The IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) Argentina Chapter was established by IEEE Member and Geographic Activities on 23 October 2015. Its organizer was Dr. Marcelo Scavuzzo. The Chapter was created following two important international workshops organized by the GRSS in cooperation with the Argentinean National Commission on Space Activities (CONAE). Currently, the executive committee and its officers are as follows:

- Chair: Prof. Jorge L. Márquez, Communications Laboratory, National University of Mar del Plata/Institute of Scientific and Technological Research
- Vice chair: Dr. María Mercedes Salvia, Instituto de Astronomía y Física del Espacio/National Scientific and Technical Research Council and Gulich Institute, CONAE–National University of Córdoba
- Secretary: Dr. Marcelo Scavuzzo, Gulich Institute
- Treasurer: Gastón Pezzuchi, Provincia de Buenos Aires and Instituto Superior de Formación Técnica y Docente 213.

**CHAPTER ACTIVITIES IN 2016**

The main activities during the Chapter’s first two years were the development of workshops and schools for members and nonmembers, as a way to attract more people and let them know about GRSS activities. In 2016, the Chapter sponsored or took part in the following activities:

- **GRSS Colloquium at the Biennial Congress of IEEE Argentina (ARGENCON) 2016**: IEEE ARGENCON is the biennial technical conference organized by the IEEE Argentina Section. Its third edition was held in Buenos Aires, 15–17 June 2016 (http://www.argencon.org.ar) (see Figure 1). Within this framework, the Chapter organized its first GRSS Argentina Colloquium on 16–17 June 2016. The colloquium had 30 participants and included the presentation of 17 papers by local young researchers. Free fellowships were awarded to IEEE and GRSS Student Members to stimulate their participation in the conference and in Chapter activities. Participation in ARGENCON 2016 was important for the GRSS local Chapter because it was the first official activity and achieved the goal of giving visibility to the local Chapter just a few months after its creation.

- **Memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed with the Latin American Society of Remote Sensing Specialists and Space Information Systems (SELPER)**: An MOU was signed in November 2016 with SELPER to provide registration benefits to GRSS Chapter members and an extended paper presentation deadline to attend the 17th SELPER Symposium, held in Iguazú, Argentina, on 7–11 November 2016. This MOU was the first step toward a deeper cooperation between the two organizations.

- **Participation in the 17th SELPER Symposium 2016**: GRSS members presented nine papers (four oral and five posters; see https://selperargentina2016dotorg.files.wordpress.com/2016/08/programa-final-selper-2016final2.pdf) and paid the same registration fee as SELPER members.

- **GRSS Spring School 2016**: CONAE, through the Gulich Institute and in conjunction with the Mathematical, Astronomy, Physics, and Computation Faculty of the National University of Córdoba, Argentina, and the GRSS Argentina Chapter, organized the first GRSS Spring School, held in Córdoba on 19–23 September 2016, with nearly 100 attendees (see Figure 2). The objective was to create a learning space for researchers in geosciences and optical and radar remote sensing. Participants were able to learn about current scientific advances in the field of remote sensing (see http://www.conae.gov.ar/index.php/espanol/2016/848-escuela-de-primavera-ieee).
2016 Distinguished Lecturer and keynote speaker: Dr. Carlos López-Martínez, researcher and associate professor at Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain, attended the 17th SELPER Symposium with GRSS financial support as keynote speaker and presented his lecture “Opportunities for Latin American Teachers and Researchers in the IEEE GRS Society” on 8 November 2016. Dr. Marcelo Scavuzzo was the keynote speaker for the plenary session of ARGENCON 2016 on 16 June, with his presentation “Landscape Epidemiology: A New High Social Impact Area for Space Technology Application,” which attracted about 200 attendees.


CHAPTER ACTIVITIES IN 2017

In 2017, Chapter activities included the following:

- Second CONAE/GRSS Spring School: As a continuation of the first GRSS Spring School, CONAE and the GRSS Argentina Chapter organized the second CONAE/GRSS Spring School, held in Córdoba on 14–18 August 2017 (http://ig.conae.unc.edu.ar/2017/07/06/escuela-segunda-escuela-de-primavera-en-teledetccion/). This edition was dedicated to the topic “Monitoring the Environment Using SAR Techniques,” and nearly 100 students and researchers attended the event.
- GRSS Colloquium at the IEEE Workshop on Information Processing and Control (RPIC) 2017: RPIC is a biennial technical conference cosponsored by the GRSS Argentina Section. The 17th RPIC Workshop was held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, on 20–22 September 2017 (see Figure 3). Within this structure, the Chapter organized its GRSS Colloquium. The full articles are being published on IEEE Xplore. RPIC had 250 participants. The GRSS local
Chapter participants presented 12 papers (http://www.rpic.com.ar/). Jorge Márquez, as chair of the GRSS Argentina Chapter, delivered a welcome message and a description of GRSS local Chapter activities.

FUTURE PROJECTS (2018)
The 2018 edition of the Spring School is already being organized, with seven international experts and 30 Latin American participants (our Chapter has obtained funds from the national Centro Latinoamericano de Formación Interdisciplinaria program for this event). A colloquium or workshop organized by the GRSS Chapter is already planned in the framework of IEEE ARGENCON 2018, to be held in San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina, on 6–8 June. The Chapter plans to invite two Distinguished Lecturers to help us disseminate information about and give visibility to our activities within the local remote-sensing community, which should help to increase membership.

AUTHOR INFORMATION
Jorge L. Márquez (j.l.marquez@ieee.org) received his doctoral degree in electronic engineering from the National University of Mar del Plata, Argentina, in 1979. He is currently a professor with the Faculty of Engineering, Communications Laboratory, Institute of Scientific and Technological Research–National Scientific and Technical Research Council/National University of Mar del Plata. From 1980 to 1993, he was with the National Commission of Spatial Research of Argentina. From 1993 to the present, he has been principal investigator for the Remote Sensing Center, Argentine Air Force, undertaking activities in satellite and aerial image processing, optical and synthetic aperture radar images, small multipurpose unmanned aerial vehicles, and satellite reception stations. He is chair of the GRSS Argentina Chapter. He is a Senior Member of the IEEE.

Carlos Marcelo Scavuzzo (scavuzzo@conae.gov.ar) received his Ph.D. degree in physics from the University of Córdoba, Argentina, in atmospheric physics and cloud modeling and his postdoctorate degree from the École Polytechnique of Paris, France. Currently, he is a professor with the National University of Córdoba and part of the disaster response team of the Argentinean Space Agency. He is also head of the new Ph.D. program at the Gulich Institute. He has taught numerous courses on remote sensing applied to health issues at the Gulich Institute as well as at international meetings. Since 1997, he has been in charge of health applications at the Argentinean National Commission on Space Activities, and he oversees the maintenance of scientific and educational resources as well as establishing operational programs in cooperation with the National Health Ministry. He is the secretary of the GRSS Argentina Chapter.