**ASPRS Data Preservation & Archiving Committee**

**Telecons 17 & 18 May 2012**

Attendees: Jim McDonald, Jeff Young, John Faundeen, Bob Pope, Bill Teng, Liuis

Colomer, Camal Dharamdial

Agenda Topics:

* Data Preservation Term Definitions
* Scope for the Committee
* Data Management Statement
* Data Rescue Efforts
* Data Purge Alert
* Aerial Imagery Inventory
* Baltimore Annual Meeting Session

Data Preservation Term Definitions

First brought up at the Sacramento meeting, consensus of the telecom participants was that utilizing a list of terms relevant to ASPRS would be welcome. Where possible, utilizing definitions from professional organizations is desirable. Only where we can not find an applicable definition to a term ASPRS uses, will we plan to create our own. Several additional terms were suggested:

* catalog/inventory/index
* short-term
* provenance
* disposal/purge (as part of or in place of disposition)
* ISO records management elements

**Action:** John to send out an updated list of defined terms by June 1, 2012.

**Action:** Committee to provide comments back to John by July 1, 2012

Scope for the Committee

The telecom participants also discussed the scope for the committee and felt that we should include the following:

* primary focus is on land data
* physical samples
* in-situ data
* ground control data
* map libraries
* data processing SW/HW/firmware
* QC data
* Manuals/procedures/how to guides
* Types and forms of data e.g. videography, lidar
* Data lifecycle models and concepts
* Pre-Internet vs. post-Internet preservation challenges

**Action:** John to update DPAC charter to include the above information by July 15, 2012.

Data Management Statement

An example of a recently approved statement proclaiming data management principles and guidelines was discussed. The group felt such a document would be useful for the ASPRS membership.

**ACTION**: John to send out a statement from the ASPRS perspective for review by June 15, 2012.

**ACTION:** Committee to provide comments back to John by July 15, 2012.

Data Rescue Efforts

John shared three efforts that are attempting to rescue science data that may be applicable to ASPRS. The first is 6-year old project in the USGS. An annual submission and selection process takes place there. The second activity is conducted by the ICSU CODATA Data at Risk Task Group who is building an inventory of science data at risk. The third is the U.S. Library of Congress supported National Digital Spatial Alliance who is also working to build an inventory of data facing preservation or access issues. John can be the contact point for more information on these three efforts.

Data Purge Alert

The Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) sponsors a Purge Alert service that merely emails notices of the intention of one entity to dispose of a set of records. This service, currently managed by the USGS, could be used by the Committee to post member intentions to dispose of their data with the hope that another member may step up and take on the preservation and/or access role for what is being offered. A current relevant example was discussed involving the Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. The University possesses aerial photography over a county in Texas that it wants to dispose of. The telecom participants also discussed a situation involving multiple California universities aerial holdings. Overall, the participants felt that this would be a very useful role for the Committee to pursue.

**Action:** John to establish explanatory text and links on the Committee web site for ASPRS members to utilize the CEOS Purge Alert service by July 15, 2012.

Aerial Imagery Inventory

Building upon the Sacramento discussion, the participants felt that an online service that listed available aerial photography, particularly from non-federal sources would be a great asset to ASPRS. Soliciting ASPRS members for contact information, acquisition date, film type (B&W, BIR, natural color, or CIR), scale, and some form of geographics such as actual lat/longs or a political division like state / province / county, along with any additional information would be a good start down this path. Contacting the MAPPS organization was also suggested.

**Action:** Jeff and Cindy Clark to determine status of proposal submitted March 2012 to ASPRS Board to establish an inventory by June 15, 2012.

**Action:** John to contact MAPPS to determine best way to solicit from their membership aerial holdings information discussed above by July 15, 2012.

Baltimore Annual Meeting Session

The telecom participants brainstormed ideas for a March 2013 DPAC sponsored session. A working title for the session is *Best Practices*. Jeff Young suggested (via email sent previously) the following scenario:

*I suggest planning a best practice session where we invite representatives from multiple tiers of government, professional and private organizations . Participants would be asked to present their approaches to archiving and preservation of geospatial information. Discussions might include policy, methodology and technology themes. Also this might lead to a special addition of PE&RS on the topic… where presenters would be asked to contribute articles on their approach in a structured publication environment.*

The idea had traction by the participants with Lluis relaying that he and/or Carme Montaner could represent their institution from Spain at such a session. Others agreed that this could be a very interesting approach for ASPRS.

The idea will be better framed this summer with a goal to finalize at the Tampa meeting so that a session proposal can be submitted for the annual meeting in Baltimore.

**Action:** All to contribute to session framing discussion over the next few months.