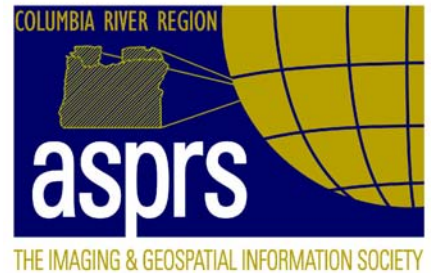

Wavelengths

Columbia River Region



<http://www.asprs.org/ColumbiaRiver>

Volume 2010:4 — December 2010

A word from Chris Aldridge, Director, Columbia River Region

Season's Greetings to all of the members of the Columbia River Region. The last months of every year are typically defined by a certain level of frantic activity. Summer has come to a close, vacations are finished, the government turns over a new fiscal year, and students return to their classrooms, and the ASPRS holds our national fall meeting.

The Columbia River Region has been active during this period as well. I offer my congratulations to Jake Macdonald, our seated VP, for organizing and executing the Joint Technical Exchange with the PSR. For those of you who managed to attend, and about 60 of you did, I'm sure that you will agree with me that the program was excellent this year.

Planning for GIS in Action 2011 is well underway and the event is scheduled for March 29-30, 2011. The event will be held at Portland State University again this year. Planning for the 2012 conference, which will be a joint effort between ASPRS, URSIA, and the PLSO is also underway. We are finalizing details of this ground breaking collaboration and will announce the location and dates as soon as they are finalized.

The Executive Committee of the Region has met twice and conducted a number of housekeeping chores for the end of the year, including assembling the Policy and Procedures Manual for the Region.

Nationally, the society has been continuing to support the programs and initiatives that are important to the geospatial community. The fall national meeting was held in Orlando, Florida on November 15-19, with committee and board meetings held on November 13-15. This meeting "the Special Joint Symposium of ISPRS Technical Division IV and AutoCarto 2010, in conjunction with ASPRS/CaGIS Specialty Conference" was decidedly different from recent fall meetings and included a strong international component. Besides the ASPRS, CaGIS, and ISPRS, MAPPS and the NSPS each held concurrent meetings at the facility. This proved to be a truly "geospatial" atmosphere around the conference center for the entire week. The conference attendance was over 500, which a strong number for the fall meeting (this did not include the NSPS or MAPPS attendees who registered for those meetings separately).

I offer the following summary of the society's status and the board and committee meetings:

The organization as a whole is very healthy, although several regions are struggling. Financially we are rock solid and our reserve account investments have recovered to their pre-recession numbers, which is itself a small miracle. The budget for 2011 was passed by the Board, and essentially remains the same as 2010.

(continued on page 2)

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One area of revenue that showed substantial decline is membership dues. This is down significantly from 2009 for the simple reason that membership is SIGNIFICANTLY down from 2009. Overall, the organization has seen an 8% drop in our active members. Student membership has increased by 15%, which is the bright spot in membership right now and with proper mentoring and retention efforts speaks well for the long term future. The biggest immediate concern is the dramatic drop in Active Members, which reflects a serious problem for the society. The simple fact is fewer professionals see value in membership in our and other professional societies. It is our job as members, in fact our duty, to explain this value and to help recruit professionals who will benefit from and contribute to the continued growth of the society.

The Certification Program is making headway towards accreditation, which will further elevate the ASRPS certifications in Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, and GIS/LIS above all the other certifications offered by other organizations. Another group, the Coordinate Metrology Society, is currently engaged in discussion with the Certification Committee and is seeking our guidance in establishing a program of their own. This is a compliment to the success and execution of our program!

The ASPRS Webinar Series has met with tremendous success and very positive reviews. This program, initially undertaken with some trepidation has been fully embraced by headquarters and the Board. Plans to expand the services and workshops are underway, so look for changes on the website.

Speaking of the website, it is undergoing a long overdue and complete overhaul. The mock up of the new home page was presented to the board and met with applause. It is a HUGE step forward in the correct direction. The process is ongoing and expected to take a few more months, but a much improved and easier to read and navigate website in our near future.

A couple of key external affairs:

The LandsAT Data Continuity Mission is moving forward and the launch date of the new sensor is scheduled for December 2012. After that it is anyone's guess what will really happen to the program. It all comes down to funding, and there is currently some wrangling going on between government agencies about who will get to pick up the check.

The Guidelines for Commercial Product Procurement are nearing a place where they will be publicly presented for comment. This document will become a companion to the Guidelines for Procuring Professional Photogrammetry Services and together will hopefully explain the best practices for Federal, State, Local, and private concerns for acquiring geospatial services and products.

Internally, a proposal has been put forth to create a new technical division within the society. A "LiDAR and Active Sensors" division has been proposed and is currently going through the process required to create a new division. This action sparked a great deal of discussion with regards to the current structure of the Society and an overdue look at how we are organized.

In closing, I invite you all to attend our annual meeting, to be held in late January or February. Please watch your email and the region website for information regarding time, date, and location. Until then, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

A word from Jacob McDonald, Vice President, Columbia River Region

The Columbia River and Puget Sound chapters held the:

**ASPRS
COLUMBIA RIVER & PUGET SOUND REGIONS
ANNUAL TECHNICAL EXCHANGE**

on October 29th.

