

Dear All,

Thanks to the support from leaders of National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and GeoInformation (NASG), folks in ESRI and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), George Mason University (GMU) Interim Vice President Designate for Global Strategy Solon Simmons, GMU Dean of College of Science (COS) Peggy Agouris, and Associate Dean of COS for Academic Affairs Kevin Curtin, the third "Sino-US Seminar on Technology and Management of National Geographic Conditions Census and Monitoring" was successfully held at GMU from July 24th to 31st, 2014.

Managed by the Center of Intelligent Spatial Computing for Water/Energy Science (CISC), the Global Office of GMU and NASG, the seminar provided advanced training to executives coming from NASG and provincial bureaus of surveying and mapping. Fourteen directors, chief engineers and officer from NASG, Heilongjiang, Sichuan, Anhui, Hebei, Zhejiang, Shandong, Hunan, Yunnan, Xinjiang and Beijing participated in the seminar. Prof. Chaowei Yang managed the overall program. Director General Guixia Bai and program officer Minghui Hao of NASG coordinated the organization activities in China. Prof. Ruixin Yang, Dr. Min Sun, and Rita Rowland organized the activities at GMU site. Dr. Frank Xia helped coordinated the activities at the ESRI DC office. Dr. David Kirtland, the USGS Eastern Region Geographic Science Center Director, hosted the USGS visit with his three colleagues.

During the seminar, leaders and experts from universities, government agencies, organizations and industry were invited to introduce various important and cutting-edge topics on:

1. Global Activities at Mason spotlight on China, by Ross Madelyn, Director, Global Consortium, GMU
2. How to Run a Company and a U.S. Federal Agency? by Paul Chan, Previous USDA Economic Service Director, NOAA NWS CIO, and VP of Columbus Inc.
3. Social Media and Geospatial Intelligence, by Tony Stefanidis, Director, Center for Geospatial Intelligence, and Chair, Dept. of Geography and Geoinformation Science, GMU
4. Introduction to U.S. Geological Survey, by David Kirtland, USGS
5. US SilvaCarbon and the GEO Global Forest Observation Initiative, by Doug Muchoney, USGS
6. Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Program, Geological Requirements and Potential for carbon Dioxide Storage in the U.S., by Peter Warwick, USGS.
7. Biologic Carbon Sequestration Assessment, by Zhiliang Zhu, USGS

8. Latest from ESRI, by ESRI DC Office

9. Cloud Computing and Spatiotemporal Innovation, by Chaowei Yang, Professor and Director, NSF Spatiotemporal Center, GMU

11. Observing and predicting the agriculture geographic status, by Liping Di, Professor and Director, Center for Spatial Information System and Sciences, GMU

All the executives study diligently and conducted warm discussions with the invited leaders and experts. Dr. Chaowei Yang, Dr. Min Sun, and Dr. Xu Lu provided translation. Thanks to the students and staff members of STC who provided significant support to ensure smooth operations during the seminar.

Again, thanks to all who helped make this effort a success. We are exploring future programs.

Cheers,

Chaowei Yang

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