



Institute of
Instrumentation
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IEEE

Australian Earth Observation from Space: Digital Earth, Citizen Science and Social Media

Emeritus Professor John Richards

ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science
The Australian National University

6th of November at 5.30pm
Engineers Australia Auditorium
712 Murray St West Perth

The talk will be hosted by the ITEE WA, IET, IICA and IEEE
Drinks and Snacks will be provided. This event is rated at 1.5 hours CPD

Summary of Presentation:

For many years Australia has relied on images of the earth's surface acquired by other nations for its operational and research use in remote sensing. There has always been some concern, however, that our continued access to overseas data may ultimately be restricted or become prohibitively costly unless we are seen to be serious contributors to the business of data gathering. If we, as a nation, were to take steps to be more engaged in data gathering, what options are available to us? Should we contemplate our own satellite programs or are there other viable alternatives? When set against emerging applications of national interest, including coastal surveillance, disaster management and carbon accounting, these questions need serious and timely consideration.

In this talk options for future Australian investment in earth observation programs will be discussed, including the opportunities that might be generated for small business in value adding, and as the basis for regional aid programs. Particular attention will be given to the importance of social media as a mechanism for extending the reach of knowledge generation in remote sensing throughout the nation.

Bio of Guest Speaker(s)

John graduated from the University of New South Wales with the degrees of Bachelor of Engineering (Hons 1) and Doctor of Philosophy, both in Electrical Engineering. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia and a Life Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, NY.

He was most recently Master of University House at the Australian National University. He was formerly Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice President of the ANU, and Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science, held in conjunction with the University House position.

John has worked at the University College, the University of New South Wales, Australian Defence Force Academy, where he served as Rector, Deputy Rector and Head of the School of Electrical Engineering. He was the foundation Director of the Centre for Remote Sensing at the University of New South Wales.

He received the Australian Centenary of Federation Medal and, in 2009, was made a Member in the Order of Australia for service to electrical engineering, professional associations and space science. John is President of the International Society for Digital Earth.

