This conference extends the William T. Pecora Memorial Remote Sensing Symposium tradition of emphasizing the applications and benefits of land imaging data.

Call for Abstracts
November 14-17
2011
Hilton Washington Dulles Hotel
Herndon, Virginia
Overview

The Pecora Symposium series honors the memory of Dr. William T. Pecora, former Director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Under Secretary, Department of the Interior. Dr. Pecora was a motivating force behind the launch of Earth Resources Technology Satellite-1 (now known as Landsat 1) and the establishment of a program for civil remote sensing of the Earth from space that we know today as the Landsat satellite program. The Symposium series was established by the USGS and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 1975 as a forum to: 1) foster the exchange of scientific information and results derived from applications of remotely sensed data to a broad range of land-based resources; and 2) provide a forum for discussing ideas, policies, and strategies concerning land remote sensing.

Pecora 18 celebrates Pecora’s vision with the theme “Forty Years of Earth Observations: Understanding a Changing World.” The symposium focuses on how 40 years of Landsat and other Earth observation missions have influenced our understanding of the changing Earth, and contributed to improving information needed for managing our natural resources. Special emphasis will be given to the current state of the Landsat program such as the free data revolution and the upcoming launch of the Landsat Data Continuity Mission. Lessons from the past and present serve as the foundation for looking toward the next generation of operational land remote sensing.

Participation

We cordially invite land remote sensing data users, researchers, applications scientists, producers, managers, and policy-makers to participate in this important symposium by submitting an abstract for a paper or poster. Participants are encouraged to attend general and technical sessions, exhibits, and educational workshops on the very latest remote sensing research, modeling, applications, analysis techniques, and technologies. Pecora 18 provides an opportunity to make new friends and get reacquainted with old ones.

Symposium Registration Requirements

All technical paper and poster presenters and session moderators are required to register at the appropriate registration rate no later than August 24, 2011. If the original applicant who received the notice of acceptance appoints someone else to present their work, the substitute must register at the appropriate Full Registration Rate no later than August 24, 2011.

Presenters who do not register within the above noted time limit will be dropped from the program and all listings will be removed from the Preliminary Program and Symposium Proceedings.

The Technical Program Chairs and ASPRS staff will be communicating with you by email on a frequent basis. Please make certain that these emails are not stopped by your spam blocker or other email screening mechanisms. Also, if your email address changes at any time, please make sure to let us know; otherwise you will miss important information regarding the symposium.
Categories and Topic Areas for Abstracts

In keeping with the symposium theme, “Forty Years of Earth Observations: Understanding a Changing World,” the Pecora 18 Technical Program Committee seeks oral presentations and poster papers that highlight past remote sensing successes, current growth and innovation in Earth observation programs and capabilities. Papers will explore the current status of Earth observation programs and activities, including education and public engagement; consider lessons learned; and offer suggestions for next steps in continuing Pecora’s vision.

ACtUAlyI OnE’s VIsIoN

William Pecora was a strong advocate for establishing civilian remote sensing capabilities focused on improving natural resources management. His vision requires continued growth and innovation in Earth observation programs and capabilities. Papers will explore the current status of Earth observation programs and activities, including education and public engagement; consider lessons learned; and offer suggestions for next steps in continuing Pecora’s vision.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST FOUR DECADES

There have been many remarkable achievements in land remote sensing over the past four decades. Papers in this session will discuss scientific highlights, surprises, key achievements, and operational applications during that period.

- Revisiting pathfinder investigations
- Early observations including Corona and other declassified missions
- The evolution of scientific advances in land remote sensing
- Operational applications of land imaging data
- Emergence of an international constellation of land remote sensing satellites

SCIENCE AND APPLICATIONS IN AN ERA OF FREE LANDSAT DATA

The 2008 decision to provide all data in the US Landsat archive available over the web at no cost created a new revolution in using those data. Papers in this session will showcase the advances in analytical approaches, especially time series and broad area assessments and new scientific and operational applications, made possible by eliminating cost barriers for accessing data and by advances in computing and data processing technologies.

