



Dear Members and Friends of the PORSEC Association,

In this bulletin, 14-1, we report on the publishing of the *International Journal of Remote Sensing* special issue of PORSEC 2018 that took place in Jeju Island, The Republic of Korea. We also look forward to the next PORSEC and Capacity Building Tutorial that is postponed to 2021 and is to be held near (Conference) and at (Tutorial) Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Johor Bahru, Malaysia. In this issue we announce the important dates and other information about the capacity building tutorial and PORSEC-2021. We also take note of the passing of some prominent researchers.

All our bulletins (published 3 times a year for the past 13 years) and newsletters that preceded are archived and accessible at <https://porsec.nwra.com/bulletins/>

We also provide news of interest, opportunities and announcements, updates about our office holders and members, and information about our membership drive.

In case you received this newsletter from a colleague, or landed directly to our portal; and are interested to keep receiving PORSEC updates (usually not more than 5-6 times a year) directly in your inbox, you may wish to subscribe here: <https://porsec.us16.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=f37c17c7b7e8ce0b8a316925e&id=af8ceb88c7>

The membership form is designed to be intuitive and takes a couple of minutes to fill in. That's all and then you're all set to receive the future updates!

We hope you are well in these trying times and to see you all at PORSEC 2021!

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*we use "at" in the email addresses herein to avoid phishing

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PORSEC Special Issue of the International Journal of Remote Sensing : Status Report

Editorial Team

Title: Pan-Ocean Remote Sensing: Interdisciplinary multi-sensor studies of the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

This special issue follows special IJRS issues of following previous PORSEC meetings, held and published at two-year intervals since PORSEC2006: Busan, Korea, 2006, Guangzhou, China, 2008, Keelung, Taiwan, 2010, Kochi, India, 2012, Bali, Indonesia, 2014, Fortaleza, Brazil, 2016. Selected papers resulting from the PORSEC 2018 meeting on Interdisciplinary multi-sensor studies of the Pacific and Indian Oceans held in Jeju, South Korea, Nov 4 to 7 2018 now appear in a special IJRS issue.

Status Report

A total of 23 papers presented at PORSEC2018 have undergone peer review and accepted for publication. Papers were published online upon acceptance after a publisher's final review. The special issue was made available on 25 May, 2020 at Taylor & Francis – IJRS portal. Manuscripts published are from 10 different countries viz. Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Taiwan, and USA. Further details are in Preface (<https://doi.org/10.1080/01431161.2020.1766293>). These papers were handled by an editorial team of four as follows.

Editorial Team:

Gad Levy, Northwest Research Associates, USA (gad at porsec.nwra.com)

Jim Gower, IOS, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, (Jim.Gower at dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

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Nimit Kumar, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, India (nimitkumar.j at incois.gov.in)

Postponement of the 15th Pan-Ocean Remote Sensing Conference (PORSEC2020) and Capacity Building Tutorial to year 2021

Nurul Hazrina Idris, Chair (Local Organizing Committee PORSEC 2020)



It is with regret that we announce that the 15th Pan Ocean Remote Sensing Conference (PORSEC2020) and capacity building tutorial, **previously scheduled for 15-22 September 2020, have unfortunately been postponed to 2021** over Coronavirus (COVID-19) concerns. We continue to monitor the situation and will decide and announce the new dates sometime around September of this year, or when the situation becomes normal again.

In the meantime, we are continuing accepting new abstracts and registrations, which will remain open until 15 September 2020. The Committee has decided to publish the first volume of abstract proceedings (with ISBN) by December 2020, prior to the conference. At that time we will also consider the preparation of and call for papers for a first volume of a Special Issue of the International Journal of Remote Sensing (IJRS), prior to the conference. We will send out the details to all participants once we have made the decision.

The Committee has arrived at this decision after realizing our capacity to keep an audience sufficiently “distanced” and considering the current uncertainty around gatherings and people’s justifiable precautions regarding their own health.

Our sincere apologies for any inconvenience that the postponement may have caused. We wish to thank all speakers, sponsors, exhibitors and participants for their continued support of the event, and we look forward to seeing you at the new date that we will announce.

Thank you.

