2024 CPGIS President and BOD Election

List of Nominees

Election Committee: Heng Cai, Gengchen Mai, Di Zhu, and Guiming Zhang (Chair)

(Candidates are listed in alphabetical order according to their family names)

1. President Nominees (vote for ONE)

- **Huanfa Chen**, University College London, UK
- **Yu Liu**, Peking University, China
- **Shaohua Wang**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

2. BOD Nominees (vote for THREE)

- **Xin Feng**, University of Oklahoma, USA
- **Zhipeng Gui**, Wuhan University, China
- **Xuke Hu**, German Aerospace Center, Germany
- **Hui Kong**, Xiamen University, China
- **Tian Lan**, Wuhan University, China
- **Peng Luo**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
- **Ran Tao**, University of South Florida, USA
- **Changzhen Wang**, University of Alabama, USA
- **Siqin Wang**, University of Southern California, USA
- **Zherong Wu**, Cornell University, USA
- **Songshan Yue**, Nanjing Normal University, China
- **Bing Zhou**, Pennsylvania State University, USA

3. Student BOD Nominees (vote for ONE)

- **Hao Tian**, Texas A&M University, USA
- **Hao Yang**, University of Georgia, USA
- **Yiming Zhang**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA
- **Zhijie Zhou**, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA

President nominees (2026)

Huanfa Chen, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis

University College London, UK

Short Bio

Huanfa Chen is an Associate Professor in Spatial Data Science at Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA), University College London (UCL). He currently serves as associate editor of Annals of GIS (2023-) and was a BOD member of CPGIS (2021-2023). In 2023, he co-chaired the CPGIS annual conference in London, which attracted over 150 participants globally. He is the guest editor of Geo-spatial Information Science and an associate fellow of Royal Institute of Navigation. He won the 2018 Roger Tomlinson Prize, which was sponsored by ESRI and awarded to the best PhD dissertation relating to GIS at UCL. Huanfa holds a PhD degree in GeoInformatics from UCL SpaceTimeLab (supervised by Prof Tao Cheng), and BSc and MSc from Peking University. His research interests include spatial optimisation, agent-based modelling, and GeoAI, with applications in public health, fire services, and transport research. He has published over 20 journal articles.

Election Supporting Statement

Hi CPGIS members, I am excited to run for CPGIS President with the slogan "Global and Connected CPGIS". My vision is to enhance CPGIS's reach and community through two key initiatives. First, I aim to promote CPGIS in Europe, for instance, by hosting another annual event in Europe. Second, I will launch the CPGIS Mentorship Programme that connects members as mentors and mentees based on their goals and interests. Each joiner can apply to become mentee, mentor, or both. One paired, the mentor and mentee will meet monthly, discussing projects and navigating career paths in a supportive environment. Together, let's make CPGIS even more inclusive and connected.

Yu Liu, Ph.D.

Boya Distinguished Professor

Institute of Remote Sensing and GIS

Vice Dean at the School of Earth and Space Sciences

Peking University, China

Short Bio

Dr. Yu Liu is Boya Distinguished Professor at the Institute of Remote Sensing and GIS and Vice Dean at the School of Earth and Space Sciences, Peking University. He is a recipient of the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars. His research focuses on social sensing and geographic big data analysis. His work has been supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and the National Key Research and Development Program.

As a dedicated lifetime member of CPGIS, Dr. Liu served on the Board of Directors (BOD) during 2010–2011 and 2013–2015, and since 2022, he has been chairing the CPGIS Awards Committee. In addition, Dr. Liu organized and hosted Geoinformatics 2010, the 18th Annual Meeting of CPGIS held in Beijing, further demonstrating his leadership and commitment to advancing the field and supporting the CPGIS community.

Election Supporting Statement

It is my great honor and pleasure to be nominated for the President of CPGIS. If elected, I will collaborate closely with the CPGIS BOD and all members in continuing our efforts along the good tradition and missions of CPGIS and also exploring new directions for the healthy growth of our CPGIS society. Specifically, I will focus on the following issues.

By recruiting more members, we can expand the organization's influence and diversity. Currently, the number of CPGIS members, especially lifelong members, is relatively small, which limits its influence. It is hoped that more scholars from Europe and Australia will join the organization. Measures to achieve this include organizing attractive academic conferences, enabling CPGIS to participate in the organization of various domestic and international academic activities, and enhancing the reputation of various CPGIS awards. I hope to promote the establishment of the CPGIS Fellow system during my tenure.

