

FROM THE CHAIR

My best wishes to all for the New Year!

Let me briefly discuss the major items:

1. We have some very interesting remote sensing sessions at the upcoming Baltimore meetings. RSSG has jointly sponsored sessions with the Contemporary Agriculture and Rural Land Use specialty group and with the Hazards specialty group. We have six sessions focussing on Remote Sensing. I thank all the organizers and session chairs for their active role in this program.

2. Our business meeting time is now two hours. It is scheduled for 21 March 1989 at 2:40 P.M. Please plan to attend this important meeting as we plan to hold elections for the two vacancies during this meeting. Please see the final program for the meeting location and other important details.

3. RSSG is co-sponsoring an important survey. Please see the details in this issue of the newsletter.

4. Are we declining in numbers? A look at recent data shows our numbers are not growing, compared to the other specialty groups. We are the fifth largest specialty group within the AAG.

<u>Group</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Urban	469	508	569
GIS	322	444	530
Cartography	383	436	454
Historical	304	335	368
Remote Sensing	295	341	349

Please make sure you indicate on your AAG forms your RSSG affiliation--and please encourage others to join our group.

-Kamlesh Lulla, Space Shuttle Earth Observations Office, NASA, Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX.

REMOTE SENSING MEMBERSHIP AND FEES 1989

Officially the RSSG has 349 members for which the group will receive \$314.10 from AAG as rebate monies. This rebate is our most dependable source of income which covers part of the cost of our newsletter and other activities at the AAG annual meeting. To help offset the cost, RSSG requests both official and unofficial members (those interested in RSSG and our mailing list, but have not checked-off RSSG as the group), to make a voluntary contribution of \$5.00. Please make your check payable to RSSG AAG and mail the check to:

Dr. Shamim Naim. Secretary/Treasurer RSSG  
 Department of Geography-Geology  
 University of Wisconsin-Waukesha  
 1500 University Drive  
 Waukesha, Wisconsin 53188

## **Please PHONE IN your NOMINATIONS**

Nominations are solicited for two forthcoming vacancies on the RSSG board of directors:

**Director, May 1989 - May 1991**  
**Student Director, May 1989 - May 1990**

Please be certain that the persons nominated are: 1) current members of the AAG and 2) are willing to serve. Please **PHONE-IN** your nominations to: Kam Lulla, (713)-483-5159 or Duane Nellis, (913) 532-6727. The election will be held at the upcoming business meeting in Baltimore. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.

### **BALTIMORE MEETING SCHEDULE**

Tina Cary, (EOSAT), RSSG Program Chair for the Baltimore meeting, has provided the following information on 14 sessions involving remote sensing:

#### **Saturday, 18 March 1989, and Sunday 19 March 1989**

**8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Saturday and 11:30-1:30 p.m. Sunday** for all participants, and group sessions.

**A Saturday, 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.**

**B Saturday, 4:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

**C Sunday, 8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.**

**Workshop: Digital Processing of Remotely Sensed Data.** Organized by Tina Cary, EOSAT, and lead by Shamim Naim, University of Wisconsin-Waukesha, Jeff Wasrud, Cook College, Rutgers University, Dave Lusch, Michigan State University, and Tina Cary, EOSAT.

#### **Monday, 20 March 1989**

**9:35 a.m.-11:15 a.m.:** Remote Sensing Specialty Group: Remote Sensing Applications Within The United States Department of the Interior. Organized and chaired by Randy McKinley, TGS Technology, Incorporated.

**9:35 a.m.-11:15 a.m.:** Poster Session: Physical Geography and Remote Sensing

**11:30 a.m.-1:10 p.m.:** Hazards, Remote Sensing, Coastal and Marine, Geographic Information Systems and Climate Specialty Groups: Global Environmental Change II. Organized by James K. Mitchell, Rutgers and chaired by Marvin Waterstone, Water Resources Research Center.

**11:30 a.m.-1:10 p.m.:** Geographic Information Systems, Remote Sensing and Error. Organized by Michael F. Goodchild, UC-Santa Barbara and chaired by Robert B. McMaster, Syracuse University.

**1:25 p.m.-3:05 p.m.:** Poster Session: Cartography, Remote Sensing, Geographic Information Systems, Microcomputer Specialty Group, and Mathematical Models and Quantitative Methods Specialty Group.

#### **Tuesday, 21 March 1989**

**9:35 a.m.-11:15 a.m.:** Remote sensing of Biophysical Processes. Organized by W. Andrew Marcus and Samuel N. Goward, both of University of Maryland, and chaired by W. Andrew Marcus. University of Maryland.

**12:45 p.m.-2:25 p.m.:** Contemporary Agriculture and Rural Land Use, Remote Sensing Specialty Groups: Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems for Rural Land Use Analysis I. Organized and chaired by M. Duane Nellis, Kansas State University.

**12:45 p.m.-2:25 p.m.:** Geographic Information Systems: Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing for Urban and Population Analysis, chaired by Wesley W. Thomas, West Chester University.

Wednesday, 22 March 1989

7:40 a.m.-9:20 a.m.: Contemporary Agriculture and Rural Land Use, Remote Sensing Specialty Groups: Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems for Rural Land Use Analysis II. Organized by M. Duane Nellis, Kansas State University and chaired by Kamlesh Lulla, NASA-Johnson Space Center.

