



## Newsletter 2014/2 (May 2014)

### IGRSM Talks

Three IGRSM Talks were held at the Seminar Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Administration Block, Faculty of Engineering, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Serdang, Selangor:

- 1) IGRSM Talk 2014/1 on *Evaluation of Vulnerabilities of Global Positioning System (GPS) Signals Using Field Evaluations and GPS Simulation: Case Studies on Radio Frequency Interference (RFI), Spoofing and Multipath* by Dr. Dinesh Sathyamoorthy, Science & Technology Research Institute for Defence (STRIDE), Ministry of Defence on 27 February 2014
- 2) IGRSM Talk 2014/2 on *Earth Observation and Geospatial Technologies in Water Resources Management: Projects, Potential Applications and Emerging Technologies* by Ir. Liam We Lin and Mdm. Shiamala Velaichamy, RPM-Engineers Sdn. Bhd. on 24 March 2014
- 3) IGRSM Talk 2014/3 on *Wasn't Geographic Information Always Big?* by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Francis Harvey, Chair of the Geographic Information Science Commission at the International Geographical Union (IGU) and Director of U-Spatial, University of Minnesota, US on 20 April 2014.

### 7<sup>th</sup> IGRSM International Conference and Exhibition on Remote Sensing & GIS (IGRSM 2014)

IGRSM 2014 was held on 21-22 April 2014 in Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The conference, with the theme *Geospatial Innovation for Nation Building*, was aimed at disseminating knowledge, and sharing expertise and experiences in geospatial sciences in all aspects of applications. It was also aimed to build linkages between local and international professionals in this field with industries.

The co-organisers of the conference were Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Science & Technology Research Institute for Defence (STRIDE), National Space Agency, Universiti

Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), National University of Malaysia (UKM), Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Universiti of Malaya, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP), and National Hydraulic Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM). The sponsors of the conference were Antaragrafik Systems Sdn. Bhd., and Geospatial Media and Communications Sdn. Bhd., while the exhibitors were E.J. Motiwalla, Fajar Saintifik Sdn. Bhd., Bandwork GPS Solutions Sdn. Bhd., Tenaga Nasional Bhd., TSKAY Technology Sdn. Bhd., Geo Spatial Solutions Sdn. Bhd. and Accutac Sdn. Bhd. The conference was attended by a total of 161 participants from the government, private and education sectors.

Among the highlights of the conference were:

- Officiation by Y.B. Datuk Dr. Abu Bakar bin Mohamad Diah, Deputy Minister of Minister of Science, Technology & Innovation
- Keynote presentations by:
  - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Francis Harvey: *The Next Age of Discovery and a Future in a Post-GIS World*
  - Prof. Dr. Naoshi Kondo, Bio-Sensing Engineering, University of Kyoto, Japan: *Mobile Fruit Grading Machine for Precision Agriculture*
  - Datuk Ir. Hj. Ahmad Jamalluddin bin Shaaban, Director-General, National Hydraulic Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM), Malaysia: *Remote Sensing & GIS in Climate Change Analyses*
- Oral and poster presentations from 69 speakers, from both Malaysia (35) and abroad (34), covering areas of water resources management, urban sprawl & social mobility, agriculture, land use/cover mapping, infrastructure planning, disaster management, technology trends, environmental monitoring, atmospheric/temperature monitoring, and space applications for environment
- Post-conference workshops on:
  - *Space Applications for Environment (SAFE)*, which was organised by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
  - *Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver Evaluation Using GPS Simulation*, which was organised by the Science & Technology Research Institute for Defence (STRIDE), and sponsored by RFI Technologies Sdn. Bhd. and Aeroflex Inc.

Two awards were presented by Dr. Noordin Ahmad, Director-General of the National Space Agency during the conference's closing ceremony:

- **Best Paper Award:** Dr. Rizatus Shofiyati, Indonesian Center for Agricultural Land Resources Research and Development (ICALRD), Indonesia: *Indonesian Drought Monitoring from Space. A Report of SAFE Activity: Assessment of Drought Impact on Rice Production in Indonesia by Satellite Remote Sensing and Dissemination with Web-GIS*
- **Best Student Paper Award:** Rosnani Rahman, Space Science Centre (ANGKASA), Institute of Climate Change, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

(UKM), Malaysia: *Monitoring the Variability of Precipitable Water Vapor Over the Klang Valley, Malaysia During Flash Flood*

Further information on the conference is available at <http://www.igrsm.com/igrsm2014>.

### **2014 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of IGRSM**

In conjunction with IGRSM 2014, the 2014 AGM of IGRSM was held on 21 April 2014, 5 pm, at Berjaya Times Square Hotel. The agenda covered during the meeting include:

- 1) President's address
- 2) Confirmation of the minutes of the 2013 AGM of IGRSM
- 3) President's report
- 4) Financial report
- 5) Election of Executive Committee for 2014-2016:

<b>President</b>	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdul Rashid Mohamed Shariff
<b>Deputy President</b>	Dr. Noordin Ahmad
<b>Secretary</b>	Dr. Dinesh Sathyamoorthy
<b>Deputy Secretary</b>	Dr. Ahmad Fikri Abdullah
<b>Treasurer</b>	Normalina Jamaluddin
<b>Committee Members</b>	Kumar Veliayudam Dr. Ruzinoor Che Mat Samsuddin Ahmad Dr. Farrah Melissa Muharram
<b>Co-opted Members</b>	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdul Nassir Matori Mohd Hafiz Mohd Hazir Kavitha Seras Mohd Zakri Tarmidi
<b>Internal Auditors</b>	Mohd Hairi Md Akhir Rohana Abd Rahman
<b>Secretariat Member</b>	Siti Nooradzah Adam

### **Media Coverage on MH370**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdul Rashid Mohamed Shariff, President of IGRSM was invited for a RTM TV1 show to talk on remote sensing in its relations to the tracking of the Malaysian flight MH370 which had disappeared. The President also took this opportunity to highlight the activities of IGRSM. Several IGRSM members, including Dr. Noordin Ahmad, Prof. Dr. Kamaruzzaman Jusoh, Prof. Dr. Shattri Mansor and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Azmi Hassan, have also appeared in the media to explain on geospatial issues related to tracking/searching for the plane. These activities have helped our nation to better understand and appreciate geospatial science and technology.