

NEW YORK STATE GIS ASSOCIATION

Recognition of efforts as a

GIS Champion

is hereby granted to

Michael Rygel

Dr. Mike Rygel guided the creation of a new major in Geographic Information Systems at SUNY Potsdam, which accepted its first students in the 2018-2019 academic year. Dr. Rygel recognized the need in the profession for undergraduate students trained in GIS and the ability for SUNY Potsdam to serve that need. The major has 6 professors teaching a suite of courses each semester including 4 sections of Intro to GIS each year. The program requires a minor to focus students' interests and the application of GIS across many disciplines, while creating a vigorous background in design and GIS technologies. This past May, four students graduated with GIS minors, kicking off the program. The first majors will be graduating this year. Dr. Rygel is a constant supporter of GIS and its application across the SUNY Potsdam curriculum.

It is with great pleasure that we recognize Dr. Michael Rygel as a GIS Champion for 2019.



Awarded: September 2019



Richard A. Reichert, President