Regards,

Nurul Hazrina Idris

Chair of PORSEC2020 LOC

<https://www.geoinfo.utm.my/porsec/>

The Faculty of Built Environment and Surveying, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia will host the 15th Pan Ocean Remote Sensing Conference at Johor Bahru, Malaysia. Prior to the conference a 5-day Capacity Building (CB) Tutorial is planned to be held on the UTM campus.

The tutorial offers expert training for students, and early career scientists. The tutorial focuses on existing instruments in space and on methods of analysis and visualization. One of the unique aspects of the PORSEC tutorial is that most of the instructors are current or past PORSEC officers, who are experienced remote sensing scientists, which gives participants a valuable networking experience, in addition to the knowledge and skills taught during the tutorial. We have recently established a collaboration with the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) [Panel on CB](#) in delivering this tutorial. Participants will be given following exposure such as:

- *Theoretical information as well as practical exercises along with a variety of data and software.*
- *Fundamentals of visible, thermal and microwave remote sensing, satellite wind and wave data, satellite altimetry, ocean color data, fisheries applications, and data assimilation.*
- *Demonstrations on how to access all of these datasets from a variety of different softwares.*

- *How to write scientific manuscript*
- *Giving a scientific presentation in English to an international audience*
- *Experience live field data collection and sampling at the ocean facilitated by the experienced local facilitators*
- *Demonstration of ocean water sampling instruments along with hands-on operating opportunities to students*

The training courses are scheduled as follows:

- Trainees make a short presentation about their needs, requirements, and expectations
- Trainers deliver lectures and instruct how to use satellite remote-sensing data trainees process satellite remote-sensing data in combination with their own data
- At the end, trainees report their results.

Tutorial trainers pool:

- **Cara Wilson (NOAA, USA)** [head instructor]
- **Nimit Kumar (INCOIS, India)** [PORSEC Education and Outreach committee chair]
- **Gad Levy (NWRA, USA)**
- **MingAn Lee (NTOU, Taiwan)**
- **Stefano Vignudelli (CNR, Italy)**
- **Abderrahim Bentamy (Ifremer, France)**
- **Jim Gower (IOS, Canada)**
- **Andrew Geiss (PNNL, USA)**
- **Nurul Hazrina Idris (UTM, Malaysia)**
- **Mazlan Hashim (UTM, Malaysia)**
- **Aidy Dr. Aidy @ Mohamed Shawal M. Muslim (INOS UMT, Malaysia)**
- **Mohd Nadzri Md Reba (UTM, Malaysia)**

Trainees are strongly encouraged to bring their own data (e.g. in situ or satellite data). If trainees use their own application software, please bring it installed in your PC. Following are some important dates for the tutorial:

- 1st September 2019 – 31 January 2020 - Capacity building student tutorial application.
- Mid-February – Result of the selection process for the capacity building student tutorial.

The above milestones have been accomplished and students were selected. Given the COVID-20 pandemic, however, we are considering offering a pared-down version on the tutorial remotely through teleconferences/webinars prior to the actual tutorial, and once tutorial dates have been set, we may consider re-opening the application and selection process. We have invited all the students who applied and were accepted to fill an Online Tutorial Survey regarding such options. More details regarding the capacity building tutorial are available on the conference website (<https://www.geoinfo.utm.my/porsec/>). Other information such as registration and accommodation will also be available on the website.

Please download the training application file at <https://rebrand.ly/student-application-d55da> and send to our email porsec2020@gmail.com with heading: Application for Tutorial Capacity Building, if you have missed the first round and are interested in being considered if and when application and selection reopen.

Scholarship/Travel Grants:

- Tuition fee waiver will be offered depending on the number of participants and circumstances;
- Full/Partial travel grants will also be available

We also would like to invite you to [submit full academic papers or abstracts](#) to the conference, related (but not limited) to the themes below to be addressed in the conference:

1. Large and mesoscale oceanography
2. Coastal impacts
3. Emerging technologies for ocean and coastal applications
4. Extreme events
5. Operational remote sensing
6. Ocean-Atmosphere interactions
7. Remote sensing data for policy making
8. Education and outreach
9. Coastal disaster management
10. Marine GIS
11. Artificial intelligence and deep learning

Special Sessions:

1. Coastal and hydrographic survey
2. National marine economy and safety

Selected full papers will be published in following journals (subject to journals' review standards please consult advisory and details in the [call for papers](#)):

- International Journal of Remote Sensing: PORSEC Special Issue (Indexed by Web of Science)
- International Journal of Built Environment and Sustainability (IJBES) – Indexed in the Emerging Source Citations Index by the Web of Science
- Conference Proceedings (with ISBN)

15 September, 2020 is the current deadline for abstract submission and travel support request

Sponsors: PORSEC Association, UTM, UMT, IGRSM and Malaysia Space Agency, COSPAR

Spread a word among your contacts. We are looking forward to see you in Johor Bahru!

