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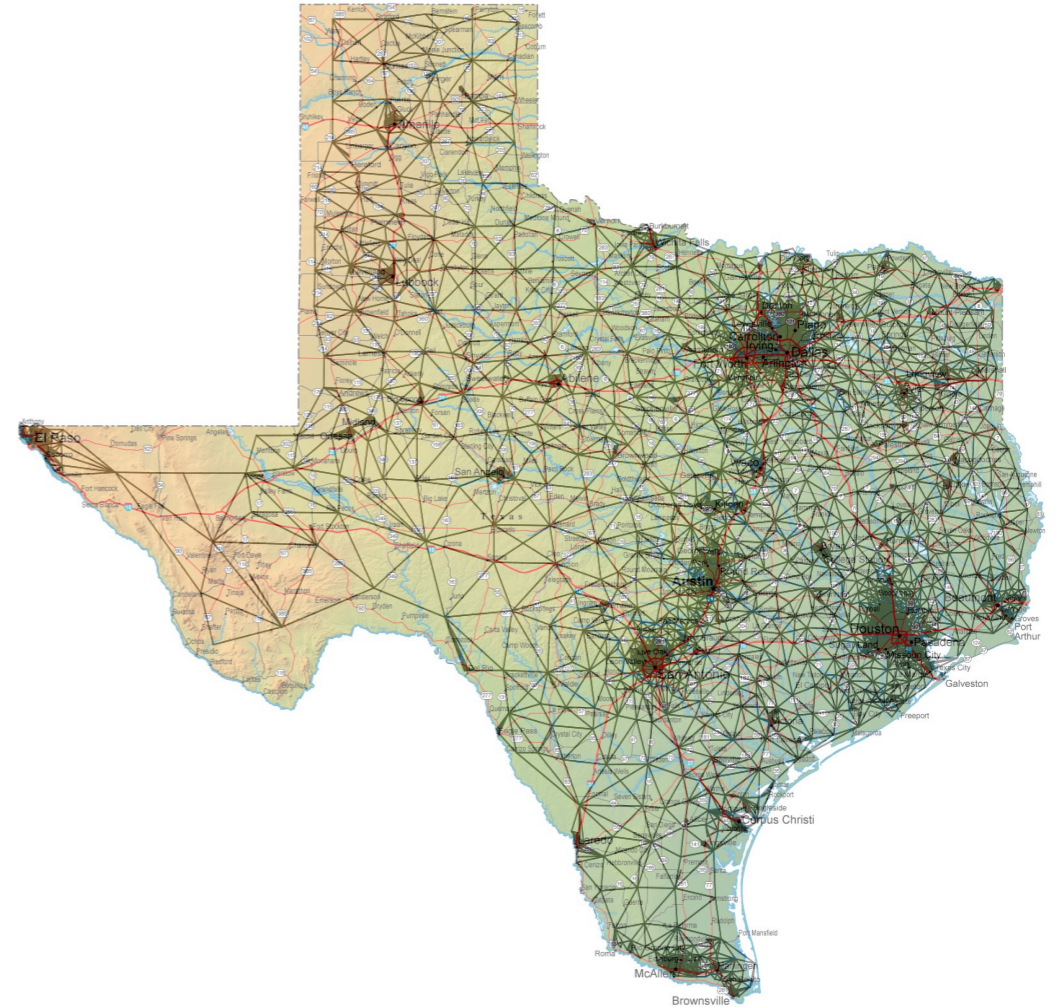
conference Mar 15-16

hackathon Mar 17-18

trainings Mar 17-18

Geometry of Redistricting Workshop

UT Austin, Feb 1-4, 2018



Sponsors and major partners:

Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group
Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life, Tufts University
Travis County Clerk's Office
UT Austin Department of Mathematics
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund (LDF)
League of Women Voters of Texas
Caliper | Azavea | GISetc | ESRI | FrontWater

Conference Schedule

location: Avaya Auditorium, Peter O'Donnell Building, 201 E 24th St

SATURDAY 2/3

9am coffee and welcome

9:30 Moon Duchin, *A Short History of Gerrymandering, 1812-2021*

10:30 Andrew Blumberg, *How to Detect a Partisan Gerrymander*

11:15 Travis Crum, *The Role of Data and Experts in Voting Rights Litigation*

11:45-1:15 LUNCH (on your own)

