, Lutheran Child &
 Family Services
 Nora Spitznogle, Director of Programs,
 Second Helpings
 Jennifer Vigran, CEO, Second Helpings
 Barbara Walters, Staff Accountant, Lutheran
 Child & Family Services
 Amanda Zimmerman, Information Analyst,
 Early Learning Indiana

development of their community through the compelling medium of maps, encouraging them to appreciate their heritage and cultural assets and to envision further progress heading into the future.

State Projects

- Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS): Partnering with the IDHS and FEMA Region 5, we created hazard mitigation plans for the following counties: Clay, Greene, Jennings, Knox, Morgan, Posey, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, Shelby, Switzerland, Union, Warrick, Marshall, Ripley, and St. Joseph.
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
 - >Risk MAP: Continuing our partnership with IDNR for the eighth year, our work has focused on FEMA's Risk MAP program, which is aimed at assisting local communities with their mitigation efforts.
 - >Indiana Floodplain Information Web Portal (INFIP): The Polis Center assists in maintaining and improving the IDNR GIS data used in the Indiana Floodplain Information Web Portal (INFIP).
 - >South Carolina Emergency Management Division: Polis is designing a multi-hazards mitigation planning platform for the South Carolina Emergency Management Division to support the state in the development of their hazards mitigation planning efforts and to monitor their progress.
- Building Inventory Toolkits
 - >Georgia: We developed a building inventory toolkit for the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, which estimated losses for floods and hurricanes and also included Hazus and risk assessment reports. Hazus is a nationally applicable standardized methodology that estimates potential losses from earthquakes, hurricane winds, floods, and tsunamis.
 - >Maryland: The Polis Center created a building inventory toolkit for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency that equipped them with the tools necessary for estimating flood and hurricane losses.
 - >South Carolina: Following the Maryland and Georgia projects, we formulated a toolkit for estimating building losses for the South Carolina Emergency Management Division.

Geoinformatics



Key Accomplishments

Regional Projects

- City of Carmel Story Map: Developed a story map of the City of Carmel that illustrates the recent history and development of the city. With this story map, the people of Carmel will be able to visualize the growth and

Federal Projects

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
 - >Cooperative Technical Partner: The Polis Center, through Indiana University, has been accepted into FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP) program. The CTP program focuses on creating partnerships between FEMA and participating National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) communities, regional agencies, state agencies and universities that have the interest and capability to become more active in FEMA's flood hazard mapping program.
 - >Mitigation Saves Study: Our research for this national project, along with the findings of other agencies, will impact decision making related to mitigation spending, which will in turn influence communities' level of preparedness and their capacity to respond to emergency disasters.
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
 - >Non-Levee Embankment (NLE): The NLE is a mapping initiative and program developed by The Polis Center that will aid USACE staff.
 - >Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Platform for States: The platform (in development) empowers people with the tools they need to get information about hazardous risks and equips them to put knowledge into practice.

International Efforts

- MacArthur Foundation 100 & Change Program: Polis partnered with several international organizations including Halo Trust, Mining Advisory Group, Mapping Solutions, IU Center for Aerial Unmanned Systems Imaging, Telops, and Kyle House Group to prepare and submit a proposal for the 100&Change program of the MacArthur Foundation. Our proposal to improve the ability to detect landmines using advanced spatial technologies ranked 38 out of 1,901 proposal ideas that competed in the program. We continue to discuss with the team how to fund this innovative concept.

Associations/Presentations

- Association of Egyptian Engineers
- Association of American Geographers
- American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
- Association of State Floodplain Managers

- Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management
- Advisory Council, Centre for Sustainability Future Studies, The British University in Egypt
- "Geospatial Platforms for Integrated Flood Risk Management." Tarek Rashed, Geoinformatics Director, for the 2016 NSGIC Annual Conference. Indianapolis, IN, October 2016.
- Polis Center (projects and initiatives), project briefing. Indiana Metropolitan Planning Association. Rashed with Matt Riggs and Lacey Bannon. October 2016.
- Polis Center (projects and initiatives), project briefing delivered in the GIS Day organized by Purdue University. Rashed with Bannon. October 2016.
- "Indiana Flood Mitigation Planner (IFMP) Platform: A Silver Jackets Initiative." Rashed for Indiana Silver Jackets Group. February 2016.
- "A GIS Platform Approach to Multihazard Mitigation Planning." Indiana Geographic Information Conference. Rashed with Bannon. May 2017.
- "Declaring Indiana a Spatially Enabled State: Challenges and Opportunities." Panelist at Indiana Geographic Information Conference. Rashed with Jim Sparks, State of Indiana, and Phil Worrall, Indiana Geographic Information Council. May 2017.
- "Planning for More Just, Resilient, and Vibrant Communities." Rashed a panelist at the 42nd Annual Natural Hazards Workshop organized by the Natural Hazards Center at the University of Colorado, Boulder. July 2017.

Advisory Board/Committee Members

We use the Indiana Silver Jackets, a federal-state coordinating body, as a de facto advisory group for our work in geoinformatics. It meets monthly.

Bob Barr, Staff Scientist and Fundamentals of Engineering (FEH) Community Liaison, Center for Earth and Environmental Science
David Bausman, Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Indiana State Department of Agriculture
Siavash Beik, Vice President, Principal Engineer
Christopher B. Burke, Engineering, Ltd. and ASFPM Representative
Brandon Brummett, Outreach Coordinator, US Army Corps of Engineers
Jane Frankenberger, Professor, Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Purdue University
Jeff Frey, Deputy Director, US Geological Survey

Steven Greene, Hazard Mitigation Community Planner, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Manuela Johnson, State Disaster Recovery Program Administrator, Indiana Department of Homeland Security

David Knipe, Engineering Section Manager, Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Ben Knowles, US Air Force Master Sgt., 181st Intelligence Wing, Indiana Air National Guard

Mary Moran, Mitigation Program Director, Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Rodney Renkenberger, Executive Director, Maumee River Basin Commission

Marylou Renshaw, Chief, Watershed Assessment and Planning Branch, Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Chris Ritz, Civil Engineer, Natural Resource Conservation Service

Al Shipe, Service Hydrologist, National Weather Service

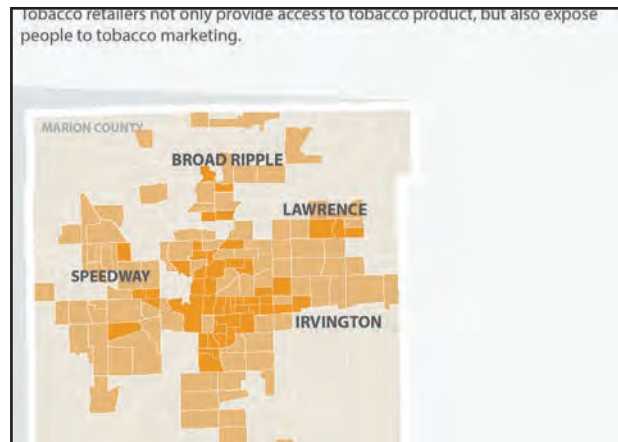
Jim Sparks, Geographic Information Officer, Indiana Office of Technology

Kent Wamsley, Upper Wabash Project Director, The Nature Center

Kathleen Weissenberger, Founding Member of KW Consultants, LLC and Former Director of Grant Services and State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Director, Office of Community and Rural Affairs

Phil Worrall, Executive Director, Indiana Geographic Information Council

Health Geoinformatics



Key Accomplishments

Indiana Partnership for Healthy Communities (IN-PHC)

- Completing its largest contract to date, the Indiana Partnership for Healthy Communities conducted a community health needs assessment (CHNA) for the Parkview Health System (Fort Wayne) and its seven hospitals in northeast Indiana. (Established by Polis in 2012, IN-PHC is a partnership that also includes the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health and the Indiana CTSI and serves as a community health planning consulting service for hospitals, local health departments, and community-based organizations). We assisted Parkview in identifying community health priorities in each of the counties it serves and developed associated CHNA reports for submission to the federal government. We also developed an Implementation Strategy Resource Guide to assist Parkview in its subsequent selection of implementation strategies. Parkview Health has since contracted IN-PHC for another project to assess their selected 2017-18 community health improvement strategies.

