

AAG REMOTE SENSING SPECIALTY GROUP

Issue Number 3

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I. 1981 Officers

The purpose of the "Remote Sensing Specialty Group" within the AAG is to foster an understanding of the nature and application of remote sensing science. Emphasis is placed on developing a meaningful dialogue among geographers who are interested in understanding and applying remote sensing technology in their geographic research.

The officers of the remote sensing specialty group are:

John R. Jensen-Chairperson
Department of Geography
University of South Carolina
Columbia, S.C. 29208

Gary Johnson, Ph.D.-Vice Chairperson
EROS Data Center
Sioux Fall, S.D. 57198

J. Ron Eyton-Director/Treasurer
Department of Geography
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802

Ronald A. Weinkauff-Director
Department of Geography and Earth Science
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
La Cross, Wisconsin 54601

Donald C. Rundquist-Director
Department of Geography and Geology
Box 688
University of Nebraska
Omaha, Nebraska 68101

Tina Cary-Student Director
Goddard Institute for Space Studies
2880 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10025

In April, 1982, Gary Johnson will become the Chairman of the Specialty Group. At this time, the other three directors will vacate their two year positions. The student director will also change in 1982. Current enrollment of the group according to the 1981 rebate check received from the AAG is 290 members and our mailing list contains 383 entries.

II. Annual Report

A detailed Annual Report of the Remote Sensing Specialty Group was sent to the Association of American Geographers on April 29, 1981. This report described the accomplishments of the past year, activities scheduled for the coming year, and future plans and directions of the Specialty Group. If you would like a copy please contact Ron Eyton, secretary. In order to receive our rebate dues from the AAG it is necessary to provide an annual report by June 1 each year.

III. Paper and Poster Sessions at the AAG Annual Meeting

This year the Remote Sensing Specialty Group has the opportunity to organize several paper and/or poster sessions at the Annual Meeting in San Antonio on 25-28 April, 1982. In order to do this we must adhere to the following guidelines as described in the May issue of Jobs in Geography, pages 7-11:

"Formally organized Specialty Groups may request sessions on the Annual Meeting program. These sessions will last about one hour and forty minutes. Each participant will prepare three copies of the abstract and will fill out the abstract application form. It is the responsibility of the Specialty Group Chairperson to collect the abstracts and the application forms and fees from the various participants and to submit them in one package to the Program committee to be received no later than 7 October 1981. In requesting a Specialty Group session, the Chairperson should indicate a title for the session."

Therefore, if you are planning to present a paper or poster session dealing primarily with remote sensing, and you would like to be in a session organized by the Specialty Group, please send all the appropriate materials to the chairperson at the address below. The chairperson will then group together similar papers and suggest appropriate session titles to the AAG Program committee. The abstracts should be received by the Chairperson no later than September 1, 1981. Please be sure to send the following items exactly like you were sending the material to the AAG Program committee: 1) the abstract application form, 2) the camera-ready abstract, 3) a check made payable to the AAG, the amount determined by your membership status, and 4) two return addressed, stamped envelopes. Of course, any members submitting abstracts directly to the AAG program committee will still be assured a place on the program. However, these sessions will be organized by the Program committee rather than the Remote Sensing Specialty group.

Please send all material to:

John R. Jensen, Ph.D., Chairperson
Remote Sensing Specialty Group
Department of Geography
University of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina 29208

IV. Advanced Remote Sensing Workshop

An "Advanced Remote Sensing Workshop" focusing on digital processing will be held at the San Antonio meeting of the Association of American Geographers. It will be a twelve hour course taught by Dwight Egbert featuring the IMPAC color digital image processing system. The fundamentals of digital image processing will be reviewed in the Saturday morning session. In the afternoon and Sunday morning session, groups of three or four will receive hands-on instruction in digital image processing. Because of the hands-on requirement, enrollment will be limited to 30 persons. The course fee is tentatively set at \$30.00. The course will be announced through the AAG Newsletter and fees will be paid directly to the Association of American Geographers.

