

# **ISPRS**

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## **OBITUARIES**

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# OBITUARIES

## Georges Masson d'Autume (1916 - 2006)

It is with deep sadness that we have been informed of the death of Georges Masson d'Autume on 14th of January 2006. He was an Honorary Member of ISPRS since 1976 and remembered as a great photogrammetrist who has contributed to major developments in aerial triangulation, DEM generation and space imagery modelling.



Georges Masson d'Autume was born in Cherbourg, France on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1916. He graduated from the Ecole Polytechnique (promotion 1935) and he began his career in the French Army at the Ecole d'Application d'Artillerie de Fontainebleau (Artillery Application School of Fontainebleau) during two years (1937-1939) and participated to the French Campaign in 1940. He was sent in 1941 to Dakar (Senegal) in the Service Géographique de l'AOF (Geographic Survey of the French Western Africa) and he discovered the interest of aerial photography (still unknown at this time in Africa) with pictures taken by the American Army and developed a dedicated method to use these images.

In 1945, as the Service Géographique de l'AOF became part of IGN, Georges Masson d'Autume joined the corps of Geographic Engineers. Back in France (metropolitan) in 1946 he spent a few months at Ecole Nationale des Sciences Géographiques (National School for Geographic Sciences) before being appointed at the Research Department of the Photogrammetry Service of IGN.

In 1948 he presented a new method of aerial triangulation at the SIP Congress in The Hague and until 1964 he worked on the theory of photogrammetry for improving its accuracy while compensating the different error sources. In parallel he developed new photogrammetric devices, as easy to use and as accurate as possible for medium scale mapping, such as the Stereoflex (constructed and marketed by SOM) and elaborated new efficient procedures presented at the Stockholm Congress in 1956 and used during many years by IGN, especially overseas. He was always aware

of the new technologies and open-minded and when he discovered computer science he directly understood its potential for photogrammetry. Under his leadership IGN could then develop, test and operationally use all phases of analytical aerial triangulation techniques.

This work had been internationally acknowledged and he was elected President of Commission III of ISP for the 1960-1964 period.

Scientific councillor at the Headquarters, Logistics Director, then President of the Scientific and Technical Research Committee, he had always worked for IGN, continuing his researches in photogrammetry even after his retirement in October 1982.

He published many scientific papers, most of them in the Bulletin de la SFPT and in the ISPRS Archives but also in Photogrammetria or the Canadian Surveyor.

One can mention his researches on spline functions and their applications to photogrammetry (for DEM generation, data filtering, error modelling, bundle adjustment) presented at the Helsinki Congress in 1976 and on the new sensors and especially SPOT. As soon as 1978 he developed accurate geometric modelling to be used for image calibration and correction and new DEM generation techniques based on automatic correlation along quasi epipolar lines. His work will then be adapted for SPOT images processing.

In December 1982 he received the prestigious Laussedat Prize given by the French Academy of Sciences for his work in photogrammetry.

Georges Masson d'Autume was highly thought by his colleagues, in France and abroad, always available to explain and discuss his ideas and to encourage and help students or young researchers (I was lucky to be one of them in the eighties).

ISPRS has lost one of its older members and even if not very well known by the youngest Georges Masson d'Autume should be recognized as an outstanding researcher by our photogrammetry and remote sensing community.

## Madeleine Godefroy (-2006)

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September in the evening, and during the EARSeL SIG-meeting on Land Use and Land Cover in Bonn, Germany, the sad news came to us that our dear former secretary Madeleine Godefroy passed away in a Hospital in Caen, France.



Madeleine served our Association for more than 24 years. Besides running EARSeL's secretariat, she was organising the annual symposia and the numerous workshops of the association and collecting articles for the Newsletter.

Everybody who joined EARSeL meetings knew Madeleine; she did the reception of the participants and guests at "her" reception desk. She was the friendly and kind lady who welcomed everybody. In other words Madeleine was the face of the Association. She was also called "the mother of the Association", and indeed she was. She worked for EARSeL almost as

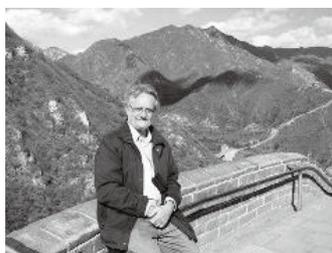
long as the existence of the Association itself.