Community Health Planning

- We developed an online information sharing and mapping platform for the Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research & Policy at the Indiana University School of Medicine. This platform, named the Bowen Health Workforce Information Portal (<http://bowenportal.org/>), allows Bowen's stakeholders to readily discover, map, and share health workforce data, including data about Indiana's workforce supply and distribution, shortages, and education pipeline.

This effort was funded with grant funds (\$230,000) from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, the Indiana State Department of Health, and the Family Social Service Administration. Bowen has since contracted us for the next two years to expand and maintain the website.

Indiana Center of Excellence in Public Health Informatics

- We successfully completed the first year of our second Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) grant award. In partnership with the IU Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health, Eskenazi Hospital, Regenstrief Institute, and the Marion County Public Health Department, we are studying how to improve population and clinical health with integrated services and advanced analytics. In support of this community-participatory research, we trained public health nurses at Eskenazi Health on the use of SAVI community information tools for understanding patients' community health risk. We also collaborated with Regenstrief Institute and the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health on the predictive modeling of community health risk. This work builds upon the spatial information infrastructure that we developed as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded Indiana Center of Excellence in Public Health Informatics (icePHi). Since 2010, this infrastructure has allowed nearly 150 million records from the Indiana Network for Patient Care (INPC) to be geocoded. New clinical records continue to be processed in near-real time. This permits clinical data to be mapped and spatially-analyzed in support of public health informatics and medical informatics research and practice.

Public Health and Clinical Research & Development

- We continued to advance the application of geospatial information for public health and clinical research and development. In 2017, in partnership with the IU Department of Sociology and the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP), we completed a study of the potential to foster maternal-child health advocates via the NFP program, funded by the Community Health Engagement Program (CHEP) of the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (\$25,000). Using the pilot data generated from this project, we submitted a five-year National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01 grant application, "Supporting Low Resource Mothers as Multipliers of Maternal Child

Health Protection," to their "Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health" program (PAR-16-238) and plan to resubmit in October if not funded initially.

- We engaged with the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health and Lilly Global Health on defining a local initiative for diabetes prevention and intervention. As part of the envisioning process, we identified neighborhoods in Indianapolis that have high risk for diabetes based on health and social determinants, but also a high level of "community readiness" for change.

Associations/Presentations

- Karen Comer, Director of Collaborative Research and Health Geoinformatics, Indiana Public Health Practice Council member and co-chair of the council's Infrastructure Taskforce.
- Comer serves on the data committee of the Indiana Health Advocacy Coalition.
- Comer, founding member of the Indiana Accreditation Partnership, formed in 2014 to develop and implement a multi-agency, collaborative plan to help advance the readiness of local health departments (LHDs) preparing for national accreditation.
- Comer co-authored a paper published in *Frontiers in Public Health Services & Systems Research* and was first author on the SAVI Report, *Unequal Access: Tobacco Retail in the Indianapolis Metro Area*.
- Comer continued engaging public health researchers, including faculty and students, to analyze and report on key public health issues impacting Indiana.
- Comer served as preceptor for students in both the Master of Public Health program of the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health and the Health Information Management program of the IUPUI School of Informatics and Computing.

Infrastructure Taskforce, Indiana Public Health Practice Council

- Cynthia Stone, Professor, Health Policy Management, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health (Council Co-Chair)
- Karen Comer, Polis Center at IUPUI (Council Co-Chair)
- Pamela Aaltonen, Associate Head, School of Nursing, College of Health & Human Science, Purdue University

Professional Education



Key Accomplishments

Hazus-MH & FEMA Courses/Workshops

- Polis continues to be recognized as an acknowledged leader in the development of Hazus-MH curriculum as well as the instruction of Hazus and other disaster management-related courses. During FY2017, we updated multiple classroom and virtual courses for FEMA and offered workshops in Maryland, Washington, Texas, Arkansas, South Carolina, and Georgia. We continued to support FEMA's Emergency Management Higher Education Program. Activities include conducting workshops at the annual Higher Education Conference on the use of GIS within academia to support service, research, and teaching. We also lead a FEMA focus group tasked with identifying metrics for evaluating and promoting emergency management programs within academia as well as collaborations between the academic and practitioner communities.