Shaohua Wang, Ph.D.

Innovation Professor

Aerospace Information Research Institute

Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Short Bio

Dr. Shaohua Wang, is currently an Innovation Professor at the Aerospace Information Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and serves as the Deputy Director of the State Key Laboratory of Remote Sensing Science. His research focuses on geospatial big data analytics, geospatial optimization, and geospatial intelligence. He has previously served as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Geography at the University of California, Santa Barbara, the SPARC Center at Arizona State University, and the CyberGIS Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has received diverse awards, including the China Geographic Information Technology Progress Special Prize and the Beijing Science and Technology First Prize. He has published over 100 articles in prominent journals such as IJGIS, JAG, IJDE, and TGRS. He serves as the Vice Chairman of the Social Sensing and Geographic Computing Division and a BOD member of the International Association of CPGIS from 2023 to 2024.

Election Supporting Statement

As a candidate for CPGIS President, I am committed to advancing the GIS industry through strategic initiatives that foster growth and collaboration. My plan includes expanding our graduate student membership by engaging with the Graduate Student Association of the Chinese Geographical Society, inviting them to join our community. By organizing postdoctoral fellowship events, we will provide platforms for young scholars to network, collaborate, and contribute innovative ideas.

To enhance our academic impact, I intend to promote relevant journals to increase their visibility and influence within the GIS community. Collaborating with related enterprises, we can secure sponsorships to support our initiatives and bridge the gap between academia and industry, fostering mutual growth.

Together, we can propel the GIS industry forward, enrich our professional community, and create new opportunities for all members. I am dedicated to these goals and humbly ask for your support to make them a reality.

BOD Nominees (2025 & 2026)

- **Xin Feng**, University of Oklahoma, USA
- **Zhipeng Gui**, Wuhan University, China
- **Xuke Hu**, German Aerospace Center, Germany
- **Hui Kong**, Xiamen University, China
- **Tian Lan**, Wuhan University, China
- **Peng Luo**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
- **Ran Tao**, University of South Florida, USA
- **Changzhen Wang**, University of Alabama, USA
- **Siqin Wang**, University of Southern California, USA
- **Zherong Wu**, Cornell University, USA
- **Songshan Yue**, Nanjing Normal University, China
- **Bing Zhou**, Pennsylvania State University, USA

Outgoing BOD Members (2023 & 2024)

- **Shaohua Wang**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
- **Manzhu Yu**, Pennsylvania State University, USA
- **Rui Zhu**, Institute of High-Performance Computing, A*STAR, Singapore

Remaining BOD Members (2024 & 2025)

- **Heng Cai**, Texas A&M University, USA
- **Gengchen Mai**, University of Texas at Austin, USA
- **Guiming Zhang**, University of Denver, USA
- **Di Zhu**, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, USA
- **Min Chen** (Past President), Nanjing Normal University, China
- **Qingfeng Guan** (President), China University of Geosciences, China
- **New President-elect**
- **New elected BOD members**

Xin Feng, Ph.D.

Assistant professor

Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability

University of Oklahoma, USA

Short Bio

Dr. Xin Feng is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability at the University of Oklahoma. She holds a PhD in GIScience from the University of California, Santa Barbara, a bachelor's degree in Cartography and GIS from Wuhan University, a master's degree in Remote Sensing and GIS from Peking University, and another master's degree in Geographic Sciences and Urban Planning from Arizona State University. Her research interests include spatial optimization, location modeling, and geospatial data science. She aims to tackle critical and exciting challenges in urban, regional, and natural resource planning and development, severe weather observation, and infrastructure and transportation systems. She has published 20+ articles in well-known GIScience journals, including "International Journal of Geographical Information Science", "IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing", "Computers, Environment, and Urban Systems", etc. She is the current board member of the AAG Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group.

Election Supporting Statement

I am honored to be considered for a CPGIS Board of Directors position. If elected, I am committed to contributing to expanding CPGIS's international influence by promoting its mission and achievements on a global scale. By organizing and actively participating in CPGIS academic events, such as workshops, webinars, and conferences, I aim to strengthen platforms for members to share innovative research and practical applications. Additionally, I will devote myself to the growth of all members, focusing on student members and ensuring they have the resources and encouragement to thrive within the CPGIS community. I hope to contribute to CPGIS by exploring emerging trends in the field, such as AI integration, spatial big data, and smart city planning, and helping to align the organization's activities with these cutting-edge developments. I am excited about the opportunity to work collaboratively to serve CPGIS's diverse and dynamic membership.