Obituaries

Prof. Trevor Platt, FRS FRSC (1942-2020)

Prof. Trevor Charles Platt was one of the pioneering researchers in the fields of ocean-colour remote sensing and primary-productivity modelling. He cultivated great cohort of young researchers in the field, especially in developing countries, such as India. After a short illness, he passed away on 5 April 2020 in Plymouth, UK. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Shubha Sathyendranath, who has been a pillar of support in all his endeavours. They travelled together the length and breadth of this planet to train young minds. Born in Salford, England in 1942, Professor Platt first entered academia six decades ago as an undergraduate at the University of Nottingham in the UK, before going onto study for an MA at the University of Toronto; in 1970 he gained his PhD in biology from Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada. He became Head of Biological Oceanography, in 1972, and acting Director in 1976 at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Nova Scotia, where he had been researching phytoplankton ecology. Read the full obituary published in the PORSEC-2018 issue of IJRS at <https://doi.org/10.1080/01431161.2020.1766297>.



John Ernest "Jack" Randall (1924-2020)

John Ernest “Jack” Randall, Jr., will forever be remembered among the greats of ichthyology, taxonomy, nomenclature and exploratory research. With more than 900 books and scientific publications to his credit, he's surpassed the publication record of any ichthyologist in history. He continued to work on specimens and with colleagues from his home right up until the end, with as many as two dozen (or more) additional manuscripts in various stages of preparation/publication, essentially all of which will eventually be published. His extensive (~800 pages!) Memoirs are in the hands of the publisher, and should be available later this year. We're still compiling the total number of new taxa he discovered and described, but it includes at least 30 new genera and more than 830 new species (of which 97% are currently regarded as valid). Depending on where the dust settles with his remaining manuscripts, he will likely surpass Pieter Bleeker as the most prolific describer of fish species in history (Bleeker's current tally of valid fish species hovers at 837, according to the Catalog of Fishes and FishBase).



Announcements



Gad Levy and Nimit Kumar

1. Deadline : 10 July 2020 for contributing to next issue of The Indian Ocean Bubble-2

For those who would like to contribute to the upcoming Issue-13 of "The Indian Ocean Bubble-2" deadline is 10th July 2020. Informal contributions describing PhD work, project work or referring Indian Ocean studies, cruises, conferences, workshops, tributes to other oceanographers etc. are welcome. Articles may be up to 1500 words in length (MS-Word) accompanied by suitable figures, photos (separate .jpg files). Your Contributions may be sent as usual to iioe (at) incois.gov.in or in case of large photos etc. to iioe2india (at) gmail.com. You can stay updated at <https://www.facebook.com/IIOE2/> and at https://twitter.com/iioe_2.

2. POSTPONEMENT of International Indian Ocean Science Conference (IIOSC)-2020

In view of the recent outbreak of COVID-19, the safety of delegates is of paramount importance for the conference organisers. Therefore, upon recommendation of UNESCO-IOC amid concerns raised by many delegates spread across the world, the International Indian Ocean Science Conference (IIOSC)-2020 has been postponed till further notice. More details on the Conference are available at the website <https://iiosc2020.incois.gov.in/>

3. Second International Operational Satellite Oceanography Symposium (OSOS)

The Executive Steering Committee of the 2nd International Operational Satellite Oceanography (OSO) Symposium, co-chaired by EUMETSAT and NOAA, is pleased to announce the next Symposium will be held in Darmstadt, Germany May 25-27, 2021. The committee invites community members from all levels of the value chain, from data providers to users, of operational satellite oceanographic data, products and applications, to attend the second international Operational Satellite Oceanography (OSO) Symposium. This Symposium will focus on the use of satellite data in coupled numerical models for ocean, weather, climate and environment analysis and prediction; and in operational applications for coastal waters. Participants can also elect to attend a day of training on Friday 28.05.2021 at EUMETSAT office, Darmstadt, Germany. Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 January 2021; Registration Deadline: 10 April 2021. Registration and Abstract Submission Links will be made online soon.

