



CPGIS

The International Association of Chinese Professionals in Geographic Information Sciences
国际华人地理信息科学协会

President's Note

Greetings CPGIS Members and Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you all in great humor. As you have likely felt, the year of 2014 has been very exciting for CPGIS. There are too many activities and stories to highlight one by one within this message. I will mention just a few here to share the excitement.

We have just wrapped up the fantastic 22nd International Conference on Geoinformatics in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Several hundred attendees had a great time of sharing cutting edge work revolving around the hot theme of CyberGIS and Big Data. In addition to attracting attendance from all over the world, the conference deeply engaged the entire GIS community of Taiwan owing to the great idea of holding the Geoinformatics 2014 jointly with the Annual Conference of Taiwan Geographic Information Society and Urban Geographic Information System Forum.

We cannot thank enough the diligent work and tremendous hospitality of the local organizing committee – consisting of many GIS colleagues in Taiwan (e.g., Dr. Wan-Kai Lee, Dr. Chih-Hong Sun, Dr. Bor-Wen Tsai, and Ms. Joyce Zhang, to name just a few) – who have made our experience in Kaohsiung so memorable. It is certainly all of the committees, speakers and attendees who have collectively made the conference so special this year. Many thanks for all of your contribution and participation!

It is a tradition for CPGIS to recognize the excellence of her members at annual Geoinformatics conferences. At Geoinformatics 2014, we recognized the following CPGIS members for their outstanding achievements and services.

Receipts of CPGIS Education Award:

Dr. Lin Liu
Dr. Anrong Dang

CPGIS Service Excellence Award (Individual):

Dr. Pinde Fu
Dr. Xinyue Ye

CPGIS Service Excellence Award (Group):

2013 Publication Committee Chaired by Drs. Shixiong Hu and Xinyue Ye
2013 Health-GIS Committee, Chaired by Dr. Xun Shi

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One interesting coincidence worth noting is that Dr. Lin Liu was the CPGIS President who spearheaded Geoinformatics 1997 in Taipei, Taiwan, and he received his Education Award in Taiwan 17 years later. Dr. Jie Tian at Clark University ran another very successful student paper competition and three papers out of eight finalists received best paper awards. Wholehearted congratulations to all of these well-deserved awardees!

Another activity worth highlighting is a high-end international forum entitled “Fostering International Geospatial Health Research Collaborations: Challenges and Opportunities.” CPGIS President Elect – Dr. Mei-Po Kwan collaborated with Dr. Xun Shi (a past president of CPGIS) to mobilize CPGIS, the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the University of Hong Kong, and the Association of American Geographers (AAG) for putting together this great forum. The forum was successfully held at CUHK during June 16-18, 2014, and hosted by Dr. Hui Lin (the founding president of CPGIS). More information about the forum is available online at: <http://www.iseis.cuhk.edu.hk/fighrc/Introduction.html>.

I thought our AAG 2014 Get Together was quite informative with many interesting happenings shared by various CPGIS committees. We are incredibly grateful for all of your contributions and services to CPGIS. As always, I would love to hear from you about your ideas for growing and improving CPGIS, and how CPGIS might be of help to your career advancement.

Thank you, and have a great summer!

Best regards,

Shaowen Wang, PhD

President, CPGIS (<http://www.cpgis.org>)

Professor, *Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science (Primary); Department of Computer Science; Department of Urban and Regional Planning; and Graduate School of Library and Information Science*

Centennial Scholar, *College of Liberal Arts and Sciences*

Founding Director, *CyberGIS Center for Advanced Digital and Spatial Studies ([CyberGIS Center](#)); CyberInfrastructure and Geospatial Information Laboratory ([CIGI Laboratory](#))*

Associate Director for CyberGIS, *National Center for Supercomputing Applications ([NCSA](#))*

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign





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CPGIS BOD 2013-2014



Shaowen
Wang



Yuemin
Ding



Shixiong
Hu



Yu Liu



Xinyue Ye



Pinde Fu



Meipo
Kwan



Xun Shi



Qisheng
Pan



Cuizheng
Wang



Changshan
Wu

CPGIS Business Meeting at AAG 2014



The AAG Get-Together Committee organized our annual gathering at AAG on April 10 (Thursday), 6:30 – 9:00pm, at the Ballroom B in the Convention Center (the conference hotel), Tampa Florida. About 100 participants attended the gathering. At the business meeting, many committee chairs briefly presented their activity reports. Many members provided suggestions to the management team.

After the business meeting, this year we also organized a dinner party. CPGIS board of directors approved a fixed budget to partially subsidize the dinner cost. More than 50 participants attended the dinner party.

We would like to thank the current president Shaowen Wang, who contributed a great deal of time and effort to find a good restaurant, make reservation, and decide the dinner menu. It was truly a team work that went beyond any committee.

