

# **ASU**® Department of **Biomedical Informatics**

## **Arizona State University**

**SPRING 2017**

**Biomedical Informatics Weekly Seminar Series**

### ***Geographic Information Systems in Public Health***

***Wesley Kortuem***

*Senior GIS Analyst*

**Arizona Department of Health Services**

**March 24, 2017 (2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m)**

**Room Sj 1-149 , Samuel C. Johnson Research Bldg.**

**Mayo Clinic Scottsdale**



**Speaker's Bio:** Wesley Kortuem has worked in the field of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for seventeen years including fifteen years with the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). In his time at ADHS he has built and expanded a GIS program that is often consulted and recognized state-wide and nationally. Wes is responsible for mapping, geocoding, spatial analysis, GIS applications and websites, software, data, project management and supervision. He is published, and his work has often been featured by prominent GIS companies ESRI and GeoWise. Mr. Kortuem graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geography and an emphasis in Urban Studies from Arizona State University in 2002.

**Talk Abstract:** Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is a powerful tool capable of managing and analyzing vast amounts of data then visualizing it in easily consumable static or interactive maps and data dashboards. Despite its proven effectiveness it is often-underutilized by public health practitioners. Drawing on the Arizona Department of Health Services' twenty plus years of experience employing GIS technology this seminar aims to: increase awareness of GIS by defining GIS, explaining the key components of an effective GIS, describing how to leverage GIS in a public health setting and previewing the future of GIS for public health.