

Summer 2018 Intern Spotlight: Anastassiya Suprunova



“ Since the ESRGC mostly works with local communities, seeing the impact on the local level is very gratifying.”

-Anastassiya

Q: When did you graduate?

A: B.S. Geodesy and Cartography
(Karaganda State Technical University - June 2011)
M.S. GIS Management (Salisbury University - December 2017)

Q: Where is your hometown?

A: Karaganda, Kazakhstan

Q: When did you first use GIS?

A: The first time I used GIS was in my B.S. Graduation Project. I studied how the preliminary stages of engineering planning of the linear facilities such as electric power lines can benefit from GIS, how GIS could save time and labor and help to deliver more intelligent decisions. However, a more advanced dive into the GIS world happened when I took GEOG 519 with Dr. Scott as a part of Master's Program, it was challenging but extremely interesting.

Q: What interested you in working with the ESRGC?

A: Most of my experience with GIS was in the classroom, so I really wanted to put all this knowledge to use. I knew quite a bit about ESRGC before I started to work there as a GIS Technician, I really liked that ESRGC is connected to the University and that the work scope includes different projects and there is always an opportunity to learn something new from young professionals who work there. The power of GIS only can be understood when you see its beneficial impact on the communities since the ESRGC mostly works with local communities seeing the impact on the local level is very gratifying.

Q: What project(s) did you worked on as an intern? How long were you an intern?

A: I was working for 4 months as a Graduate Assistant helping Dr. Lembo with Statistics in Geography class. During that time, I also worked on the GIS Needs Assessments for the Kenya Marine and Fishery Institute and helped students on the *Deforestation of Mangroves in Ecuador* project.

Q: Where are you working now? What are you working on?

A: I am working at the ESRGC. When I started I was mostly working on digitizing engineering drawings to update the utilities data for local communities. Lately, I have been working on data mining for dashboards and building a GIS tool that will identify the land parcels that are most suitable for preservation.

Q: Have you gone to any GIS conferences? How did they go?

A: I have attended the Mid-Shore Regional Council GIS Committee, Tri-County Council, Maryland State Geographic Information Committee (MSGIC) and the most recent is DEGIS (Delaware GIS Conference) it has being a great experience to attend all of those meeting and conferences. It is such a great opportunity to hear out how people are dealing with challenging tasks, what ideas they have and how they make those ideas happen in real life.

Q: Dream job? (Doesn't have to be GIS/ESRGC related)

A: I would rather say I have a dream project in my mind then a job itself, I would love to be involved in some project that would provide a life changing opportunity for a community, city, country etc. Something that would make me feel that I participated in something that had a meaningful positive impact, as there are many organizations in need of such impactful projects, it would be difficult to specify which organization would be the most dreamy.

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time?

A: I love to travel when I have opportunity, but when I don't, I love to go to the beach, read a good book, work in my garden and bake something tasty and sweet, also I don't mind to share those baked goods ;).

Q: Do you have a LinkedIn?

A: Yes, I do -

www.linkedin.com/in/anastassiya-suprunova-22029333