- Emerging applications and free data successes
- Monitoring environmental change from local to global scales
- Methodological advances
- Time series science and outcomes
- Environmental and disaster risk assessments

MAPPiNG AND MONIToRING THE GLOBE

The 40-year Landsat legacy consisting of data covering the globe since 1972 created unique opportunities for understanding global change and the condition of the planet. This session will explore progress, current successes, and policy and technical challenges required to improve science and applications for mapping and monitoring our planet.

- USGEO, GEO, and CEOS activities for improving global monitoring
- Integrated global observations and the benefits of international missions
- Continental to global applications of land imaging data
- Climate change science and applications
- Long term climate data records and essential climate variables

THE NEXT FORTY YEARS

The future of land remote sensing and the continuation of Pecora’s vision are the focus of the final session. Papers will explore the needs for improved education and training, advancing policies and investments, scientific research, and other Earth observation infrastructure. Special emphasis will be given to the next generation of land remote sensing leaders.

- Education and outreach
- Observation science supporting policy needs
- Integrating Earth observations and in situ measurements
- Decadal survey and other future Earth observations technologies and missions
- Future operational and analytical strategies

TOPICS OF INTEREST FOR ADVANCEING THE USE OF REMOTE SENSING TO UNDERSTAND OUR CHANGING WORLD

The Pecora Symposium was originally established to provide a forum where users of remotely sensed land data could exchange scientific and practical results of their studies. Pecora 18 honors that tradition by seeking papers and posters that address a broad spectrum of interesting and innovative scientific studies that contribute to understanding and managing environmental change. These include, but are not limited to:

Environmental Monitoring and Change

- Land Use and Land Cover Change
- Climate Variability and Change
- Understanding Biogeochemical Cycles
- Trends in Ecosystem Services
- Sea Ice, Glaciation, and Snow Pack Assessment
- Erosion Control and Hydrological Assessment
- Deforestation, Desertification, and Salinization
- Expanding Human Activity and Urbanization

Natural Resource Management

- Agriculture, Forestry, and Sustainable Development
- Water Resource Assessment and Management
- Energy Resource/Mineral Wealth Assessment & Mgt.
- Conservation Planning
- Habitat and Biodiversity Protection

Civil Operations and Applications

- Land Use Planning and Management
- Resource Conservation and Management
- Wildfire, Coastal Zone, and Flood Plain Assessment
- Human Health and Well-Being
- Physical Infrastructure Assessment and Operation
- Navigation and Transportation Planning & Mgt.
- Property Valuation and Assessment
- Water and Air Quality
- Natural Disasters Mitigation and Response

National Security

- Intelligence and Information Gathering
- Homeland Security
- U.S. Military Operations

International Cooperation

- Boundary Control
- International Conventions and Treaty Management
- Disasters and the International Charter
- Humanitarian Relief and Recovery
Submission of Abstracts

Abstracts should be submitted electronically using the form available at the symposium web site, www.asprs.org/pecora18. Authors will be asked to select a category for their paper according to the categories and topic areas listed on the web site, and they will be asked to state a preference for oral or poster presentation. Abstracts may not exceed 300 words in length. Abstracts also should include 3–5 keywords and contact information for the senior author and the presenter.

If electronic submission using the web site is not possible, abstracts and required information may be mailed to the Pecora 18 Steering Committee Chairman, Mr. Tom Holm, U.S. Geological Survey, EROS Center, Sioux Falls, SD 57198 or emailed to holm@usgs.gov.

Please Include:
- Topic or category from web site list
- Preference for oral or poster presentation
- Paper title
- Abstract not to exceed 300 words in length
- 3 to 5 key words
- Author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s)
- Proposed presenter(s) names and contact information
- Author contact information, including mailing address, phone, fax and e-mail

Selection Criteria

All submissions will be evaluated by no less than three technical reviewers, and selections will be based on overall quality of the submission and its responsiveness to the symposium theme. The final decision on acceptance of submissions will depend on response to this Call and space availability.

