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Communique #19

December 19, 2011



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Christmas

We are now 18 months into our second term and have established 75% of our intended research program activities. Our priorities in the new year will be on accelerating the Australia and New Zealand Spatial Marketplace and spatial infrastructure research (Program 3), consolidating the positioning research (Program 1), and growing our close relationships with our partners in Australia and New Zealand.

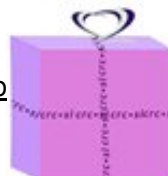
We are attracting significantly more co-funding and this will see an expansion of our research programs in most areas, but particularly in the health and natural resources areas. Our externally funded satellite radar research is also growing quickly. We now have 32 PhD and Masters students and are well on track to meet our target of 50 completions by 2018.

We will focus on our 43pl members in 2012, bringing our companies more closely into the research activities and sharpening the flow of benefits.

We thank you all for your wonderful support during the year. On behalf of the Board, management and all our researchers, have a safe and merry Christmas. Best wishes

Peter Woodgate

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Research and Development

NEWS

Nearmap.com captures WA development hotspots

13 December 2011

CRCA: Major changes to innovation arrangements

12 December 2011

DICTA2011: Student paper prize

9 December 2011

Australian urban design protocol released

6 December 2011

Tecterra SME Awards - Now Open

6 December 2011

Esri Australia partners SSSI

5 December 2011

APSEA Award winners

26 November 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

International LiDAR

Mapping Forum

23 January 2012

RMIT and DLR Remote Sensing Summer School

13 February 2012

All CRCSI activities have their own web page, with progress updates and contacts for further information – go to www.crcsi.com.au/Research.

Radar Research Applications Facility (RRAF)

There are few research groups in Australian institutions with a primary focus on radar imaging science and applications, and none with the same level of expertise and critical mass that the CRCSI currently has in imaging radar. The CRCSI Board has approved the establishment of the Radar Research Applications Facility, to be led by Prof Tony Milne. It will not require any CRCSI funding, rather it will be a net generator of funds for the CRCSI. It will report to the CEO through the Research Director. The RRAF will bring advances in research and cutting edge technologies into the CRCSI.

Canberra Business Development and Research Project Manager

The Board approved the recruitment of a high quality scientist and manager, based in Canberra, to:

1. manage the Urban Digital Elevation Model project
2. develop a research agenda for the CRCSI in water management and natural resource management
3. develop business with key partners and potential partners in Canberra, such as Geoscience Australia, Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, DIGO, the Murray Darling Basin Authority, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and the Bureau of Meteorology.

International Benchmarks

Prof Manfred Ehlers will benchmark our research against international best practice in a report due in Feb 2012. Manfred's senior positions include immediate past President of the German Geo-Informatics Society, Director of the Institute for Geoinformatics and Remote Sensing at University of Osnabrueck, and member of the Executive Committee of the International Society of Digital Earth. He was also a visiting Professor at the CRCSI for Aug- Dec 2011.

You can see a screencast of [Manfred's analysis "on the future of the spatial sciences"](#)

Prof John Richards is also continuing advise us on our research programs. John has recently become the President of the International Society of Digital Earth and was formerly Deputy Vice Chancellor Research at ANU.

Program 2 – Automated Spatial Information Generation

[Screencasts from a recent workshop are now available.](#)

Some more will be added as they are approved by their narrators. The quality is poor compared to our usual standard but hopefully they convey the key information.

Program 3 – Spatial Infrastructures

Alignment Study - the near final draft report commissioned of Mercury Project Solutions, a 43pl member, has found that there are at least 32 spatial data supply chains in Australia and New Zealand of various levels of implementation and automation. The findings will inform the

GeoNext

29 February 2012

Spatial Knowledge and Information (SKI)

8 March 2012

WhereCon 2012

10 April 2012

Geospatial World Forum (Amsterdam)

23 April 2012

CRCSI Annual Conference

8 May 2012

RESOURCES

Landmark News - p10: NZ Partnership by Landmark

DOWNLOAD

1 December 2011

Landmark News - p12: Ergon and CRCSI by Landmark

DOWNLOAD

1 December 2011

News 2011-11 CIO Ergon to switch on Spatial Data Collection project by Simon Grose

DOWNLOAD

14 November 2011

News 2011-12 AFR SME Opportunity by Jason Clout

DOWNLOAD

20 September 2011

SIBA Annual Report 2011 by SIBA

DOWNLOAD

14 November 2011

Maximising Innovation Dividends

by Australian Government

CRCSI research program.

Prof Geoff West (Curtin University) has been appointed as the **Science Director** for Program 3. Geoff's primary task will be to revisit the core research of the Program and its underpinning strategy. Geoff will prepare a revised program strategy in the first half of next year.

Program 1 - Positioning

The Board approved Project 1.04 "GNSS measurement and quality control: initiating the development of a test track for positioning system validation and certification" involving the University of Melbourne; the Victorian Department of Sustainability & Environment and Geoscience Australia; and Think Spatial (43pl). Supervisor [Allison Kealy](#) can provide more information.

DOWNLOAD

3 November 2011

Consultation Report:
Current Status of Spatial
Information in Disaster
Response

by Kim Lowell et al

DOWNLOAD

1 November 2011

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Involvement in Tenders by the CRCSI

The CRCSI is sometimes approached by participants to join them in tenders and bids. The CRCSI is happy to partner 43pl members and other CRCSI participants on opportunities where its research capabilities can enhance bids and where participation is in the strategic interests of the CRCSI as a whole. The CRCSI participation in such cases is, typically, on a non-exclusive basis ie open to all [potentially competing] bids; and costed at full commercial rates to ensure competitive neutrality. The CRCSI generally prefers that the participant be the prime contractor unless it is in the interest of the bid to do otherwise. For more information contact [Graeme Kernich](#) or [Mike Ridout](#).

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Asia Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards (APSEA)

Vekta, a founding 43pl member, won the *Infrastructure and Construction* category as well as the prestigious JK Barrie prize for the "best of the individual winners."

Scanalyse, a CRCSI spin-off company through Curtin University, won the *Innovation and Commercialisation* category. The award recognises a company's contribution to spatial science research and/or technical innovation, taking into account originality, ingenuity, difficulties of the task, innovation, and setting of new benchmarks.

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Management and Participants

The CRCSI Board confirmed the appointment of Professor Mary O'Kane, Drew Clark, Malcolm McCoy and Tina McMeckan as Directors of the CRCSI Board for a period of two years effective 1 July 2011. One remaining Directorship is vacant and a process is underway to source a candidate.

Profs Mike Goodchild and John Trinder attended their first Research Investment Committee meeting as members in November.

Participants

The UNSW has agreed to become a Support Participant. University of Melbourne has moved from Essential to Support Participant status effective March 2012.

Matt Adams (Landgate) is the inaugural Chair of the new Program Board (Program 4.1) of the Agriculture, Natural Resources and Climate Change Applications Program. The process of filling the remaining Board positions is underway. The first meeting of the Board will take place shortly. There are a number of issues for this Board to address including at least two new proposals in the pipeline and the question of how the CRCSI should manage and resource future activity in relation to water resource management, which is a growing area of interest for a number of CRCSI partners.

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Vale

It is with real sadness that we learnt of Prof Rod Walker's untimely passing. Rod was a highly successful researcher and leader of the Queensland University of Technology Australian Centre for Aerospace Automation. He was a Project Leader in the CRCSI and was set to play an even larger research role with us. Our condolences go to his family and many colleagues.

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