

ISPRS

2012

CLOSING CEREMONY

Congress Director's Report at Closing Session, Cliff Ogleby

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ADDRESS of OUTGOING CONGRESS DIRECTOR CLIFF OGLEBY

Please see the Congress Director's Report in the report on the General Assemblies.

ADDRESS of OUTGOING PRESIDENT ORHAN ALTAN

Congress Director Cliff Ogleby, Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have nearly reached the end of a very exciting Congress and I very much hope that all of you will take home pleasant memories and new ideas and information for your work. We have heard from the TCPs about the technical highlights of the Congress and I am sure that every one of you will have enjoyed participation in other activities. We have had successful meeting of the General Assembly as you have heard from the Secretary General.

I am very happy that the themes which I mentioned in my opening speech of collaboration and applying science to the benefit of society have been echoed in many meetings and presentations during the Congress.

This is the end of my term of office as president and all that is left for me to do is to thank many people for their help and support during the past four years. Whatever has been achieved could not have been done without a committed and dedicated team. Of course we have had disagreements but we have overcome these and indeed strengthened our understanding of each other and moved on. Let me start with my colleagues on Council. Secretary General Chen Jun has set up an efficient organization in Beijing and ensured that Council has been supported by this. Treasurer Mike Renslow has also run a well-managed office of the treasurer and has made sure that we hand over a good system and a sound financial situation to his successor. I have benefited enormously from the experience and wise advice from 1st Vice President Ian Dowman and from the insightful comment and attention to detail of 2nd Vice President Ammatzia Peled.

I do not need to repeat what a good job Congress Cliff Ogleby and his team has done in organizing the Congress, and he has also made useful contributions to all aspects of Council discussion. Council has been supported by a strong team of TCPs who have provided the framework and encouragement for a strong

technical program; this has also been made possible by the work of the working group chairs and co-chairs. And of course the local organizing committee for the Congress has done a fantastic job, they have been efficient and friendly and anxious to make sure that both Council and participants have a good Congress.

I would particularly like to mention one person who have done a great job on the scientific committee and the publications: Mark Shortis has done a great job in putting together the technical program and liaising with the Technical Commission Presidents. And I have been well supported by my colleagues in my Institute in Istanbul.

There is one person without whom my involvement in ISPRS for 12 years would have not been possible: that is my wife Melike. She has put up with my absences and helped me both materially and emotionally when we have been working together. I could not have done this job without her and I missed her presence in the last 2 years.

Council has a responsibility to run ISPRS for the benefit of you all-its members and participants in the Congress. If you go away from Melbourne with new knowledge, new friends and inspiration for the coming four years, we can be satisfied with a job will be done and I can pass the responsibilities of the office to the new president. I have served the Society to the best of my ability

This brings me to my final duty as president of ISPRS to pass the chain of office over to Chen Jun your president for the next four years. I believe that ISPRS is in a strong and well placed to continue its role of promoting our science, and I am quite sure that Chen Jun will do an excellent job in all aspects of the work of ISPRS. I congratulate him on his election and wish him well for his term as President. I have given him the Congress Flag in Istanbul and I handover him the Presidents gavel pass the chain.



Presentation of Chain of Office

ADDRESS of INCOMING PRESIDENT CHEN JUN

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentleman:

It is my great honour to accept the position of ISPRS President for the next four years. I would like to thank the General Assembly, our delegates and all of you, for trusting me and voting for me.

I would like invite you to look at the following picture which was taken in Sept. 1982 during ISPRS Com VII symposium held in Toulouse, France. At this time I was a student, and my professor Max Guy, brought me to the symposium. From the picture, you can find Dr. Sherman Wu, Professor Xu Guanhua (who became the Minister of Science and Technology of China in 1990s). As I spoke French, I helped some Chinese delegates to translate their speech into French to Gottfried Konecny. Gottfried Konecny translated that into English to John Trinder. Then English-France-Chinese. It was my first experience to attend an ISPRS Conference. I enjoyed it very much and I started to learn about ISPRS.



