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National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Announces \$4 Million in Academic Research Grants

Nine U.S. colleges and universities are recipients of nearly \$4 million in grants from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) to conduct basic research in geospatial intelligence topics. Begun in 1997, this is an annual solicitation for basic research proposals in geospatial intelligence disciplines from U.S. academic institutions. The solicitation topics are selected to provide the scientific basis for advance and applied research in NGA's core disciplines. The Agency's Academic Research Program grants are awarded under the NGA University Research Initiatives (NURI) and the Historically Black College and University – Minority Institution (HBCU-MI) Research Initiatives programs.

The following grants were awarded under the NURI program:

1. Dr. Dorota Brzezinska, Ohio State University: "Seamless and Reliable Personal Navigator"
2. Dr. Liping Di, George Mason University, "Choreographed Intelligent Web Services for Automated Geospatial Knowledge Discovery"
3. Dr. Yaron Felus, Ferris State University: "Multisources Data Fusion, A Mathematical and Computational Approach"
4. Dr. Ron Li, Ohio State University: "Seamless Integration of Geospatial Data from Water to Land"
5. Dr. Eugene Santos, University of Connecticut: "On Effectively Handling Large Volumes of Geospatial Intelligence Information: A Formal Distributed Real-Time Processing Approach"
6. Dr. Guillermo Sapiro, University of Minnesota: "Automated Geospatial-Intelligence Image Analysis: A Geometric Framework"
7. Dr. Chi-Ren Shyu, University of Missouri: "Content-Based Information Mining and Visualization for Exploitation of Multi-Modal Databases"
8. Dr. Thomas Zeffiro, Georgetown University: "An Investigation of Perceptual Skills and Cognitive Strategies Using Functional Brain Imaging"

The following grants were awarded under the HBCU-MI program:

1. Dr. Michael Stubblefield, Southern University and A&M College: "Discovery and Visualization of Geospatial Intelligence for Homeland Security Using Computer Automated Virtual Environment (CAVE)"
2. Dr. David Voelz, New Mexico State University: "Passive Polarization-Based Classification Study"

A selection committee headed by Dr. Scott Loomer, Science Advisor for Geospatial Sciences in NGA's InnoVision Directorate, reviewed 63 proposals from 37 institutions in 27 states.

"Our thanks to all of the colleges and universities who participated. We received excellent proposals and look forward to working with the selected institutions to solve geospatial intelligence problems facing the nation," said Jaan Loger, NGA InnoVision Director.

Additional information about the NGA Academic Research Program can be found at www.nga.mil/narp.

NGA is a Department of Defense combat support agency and a member of the National Intelligence Community whose mission is to provide timely, relevant and accurate geospatial intelligence in support of our national security. Geospatial intelligence is the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on the Earth. Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., NGA has major facilities in the Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia, and St. Louis, Mo., areas with NGA support teams worldwide.