Madeleine's first intention was to retire in 2002 after the Prague Symposium, but then Gent came in 2003, and Dubrovnik and Cairo in 2004, all places she still wanted to see and see the EARSeL events take place. EARSeL was her association, and she could difficulty say goodbye from the job. She decided finally to retire after the Porto Symposium in 2005. Unfortunately a couple of weeks before the doctors discovered a cancer, and due to the heavy medical treatment, Madeleine could not make it to Porto. But Madeleine was fighting against her illness. Last June she came to the Warsaw meeting, and there we could honour her for all these years of service to the association. Madeleine was in an excellent condition and we thought her illness was over. Unfortunately in August the doctors discovered seedings of the cancer. This fight Madeleine lost last Thursday 28 of September.

We will especially remember Madeleine for her warm personality, her kindness, willingness and her devotion towards EARSeL.

## Robin Letellier (1944 - 2007)

It is with much sadness that I need to inform of the unexpected passing of Robin Letellier. Robin was lecturing in the USA and suffered a stroke as a result of this he passed away. Many members of CIPA have lost a dear friend and colleague. He was a tireless supporter of CIPA and its objectives, serving on the committee for many years in various capacities including Vice President.



Robin Letellier received a B.A. in Architecture from Laval University, Quebec City, in 1969. He was Chief of Architectural Documentation Services, Heritage Conservation Program for Parks Canada between 1970 and 1997. Between 1974 and 1999, he was the Canadian delegate to the ICOMOS International Committee for Architectural Photogrammetry (CIPA).

Robin is a founding member of the Recording and

Documentation Committee of ICOMOS Canada, and was Chair of the Committee between 1983 and 1991. Between 1984 and 1999, he lectured annually at the ICCROM Centre (Rome) on the subjects of architectural documentation and information management. Since 1996, as management consultant he has been assisting national and international conservation organizations with improving their operations. Recently, he has been promoting new conservation management practices through presentations, seminars, and workshops in Japan, Thailand, Laos, Philippines, Indonesia, Brazil, Italy, Austria, Poland and Slovenia.

He was working with the Getty Conservation Institute to develop a Bridging-the-Gap initiative towards creating partnerships between international conservation organizations (i.e. ICOMOS, UNESCO, ICCROM, CIPA, GCI, etc.) to improve heritage conservation standards and practices and publishing a book entitled Recording, Documentation and Information Management for the Conservation of Heritage Places - Guiding Principles.

## Chor-Pang (C.P.) Lo (1939 - 2007)

On December 30, 2007, Professor Chor-Pang (C.P.) Lo passed away in Athens, Georgia, USA at the age of 68. He had been ill for the last three years with lung cancer.



Professor Lo was an internationally known geographer who made seminal contributions to urban remote sensing and the development of geographic information system approaches for examining human-environment interactions. He pioneered the use of Landsat data for land cover mapping in China, in particular, the Hong Kong-Pearl River Delta Region. He conducted research on population estimation using aerial photography, Large Format Camera photography, MSS, TM, SPOT, DMSP-OLS, and Shuttle Imaging Radar images for the city of Hong Kong as well as settlements in China and USA. His recent NASA-funded work on land use and heat island effect in Atlanta, Georgia, attracted considerable attention from the news media. He demonstrated how remote sensing, in conjunction with geographic information systems and census statistics, can be used to reveal the spatial impact of human societies on the environment and to facilitate our understanding of social processes. Professor Lo's research was regarded as a major effort to bridge physical, social, and remote sensing sciences.

Professor Lo was a prolific scholar and author with numerous publications that appeared in some premier remote sensing, geographic information science, and geography journals. He authored or co-authored 11 books including three major textbooks on remote sensing or geographic information systems (Applied Remote Sensing, Longman, 1986; Concepts and Techniques in Geographic Information Systems, Prentice Hall, 2002, 2007) that have been adopted by many universities in the United States and other countries.

Professor Lo had also made significant contributions to remote sensing, geographic information science,

and geographic education. He taught remote sensing and GIS courses at the University of Hong Kong and the University of Georgia for nearly 40 years. At the University of Georgia, Professor Lo directed nearly 30 Ph.D. and Master's degree students, who themselves became successful academics. His dedication to urban remote sensing and human-environment interactions inspired a new generation of scholars working to better understand the complex, dynamic urban environment.

Born in Hong Kong in 1939, Professor Lo studied geography at the University of Hong Kong, where he received the B.A. (First Honors, 1963) and M.A. (1966). During 1968-1971, he was a Commonwealth Scholar pursuing his Ph.D. in Geography and Photogrammetry at the University of Glasgow in UK. Before joining the Faculty at the University of Georgia in 1984, he was a Reader at the University of Hong Kong. He was promoted to the rank of Full Professor in 1988.

His honors included the William A. Owen Award in Creative Research given by the University of Georgia (2001), the Medal of Outstanding Contributions to the science of Remote Sensing and the discipline of Geography given by the Remote Sensing Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers (2001), Research Honors Award (2002) and the Lifetime Achievement Award (2005) given by the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, and the Distinguished Service Award given by the China Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers (2005).

