

2009 Annual Report of the Remote Sensing Committee

1. Committee Roster

Last	First	Affiliation	Email	Term Ends
Ferraro	Ralph	NOAA/NESDIS (Chair)	Ralph.R.Ferraro@noaa.gov	2011
Buecheler	Dennis	Univ. Alabama - Huntsville	Dennis.Buechler@msfc.nasa.gov	2011
Bunin	Stacey	Noblis, Inc.	sbunin@noblis.org	2011
Carey	Ken	Noblis, Inc.	kcarey@noblis.org	Ex Officio
Ellrod	Gary	Retired NOAA (Webmaster)	Gary.Ellrod@gmail.com	2011
Gurka	Jim	NOAA/NESDIS	James.Gurka@noaa.gov	2011
Heinselmann	Pam	NOAA/NSSL	Pam.Heinselmann@noaa.gov	2010
Lee	Tom	NRL	lee@nrlmry.navy.mil	2011
MacKenzie	Wayne	Univ. Alabama - Huntsville	Wayne.Mackenzie@nsstc.uah.edu	2011
Martinelli	Jay	Creighton Univ.	Jay@cerighton.edu	2010
Motta	Brian	NOAA/NWS	Brian.Motta@noaa.gov	2011
Nelson	Craig	NPOESS/IPO	Craig.Nelson@noaa.gov	2010
+Santos	Pablo	NOAA/NWS	Pablo.Santos@noaa.gov	2009
+Stanga	Michael	Saint Cloud State Univ. (Student)	Michael.Stanga@gmail.com	2009
Underwood	Jeff	Univ. Nevada - Reno	jeffu@unr.edu	2010
+Yoe	Jim	NOAA/NESDIS	James.G.Yoe@noaa.gov	2009

+ Request Council Approval for term renewal (ending December 2012)

2. Goals for 2009

- *Raise awareness of the value of remote sensing capabilities, to include use of radar, profiler, lightning, satellite, and Global Positioning System Meteorology (GPS-Met) data network sensors*

ONGOING: We have made great progress and several initiatives are underway to promote the value of remote sensing capabilities which include:

- (1) Publication of remote sensing articles and newsworthy items in the NWA newsletter and electronic operational journal
 - (2) Promoted and developed a promotional flyer for the NWA Meteorological Satellite Award for outstanding undergraduate satellite studies and research
 - (3) Committee representation at several national and international meetings of relevance.
 - (4) Committee members serving as authors, reviewers and editors of the NWA Digest and NWA Electronic Journal
- *Publish regular articles on remote sensing training and education topics in the NWA newsletter, on the NWA web site and in NWA journals, as appropriate*

ONGOING: Nearly every committee member has contributed to the creation, review and co-authorship of monthly articles submitted for publication in the NWA newsletter. In the past year, the following articles were written, submitted (blue) and were published (green) in the Newsletter and posted on our web page (expanded versions):

Authors	Issue	Title
Nelson, Gurka and Lee	Nov-08	A New Constellation - Leveraging NPOESS and GOES-R
Torres and Heinselman	Jan-09	Super Resolution for the NEXRAD Network
Motta	Feb-09	Remote Sensing Outlook and Update
Gurka	Apr-09	GOES-R Users Conference/Update
Ellrod	May-09	Remote Sensing of Mt. Redoubt Volcanic Eruptions
Heinselman	Jul-09	Operational Assessment on Radar Refractivity and Forecaster Assessment
Carey and Ferraro	Sept	Broadcaster Workshop
Lee and Motta	Oct?	Emerging new tools - Cloudsat
Stanga	Nov?	High Resolution Surface Station Network in Severe Weather Forecasting

- *Host a special session or workshop on remote sensing topics at the 2009 NWA Annual Meeting*

COMPLETED: Working closely with K.Carey and D. Freeman (Professional Development), and Mike Goldberg (Broadcast Meteorology) a 90-minute workshop entitled “Advanced Remote Sensing Tools for the TV Broadcaster” was organized and delivered on Sunday, October 18. The well-received session, chaired by Gary Ellrod, was presented by Kevin Scharfenberg of NOAA/NWS (Dual Polarization Radar), Gary Ellrod (Fog/Low clouds from

satellite) and Sheldon Kusselson of NOAA/NESDIS (Satellite Forecasting tools for floods/warnings).