Abstracts are due May 16, 2011, and strict adherence to submission deadlines is required. Notices of acceptance will be sent by e-mail on or about June 24, 2011 by the Technical Program Chairs of this symposium. Upon notification of acceptance, authors will be expected to acknowledge receipt of the acceptance letter by email, verifying their intent to attend and make a presentation at the symposium.

Authors who have not received a communication regarding their submission by July 8, 2011, should contact the Pecora 18 Steering Committee Chairman listed in this announcement.

Papers accepted for oral presentation will be assigned to a concurrent session based on topic. Authors sharing common interests are encouraged to coordinate submission of papers that could form a session on a specific topic. Concurrent sessions will be 90 minutes in duration, consisting of three or four oral presentations, each of which will be 15–20 minutes in length.

Inclusion of Presentation in Proceedings

If a presenter wishes to have his or her work included in the proceedings, a full presentation must be submitted electronically no later than September 12, 2011. Complete details will be included in the Notification of Acceptance e-mail. Proceedings submissions are not required to make an oral or poster presentation at the symposium.
Workshop Proposals

ASPRS, as a co-organizer of the Pecora Symposium, will sponsor workshops on Sunday, November 13 and Monday, November 14, 2011. These workshops are intended to be educational and not for promoting vendor software or hardware. Workshops should be impartial and cover a wide range of commercial sources even if a specific commercial vendor employs the instructor. Workshops can be taught as either half-day (4 hour) or full-day (8 hour) courses. Workshops may not have more than two paid instructors. If there is more than one instructor, only one instructor will be the point of contact for the workshop.

Anyone wishing to propose a workshop for presentation (this would be the person who would be the instructor) must provide the following information to the ASPRS Workshop Coordinator by May 16, 2011:

- Workshop title
- 500-word abstract describing the length of the workshop (half or full-day); the goals/objectives and content of the workshop; the intended audience of the workshop including whether it is introductory, intermediate, or advanced material; and, names of instructors
- Instructor(s) vitae
- Whether this is an established or a newly developed workshop and whether the instructor(s) have given this workshop in the past
- If it is an established workshop, provide a copy of the most current workbook/materials

All workshop proposals will be considered for this meeting and the ASPRS Workshop Coordinator will notify those selected for inclusion in the Workshop Program.

In addition to considering new proposals, the Workshop Coordinator will recruit additional workshops to complete a well-balanced program, minimizing subject overlap and maximizing the quality of the overall Workshop Program. Anyone wishing to propose a workshop for consideration should contact ASPRS Workshop Coordinator Bob Burtch at (231) 591-2634, rburtch@charter.net. ASPRS reserves the right to cancel any workshop that does not have sufficient enrollment 30 days prior to the start date.

Important Dates

Abstracts Due
May 16, 2011

Workshop Proposals Due
May 16, 2011

Notice of Acceptance
June 24, 2011

Speaker Registration Date
August 24, 2011

Paper Deadline (for inclusion in Proceedings)
September 12, 2011

See the ASPRS website for more information
http://www.asprs.org/pecora18/
The Pecora 18 Symposium will take place at the Hilton Washington Dulles Hotel located in Herndon, Virginia, just minutes outside of Washington, D.C. The hotel features complimentary airport and local shuttle, complimentary in-room internet access, business center, fitness center, indoor and outdoor pools, and a variety of restaurants onsite.

The Hilton Washington Dulles Hotel is a prime location for the Pecora 18 Symposium with its close proximity to Washington, D.C. Many popular Washington area attractions are within minutes of the Hotel, including the White House, Capitol Building, National Zoo, World War II Memorial, Holocaust Museum, the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, and Historic Manassas Battlefields—just to name a few.

It's easy to get around too. Take a ride on the complimentary hotel shuttle to the Metrorail subway system—one of the finest in the world, safe, clean and easy to master—and you have all of Washington, at your fingertips.

Photo credit: Jake McGuire and Destination DC