

RSSG Newsletter

January 1988

From the Chair

NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS AND OTHER MATTERS

Best wishes to all for the new year! As you peruse this issue of the RSSG Newsletter, I urge you to give special consideration to the request for nominations. It is unfortunate, but, nevertheless a fact, that past participation in the RSSG nominations process, and in elections, has usually involved only about 5% of the membership. I hope that you will take this opportunity to become involved, to offer your service and ideas, and, later, to cast your ballot in the election. If you are interested in serving, feel free to nominate yourself for an office. If you are uncertain of the obligations and responsibilities associated with a particular office, please contact the incumbent or me for details. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks are extended to Vince Ambrosia (TGS/NASA Ames Research Center) for, once again, providing leadership in organizing the program for our annual meeting, this year to be held in Phoenix. Please note that Tina Cary (Rutgers University) has volunteered to serve as RSSG Program Committee Chair for the 1989 Baltimore meeting. It is not too early to begin to organize special sessions, workshops, field trips, and other activities for Baltimore. I hope that you will provide Tina with your ideas, offer your assistance and become involved in planning our 1989 meeting.

Jim Merchant
University of Kansas

NEW OFFICERS

The results of the election held during fall 1987 are as follows:

Director (May 1987-May 1989)

Thomas R. Loveland
EROS Data Center
Sioux Falls, SD 57198
(605) 594-6066

Student Director (May 1987-May 1988)

Lloyd P. Queen
Conservation and Survey Division
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
113 Nebraska Hall
Lincoln, NE 68588
(402) 472-3471

Congratulations are extended to both new members of the RSSG Board of Directors.

The last newsletter was June 1987. Normally, three issues are published each calendar year, approximately March, June, and November. This is the November 1987 issue, we are not really changing to four issues per year. Tina Cary, editor.

NOMINATIONS REQUESTED

Nominations are solicited for four forthcoming vacancies on the RSSG Board of Directors. An election will be held via the March 1988 issue of the RSSG Newsletter. The results will be announced at the 1988 RSSG Business Meeting in Phoenix. All elected officers will begin their terms of office in May 1988.

Please be certain that persons nominated are (1) current members of AAG and (2) willing to serve. All nominations should be mailed, by February 26, 1988, to

James W. Merchant
Department of Geography
University of Kansas
213 Lindley Hall
Lawrence, KS 66045-2121
telephone (913) 864-5143

Nominations are sought for the following offices (with terms of office):

Vice Chair	May 1988-May 1990
Secretary-Treasurer	May 1988-May 1990
Director	May 1988-May 1990
Student Director	May 1988-May 1989

*Please provide the following information for each nominee:
Name, Affiliation, Address, Telephone number*

Geography in America

John Jensen, author-editor of the Remote Sensing chapter of the forthcoming book Geography in America, is organizing the chapter to include the following topics: soils and rocks, water resources, vegetation resources, oceanography, urban land use, cartography, modelling, artificial intelligence, and the future. The contributing authors for these topics will have approximately six double-spaced manuscript pages in which to discuss where we've come from, what we've done, and where we're going. Rough drafts will be completed in time for John (along with other chapter authors) to make a presentation at the Phoenix meeting in April. The deadline for the final version is July 1988. John welcomes your comments and suggestions: John Jensen, Department of Geography, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. telephone (803) 777-5790.

ITC COURSE RE-STRUCTURING

The International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences (ITC), Enschede, The Netherlands, has announced a restructuring of its applied geomorphology and engineering geology course to include an emphasis on environmental studies and natural hazard surveys. For a copy of the announcement, please contact Jeff Wasrud, Department of Environmental Resources, Cook College, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. For further information: ITC, Student Registration Office, P.O. Box 6, 7500 AA, Enschede, The Netherlands.

PHOENIX MEETING

The AAG 1988 Phoenix meeting will mark the largest participation by the Remote Sensing Specialty Group in its history. Nine sponsored paper sessions, two workshops, one poster session, and a field trip have been planned for this spring. The sessions' titles, organizers, and chairs follow.

PAPER SESSIONS

- 1) Remote Sensing Applications and Technique Development I. Organizer - V. Ambrosia (TGS/NASA). Chair - Dr. Gary Johnson (NOAA). Five papers.
- 2) Remote Sensing Applications and Technique Development II. Organizer - V. Ambrosia (TGS/NASA). Chair - V. Ambrosia (TGS/NASA). Five papers.
- 3) Geographic Applications of Digital SPOT Data. Organizer - Dr. Doug Stow (San Diego State). Chair - Eleanore Meredith (SPOT). Four papers.
- 4) Energy and Remote Sensing. Co-sponsored with Energy Specialty Group. Organizer - Dr. Richard Kott (EOSAT). Chair - Dr. Richard Kott (EOSAT). Four papers and Discussion.
- 5) Interfacing Remote Sensing Research and Instruction I. Organizers - Dr. Duane Nellis (Kansas State) and Dr. Ray Lougeay (SUNY-Geneseo). Chair - Dr. Duane Nellis. Four papers.
- 6) Interfacing Remote Sensing Research and Instruction II. Organizers - Dr. Duane Nellis (Kansas State) and Dr. Ray Lougeay (SUNY-Geneseo). Chair - Dr. Ray Lougeay (SUNY-Geneseo). Four papers.
- 7) Strategies for Teaching Digital Image Processing. Organizers - Dr. Duane Nellis (Kansas State) and Dr. Ray Lougeay (SUNY-Geneseo). Chair - Dr. James Merchant (University of Kansas). Four papers.
- 8) Remote Sensing Teaching Strategies in Higher Education. Organizers - Dr. Duane Nellis (Kansas State) and Dr. Ray Lougeay (SUNY-Geneseo). Chair - Vince Ambrosia (TGS/NASA). Three papers.
- 9) Remote Sensing Applications in Population Studies. Organizer - Dr. C. P. Lo (University of Georgia). Chair - Dr. C. P. Lo (University of Georgia). Four papers and Discussion.