4. POSTPONEMENT of 14 International Conference on Copepoda (ICOC 2020) to 2021

Due to the COVID-19, the ICOC 2020 and pre-conference workshop scheduled to take place in June 2020, have been postponed by one year. The new dates will be 31 May– 4 June 2021 for the preconference workshop at the University of Limpopo in Polokwane, and 6 – 12 June for the conference in Skukuza, Kruger Park, South Africa. The conference will still be referred to as the ICOC2020 and not the ICOC2021. Abstract submissions for the ICOC 2020 in June 2021 have re-opened. Submitted abstracts can be accessed at <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/login?redirect=/dashboard/events/1160> where you can decide whether you want to keep your abstract as submitted for June 2020. Note that there is no deadline yet, and this will be determined at a later stage, probably 30 December 2020. Visit https://www.abevents.co.za/web_icoc2020/ for further details.

Global satellite constellation to monitor air pollution hourly

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Republic of Korea are working together on a global satellite constellation of three space-based instruments that could track global pollution on an hourly basis. These air quality satellites will measure pollutants, including ozone, nitrogen dioxide, formaldehyde and tiny atmospheric particles called aerosols in order to enhance our understanding of air quality and air pollution. Read more at:

<http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/news/global-satellite-constellation-monitor-air-pollution-hourly>

Large integrated satellite study of the accelerated Greenland Ice Sheet retreat

Scientists from 50 scientific institutions, led by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the European Space Agency (ESA) combined 26 independent satellite datasets to show that the Greenland Ice Sheet melt is increasing. The group studied data from 1992 to 2018, taking direct measurements of the continent-sized glacier. The study found that decade averages for ice melt has increased sevenfold from the 1990s. Read about it here:

<http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/news/large-integrated-satellite-study-reveals-greenland-ice-sheet-melting-faster>

Seeing coronavirus impacts from space: Before-and-after satellite photos

Planet Earth is looking pretty deserted these days as people around the world are sheltering in place and avoiding social contact to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus. With events and large gatherings banned, businesses closed and governments around the world ordering citizens to "shelter in place," Earth has become so quiet and barren that even satellites can see the changes from orbit. See some before-and-after views at:

<https://www.space.com/coronavirus-impact-from-space-before-and-after-satellite-images.html>

Moreover, satellites show drop in emissions from coronavirus response is changing Earth's air. Read:

<https://www.space.com/nasa-satellites-track-fossil-fuel-emissions-from-space-coronavirus.html>

Satellites And Machine Learning Used To Detect Plastic In The Ocean

It is essential to identify which parts of the ocean collect the most plastic to effectively target cleanup and pollution prevention efforts. Might satellites bolstered with machine learning be up for the oceanic task of tracking plastic pollution? According to research recently published in Scientific Reports, yes. Read further:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/allenelizabeth/2020/04/27/how-satellites-and-machine-learning-are-being-used-to-detect-plastic-in-the-ocean/#5721aa544fd1>

Updates About Our Office Holders and Members

Our long time outreach and education committee chair and PORSEC executive secretary, Stephanie King, has started her own venture, InWater Technologies, in July of 2019, serving as its CEO. To allow Steph to dedicate her much needed effort to this new venture, Nimit Kumar kindly agreed to assume the roles of PORSEC executive secretary and chair of the outreach and education committee, in addition to his role as BPA co-editor. We are grateful to Stephanie and Nimit for their contributions and service to the Association, and wish Steph success.

PORSEC Membership Drive!

We've now updated the PORSEC webpage to include an online payment system for membership fees (<https://porsec.nwra.com/join-us/>). These fees are an important source of stable funds that we use to keep PORSEC running.

Starting at PORSEC 2018 in Korea, the membership fee is now included with your registration. However, if you were not able to attend the latest conference, please keep your membership up-to-date by paying your 2018/2019 membership fee online (\$50 for 2018 and 2019; \$20 for students). If you have not paid your membership in several years, we encourage to pay for your 2016/2017 membership online (\$50 for 2016 and 2017). You can also consider paying a one-time lifetime membership fee of \$250.

Thanks very much for your continued support!