Associations/Presentations

- Kevin Mickey, Director of Professional Development and Geospatial Technologies Education, presented at three national conferences and the Indiana GIS conference on topics related to modeling disasters, data management and incentivizing disaster mitigation.
- Mickey, K (Presenter). Indiana Flood Mitigation Planner (IFMP) Platform: A Silver Jackets Initiative, Esri International Users Conference. San Diego, CA. July 13, 2017.

Penny Caudill, Administrator, Monroe County
Department of Health

Joan Duwve, Chief Medical Officer, Indiana
State Department of Health

Spencer Grover, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs,
Indiana Hospital Association

Sue Hancock, Senior Project Manager & Strategy
Analyst, Richard M. Fairbanks School of
Public Health

David Hopper, Director of Local Health
Department Outreach, Indiana State
Department of Health

Jerry King, Executive Director, Indiana Public
Health Association

Sandra Liu, Professor, Consumer Sciences,
Director of the Center for Global Urban
Sustainability — Ensuring Sustainable Health
among Underserved of College of Health and
Human Sciences, Purdue University

JoBeth McCarthy-Jean, Director, Indiana Public
Health Practice Council, Richard M. Fairbanks
School of Public Health

Mary McKee, Director, Public Health Practice,
Marion County Public Health Department

Brianna Myers, Office Manager/Birth and Death
Certificates, Tippecanoe Health Department

Carol Rogers, Deputy Director & CIO,
Indiana Business Research Center

Sarah Seward, Administrative Director,
Patient Experience/Service Excellence,
Marion General Hospital

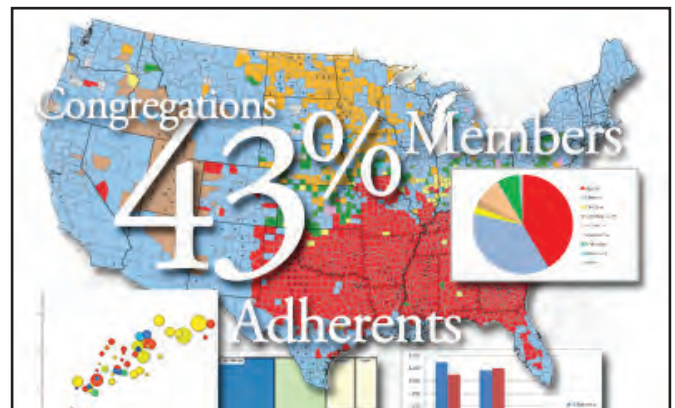
Pauline Shen, Epidemiologist, Tippecanoe
County Health Department

- Mickey, K. (Presenter). Georgia GIS Mitigation Planning Strategies: From Vision to Reality. Esri International Users Conference. San Diego, CA. June 28, 2016.
- Mickey, K. (Presenter). Incentivizing Resilience: Moving from Ideas to Impact. National Institute of Building Sciences Building Innovation Conference. January 12, 2017.
- McCoy, C., Mickey, K. (Presenter). Incentivizing Resilience: Moving from Risk Analysis to Impact. National Hazus-MH Users Conference. Charleston, South Carolina, November 8, 2016.
- Mickey, K (Presenter). Incentivizing Resilience: The Role of the GIS Community in Moving from Risk Analysis to Impact. National States Geographic Information Council Annual Conference. Indianapolis, Indiana. October 29, 2016.
- Mickey, K (Presenter). Briefing to staff of the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Using Incentives to Reduce the Impact of Disasters: Pre-Disaster Mitigation Strategies. Washington D.C., September 22, 2016.
- Mickey, K, (Speaker). Current Trends in the Use of GIS for the Analysis and Communication of Natural Hazard Risk, Indiana State GIS Conference, May 10, 2017.
- Mickey, K, (Speaker). Dollars and (Common) Sense: The Path to Mitigating Natural Hazard Risk, Indiana State GIS Conference, May 10, 2017.
- Mickey chairs the Indiana Geographic Information Council Education Committee, which is tasked with facilitating education opportunities for the Indiana GIS community and stakeholders that benefit from GIS technologies and resources.
- Mickey serves as Chair of the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) Multihazard Mitigation Council (MMC). The MMC focuses on reducing the consequences and costs associated with natural and man-made hazards to buildings and infrastructure. In September 2016, the MMC and the NIBS Council on Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate jointly published an addendum to its 2015 paper, “Developing Pre-Disaster Resilience Based on Public and Private Incentivization,” which garnered interest from the federal legislative and executive branches. On August 3, 2016, Mickey participated in the White House Forum on Smart Finance for Disaster Resilience that

