

## FIRST CIRCULAR THE 20th INTERNATIONAL TOVS STUDY CONFERENCE

Dear Colleague:

We have started preparations for the Twentieth International TOVS Study Conference, ITSC-20. We shall be gathering at the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, USA from Wednesday 28 October through Tuesday 3 November 2015. These dates are firm, so you may mark them on your calendars. This Circular is primarily to advise you of the conference dates and to solicit your input on the scientific proceedings.



### Accommodation and conference venue

The ITSC-20 will be hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Space Science and Engineering Center. Hank Revercomb and Allen Huang are the gracious local hosts of our next meeting, with assistance from Maria Vasys and Leanne Avila. The conference location will be at the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, USA (<http://www.grandgeneva.com/>). Lake Geneva is approximately one hour from Milwaukee's General Mitchell Airport and just under 90 minutes from Chicago's O'Hare Airport. More information on booking accommodations will be forthcoming in the 2nd Circular along with a call for abstracts. Below is a summary of key dates regarding this conference.



2nd Circular (call for abstracts)	15 February 2015
3rd Circular	1 June 2015
Abstracts Due	1 July 2015
Draft Program	15 August 2015
Final Program	15 September 2015
ITSC-20	28 Oct. – 3 Nov. 2015

### Financial Support

Limited financial support is available for the meeting. We will be able to offer partial support to participants. If you anticipate the need for travel assistance, please contact us as soon as possible, indicating your likely needs. Note that financial support usually goes first to people making a presentation.

### Conference Topics

The conference will cover a wide range of topics concerning atmospheric sounding, its applications and related issues. We propose that key issues for this meeting include:

- Evaluation of new microwave and infrared sounding data, such as from the FY-3C, Meteor-M N2 or Megha-Tropiques satellites;
- Updates on operational processing and the exploitation of ATOVS, ATMS, SSMIS and hyperspectral sounder data (AIRS, IASI, CrIS);
- New applications of microwave and infrared sounder data in numerical weather prediction and nowcasting (e.g., new assimilation techniques, bias tuning, use of cloudy radiances), including blended products from polar orbiting and geostationary satellites;
- Use of microwave and infrared sounder data over land and ice surfaces;
- Generation of geophysical parameters from or for microwave or infrared sounding data;

- Applications of microwave and infrared sounder data in climate monitoring and GCOS activities;
- Direct readout software and retransmission services;
- Development and validation of fast radiative transfer models;
- Studies and results for future infrared and microwave sounders; and
- Updates on Satellite Programs and International Coordination (WMO, CGMS).

Other relevant issues include the validation and tuning of surface models, satellite sounding requirements for GEOSS, and absolute calibration and cross-calibration of the global satellite observing system.

Papers on these and related topics are encouraged. More information on the conference format and details on how to submit an abstract will be given in the 2nd Circular.

### **ITWG Web site**

All information related to ITSC-20 will be posted on the ITWG Web site at:

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/itwg/>

If you have any science or news items of interest to the ITWG membership which you would like to share with the community, please send them to our Web Master or contact the Co-Chairs, and we shall try to include them in the Web page contents.

### **Mailing List**

It is important to continuously maintain and update the ITWG mailing list. It would help us greatly in keeping our mailing list up-to-date if you could notify us, without delay, of any changes.

### **Previous Reports and Publications**

Reports from all meetings are on the webpage.

### **Concluding Remarks**

The Co-Chairs serve to further the activities of the ITWG. We welcome your comments on the issues above or other topics. Please send questions and comments to both Co-Chairs at the addresses below, or use the link on the ITWG Web Page. Please forward this circular to any others you think may be interested. We hope to see you at ITSC-20.

Yours sincerely,

Niels Bormann and Mitch Goldberg  
ITWG Co-Chairs



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