INTRODUCTION

Dan Narsavage is a GIS Professional who not only excels at his place of employment, but also works tirelessly to promote engagement and interaction among GIS professionals locally, regionally and statewide. Dan's leadership of the South West Idaho GIS Users Group (SWIG), support of the Ada County Special Interests Group (SIG), and participation on Idaho Geospatial Council (IGC) technical working groups has helped foster a thriving GIS community. Dan's ability to encourage collaboration and communication is a testament to his character and personality. Dan is a relentless advocate of the GIS community and a model professional, but his true gift is intuiting exactly when to insert humor to ease the pressure. I will never forget Dan coming to a SWIG meeting (on Halloween) dressed as 'Scope Creep.' His witty costume made a challenging reality seem humorous and inspired the sharing of war stories, resulting in closer relationships. It is exactly that creativity, dedication and intuition that makes Dan an exceptional GIS Professional.

DESIGNING ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE AND SUPPORTING INTERNAL AND INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION

Through involvement with the IGC, Dan has worked with GIS users from all over the state with varied technological capabilities and skills, to aid in building a statewide data repository and regional resource centers to support data sharing and compatibility. In addition to supporting statewide efforts, Dan has been able to act advocate for local needs and affectively convey restrictions local GIS professionals' face in working toward statewide enterprise goals. Working diligently as a 'translator' between many stakeholders with similar aspirations, but vastly different circumstances ,Dan has been able to be a part of forming solutions and compromises that are critical in achieving statewide goals including; facilitating local implementation of a common framework, creating commonality in data format (especially when dealing with users with different access to resources), and exploration of options to meet the goals of the many, while still maintaining the ability to protect sensitive data. Additionally, by bringing different stakeholders into the SWIG and arranging for speakers and workshops to help understand one another's needs, Dan has been able to demonstrate that creating an enterprise system is realistic despite the challenges we will face, and that there are far more commonalities then it may seem.

AS A PROFESSIONAL & ROLE MODEL

Dan joined the Ada County Assessor's Office in the fall of 2006, diving right in. Dan's first project was to develop a geodatabase to maintain countywide Administrative Boundaries. Dan not only met the challenge and accomplished the project goals, but exceeded expectations and in doing so made a name for himself in the Ada County Assessor's office and in the greater GIS community. Dan worked closely with other GIS Analysts and Technicians, to create a database and the tools necessary to merge the new geodatabase into the existing workflow. Dan's enthusiasm and vigor is often seen in ambitious young professionals; however, Dan has proven to be the exception as his spirit, attitude, tenacity and enthusiasm have not dimed with time or experience.

Dan continually presents himself in a professional manor and maintains a calm demeanor that assures those around him that there is no conflict that cannot be resolved if the individuals working toward the goal are willing to work hard and seek creative solutions as a team. Dan always sets an example for those around him by his actions and attitude and by acting as a mentor or advisor to those seeking assistance. Dan is always willing to listen and help where he is able, at the very least acting as a sounding board to help other GIS Professionals, and those unfamiliar with the GIS world talk through issues to devise solutions to challenges that often seem daunting.

INNOVATION AND MEASUREABLE SUCCESS
Working for the Ada County Assessor, Dan has been a constant reminder of how interconnected these two traits are in a GIS Professional. Land Records recently converted the parcel basemap database from an ESRI 'coverage' format to an ESRI 'cadastral fabric'. The transition was an ambitious undertaking and took four years to come to fruition. Dan acted as the representative from the Ada County Assessor's Office worked closely with ESRI developers to create cadastral editing tools that were not in the software but would be necessary for the Assessor's Office to use the new database. Dan was able to observe, understand and articulate needs of all users, and successfully help innovate the necessary tools. This required extreme patients, persistence and creativity, as the database is integrated into the countywide Property Tax System, which is a critical resource for internal and external users. Dan worked to find solutions that ensured all processes, (internal and external) were included and accounted for once transitioned into the new database.

Dan is now working on the development of an addressing database and creating the tools necessary for the maintenance of the data. Dan is creating a method that will enable all the addressing agencies in Ada County to work together in the maintenance of a countywide database. When completed this data will help agencies be more efficient and effective when responding to constituents. The database will also increase the capacity of users to provide a better quality of work, as it will be the result of a collaborative effort by those who are the most familiar with the data.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND IMPACT IN THE GIS COMMUNITY
Dan constantly strives to increase his knowledge and awareness of user needs and the GIS Community. In addition to taking advantage of conferences and workshops as learning opportunities and the use of leadership roles to create meaningful opportunities for users to come together and collaborate, Dan is constantly looking for opportunities to learn and grow his skills. Dan uses articles, forums, books, and online training opportunities, and not only does Dan use these resources, he shares them with others and encourages them to use them. Dan has never denied anyone when they have come to him in search of help, and conveys an enthusiasm for teaching and learning that cannot be seen in an individual who does not truly love what they do and want to learn all they can to be as successful as possible. This drive and passion has lead Dan to earning his GISP and will lead to many more achievements in the future.

Beyond inspiring and supporting the GIS community as a resource and advocate, Dan has had many direct impacts. Some specific examples include contributions to the Structures and Landmarks Data Exchange Standard for The Idaho Map, finding solutions to create an addressing dataset to better serve the emergency response community, and ensuring the continuation of the SWIG by rallying the necessary volunteer support for its operation. It is not possible to convey all that Dan has done for the GIS community and those who are impacted by this technology (whether they are aware of it or not) everyday. Dan is an invaluable individual and a superior GIS Professional. Dan deserves recognition for all he has done and all he continues to do for the Assessor's Office, local GIS community, and statewide initiatives.