

OGONMULA JAMES - MY EXPERIENCE AT THE ISPRS COMMISSION I SYMPOSIUM (3) 2014

I am a Ph.D student in the Department of Geosciences. University of Lagos and a principal scientific officer with the National Centre for Remote Sensing, Jos, Nigeria. I am a recipient of the ISPRS Foundation Travel Award for the PECORA 19 symposium held at Denver, Colorado from the 17th- 20th November 2014.

I submitted two papers for presentation at the symposium which were accepted after which I told my employers of my intention to attend the conference but I was told there was paucity of funds. In desperation I started looking elsewhere for funding and I eventually stumbled across the ISPRS travel grant.

I told my Director about it and he promised to give me additional funding as long as get the grant. I applied for the grant and I got it after which my Director gave me extra funding as promised. I am therefore very grateful to the ISPRS foundation for making my dream to attend the PECORA symposium a reality.

I arrived Denver on a chilly Sunday afternoon and I immediately fell in love with the city. My day at the symposium actually started on Tuesday November 18th 2014 when I had my poster presentations. Before then I attended the plenary sessions and some technical sessions which were eye-openers to me. A lot people came by my posters and were surprised that we carry out such research in my country. I had two poster presentations, one was titled '**STUDY OF LANDCOVER CHANGE IN YELWA-HEIPANG AREA OF PLATEAU STATE,NORTH-CENTRAL NIGERIA: AGEOINFORMATIC APPROACH**'. The study involved the use of Landsat and Nigeriasat-X images to study land use change in Yelwa over a period of 37 years. The second one titled '**LINEAMENT EXTRACTION FROM SPOT 5 AND NIGERIASAT-X IMAGERY OF THE UPPER BENUE TROUGH, NIGERIA**' involved processing SPOT 5 and Nigeriasat-X images to extract lineaments that can be an aid for further exploration work in the trough. I got several commendations and very useful advice from those that came to see my posters. One I vividly remember is from a guy from the USGS who gave me a website where I can have access to a lot of data for free.

I made a lot of contacts and exchanged complimentary cards with a lot of professionals. The sessions on Wednesday and Thursday were also quite interesting and educative to me. I have been opportune to attend several conferences related to Remote Sensing and GIS but by far the ISPRS Commission I Symposium(3) has been the most rewarding to me because all the presentations were of high quality which has really broadened my knowledge of the science. In particular, I took interest in the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) because Nigeria is yet to employ this method to study the environment.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that my attending the symposium has greatly increased my knowledge in the area of Remote Sensing and I am very grateful to the ISPRS foundation for the travel grant and to Professor Marguerite Madden whom I have come to know as a wonderful woman.

Below is a picture of the Professor Marguerite and the grant recipients.



Thanks to The ISPRS Foundation

Ogunmola James