



February 26, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Nick J. Rahall, II Appalachian Transportation Institute Sponsors**

**1st Student GIS Project Competition with \$500 Prize for Winner**

**Huntington, W.VA.** – The Nick J. Rahall II Appalachian Transportation Institute (RTI) is sponsoring its first *Student GIS Project Competition* to challenge undergraduate and graduate students to demonstrate the development and effective use of Geographic Information Science (GIS) and Technology in their field of study and the community.

The first place winner receives \$500 and a certificate, and the second place winner receives \$300 and a certificate.

To be eligible for the competition, participants must be enrolled in Marshall University for the 2008-2009 academic year. Projects may be class projects, research projects or internship projects related to Geographic Information Science (GIS) and technology. For projects resulting from an internship, a letter from a direct supervisor is required to verify the majority work was done by the participant and that the project report was written solely by the participant. Projects that were completed in previous years are eligible as long as the projects were conducted at Marshall University and the participant is a current Marshall University student for the academic year 2008-2009.

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**The winning project must meet the following criteria:**

- 1) The project makes significant contribution to advance new theories and methods of Geographic Information Science and Technology.
- 2) The project demonstrates excellence and innovation in applying theories and methods of Geographic Information Science and Technology.

To enter, graduate and undergraduate students must submit a research paper, which must not exceed eight pages, double-spaced with a 12 point font, in electronic form (.pdf) to RTI Research Associate Sang Yoo at syoo@njarati.org. The deadline for entry is 4 p.m., Friday, May 1, 2009. Winners are announced Friday, May 15, 2009.

A committee of RTI researchers and Marshall University faculty will review and evaluate submitted papers and choose the two winning projects. Awards will be presented at RTI headquarters. The competition judges and award committee are: Juan Barrios, David Lawson and Sang Yoo, RTI; Dr. James Leonard and Dr. Anita Walz, Marshall University Department of Geography; and James Wolfe, Marshall University College of Information Technology and Engineering.

For more information, contact Errin Jewell, Public Affairs Specialist at 304-696-7165 or ejewell@njarati.org, or Sang Yoo, Research Associate, at syoo@njarati.org.

***“Building Jobs through Transportation”***

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