Urban Data Visualization Lab

The Urban Data Visualization Lab, within the Department of Urban Planning and Policy at the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at UIC is a research center devoted to assisting organizations, students, and other units on campus in developing solutions to visualization challenges such as modeling, mapping, presentations, and image creation.

UIC College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs
M/C 348
412 South Peoria Street, Room B15
Chicago, Illinois 60607

Latitude (WGS 84): 41° 52 33.85” N
Longitude (WGS 84): 87° 38’ 59.05” W

visit our website: www.uic.edu/cuppa/udv

About CUPPA

The College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs (CUPPA) at UIC is an internationally recognized leader in education, research, and engagement in support of the world’s cities and metropolitan areas. CUPPA provides innovative urban planning and public management education that puts engaged research to purposeful use at home and abroad. We strive for academic excellence and to provide inspirational learning experiences for our students. We make a contribution beyond the university.

We are committed to respecting the unique individual contributions of faculty to scholarship, students to learning, and staff to service. We welcome cultural diversity in the composition of our faculty, staff, and students. We collaborate across disciplines, programs, and other institutional divides to generate more successful inquiry and learning. We are committed to innovation that anticipates future needs and crafts sustainable solutions in the pursuit of learning.
About the Lab

The Urban Data Visualization Lab (UDVL) is a research center housed in the Department of Urban Planning and Policy within the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. We work with many different units across campus and across many disciplines. We employ various technologies to assist students, faculty, and external public and community agencies with their visualization challenges, which include mapping and geospatial data analysis, assistance with data management and selection, presentation formatting, and communicating data more effectively.

As a designated State Data Center the UDVL provides census services for the State of Illinois.

UIC on-campus clients include:
- College of Nursing
- Department of Biological Sciences
- Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences
- Department of Public Administration
- Institute for Health Research and Policy
- Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement
- School of Public Health
- Natalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Involvement

Off-campus clients include:
- Chicago Housing Authority
- Chicago Teachers Union
- McCormick Foundation
- Rush University
- Illinois municipalities and legislators

Geospatial Analysis and Visualization Certificate Program

The UDVL is affiliated with the Geospatial Analysis and Visualization (GSAV) Certificate program. Staff, adjunct faculty, and faculty teach the courses that comprise the certificate program.

Students in the GSAV program learn visualization theory, the effective use of various visualization tools including Adobe products, and GIS to produce effective presentations, designs, and maps.

Faculty and Staff

Director
William “Max” Dieber · Specialties include economics, regional/urban planning, regional modeling and analysis, population forecasts, and involving local officials in planning activities.

Staff
Nina Savar · Specializes in developing regional GIS, managing data, developing metadata standards, and other regional issues.

Staff con’t.
Sarah Barr · Interests include youth program development and utilizing technology and GIS to improve the quality of life in underserved communities.

Affiliated Professors
Kazuya Kawamura, PhD · Past work and research includes freight transportation, transportation economics, congestion pricing, and accessibility.
Kheir Al-Kodmany, PhD · Research includes using visualization tools to better understand user needs and cultural preferences.
Sanjeev Vidyarthi, PhD · Past work and research includes urban theory and design, city-building processes, and computer aided visualizations.
Moira L. Zellner, PhD · Specialities include sustainable planning and the application of complexity theory and complexity-based models to enhance policy exploration and learning.

Adjunct Lecturers
Yochai Eisenberg · Specializes in GIS analysis of environmental influences on healthy living, and GPS technologies for activity monitoring, travel behavior and asset mapping.
Kevin Gibbs · Interests include GIS in public health applications and past positions include GIS coordinator and Chief Research Analyst.
Thomas Jasek · Brings nearly two decades of private sector experience in technical graphic design and engineering presentation graphics.