

Dr. Robert Cromley

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UCCGIA: The University of Connecticut Center for Geographic Information and Analysis

Dr. Cromley's discussion centered on the University of Connecticut Center for Geographic Information and Analysis. The UCCGIA is a joint venture between the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Homer Babbidge Library at the University of Connecticut. UCCGIA works closely with the Map and Geographic Information Center and is part of the Consortium for Public Policy and Research at the University.

The primary functions of the UCCGIA include training and education in the use of geographic data, facilitating archival processes related to geographic information, and facilitating geographic research.

UCCGIA's current projects include creating and maintaining metadata records, system administration for an Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) software site license for all public institutions of higher education in Connecticut and establishment of the CTDATA website. The UCCGIA also coordinated UConn's application to be a member of the University Consortium for Geographic Information Sciences (UCGIS), a national lobbying effort to promote geographic information sciences.

CTDATA is a work-in-progress website for the dissemination of geo-referenced data within the State of Connecticut. The long-term goal for this website is to extract and serve attribute data files that are compatible with the geography data files served by the MAGIC website. Each file will be in the form of a table. The CTDATA website will eventually have economic databases and educational, political and population data by state, town, county, LMA, regional planning districts and user-defined districts. By clicking on a series of menus, the user will be able to "order" the data and then be presented with it.