

DRAFT
Bylaws of the
Center for Remote Sensing
Agricultural and Biological Engineering
University of Florida

Preamble

The purpose of these by-laws is to establish recognized methods of procedure for the conduct and operation of the Center for Remote Sensing (CRS) at the University of Florida (UF). The CRS recognizes that these bylaws are subordinate to the Constitutions of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and the University of Florida and the policies and directives of the University of Florida's Board of Trustees and the Florida Board of Governors. The goal of the CRS is to attain regional, national and international recognition in research, teaching, and outreach for cutting-edge technologies in remote sensing and geographical information systems (GIS) as applied to agricultural and natural resources. It strives to stimulate individual and collaborative research by UF Faculty and students engaged in remote sensing and GIS. The goal can be best achieved with a governance structure that fosters collegiality, collaboration, mutual respect and responsibility, and transparency. Stimulate individual and collaborative research by UF Faculty and students engaged in remote sensing...

Article 1 - Structure

Section 1: Duties and Functions of the Director

The Director of the CRS is appointed by the Chair of the Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE) Department with the recommendation of a search and screen committee formed by the Chair. The Director shall represent the CRS in relation to other departments/programs and the administrative offices of the University. The Director shall represent the CRS to other Universities, and/or organizations that have dealings with the CRS. The Director shall set, in a timely fashion, at least two Advisory Board meetings per academic year, at which s/he will act as presiding officer. It is the responsibility of the Director to consult with and encourage the participation of the Advisory Board members. With the assistance of the CRS Manager and relevant faculty, the Director shall coordinate official CRS events, such as short courses, guest lectures, and symposia. The Director shall take central responsibility for the day-to-day running of the CRS and shall perform the functions necessary to implement all phases of its operation, including space allocation, equipment procurement, secretarial staff, personnel decisions, and the overall functioning of the office. The Director shall assume responsibility for administering the CRS budget working closely with the Chair of the ABE Department.

Section 2: Advisory Board

The CRS Advisory Board (hereafter the Advisory Board) shall serve as a consulting body to the Director. The Advisory Board shall consist of five members from relevant government and private organizations, internationally, invited by the Director and the Chair of the ABE Department. Faculty members who teach remote sensing and/or GIS related courses, and interested faculty, staff, and friends who are involved in CRS activities may be invited by the Director to serve on the Advisory Board. All Advisory Board members shall be considered active members and will receive all relevant information about the CRS activities.

The Advisory Board shall advise the Director on formulation and execution of the CRS programs and policies. The main function of the Advisory Board shall be to initiate, discuss, and recommend short and long range plans for the CRS. It shall serve as advisor to the Director on its own initiative or upon request from the Director or the Chair of the ABE Department.

Section 3: Affiliate Faculty

Individual faculty association with the CRS is through voluntary registration in the online faculty expertise database. All registered faculty are considered CRS Affiliate Faculty members and retain their positions in their tenure department homes where all administrative and performance review functions are carried out.

Section 4: Meetings

The CRS will conduct at least two Advisory Board meetings per academic year. Physical meetings, web-based meetings, and teleconferences may all serve as meetings of the Advisory Board. The CRS staff will make minutes and actions of the Advisory Board available to the Affiliate Faculty as soon as possible following each meeting

Section 5: Amending the Bylaws

The by-laws can be amended by a majority vote, which can take place at either physical or electronic meetings. The adoption of this set of bylaws shall be by a majority vote of Board members. In the event that these bylaws are adopted, future amendments to the bylaws will be proposed and adopted by the voting members of the CRS with a majority vote.