Zhipeng Gui, Ph.D.

Professor

School of Remote Sensing and Information Engineering

Wuhan University, China

Short Bio

Dr. Zhipeng Gui is a full professor in the School of Remote Sensing and Information Engineering at Wuhan University, and a lifetime member of CPGIS. He received his B.S. and Ph.D. degree from Wuhan University in 2005 and 2011, respectively. He then worked as a research assistant professor at George Mason University until Dec. 2013, and was an honorary research associate at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2018. His research interests include spatiotemporal data mining and distributed geocomputation. He serves as the Co-chair of ISPRS Working Group V/4 (2016-2022), Secretary General of the Working Committee of Geographic Information Science Theory for CAGIS (2017-2021, 2022-2026), and Secretary General of ACM SIGSPATIAL China (2021-2024, 2025-2026). He is also a youth EB member of reputable journals, e.g., Geo-spatial Information Science, has published more than 100 articles on NAT. COMMUN., IJGIS, CEUS, etc, and has won awards such as ISPRS CATCON (2016).

Election Supporting Statement

Zhipeng Gui has an extreme enthusiasm for serving the GIScience community. He attended his first CPGIS conference (Geoinformatics 2006) and served as a volunteer when he was a master student. This experience deeply attracted and inspired him from that day on. After 18 years of learning and teaching practice, he has become a vibrant young scholar in the field. He has actively organized many workshops and events for CPGIS, ISPRS, AAG, CAGIS and ACM SIGSpatial China, such ISPRS Geospatial Week 2017, SpatialDI 2020-2024, and GIS-EIA 2023. As a lifetime member of CPGIS, he is full of passion to contribute to CPGIS by fostering international, interdisciplinary, and cross-organizational collaboration, attracting and supporting the younger generation of CPGIS members. Meanwhile, he is committed to organizing CPGIS conferences, promoting the CPGIS journal and the latest academic achievements through social media channels, and expanding the global impact of CPGIS.

Xuke Hu, Ph.D.

Senior researcher (permanent position)

Institute of Data Science

German Aerospace Center, Germany

Short Bio

Xuke Hu is a senior researcher (permanent position) at the German Aerospace Center (DLR)'s Institute of Data Science. He earned his PhD in Geoinformation from Heidelberg University, Germany in 2020 and worked as a postdoctoral researcher at DLR until 2023. His research focuses on GeoAI, VGI, and indoor localization & mapping. He has served as a Guest Editor for IJGIS and Information Processing & Management and has been an organizer of the GeoExT workshops at the 45th, 46th, and 47th European Conferences on Information Retrieval. Additionally, he co-organized the 7th ACM SIGSPATIAL Workshop on Geospatial Humanities and currently serves as the secretary of the ISPRS Technical Commission IV/III Working Group 'Global Mapping for SDGs' (2023–2026). He has also chaired sessions at the 7th APWeb-WAIM International Joint Conference on Web and Big Data.

Election Supporting Statement

As a senior researcher at the German Aerospace Center (DLR) and 9 years of research experience in Germany, I bring a unique perspective to the CPGIS Board of Directors. Currently, CPGIS has limited representation in Germany and Europe, and I am well-positioned to bridge this gap. With my extensive network across German research institutions, universities, and European communities, I can enhance CPGIS's visibility and influence in these regions. If elected, I will foster collaborations between CPGIS and Chinese scholars and professionals in Europe, promote CPGIS events and initiatives, and attract new members to the society. By leveraging my connections and expertise, I am committed to strengthening CPGIS's global presence and driving its growth within the European scientific community.

Hui Kong, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Xiamen University, China

Short Bio

Hui Kong is an Associate Professor of Urban Planning at Xiamen University. She received B.S. degree from Peking University in 2013, and Ph.D. from Department of Geography at The Ohio State University in 2018. She worked as a Postdoctoral Associate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 2018 to 2020, and an Assistant Professor at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. Being a broadly trained researcher in geography, urban planning, and transportation, her research leverages GIS, spatial big data analytics, and statistical models to advance the efficiency and equity of shared mobility and multimodal urban transportation. Her work has been published in leading academic journals including *Nature Sustainability, Transportation Research Part A & Part D, Journal of Transport Geography, Applied Geography,* etc. She has led several research projects, funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, the Ministry of Education's Humanities and Social Sciences, etc.

