Report on the Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS 2019) Student Activities and ISPRS SC Summer School

Sheryl Rose Reyes

The Student Activities in ACRS 2019

The 40th Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS 2019) was held from October 14 – 18 in the Daejeon Convention Center, Daejeon, South Korea. This year's conference theme was "Progress of Remote Sensing for a Smart Future" and organized in partnership with the Korean Society on Remote Sensing and Daejeon Metropolitan Government. The student activities were again organized this year, which included WEBCON9, Student Session and Student Night.

Six entries were received for WEBCON 9, with participants coming from Taiwan, Japan and South Korea. The judges were Dr. Paolo Gamba from IEEE GRSS and Dr. Anjana Vyas from CEPT University, Dr. Kohei Cho from the Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS) and Dr. Fuan Tsai from National Central Univerity. The Bronze prizes were awarded to Ms. Regita Pramesti Nur Cahyani of National Central University in Taiwan for her entry entitled, "A Personalized Geowebsearch Engine Based on User Intent Recognition," and to Mr. Kouki Kurita, Mr. Yuichiro Yamaguchi and Mr. Riku Nozaki of Shibaura Institute of Technology for the entry, "Workout GIS." Mr. Takuho Matsuo of Tokai University, Japan received the Silver prize with his entry entitled, "Situation Visualization System of Disaster Area Using Track Mounted Camera." The Gold Prize was given to Mr. Tzu Cheng Hou and Ms. Yu Qi Lin of National Taiwan Normal University for their work on "Virtual Indigenous Tribe Immersive Virtual Reality." Certificates of appreciation were given to the other entries who presented their masterpiece in this special session.

The Student Session followed the White Elephant Session in the afternoon, chaired by Ms. Sheryl Rose Reyes, Chair of the ISPRS Student Consortium (ISPRS SC) and co-chaired by Mr. Seung Joo Yoon of Inha University. Ten presentations were delivered during the session, including the presentation about the ISPRS Student Consortium and the student activities in ACRS given by. The universities that presented were University of the Philippines (Department of Geodetic Engineering and Institute of Environmental Science and Meteorology), The University of Tokyo, Shibaura Institute of Technology, National Central University, National Taiwan Normal University, Tongji University, Inha University and Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology. The WEBCON winners were also announced at the end of the Student Session.
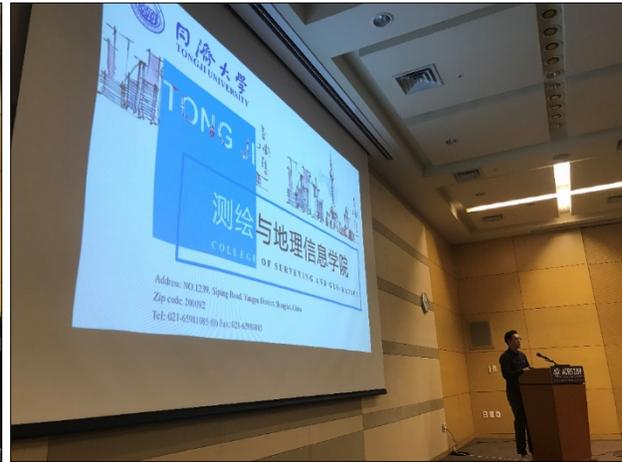
Finally, the Student Night was held in the evening to gather students and young professionals to socialize and establish their professional networks. About 70 students attended the student night and with the assistance of the students from Inha Univeristy;s IE Lab, icebreakers and games were hosted. Mr. Miguel Luis Lagahit from National Cheng Kung University was the event's emcee. The participants also enjoyed great food and drinks.

Every year, the student activities in ACRS continue to attract more and more participants. Professors, students and young professionals are now familiar with these events, which provides more opportunity for AARS to engage the youth.

The ISPRS SC Summer School

The ISPRS SC Summer School was held in Korea University in Seoul, South Korea after ACRS2019, from October 21 – 25, 2019. The theme of the summer school was "New Remote Sensing Technology for Smart Future" and consisted of about 10 sessions, including lectures and hands-on sessions. A total of 28 participants attended and completed the summer school from the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Japan and South Korea.

The summer school was opened by Dr. Woo-Kyun Lee of Korea University and the Korean Society of Remote Sensing. The first lecture was given by Dr. Chul-uong Choi on drone mapping, followed by sessions in the afternoon on SAR and interferometry and machine learning on EO data for agricultural applications, given by Dr. Ioannis Papoutsis and Dr. Vassilis Sitokonstantinou, respectively. The first day concluded with a Korean BBQ party, with Professor Seongwoo Jeon teaching the participants about the culture and how to enjoy food and drinks in Korea.

The second day sessions included climate change risk assessment using Earth observation data by Dr. Woo Kyun Lee, followed by a lecture on forest monitoring by Dr. Haemi Park. The last session was handled by Dr. Nguyen Dinh Duong, who discussed his work on automated classification of land cover with Landsat image data and demonstrated the capabilities of the program he created for the image classification.

Dr. Sang Wan Kim started the session on the third day with a lecture on SAR interferometry with a focus on (InSAR and PS InSAR). Dr. Chulsoo Ye discussed his work on monitoring of flooded areas using multi-sensor satellite imagery. The last session was given by Dr. Hoonyol Lee on the satellite and ground-based SAR systems and applications.

The fourth day was a field trip to the Korean Folk Village in Gyeonggi-do, which was about 2 hours away from Seoul. The participants were introduced to the historical folk villages of the country and enjoyed cultural music and dance performance. A candle making session was hosted in the afternoon, providing participants an opportunity to make their own scented candles and take them home as their personal souvenirs.

Finally, the last session in the summer school was given by Dr. Taejung Kim on the quality assessment of high-resolution optical images. A short campus tour followed and participants took great photos around the beautiful surroundings of Korea University. The closing ceremony was hosted by Dr. Woo-Kyun Lee, Dr. Seongwoo Jeon and Ms. Sheryl Rose Reyes. The certificates were awarded to all the participants and everyone bid farewell to new friends, professors and to the local organizers of the summer school.

The summer school provided comprehensive lectures on automation, radar remote sensing and image quality assessment as well as the current applications of Earth observation data to climate change. These lectures are of great importance to students and young professionals alike, given that Earth observation data is becoming more important in achieving a smart and sustainable future. In addition, the lectures on radar remote sensing from the South Korean professors provided a comprehensive explanation of the basic concepts and extended to the applications of radar imagery. Overall, the summer school was a great success. (Photos taken by Dr. Nguyen Dinh Dong, Sheryl Rose Reyes and Yoonji Kim)