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## ISPRS Highlights



### Colofon

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## ISPRS Events Calendar

### Inter Society Activities

ISPRS represents the views of the international ISPRS community at international fora. The principal organisations, which we work with at the moment, are the United Nations, the Group on Earth Observation and the International Council for Science (ICSU). [Annual Report 2006](#)

### GIS for Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is a complex process that encompasses the different dimensions of development such as economic, environmental, and social. The book by Michele Campagna presents recent research results and case studies which offer a diverse perspective of the problem. [Book Review](#)



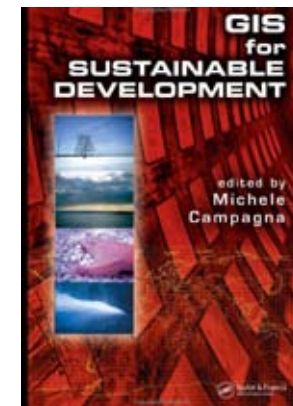
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# ASPRS 2007 Annual Conference Identifying Geospatial Solutions

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May 7-11, 2007  
Tampa, Florida

## Editorial

By John Trinder, First Vice President  
Operations Officer, ISPRS Foundation

### ISPRS Foundation Grants First Awards

The ISPRS Foundation is pleased to announce the award of grants from its funds in 2006. With thanks to donors, event sponsors and selection committees 21 Grants were awarded to deserving grantees.

- Travel Grants (Sponsored by the Trust Fund Amsterdam 2000) were provided for 18 grantees from 14 countries to participate in 2006 ISPRS Symposia convened by Commissions:
  - o IV - "Geospatial Databases for Sustainable Development", Goa, India
  - o V - "Image Engineering & Vision Metrology", Dresden, Germany
  - o VI - "E-Learning & the Next Steps for Education", Tokyo, Japan
  - o VII - "Remote Sensing: From Pixels to Processes", Enschede, The Netherlands
- CATCON4 (4th Computer Aided Teaching Contest) Awards – The contest promotes the development and dissemination of effective and user-friendly software packages, videos and data sets designed and used specifically for computer assisted teaching. In general, the software or

data set should be non-commercial, provided to users without license charges or other fees, and be available for download on the ISPRS web site. The 2006 winners were selected from demonstrations of 14 software entries presented at the Commission VI Symposium in Tokyo, Japan.

ISPRS Council intends to support worthy applicants for funding in 2007. The details will be announced in the near future.

### Board of Trustees Officers

Following the meeting of the Board of Trustees in Paris in June, the newly elected officers are as follows:

Chair:	Dieter Fritsch (Germany)
Operations Officer:	John Trinder (Australia)
Financial Officer:	Lawrence Fritz (USA)

Responsibilities of the Board include, but are not limited to: wise investment, management, and approval for disbursement of Foundation funds; determination of funds available for distribution of grants from each Fund account and approval of the annual operating budget of the Foundation; consideration of priorities for charitable goals; disbursement of funds for approved grants; and acceptance of bequests, donations, contributions, or subscriptions as may be made to the Foundation by individuals. All Foundation funds have been invested in secure interest bearing deposits at current rates.

[Read the Full Editorial online](#)



Winners of the CATCON4 awards (front left to right): Bronze Award winner for "SV3DIVISION-Satellite Image 3D Presentation System for Education", Diego Gonzalez Aguilera (Spain); Silver Award winner for "CARST 1.0-Computer Assisted Remote Sensing Training ver. 1.0", Nguyen Dinh Duong, (Vietnam); Shunji Murai (Japan), sponsor of the CATCON Awards; and Gold Award winner for "E-Tutor for GIS" Dr. P.Venkatachalam, (India).

# Annual Report 2006

## Introduction

The Annual Report of the Secretary General of the ISPRS is provided hereinafter. I am covering the report of the activities within 2006. Besides, you may find the reviews of the researches and developments of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing in this report. On behalf of the ISPRS Council, I would like to relay its appreciation to all of our members' ef-

orts and contributions who have participated in these activities. Please feel free to contact directly with me in case you have any question and / or comments related with this Annual Report.

*Orhan Altan, Secretary General*

[Online](#)

## Inter Society Activities

ISPRS in an international non-governmental organisation devoted to promoting Photogrammetry, remote sensing and the spatial information sciences globally. We do this by representing the views of the international ISPRS community at international fora. The principal organisations,

which we work with at the moment, are the United Nations, the Group on Earth Observation and the International Council for Science (ICSU). We are also represented at meetings of our sister societies and during 2006 have concentrated on promoting our science in Africa.

