Staff Development

Technology is constantly changing placing an emphasis on professional development. Apart from teaching the new tools the instructors need to be familiar with industry trends.

Vocational and tool orientated GIS conferences provide valuable software updates and technology trends provide valuable updates to enable the instructor to update lessons and continue dialog with GIS advisors on what is important for the GIS student.

Academic orientated conferences such as the American Association of Geographers exhibit the various applications of lending support to development of GIS modules into various programs on campus such as a global warming exercise for ecology or a census exercise for a social science course, perhaps field data collection methods for biology or remote sensing diseased forests.

Research places online enrollments at colleges growing substantially faster than overall higher education enrollments. The expectation of academic leaders has been that these enrollments would continue. Programs providing entire online GIS certificates and degrees are increasing. Rio Hondo College GIS will benefit from providing the faculty an opportunity to enroll in one or more GIS courses (i.e.: Penn State) to determine how other programs effectively (or ineffectively) teach online and what resources are used.