Feedback on this session would be greatly appreciated from the council.

- *Promote and solicit applications for the NWA Meteorological Satellite Applications Award Grant (for undergraduate students)*

ONGOING: Despite our best efforts to aggressively market this scholarship (e.g., a professionally-developed brochure that encourages applicants for this prestigious award and wide distribution to multiple educational list serves to attract maximum exposure), only one applicant was received in 2009. Fortunately, it was a high quality submission, so we were pleased to give the award to Corey Walton of the University of Miami, who performed an excellent study on tropical cyclone intensity with AMSU satellite data. A new brochure for 2010 was developed and sent out to educational institutions. We are working with John Gordon (M&M) “to hit the streets” and make presentations at local universities (presentation completed on October 8 at University of Maryland, College Park). Craig Nelson and Jay Martinelli are our focal points for the award.

We received one comment from an undergraduate professor that the award should be raised to \$1000 from \$500 (noting that this was more of a standard stipend these days); responded that I would pass this message on to the council.

- *Explore a possible partnership and leverage relationships with like-minded committees and boards such as the AMS Satellite Meteorology Committee*

STATUS: None directly to date.

- *Participate and support scientific and technical exchanges at conference and symposia remote sensing fora*

ONGOING: Our committee members have participated in numerous technical conference/symposia that include the following:

- 4th International Workshop of the IPWG
Beijing, China
October 2008
IPWG Co-Chair and meeting organizer
- 89th American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting
January 2009

Phoenix, AZ

Presented numerous papers to the various symposia; chaired sessions; co-organized symposia

- Nebraska State Science Olympiad
Lincoln, NE
April 2009
Served as Meteorology Coordinator
- GOES-R AWG and related meetings
Washington, DC and Madison, WI
Active participation in all aspects of the GOES-R program including the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for the Risk-Reduction and Algorithm Development
- Tri-State Weather Conference
Danbury, CT
April 2009
Poster Presentation
- *Support the NWA awards process by developing and submitting at least one NWA annual award nomination package (**Action Item 08-17**)*

COMPLETED: A submission was made for the Operational Achievement Group Award. Gary Ellrod and Stacy Bunin took the lead on this.

- *Modify web pages as needed to comply with new NWA IT committee standards*

ONGOING: Our committee webmaster (Gary Ellrod) continues to do an outstanding job maintaining our committee web site. He has added copies of the newsletter articles published so far (many as expanded papers), the paper from the 2009 undergraduate METSAT award winner, etc. We also have developed a great relationship with Brad Herold of the IT Committee. Brad points us to interesting tidbits on remote sensing, which we post on the web page. Gary has also worked closely with Jordan Gerth of the PD Committee on their revised web page. We recently added links to COMET training modules through interactions with Wendy Abshire.

3. Anticipated Goals for 2010 (new goals in bold)

- *Raise awareness of the value of remote sensing capabilities, to include use of radar, profiler, lightning, satellite and GPS Meteorology (GPS-Met) data network sensors*

- *Publish regular articles on remote sensing training and education topics in the NWA newsletter, on the NWA web site and in NWA journals, as appropriate. **Have at least one joint article with another committee.***
- *Promote and solicit applications for the NWA Meteorological Satellite Applications Award Grant (for undergraduate students). **Be more proactive in our promotion of this award and get at least three applicants in 2010.***
- *Participate and support scientific and technical exchanges at conference and symposia remote sensing fora*
- *Support the NWA awards process by developing and submitting at least one NWA annual award nomination package*
- *Continue to keep committee web page up to date with relevant information for NWA membership*
- ***Develop** possible partnership and leverage relationships with like-minded committees and boards such as the AMS Satellite Meteorology committee and international partners like EUMETSAT*
- ***Develop advocacy letters, if needed, to ensure that the operational forecasting community has the needed remote sensing tools to monitor and predict life threatening weather events.***

4. Issues for the Council:

- Approve membership renewal for three members who terms expire at the end of 2009.
- Receive written feedback on 2009 remote sensing workshop so that future workshops can continue to improve.
- Feedback on better ways to solicit METSAT award nominations.
- It would be nice to be better engaged/informed with the annual meeting organizers on the remote sensing papers/posters. (I probably just need to be more proactive on this).