

Progress Report on IF grant
“Integrating GIS into the Liberal Arts Curriculum: A Cross-Campus Seminar”

C. Ekstrom, S. Ceccoli, D. Kesler
Rhodes College

Plans have been completed for the month long seminar, which will start on September 14, 2002 at Rhodes College. The grant was announced by the Dean of College at the April faculty meeting. The announcement was followed by an email invitation to both faculty and staff to attend the seminar. We were pleasantly surprised by the response: 24 people applied representing 7 academic disciplines and several campus offices. The number exceeded our grant proposal for 15 attendees. We have made arrangements with the IF committee to accommodate (and finance) the additional number of attendees if they all materialize on Sept. 14.

The grantees have spent time this summer preparing their presentations for the seminar in response to input from the applicants. In addition, we will use sections from a newly developed GIS Electronic Text by another member of our GIS group, Dr. Michael Kirby and his student assistant, Justin Sterling. Their work was supported by an in-house Hill-Melon grant. Last spring we selected a student GIS assistant, John Beinvenu, who will work closely with us in the final preparations for the seminar once the semester starts.

The seminar will conclude on October 12, 2002. We hope to showcase the individual accomplishments of the seminar attendees at our GIS Lab Open House on GIS Day, Nov. 20. The final report will be submitted to the ACS IF committee in early December.