V. AAG Remote Sensing Specialty Group Committees

Five committees of the Remote Sensing Specialty Group have been formed (see list on next page). If you have ideas or suggestions pertinent to any of the committees, please contact the chairman. The exact duties of each committee are still being developed, consequently, your suggestions are important.

AAG REMOTE SENSING SPECIALTY GROUP COMMITTEES

Publications:

Chair

- o Benjamin Adetiba, Geography, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI 53201 (414-372-0589)
- o M. Leonard Bryan, Jet Propulsion Lab, 4800 Oak Grove Dr. (Mail #183-701) Pasadena, CA 91103
- o Robert K. Holz, Geography, Univ. of Texas, Austin, TX 78712

Awards:

Chair

- o Merrill K. Ridd, Geography, Univ. of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112
- o Ray Lougeay, Geography, State Univ. College, Genesco, N.Y. 14454 (716-245-5238)
- o Norman J. W. Thrower, Geography, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024 (213-825-1071)

Goals:

Chair

- o Neil V. Weber, Mid-Atlantic Remote Sensing Center, Murray State Univ., Murray, Kentucky 42071 (502-759-4428)
- o Samuel N. Goward, NASA Goddard Inst. for Space Studies, 2880 Broadway, NY, NY. 10025
- o Vincent G. Ambrosia, Technicolor Graphics Services, NASA Bldg, 242-4, Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, CA 94035 (405-965-6565)

Nominations:

Chair

- o Stephen Walsh, Geography, Oklahoma State Univ., Stillwater, OK 74078 (405-624-5178)
- o Len Gaydos, Geographic Investigations Office, USGS, Ames Research Center 240-8 Moffett Field, CA 94035 (415-965-6368)
- o Dave Schwarz, DFSOG, U.A. Air Force Academy, Colorado 80840 (303-472-2557)

Program:

Chair

- o James P. Latham, Geography, Florida Atlantic Univ., Boca Raton, FL 33431 (305-395-5100)
- o John Rehder, Geography, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37916 (615-974-2418)
- o Tina Cary, Goddard Inst. for Space Studies, 2880 Broadway, NY, NY 10025 (212-678-5512)

VI. Royalty Money

The Specialty Group has tracked down the royalty money sent to the Association of American Geographers from the sale of Estes and Senger's book titled Remote Sensing: Techniques for Environmental Analysis. Sometime in August, 81 the Specialty Group will receive a royalty check in excess of \$2000.00. It is suggested that this money be used to start a "Geographical Remote Sensing" publication series or possibly a Journal. Ideas concerning the use of this money for remote sensing publications should be sent to Dr. M. Leonard Bryant, Chairman of the Publications Committee.

VII. National Science Foundation Proposal Status

In cooperation with Pat McWethy, Executive Director, of the Association of American Geographers, the Remote Sensing Specialty Group submitted to the National Science Foundation on March 6, 1981, a collection of seven proposals. These proposals were collectively titled "Utilization of New Imagery Data for Land Cover Mapping and Modelling." The proposals were a direct result of a request for proposals which appeared in a Remote Sensing Specialty Group Newsletter (December, 1980). The request was based on the availability of unique multispectral and multitemporal imagery of Los Angeles, California, being produced by Nevin Bryant, Ph.D. at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology.

Because of budget cuts by the Reagan Administration during the spring of 1981, it looked doubtful that any of the proposals would be funded. Nevertheless, NSF sent the proposals outside for a thorough review. On July 1, 1981 the Association of American Geographers received confirmation that the following two proposals were recommended for support:

Henderson, Floyd H., "Effects of Selected SAR System Parameters in Urban Analysis" [\$16,388]

Jensen, John R., "Single-Family Residential Land Use: Spectral/Textural Features and Spatial Resolutions for Identifying Specific Stages of Development" [\$13,615]

This is the first time a specialty group has submitted a collection of proposals through the Association of American Geographers. Bob Holz, Nevin Bryant, and Pat McWethy were instrumental in organizing the proposal. The Specialty Group is pleased to set a precedent and hopes that additional proposals might be solicited and funded in the future.