Margaret A. Lawrimore

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Education

North Carolina State University (NCSU | Center for Geospatial Analytics) Raleigh, NC
Ph.D. Geospatial Analytics *Expected May 2025*

- Dissertation topic: Harnessing big data to model future land use change

North Carolina State University (NCSU | College of Natural Resources) Raleigh, NC
Bachelor of Science: Environmental Sciences *May 2020*

- Concentration: Geospatial Information Science (GIS)
- Minors: Computer Programming and Bassoon Performance
- GPA: 4.0/4.0
- Degree Honors: Dean's List (2016-2020), valedictorian

Research Interests

My primary goal is to harness big data to enact positive change in the world. I have previous research experience with three spatial-temporal models studying wide-ranging topics from human epidemiology to urban growth. Through my Ph.D., I plan to study the social implications of urban growth and climate change induced flooding. I utilized machine learning and high performance computing to predict municipal zoning districts in North Carolina. I am currently finalizing these results to begin incorporating these data into an urban growth model. Ultimately, I will use this model to assess urban planning scenarios and the corresponding social and environmental impacts of a rapidly changing built environment.

Experience

Graduate Research Assistant August 2021 - Present
Center for Geospatial Analytics | NCSU *Raleigh, NC*

- Advisors: Dr. Georgina Sanchez and Dr. Ross Meentemeyer
- Projects:
  - Leveraging machine learning and high performance computing to predict municipal zoning codes in NC
  - Collaborating on manuscript assessing the unintended consequences of FEMA's 100-year floodplain
  - Processing and visualizing data for manuscript forecasting land change in response to sea-level rise and frequent flooding

Undergraduate Research Assistant September 2019 - June 2021
Center for Geospatial Analytics | NCSU *Raleigh, NC*

- **NCDOT Tool Development** | February 2021 - June 2021
  - Created web tools for road development projects for the North Carolina Department of Transportation
- **PoPS Development** | May 2020 - February 2021
  - Implemented eight additional dispersal kernels for Pest or Pathogen Spread (PoPS) model
  - Added deterministic functionality to C++library in PoPS model
- **FUTURES Development** | September 2019 - May 2020
  - Performed sensitivity analysis of FUTURES Urban Growth Model to test parameter uncertainty resulting from calibration of the Patch-Growing Algorithm
  - Assisted in updating FUTURES to reduce uncertainty found through the sensitivity analysis

Undergraduate Research Assistant May - August 2019
North Carolina Institute for Climate Studies *Asheville, NC*

- Built a geospatial database of 10 datasets at four spatial scales over a 20-year period
- Used spatial-temporal scan software (SaTScan) to perform analysis of suicide rates in NC from 2000 to 2017

Leadership

Co-President elect May 2023 - May 2024

Geospatial Graduate Student Organization | NCSU

- Organize and lead internal meetings, organization spokesperson, student advocate, student liaison to faculty and administration

Mentorship August 2021-May 2022

Center for Geospatial Analytics | NCSU

- Mentored undergraduate research assistant on lab protocols, data and time management, and how to transition from undergraduate studies to the workforce

Resident Advisor August 2017 - May 2020

North Carolina State University *Raleigh, NC*

- **Senior Resident Advisor** | August 2019 - May 2020
  - Oversaw and mentored 15 fellow resident advisors: provided emotional, academic, and professional support, led staff meetings, facilitated conflict resolution
- **Resident Advisor** | August 2017 - May 2020
  - Advised 25 residents: facilitated conflict resolution, provided academic support, monitored concerning behavior
  - Collaborated on two programs a month: submitted proposals, led presentations, collaborated with other presenters

Publications

Published

Sugg, M.M., Woolard, S., **Lawrimore, M.A.**, Micheal, K.D., Runkle, J.D. (2021). Spatial Clustering of Suicides and Neighborhood Determinants in North Carolina, 2000 to 2017. Appl. Spatial Analysis 14, 395–413. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12061-020-09364-1

Submitted

Sanchez, G.M., Petrasova, A., Skrip, M., Collins, E., **Lawrimore, M.A.**, Vogler, J.B., Terando, A., Vukomanovic, J., Mitasova, H., Meentemeyer, R.K. Projecting societal responses to sea level rise and frequent flooding identifies policy-relevant scenarios most likely to lower flood risk. Submitted to Nature Water.

In Preparation

Lawrimore, M.A., Sanchez, G.M., Cothron, C., Meentemeyer, R.K. Creating Spatially Continuous Zoning Maps Using Machine Learning. Manuscript in preparation for Landscape and Urban Planning.

Sanchez, G.M., **Lawrimore, M.A.**, Petrasova, A., Vogler, J.B., Collins, E., Petras, V., Harper, T., Butzler, E. Unintended consequences of floodplain management policies. Manuscript in preparation for Global Environmental Change.

Presentations

Lawrimore, M.A., et al. (March 2023). Creating Spatially Continuous Zoning Maps Using Machine Learning. CNR Graduate Research Symposium. NCSU, Raleigh, NC. Poster presentation.

Lawrimore, M.A., et al. (November 2022). Smart Zoning for Coastal Flood Adaptation and Resilience. North Carolina Coastal Conference. Raleigh, NC. Poster presentation.

Lawrimore, M.A., et al. (September 2022). Forecasting Scenarios of Human Mobility and Shifts in Development Patterns Driven by Future Flood Hazard Conditions. 2022 Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Symposium. Gulf Shores, AL. Poster presentation.

Grants and Fellowships

PI: Sanchez, G.M.; **I: Lawrimore, M.A.** (Awarded) Amount: $10,000. Smart zoning for coastal flood resilience and adaptation. NC Sea Grant program.

Awards

First Prize - Outreach. Predicting Municipal Zoning in Wake County, NC. 2022. NCSU Graduate Student Association Infographic Contest (PackPics).

Honorable mention. Flood-prone Development in Charleston, SC. 2022. NCSU Research Image Contest.

Technical Skills

- **Programming Languages**:
  Python, R, C++, C, Bash, HTML, Java
- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**:
  GRASS GIS, QGIS, ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap
- **Spatio-temporal Modeling**:
  FUTure Urban-Regional
  Environment Simulation (FUTURES),
  Pest or Pathogen Spread (PoPS),
  SaTScan Spatial-temporal analysis