

The Duke Presentation to Richard Bolen: April 2010

My name is Dean Anderson and I have been asked to present an award today. A few years ago (when some of you were still in grade school) and when many government agencies were just trying to figure out what GIS was, this individual had the vision to see how GIS could be used to support his organization, how he could provide better service to his government partners and provide better service to the public. This vision (which is rumored to have been mapped out on a napkin in a bar) involved creating a business case for a regional GIS, creating a financial model for sustaining it, changing the Statutes of the State of Oregon, hiring 15 GIS staff, and creating a regional GIS database that has evolved from 300 MB of disk (in the dark ages when "gigabytes" did not exist) to 28 Terabytes of information on six servers called "RLIS". RLIS is not just a great data source for many organizations it has been a key tool used to plan, evaluate policy, and formulate development models in the Portland area. METRO has received world recognition for RLIS and the associated services provided by his organization. This would not have happened without his vision and abilities.

In addition, this individual has been a primary mover and shaker in GIS in Oregon and a principal player in creating Oregon & SW Washington URISA. He has been a thoughtful contributor to the evolution of GIS in the Metro Region and all of Oregon and his insight has often helped me. Through the years this individual has maintained who he is with humor, fun, practicality, and an interest in learning and expanding how GIS can be used to help us all out.

So Mr. Richard Bolen could you please come on up....

In recognition of dedicated service, the advancement of Geographic Information Systems, and Chapter Involvement, on behalf of The Oregon & SW Washington URISA Chapter I would like to present to Dick Bolen The "Duke" Distinguished Service Award.