This year's participation was great. We had approximately 60 attendees and 15 great presentations. Participation was a little lighter this year from the Puget Sound chapter due to a schedule conflict with University of Washington students who traditionally contribute significantly to this event. However, Columbia River chapter members really stepped up to fill out the program despite the scheduling oversight.

I would like to personally thank all who attended, especially those who volunteered to present, for making this year's event such a success. We are all fortunate to be members of the most active and successful region in all of ASPRS. This is a direct result of each and every one of your commitment to participate in events like the technical exchange. I appreciate the patience everyone showed toward my inexperience in planning events and hope you all found the event to be as valuable as I did.

ASPRS Certification Program

Congratulations to the following Columbia River Region members who recently passed the ASPRS certification program:

Marcus Glass - Certified Photogrammetrist

Jacob McDonald - Certified Mapping Scientist

Steve Lennartz - Certified Mapping Scientist

Report from University of Oregon Student Chapter
By Adriana Martinez, President



Vice Pres.: Denise Tu
Secretary: Amanda Reinholtz
Treasurer: Sarah Praskievicz
Pres.: Adriana Martinez

The University of Oregon ASPRS student chapter would like to welcome three new members: Christopher Thomas, Josef Gordon and Dave Fisher. Congratulations to our graduates! By year's end members Paul Blanton and Suzanne Walther (a previous recipient of the Fischer Memorial Fellowship) will have received their PhDs, and Matt Millet and Derek Miller, their Masters degrees.

This Fall term the student chapter hosted our first speaker in what we hope will become a quarterly ASPRS event at the U of O. Chris Aldridge gave a talk titled "Photogrammetry 101" and we were happy to welcome multiple departments at the event. Many thanks to Chris Aldridge for being our inaugural speaker of the newly initiated UO ASPRS speaker series!

Every year the chapter sponsors activities during Geography Awareness week and GIS Day. This year funds were used to purchase water sampling kits to allow visiting elementary students a chance to test the water quality of the Willamette River. In addition, many of our members volunteered and participated in GIS Day and Geography Awareness week activities.

The chapter also hosted two fundraisers (Spring and Fall) at Track Town Pizza. With a greater ASPRS buzz around the department and on campus, we doubled our fundraising by the second event!

Other exciting news is that our long-awaited chapter website is now up and running. Please visit it at <http://www.geography.uoregon.edu/asprs>. Our thanks to Jacob Bartruff at InfoGraphics and our faculty sponsor Jim Meacham for helping us put it together.

Kevin Craig, a GIS consultant based out of Eugene, is the next speaker in our speaker series. He will give a talk entitled "Enhancing the Display of LIDAR Images for Improved Cognition of Geomorphical Surface Features (using QGIS, GRASS and R)" on Tuesday, January 5th at 4pm. In the future, we hope to plan field trips to 3Di and Watershed Sciences so our members can learn more about how remote sensing is applied in industry.



Portland State University Student Chapter

Membership:

Our officers actively marketed at the beginning of the school year by visiting classes and promoting membership with the ASPRS. The results of promoting ASPRS was 27 new student members. We plan to continue this marketing strategy at the beginning of every term to help encourage on-going participation.

Colloquium Series:

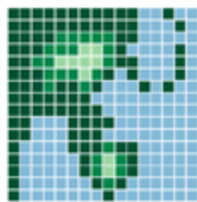
We had two speakers this term: Chris Aldridge from Continental Mapping Services presenting "Photogrammetry 101" and Tom Perkins from the NRCS presenting "GIS: Bridging the Gap between Research and Technology". Both events saw good attendance and sparked discussions among our student members.

Events:

Some of our student members were able to attend the Joint Technical Exchange in Vancouver, WA and the LiDAR Technical Session in Corvallis, OR.

Future:

In the upcoming terms we plan to offer conference scholarships for the ASPRS Annual Conference in Milwaukee, WI and the AAG Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA. We are also planning volunteer opportunities for our students for GIS-in-Action, which will be held on PSU's campus. More colloquium speakers are planned for winter term as well as our annual career panel in spring term.



GIS in Action

*The 2011 conference will be held on March 29-30,
2011 at Portland State University*

Columbia River Region of ASPRS
Is Searching for
The next **Vice President**

We will be installing our new Vice President
at our Annual Business meeting
and Chapter Banquet
on February 4, 2011

We need to have several interested people submit their names for nomination.

The only qualification is membership in the
Columbia River Region of the ASPRS

This is a challenging and very rewarding position that will be graduated to the President's chair the following year.

Several of us who have served in this position had little previous involvement in the Regional Chapter but had an interest in promoting our science and providing opportunities to other professionals and students in our field. So the only thing holding you back is.....?

Please consider submitting your application with a brief history of your related professional and extra curricular activities.

