

Dear All,

Thanks to the support from National Geomatics Center of China (NGCC) leaders including Director Zhigang Li, and Provost Peter Stearns and Dean Vikas Chandhoke of George Mason University, The "Advanced GeoInformation Science Certificate Program" for NGCC was successfully concluded. NGCC, GMU, NASA, USGS and ESRI sponsored this program. GMU, UC-Boulder, USGS (Reston and Rocky Mountain Mapping Center) and ESRI (Broomfield/CO and Redlands) collaboratively hosted the training. The class is led by Mr. Chen Xihu, Ms. Shang Yaoling, and Ms. Xi Lihua.

Managed by the Center for Intelligent Spatial Computing at GMU and NGCC, the Program has provided training to advanced GIScience professionals, coming from NGCC and information centers of provincial bureaus of surveying and mapping. Twenty three GeoInformation Science professionals from Beijing, Shandong, Shanxi, Hubei, Jiangxi, Shanghai, Guangxi, Xinjiang, Yunnan, Qinghai, Shenzhen, and Guangdong participated in this customized training program (Oct. 2nd – Oct. 25, 2012) at George Mason University, University of Colorado at Boulder, ESRI (Denver and Redlands), and USGS (Reston and Denver). The GMU site was managed by Profs. David Wong, Ruixin Yang, and Dr. Chen Xu. The Colorado site was managed by Prof. Ken Foote (AAG President), and Dr. Pinde Fu coordinated the activities at the ESRI headquarter at Redlands, CA. Doug Nebert hosted the USGS visit with his three colleagues. Chaowei Yang coordinated the overall program.

During the training program, professors and scientists from various universities, government agencies, and companies introduced various cutting-edge topics on Earth Observations systems (EOS), Spatial Statistics, EOS Data Systems, Geospatial Cyberinfrastructure, Web Services, Grid Computing, National Spatial Data Infrastructure/Geospatial One-Stop, the U.S. National Mapping project, Global Earth Observation System of Systems, Semantic/ontology, LBS, a variety of GeoInformation Science applications, and Retrospective on Digital Earth, Volunteered Geographic Information, Citizen Science, and Ontology/Knowledge systems.

All instructors worked very hard to support the training program. A non-exhaustive list includes Peggy Agouris (GMU) and Tony Stefanidis (GMU), Myra Bambacus (NASA GSFC ITCD), Ken Foote (UCB), Pinde Fu (ESRI), Matt Rice (GMU), Doug Nebert (USGS/FGDC), John Qu (GMU), Daniel Sui (OSU), Donglian Sun (GMU), Fahui Wang (LSU), David Wong (GMU), Liping Di (GMU), Nigel Walters (GMU), Paul Houser (GMU), Wendy Guan (Harvard), Edmund Zolnik (GMU), Dan Carr (GMU), Diansheng Guo (CPGIS), Lewis Summers (DHS), Randolph Franklin (RPI), and Chaowei Yang (GMU). Thanks also go to the training professionals who study diligently with the professors and scientists. Xu Chen, Pinde Fu (ESRI), Qunying Huang, Jing Li, Min Sun, Caixia Wang, and Chaowei Yang provided translations. Staff members of hosting sites also provided significant support to ensure smooth operations during classes.

Thanks to all who helped make this effort a success. We are exploring future opportunities.

Cheers,  
Chaowei