

Brief Bio for Ronald J. Birk
Program Director, Applied Sciences Program

Mr. Birk is the Program Director of the Applied Sciences Program in the Science Mission Directorate at NASA. He is responsible for extending the use of Earth-Sun system science observations and model forecasts of weather, climate and natural hazards for national and international applications enabling decision support through partnerships with federal agencies and national organizations.

Current roles include:

- Climate Change Technology Program - Chair, Measurement and Monitoring Working Group
- Climate Change Science Program – Lead for Synthesis and Assessment Reports on Decision Support
- Group on Earth Observations – U.S. Representative to Science and Technology Team
- U.S. Group on Earth Observations - Co-Lead, Planning and Integration Team
- Commercial Remote Sensing Space Policy – NASA representative on Senior Steering Committee
- Geospatial One-Stop - NASA representative to Interagency Steering Committee
- Civil Applications Committee – Lead NASA representative

Ron has over 19 years of experience in the development and management of remote sensing systems and related Earth science and technology research and development for practical applications to serve society.

Past experience includes serving as a Vice President at Intermap Technologies, Inc., Manager for Lockheed Martin and Sverdrup Technologies contractor support to the Commercial Remote Sensing Program at NASA's Stennis Space Center overseeing over 100 remote sensing application projects and Supervisor of the Advanced Sensor Development Laboratory managing the development of airborne remote sensing systems, including the CAMS and ATLAS multispectral scanners.

Current programs focus on integrating Earth-Sun system science into solutions using observations from spaceborne remote sensing systems, derived geophysical data products, data access systems, and decision support tools that assimilate observations and predictions resulting from NASA science research.

He received a B.S. in Physics from the University of Notre Dame in 1982.