

Robert Hickey

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Experienced educator and nonprofit director with 30+ years of experience working in the general fields of environmental science and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (think computer mapping on steroids) seeks a remote position with an education/environmental/science foundation or nonprofit.

Professional History

- 2000-2024: *Professor*, Department of Geography, Central Washington University (CWU). Promotion to Associate Professor in 2002 and Professor in 2009.
- 2022-2024: *Executive Director*, American Association for the Advancement of Science – Pacific Division (AAAS-PD). Half-time.
- 2024, 2011, 2007, and 2005. *Visiting Professor or Fulbright Specialist*, Institute of Environmental Sciences and the Department of Cartography and Geoinformatics. University of Pecs, Hungary.
- 1997-2000: *Senior Lecturer in GIS*, School of Spatial Sciences, Curtin University of Technology. Perth, Australia. Tenure and promotion from Lecturer effective January 1999.
- 1994-1996: Assistant *Professor*, Departments of Geology/Geography. University of West Georgia.

Leadership/Management Experience

- *Executive Director, AAAS-PD (2022-2024)*: Primary duties included organizing and advertising an annual conference, communications, managing finances, coordinating with AAAS-National, website maintenance, and working with Officers, Executive Committee, and Council Members.
- *President, United Faculty of Central (2007-2013)*: I represented the ~630 faculty in all matters pertaining to wages, salaries, and terms and conditions of employment and oversaw the officers, executive board (10 faculty), and 30 stewards.
- *Director, Environmental Studies (2024)*: Oversaw all aspects of this program at CWU.
- *Strategic Planning (2010-2011)*: Member of the CWU Strategic Planning Task Force which reviewed and significantly updated the University's Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan.
- *Budget Experience at CWU*: In addition to managing the UFC budget, my role required monitoring the campus budget, state allocations, and legislative bills. I also served on the Univ. Budget Committee.
- *Program Development*: The highlights at CWU are helping build a BS in Geography with a GIScience track and our GIS Certificate program. In 2020, I successfully created an interdisciplinary Science Dissemination Certificate to provide additional credentials for our science students. I also worked with multidisciplinary programs including Environmental Studies, Science Talent Expansion Project (STEP), Douglas Honors College, and the graduate program in Cultural and Environmental Resource Management. At Curtin University, I helped develop a double major in GIS and Geology.
- *Personnel*: I've been involved in personnel decisions and discipline (up to and including termination) at a number of levels. I served on and chaired various search and personnel committees.
- *Information Technology (IT) Oversight*: At Curtin, I served as Chairman of the Engineering (and Geology) Computing Facilities Committee. In this role, I oversaw a \$300,000 budget with four employees and acted as a liaison between the IT group, the faculty, four engineering schools, and the dean of engineering. I continued this work at CWU, chairing the University IT Advisory Committee.
- *Recruitment/Alumni Relations (2012-2017, 2020)*: At CWU, I worked to assist the College of the Sciences, the campus recruitment office, and the alumni office by creating maps showing the distribution of incoming students, current students, and alumni.

- *Director, GIS Certificate program* (2001-2013, 2015-2018): I created, managed, recruited students for, and taught many of the classes in this program.
- *Coordinator, Science Dissemination Certificate* (2020-2024). I created and oversaw this certificate to encourage our science students to incorporate more communication skills into their degrees.
- *Researcher*: I've published research in a number of different areas (researchgate link below).
- *Active in my discipline*: Active member in AAAS, Sigma Xi (science honors society), Phi Kappa Phi (general honors society), and Sigma Gamma Epsilon (earth science honors society).

Career Highlights:

- Taught, advised, and mentored thousands of students
- As a senior scientist on a large team, conducted research on the mudflats of NW Australia which resulted in two Marine Parks (Roebuck Bay and Eighty Mile Beach) being designated.
- As a leader and team member, helped build a fledgling faculty union into a strong organization which successfully represents its members.
- As Executive Director, led the AAAS – Pacific Division through two difficult years while organizing successful general science conferences.
- Developed and built successful academic programs at Curtin University and CWU.

Skills:

- *Rapid learner*: I'm able to quickly learn new information, identify shared attributes across multiple datasets, and use those shared elements to link the data together.
- *Excellent speaker*: I've conducted over 100 formal presentations at various venues and uncounted class lectures in GIS, remote sensing, physical geography, environmental science, and research methods. I've received awards for both teaching and research presentations.
- *Skilled and published writer*: My students, colleagues, and I have published 27 peer-reviewed articles and many more non-peer reviewed articles, reports, etc.
- *Editor*: In addition to hundreds of student papers, I've helped a number of colleagues with their publications and worked as a journal editor (Journal of Spatial Science).
- *Analysis*: I've used GIS, remote sensing, field, laboratory, and statistical tools to solve problems as widely varied as understanding erosion, food sources of migratory birds, the genesis of ore deposits, and the habitats of Australian possums.
- *Highly organized*: I always complete work on-time and to specifications.
- *Established leader*: I've worked as an Executive Director, 3-term elected faculty union president, contract negotiation lead, committee chair, board chair, and public commission chair.
- *Successful grant/contract writer*: I've worked on successful grants worth over \$1.3 million as author, co-author, or senior investigator.
- *Grant reviewer/evaluator*: I've served as a Fulbright and National Academy of Science grant reviewer in addition to managing minor grant programs with AAAS-PD and AAAS-Section E.
- *Familiar with contract negotiations*: Member, 5 faculty contract negotiation teams; chair of one.
- *Accustomed to working with under-represented groups*: In addition to working with many different students, I continue to work with a student group at CWU which is dedicated to helping mostly men of color succeed at university and beyond.
- *Research supervision*: I've supervised 4 PhD, 30 MS, and 8 postgraduate student research projects as chair or committee member. At the undergraduate level, I have supervised five honors projects and over 50 individual research projects.

Selected Professional/Public Service

- Service to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS):
 - Section E Steering Committee (2023-pres.). Currently Secretary.
 - Executive Director, AAAS-Pacific Division (2022-2024).
 - Member at large, Pacific Division Council (2014-2020), two elected terms.
 - Member, Empowering Career Pathways in STEMM Multidisc. Working Group (2023/4)
 - On call scientist, worked with IIE's Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF).
- Editor (GIS/Remote sensing specialty) [Journal of Spatial Sciences](#). (2019-2023)
- Member, Board of Directors: Friends of the CWU Brooks Library. 2017-2023. Vice-chair, 2019-2020; Chair, 2020-2022; Treasurer, 2022-2023.
- Member, Kittitas County Planning Commission, Ellensburg, WA. 2012-2019. Vice-chair, 2016. Chair, 2017-2019.
- Member, University of Idaho Alumni Association Board of Directors. 2014-2016.
- Fulbright grant evaluator, study in Australia (2008, 2009, 2010, 2021) and UK (2019, 2020).

Selected Honors and Awards

- *Honorary Doctor and Professor (2024)*, Faculty of Sciences, University of Pecs, Hungary.
- *Fulbright Specialist (2024)*: Institute of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of Pecs (Hungary) to develop recruiting and non-major/postgraduate programs in GIS.
- *Scholar of the Year (2020)*, Phi Kappa Phi, CWU Chapter. Awarded for a noted scholarly record at CWU, visibility in fostering interest in his field, and devotion to learning.
- *Most Inspirational Faculty Award (2012/2013)*. Awarded to one faculty member per year in honor of their outstanding leadership, dedication, and service to the CWU community.
- Two *MSIA Excellence in Mapping Sciences Awards (2000)*: Awarded for presentations at the Mapping Sciences Institute of Australia annual conference. First authors were graduate students.
- *Dean's Medallion for Excellence in Teaching (1998 and 1999)*. Faculty of Engineering, Curtin University of Technology.
- *Best Presented Paper Award (1997)*. Australasian Urban and Regional Information Systems Association annual conference for “Methods for Slope Angle and Slope Length Calculations Within a GIS.”

Education

- PhD, Department of Geography, University of Idaho. 1994.
 - Focus on spatial decision support systems, GIS, and erosion modeling.
- MS, Department of Geology, Washington State University. 1990.
 - Focus on economic geology and gold skarns.
- BS (Honors), Department of Geology, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. 1987.

Links to more information

- Personal home page: <http://www.onlinegeographer.com> .
- [Linkedin](#)
- [Researchgate](#) – which includes links to all my publications.
- [Kraken Woodworking](#)