Application Deadline: January 15, 2011

Send your submittal to:
Erik Strandhagen, Past President ASPRS CRR

estrandhagen@integral-corp.com

ASPRS Columbia River Region welcomes the following new student members:

Robert Bean
Wendy Berg
Alex Bullen
Larissa Butler
Neil Loehlein
Alena Pearce
Joseph Rosevear

Anthony D. Hair
Lindsay Henderson
John Mavshall
Ryan Pemberton
Melelani Sax-Barnett
Sharon Gordon
Zeph Friedman-Sowder

**ANNOUNCING
THE COLUMBIA RIVER REGION
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PHOTOGRAMMETRY
AND REMOTE SENSING**

2011 Annual Dinner and Business Meeting

Friday, February 4, 2011

**Kells Irish Resaurant & Pub
112 SW Second Avenue
Portland, Oregon**

**JOIN YOUR FELLOW ASPRS COLUMBIA RIVER REGION
MEMBERS AND GUEST FOR OUR ANNUAL
CELEBRATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS!**

*For reservations, please contact Jacob McDonald by
e-mail: Jacob.macdonald@usace.army.mil (phone: 503 808-4844)*



ASPRS AND THE ASPRS FOUNDATION RECEIVE \$90,000 DONATION TO FULLY ENDOW A NEW OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

In early December the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) and the ASPRS Foundation received an individual donation with a value of approximately \$90,000 to endow a new Outstanding Technical Achievement Award. The award will be administered through ASPRS and funded by the ASPRS Foundation. In accordance with the wishes of the donor, who is a longtime ASPRS member, this donation was made anonymously. ASPRS has agreed to match \$35,000 of the donation in accordance with its current matching policy, for a total of approximately \$125,000. The result of the match ensures that the Award will be fully endowed at the \$5000 per annual award level.

The Award will be known as the ASPRS Outstanding Technical Achievement award during the lifetime of the donor. The purpose of the Award is to reward the developers of specific breakthrough technology which causes major advances in the practice of photogrammetry, remote sensing, or geographic information systems in the United States. The achievement must be recent, but need not occur within the year prior to the award, as it is recognized that the significance of critical contributions may not immediately become evident.

ASPRS Foundation President Roger Crystal praised the donor for their extremely generous donation saying, "This is a significant milestone for the ASPRS Foundation, and I hope it inspires others to consider similar contributions to the profession and to the community from which we all derive so much satisfaction."

ASPRS President Dr. Carolyn Merry expressed her gratitude for the donor's generosity and added "this Award will be one of the largest given by ASPRS and rightfully so, since our community depends so heavily on the developmental work this Award is intended to recognize. One of the greatest strengths of the ASPRS community has been its ability, over more than 75 years, to constantly bring forward technological advances that maintain our profession as truly state-of-the-art. By recognizing these advances as they occur, this Award will hopefully ensure we remain on a strong technological trajectory."

The Selection Committee for this award, consisting of the ASPRS President and the ASPRS Technical Division Directors, will evaluate each achievement for its economic and scientific impact to the profession. Practicability is the essence of the Award, and with this as a criterion the merits of candidates will be considered by the Committee with respect to the following points, giving greatest weight to the first:

1. An outstanding invention or design involving any type of equipment that applies to the photogrammetry, remote sensing, or geographic information management.
2. Any outstanding method developed for the use of photogrammetry, remote sensing, or geographic information.

The Award consists of a silver presentation plaque mounted on a walnut wood panel, plus a cash award of \$5,000, and will be given annually if a worthy candidate is identified. The Award will be made solely to an individual or a plurality of individuals jointly, and will not be made to companies, agencies, bureaus, or associations. However, their personnel are eligible as individuals to receive this very prestigious Award.



Michael D. Golden, 56, Portland, OR, passed away unexpectedly in Tulum, Mexico on October 27, 2010 in a kayaking accident.

Michael joined ASPRS in 1988 and was an active member. Michael started his career as a Remote Sensing Specialist with the USDA Forest Service in Alaska. He then joined Pacific Meridian Resources as a Remote Sensing Specialist for Pacific Meridian. In 1999, Michael returned to the USDA Forest Service in Portland, Oregon as the Lead Remote Sensing Specialist for the Pacific Northwest Region.

Michael is remembered for his leadership, intellect, resourcefulness, sense of humor, and kindness to all people that he met. His passing is a great loss to his professional peers, friends and family.

A memorial site has been established and can be accessed at <http://michael-golden.last-memories.com>

ASPRS Meetings & Workshops

May 2011

ASPRS 2011 Annual Conference
Midwest Airlines Center/Hyatt Hotel
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
May 1 - 5, 2011
<http://www.asprs.org/milwaukee2011/>

November 2011

ASPRS 2011 Fall Pecora Conference
Hilton Hotel at Washington Dulles Airport
Herndon, Virginia
November 14-17

March 2012

ASPRS 2012 Annual Conference
Sacramento Convention Center (TBD),
Sacramento, California
March 19-23, 2012

October 2012

ASPRS/MAPPS Fall Specialty Conference
Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel
Tampa, FL



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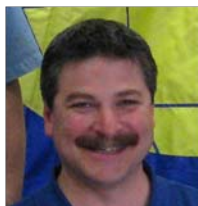
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