

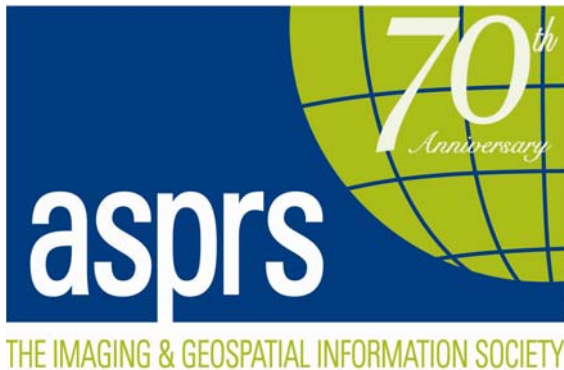
American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

The Imaging and Geospatial Information Society
PUGET SOUND REGION

Issue 01-2004

<http://www.photogrammetry.com/ASPRS-PSR>

SPRING 2004



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Joshua Greenberg

The year seems to be flying by and in the flurry we are a little late getting out our newsletter. We have had some changes on the board that begin with Kristin Gerhart resigning from the board. We will miss Kristin and thank her for all the time she has put in to ASPRS over the past few years. With the President position open we shifted all officers up a year, placing me as the current President and moving our recently elected member Mark Hurd-Ritter to president elect. Mark is with Triathlon Inc based out of Richmond Vancouver and also faculty at BCIT (see Mark's article in this newsletter). We are excited to have both a Canadian member on the board as well as a faculty as we continue to push for a student chapter in the Puget Sound region. Paul Mabry our current treasurer has agreed to accept the vice-president position, while Dave Brown of Triathlon in Seattle will take up the treasures duties. So with some new faces and a little shifting of titles we are ready to tackle a new year.

As a final note I would like to thank Ward Carson as he leaves the board. Ward has been a pleasure to work with on the board bringing his sense of humor, wisdom and always contributing a cutting edge analysis of technology at the technical sessions. Ward is not only leaving the ASPRS board but also

retiring after a long career at Oregon State and most recently at University of Washington. We wish him the best in his upcoming adventures and travels.

THE NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

By: Terry Curtis, Puget Sound Region Director

Greetings Puget Sound Region members. Since we're between National Conferences there's not a lot of National news to report on, but here are some highlights of National affairs.

DENVER 2004 Annual Conference: We're closing in FAST on our Spring Conference coming up May 23 through 28 in Denver, Colorado. This year marks the 70th Anniversary of ASPRS, and the Denver meeting should be a GREAT SHOW! The theme this spring is "Mountains of Data...Peak Decisions", and I'm sure we can all relate to the VOLUMES of data we deal with daily that are coming from the new digital imaging and LIDAR systems. There's a 70th Anniversary celebration planned, as well as a MORTGAGE BURNING CEREMONY. The latter is a result of years of generous contributions to the ASPRS Building Fund by both individual and Sustaining members, and the Regions themselves. Many THANKS to all of you who have contributed to this effort! The technical program is strong with over 400 technical papers slated, a full suite of workshops, and social events are sure to be a hit..... including the opportunity to attend a Major League Baseball game with a group of your colleagues.

Financial Status: The Society continues to remain very HEALTHY in terms of financial status. Outstanding fiscal planning and management continues to keep ASPRS in a favorable position. We are nearing our goal of having at least a year of operating funds in a dedicated RESERVE fund as a security blanket for the Society in the event of any catastrophic economic event.

Building Fund...What Building Fund ?: This year will mark the END OF THE BUILDING FUND (see above). HOWEVER, to leverage the members' spirit of giving, the Society is working to re-establish the **ASPRS Foundation**, a non-profit sub organization dedicated to establishing and managing Scholarships and Awards in the geographic sciences. ASPRS already has a number of awards in place, and plans to both expand on those, and establish new ones to promote education and research, and reward accomplishment.

