



the **ARCHIBULL** PRIZE

# CAREER SNAPSHOT

GIS and food security may, at first, appear to be two separate entities but to Brittany Dahl they are two limbs on the very large tree that is agriculture.

"In regards to agriculture, GIS is an integral part of taking the guesswork out of farming, and managing land and food more sustainably," she says. "Most notable is the role of GIS in precision agriculture. GIS is used to monitor and maximize the suitability, health, and yield of crops, as well as system inputs and pest control." Sustainable agriculture equates to food security.

Brittany grew up in suburban Canberra and, influenced by her mother's holistic approach to food usage and waste management, embarked upon a degree in sustainable agriculture, which opened her eyes to a range of farming systems. It was here she also began to make the connection to GIS and the possibilities it has for agriculture. She combined GIS and soil science in her honours project.

While at university Brittany became involved with the Global Youth Agriculture Summit (YAS) and joined like minds in the quest for world food security. She brought her ideas home from the summit in Zurich and decided to start changing the world from her own community, where she volunteers with various organisations to increase awareness of the local food environment.

Brittany now works as a spatial solutions consultant with Esri Australia. Her day may involve working with clients to help turn their data collection and analysis dreams into reality, or preparing maps and designing GIS apps for other clients who may range from agricultural scientists and water resource specialists to health-care and transport professionals. When not in her paid employment she continues to give her time to YAS and so the end of her day may include a global call with other YAS co-ordinators to collaborate and chat about upcoming food and agriculture related events. "I have multiple roles in agriculture, which allow me to combine my passion for GIS technologies with sustainable food systems, and I am excited to see how agriculture embraces the future."

This is Brittany's career in agriculture. What will yours be?



## BRITTANY DAHL

AG-ENLIGHTENMENT AT UNIVERSITY HAS OPENED A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY FOR BRITTANY DAHL, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELDS OF GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) TECHNOLOGY AND FOOD SECURITY.

