

В.В. Летягина
Тюменский государственный университет
Кафедра картографии и ГИС
гр.25КиГ125
lera84517@mail.ru

Н.В. Войтик
Тюменский государственный университет
Кафедра ИЯ и МПК естественнонаучных
направлений
Доцент
Канд.пед.наук
nvoitik@mail.ru

A SUCCESSFUL CAREER OF A CARTOGRAPHER AND A GIS OFFICER

УСПЕШНАЯ КАРЬЕРА КАРТОГРАФА И ГЕОИНФОРМАТИКА

Today the talk about a successful career of a Cartographer and a GIS officer is topical for those students who are getting a bachelor's degree in cartography or geography.

Firstly, the job description and the typical work activities of these professions will be presented. Secondly, the personal and professional qualities needed for these jobs will be underlined. And finally, the promotion of a GIS officer and a cartographer will be shown.

Nowadays, GIS is one of the most fast-growing parts of modern technologies. Roles within GIS can vary between a company and an industry sector. However, all GIS officers are involved in the production of data and deliver services or products in areas such as construction, oil, gas, water management, telecommunication, electricity, the environment, healthcare and etc.

Besides, there is the potential to combine a career in GIS with other interests or passions. The typical work activities of a GIS officer include the following:

- converting paper maps to GIS datasets;
- developing the tools for loading or transferring GIS data between different systems;
- developing Internet applications to present GIS data;
- creating tools for corporate websites, etc.

As for a cartographer it should be mentioned that the list of typical activities of the job is very diverse. A cartographer produces maps and presents complex information as diagrams, spreadsheets and charts. Cartographers work in different areas and their tasks may include: designing maps, graphics, illustrations and layouts; analysing and evaluating mappable information; data collating provided by remote sensing techniques. So, this list may be continued.

Secondly, it should be explained the personal and professional qualities needed for these jobs. So, entry requirements of a GIS officer include knowledge on the following subjects: geography, cartography, computer science, surveying and mathematics. Moreover, a foundation degree of applied geography and applied computing may be useful. Candidates need to show evidence of their skills that include: strong written and oral communication skills, motivation and a pro-active attitude, computer skills and work experience with complex datasets, spreadsheets and specific software such as ArcGIS and MapInfo. The majority of GIS officers are training in the office, although some large employers may provide in-house training.

As for the relevant degree subjects that cartographers have to study they are geographical information systems (GIS), computer science, software engineering or technology, earth sciences, physical, mathematical and applied sciences. Candidates need to show evidence of the following skills, e.g. good spatial imagination and colour vision, attention to details, the ability to interpret data, graphical representations and symbols, IT literacy. A cartography-related degree may give you the edge in job applications and future career development.

Finally, we want to show the promotion of a GIS officer and a cartographer. A GIS officer may work as a cartographer, computer programmer, data analyst, information officer, manager or project manager, although there are other possibilities. They choose and focus on one of the following areas: spatial analysis, applications development, sales and marketing, information management within the public or commercial sectors. An experienced officer can easily get a job abroad.

The development of a cartographer career depends on the structure and nature of the employing organisation, as well as the qualities and motivation of the individual.

Cartographers have opportunities to move into related areas such as photogrammetry, remote sensing, and geographical information systems and some aspects of IT-related consultancy.

Thus, we have explained the main points of work and promotion of a GIS officer and a cartographer.

In conclusion, we should say that we live in the world that is constantly changing. And people have not discovered many places of our planet. That means people of these professions are always in demand. These occupations are not only well-paid, but give the employees satisfaction because a lot of people use maps and GIS in their every day life.

REFERENCES

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