December 9, 2020

To Charles “Chuck” Heazel

In recognition of your continuing contributions to the creation and advancement of OGC Standards, the Board of Directors of the OGC is honored to present you with the 2020 Kenneth D. Gardels Award.

You are recognized as an ideal example of an OGC member by previous Gardels Award winners in response to your broad work in building consensus on standardization approaches by working on multiple efforts with deep technical expertise and excellent coordination amongst stakeholders. A member of the nominating committee noted that you are “clearly at the top of the list on the basis of your contributions and particularly recent hard work and clear thinking on APIs.” You have shown a particular skill in understanding Standards requirements in work and developing clear, concise documentation of the content, such as for GeoTIFF, CityGML 3.0, and OGC API – Common.

OGC appreciates your dedication to the advancement of high-quality Standards through your active participation in the OGC Architecture Board (OAB) and your leadership in compiling the initial set of Web API Guidelines with your fellow OAB members. The OGC APIs are amongst the most important work to emerge from OGC in many years and your ability to bring various parties together and arrive at the right “building blocks” to make market-ready Standards is key to the progression of that effort.

We thank you for demonstrating the true spirit of the OGC by dedicating your time and effort to co-chair the OGC API – Common Standards Working Group and the CITE Subcommittee. You function as a critical liaison between OGC activities and the defense and intelligence community, bringing complex requirements and solutions to OGC Innovation and Standardization initiatives. Your technical expertise, understanding of the specific needs of many domains, and concern with ensuring that interoperability can be realized exemplify the values associated with the Gardels Award.

Kenn Gardels is remembered for his principles, courage, and humility, and for his accomplishments in promoting spatial technologies to address the needs of humanity. We thank you for your dedication and achievement, and for exemplifying these ideals to which we as a community all aspire. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Open Geospatial Consortium, and with the unanimous support of the Gardels Award Committee, it is with the greatest personal pleasure that I present you with the 2020 Kenneth D. Gardels Award.

For the OGC Board of Directors:

Jeffrey K. Harris
Chairman