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TAYLOR & FRANCIS MAKES MAJOR DONATION OF SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS TO MONGOLIA

The Taylor & Francis Publishing Company (T&F) has made a donation worth more than US$ 100,000 to the Remote Sensing/Geographic Information Systems (RS/GIS) Library at the National University of Mongolia (NUM). The journals were formally handed over to Professor Dr Tumur-Ochir, President of the National University by Professor John van Genderen, Emeritus Professor of ITC, and an Honorary Professor at the NUM's School of Geography and Geology, on 1st February 2011. Professor Tumur-Ochir, in accepting the donation said: "This gift of five of the top journals in the world in the field of remote sensing and GIS will greatly increase the resources of our library, and maintain NUM's position as the "Number 1" University in Mongolia."

At the Donation Ceremony, hosted by Prof. Dr Batsengel, Dean of the School of Geography and Geology which houses the Library, he commented that: "this fantastic gesture by T&F will enable our staff to improve the quality of our teaching materials, by having access to such up-to-date scientific journals. Also, our students will be even more motivated to study remote sensing and GIS courses which are so important for Mongolia's economic development, as it is a large country with but few people, and hence ideally suited to the application of these technologies." He added that: "It is a dream come true for me personally, as almost ten years ago, I was a European Space Agency Post-Doctoral researcher at the ITC in the Netherlands and was very envious of their modern library. Now we have such top journals in our own library!".

Professor Dr Tsolmon, the Director of the NUM's ITC-UNESCO Laboratory of RS/GIS, said in her speech that: "this generous donation of these five journals will greatly assist our post-graduate M.Sc and Ph.D. researchers improve the quality of their research and theses, by now having regular access to such journals and the facility to study the latest international research publications in our field."

The five journals donated to the NUM's Remote Sensing Library, for a period of ten years are:

1. *International Journal of Remote Sensing*.
2. *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*.
3. *Geocarto International*.
4. *International Journal of Digital Earth*.
5. *International Journal of Image and Data Fusion*.

In handing over the journals to the University, Professor van Genderen said that he hoped the journals would be made available not only to staff and students from the National University, but that the University would make its Library accessible to all other persons working in the fields of RS/GIS in their country, especially users in Government, industry and those from other Universities.

Note to Editors:

1. Taylor & Francis, established in London in 1798, is the oldest commercial journals publisher in the world. With global offices in over 20 cities and a strong network across Asia Pacific that includes offices in Singapore, Beijing, Seoul, Tokyo, Taipei and Kuala Lumpur, the company

now publishes over 1,500 journals and 1,800 new books a year, with a books backlist in excess of over 20,000 specialist titles.

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2. Professor John van Genderen was one of the initiators and editorial board members of each of the five journals donated by T&F to Mongolia. In 1999 he was appointed an Honorary Professorship at the NUM, and in 2004 established the ITC-UNESCO Laboratory of RS/GIS at NUM. In 2007 he received the "Leading Officer in Education and Science" from the Government of Mongolia for his contributions to Remote Sensing and GIS in Mongolia.
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