Election Supporting Statement

As a scholar at the intersection of urban planning and GIS, I am committed to fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and advancing the field of GIS. If elected to the CPGIS Board of Directors, I will work to invite scholars from related fields—such as urban mobility, transportation, and sustainability—to lead seminars and share their expertise with the CPGIS community. Currently based in China, I can also support CPGIS in organizing conferences and events in this region, helping to expand its reach and influence. As a young scholar who has recently secured academic positions in both the United States and China, I can assist CPGIS in organizing career-related forums, providing guidance and opportunities for members navigating the academic job market. I look forward to collaborating with members globally to foster innovation and strengthen CPGIS's role in shaping the future of GIS and urban studies.

Tian Lan, Ph.D.

Professor

School of Resource and Environmental Sciences

Wuhan University, China

Short Bio

Dr. Tian Lan is a Professor of GIS at the School of Resource and Environmental Sciences at Wuhan University, an Honorary Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Geography, UCL, and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, UK. He earned his PhD from the University of Hong Kong and previously worked as a research associate at UCL. His recent research focuses on computational geodemographics, leveraging various big and open datasets to address topics such as social/spatial inequalities and human mobility. His work was featured in *Nature Communications*' Editorial Highlights 2021 and covered by *The Economist*.
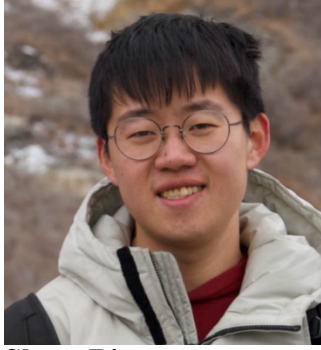
He has been an active member and a strong advocate for the promotion of CPGIS. He served on the program committee for the 2023 CPGIS Annual Conference and has attended the recent CPGIS conferences as a participant, session chair, and sponsor delegate. He is committed to further advancing the CPGIS community and its initiatives.

Election Supporting Statement

My vision for the BOD role is to bridge GIS communities at home and abroad while fostering future generations of GIS professionals.

To achieve these goals, I first plan to proactively bid for hosting future CPGIS annual conferences, leveraging my institutional support to organize impactful events that will bring together researchers, practitioners, and students in GIS to exchange ideas, showcase cutting-edge innovations, build lasting partnerships, and highlight the global reach of CPGIS.

As for supporting the development of future GIS professionals, I will also promote leadership and skill-building initiatives, which are inspired by the "CPGIS Go Home" project. These programs focus on providing students, young scholars and early-career professionals with valuable opportunities to engage in academic exchanges, fostering deeper connections with leading institutions and projects. These efforts will enhance the integration of GIS communities worldwide and empower the next generation of professionals.

Peng Luo, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral researcher

Senseable City Lab

MIT, USA

Short Bio

Peng Luo is a postdoctoral researcher at the MIT Senseable City Lab and was a visiting scholar at the University of Oxford. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Cartography from Technical University of Munich. His current research centers on GeoAI, spatially explicit modeling, and explainable / uncertainty-aware spatial modeling.

He has published over 30 papers in academic journals and conferences across GIS, remote sensing, urban studies, and computer science, including 13 as the lead corresponding author in journals such as ISPRS JPRS, IJGIS, CEUS, JAG, TGIS, and Cities. Additionally, he serves as a reviewer for more than 20 international academic journals and as a guest editor for Computational Urban Science and JAG. Peng has also organized several international academic workshops as a session chair.

Election Supporting Statement

Since the beginning of my research career, I have greatly benefited from the CPGIS community's support. Now, as a passionate member, I am eager to contribute back as a BOD member by expanding and enriching the CPGIS community. I aim to grow the community in multiple directions. Horizontally, I will promote collaboration with related societies, such as cartography (ICC) and remote sensing (IEEE GRSS), by co-organizing academic conferences and fostering interdisciplinary exchanges. Vertically, I will enhance interactions among CPGIS members at different career stages, organizing events that encourage senior and junior scholars to learn from each other. A key focus will be supporting junior scholars in navigating their career paths effectively. Drawing on my diverse experiences across China, Germany, the UK, and the US, I will work to strengthen CPGIS's global presence, build interdisciplinary connections, and foster professional growth among its members, ensuring the community thrives for years to come.