DIGITAL MAPPING AT BCIT

By: Mark Hird-Rutter

The British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), one of Canada's premier Polytechnic Institutions, is offering a Diploma program in Photogrammetry, remote Sensing and Digital Mapping, as part of the Geomatics Engineering Department.

The Geomatics department offers a Diploma of Technology in Land Survey, Digital Mapping and GIS, and a Bachelor of Technology in Land Survey, and GIS.

In the past, BCIT offered a Diploma in Surveying with a Photogrammetry option. This was discontinued and for the last 7 years there has been no program available for people in the province to study the science of photogrammetry.

Three years ago BCIT established a Z/I SSK lab with 9 workstations. Courses were developed for three programs. First, BCIT offers a 15-week three credit course for the Survey Degree Program. This program was a general overview to the mapping sciences with some hands-on lab time on the softcopy workstations. Second, a 10-week course designed for BCIT's GIS advanced diploma program. Similar in scope to the Survey Degree this program is designed to give the GIS professional an overview of the mapping processes with special emphasis on mapping project design. This enables GIS personnel to communicate with mapping companies with much more insight and understanding. Finally, the Digital Mapping Diploma program was developed. This is a one year option for the Land Survey students. The students learn in detail all aspects of the mapping sciences and spend many hours of practical lab time developing softcopy workstation skills.

The Digital Mapping Diploma Program was initiated in September 2003 with the first group graduating in May 2004. Term one started with an overview of the current industry conditions and directions. We discussed trends like offshore labor, quality assurance, sales and market trends. This was then followed by a lecture series on the overall mapping workflow, aerial mapping cameras, stereo vision, and the stereo model. The labs focused on the use of the Z/I SSK Softcopy workstations. Students worked from simple to more complex mapping processes. First they collect some simple planimetry, and then they move onto collection of breaklines and DEM points. The lectures continued with planimetric capture and DEM capture techniques and the students then set up a feature database and collected the detail in the BCIT campus.

Term 2 Started with the editing of the data collected in term one and then the design of sheet surround and the clipping and presenting of the BCIT campus map in three separate mapsheets. Following this the students performed Aerial Triangulation mensuration and adjustment of a 24 model block of photographs adjacent to Simon Fraser University. Here the students picked photo id control then went out in the field with GPS and collected the coordinates. They had to transform the GPS data into UTM coordinates.

BCIT's open house, April 2nd and 3rd started the third term. We chose to set up the lab like a tradeshow. Students created demonstrations and posters to explain the mapping process to the general public. BCIT attracted some 25,000 people to its open house. At the time of writing this article the students will be studying the development of orthophotography. This is to be followed by the RFP (Request for Proposal) project. Students will be given an RFP. With the skills they have learned they must design the optimum flight based on a series of parameters, and then prepare a proposal. We find this is a very important lab as it shows the students have a good overall knowledge of the process. It also instills with the students the importance of communication, sales and marketing and project management in the mapping sciences. After the RFP the course will wrap up with some non topographic Photogrammetry, such as calibrating non metric lenses and working with LiDAR and laser scanner data.

Our industry has struggled with attracting young people in the last few years. With the competition, the off-shore labor and the current labor force approaching retirement there are many forces at play. At BCIT we believe there is a need for new staff especially in the sales, quality assurance, GIS and project management market. With the great changes in technology like digital cameras and LiDAR more people will be needed who can work with this science.

As I move forward with ASPRS as President-elect of the Puget Sound Region I hope to emphasize the needs of students and promote, where possible, education, job development, and the need for our industry to encourage keen and enthusiastic young people to consider a career in mapping.

Yours truly,

SPATIAL REFERENCE CENTER OF WASHINGTON

By: Paul Mabry

In 1998, the U.S. Congress directed the National Geodetic Survey to conduct a National Height Modernization Study. The study proved that considerable efficiencies and cost savings could be achieved through the utilization of Global Positioning System technology. The most cost effective method is the use of a network of Continuous Operating Reference Stations (CORS). This network, combined with traditional survey methods, will allow Washington State to modernize the reference frame utilized by various entities within both the public and private sector.

