



Prof. Kalum P. Udagepola, PhD, GISP, Registered Surveyor - Chief Executive Officer / Director, Scientific Research Development Institute of Technology Australia (SRDITA)

Year of Initial GISP Certification: 2009

Education / Other Professional Licences or Certifications:

- PhD in Computer Science
- MSc in Computer Science
- BSc in General Science
- Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP) since 2009
- Registered Surveyor, Surveyors Board of Queensland
- Fellow of the British Computer Society (FBCS)
- Fellow of the Australian Computer Society (FACS)
- Fellow of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (FIMA)
- Senior Member of IEEE
- Senior Member of ACM
- Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

Professional Experience:

- Chief Executive Officer / Director, Scientific Research Development Institute of Technology Australia (SRDITA), Queensland, Australia
- Survey Governance and Technical Lead / Senior Specialist in local government, Australia
- Head Teacher / Trainer and Assessor in surveying and spatial education
- Senior academic, research, and institutional leadership roles across Australia and internationally
- Professor and research leader in GIS, spatial information systems, surveying, computer science, and applied geospatial technologies
- Taught GIS and related geospatial disciplines for more than 25 years at graduate, master's, and PhD levels

Professional Organizations / Activities:

- Contributor to geospatial education, professional standards, workforce development, and capacity building
- Involvement in surveying, GIS, spatial governance, standards, mentoring, and interdisciplinary professional practice
- Author, educator, researcher, and advocate for the advancement of the geospatial profession

Statement of Interest:

I am honoured to stand for election as a GISP-Elected Board Director on the GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) Board of Directors. As a GISP since 2009, I have long valued what this credential represents: professional commitment, ethical practice, and a shared responsibility to strengthen and uphold the geospatial profession. I am seeking this role because I want to give back to the profession that has shaped my career and to serve the GISP community with integrity, experience, and a strong sense of stewardship.

Throughout my career, I have worked across GIS, spatial data management, surveying, remote sensing, education, research, and organisational leadership. I have had the privilege of contributing in academic, industry, training, and institutional settings, both nationally and internationally. These experiences have shown me the breadth of our profession and the many ways GIS professionals create value in government, business, infrastructure, land administration, environmental management, research, and community development.

I believe the GISP credential matters deeply because it recognises not only technical capability, but also professionalism, ethics, and commitment to continued growth. In a time when geospatial practice is evolving rapidly through emerging technologies, data integration, and new interdisciplinary applications, GISCI has an essential role in ensuring that certification remains credible, relevant, and respected. I would be proud to help support that work.

If elected, I would bring a practical and inclusive perspective to the Board. I understand that GISPs come from many different professional pathways and that the strength of our community lies in that diversity. Some work in public agencies, some in consulting and industry, some in education and research, and many work across multiple disciplines. I believe the Board should continue to reflect and support this wide professional landscape while protecting the high standards and trust that make the GISP credential valuable.

My approach would be collaborative, thoughtful, and service-focused. I would listen carefully, contribute constructively, and support decisions that advance GISCI's mission and reinforce confidence in professional certification. I would also bring governance experience, a commitment to standards and quality, and a strong interest in supporting the continued growth and recognition of the profession.

Most importantly, I would serve as a Board Director with respect for the GISP community and for the responsibility that comes with representing it. I see this role not simply as a leadership opportunity, but as a chance to contribute to the long-term strength, integrity, and future relevance of GISCI.

I would be honoured to have your support and the opportunity to serve the profession through GISCI Board service.