Since then, I spent thirty years to learn about ISPRS. When I learn, I also grow up. I submitted my first paper to the 16th Congress in 1984. It was selected as an oral presentation and I submitted some papers to the 17th Congress. I attended the following ISPRS Congresses in Washington, Vienna, Amsterdam, Istanbul, Beijing, and then here. When I was teaching at Wuhan University, I organized the first ISPRS workshop in 1992. From there, I learnt how to organize ISPRS workshops and how to present papers at ISPRS

conferences. Later on I became a working group chair in 1996 to 2000. In the following years I served as Technical Commission President, Congress Director and Secretary General. It has been a long journey, but I have learned about the traditions of ISPRS. How we submit papers, how we review papers, do presentations, and also the importance of contacts made through ISPRS. I have learnt who ISPRS people are, where they are from, and who are working groups chairs and TCPs, and how to serve. I got trained, I made friends, I saw familiar ISPRS faces, I gained experience and also shaped my career. So it's very important and I love ISPRS.

I will do my best to serve ISPRS. We know that ISPRS is a society with long history, with high reputation, with strong influence, as you can see from this Congress. But we also face great challenges like strong competition, increasing demands, and educational opportunities. The first thing we should do is to implement the ISPRS Strategic plan and provide stronger scientific voices. A key requirement is to advance the science of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Science. Another thing is to enhance communication with other societies. We need to keep our valuable traditions, but as Wolfgang Wagner has said we need to adapt to the new environment. So we need to conduct all necessary reforms, maybe changing the conference structures so that we keep a strong scientific voice, and provide better service for society.

A key organization for ISPRS is ICSU (the International Council for Science). ICSU is looking at how science can contribute to knowledge on global change, for instance, how could we forecast future environmental conditions and their consequences for people? How could we develop and integrate the observations systems to manage global and regional environmental changes? How could we anticipate, avoid and manage disruptive global environmental change? As the society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, we are facing grand challenges, society needs more information as Prof. Gordon Mcbean said at the first plenary, he would ask us, the specialist society for photogrammetry, remote sensing and SIS to provide reliable information on topics such as land cover, applications of imagery, and many others. So we need also more effective analysis and simulation, more advanced visualization and representation technologies. I would say from this Congress, we have already done a lot of things; we have very good communication, integration and collaboration with other societies. But still have long way to go.

What I would suggest that with a new Council and new TCPs and Working Groups, we should try to provide a stronger scientific voice from ISPRS. For instance, we have to define what are the major scientific and technical challenges which we are facing? What are the key issues to be addressed? What are the latest developments? To do that, we need Council, TCPs,

Working Group Chairs, and many of you to work together to develop a good vision of the future. For instance, we should generate some vision papers and a research and development agenda. During the General Assembly, we have decided to continue our book series with both author and edited books and edited proceedings. Prof. Zhilin Li is new editor and he would like to publish some authored books next year. We should promote special issues for cutting edge developments for our journals.

The second thing I think we can do is to have closer collaboration with others. We have some priority areas like disaster, health, land cover change, and many others. And we should have Inter-disciplinary research with other societies like Joint Board of GIS on disaster; GEO on Land cover change, we had very special session with GEO; OGC on web service; IEEE CV on Benchmarks; ICA on Image Maps; IGU on Border Area Studies; EuroSDR on capacity building. There is also GGIM. Gottfried has done very good job on the current status of global surveying, and mapping. But this is why we need collaboration among academia, industry and users. and it is necessary to invite people from these three different groups to meet together. We have done this but I think we should have more. We also need to do something that Orhan has already done: produce booklets; generate test data and technical guidelines; produce survey reports, even Webpage systems.

