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# MIUS News: Maps and Imagery User Services @ FIU Green Library: Vol. 3, Issue 2, Spring 2010

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## GeoCommons: New Tools and Services

MIUS was awarded a University Technology Fee grant to create a "GeoCommons" in year 2010. The GeoCommons will expand MIUS's existing tools and services to further facilitate FIU students and faculty in the visualization and utilization of geospatial data.

The tools and services include :

- GPS units available for up to 3

day loan at the circulation desk (see MIUS website for more details)

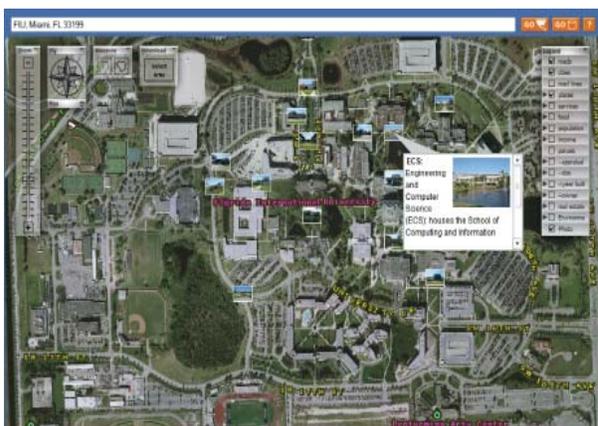
- Adobe Design Premium CS4 on all 5 machines in MIUS
- Google Sketchup Pro on all 5 machines in MIUS
- Expanded group study workstations
- Large format scanner (11"x17")

These tools and services will be

available in GL273 during MIUS hours M-F 9:00 am -6:00 pm.

The GeoCommons is currently under construction. We anticipate the GeoCommons being available by May 2010. Training opportunities and other announcements about updated tools and resources will be available online at [mius.fiu.edu](http://mius.fiu.edu).

## FIU Data Resource Highlight: TerraFly



TerraFly is the flagship project of the NASA Regional Applications Center (NASA RAC) at Florida International University (FIU) and the High Performance Database Research Center (HPDRC), in the School of Computing and Information Sciences (SCIS). TerraFly is a geospatial database system with a plethora of industrial applications. TerraFly users see aerial and satellite imagery, overlaid with precise street name overlays, and various other overlays. Users virtually "fly" over imagery via a web browser, without any software to install or plug in. *(continued on page 2)*

## New Resources Available in MIUS

### Miami Dade County Data (2010)

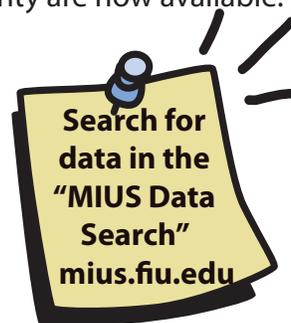
Now available is the most current data for Miami-Dade County. This includes over 150 updated datasets including boundary, transportation and facilities vector datasets for all of Miami-Dade County. The data is available on the data drive accessible in MIUS.

### Tri-County Parcel Data (2010)

MIUS has acquired the most recent parcel data for Miami Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties. The data includes both polygon shapefiles as well as assessment values etc. Please contact MIUS to access this data.

### Aerial Photographs of Broward County (2010)

The most up-to-date 1 foot resolution color aerial photographs for all of Broward County are now available.



*(Continued from page 1)*

TerraFly is a geospatial database system with a plethora of industrial applications. TerraFly users see aerial and satellite imagery, overlaid with precise street name overlays, and various other overlays. Users virtually “fly” over imagery via a web browser, without any software to install or plug in.

TerraFly’s data mining tools then deliver an extensive amount of data related to user-specific geographic locations. This functionality suits the information needs of public users related to local geography, demographics, quality of life, economics and the environment. Users virtually “fly” or pan over imagery via a web browser, without any software to install or plug in. Tools include user-friendly geospatial querying, data drill-down, and interfaces with real-time data suppliers, demographic analysis, annotation, route dissemination via autopilots, customizable applications, production of aerial atlases, time series animation, and an application programming interface (API). The TerraFly

project has been featured on TV news programs, worldwide press, covered by the New York Times, USA Today, NPR, and Science and Nature journals. FOX News worldwide broadcast in July 2007: <http://n0.cs.fiu.edu/fox>

TerraFly’s datasets are vast but can be easily explored through it’s Point Data Page which show’s neighborhood and vicinity information, and it’s GeoQuery page which allows the user to easily perform complex ad hoc queries that assist in information analysis. The 40TB collection includes, among others, 1-meter aerial photography of almost the entire United States and 3-inch to 1-foot full-color recent imagery of major urban areas. TerraFly vector collection includes 400 million geolocated objects, 50 billion data fields, 40 million polylines, 120 million polygons, including: all US and Canada roads, the US Census demographic and socioeconomic datasets, 110 million parcels with property lines and ownership data, 15 million records of businesses with company stats and management roles

and contacts, 2 million physicians with expertise detail, various public place databases, Wikipedia, extensive global environmental data (including daily feeds from NASA and NOAA satellites and USGS water gauges), and hundreds of other datasets. TerraFly datasets are listed at: <http://n0.cs.fiu.edu/terrafly.coverage.htm>

TerraFly can be customized to specific industrial needs, as can be seen in the vertical applications developed for the hydrological industry and the real estate industry. The team at the NASA RAC and HPDRC has extensive experience in delivering geospatial data and information, to a broad range of end users. Their expertise in data mining, and spatiotemporal querying, real-time multi-dimensional indexing combined with the multitude of geospatial data already in-house facilitates the development of vertical applications.

Terrafly is under the leadership of Dr. Naphtali Rishe.



**Maps and Imagery User Services (MIUS) is the main repository of maps and other cartographic materials at Florida International University’s Steven and Dorothea Green Library. MIUS is an extension of the GIS-RS Center and was conceptualized and developed in 2006 in order to meet the growing needs of students and faculty in the access, use, and analysis of cartographic materials and geospatial. MIUS is located in the Green Library in room 273.**

### Data Requests

Don’t see data, imagery or maps in our collection that meet your research needs? Request it using our data request form on the MIUS website under “Services >> Request Materials”



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