9:35 a.m.-11:15 a.m.: Remote Sensing Specialty Group: Biophysical Remote Sensing. Organized and chaired by Vincent G. Ambrosia, TGS Technology Incorporated.

11:30 a.m.-1:10 p.m.: Remote Sensing: Methods. Chaired by John T. Nichols, DBA Systems Incorporated.

1:25 p.m.-3:05 p.m.: Remote Sensing: Environmental Applications. Chaired by Kamlesh P. Lulla, NASA-Johnson Space Center.

### **PROPOSED STUDY TO EXAMINE IMPACT OF POLICY CHANGES ON USERS OF LANDSAT DATA**

Within the next year another survey will be mailed to members of the remote sensing community. The focus of this examination however, will not be the technology or the data products themselves, but rather the process by which users acquire and utilize Landsat's remotely sensed data.

Kathleen Eisenbeis, a doctoral candidate in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science of the University of Texas at Austin, is a specialist in government information resources. Her interest in how Federal government information is acquired and used extends beyond traditional institutional boundaries, such as libraries and clearinghouses. Ms. Eisenbeis has focused her doctoral studies on methods of policy analysis and measures of information use. The Landsat experience provides a unique opportunity to examine a specific type of government information which has been the object of Federal government policy changes from the point of view of a data user. To date, no one has attempted to provide empirical evidence of how specific policy changes regarding types of Federal government information has affected user communities.

As a part of the dissertation research, a survey will be mailed to members of AAG and ASPRS. Your cooperation will greatly enhance the results of the study and possibly affect future Federal policy actions regarding the Landsat system. The authority of the Secretary of Commerce for providing data continuity, under Title III of the Land Remote Sensing Commercialization of 1984 (PL98-365), ends in 1994. It is not too early to begin collecting the facts to support the user community opinions. Ms. Eisenbeis will make a short presentation on the proposed research at the AAG/RSSG business meeting in Baltimore.

### **FROM THE EDITOR**

This is my last action, both as editor and as Jeff Wasrud. From now on, I will be known as Jeff Olsenholler (I can explain in Baltimore). Both of me would like to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve you. I have enjoyed every minute of my work on the Newsletter. I would like to thank Tina Cary, Kam Lulla, and Shamim Naim for their contributions to this Newsletter.

-Jeff Olsenholler

## OPPORTUNITIES IN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES/REMOTE SENSING

The Department of Environmental Resources, Cook College - Rutgers University, a multidisciplinary department focusing on environmental and natural resource planning and management issues, has a number of faculty and staff positions available with starting dates of July 1, 1989. Effective August 1989 the Department will be relocating to a new building that will contain dedicated space for the Cook College Remote Sensing Center.

The following 12 month tenure track faculty positions are available:

1. Assistant/Associate Professor of Environmental Management. The position requires a Ph.D. with at least one degree in a physical or biological science and a proven research record in remote sensing focusing on watershed or environmental management issues. Teaching responsibilities will include remote sensing, quantitative methods, and participation in an interdisciplinary air photo interpretation course. The successful candidate will be expected to establish a vigorous research program and participate in an appropriate graduate program.

2. Assistant Professor of Forest Hydrology/Forest Management. The position requires a Ph.D. with at least one degree in forestry and specific education and/or experience in watershed management, remote sensing, and/or geographic information systems. Teaching responsibilities will include a course in silviculture, watershed management/remote sensing, and participation in a multidisciplinary air photo interpretation course. The successful candidate will be expected to establish a vigorous research program and participate in an appropriate graduate program.

3. Assistant Professor of Environmental Planning and Management. The position requires a Ph.D. in environmental planning, environmental management, or a related field with at least one degree in a physical or biological science. Teaching responsibilities will include an undergraduate two semester course in environmental planning and a course in environmental management. Research experience should be in the area of land or water resources and/or geographic information system development or applications. The successful candidate will be expected to establish a vigorous research program and participate in an appropriate graduate program.

The following 12 month staff positions are available pending confirmation of grant funding as of July 1, 1989:

1. Associate Director, Cook College Remote Sensing Center (Salary Range \$39,252 - 52,987). Under the supervision of the Director, the Associate Director will oversee the day-to-day operation of the Center's research and instructional programs. The Associate Director will be expected to play a direct role in both the ongoing research activities of the Center and the development and funding of new research programs. At a minimum, the successful candidate will have a M.S. in a physical or quantitative science and three years experience in remote sensing research. The successful candidate will have demonstrated the ability to secure external funding.

2. GIS/Training Coordinator (Salary Range \$30,753 - 41,521). The GIS/Training Coordinator will report jointly to the Director of the Cook College Remote Sensing Center and the Director of the Office of Continuing Professional Education. The Training Coordinator will be responsible for the development of training materials and Continuing Professional Education Programs focusing on the GRASS GIS package. The Training Coordinator will also provide support for the research activities of the Remote Sensing Center. The position requires a bachelor's degree in a physical, quantitative, or environmental science; knowledge of GIS fundamentals and techniques preferred; and previous experience in professional education.

Applications, including a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, brief summary of research interests and goals and names of three references should be sent to: Diane S. Reed, Administrative Assistant, Department of Environmental Resources, Cook College-Rutgers University, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903. Review of applications will begin on March 15, 1989 and continue until the positions are filled. Cook College - Rutgers University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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