



# GRASS/ OSGeo-News

Open Source GIS and Remote Sensing information

Volume 4, December 2006

## Editorial

by Tyler Mitchell

Dear GRASS and other open source users,

It is my pleasure to introduce the future expansion of GRASS-News. The next edition will be morphed into a broader Open Source Geospatial Newsletter covering projects from the OSGeo Foundation and beyond. The aim is to bring relevant news and articles to a larger audience by widening the focus and changing the name.

GRASS-News has always covered more than just GRASS. It has also shown itself to be a high quality production that we can be proud of reading or even printing to share with friends. With the potential of

reaching a larger audience, as well as maintain a single high quality newsletter, the editors have decided to re-brand it as an OSGeo-News production. I have always been encouraged by the content, layout and ideas represented by the GRASS-News volumes and hope to see it continue.

### Call For Articles

*You can help* by providing articles or papers for publication. The next edition of this newsletter will have articles that cover several other open source projects in various topics:

- OSGeo-related news items
- ... continues on next page ...

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- GIS
- Remote Sensing
- Web-based mapping and GIS
- Geostatistics / spatial statistics
- Geospatial data access
- and more...

Do you have layout and design skills? You can help by applying your skills to make OSGeo-News even better. Translators into different languages are also needed. You can help by volunteering as:

- Editor
- Layout Designer
- Reviewer

- Translator
- etc.

Please take a moment to thank the editorial staff and contributors of GRASS-News who have made a great newsletter. I am encouraged to see their interest in making the publication applicable to even more people. I look forward to seeing the next edition.

Tyler Mitchell

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## GRASS-News Editorial

*by the GRASS-News staff*

**Dear former GRASS-News readers,**

As you may have noticed from the joint logo and title on the front page, this is the last issue of GRASS-News in its current format. GRASS is currently in the incubation process as an OSGeo member project, and as part of the integration with OSGeo we've agreed with the OSGeo publicity committee to broaden the scope of the newsletter to cover other OSGeo projects. Many articles have already covered use of GRASS along with utilities from other OSGeo projects, and we're confident that this widen-

ing of coverage can only add to the usefulness and relevance of the articles in the GRASS-News. As a result, from the next issue onwards the newsletter will be known as OSGeo-News. Rather than have less GRASS-specific content, we anticipate the GRASS content will remain the same, and the frequency and/or size of the newsletter will increase to accommodate wider OSGeo material! To this end we need your contributions!

Thank you for your interest in the past and looking forward to OSGeo-News volume 1 with some very interesting GRASS articles included!

Your GRASS-News staff

## FOSS4G 2006 Conference: The meeting of the tribes

*by Helena Mitasova*

The Free and Open Source Software for Geoinformatics (FOSS4G, <http://www.fooss4g2006.org>) Conference held in Lausanne, Switzerland in September 2006 was a great success. It was the first joint con-

ference that brought together the different FOSS4G "tribes", merging the GRASS Users conference series, with the Mapserver, EOGeo and Java developers meetings. Hundreds of people, including software developers, power users and newcomers, had a chance to meet, discuss projects and present new developments and ideas. More than 25 hands-on workshops were offered providing an opportunity for the