In an effort to help further the advancement of the geospatial tradecraft, USGIF is dedicated to assisting promising students interested in the geospatial intelligence sciences with scholarship awards. The Foundation annually awards scholarships to promising high school seniors, undergraduate and graduate students who are studying or planning to study geospatial intelligence related fields at the university or college-level.

All scholarship recipients are chosen based on their academic and professional excellence in a field related to the geospatial intelligence tradecraft. Qualified candidates are selected by the Foundation’s Scholarship Subcommittee made up of industry professionals. The USGIF Scholarship Subcommittee annually awards $50,000 to exceptional students.

Scholarships are funded in part by proceeds from the Alder Golf Classic, named in honor of the late William R. Alder Jr. This year, the Foundation awarded more than $50,000 to 13 recipients: four Ph.D. candidates, three master’s candidates, three undergraduates and three high school seniors. High school winners received $2,000 scholarships and all other winners received $5,000 scholarships. This year, the tournament will be held at the Gaylord Springs Golf Links on Monday, Oct. 27.

USGIF hopes to inspire students who are interested in all that GEOINT has to offer to invest their futures in this incredibly exciting and relevant field of study.

To apply for a scholarship, visit www.USGIF.org

Mr. James Albano
James Albano is a student in the imaging science doctorate program at Rochester Institute of Technology. He is actively engaged in the area of remote sensing conducting research in the area of target detection algorithms and modeling. His current research includes modeling target spaces for near real-time spectral target detection.

Ms. Katarina Doctor
Katarina Doctor finished her B.S. in geography at George Mason University where she continues her studies in the PhD program of earth systems and geoinformation sciences. She is also pursuing her pilot’s license. Her research applies spatial statistics and advanced geospatial technologies to predict and reduce the negative consequences of natural disasters.

Mr. Christopher Goranson
Chris Goranson, a MGIS candidate at Penn State, is the director of the GIS Center at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The GIS Center supports geographic information analysis, GIS training and access to standardized GIS data. Chris recently completed a National Science Foundation fellowship investigating syndromic surveillance cluster detection methods with Japan’s National Institute of Public Health. Chris previously worked for an environmental engineering firm supporting and managing GIS projects for various government agencies including the EPA, USGS, FHWA and GSA.

Mr. Brian Howell
Brian Howell is a senior at Virginia Tech, currently sustaining a 3.5 GPA. Brian is majoring in geography with a concentration in geospatial and environmental science and is also pursuing a minor in geosciences. Brian has begun his career goals by working at the Marine Corps Intelligence Activity in their Geographic Analysis Division as an intern analyst last year.

Ms. Michelle Kinzel
Michelle Kinzel is currently a student of geosciences at Oregon State University. She is completing her master’s thesis work on the Uses of Geovisualizations in Education and will continue on with PhD work for the rest of this year. Michelle has extensive experience working with GIS in the fields of conservation and education, and plans to pursue a career teaching geosciences at many levels, focusing on the community college level.

Mr. Zachary Lewis
Zach Lewis graduated in the top 6% out of 650 graduates from Duncanville high school just south of Dallas. Mr. Lewis currently attends Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi and is pursuing a degree in GIS. During this past summer, Zach began pursuing his career goals by working for JEA/Hydrotech Engineering and Surveying.

Mr. Chris Lippitt
Christopher Lippitt is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Geography in the Joint Doctoral Program in Geography between San Diego State University and University of California Santa Barbara, where his research is focused on time sensitive remote sensing models, unmanned aerial vehicle development and hazard decision support.

Mr. Richard Medina
Richard Medina is a Ph.D. candidate in the geography department at the University of Utah. His research focuses on spatial analysis, complex systems in real and social spaces, GIS and terrorism and insurgent activity. He is expected to graduate in the spring of 2009.

Mr. Philip Salvaggio
Philip Salvaggio is currently a freshman at Rochester Institute of Technology, pursuing a double major in computer science and imaging science. He has been working for the Digital Imaging and Remote Sensing Laboratory in the Center for Imaging Science for over a year. During this time, he has developed geospatial applications to distribute ground truth data, ENVI plug-ins to geolocate features within imagery and has redesigned the laboratory’s web site and databases.

Mr. Eric Wind
Eric Wind is pursuing his bachelor’s degree in international politics with a focus on the Middle East from Georgetown University’s Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service. Wind is seeking to use his knowledge of geospatial intelligence and the world to serve the United States after he graduates.

Mr. Tyler VanBreeman
Tyler VanBreeman plans on seeking a degree in Geography in the future. His ideal career would be as a GIS designer, and to possibly help with the development of future location-based systems. Tyler took part in multiple advanced classes during high school including AP human geography and honors chemistry. In addition, he was a member of his high school’s National Honor Society.

Mr. Antonio Wolf
Tony is pursuing a master of engineering--G.I.S. from the University of Colorado at Denver after recently receiving a P.B. certification--G.I.S. from the Pennsylvania State University. Tony has over 5 years experience in remote sensing and MASINT exploitation, and has supported numerous missions and projects, including Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Global War on Terror and hurricane Katrina relief. Currently, Tony supports the National Air and Space Intelligence Center Spectral Exploitation Cell (NSEC) at Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

Mr. Eric Zitz
Eric Zitz is pursuing a master of science degree in the field of applied intelligence from Mercyhurst College Institute for Intelligence Studies. Zitz currently supports the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, as a GEOINT Collection Strategist.