We would also like to thank our General Secretary Dr. Shuming Bao, who also helped organize the gathering and helped developing the web-based registration, which is very helpful for organizing the dinner party.

Chuanrong Zhang (Chair)

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In Memory of Dr. Roger Tomlinson

“Dear CPGIS members and friends,

Sad news: Dr. Roger Tomlinson, Father of GIS, passed away on Feb 9.

Dr. Tomlinson is an honorary member of CPGIS. He has been very supportive to CPGIS over the years. (See the attached photos, taken at the 2012 Geoinformatics conference in Hong Kong)

Dr. Tomlinson made great contributions to GIS (see the email below). Without him, we would lack a passionate career.

Dr. Tomlinson, rest in peace. We will miss you.”

Message from Dr. Pinde Fu, past CPGIS President



Photo credit: Pinde Fu



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Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship Committee

- CPGIS will join in 3SNews to the coming WGDC conference, June 11-12, Beijing. WGDC is the largest conference for geospatial development community. Dr Vincent tao will present at this WGDC as a keynote speaker. This is the 3rd time for Dr Tao to present at this conference. (2014 地理信息开发者大会是由 3sNews 主办的地理信息领域最具影响力的技术创新盛会,其宗旨是不断引领和促进地理信息技术的创新与变革)
- Geosmart summit 2014 will be held in Hongkong , June 16-17, 2014. Dr Vincent Tao, Chair of CPGIS TTEC is invited as a keynote speaker at this conference. Geosmart summit is the most influential conference for Asian geospatial industrial.
- The first Venture Investment Funds, Global Earth Investment Co (GEI), was established by Dr Vincent Tao for geospatial innovations. By leveraging funding and resources, GEI is helping companies with geospatial technology, and services to grow to the next stage. This is the first venture capital (VC) funds established in China to invest particularly in the geospatial areas.
- The National Science Foundation (NSF) Industry & University Cooperative Research Center (I/UCRC) Program funded three universities to establish the I/UCRC for Spatiotemporal Thinking, Computing, and Applications to research potential solutions to address such challenges. The three collaborating universities—University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB), George Mason University (Mason), and Harvard--will each take the leadership in thinking, computing and application respectively. Numerous government and industry sponsors are included as partners in the research. See www.stcenter.net <<http://www.stcenter.net/>>. Led by Chaowei Yang (Mason, director), Keith Clarke (UCSB, co-director), and Peter Bol (Harvard, co-director), the US NSF Spatiotemporal Innovation Center is projected to receive more than \$2 million/year from agencies and industry to conduct transformative research and development that could help us come up with solutions to those grand challenging issues.

TTEC Committee



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The 22nd International Conference on Geoinformatics, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

** The following content is an excerpt from more info online and CPGIS email dialogue:*

The 22nd International Conference on Geoinformatics (Geoinformatics 2014) will be held on **June 25-27, 2014** at the **85 Sky Tower Hotel, Kaohsiung, Taiwan**. The conference is organized by CPGIS and the Taiwan Geographic Information Society (TGIS), co-organized by Kaohsiung City Government, advised by the National Science Council, and hosted by the Taiwan Geographic Information System Center (TGIC) and Land Administration Bureau of Kaohsiung City Government. This conference will provide an excellent opportunity for pertinent professionals and students to exchange innovative ideas, demonstrate cutting-edge technologies, and present inspiring applications. The conference will include plenaries, featured, oral, and poster sessions.

Theme: CyberGIS and Big Data



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Organizers

- CPGIS and Taiwan Geographic Information Society (TGIS)
- Kaohsiung City Government

Agenda Highlights

- June 24: Registration
- June 25
 - Keynote session
 - Presentation Sessions
 - Cruise tour
 - CPGIS / UGIS Welcome Party
- June 26
 - Keynote session
 - Presentation Sessions
 - TGIS Welcome Party / CPGIS Night
- June 27
 - Presentation Sessions



Tour Package

A three-day (June 28-30, 2014) or Seven-day (June 28- July 4, 2014) package tour will be organized by local travel agency.

- Three-day: Kaohsiung-Shi-Hzuwan(Bay) - Chih Kan Tower - the Eternal Golden Castle - Anping Fort - Yunlin or Nantou- Sunmoonlake - Chung Tai Temple - Fengyuan - Taichung - Kaohsiung - Kaohsiung International Airport (or Taoyuan International Airport)
- Seven-day: Kaohsiung-Shi-Hzuwan(Bay) - Chih Kan Tower - the Eternal Golden Castle - Anping Fort - Yunlin or Nantou - Sunmoonlake - Chung Tai Temple - Fengyuan – Miaoli - Taipei - Taipei 101 - National Palace Museum - Shilin Main Presidential Residence - Shilin Night Market – Taipei - Yehliu - Suao (Train)- Hualien Qixingtian – Hualien - Taroko National Park - The monument of the Tropic of Cancer - Sansiantai - Taitung (or Chih pen) - Kenting - The Eluanbi lighthouse - Longpan Park - Kaohsiung - Kaohsiung International Airport (or Taoyuan International Airport)

More Information

- <https://cpgis.org/Conferences/ConferenceDefault.aspx?ID=69>
- <http://2014conference.geospatial.org.tw/CPGIS/>
- Formal report will be elaborated in the Winter issue

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2014 CPGIS “Go Home” Project Call for participation

Location: Guangzhou & Xining, China

Date: July 1-14, 2014

Project Background

The “Go Home” Project is one of a series of summer activities sponsored by the International Association for Chinese Professionals in Geographical Information Sciences (CPGIS), a non-profit organization that aims to promote professional development in GIS and related technology by fostering cooperation among its members. This project is specifically designed to encourage academic and professional exchanges between domestic and overseas Chinese GIS professionals through advanced GIS seminars and follow-up discussion held in selected universities and research institutes in China. With the purpose of introducing advanced spatial information technology to academics and professionals in different regions of China, the “Go Home” Project is a continuation of CPGIS’ successful “Go West” Project launched in 2002 in response to the “Western China Development” strategy. The project was renamed “Go Home” in 2007, with a new goal of strengthening the communication of overseas CPGIS scholars with GIS professionals and students in all regions of China.

Project Details

With the support of Qinghai Normal University and local government, the CPGIS “Go Home” project will organize advanced GIS seminars in the summer of 2014 in **Guangzhou, Guangdong Province and Xining, Qinghai Province**. The theme of this year’s “Go Home” project will be on the *Application of Geospatial Technology in Natural Environment and Urban Development*. The project will select 4-5 GIS scholars to deliver seminars in their area of specialty to the faculty members and students of the local hosting institute. A tentative plan is as follows:

Time and Location:

July 4-14 Advanced seminars at Qinghai Normal University (Xining)

Activities: Each selected individual will present one research talk in one of the suggested areas. Follow-up discussions will be arranged. A roundtable discussion with local professionals and governmental officials will be also organized.

Expenses: Lodging, meal, airfare from a domestic city in mainland China to Guangzhou, Xining to a domestic city in China will be covered by the local hosting institute. During the event, local city tours, tours to Lake Qinghai and the Sanjiangyuan Nature Reserve will be arranged. The cost will be covered by local hosts as well.

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Tentative Schedule (pending for change):

July 1, Arrive in Guangzhou after Taiwan meeting
July 2, Short excursion in Guangzhou
July 3-5, meeting in Sun Yat-sen University
July 6 Fly to Xining
July 7-9 Field trip to Sanjiangyuan Nature Reserve
July 10 Presentation, discussion and local tour
July 11-13 China Urban Geography Annual Meeting (optional)
Leave Xining before or after the meeting in July 11-13

Local Organizer:

Dr. Fenggui Liu, Qinghai Normal University

Email: lfg_918@163.com

Tel: 13709748289

Dr. Shuli Zhou, Sun Yat-sen University

Email: zhoushul@mail3.sysu.edu.cn

Tel: 020-84113057/ 15920156282

Call for Participation

At this time, CPGIS is soliciting a **one-page abstract** (less than 500 words) along with a latest short **C.V.** from outstanding individuals who are interested in participating in this project. The abstract should provide a succinct description of the presentation to be delivered.

Please note that the young scholar summit program was merged into go-home program after CPGIS BOD voted in the end of 2012. Therefore, welcome any CPGIS members to participate this program.

Please send your **one-page abstract** and C.V. before April 20, 2014 to Shixiong Hu at shu@esu.edu. Selected individuals will be notified via email.

Contact:

Dr. Shixiong Hu,

Chair of the CPGIS 'Go Home' committee

Chair, Department of Geography

East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania

Email: shu@esu.edu

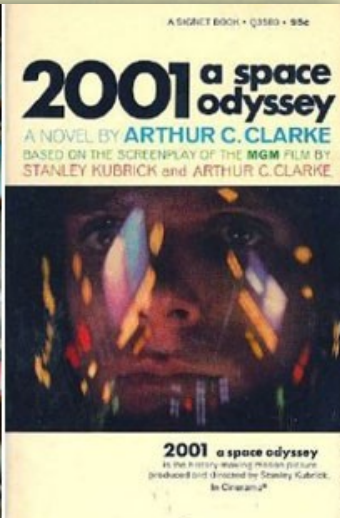
Professor Lin Hui delivering the Sixth Annual Memorial Lecture to commemorate Sri Lankabhimanya Sir Arthur C Clarke in Colombo

