

MORE Science at UTSA

Earth and Environmental Sciences

Fall 2007 Seminar Series

Where: SB2.02.18

When: 12:00 noon, Wednesday, September 26, 2007

Speakers: Prof. Carlos Cotlier and Mr. Diego Lopez



[Associate Professor Carlos Cotlier](#) is director of Center for Remote Sensing and GIS and head of the Ground Satellite Station at the National University of Rosario, Argentina. Research interests are in urban area such as urban pockets of poverty, relation of the radar backscatter with urban population density and environmental theme, and fire monitoring over the Flooding Valley of the Paraná River with radar and optical satellite images.



[Mr. Diego Lopez](#) is a research assistant at the Center for Remote Sensing and GIS, he teaches undergraduates classes of digital image processing and GIS applications development. He is in charge of the Ground Station management and image archive and processing of the Feng Yun 1D and NOAA data.

Topic: Detection of Urban Pockets of Poverty in the City of Rosario- Argentina, with RadarSat Fine Beam and Optical Satellite Images

Pockets of Poverty or Slum areas are in all big cities from the Argentine Republic (and neighboring countries). Their growth was due to migration from the rural areas to big cities and from a persistence migration from neighboring countries seeking for a better life wrongly fuelled by an Argentine economic program with a strong currency but very little chances of jobs, thus involving violence and even strong poverty. In the years 2001-2003 poverty in Argentina was increased by a strong and exceptional economical recession, with national economic default, and an inverse process started: migration from neighboring countries returned home but millions of Argentine lower income working class got in "sudden poverty" (definition done by the World Bank in another economical crisis or strong recession for similar problems in another countries in Africa or Asia).

The role of planning agencies is becoming increasingly more complex and is extending to wider range of activities. Consequently, there is an increased need for these agencies to have timely, accurate, and cost effective sources data of poverty and **potential** violence areas. Several of these data needs are well served by satellite image interpretation that can provide information concerning urban Pockets of Poverty.