was influenced by this work. In November 2016, the MMC began a major update of its landmark 2005 “Mitigation Saves” study. That oft-quoted study identified an average of \$4 saved for every \$1 spent in FEMA mitigation grants attributed to wind, flood and earthquake hazards. The new study will occur over a one-year period during which it will examine the effectiveness of a wider range of federal grants as well as specific mitigation techniques. Mickey and Tarek Rashed are co-lead investigators on the riverine flood portion of this study which has attracted interest from a wide range of local, state and federal stakeholders.

- Mickey concludes a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) in October 2017. He then assumes the chairmanship of the URISA Professional Education Materials Committee, which has oversight responsibility of URISA professional publications.

Spatial Humanities



Key Accomplishments

- Our work in developing deep mapping as an important method and toolkit for the humanities and social sciences plays a major role in the IU Grand Challenge, “Prepared for Environmental Change” (funded 2017).
- The Virtual Center for Spatial Humanities, for which we are lead partner, published two titles in its *Series on Spatial Humanities* (Indiana University Press).

Associations/Presentations

- We led experts’ workshops at New University of Lisbon and Queens University of Belfast in preparation for an EU Horizon 2020 (H2020) grant that received strong reviews but fell just

short of the threshold to advance to the funding round. The multidisciplinary international team has continued its work, with funding from partner EU universities, in preparation for the next H2020 call, expected in September 2017.

- David Bodenhamer made presentations on topics related to spatial humanities at Academia Sinica (Taiwan), Lancaster University (UK), Vanderbilt University, West Virginia University, Purdue University, and the National Humanities Center.

Virtual Center for Spatial Humanities Executive Committee (develops strategic plans, sets agenda)

John Corrigan, Lucius Moody Bristol Distinguished Professor of Religion and Professor of History, Department of Religion, Florida State University
Trevor Harris, Professor of Geography, Department of Geology and Geography, West Virginia University
David Bodenhamer, Executive Director, Polis Center at IUPUI

Advisory Board Members

Ed Ayers, Tucker-Boatwright Professor in the Humanities, Department of History and President Emeritus, University of Richmond, USA
Peter Bol, Vice Provost for Advances in Learning and Charles H. Carswell Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Office of the Provost, Harvard University, USA
Peter Doorn, Director, Dutch Archives and Networking Service (DANS), Netherlands
I-chun Fan, Research Fellow, Institute of History and Philology and Executive Director, Center for Geographic Information Science, Academia Sinica, Taiwan
Michael Goodchild, Emeritus Professor of Geography, University of California-Santa Barbara, USA
Yuzuru Isoda, Associate Professor, College of Asia Pacific Studies, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Japan
Kim Knott, Professor of Religious Studies, University of Leeds, UK
Anne Knowles, Professor of History, University of Maine; formerly Professor of Geography, Middlebury College, USA
Andreas Kunz, Economic Historian and Sr. Researcher, Institute of European History (Mainz), Germany

Lew Lancaster, Professor Emeritus, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, University of California-Berkeley, USA
Gary Lock, Emeritus Fellow, Professor of Archaeology, Department for Continuing Education, University of Oxford, UK
Barney Warf, Professor of Geography and Atmospheric Science, Department of Geography and Atmospheric Science, Kansas University, USA
May Yuan, Ashbel Smith Professor of Geospatial Information Sciences, Geospatial Information Sciences, University of Texas-Dallas, USA

Spirit & Place



Key Accomplishments

21st Annual Spirit & Place Festival

- Featured 40 events (73 occurrences) in partnership with 167 cultural, faith-based, and civic organizations and enjoyed by 27,230 people. This is a 33 percent increase in events, an 88 percent increase in partner organizations, and a 362 percent increase in attendance (a 22.8 percent increase, if removing the single event that drew 20,000).
- Festival highlights:
 - >Four signature events with appeal to diverse audiences.
 - >Spirit & Place's first commissioned artwork, featuring local spoken-word artist Tony Styxx.
 - >A new sliding scale fee and later application deadline to increase accessibility for artists and small organizations.
 - >A \$1,000 Award of Awesomeness for an exemplary festival event partner, won by

- Ebenezer Baptist Church for its event, *Riverside Speaks*, which brought together the neighborhood's past, present and future.
- Notable products and original materials created because of the festival:
 - >A story map documenting the lives of local refugees created by The Polis Center.
 - >A "how-to" on creating school or community center programs that honor the earth.
 - >A script created by The Sapphire Theatre Company that facilitates dialogue on the moral injury experienced by veterans.

Community Engagement & Capacity Building

- New collaborations brokered by Spirit & Place will have lasting impact on several organizations and the communities they serve. For example, we helped the South Eastside Working Class Task Force move from two years of conversation to action. With our coaching, they won a \$1,000 grant from Indiana Humanities' All IN Block Party program and partnered with a local school to create an event exploring the Appalachian roots and history of their community. More than 125 students and their families participated.
- *Homes Before Highways: Communities Under the Exit Ramp*, coordinated by anthropology professor Sue Hyatt in the School of Liberal Arts, was an Awesomeness Award nominee in the festival (building community category) that brought attention to a little-known community that has now been displaced by highways. Significantly, one of the participants (who also attended the Gentrify series) was inspired to begin the Babe-Denning Working Class Task Force.
- A year-long discussion series called *Gentrify: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly* drew over 400 community members. This youth-facilitated event addressed issues ranging from cultural classes to the difference between equitable development and economic development. Each discussion featured local voices and national experts (via Skype) with robust public discussion. This effort included an online resource document, received front page coverage from *The Indianapolis Recorder* and *NUVO*, and launched an independent community task group called *From the Ground Up*, which continues to discuss relevant issues.

- The *Civic Challenge* partnership with Indiana Humanities reached 89 people and featured:
 - >*ALL IN for Civic Health*, which shared non-partisan information and resources tied to voter registration and voting.
 - >*Project on Civic Reflection* workshop on civic reflection dialogue practices, which uses a short text, object, or video to prompt conversation about underlying values, beliefs, and assumptions.
- The *Before I Die Festival*, the first such festival in the US, was a project of the IU School of Nursing that was powered by Spirit & Place. The Spirit & Place program director consulted on the festival framework; connected the school with cultural, humanities, and civic organizations; drafted the project timeline and project director job description; and helped build the school's capacity for public events. This festival occurred April 15-17, coinciding with National Healthcare Decision Day, and reaching 784 attendees through 27 events that explored how we approach death and dying. Events included book and film discussions, cemetery tours, art exhibits, pop-up "death cafes," and more, plus a resource guide.
- Darrell Nicholson, Clinical Assistant Professor of Architectural Technology at IUPUI, asked the Spirit & Place community engagement director to recommend a creative and challenging capstone project for his class. We connected them with The Learning Tree and Indy Parks, which were exploring the possibility of converting an old fire station for community use. Nicholson's class took on the project, creating more than 20 options for consideration. This positive experience led Nicholson to engage a second capstone class in another redevelopment project (a 100+ year fire station in a different neighborhood). Both projects will serve as stable neighborhood anchors and significantly impact the quality of life for local residents.

Budget and Funders

The operating budget for the festival was \$359,598, including in-kind services valued at \$53,940. Major funders included Lilly Endowment Inc.; Allen Whitehall Clowes Charitable Trust, Inc.; Bohlsen Group; The Indianapolis Foundation, a CICF affiliate; Christel DeHaan Family Foundation; Christian Theological Seminary; and IUPUI, among others.

Steering Committee (advises on policy, themes, strategic planning)

Bruce Hetrick (Chair), Principal, Powerful Appeals;
Visiting Professor, Journalism and Public
Relations Dept., IU School of Liberal Arts
at IUPUI
Vicki Bohlsen, CEO, Bohlsen Group
Keira Amstutz, President & CEO,
Indiana Humanities
David Bodenhamer, Executive Director, Polis
Center at IUPUI (ex-officio)
David Hampton, Sr. Pastor Light of the World
Christian Church & Deputy Mayor of
Neighborhood Engagement
Elizabeth Goodfellow, Major Gift Officer, IU
School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI (ex-officio)
Ken Honeywell, Partner/Creative Director, Well
Done Marketing
Charlie Hyde, President & CEO, Benjamin Harrison
Presidential Site
Pegg Kennedy, Sales Associates, Tucker Realty
Leslie Kidwell, Major Gift Officer, American
Red Cross
David Kosene, President, Kosene and Kosene
Development & Management Co., Inc.
Fred Lewis, Senior Minister, First Baptist Church
of Indianapolis
Beth Perdue Outland, Vice President, Community
Engagement & Strategic Innovation,
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra
Cheri O'Neill, President & CEO, Ball State
University Foundation
Sr. Norma Rocklage, Executive Director, Education
Formation Outreach, Marian University
Gail Thomas Strong, Vice President, Community
Engagement, *WFI* Public Media
Robin Thoman, Principal, Paradox Dental Care
Sally Zweig, Attorney at Law, Katz & Korin, PC

Festival Event Selection Committee

Ebony Chappel, Editor-in-Chief,
Indianapolis Recorder
Matt Davis, Artist & Localmotion Host
Asa Gauen, Filmmaker, Videographer,
Photographer, Harrison Center for the Arts
Heather Hall, Vice President, Community
Development, Sun King Brewery
Uroosa Khan, Planned Giving Coordinator, Islamic
Society of North America
Marc McAleavey, Executive Director, PlayWorks



Leah Nahmias, Director of Programs & Community
Engagement, Indiana Humanities
Beth Perdue Outland, Vice President, Community
Engagement & Strategic Innovation,
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra
Kathi Ridley-Merriweather, Founder and Educator,
Indy Youthworks & Indiana Repertory Theater
Teaching Artist

Center Activities

- *IU Grand Challenge Proposal:* The IU Grand Challenge initiative in which The Polis Center plays a significant role was awarded in early 2017. “Prepared for Environmental Change” will help Indiana prepare for the effects of climate change, improve forecasts, and refine methods that enable sustainable ecosystems, as well as understand how these changes will affect the citizens and culture of the state. Polis will develop the data and analysis infrastructure, including deep mapping.
- *Special Guests:*
>We hosted senior staff from the Center for Religion and Civic Culture (CRCC) at the University of Southern California in October 2016. Their research, training, assessment, and strategic consulting efforts focus on bringing various constituents together to

address the changing nature of religion and its impact in the secular world. We are exploring potential collaborations and the visit allowed them to learn more about how we operate and what we do and vice versa. >Several delegates from the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction visited in December 2016 to learn more about Polis' risk analysis and disaster mitigation planning as related to innovative use of technologies, examples of mitigation projects, how we engage communities in mitigation planning, the use of Hazus-MH software, our health initiatives and partnerships, and possible collaborations in technology and knowledge transfer.

- *SmartEdge Presentations:* Polis offered a series of free public presentations between May and August 2016. Entitled SmartEdge, the program focused on the positive role of science and technology in support of sustainability and quality of life. The events were designed to share and discuss ideas and issues and/or expose the audience to solutions and technologies pertaining to smart cities and their linkage to sustainability and resilience, policy and governance, and the overall well-being of communities. We taped the three presentations, which are available on the Polis website. (<http://polis.iupui.edu/index.php/resources/smartedge-5/smartedge-presenters/>). The series is currently on hiatus and we hope at some point to be able to offer the programs again, time withstanding.
- *Polis Center Strategic Plan & Restructuring:* We spent a good portion of FY2017 thinking through and strategizing ways to allow us to work more effectively across our various areas. This process includes developing a strategic plan that will build off several large project initiatives underway.
- *Polis Website:* We work with diverse constituencies on varied projects. We are redeveloping our website to better explain who we are, how we work, what we do, who we serve, and show examples of significant projects that meaningfully improve communities.

