The USGIF Awards Program annually recognizes the exceptional work of the geospatial intelligence tradecraft's brightest minds and innovative organizations. The awards are presented to applicants selected by the USGIF Awards Subcommittee during the annual GEOINT Symposium. Highlighting the achievements of those within the global GEOINT Community, the awards program also boosts morale, inspires the community, and increases interest in the field.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

This award for academic achievement recognizes an individual, research project, academic program, or department that has made great strides in geospatial intelligence or a related field. Individuals or programs at the K-12, undergraduate, graduate, and doctorate levels are all encouraged to apply. New breakthroughs in projects or programs, research and development, academic achievement, and published writing are some of the many eligible examples of work to nominate for this award category.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT ACHIEVEMENT

The USGIF Community Support Award recognizes an individual or team for outstanding staff, contract, proposal administrative, or program management support. Project managers, executive assistants, proposal managers, contracts managers, and support staff from government, military, or industry can and should be recognized for their critical work.

GOVERNMENT ACHIEVEMENT

This award recognizes outstanding accomplishments by an individual or team from government organizations, departments, or offices that significantly enhance mission effectiveness using GEOINT-related capabilities. Local, state, federal, and international government groups are encouraged to apply, to include Intelligence Community agencies, executive branch organizations, and others.

INDUSTRY ACHIEVEMENT

This award recognizes an individual or a team at a company that has made an outstanding achievement building, deploying, implementing, managing, or utilizing geospatial intelligence services, solutions, and technologies. Whether a large systems integrator, a midsize corporation, a small business, or a startup, all are encouraged to apply and gain recognition for their GEOINT work.

MILITARY ACHIEVEMENT

This award recognizes exceptional GEOINT accomplishments by an individual or team from the military service branches or the Department of Defense that contributes to the increased effectiveness of national security. Geospatial intelligence has become a must-have for mission planning, rehearsal, action, decision-making, and more. From the services down to the units, interesting and important GEOINT activities are taking place and deserve wide recognition. All U.S. and international military groups are encouraged to apply.

ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL-THOMAS C. FINNIE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Arthur C. Lundahl-Thomas C. Finnie Lifetime Achievement Award is presented, upon nomination and vote by the USGIF Board of Directors, to an influential member of the geospatial intelligence community who has dedicated much of his or her life's work to the tradecraft. This distinguished award recognizes contributions made by both Arthur C. Lundahl and Thomas C. Finnie, and celebrates their accomplishments—in imagery analysis and mapping, respectively—and their legacy within the GEOINT Community.
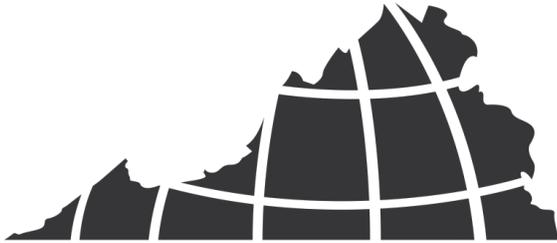
Previous winners of USGIF's Arthur C. Lundahl-Thomas C. Finnie Lifetime Achievement Award include:

2015 Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach
2013 Ms. Roberta "Bobbi" Lenczowski
2012 Mr. Penman R. "Red" Gilliam
2011 LTG Paul E. Menoher
2010 Mr. Jack Dangermond
2009 Mr. Charles E. "Charlie" Allen
2008 Mr. R. Evans Hineman
2007 The Honorable James R. Clapper
2006 The Honorable Jeffrey K. Harris
2005 Mr. William R. Allder Jr.
2004 Dr. Leo Hazlewood

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

The Geospatial Semester
James Madison University

The Geospatial Semester is an innovative dual enrollment partnership between James Madison University and school districts across Virginia. Participating students learn about geospatial technologies and apply them to local and global problems. Students can earn up to six credits at JMU, which are transferable to the school of their choice. Since its inception in 2005, nearly 3,000 students have earned credit for the class and have gone on to a variety of careers including geospatial intelligence.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT ACHIEVEMENT

Exemplar City Inc.

Exemplar City, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit established by Huntsville, Ala., Mayor Tommy Battle, assists local governments in preparing, responding, mitigating, and avoiding natural/manmade disasters through planned resilience. Exemplar City's peer-to-peer collaboration brings municipal stakeholders together to build safe, secure, and sustainable communities. Exemplar City partners with Geo Huntsville, and together they use technology instruction and field-based data gathering, and interface with experts to bring geospatial technology advances to governmental officials throughout the nation. In 2014, they launched the Blueprint for Safety pilot to increase multi-jurisdictional information sharing and enhance situational awareness among agencies to improve rapid disaster response and sustained recovery.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2016 USGIF AWARD WINNERS!

GOVERNMENT ACHIEVEMENT

iMAP Team
Santa Clara County Fire Department

The Santa Clara County Fire Department's iMAP Team developed an enterprise GEOINT system to successfully manage all fire and medical service operations throughout Super Bowl 50. The iMap Team was able to integrate 911/Computer-Aided Dispatch information, map special events throughout the region, monitor resource availability, view GIS layers including near real-time imagery, and analyze data trends. This system provided the Santa Clara County Multi-Agency Coordination Center with a true GEOINT decision and situational awareness platform, allowing decision-makers to keep informed on current activity and make decisions faster than ever before.

INDUSTRY ACHIEVEMENT

ABACO R&D Team
ABACO SpA

ABACO, a European company based in the United Kingdom and Italy, specializes in advanced geospatial intelligence data processing and portrayal techniques. In 2016, its R&D department designed a new augmented reality (AR) "Farm Visor," to help the farming community easily access big data. Integrated with an advanced 3D processing server, Farm Visor facilitates location of plots, visualization of attributes, and consumption of services to manage farming activities. The AR solution can further benefit from a new agricultural portal, Project groundSITE, which supports decision-making, farm agenda management, controlled chemicals spraying, and water consumption control. The R&D Team members include Oreste Tommasi, Alberto Bignotti, and Alessandro Zilocchi.

MILITARY ACHIEVEMENT

Gunnery Sgt. Jesus M. Bocanegra
USSOCOM

Gunnery Sgt. Bocanegra deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve from July 2015 to January 2016. During the deployment, Bocanegra increased operational allocation of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) assets by more than 300 percent. In total, he acquired over 3,500 hours of ISR collection supporting six different units spanning an area of more than 200,000 square kilometers. Bocanegra created and disseminated more than 100 specialized imagery and topographic products in support of deliberate targeting efforts. He continually mentored six units in the utilization of measurement & signature intelligence in order to leverage ongoing national technical means collection efforts in support of intelligence preparation of the environment. As a result, the units struck 25 deliberate targets and created 30 additional developmental targets for follow on actions, maintaining pressure on ISIL.