

NWA Remote Sensing Committee Meeting Summary

Thursday, July 13, 2006

2:00-3:00 p.m. (EDT)

1. Annual NWA award submissions: Gary Ellrod and Rod Scofield (Tom, Craig and Gary)

Ken thanked Tom and Craig for spearheading development of the award nomination packages on our committee's behalf. Tom developed and submitted the T. Theodore Fujita Research Achievement Award for Gary, while Craig developed and submitted a similar package for a Special Lifetime Achievement Award for Roderick Scofield. Gary also nominated NWA President David Knapp for the T. Theodore Fujita Research Achievement Award.

2. Remote sensing training and education articles (Wayne, Ralph, Tom and Brian)

Wayne is leading a signature committee initiative on remote sensing training and education. A kickoff article will be published in the August NWA newsletter, and short topical discussions will be published in the NWA newsletter and on our web page, on a regular basis, beginning in September 2006. Wayne requested help on identifying topics to cover. These articles may be published on the NWA web site at a later date, if appropriate.

ACTIONS:

(All) Provide Wayne topics to consider for publication as a short article in the NWA newsletter.

(Wayne): Develop a proposed list of topics to be presented in our series of remote sensing newsletter articles. Finalize and send in our kickoff article to the NWA newsletter before August 4. Coordinate development of future articles in time to send in by the first week of the month.

3. Next steps for GOES-MWS (Ralph)

Our approved GOES Microwave Sensor letter of support was well received and distributed by the NWA nationally and internationally. The WMO Coordinating Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) has told us that the European Space Agency, while recognizing its value, does not consider the GOES-MWS as a core Earth Explorer mission and could not commit to be the project as the lead agency. Don Hinsman suggested we discuss and encourage NOAA/NESDIS “to propose a discussion on the MWS project at CGMS with a view to investigate the possibilities of a partnership among CGMS members”.

ACTION: (Ralph and Jim) Discuss with NOAA/NESDIS, then propose the alternatives to our committee regarding asking Greg Withee to agree to such a discussion.

4. HES letter of support (Jim)

Jim Gurka and Tom Schmit (NOAA/NESDIS) drafted and Ken circulated a proposed draft letter of support for the Hyperspectral Environmental Sounder (HES). Jim agreed to develop a next draft for committee review by July 21, and ready a final version for NWA Council consideration by August 15.

ACTION: (Jim) Develop a next draft for committee review, to include references and a robust justification for the HES. Prepare a cover letter, for Ken’s signature, to the NWA Council by August 15.

5. Need for GPS/profiler committee expertise (Ken)

Ken asked for everyone’s help to fill a void on our committee for someone with GPS and profiler remoter sensing expertise. Ken sent e-mails to Seth Gutman (former committee member) and Jim Yoe (JCSDA) asking for their help in acquiring one or two GPS/profiler representatives.

ACTIONS:

(All) Acquire and forward to Ken name and contact information (e-mail and phone number) of appropriate GPS and profiler remote sensing volunteers for committee consideration.

(Ken) Submit one or two names to the NWA for approval to join our committee in January 2007.

6. Special remote sensing session at the NWA annual meeting (Ken and Mike)

For the 14-19 October 2006 NWA Annual meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, Ken has coordinated the oral and poster presentations for our special session on Remote Sensing Applications and Technologies with Theresa Rossi, the annual meeting chair, Dave Knapp (NWA President) and Kevin Lavin (NWA Executive Director). Ken and Mike will co-chair this session but need everyone's help to make this successful. Ken provided each committee member with the overall agenda and abstracts for the proposed oral and poster presentations.

ACTION: (Mike and Ken) Coordinate preparation for the remote sensing special session. Keep committee members informed as to its status and the need for any help or assistance.

7. Newsletter input (Craig)

With Craig's leadership, our committee has done an excellent job of developing and providing input to the NWA newsletter each month. Mike authored a article on the OFCM report on the Multifunction Phased Array Radar.

Please continue to support Craig's efforts, along our new remote sensing training and education initiative, to ensure our constituents are aware, leveraging and using remote sensing techniques to their full advantage.

ACTION: (Craig) Ensure committee newsletter input are received by the NWA newsletter staff by the first week of each month.

8. Web page status and updates since last meeting (Gary)

Improvements to the remote sensing committee's web pages from April to July 2006 included expanded content, corrections to existing resource links, and enhancement of appearance and readability with changes in font size and better organization. Links to the minutes of the April teleconference, the updated geo-Microwave letter of support, and the OFCM report on phased array radar were added, along with the first GOES-13 visible images. Committee members can now view all of the presentations of the 4th GOES-R Users Conference held in early May. There are a number of new radar products from the NWS that can now be accessed directly from the radar page. Font size for the committee's vision and mission statements was increased for better visibility. There are now headings for current products, recent activities, and hot news on the homepage (<http://www.nwas.org/committees/rs/sat.html>)

9. Possible addition of a student representative (Ken)

I have acquired an undergraduate student volunteer that is interested in joining our committee—Mr. Michael Stanga. I have asked the NWA Council to approve my request that he be allowed to join our committee at the earliest opportunity.

ACTION: (Ken) Pursue approval for Michael Stanga to join our committee.

10. Next meeting (Ken)

Our next Remote Sensing Committee meeting/conference call is planned for the week of October 2, 2006 just before the NWA annual meeting.

ACTION: (Ken) Schedule and host a committee conference call the first week of October.