Professor Lo was a member of the Association of American Geographers, the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, the Remote Sensing Society, the British Photogrammetric Society, and the Society of Sigma Xi.

Professor Lo was preceded in death by his father, Chik Sang Lo and his brother Chor Yuk Law. He is survived by his mother, Lai Ying Lo, Hong Kong; his wife, Christine Lo, and son, Wai-Kit Lo, both in Athens, Georgia; his sister-in-law, Wing Yee Law, his nephew, Wher Wai Tong Law, and niece, Helen Chi Po Law, all in Hong Kong.

## Y.C. Lee (1948 - 2004)

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our colleague Prof. Y.C. Lee. He died on June 23, 2004 in Fredericton, NB, Canada after a long battle with cancer. He served as Vice-President of ISPRS TC IV during 2000-2004, Co-Chair of IC WG IV/III.1



during the 1996-2000 and Guest Co-Editor of the September 2000 ISPRS Journal issue Vol. 55, No. 3.

Yuk-Cheung Lee, known to all as Y.C., was born on 30 March 1948. He went to the University of New Brunswick (UNB), in 1977 after receiving a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Simon Fraser University. His Masters thesis was 'A Topological Data Structure for Polygonal Maps'. He graduated in May 1980.

In 1981 he began his Ph.D. with the Surveying Engineering department (now Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering). He was a part-time student and parttime programmer analyst with Dr Sam Masry. The work he did with Dr Masry was to design and implement a digital land information system for resource mapping. His dissertation was on 'Conceptual Models for Geographic Information Systems'. Dr Masry and Y.C. built a Geographic Information System that today is the basis of Dr Masry's company, originally called Universal Systems Limited and now called CARIS. Y.C. graduated with his Ph.D. in 1987.

In September 1986, Y.C. was appointed as a lecturer in the Department of Surveying Engineering. In July 1987 he was appointed an assistant professor in the same Department and in July 1991 he was promoted to associate professor. He received a UNB Merit Award for 1991/92. He was granted tenure in July 1992 and in July 1996; he was promoted to the rank of professor.

In 1995, Y.C. took a two-year leave of absence to take up a Professorship position in the Department of Land Surveying and Geoinformatics, Hong Kong Polytechnic. He felt he could take UNB's values, curriculum, and teaching ideals for the advancement of geographic information systems being developed in China, Australia, and Hong Kong. He was there on the beginnings of the GIS undergraduate and graduate

programs at the Hong Kong Polytechnic. Y.C. Stayed in Hong Kong for two more years and while at Hong Kong Polytechnic, in 1999 Y.C. won that university's President's Achievement Award.

He returned to UNB in August 1999 and took on the duties of Director of Graduate Studies (DoGS). He held the DoGS position until February 2002 when he underwent the first of a number of operations for cancer.

Y.C. was a gifted teacher concerned with developing innovative teaching methods to explain difficult concepts. His students, who consistently gave him excellent opinion surveys, appreciated his efforts. He was in demand as a community and regional speaker because he was so capable of making complicated material simple to grasp. He had a wonderful ability to formulate and articulate concepts.

In his own words, this is how Y.C. saw his arrival at UNB:

Before immigrating to Canada from Hong Kong, I spent a year at ITC in the Netherlands studying cartography. A computer cartography course there in 1973 intrigued me, and I asked staff members and students at ITC where I should go for further studies in Canada. There seemed to be one clear answer: UNB. After landing in Vancouver in 1974 and holding two jobs in drafting, I entered Simon Fraser University and in 1977 obtained a BSc in Computing Science with a minor in mathematics. I hadn't gone straight to UNB because of a miscommunication between my aunt, who thought I should stay in Vancouver, and myself who fully intended on heading east. My aunt won, for a while, but then it was time for UNB. I applied to the Department for a Masters degree, and was encouraged to enter a joint program with Computer Science because of my BSc. I took that suggestion and thought that after the MSc I would go elsewhere, perhaps Ottawa, to find a job. Well, things didn't work out that way!

Y.C. was a very talented photographer and some of his work can be see at <http://www.pbase.com/ycclepersonal>. A scholarship has being established in Y. C.'s memory (<http://gge.unb.ca/Alumni/News/News.html#LeeMemorial>). Y.C. was an excellent colleague, teacher, researcher and a good friend to many of us in ISPRS community. He will be dearly missed.

