

# Tony Gonzales Excellence in GIS Scholarship

## **About the Scholarship**

Until his death in April of 2001, Tony Gonzales was the GIS Manager for the Arizona Department of Transportation. He was a valued member of our Arizona GIS community, and he was committed to the advancement of GIS and GIS education throughout the State. In memory of Tony, two \$500 scholarships are awarded each year at the statewide AGIC conference to Arizona GIS students whose work best demonstrates innovative GIS use or research.

The Tony Gonzales Scholarship was endowed from proceeds of the Southwest User Group (SWUG) Conference held in Tucson in the Fall of 2001. It has since been supplemented with additional funds from GITAz, corporate, and individual sponsors.

## **About Tony Gonzales**

Tony Gonzales was a key figure in the development of GIS at the Arizona Department of Transportation. His enthusiasm for his work was exemplified in all that he did, from teaching ArcView GIS courses to serving on many advisory committees, including the Governor's appointed statewide GIS panel, AGIC. Tony suffered from a condition known as neurofibromatosis. Neurofibromatosis (NF) is a genetic disorder, which causes tumors to grow along various types of nerves. NF causes tumors to grow anywhere on or in the body. More information about NF can be found on the National NF Foundation web site at [www.nf.org](http://www.nf.org).

## **Scholarship Applications**

Applicants for the 2009 award must be enrolled for the Fall or Spring semesters of 2008-09, in an accredited academic program of study in the State of Arizona. There is no minimum course load requirement. Both graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to apply. Primary preference will be given to applicants whose work best shows innovative research using GIS. **The application deadline is April 30, 2009.**

To apply please submit a one-page abstract of your research to [hlward@terrasw.com](mailto:hlward@terrasw.com) in text, Word or PDF format. You may include supporting materials as well, though the abstract will be the primary document evaluated.

The Geospatial Information Technology Association, Arizona Chapter (GITAz) scholarship committee will make the final decision on the award of the scholarship. Winners will be notified by the end of June 2009. The scholarship award will be made at the 2009 AGIC Conference to be held in November of 2009. Winners are encouraged to attend but not mandatory.

## **Previous Winners**

The 2008 award winners were Erika Wise from the University of Arizona and Darren Ruddell from Arizona State. Darren applied GIS to the work of correlating physical and social geography while Erika won her award for the application of GIS to tree-ring research.

## **Voluntary Contributions**

Contributions are needed and welcome. All contributions are tax-deductible. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, contact Howard Ward ([hlward@terrasw.com](mailto:hlward@terrasw.com)) or make a check payable to "GITAz—Tony Gonzales Scholarship Fund" and mail to:

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