Ran Tao, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Director of the GIS Certificate Program

University of South Florida

Short Bio

Dr. Ran Tao is an Associate Professor and the Director of the GIS Certificate Program at the University of South Florida. His primary research interests focus on analyzing big spatial flow data, and he has played a pioneering role in establishing a comprehensive methodological framework for flow data analytics, including spatial statistics, spatial data mining, geovisualization, and GeoAI models. He leads interdisciplinary research projects that leverage GIS and spatial analysis to explore topics such as human mobility and travel behaviors, disaster-induced migration, shrinking city phenomena, location optimization of critical infrastructure, and disease transmission surveillance. Dr. Tao's research is sponsored by agencies such as the NSF and USDOT. He has published over 30 papers in prestigious GIScience journals, including *IJGIS*, *CEUS*, and *Geographical Analysis*. In terms of professional service, he has served as the chair of the Cyberinfrastructure and board member of the Urban Geography AAG specialty groups.

Election Supporting Statement

As a member of the CPGIS Board of Directors (BOD), I plan to actively foster collaboration among Chinese GIS professionals globally, strengthening ties between those abroad and in China. I will work towards enhancing professional development by organizing workshops, webinars, and networking events, which will offer members valuable opportunities to share knowledge and build partnerships. By promoting innovative research and interdisciplinary collaborations, I aim to advance scientific development in GIS and related fields. Additionally, I will advocate for the broader inclusion of diverse perspectives in GIS education, helping to expand learning opportunities at all levels. My goal is to contribute to CPGIS's mission of creating a dynamic, inclusive community that drives the global exchange of ideas and collaboration in GIS.

Changzhen Wang, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Geography and the Environment

University of Alabama, USA

Short Bio

Changzhen Wang is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and the Environment at the University of Alabama. She is the co-director of Spatial Data Lab for Healthcare Systems. Changzhen received her Ph.D. in Geography from Louisiana State University and M.S. in Cartography and GIS from Wuhan University. Her research focuses on the development and application of computational GIS methods, spatial network modeling and analysis, big data, and geovisualization in health, transportation, and urban studies. One of her primary projects is delineating various healthcare service areas to study geographic variations in health care to advance health equity. Changzhen has received several prestigious awards, including the 2024 AAG J. Warren Nystrom Award, 2023 Annals of GIS Best Paper Award, 2022 Peter Gould Student Paper Award, and 2021 CPGIS Best Student Paper Award (1st place). Her work has been funded by the Marshall Plan Foundation and the National Library of Medicine.

Election Supporting Statement

I am a lifetime member of CPGIS and a member of the CPGIS Health-GIS Committee. I knew CPGIS in 2012 when I was an exchange master student at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. I have actively participated in the CPGIS conferences, webinars, and business meetings. I was honored to receive the 2021 CPGIS Best Student Paper Award and the 2023 Annals of GIS Best Paper Award. As a dedicated member and award winner of CPGIS, I am passionate about serving this influential community. I plan to leverage my experience to foster international and interdisciplinary collaborations and increase the impact of CPGIS. If elected to the CPGIS BOD, I am committed to upholding the CPGIS bylaws, supporting the organization of CPGIS conferences and professional development events, and making the voices of students and researchers at all stages of their careers heard to unite and expand this community.

Siqin Wang, Ph.D.

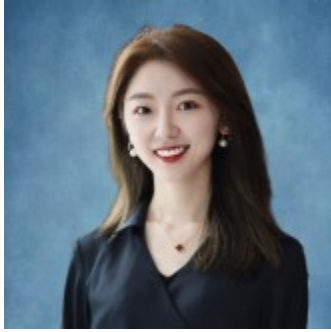Associate Professor

Spatial Sciences Institute

University of Southern California, USA

Short Bio

Dr Sisi Wang is an Associate Professor at Spatial Sciences Institute, University of Southern California, affiliated as Research Associate at Harvard Center for Geographic Analysis, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, and University of Queensland Australia. She specializes in human-environment interactions and computational social science, with 80+ publications. Her work has earned international recognition via funds from Australia, US, China, Japan, Morocco; and awards including *2024 Geospatial World 50 Rising Stars, 2024 IGU – MGSC Excellent Young Scholar Award,* and *the 2021 Top 20 Global Frontier Technology Young Scientist Award*. She serves the global GIS communities as the Associated Chair of Spatial Data Lab (SDL) at Harvard and as Vice Chair of the Young Scientist Innovation Network for International Society for Digital Earth. She launched the SDL internship program benefiting 60+ students from 15+ countries and received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award with UN Food Security Program on North Korea's digital mapping.

Election Supporting Statement

My goal is to enhance CPGIS's global reach by 1) expanding membership, 2) fostering collaboration, and 3) extending industrial partnerships. To grow membership, I will increase CPGIS's visibility at major conferences (e.g., AAG, IGU, AGU) and through training programs, webinars, and social media outreach on platforms like X and LinkedIn, targeting students, early-career researchers, and practitioners. I will strengthen inter-organizational collaboration by building ties with international academic institutions (e.g., ISDE) and interdisciplinary organizations (e.g., IEEE), introducing initiatives like virtual networking events to showcase members' achievements. Additionally, I plan to extend partnerships with industries and non-gov/profit agencies (e.g., GIS Corps, Google, NASA, NOAA) to create cross-disciplinary and international opportunities for members. These efforts will position CPGIS as a leader in geospatial science while inspiring and empowering the next generation of researchers and professionals to address global challenges.

Zherong Wu, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow

Cornell University

Short Bio

Dr. **Zherong Wu** is a Schmidt AI in Science Postdoctoral Fellow at Cornell University. She got her PhD in Earth System and GeoInformation Science from Chinese University of Hong Kong and B.Eng. in Remote Sensing from Wuhan University. In 2022, she worked as a research intern at the United Nations (UN). Dr. Wu's research integrates innovative satellite remote sensing and AI-driven analytical methods to monitor and understand urban geohazard and carbon dynamics, supporting sustainable development. She has published 1 UN chapter, 27 papers (2 highly-cited papers as leading authors) and 7 patents. Dr. Wu has secured an NSFC grant as PI and contributed to projects from NASA, NSF, RGC and ITF as Co-I or technical leader. She has won several prestigious awards, such as the American Association of Geographers Remote Sensing Best Paper (1st), IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society Excellent PhD Dissertation (1st), and China Rising Star in GIS.

Election Supporting Statement

As a CPGIS Board member, I will focus on four key priorities. First, I will leverage my connections across mainland China, Hong Kong, and the United States, as well as my experience collaborating with international organizations like the United Nations, to expand CPGIS's global partnerships and influence. Second, recognizing that CPGIS primarily attracts geography and GIS professionals, I aim to bring greater attention to fields such as remote sensing, ecology, and environmental science, broadening the community and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. Third, as a Schmidt AI in Science Fellow, I will seek opportunities to connect CPGIS with experts who apply AI in diverse domains, promoting cutting-edge innovations. Fourth, as a woman in STEM, I am committed to supporting female scientists through dedicated initiatives such as mentorship programs and networking opportunities, ensuring a more inclusive and equitable environment. These efforts will position CPGIS as a dynamic and forward-thinking global leader.

Songshan Yue, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

School of Geographical Sciences

Nanjing Normal University

Short Bio

Songshan Yue is an associate professor at the School of Geographical Sciences, Nanjing Normal University. His research focuses on ubiquitous geographic information modeling and virtual geographic environments. He has published over 50 papers in SCI indexed journals, including *International Journal of Geographic Information Science*, *Journal of Hydrology*, and *Environmental Modelling & Software*, and holds 18 invention patents. His accolades include the University GIS Newcomer Award, Geographic Information Science and Technology Progress Prizes (Special/First/Second), the Top Ten Research Progress in Chinese Geographical Sciences, and the Beijing Science and Technology Progress Award. He is Secretary-General of the Virtual Geographic Environment Committee (China), a member of the Agricultural Information Branch of the Chinese Society of Agronomy, an editorial board member of *Environmental Modelling & Software*, associate editor-in-chief of *Frontiers of Earth Science*, and a Topic Editor for *Big Earth Data*.

Election Supporting Statement

As a candidate for the CPGIS BOM member, I am committed to advancing the development of the CPGIS community through GIS education, academic exchange, and industry practice. My focus will be on enhancing global collaboration to facilitate knowledge sharing and technical innovation. I aim to strengthen partnerships with academic and industry stakeholders to promote interdisciplinary research, particularly in areas like AI, spatiotemporal digital bases, and digital twins in geospatial systems. Additionally, I will work to increase member engagement through workshops, webinars, and networking opportunities, promoting the vitality and visibility of CPGIS. My goal is to support CPGIS's continued growth, fostering a dynamic, inclusive, and forward-thinking community that drives impactful contributions to society.