Another issue is how to optimize ISPRS conferences (congress, symposia, workshops). Could we have an annual ISPRS conference plus mini-workshops? Now many workshops symposium are very big, several hundred people. In fact we need mini-workshops for in depth discussion. Workshops allow us to work together. We need to bring more scientists and young people to join ISPRS events and activities. During last four years, Commission VIII symposia have brought brilliant remote sensing scientists to ISPRS and we need to keep this. We need our annals and Journal of GeoInformation cited. We should also set up a distinguished speaker program. I remember last year, Prof. Deren Li, the new Honorary Member, gave keynote speeches at six ISPRS workshops organized in China. And how can we enable TCPs and WG officers to concentrate on scientific work? On leadership, Orhan has made some progress, but we need to continue to do that. For instance, he looked into establishing permanent headquarters and to provide help to TCPs and WG officers to organize the events. On another issue we have some comments on how to improve selection of ISPRS officers?

For all that, I think I will not be able to do everything on my own. I rely very much on Council, TCPs and Working Group chairs and co-chairs; on ISAC, IPAC, editors, Regional Representatives, and other ISPRS officers; and also we rely on Ordinary Members, Regional Member, Sustaining Members, Associate Members and Honorary Members, Fellows; and of

course I need the help of my organization to bring me with very good and strong support which Orhan mentioned, very good staff, the necessary budget and a very good office for our organization. I work for the National Geomatics Center of China, a sub-organization of the Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation of China. This time they have set people

help me on the General Assembly, also Chinese Society of Geodesy, Photogrammetry and Cartography has provided help and support. And of course all of you. I take this opportunity to give thanks and appreciation to Cliff Ogleby and Mark Shortis, Chris Bellman and Sara, thanks for your wonderful work for Congress.

ADDRESS of INCOMING CONGRESS DIRECTOR LENA HALOUNOVÁ

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen,

Let me to welcome you to the next ISPRS Congress to Prague. The motto of the Congress: *From Human History to the Future with Spatial Information* should remind to all of us that our predecessors invented many tools we are using today: maps. We have only improved in their preparation, the amount of information pieces, presentation and distribution, aerial photographs, which are being used together with other/newer image data, etc. We can overlay image data with map vector data and attribute data all in various different ways. It is the technical and scientific development and inherited knowledge forming the present state of art of spatial sciences.

The date of the XXIIIrd ISPRS Congress in 2016 is 12 – 19 July in the Czech Republic. The Czech Republic is located in the centre of Europe, its area is 78 000 sq.km. Czech, the official language, is a Slavonic one which uses the Latin alphabet. The country still uses its own currency – Czech crown. Prague is a city with more than 1,3 million inhabitants. The city is situated on the 14th longitude and 50th latitude N.E. Prague in July should offer you nice warm summer weather. The Congress will take place in the Prague Congress Centre, which offers sufficient number of halls of various sizes suitable for the ISPRS Congress. Prague

is easy to reach by plane, train, bus or car. The Congress Centre is just a few steps from the Prague Metro. The Prague public transport is well laid out and use of metro, trams, buses, trains and boats is free of charge for all Congress participants.

Prague boasts many hotels – two of the largest are in the vicinity of the Congress Centre. Prague is a beautiful city, which can be characterized as an architectural and artistic gem cut through many centuries. Looking at Google Earth, you can find hundreds of photographs of Prague's treasures. Charles Bridge, Prague Castle, Wenceslas Square, the Municipality House, the Dancing House – just a few photographs from Prague would entice you. There are other places in the country, which are beautiful and worth seeing and visiting – Kutná Hora, Karlovy Vary, Kroměříž, Český Krumlov, Karlštejn.

I would like to welcome you to come and take part in the 2016 Congress both during the scientific plenary and working group sessions, business presentations, exhibitions, technical tours, and as well as various social events such as the ice breaking party, dinner of exhibitors, congress dinner, plus optional tours in and out of Prague.

I hope to see you in Prague!