

**AAG REMOTE SENSING SPECIALTY GROUP**

From the Chairperson

**A GOOD YEAR FOR RSSG**

This will be my last chance to talk with all of the RSSG members prior to the AAG meetings. It has been a very busy year for me and my colleagues on the committee and on the 1986 meeting planning board. I've discovered over this year that the position of chairman of the RSSG is not very difficult given the tremendous committee support that we have. My job was to make minor decisions and to help keep the engine on the tracks. Therefore, I would like to take this time to congratulate all the individuals who helped keep this year going and who laid the foundation for the 1986 meetings. They are the true recipients of our heartfelt thanks.

The Minneapolis meetings promise to be most exciting and professionally stimulating. Kam Lulla and his colleagues did an excellent job in organizing RSSG participation. Also, you may have noticed that we are trying something new this year with an

- ELECTIONS -

Ballots Due: April 21, 1986

— See page 3 —

open discussion session on the future of remote sensing. Jim Merchant and myself discussed the idea of organizing this session while we were at the PECORA meetings, where a member of EOSAT discussed the future of commercial remote sensing. Jim actually carried the ball and organized what I consider to be a most important session. I urge all members to attend this open forum and discuss the future of remote sensing with the invited government and industry representatives. If our opinions are not brought forward we will have no say in data availability or future programs.

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— TWIN CITIES AAG —

**FORUM ON COMMERCIALIZATION  
MOVED TO 10:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY**

Because of a potential conflict with the RSSG-sponsored Poster Session on Remote Sensing of Environment, the RSSG Forum on Commercialization of Earth Observation Systems and Future Data Availability has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, May 7, 10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. in the Hyatt Hotel Regency Room.

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**DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING WORKSHOP  
TO FEATURE ERDAS**

Tina Cary (Rutgers University) has arranged with Earth Resources Data Analysis Systems (ERDAS) of Atlanta, Georgia to employ the ERDAS image processing system in the RSSG-sponsored Digital Image Processing Workshop which she has organized. ERDAS features both a broad array of software for analysis of remotely sensed data and GIS capabilities. The workshop will be held May 3-4, 1986.

The objective of the workshop is to provide participants an introduction to digital image processing. Each participant will be expected to be familiar with the electromagnetic spectrum, and matter-energy interactions. Those topics will be only briefly reviewed in the introduction. The steps in data analysis and classification will be introduced in lectures; then participants will form teams to conduct an analysis on ERDAS. Finally, the group will reconvene to compare and discuss analysis results.

**Complete Schedule of  
AAG Remote Sensing Events**

— See page 2 —

**ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS - TWIN CITIES 1986**  
**SCHEDULE OF REMOTE SENSING EVENTS**



WORKSHOP

Digital Processing of Remotely Sensed Data  
 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Saturday, May 3  
 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Sunday, May 4  
 Organized by Tina Cary, Rutgers University



3. Remote Sensing: Technique Development  
 1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.  
 Organized by Kam Lulla, Indiana State University  
 Chaired by Vince Ambrosia, NASA/Ames Research Center



FIELD TRIPS

1. Mark Hurd, Inc.  
 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 Organized by Ben Richason III, St. Cloud State University
2. University of Minnesota Remote Sensing Laboratory  
 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Organized by Ben Richason III, St. Cloud State University



POSTER SESSION

Remote Sensing of Environment  
 8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.  
 Organized and chaired by Duane Nellis, Kansas State University

BUSINESS MEETING

Remote Sensing Specialty Group Business Meeting  
 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
 Chaired by Vincent Ambrosia, NASA/Ames Research Center

FORUM

Forum on Commercialization of Earth Observation Systems and Future Data Availability  
 10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.  
 Organized and chaired by James Merchant, University of Kansas

PAPER SESSION

Satellite Imagery  
 1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.  
 Chaired by Benjamin Richason III, St. Cloud State University



PAPER SESSIONS

1. Advanced Sensor Systems and Applications  
 8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.  
 Organized by Kam Lulla, Indiana State University  
 Chaired by David Hicks, Environmental Research Institute of Michigan
2. Large Area Ecosystem/Biome Characterization via Remote Sensing  
 10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.  
 Organized and chaired by Kam Lulla, Indiana State University

. . . . FORUM (Continued from page 1)

The Forum, organized by James Merchant (University of Kansas), will feature invited speakers from EOSAT, SPOT Image and EROS Data Center who will review changes taking place in satellite remote sensing and will outline the respective functions, products and services of their organizations. Formal presentations will, however, be limited. Most of the session will consist of discussion between speakers and audience. The forum will provide data users an opportunity to raise questions regarding the impacts of commercialization and to express needs, concerns, interests, ideas and opinions.

**RSSG ELECTIONS**  
**DEADLINE: APRIL 21, 1986**

Nominations for the Offices of Vice-Chairperson, Director, Secretary/Treasurer, and Student Director were solicited from the RSSG membership in January. Since the instructions of the "Call for Nominations" were explicit regarding a nominee's willingness to serve, it has been assumed that nominees were contacted before being nominated.