## Karl Kraus (1939 - 2005)

Karl Kraus was born in Obermichelbach, Germany on April 23, 1939. He obtained his Dipl.-Ing. in geodetic science at the University of Technology, Munich in 1962, Dr.-Ing. (PhD) on photogrammetric block adjustment in 1966 and Habilitation in automation in geodetic science, at University of Stuttgart in 1972.



He was Assistant Professor at the Institute of Photogrammetry in Munich from 1968-1970, post doctoral researcher at the Institute for Photogrammetry in Stuttgart from 1970-1974, and Head of the Institute of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, University of Technology, Vienna Austria, from 1974 until his death. From 1985-1991 he was Head of the Joint Research Program "Remote Sensing" of the Austrian Science Foundation; from 1983-1987 Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences; and from 1987-1989, Rector of the Vienna University of Technology. In 1992 he was elected to the Council of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) for the period 1992-1996 as Congress Director, and was responsible for the organisation of the very successful 1996 ISPRS Vienna Congress. From 1998 to 2001 he was Chairman of the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences at the Vienna University of Technology.

Karl Kraus was presented with the Carl-Pulfrich-Award for introducing statistical methods of prediction into photogrammetry in 1971. In 1990 he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of the University of Technology, Budapest Hungary as well as the Wilhelm Exner Medal of the "Österreichischer Gewerbeverein". He published more than 170 scientific publications, 5 textbooks in Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, some of which have been translated into several languages. He has been a member of the Editorial Board of the Journals "Zeitschrift für Geo-Informationssysteme" (September 1991-December 1998), "Zeitschrift für Vermessung und Geoinformation", "Zeitschrift für Photogrammetrie-Fernerkundung-Geoinformation" (1997-September 2002) and "ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing" (until January 2005).

Karl Kraus was an outstanding teacher and researcher, and originator of many new developments in photogrammetry and remote sensing. He was a friend and strong defender of the traditions of ISPRS, which was established as ISP in Vienna in 1910, and he fought hard to ensure that its origins were always recognized. He was close colleague of many photogrammetrists and remote sensing experts around the world. He had the reputation of being a kind and considerate colleague and leader of a University Institute that was very highly respected internationally. His death is a sad loss to the photogrammetry and remote sensing community, his family, friends and colleagues.

## Alden Partridge Colvocoresses (1918 - 2007)

Alden Partridge Colvocoresses is a decorated Army colonel and US Geological Survey mapmaker . He was a native of Humboldt, Arizona. He graduated in mining engineering from the University of Arizona in 1941. During his military career, he received Master's degrees in geology and civil engineering and a doctorate in geodetic sciences from Ohio State University. He was a recipient of the Interior Department's Distinguished Service Award and was a former president of the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. He was also a former president of Fairfax Bassbusters, a fishing group now called Fairfax Bass.

Dr. Colvocoresses, known by many as Colvo, served in the Army Corps of Engineers from 1941 to 1968. During the Second World War, he received two Silver Stars, one for capturing and destroying a German Mark IV tank in Tunisia and another for escaping from Italian captors in North Africa. He also served in the Korean War and retired after playing a large role in mapping operations during the Vietnam War. His other decorations included the Bronze Star Medal and two Purple Hearts.

He spent the rest of his career working for the US Geological Survey's national mapping division, retiring in 1990. He was a research cartographer on the Landsat satellite programme and received two patents for models of remote sensing systems. He also discovered a reef in the Indian Ocean that was subsequently named after him.

Colvocoresses was perhaps best known on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean for his work at USGS from 1968 to 1990 and particularly for his involvement in the evaluation and development of mapping the earth from space. He was a principal investigator for

cartographic applications of the Landsat, Skylab and SPOT satellites. His work resulted in a 1982 patent for a mapping satellite (Mapsat) with the objective of producing multispectral data and geometric accuracy appropriate for 1:50,000 scale mapping. In a paper which he published in the International Archives of Photogrammetry in 1980, he claimed that Mapsat "is the first space system designed with mapping of the earth as one of its primary objectives". Another patent was granted in 1988 for a multispectral sensor design. Between 1973 and 1979, together with J. P. Snyder and J. L. Junkins, Colvocoresses defined the Space Oblique Mercator Projection which became standard for Landsat.

The first edition of the Manual of Remote Sensing, published by the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing in 1975, contained a chapter by Colvocoresses and he was also one of the contributing authors to a chapter on satellite photogrammetry in the fourth edition of the Manual of Photogrammetry, published by ASPRS in 1980.

From 1981 to 1984, Colvocoresses chaired the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing committee on "Mapping from space". As President of ASPRS in 1988, he led the United States delegation to the International Congress of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing in Kyoto and was there successful in securing the bid to host the 1992 Congress in Washington, D. C.

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