REMOTE SENSING POSTER SESSION. Organizers - J. Tullos (Geodynamics Corporation) and Dr. Kam Lulla (Lockheed/NASA).

WORKSHOPS

- 1) Digital Image Processing. Organizer - Dr. Tina Cary (Rutgers).
- 2) Signal Analysis and Advanced Digital Image Analysis. Organizer - Dr. Lee Williams (University of Oklahoma).

FIELD TRIP

To USDA Water Conservation Lab, Thursday April 6, 9 a.m. to noon. Organizer - Dr. Allen Hope (San Diego State). Hosts - Susan Moran and Ray Jackson.

CONSULTING OPPORTUNITIES

The Technology Application Center (TAC), in a joint venture partnership with Harza Engineering Co., has recently been awarded a three-year contract by the US Agency for International Development to provide services in remote sensing and GIS worldwide. TAC anticipates a need for expertise in nearly all skill and application areas of these two fields. Developing country experience and foreign language skills a plus, but not essential. If interested in short-term consulting assignments in the US and abroad, please send a resume with a brief cover letter clearly stating your specialty areas to

Dr. Will Swearingen
Technology Application Center
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131
(505) 277-3622

1988 DUES

To remain on the mailing list, be sure to specify the Remote Sensing Specialty Group on your AAG membership renewal form. If you did not check it off (it must be checked off anew each year), the other way to remain on the mailing list is to send dues of \$5.00 to the Secretary-Treasurer:

Duane Nellis
Department of Geography
Dickens Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506

POSITIONS FILLED

Job announcements have appeared in previous issues of the newsletter. The position at the University of Colorado is now occupied by Mike Hodgson; the position on the Space Shuttle Earth Observation Project at NASA Houston has been accepted by Kam Lulla.

THANKS & PLEASE

Thanks to the following people who contributed material for this newsletter: Vince Ambrosia, John Jensen, Tom Lillesand, Kam Lulla, Jim Merchant, Duane Nellis, Will Swearingen, Jeff Wasrud.

Do you have a job vacancy to announce? Want your remote sensing center to be featured? Other information of general interest? Please send materials for the next newsletter to

Tina Cary, RSSG Newsletter Editor
Department of Environmental Resources
Cook College
P.O. Box 231
New Brunswick, NJ 08903
telephone (201) 932-9632
BITNET 2059007@RUTVM1.

REMOTE SENSING CENTERS

This is another installment in the continuing series on remote sensing centers.

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Environmental Monitoring Graduate Program, and Environmental Remote Sensing Center

The University of Wisconsin-Madison offers an interdisciplinary master of science and doctoral degree program in remote sensing. The program emphasizes the application of remote sensing technology to natural resource management problems and environmental monitoring. The program requires that students complete specified courses covering depth, breadth, interdisciplinary synthesis and analysis, and analytical skills. Depth courses cover such areas as fundamentals of remote sensing, remote sensing digital data analysis, remote sensing image interpretation, airphoto interpretation, photogrammetry, remote sensing instrumentation, surveying, geoinformation systems, and computer cartography. Breadth courses are environmentally related courses dealing with such topics as environmental decisionmaking, environmental ethics, environmental systems concepts, modeling and analysis of environmental systems, science and government, analysis of environmental impact, and global sustainability. Interdisciplinary synthesis and analysis are accomplished through attendance at the Environmental Monitoring Seminar, a weekly colloquium of guest speakers and group discussion, and completion of a comprehensive practicum. The practicum is a multidisciplinary team project oriented toward the use of remote sensing data for solving a "real world" environmental problem or conducting a natural resource assessment. The analytical skills requirement calls for course work in calculus and statistics, and all students are required to have a working knowledge of a computer programming language (Pascal recommended). A thesis is required.

Much of the remote sensing research at University of Wisconsin-Madison is conducted in close association with state and local government agencies. The Environmental Remote Sensing Center maintains an extensive array of equipment to acquire and analyze both photographic and nonphotographic remote sensing data, both visually and digitally. Equipment for data acquisition includes camera systems for aerial photography, a Texas Instruments thermal scanner, and radiometer systems for field measurements. Image analysis is supported with a full range of stereoscopes, a color additive viewer, a scanning/writing microdensitometer, and darkroom and other equipment. Digital image processing is supported on both a dedicated PDP 11/45 minicomputer, and a network of microcomputers.

For further information about the Environmental Monitoring Program or the Environmental Remote Sensing Center, write or call:

Dr. Ralph W. Kiefer, Chairman
Environmental Monitoring Program
550 North Park Street, 64 Science Hall
Madison WI 53706
(608) 262-0651/262-1604

Dr. Thomas M. Lillesand, Director
Environmental Remote Sensing Center
Room 1231 Meteorology and Space Science Building
1225 W. Dayton Street
Madison, WI 53706
(608) 263-3251

Remote Sensing Specialty Group
Cook College Remote Sensing Center
P. O. Box 231
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
P A I D
Milltown, NJ
Permit No. 536