1:15 Henry Flores, *How to Gerrymander: The Case of Congressional District 23*

2:00 Peck Young, *History of Texas Redistricting: The Case of Austin*

2:45 Wes Pegden, *Showing a Map is an Outlier with Random Walks*

3:30-5:00 PANEL - *Redistricting in Practice*

Leah Aden, Dana DeBeauvoir, David Hanna, Renea Hicks

7pm HAPPY HOUR - Omni Hotel Downtown, 1st floor

SUNDAY 2/4

8:30am coffee

9:00 Mimi Marziani, *Race vs Party in Texas Redistricting*

9:45 Leah Aden, *The Voting Rights Act and the Power of Local Redistricting*

10:30-11:45 LIGHTNING TALKS

- E. Cabral Balreira
- Scott Cook
- Nestor Guillen
- Scott Macdonell
- Mike Nahas
- Austin Nelson
- Anita Palmer/Rebecca Theobald
- Maxwell Stolarski
- Stephanie Swanson
- Maia Woluchem

11:45-1:15 LUNCH (on your own)

1:15 Andrew Blumberg, *Partisan Metrics II*

2:00 Joseph Fishkin, *The Representation of Non-Voters*

2:45 Wes Pegden, *The $\sqrt{\epsilon}$ test*

3:30-5pm PRESENTATIONS from the Hackathon

Leah Aden serves as Senior Counsel at NAACP-LDF, using litigation, legislative, policy, and public education strategies to ensure that Black and other people of color have equal access to the political process. She was a member of LDF's litigation team in the notorious *Shelby v Holder* case and has successfully litigated a wide range of impactful voting rights cases.

Andrew Blumberg is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at UT Austin, specializing in algebraic topology. He also works on computational topology and applications to genomics; computer security and locational privacy; and recently on the mathematics of gerrymandering.

Travis Crum is a member of the Supreme Court & Appellate practice at the Mayer Brown law firm, based in Washington, D.C. He previously clerked for Justice Anthony Kennedy and Justice (Ret.) John Paul Stevens on the U.S. Supreme Court, and he authored a widely cited legal publication on the "bail-in" provision in Section 3 of the Voting Rights Act.

Dana DeBeauvoir has served Travis County Clerk since her initial election to that position in 1986, and is renowned as one of the most forward-looking and effective election officials in the nation. She has been at the forefront of innovations in early voting, the use of vote centers, and the move to voting technologies that engage best practices in security and auditability.

Moon Duchin is Associate Professor of Mathematics and Director of the interdisciplinary Program in Science, Technology, and Society at Tufts University. Her research in pure math is in geometric group theory, low-dimensional topology, and dynamics. She founded the Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group to focus mathematical attention on redistricting and civil rights.

Joseph Fishkin is the Marrs McLean Professor in Law at UT Austin. His research and teaching interests include employment discrimination law, constitutional law, election law, distributive justice, education law, and torts. He is particularly interested in questions of equality and equal opportunity at the intersection of law and political theory.

Henry Flores is a Professor of Political Science and Distinguished University Research Professor at St. Mary's University in his native San Antonio, Texas. He is widely published on Texas politics and Latino representation. Since 1986, Flores has also served as an expert witness in more than 50 federal voting and civil rights lawsuits.

David Hanna is a deputy director of the legal division for the Texas Legislative Council, which provides services for the TX Legislature and developed a GIS redistricting tool known as REDAPPL. He has worked on redistricting for nearly 30 years in a setting that combines software development, demography, mapmaking, and legal expertise.

Renea Hicks is an Austin-based attorney whose work focuses on appellate and constitutional disputes, frequently where they intersect with public policy and government decision making. He has been involved in every round of Texas redistricting litigation since the early 1990s.

Mimi Marziani is Executive Director of the Texas Civil Rights Project, which uses legal advocacy to empower Texas communities and create policy change. She previously served as Counsel for the Democracy Program of the Brennan Center for Justice.

Wes Pegden is Associate Professor of Mathematics at Carnegie Mellon, specializing in probabilistic combinatorics and discrete geometry. He co-authored a PNAS article on the efficacy of Markov chains, with applications to gerrymandering, and recently served as an expert witness in the successful challenge of Pennsylvania's congressional districting plan in the state Supreme Court.

William "Peck" Young is the Director of the Center for Public Policy and Political Studies at Austin Community College and a veteran of Texas political campaign strategy. He was instrumental in the campaign to move the Austin city council to a 10-district system, with lines drawn by an Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission.