

Dear All,

Thanks to the support from National Geomatics Center of China (NGCC) leaders including Director Zhigang Li, and George Mason University Provost Peter Stearns and Acting Dean Peggy Agouris, The "Advanced GeoInformation Science Certificate Program" was successfully concluded. NGCC, GMU, USGS and ESRI sponsored this program. GMU, UC-Denver, USGS (Reston National Center) and ESRI (Washington DC Office) collaboratively hosted the training. The class is led by Mr. Liao Anping. Dr. Chaowei Yang (GMU) and Ms. Junhong Hu (NGCC) coordinated the program.

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 geomatics centers of provincial bureaus of surveying and mapping. Eighteen GeoInformation Science professionals from Beijing, Heilongjiang, Hainan, Jilin, Xinjiang, Yunnan, Hunan, Guangxi, Shandong, Tianjing, Guizhou, Zhejiang, and Guangdong participated in this customized training program (Oct. 29th – Nov. 29, 2013) at George Mason University, University of Colorado at Denver, ESRI (Washington DC Office), and USGS (Reston National Center). The GMU site was managed by Prof. Ruixin Yang and Dr. Chen Xu. The Colorado site was managed by Prof. Jing Li, and Dr. Frank Xia coordinated the activities at the ESRI. Jack Medlin hosted the USGS visit with his colleagues. 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, Cloud Computing, National Spatial Data Infrastructure/Geospatial Platform, National and Global Carbon Sequestration, the U.S. National Mapping project, Global Earth Observation System of Systems, LBS, a variety of GeoInformation Science applications, 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), Arie Croitoru (GMU), Matt Rice (GMU), Mark Rozell (GMU), Barry Haack (GMU), Jack Medlin (USGS/FGDC), John Qu (GMU), Daniel Sui (OSU), Donglian Sun (GMU), Fahui Wang (LSU), Liping Di (GMU), Paul Houser (GMU), Wendy Guan (Harvard), Keith Clarke (UCSB), and Chaowei Yang (GMU). Thanks also go to the training professionals who study diligently with the professors and scientists. Chen Xu, Manzhu Yu, Xia Feng, Zhenlong Li, Qin Han, Min Sun, 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 Yang

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