

## Dustin Fratto

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# GEOSCIENCES

**Monthly Newsletter for Students and Recent Graduates  
from the SLCC Geosciences Department**

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*Geospatial Careers: 12 things I've learned... so far*



Thierry Gregorius

Principal Strategic Consultant at Exprodat

Last month, when I was interviewed on [GeoHipster](#), people seemed to take note especially of the comments I had made on geospatial careers. So here is an extended version of my thoughts, and I'd be really interested in yours too. What have you learned?? Please add it below!

Note: By 'Geospatial' I mean GIS, GIM, Geomatics, Surveying, Cartography, etc. – take your pick.

## 1. Make up your mind: Geospatial vs X

The geospatial profession cuts across many disciplines, so you first need to decide what your professional identity is. If you are committed to a geospatial career you are basically making a choice *not* to be a geographer, geoscientist, engineer, computer scientist, urban planner or whatever else you might be mistaken for. If you want to be one of those things, go study their subjects and enter their professions proper – it's much harder to get there via the geospatial route. Of course you can also be a bit of both, and such a combination is highly valuable. But the career of a geologist who has GIS skills will probably look very different to the career of a GIS professional who also knows about geology. In fact, as a

geospatial professional you need to know about many other things too, being both a generalist and a specialist. You'll work with many disciplines, providing input and joining things up (hence also the comparison with architects in my interview). So you need to be clear: Are you a geospatial professional, or a professional in another field who also has some geospatial knowledge? The difference can be huge.

## 2. Build a technical foundation early in your career

Geospatial is a technical profession. Whether you want to be a guru analyst, champion account manager or visionary CEO, in the geospatial domain you will have little success and credibility without a solid grounding in its technical aspects. So resist the temptation...([\*Follow this link to continue reading\*](#))

\*T. Gregorius. (2015, January 13). Geospatial Careers: 12 things I've learned... so far. Retrieved from <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/geospatial-careers-12-things-ive-learned-so-far-thierry-gregorius>

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### Scholarships, Tuition Waivers and Financial Aid

[Susan Ekdale Memorial Scholarship](#) - offered by the Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG), this \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded to a female student attending a Utah school of higher education to help defray field camp expenses (Due in March)

[Geoscience Research Scholarship](#) - Undergraduate and graduate women students at Utah universities are eligible. The Research Scholarship, offered by the Salt Lake Chapter of AWG, will reimburse up to \$1,000 per individual for meeting and travel expenses to present a research paper at a regional or national professional meeting (Due in March)

[Outstanding Geoscience Female Undergraduate Award](#) - Undergraduate women at Utah universities are eligible. This award, offered by the Salt Lake Chapter of the AWG, is intended for a woman who is **considered outstanding by a nominating geoscience professor** at a Utah university. Thus, faculty and instructors play a key role to acknowledge top performance with a \$750 check (Due in March)

[AWG Minority Scholarship](#) - This new program encourages young minority women to pursue an education and later a career in the geosciences. It provides financial aid (\$6,000) and matches the student with a mentor in the same field who will offer guidance and support. This exchange will enhance the student's experience and provide a view of the world ahead (Due in June)

[Utah Geographic Information Council \(UGIC\) Conference Scholarship](#) - designed to give students an opportunity to gain professional experience prior to entering the workforce by attending the UGIC Conference. Two awards will be granted that will include registration and lodging expenses (Due February 27th)

[Pepsi Generation Excellence Cash Award](#) - This \$300 - 500 cash award is available to any matriculated student at SLCC who has completed a minimum of 12 credit hours with a 2.0 cumulative GPA (Due in April)

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### [Utah Geological Association Meetings](#)

Second Monday of every month at Utah DNR Offices



Geology majors should try to attend some of the Utah Geological Association meetings. They are a great way to network, meet other geologists, get a job or internship, and learn about the field of geology via guest speakers. It is a lunch meeting and will likely be free food for students.

They meet the second Monday of every month at the Utah Department of Natural Resources (DNR), **1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84116**. Walk in the front door and ask the receptionist where to find the UGA meeting.

For more details see - <http://utahgeology.org/>

### Upcoming Events

**February 18-20, 2015**

Utah Council of Land Surveyors  
Conference

**March 9, 2015** (12-1)

Utah Geological Association  
Luncheon [-Register-](#)

**March 28, 2015** (all day)

1 So. Main St. SLC, UT 84133  
Association for Women  
Geoscientists Annual  
Scholarship Benefit

### Internships and Employment

Numerous opportunities for both employment and internships in the geosciences are available right now. Check out our [Jobs and Internships](#) Page for a complete list of current opportunities



## Contact Information



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NISGTC Corporate Outreach,  
Employment and Internship  
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## **GIS Technician I**

\$15.00/hourly

Collects, compiles, maintains and updates departmental geographic information. Verifies address-related or other database related information through researching existing records and field checks. Conducts quality assurance of the data prepared for entry into geographic information system. Utilizing trigonometric and algebraic concepts, measures and adjusts state plane coordinates, to maintain and update GIS coverage. Utilizes a variety of input devices for inputting mapping and tabular information into a geographic information system, including coordinate geometry coordinate adjustment software. Interprets maps, plats and survey records to develop map overlays. Prepares basic maps and tabular reports using plotters and other output devices. Provides mapping and departmental GIS related information to other City departments and outside agencies, and assists in interpreting the requested information. Participates in the accurate completion, calculation, verification coding, entry and cross checking of individual department data input and City-wide GIS database and subsequent data layers. Performs other duties as required.

Requirements: Associates degree (or two years of post high school training) in a related field.

*Employer code: 148*

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Contact [Dustin Fratto](#) for more information

\*Jobs, internships, and mentorships have not been reviewed, please inform yourself fully.



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