Organizational Structure

The Polis Center at IUPUI operates as a matrix organization, with directors for each area of emphasis who draw from a common pool of technical support staff for specific project needs. We also staff a communications function that supports our major areas of work.

Administration

David Bodenhamer, Executive Director (also directs the Spatial Humanities area)
 Sharon Kandris, Associate Director (from March 2017; also directs the Community Informatics Area)
 Melissa Gona, Business Manager
 Gloria Harmsen-Hastings, Financial Assistant
 Lou Ann Glidden, Administrative Assistant

Community Informatics

Sharon Kandris, Director
 Kelly Davila, Senior Research Analyst
 John Hayes, Data and Quality Assurance Coordinator
 Deb Hollon, GIS Analyst
 Matt Nowlin, Research Analyst
 Kim Sarver, Project Manager
 Unai Miguel Andres, GIS Technician
 James Colbert, Consultant

Students:

Ian Adams, Intern (Informatics)
 Tim Bailey, Intern (Data Analytics)
 Henry Dan, Intern (Informatics)
 Peter Garner, Research Assistant
 Timothy Gondola, Intern (GIS)
 Kirstin Oaldon, Intern (GIS)
 Connor McAndrews, Intern (Data Analytics)
 Nimra Nayyar, Research Assistant
 Alyson Stichter, Intern (Data Analytics)
 Anna Zaroni, Intern (Informatics)

Geoinformatics

Tarek Rashed, Director
 Matthew Riggs, Senior GIS Analyst
 Lacey Bannon, GIS Project Coordinator
 Richard Ryan Stevens, GIS Analyst
 Kavya Urs Beerval Ravichandra, GIS Analyst
 Kayla Kauffman, GIS Analyst
 Cassie Fitzwater, Technical Writer
 Robert Gottlieb, Research Assistant
Student:
 Haki Johnson, Intern (GIS)

Health Geoinformatics

Karen Comer, Director
Students:
 Jennifer Susemichel, Undergraduate Intern (Health Informatics)
 Nimra Niyar, MPH Graduate Student Intern
 Amnah Anwar, MPH Graduate Student Intern (until Dec 2016)
 Kirstin Oaldon, GIS Intern (course credit) (until May 2017)
 Alyson Stichter, Intern (Health Informatics)
 Janet Hock, Senior Scholar (Academic Volunteer Appointment)

Professional Education

Kevin Mickey, Director

Spirit and Place

Pam Blevins Hinkle, Director
 LaShawnda Crowe Storm, Community Engagement Director
 Erin Kelley, Program Director

Students:

Karen Lynch, Service Learning Assistant (Event Logistics)
 Shamira Wilson, Service Learning Assistant (Community Engagement)

Systems Development

Neil Devadasan, Lead Systems Engineer/Systems Engineering Manager
 James Dowling, Database Administrator
 Robert Ferrell, Senior Programmer
 John Gona, LAN Technician
 Gautham Bavandla, Research Programmer

Communications

Allegra East, Manager
 Norma Erickson, Writer/Researcher
Students:
 Aspen Christian, Intern (Social Media)
 Ryan McElroy, Intern (Event Management)

Sustainability

Our goal is to enter each fiscal year with at least of 75 percent of required income under contract. Our experience as a self-supporting center suggests we will be able to develop enough new projects during the fiscal year to maintain a healthy working margin of eight to twelve months of fully funded work. We met this goal for FY2017, and we enter FY2018 with contracted income sufficient to meet our obligations for the next year.





1200 Waterway Blvd. #100
Indianapolis, IN 46206
Tel: 317.274.2455
Fax: 317.278.1830
polis@iupui.edu