Please record, on the accompanying ballot, your choice for each of the three offices, sign your ballot, and return by **April 21, 1986** to:

Vincent G. Ambrosia  
NASA Ames Research Center  
MS 242-4  
Moffett Field, CA 94035

Note that only current members of RSSG, as identified by the AAG Central Office, are eligible to vote. The results will be announced at the RSSG annual business meeting in Minneapolis.

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**BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA PROPOSED**

The annual RSSG business meeting will be held in Minneapolis on Monday, May 5 (5:00-6:00 p.m.). Topics on the agenda currently include:

1. Plans for Portland (1987) and Phoenix (1988) AAG meetings (committee members, workshops, field trips, special sessions);
2. Discussion of Newsletter circulation policy (mailing list now stands at approximately 655 persons);
3. Review and discussion of RSSG financial status (1986 rebate received for only 225 persons);
4. Discussion of reactivation of honors and awards committee for 1987; and
5. Discussion of a possible RSSG publication (e.g., selected [refereed] papers from the AAG annual meetings).

Persons who wish to add topics to the agenda, who have ideas and suggestions to offer, or who would be willing to direct or serve on committees are requested to contact, as soon as possible:

Vincent G. Ambrosia  
NASA Ames Research Center  
MS 242-4  
Moffett Field, CA 94035

with copies of correspondence to:

James W. Merchant  
University of Kansas  
Space Technology Center  
2291 Irving Hill Drive  
Lawrence, KS 66045-2969

**-BALLOT-**

**AAG Remote Sensing Specialty Group**

The following individuals have been nominated for the offices currently open:

Vice Chairperson (for two years; chair for two years):

- Dr. Kamlesh Lulla (Indiana State University)
- Vince Ambrosia (TGS-NASA/Ames)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Director (end 1988; two years)

- Dr. Tina Cary (Rutgers University)
- Dr. John Jensen (University of South Carolina)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary/Treasurer (two years):

- Dr. John Place (U.S. Geological Survey)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Student Director (one year):

Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**RUTGERS TO PUBLISH  
RSSG NEWSLETTER**

This issue of the RSSG Newsletter is the last to be published by the University of Kansas. Future issues will be edited and published by faculty and staff of the Remote Sensing Center, Cook College, Rutgers University. All articles, mailing list changes and other correspondence should, henceforth, be mailed to:

Dr. Tina K. Cary  
Department of Environmental Resources  
Cook College  
Rutgers University  
P.O. Box 231  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903  
Telephone: 201-932-9634

## SATELLITE IMAGE MAP AND LAND USE MAP OF NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS

A detailed satellite image and a land use and land cover map of northeastern Illinois and Chicago are available from the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS). The satellite image is a 1:200,000 scale false color composite made from October 1982 Thematic Mapper imagery. Details such as suburban streets, storage tanks, and landmarks such as O'Hare Airport are easily seen on the image. The northeast Illinois satellite image is a 500 percent enlargement of a portion of the TM mosaic of the entire State of Illinois released in December 1985 (see RSSG Newsletter, December 1985).

The land use and land cover map on the reverse side was computer generated from the U.S. Geological Survey LUDA level I digital data files of four quadrangles. Inset maps highlight level II urban subclasses on an image map base. Northern Illinois University (NIU) geographer Don Luman described the map as an "elegant portrayal of the Illinois site for the new superconducting super collider particle accelerator." Christopher Stohr, project principal investigator for the project for ISGS, noted the exceptional effort put into the map's preparation by authors Richard Dahlberg and Donald Luman, NIU's Department of Geography, and Alden Warren of the U.S. Geological Survey. Warren mosaicked the Thematic Mapper images used for both the maps of Illinois and Northeastern Illinois.

Judy Adams, Gail Jereb, Richard Vaupel and Barbara Vogel assisted in the preparation of the maps at Northern Illinois University's Laboratory for Cartography and Spatial Analysis. E. Donald McKay III and Robert J. Krumm, geologists at ISGS, and Warren U. Brigham of the Illinois Natural History Survey also contributed.

The Satellite Image Map of Northeastern Illinois is available from: Illinois State Geological Survey, Attn: Order Department, Natural Resources Building, 615 East Peabody Drive, Champaign, Illinois 61820. Single copies cost \$4.00, prepaid. Shipping and handling costs are \$.95 for Fourth Class or \$3.95 for First Class mail. Multiple copies have different shipping costs. For additional ordering information, call (217) 244-0933, 8:00 - 5:00 Monday through Friday. The Satellite Image of Illinois sells for \$4.00 per copy also, but is out of print until about June 1.

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. . . . CHAIRPERSON (Continued from page 1)

Finally, I would like to encourage all members to make the RSSG stronger in 1986 than ever before. We must endeavor to add new members to our ranks and to try and bring back older, possibly disillusioned members. I do not want to ever see this organization become a "good-'ole boys' club" because that can only inspire stagnation. In a field moving as rapidly as ours, we can ill-afford to sit and watch it go by, because our purpose is to educate, and to educate we must learn ourselves. Thank you for electing me your chairman for the past year, and my hope is that I have made an impact on at least one of you and that what I have done has helped RSSG grow. I hope to see you all in Minneapolis and look forward to our new year in the AAG.

Vince Ambrosia

RSSG Newsletter  
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