

NEWSLETTER NEWSLETTER NEWSLETTER NEWSLETTER

AAG REMOTE SENSING SPECIALTY GROUP

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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:

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Gary Johnson, Chairperson of the Specialty Group, resigned his position effective July, 1982. Gary has accepted a two year assignment in Bangkok, Thailand to help establish a remote sensing training center at the Asian Institute of Technology. Paul Mausel, as Vice-Chairman of the Specialty Group, has assumed the responsibilities of the Chairman for the 1982-83 term. As elected Vice-Chairman (1982-83) he will also serve as Chairman for the 1983-84 term.

II. 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 Denver on 24-27 April, 1983. In order to do this we must adhere to the guidelines as described in the May issue of AAG Newsletter pages 3-8.

Groups such as RSSG may request sessions on the Annual Meeting Program. The sessions will last approximately one hour and forty minutes and should have some unifying theme. The sessions can be paper presentations or poster presentations.

Currently one paper session and one poster session are scheduled but additional sessions can be developed if a sufficient number of papers/posters are submitted to the chairman of the RSSG in a manner indicated below. A paper session suggested by Lee Williams and Bob McColl (University of Kansas) entitled "Remote Sensing Applications in Underdeveloped Countries" and a poster session suggested by Paul Mausel (Indiana State University) entitled "Remote Sensing Applications Using Enhanced Data" are in the process of formation. Papers/posters fitting these two themes are welcome for submission to the RSSG chairman. In addition papers or posters on virtually any remote sensing topic can be sent to the RSSG chairman for use in developing additional sessions. The RSSG chairman will organize papers sent to him and put them in an appropriate session.

Guidelines for submitting papers should be read carefully in the May issue of the AAG Newsletter. If you can not locate the AAG Newsletter please write or call the RSSG chairman for information. Please note that the AAG must receive all materials by October 1, thus the RSSG chairman must receive your materials no later than September 27 (preferably by September 24) in order that they can be organized into sessions. Also note that the poster sessions require only a 100 word abstract but the paper sessions require a 100 word abstract plus a 900-1200 word abstract (see AAG Newsletter for the format).

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. Please be sure to send the following items exactly like you were sending the material to the AAG Program committee: 1) the abstract(s) in the form specified in the AAG Newsletter, 2) a check made payable to the AAG, the amount determined by your membership status, and 3) 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:

Paul W. Mausel, Acting Chairman
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III. Remote Sensing Workshops and Field Trip

Workshops and a field trip associated with the AAG meeting in Denver are in the planning stages. At this time a one day workshop on "Applied Remote Sensing" is being organized and directed by Neil Weber of the Mid-America Remote Sensing Center (MARC). More detailed information about this workshop will be forthcoming in the next RSSG Newsletter and a future edition of the AAG Newsletter.

An interest has been expressed in developing a two day workshop on "Remote Sensing Applications in Regional Geography" with an emphasis on underdeveloped countries. More information about this workshop will be provided in future editions of the Newsletter.

A Remote Sensing field trip in or near Denver is an activity which the chairman of the RSSG is exploring. If interested and qualified staff are found to develop such a trip, it will put on the program of the AAG meeting in Denver. Again, more information will be provided in future newsletters about the nature of a field trip if it becomes a reality.

The directors of workshops and field trip may be calling upon members of the RSSG for assistance. Please help if called upon if your schedule permits.

IV. AAG Remote Sensing Specialty Group Committees

Normally, by this date, members of the five RSSG Committees (publications, awards, goals, nominations, and program) have been appointed by the chairperson. However, because of the rather sudden and recent assumption of chairperson duties by the vice-chairperson, this task is still in progress. Currently, the only committee persons selected are: John Jensen (chairman of the nominations committee); Sam Goward (chairman of the goals committee); Vince Ambrosia (goals committee); and Neil Weber (goals committee). The other slots on the committees will be filled very soon.

Most of the committee slots will be filled by those individuals who expressed an interest in serving on one or more committees during the RSSG meeting in San Antonio last April. RSSG members who did not attend that meeting, but are interested in serving on a committee in the future should write the RSSG chairman indicating his/her interest. The nature and duties of each committee is indicated in the RSSG Constitution. Persons wanting a copy of the Constitution can get one by request to the chairman.

V. Awards

Suggestions have been made during past RSSG meetings that an award for the best paper or papers in remote sensing be given at the Denver meetings. The nature of such an award is uncertain at this time; however, it seems likely that some sort of award will be given for the outstanding paper(s) presented in Denver. More information about awards will be provided in the next edition of the RSSG Newsletter.

VI. Remote Sensing Specialty Group Membership

A majority of the persons who attended the RSSG meeting in San Antonio were not listed on the computer printout of membership. Theoretically the group has approximately 210 members, but it appears that everyones name is not on the official list. This edition of the newsletter was sent to all persons on the official list, persons who attended the San Antonio RSSG meeting, and other persons who the chairman knows are AAG members interested in remote sensing but are not on the official list. The chairman of the RSSG will try to get a more accurate membership list as soon as possible.

Although a membership total of 210 is good for an AAG specialty group, it should be possible for RSSG to exceed 300. Please check with your AAG colleagues who are interested in remote sensing and if they have not joined RSSG then please urge them to do so. A larger membership is important in providing us rebates from the AAG and might improve the consideration given to remote sensing oriented articles submitted for publication in AAG periodicals.