



## WILLIAM T. PECORA AWARD

Samuel N. Goward

**For outstanding and sustained scientific leadership in advancing remote sensing science and especially the continuation of the Landsat Program**

Dr. Samuel N. Goward, Professor of Geography at the University of Maryland, has dedicated his career to advancing geographic education and Earth observation science and programs. He has pursued applications of remotely sensed data to better understand land processes and dynamics. Dr. Goward's career activities include: agricultural remote sensing research through the Large Area Crop Inventory Experiment (LACIE)/Agriculture and Resources Inventory Surveys Through Aerospace Remote Sensing (AgRISTARS) programs, tracking seasonal patterns of vegetation greenness using coarse-resolution imagery, and relating seasonal dynamics to measurements of global photosynthetic productivity and net primary production. Dr. Goward pioneered efforts to use field studies and radiative transfer models to establish the theoretical basis for canopy-level vegetation indices and helped organize the Oregon Transect Ecosystem Research (OTTER) project. Currently, Dr. Goward leads an interagency research team to quantify the recent history of forest disturbance for the North American Carbon Program.

Perhaps Dr. Goward's most lasting legacy comes from his leadership and advocacy within the remote sensing community. He has been a tireless and effective leader in advancing the capabilities and continuation of the Landsat Program. As an innovator, Dr. Goward played a key role on the Landsat 7 Science Team in developing the Long Term Acquisition Plan that has yielded the most robust cloud-free global archive of Landsat imagery ever assembled. Through his efforts as the science co-chair of the National Satellite Land Remote Sensing Data Archive advisory committee, he was instrumental in advancing access and exploitation of large volumes of global Landsat data. Because of his many exceptional contributions to remote sensing education, science, and programs, Dr. Goward was awarded the U.S. Geological Survey John Wesley Powell Award and the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Estes Memorial Award.

In recognition of Dr. Goward's many and sustained accomplishments, the Department of the Interior and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration take great pleasure in presenting the 2008 William T. Pecora Award to Dr. Samuel N. Goward.

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Secretary  
Department of the Interior

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Administrator  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration