



The **DigitalCity** Research Group

invites you to a very interesting talk on the value of geo data sharing:

Free Data and Free GIS: Some Observations from Minnesota

Francis Harvey (University of Minnesota)

May 30th, 2011 | 14:00 | Room D 102 (CityNord)

About the presenter:

Prof. Francis Harvey is Associate Professor in the University of Minnesota's Department of Geography and Director of Graduate Studies for the Master's in Geographic Information Science. He also holds a position as a Visiting Professor at the Jagiellonian University, Poland.

About his talk:

The promise of free Geographical Information Systems (GIS) rests significantly in the United States on the availability of free data. This talk considers the availability of free data in the Twin Cities, Minnesota region and issues relevant to the development of free GIS and Volunteered Geographic Information. While much regional and county data is available for free, some important data sets, street center lines especially, have only been available for free by government and academic users--all others are required to pay. Other data sets, notably detailed parcel data, have yet to become available for free because of policy decisions to seek recovery of costs for these data. The free data situation becomes quite complex in actuality. Speaking about these complexities in the state in United States renowned for MapServer in the GIS FOSS community, I aim to explain them and address the question of value that leads to the complex situation.

For more information:

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Alenka Poplin | Prof. Dr. Jochen Schiewe