Bing Zhou, Ph.D.

Assistant Teaching Professor

Department of Geography

Pennsylvania State University, USA

Short Bio

Bing Zhou is an Assistant Teaching Professor at the Department of Geography at Pennsylvania State University. His research aims to foster a resilient, equitable, and healthy society through responsible and geospatial thinking. One major focus is on the development and application of advanced GeoAI algorithms to extract valuable information from various geospatial data for climate resilience. Bing is dedicated to broadening the impact of GIS through public and professional services. He is now serving as the BOD of the Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group of the AAG and the co-chair of a non-profit organization, GISphere. Bing is eager to bring his experience in service to the CPGIS community, promote scholarly connections, and contribute to CPGIS's greater global impacts. Specifically, he plans to assist in organizing academic events, supporting researchers' career development, promoting international communications, and advancing collaborations of scholars from diverse backgrounds. Thank you for your consideration!

Election Supporting Statement

If I have the chance to be elected to CPGIS BOD member, I will leverage my professional skills in GIScience, remote sensing, and geospatial data science, and soft skills to advance the organization's mission. I plan to foster a vibrant scholarly community by organizing workshops, webinars, and networking events proactively. I will advocate for initiatives that support early-career researchers and students, such as mentorship programs and funding opportunities, to cultivate the next generation of geospatial scientists. Additionally, I will prioritize enhancing the visibility and global reach of CPGIS by strengthening partnerships with international geospatial organizations. My contributions will also include promoting diversity and inclusion within the community, ensuring that voices from diverse groups are heard. Through these endeavors, I hope to make a meaningful impact by creating a collaborative and innovative environment that positions CPGIS and all Chinese scholars and practitioners as global leaders in geospatial research and applications.

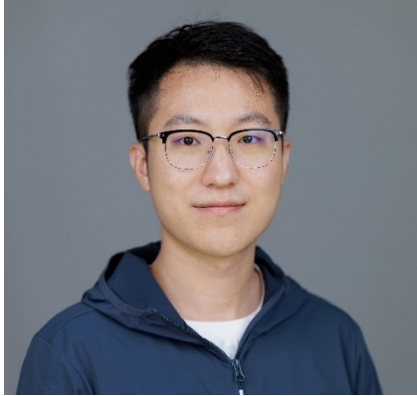**Student BOD Nominees** (2025 & 2026)

- **Hao Tian**, Texas A&M University, USA
- **Hao Yang**, University of Georgia, USA
- **Yiming Zhang**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA
- **Zhijie Zhou**, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA

Outgoing Student BOD Member (2023 & 2024)

Yikang Wang, now Ph.D. candidate from University College London, UK

Remaining Student BOD Member (2024 & 2025)

Haokun Liu, graduate student from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

Hao Tian

Ph.D. student

Department of Geography

Texas A&M University, USA

Short Bio

Hao Tian is a second-year Ph.D. student in the Department of Geography and a member of the GIScience for Resilience Lab at Texas A&M University. His research focuses on urban climate extremes, human-environment interactions, and human mobility. Hao has a solid foundation in geospatial analysis and resilience, with extensive research on human behavioral and health responses to extreme heat. His work has been published in several high-impact journals. As an active member of the academic community, Hao has chaired sessions at international conferences, and received distinguished honors, such as recognition in the AAG GIS-SG Student Paper Competition and the SAM-SG Student Travel Award. Beyond his academic pursuits, Hao is an enthusiastic member of the nonprofit project GISphere, focused on promoting the sharing and accessibility of GIS-related resources and knowledge. Hao hopes to contribute his efforts and expertise to the CPGIS community.

Election Supporting Statement

As a candidate for the position of CPGIS BOD student member, my goal is to increase student participation and representation in the CPGIS community. The fundamental task is to fully understand the CPGIS student members and hopefully create a platform for students to share ideas, research progress, and challenges, and to foster collaboration and mentorship. Next, I hope to utilize existing CPGIS channels (e.g., Twitter (X)) to publicize student's work in an effort to increase the visibility of student scholarship. I would like to organize student-centered workshops and webinars to build bridges between students and emerging scholars as well as specialists in the field, providing practical skills and networking opportunities. Making CPGIS a supportive and energetic community benefits all members.