Professor Lin Hui, a senior CPGIS member in the Department of Geography and Resource Management of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and the director of the Institute of Space and Earth Information Science (ISEIS) of CUHK, recently delivered the Sixth Annual Memorial Lecture to commemorate Sri Lankabhimanya Sir Arthur C Clarke at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka. Professor Lin was invited by the Ministry of Technology & Research (MTR) of Sri Lanka for this memorial lecture titled “Environmental Monitoring with Satellite Remote Sensing and Virtual Geographic Environments”. Professor Lin’s lecture is the sixth of the commemorative lecture series, once for each year, for paying the respect to Sir Arthur C Clarke, the late famous British writer and inventor. The lecturers of this memorial lecture series have been selected from well-known international scholars by the Arthur C Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies of MTR.

Sir Arthur C. Clarke, considered as the father of the concept of extra terrestrial communication through geo-stationary satellites, was one of the six winners of Sri Lankabhimanya (The Pride of Sri Lanka), the highest national honor of Sri Lanka awarded by the President of Sri Lanka on behalf of the Government. He became a famous talent of our world after being co-writer of the screenplay for the movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*. Many of his dreams in his more than 100 science fiction writings have been realized later. For many years he, along with Robert Heinlein and Isaac Asimov, were well known as the "Big Three" of science fiction of the 20th century.

Professor Lin’s lecture introduced the progress of the modern satellite remote sensing science and technology, in particular, the role of prospects of satellite remote sensing in monitoring the earth environment. During his lecture, Professor Lin also introduced the research programs of satellite remote sensing and virtual geographic environments (VGE) in ISEIS of CUHK. Led by Mr. Patali Champika Ranawaka, Hon. Minister of Technology and Research, senior officers and scholars from Sri Lanka government units, military, and research institutions participated in the commemorative lecture function. They had a very interesting discussion with Professor Lin after the lecture. Minister Patali Champika Ranawaka would like to see that Professor Lin could find more time to visit Sri Lanka for academic exchange.

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Sir Arthur C. Clarke (photo credit:precise.com)



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Professor Lin Hui in the commemorative lecture



Mr. Patali Champika Ranawaka Hon. Minister of Technology and Research of Sri Lanka Government presents souvenir to Professor Lin Hui (photo credit: ISEIS)



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Future Events

Fostering Int. Geospatial Health Research Collaborations:

Challenges and Opportunities

Hong Kong SAR, China

Conference Dates: June 16-18, 2014

Geoinformatics 2014

Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Conference Dates: June 24-27, 2014

Int. Conf. on Agro-Geoinformatics

Beijing, China

Conference Dates: Aug 11-14, 2014

ESRI Int. User Conf.

San Diego, California, USA

Conference Dates: July 14-18, 2014

COM.Geo 2014

Washington D.C., USA

Conference Dates: Aug 4-6, 2014

Int. Symp. on Crop Growth Monitoring

Nanjing, China

Conference Dates: Sept 13-16, 2014

GIScience 2014

Vienna, Austria

Conference Dates: Sept 23-26, 2014

Joint Int. Conf. on Geospatial Theory, Processing, Modelling and Applications 2014

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Conference Dates: Oct 6-8, 2014

Geo-Processing Modeling in VGE

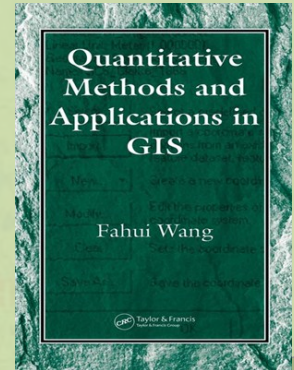
Hong Kong SAR, China

Conference Dates: Nov 6-8, 2014

Publications

Dr. Fahui Wang will publish the following book in Nov 2014:

- Wang, F. 2014. Quantitative Methods and Socioeconomic Applications in GIS (2nd ed.) Boca Raton, FL: Taylor & Francis.



Awards/Achievements

Dr. **Ruisheng Wang**, an assistant professor in the Department of Geomatics Engineering at the Schulich School of Engineering, has been awarded a [Google Research Award](#) to make it easier for individuals and eventually autonomous cars to find the front door. Google Research Awards are one-year awards structured as unrestricted gifts to support full-time faculty members in computer science, engineering and related fields at top universities around the world. More info can be found [here](#).

Resources

Dr. Shaozhong Shi has created a software solution that takes apart a vector GIS dataset of the world map and breaks lines of area features into pieces. Then, it processes GIS data in the computer's memory and puts the whole world map together. The resultant map is a neat and clean replicate of its original with the least necessary anchoring points. The research work was undertaken under the auspice of the Science Foundation Ireland. More information can be found [here](#).