The Spatial Reference Center of Washington is seeking to build an organization with a diverse base to help direct the Height Modernization Program in Washington State. We are seeking the participation of interested agencies.

This program will benefit any organization involved in mapping, navigation, resource management and tracking, road maintenance, security, earth studies, and other activities with spatial components.

Funding has been secured for 2004. We are asking you to contribute to directing the program and to help secure continued funding.

For a list of supporting agencies and other information, check out the website:

<<http://www.surveycontrol.state.wa.us/srcwmain.html>>

For Immediate Release

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February 25, 2004



MICHAEL RENSLOW NAMED NEW *PE&RS* TECHNICAL EDITOR

Michael S. Renslow has been selected to serve as the new Technical Editor for *Photogrammetric Engineering & Remote Sensing (PE&RS)*, effective March 1, 2004. *PE&RS* is the official journal of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS). Renslow was selected by a Review Committee that included James Merchant, *PE&RS* editor; Carolyn Merry, chair, ASPRS Publications Committee; James Case, retiring *PE&RS* technical editor; and Kimberly Tilley, ASPRS assistant executive director/communications director.

Renslow succeeds Case who has served as *PE&RS* Technical Editor for more than 30 years. Renslow, an ASPRS past president (1999-2000), has served ASPRS in many capacities over his 33 years as a member of the Society. Currently he serves as ASPRS Treasurer; Chair, Evaluation for Certification Committee; Co-Editor for "LiDAR Best Practices and Guidelines;" and, an ASPRS workshop instructor.

“Mike brings a strong, well-rounded background in remote sensing, photogrammetry and GIS to the position of *PE&RS* Technical Editor,” said ASPRS President Don Lauer. “It will be a challenge to follow on the heels of Jim Case, who has done an excellent job as *PE&RS* Technical Editor for so many years, but Mike is well known in the industry and I am confident that he will do a superb job.”

It was Renslow’s comprehensive experience in the field of geospatial information and technology that secured his place as the top candidate for *PE&RS* technical editorship. His career began in site development as a facilities surveyor for the Department of Defense – US Air Force and later as a teaching assistant, Geography Department, San Francisco State University. Following a BS in Geography from San Francisco State University in 1971, Renslow became a surveyor, cartographer, photogrammetrist, and project leader for the US Forest Service where he worked for 11 years. From there he moved on to become general manager of Pacific Aerial Surveys/vice president of Hammon, Jensen & Wallen, Inc. in Oakland, California from 1983 to 1989. While there he was responsible for contract implementation, proposals, daily operations, two flight crews; conducted and published research on modern-generation aerial films for Kodak and Agfa products; performed research for the USGS on aerial film(s) resolution; corporate responsibility for parent firm; managed a remote sensing field crew for the Oakanagon NF Vegetation Classification Project.

In 1989, Renslow became marketing manager for WAC Corporation where his primary responsibility was to run Digital Geographic Systems (owned by WAC) to scan and write digital imagery to CD. In 1996, after running his own company, Renslow ImageMapping, Renslow joined Spencer B. Gross as vice president and became responsible for market development, strategic business relationships, and research & development. He also served as senior technical advisor for Applications of Advanced Technologies; provided GIS support operations; and, using MapObjects, co-authored “SBG View” a stand-alone viewer for geo-referenced imagery and ESRI shapefiles.

In recent years Renslow has been very active in research and development for applications of LiDAR mapping technology and has an established reputation for expertise in this field. He has also participated in LiDAR research projects with Oregon State University, the University of Oregon, and the University of Washington. He has published several papers on the subject and has presented numerous workshops and technical sessions at local and national conferences throughout the country.

