



PSW News

March 22, 2017
Volume 3 Issue 1

Announcement:

ASPRS Pacific Southwest Region Technical Meeting San Diego State University

**Friday April 21, 1:30 PM
Storm Hall Room 119**

- 13:30 – 13:35** **Welcome**
- 13:35 – 14:05** **Ron Eguchi** (ImageCat, Inc)
Earthquakes, Hurricanes, and Other Disasters—
A View from Space
- 14:10 – 14:40** **Darryl Anunciado** (Action Drone, Inc)
Opening New Doors with Industrial Drones
- 14:45 – 15:15** **Mike Ritter** (SlantRange, Inc)
Technology and Applications of Remote Sensing in
Precision Agriculture
- 15:15 – 15:30** **Break**
- 15:30 – 16:30** **Plenary Talk**
Rebecca Morton (GeoWing Mapping, Inc)
An Overview of ASPRS Technologies and Areas of
Research
- 16:30** **Closing Remarks & Reception**

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Kindly RSVP for a parking pass here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/Nc57aEMljinN7HKtY2>

Contact Cindy Tsai for questions: cindyxtsai@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!

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ASPRS IGTF 2017 – Baltimore, MD – March 12-16, 2017

By: Alan Mikuni, PSW Region National Director, Past President of ASPRS

Following several annual/National conferences that experienced both financial and professional losses, ASPRS needed to regroup to try to right the organization's conference infrastructure, a key revenue generator (at least in the past), since membership revenue has been on the decline of late. I say "professional" losses, because many members, both individual and corporate, began to question the value of ASPRS. ASPRS is still facing major financial difficulties which are slowly being overcome only after very close oversight and instituting important alterations in managing the Association.

After significant effort on the part of many volunteers throughout ASPRS, notably Karen Schuckman, who agreed to serve as conference chair, the 2017 IGTF (Imagery and Geospatial Technology Forum) proved to be a relative success.

A highlight of the conference for Pacific Southwest Region was the installation of Becky Morton of GeoWing Mapping as ASPRS' 83rd National President. Anne Hillyer of the Bonneville Power Administration was installed as the President Elect, and Dr. Tommy Jordan, University of Georgia, was installed as the Vice President.

Keynote speakers included Jack Dangermond of ESRI, Kass Green of Kass Green Associates, Patrick Meyer of iRevolution, and Keith Masback of USGIF.

A few statistics about the conference: approximately 600 attendees; 20 pre-conference workshops, including a hands-on UAS data processing workshop; over 200 presentations in technical sessions; and 21 exhibitors.

An event that was tried successfully in Palm Springs at the UAS Mapping Symposium was the Exhibit Hall Theater, where exhibitors were invited to give short presentations to entice attendees to spend more time at their booths. This was tried again in Baltimore and, again, seemed to be appreciated by the exhibitors.

Two days of pre-conference ASPRS governance meetings, e.g., the board of directors, committees, divisions, and other organizational elements, were also held.

Future:

Agreement was reached with Diversified Communications to collaborate on ASPRS UAS portion of Commercial UAV Expo, Las Vegas, NV October 24-26, 2017. Also on the ASPRS conference calendar is the 20th Pecora Conference, in Sioux Falls SD November 12-16, 2017. Next year, ASPRS will again partner with Diversified Communications for the International Lidar Mapping Forum, Denver, CO, February 5-7, 2018.



Becky Morton is now the ASPRS President

Scholarships Awarded by the ASPRS Pacific Southwest Region

Congratulations to the three below doctoral students who were each awarded \$1000 scholarships by the ASPRS Pacific Southwest Region. A brief overview of their research and goals is provided.

Emanuel Storey, San Diego State University, Geography

Emanuel Storey's graduate studies and future career path are in the areas of remote sensing and spatial-temporal analysis. His overarching interest is in developing more useful ways to analyze remotely sensed imagery in order to support Earth science, land management, and natural disaster mitigation. The aim of his current doctoral research is to show how frequent wildfires and extreme droughts are interrelated and linked to long-term vegetation changes in southern California. His personal career goal is not only to develop more effective remote sensing workflows, but to answer important scientific questions based on innovative spatial-temporal analysis of imagery. His research on vegetation change in southern California will shed light on the relationships between ecosystem function, climate change, and the human-affected fire regimes.

Katie Taladay, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Geography

Katie Taladay's research aims to develop new methods for using imagery collected by unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) to

map local-scale, benthic community assemblages with a particular focus on submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) including macroalgae and seagrass. Ultimately, her goal is to develop geospatial methods that can be employed by community volunteer, monitoring and coastal restoration groups which attract thousands of local volunteers every year. Citizen scientists have the potential to be powerful players in protecting, monitoring and restoring local coastal ecosystems. Once she fully develops a method for SAV detection, she will deliver this tool to groups who can benefit from it. Katie has partnered with Mālama Maunaloa (<http://www.malamamaunaloa.org/>) and Our Project In Hawai'i's Intertidal (OPIHI) to help support participatory action in coastal monitoring through UAV survey training and the development of publically accessible, online GIS platforms to visualize citizen scientists' data.

Qian Zhang, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Geography

Qian Zhang is working to detect and map the spatial distribution of invasive Albizia trees in Hawaii at the regional scale, using spectral and spatial data from high spatial resolution (WorldView-2) satellite imagery and support vector machine (SVM) image classification techniques. The combination of spectral-spatial multi-features with a multi-class SVM classifier has the potential to discriminate between spectrally similar classes for improved classification of Albizia trees. Qian Zhang's study area will include all of Oahu and Maui, Hawaii. The scholarship from the PSW Region of ASPRS will help Qian purchase high-resolution aerial imagery, which will support large scale mapping with satellite imagery.

Upcoming Events of Interest:

Mar. 23, 2017 March Air Reserve Base, CA	Inland Empire GIS User Group Meeting
Mar. 27-29, 2017 Reston, VA	2017 FAA UAS Symposium
Apr. 21, 2017 San Diego, CA	ASPRS PSW Region Technical Meeting
Apr. 26, 2017 Sacramento, CA	Sacramento GIS User Group Meeting
Apr. 26, 2017 Petaluma, CA	North Bay GIS UG Developer Meeting
May 22-24, 2017 Oakland, CA	CalGIS/LocationCon Conference



PSW News

Your Pacific Southwest Region Council

The officers for the Pacific Southwest Region are working hard to provide you with quality technical presentations near to home. In the last few years we've offered technical sessions in San Diego, Fresno, Reno, and Davis. We are currently planning sessions for 2017. If you have suggestions for locations and topics for a session near where you live, please contact one of our officers or the region email at pswasprs@gmail.com.

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We welcome any suggestions that would allow us to better serve ASPRS membership in Arizona, California, Nevada, Hawaii, and the Pacific Islands.

Help Wanted

The ASPRS PSW Region is seeking volunteers to mentor local community colleges or universities with the process of starting and growing ASPRS student chapters.

If you are interested, please contact Steve Steinberg at steves@sccwrp.org

Can you suggest a better name for our Newsletter? Send your suggestions to pswasprs@gmail.com. If your suggestion is adopted, you'll receive a PSW Region USB Drive as a prize!