Hao Yang

PhD candidate

Department of Geography

University of Georgia, USA

Short Bio

Hao Yang is a PhD candidate in Geography at the University of Georgia, specializing in GeoAI, GIScience, human mobility, public health, and urban science. With extensive experience as a Teaching Assistant for GIS and GeoAI courses, Hao is passionate about fostering student engagement and development in geospatial sciences.

An active contributor to the GIS community, Hao has organized and chaired sessions at AAG Annual Meetings, coordinated successful GIS Day events, and served as a reviewer for leading GIS journals. As a student Board member of CPGIS, Hao aims to promote collaboration, support member development, and advance CPGIS's mission of global GIS education, research innovation, and scientific exchange.

Election Supporting Statement

As a student Board member of CPGIS, I aim to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange within the global GIS community, aligning with CPGIS's mission of advancing GIS education, research, and professional development. Drawing on my experience organizing sessions at AAG Annual Meetings, coordinating GIS Day events, and reviewing for leading GIS journals, I will work to create opportunities for members to connect and share ideas.

I plan to initiate workshops and mentorship programs to strengthen ties between members in China and abroad, facilitating the exchange of innovative GIS methodologies and applications. Additionally, I will advocate for inclusive education initiatives, empowering students and early-career professionals worldwide to engage with geographic information sciences. My commitment is to enhance cooperation among members, bridge gaps across geographic boundaries, and contribute to CPGIS's role as a leader in global GIS education and scientific exchange.

Yiming Zhang

PhD student

Department of Geography

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA

Short Bio

Yiming Zhang is currently pursuing a PhD degree at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He has actively contributed to the CPGIS community through his longstanding service on the Publication Committee of its annual conference. The 2025 CPGIS annual meeting is set to be held at Huanghe Jiaotong University in Jiaozuo, China, where Yiming previously worked as the assistant to President Shixiong Hu, who will also serve as the local chair of the 2025 CPGIS annual conference. Yiming's prior experience in this role has provided him with invaluable insights into conference planning and execution. Familiar with the local host environment, he is positioned as a vital link between the CPGIS community and the local host for next year's event.

Election Supporting Statement

Get Together; Make Louder

I will seek strategies to enhance the stickiness of CPGIS membership, particularly among student members, and amplify their voices within the CPGIS community. If elected as the BOD student position, I plan to conduct a survey at next year's annual CPGIS conference to identify what events, resources, or opportunities would attract more students to join and stay engaged as CPGIS members. Based on these findings, I will help organize tailored activities to enhance student engagement and increase membership retention.

Moreover, I envision the BOD student member as a key representative for student members. I will actively collect their suggestions and ideas, ensuring that their voices contribute meaningfully to the growth and development of CPGIS. By fostering a stronger sense of community and collaboration, I aim to make CPGIS a more vibrant and inclusive network that empowers its members to thrive.

Zhijie Zhou

PhD student

Department of Geography & GIScience

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA

Short Bio

Zhijie Zhou is a second-year PhD student at Department of Geography & GIScience, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His research examines agriculture and biodiversity conservation integrating satellite imagery, street view, and volunteered geographic information. He has received 1st-place in AAG 2024 Remote Sensing Specialty Group Student Honors Paper Competition and is also a LEED-Accredited-Professional in Neighborhood Development. With a vision of providing timely and accessible information for all, Zhijie has made and will continue to make contributions to CPGIS and the broader GIS community. As a CPGIS Media Committee member, he assisted in designing posters for keynotes, sessions, and sponsors for Geoinformatics' 2023/2024. Additionally, Zhijie manages GISphere's Wechat Groups and Twitter account and has led community surveys on 1,000+ overseas Chinese GIS students' experiences. He is also a key member of the GIStory project, connecting GIS scholars through interviews about their career journeys, and engaging all-stage GIS professionals and students.

Election Supporting Statement

I am committed to fostering professional growth and strengthening connections within the GIS community and broader. Besides promoting the annual meeting, I will support and expand key initiatives such as education webinars, the student paper competition, and collaborative projects like GISalon roundtable discussions and the GIStory interview series. These activities engage GIS professionals and students at all stages, facilitating knowledge exchange and career development, particularly during the transition from student to professional. I will also work to organize more opportunities for collaboration including mentorship programs and networking events, both locally and globally. Furthermore, I will advocate for diverse perspectives and support initiatives that use GIS to address global challenges, while promoting GIS-related resources and opportunities for students. Together, we can bridge gaps, strengthen the impact of CPGIS, and advance our mission to promote education, innovation, and collaboration in geospatial sciences.