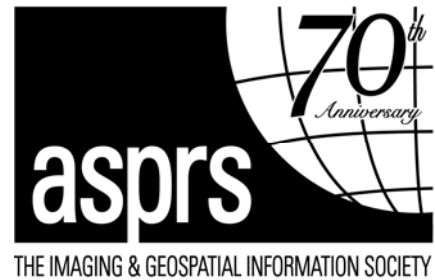
Founded in 1934, ASPRS is an international professional organization of 7,000 geospatial data professionals. ASPRS is devoted to advancing knowledge and improving understanding of the mapping sciences to promote responsible application of photogrammetry, remote sensing, geographic information systems and supporting technologies. For additional information about ASPRS, visit our web site at www.asprs.org.

Photographs of Michael Renslow are below.



For Immediate Release

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March 11, 2004



ASPRS READIES FOR 70TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ASPRS celebrates its 70th anniversary at the 2004 Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado, May 23-28. This year's conference, "Mountains of Data □ Peak Decisions," opens with a keynote address by Dr. Ahmed K. Noor, Professor of Aerospace Engineering, Old Dominion University.

Workshops will be offered on such subjects as "Close Range Techniques for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of the Cultural Heritage;" "The National Map Hazards Data Distribution System;" "Performance, Accuracy, and Economics of Imaging Sensors, LiDAR and IFSAR for Surface DEM Generation;" plus two workshops on *Preparation for ASPRS Certifications*. User group meetings are also being planned by PCI Geomatics, DigitalGlobe, ESRI, Z/I Imaging Corporation and INPHO.

With over 400 technical papers covering many diverse topics including "Urban Applications of the Geospatial Sciences – Remote Sensing and Urban Sprawl," "Agricultural Applications of Remote Sensing and GIS – Techniques Used in Countries Throughout the World," "NIMA Academic Research," "LiDAR Sensors and Applications in Forestry," and "Career Development – Current Trends and Activity in the Geospatial Technology Arena," this is a conference providing educational opportunities to all in the industry. An Exhibit Hall of more than 100 booths will showcase the latest in products and services of suppliers worldwide. This year, we are opening each conference day with a general session. The first plenary session, on Wednesday, May 26 will lead off with incoming ASPRS President Dr. Russell Congalton, followed by Keith Lenard of The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. The Thursday plenary features Lynne Sherrod of the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust, Arvada, Colorado.

A Classified Symposium consistent with the overall conference theme will take place on Friday, May 28 at Northrop Grumman, Aurora, Colorado and will provide an innovative perspective on integration and analysis of satellite imagery and geospatial data. Technical Tours to Spectrum Mapping, BP Center for Visualization, Digital Globe and Jeppesen are planned throughout the week.

The ASPRS tradition of honoring members who have contributed greatly to the field and to the Society continues this year with Memorial Addresses for Tamsin Barnes and Amrom Katz. ASPRS Executive Director James Plasker and ASPRS Fellow Ronald J. Ondrejka, respectively, will give these presentations.
(more)

In addition ASPRS will celebrate the retirement of the mortgage on the Society's National Headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland. The remarkable accomplishment of retiring a debt of over \$726,000 in only 15 years was accomplished through the generous support of ASPRS individual and Sustaining Members.

Several social events will round out this premier conference for 2004, including a 70th anniversary party in the Exhibit Hall, an Exhibitors' Reception, and an evening at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Founded in 1934, ASPRS is an international professional organization of 7,000 geospatial data professionals. ASPRS is devoted to advancing knowledge and improving understanding of the mapping sciences to promote responsible application of photogrammetry, remote sensing, geographic information systems and supporting technologies. For additional information about ASPRS, visit our web site at www.asprs.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Local Events

May 11-13, 2004
Twelfth Annual GIS in Action Meeting
Portland, Oregon

National Events

May 23-28, 2004
ASPRS 70th Anniversary Annual Conference
"Mountains of Data □ Peak Decisions"
Denver, Colorado
<http://www.asprs.org/denver2004/index.html>

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