Example Capstone Statements of Class Projects

Good examples:

Example 1: The village of Waunakee has recently decided to build a new high school due to overcrowding in the existing high school and middle school. The location of this new building is far enough away from the old building that current bus routes cannot be used. We are proposing to determine the least costly bus routes for this new school location.

Example 2: Recently, a large downtown Madison business completed the site selection process for its corporate headquarters. The company feels that the new location will have a positive impact on the business and its employees. We will evaluate the relocation, in terms of the impacts on employee commute times and convenience.

Example 3: Determine whether significant decline in wetland acreage has occurred over the past 20-30 years in the state of Connecticut; and if so, what particular trends regarding existing land use/land cover have become apparent.

Example 4: Determine whether proximity to Kipp Corp's smokestack is related to the incidence of asthma in neighborhood residents.

A bad example:

The goal of the GIS / mapping project is to scan, digitize, and geo-register photographs of various thematic maps (topography, natural vegetation, precipitation, hydrology, slope, soil, and soil-vegetation relationships) of Los Indios Reserve, on Isla de la Juventud (Isle of Youth) also known as Isla de Pinos, Cuba. The current political arena has made the acquisition of data rather difficult and the challenge will be to produce useful digital data from less than optimal formats. When these maps are converted to suitable digital formats, they will be used in conjunction with areal photography and ground truth data to help identify crane habitat in the biological reserve. Such maps, in digital form, can aid in clarifying the distribution of cranes in Cuba and in recognition of the relationship between crane distribution and habitat types.