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Dr. Goward was born and raised in Lowell Massachusetts. Both of his parents were teachers which gave the family the opportunity to spend summers on Cape Cod, building their own summer house. He attended Boston University where he received both B.A. and MA degrees in Geography. His M.A. studies were interrupted by military service, where he served as a radar operator in a U.S. Army Nike-Hercules battery. In 1974, Dr. Goward was admitted to the Geography Doctoral Program, Indiana State University (Terre Haute, IN). This provided him the opportunity to learn the newly emerging field of remote sensing, with the Landsat mission having been launched two years earlier. Upon completion of his PhD he moved to Columbia University and the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies on the Columbia campus, primarily working on the NASA Large Area Crop Inventory Experiment(LACIE) and the AgRISTARS research programs, the first major global applications of the Landsat program. In 1982, he moved to the University of Maryland to work with colleagues at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, where he helped build the UMD Geography Department into a leader in its field while also developing a major research program. He retired from UMD this last July at age 70.

Throughout his career Dr. Goward has been involved in the Landsat mission, developing its capacity to monitor Earth resources and environment. He also served as the co-Chair of the USGS National Landsat Archive advisory committee, where he encouraged liberating the archive to more effectively support Earth Systems Science. He received the USGS Powell award and the USGS/NASA Pecora awards for his efforts.

As the Landsat got caught up in the commercialization argument, he participated in the dialogue. He expressed his concerns with the EOSAT experiment and business model pointing out the damage this was inflicting on the potential of the observatory. When Landsat was returned to government operations in 1992, he volunteered to serve on the Landsat Science Working group, and when NASA solicited for a Landsat Science Team, he was selected to serve as the Team Leader. When Congress mandated NASA conduct a \$50 million science data buy in 1997, NASA Stennis staff contacted him to conduct the science review of products offered by the commercial community. Although the Landsat Science Team had contributed substantially to the success of the Landsat Mission, it was disbanded in 2001 prior to NASA seeking data buy bids to provide Landsat-quality observations as a follow-on to Landsat 7.

He was approached by Resource21 to form a science team for them to support their data buy bid. Despite this input, which contributed to the design of the mission, the bid was not accepted. A decade later Landsat 8 was finally launched, also a decade after Landsat-7 had suffered a critical operational problem. Most recently Dr. Goward worked with Dr. Darrel Williams, his former doctoral student, retired NASA civil servant, and current Global Science & Technology, Inc. Chief Scientist, to propose a low cost, small satellite technology solution to support increasing time frequency repeat of Landsat observations to the NASA EV-2 program. The proposal was not selected. At the same time Dr. Goward and colleagues were innovating important new approaches to provide large region studies with Landsat for forest changes that have occurred over the last 25 years.

Over his career, Dr. Goward has attempted to maintain a balanced perspective between the scientific value of the Landsat mission and its contributions to economic activities in this contrary. He certainly appreciates how complex an issue this is but believes we have yet to embrace what is needed to successfully capture the potential on both sides of this discussion.