Dr Michael Hauck has been announced as the incoming ASPRS executive director. Outgoing executive director, James Plasker, announced his retirement from ASPRS, effective as of 10 January 2014. Hauck becomes only the fourth executive director in the past 47 years of the organisation’s history. Both incoming and outgoing executive directors are looking forward to working together to ensure a smooth and effective transition.

Hauck has over 20 years of experience in the creation and application of remote sensing and geospatial information technologies. Reflecting the diverse membership of ASPRS, he has practiced in academic, government, Fortune 500, and start-up settings; and in industries that include transportation, energy, telecommunications, and defence. In addition to technical breadth, he is a versatile, collaborative, and adaptive leader with over a decade of general management experience that includes both board and executive positions in not-for-profit organisations. His volunteer work includes service on local, State, and National boards, e.g. the Venture West Network of entrepreneurs, the State of Wyoming Telecommunications Council, and the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies.

His key scientific accomplishment has been the acquisition, processing and interpretation of the first-ever deep seismic reflection profiles through the Himalayas, which were part of his PhD dissertation in geological sciences at Cornell University. Beyond training in science and engineering, Hauck is also a student of science and technology communications, and a graduate of the Leadership Wyoming trustee leadership development programme.