



Temperature from Space

AIAA Section Meeting

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

Dr. Pietro Ceccato

**Research Scientist & Lead, Environmental Monitoring Program
The International Research Institute (IRI) for Climate and Society
The Earth Institute, Columbia University**

“The Use of Satellite Remote Sensing Data for Food Security, Human Health and Disaster Management”

**Location: Bethpage Public Library
47 Powell Avenue
Bethpage, NY 11714**

**RESERVATIONS REQUESTED
RSVP BY Jan. 30, 2018
to: greghomatas@msn.com
or (718) 812-2727**

**Time: 6:00 PM Social Time
6:30 PM Pizza
7:00 PM Presentation**

**Cost for Pizza: \$5, Members and Guests
Free, for Students**

Year to year and seasonal changes in climate must be monitored because of their impact on the physical and biological environment and resulting changes that threaten socio-economic systems and livelihoods. Food Security and Health are prime examples where drought, or flooding, can have profound implications for vulnerable populations in the developing world. Information on these changes is useful for the operational agencies that try to mitigate the adverse impacts of such events. The aim of this presentation is to show how remote sensing is used at IRI to monitor rainfall, vegetation, dust, and temperature and how these products are integrated into Early Warning Systems for Food Security, Human Health and Disaster Management. The operational use of these products by UN agencies, Ministries of Health and Agriculture in Africa, Asia and Latin America will be demonstrated.

Pietro Ceccato trained originally as an agronomist and soil science scientist. He spent two years in Central African Republic working with local communities to improve agricultural practices. He obtained a master's degree in environmental management using decision-support systems and worked as a research scientist at the Natural Resources Institute in United Kingdom. He developed remote sensing products to monitor active fires and vegetation status for assessing the risk of fire occurrence. He worked at the European Commission Joint Research Centre (Ispra, Italy) on the use of remote sensing to monitor vegetation status and used this work to obtain his PhD in remote sensing from the University of Greenwich, UK. Ceccato then joined the UN Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome to develop an early warning system for desert locust monitoring. He developed remote sensing products and geographic information systems to be used operationally by the Ministries of Agriculture in 21 countries in Africa and Asia. Ceccato joined the IRI in 2004. His current research activities include the development and integration of environmental remote sensing products into early warning systems for human health, agriculture, pest management and natural disasters. He has authored numerous technical papers.

Directions: The library is west of Route 135 in Bethpage. Take Route 135 to Exit 8, then West on Powell Ave. for about 0.25 miles. The library is on the south side of the street. Park across Powell Ave., opposite the library.