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Michigan Digital Summit Connects Government Technology Leaders

Dr. Jeroen Wagendorp Recognized for Excellence as GIS Pioneer

Lansing - Technology leaders from state, county, city and township government convened at the Lansing Center on November 2 and 3 for the ninth annual Michigan Digital Government Summit. The conference serves as a strategic tool for managers, executives and policy makers in government technology.

"This event sets the tone and direction for the emerging role of technology in the push for better government," said David Behen, Chief Information Officer for the State of Michigan. "No other event provides this level of information or this climate for interaction across the various levels of government."

As part of the Summit, special recognition was given to Dr. Jeroen Wagendorp, Chair of the Geography and Planning Department at Grand Valley State University. Dr. Wagendorp was recognized for his work in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), where he has led the way as a pioneer in the public sector. After developing a GIS resource management tool for the Barry-Eaton Health Department in 1989, he repeated that success for Allegan County and now serves as co-chair of Michigan's Local and State Government Cross-Boundary Collaboration Steering Committee.

"Dr. Wagendorp is helping us to transform government through partnership across traditional government boundaries," said Behen. "He has brought tireless energy and passion to his work, embracing the mission to encourage cost-effective and efficient community government."

Eleven years ago, Dr. Wagendorp co-founded the Michigan Communities Association of Mapping Professionals (Mi-CAMP). Recently he retired from the board after serving for a decade as its president. Dr. Wagendorp received the award for excellence on November 2 in Lansing in front of hundreds of government technology leaders from across Michigan.

<http://events.govtech.com/events/michigandgs2011>



Dr. Jeroen Wagendorp side by side with Mr. Leo Laporte, Dir. of Finance, Dept. of Technology, Management and Budget (left), and Mr. David Behen, Chief Information Officer, State of Michigan (right).