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## Secretary General's Report Society Activities and Membership

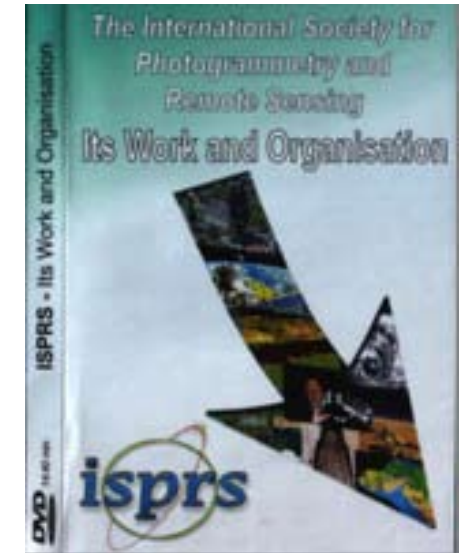
The Office of the Secretary General at the Istanbul Technical University, Turkey continued to carry day to day works of the Office, maintain communication with all members and related organizations and also replied various requests within 2006.

A Questionnaire sent to all OdM, StM, RgM and AsM to renew the database of the Society. Upon receipt of the replies, updating and modifications have been carried.

Official Documents such as Silver Book and Blue Book are also updating accordingly.

The ISPRS Awards Brochure has been prepared and printed. It is distributed on major ISPRS events and Technical Commissions Symposia.

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## Treasurer's Report 2006

The Society has had a successful mid-term year that, subject to year-end expenses, should result in a positive bank balance for the year. Revenue from Technical Commission symposia provided this happy circumstance. All of the TC Presidents and Working Groups are thanked for their technical and scientific achievements and financial contributions. These resources have been put to good use in pursuing the Society's strategic plan, especially the African initiative and in providing complimentary subscriptions of the ISPRS Journal to deserving organizations around the world. Thanks also to the ISPRS Foundation, which provided travel grants for young professionals to attend mid-term Symposia. Without these additional resources there would be little opportunity to expand tangible benefits to our members, particularly at a time when meeting and publication costs are increasing faster than other sectors of the economy. Despite the relatively good year financially, the

question of member fees has been a frequent topic in Council. Fees have not been increased since before the 18th Congress in Vienna (1996). This has hampered Council's ability to keep up with rising costs of doing business, or to provide more services to members. With oversight from the Financial Committee (Fin-Com), I have begun work on a proposal for a new fee structure that will be equitable for all categories of membership. As FinCom and Council debate this complex issue, I welcome any comments or suggestions from you.

*Stan Morain, Treasurer*

[Online](#)

## Annual Report 2006

### ISPRS Technical Commission I Image Data Acquisition - Sensors And Platforms

In 2006 eight Remote Sensing satellites have been launched (ex ALOS from Japan) and the GEO has begun the implementation of the GEOSS; the performances of digital camera, SAR and LiDAR have been improved. In this context more than 200 participants have attended the



TC I Symposium on "From Sensors to Imagery" in July 2006 at Marne-la-Vallée, France where the more recent techniques and ideas were presented, as the results of studies and projects on calibration, SAR and LiDAR, sensor network, digital cameras, sensor modelling and DEM generation, small satellites and mobile mapping.

[Read more](#)

### Technical Commission II Theory And Concepts Of Spatio-temporal Data Handling And Information

*President: Wolfgang Kainz*  
*Secretary: Alexander Pucher*

Although much progress has been made in recent years in geographic information science, many questions still remain that touch the very

foundation of representation of space, spatial reasoning and human understanding of space. The major event for TC II in the year 2006 was GICON 2006 "Geoinformation Connecting Societies" which was held 10 – 14 July 2006 in Vienna, Austria. Three parallel scientific conferences covering the mentioned issues brought together representatives from ISPRS, ICA and IGU.

[Read more](#)

### ISPRS Technical Commission III Photogrammetric Computer Vision And Image Analysis

*President: Wolfgang Förstner*  
*Vice – President: Helmut Mayer*  
*Secretary: Karl-Heiko Ellenbeck*

In 2006 the working groups of Commission III left place for the symposia. However, chairmen were in the review committee of IGARSS 2006, and performed Workshop "25 Years RANSAC" (<http://cmp.felk.cvut.cz/ransac-cvpr2006/>).

[Read more](#)

### ISPRS Technical Commission IV Geo-databases And Digital Mapping

*President: Dr. Shailesh Nayak, India*  
*Secretary: Dr. Subhan Khan Pathan, India*  
*Web Master: Dr. Shibendu Shankar Ray, India*

Technical Commission IV is promoting research and development towards utilizing geo-databases at local, regional, global and extra-terrestrial level, spatial Image analysis, especially high resolution data, automated and semi-automated approaches for mapping and change, applications for such as landscape modeling, emergency services management and location-based service and Web GIS.

The Commission IV has organized its mid-term Symposium on 'Geospatial databases for the Sustainable Development' during September 27-30, 2006 in Goa, India. 325 scientists from 24 countries participated in the deliberations.



161 oral and 50 poster papers were presented during the symposium.

As a pre-symposium activity, TC IV organized following events.

- I) Two-day Symposium on 'Remote Sensing and GIS techniques for Monitoring and Prediction of Disasters' Sept. 25-26, 2006.
- II) A One day ISRO-ISPRS-IEEE-GEOSS workshop on 'Public Health for the Indian Ocean Region,' Sep. 26, 2006.
- III) Tutorials on 'Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development,' Sep. 25-26, 2006 and 'Extraction Features from High Resolution Data,' Sep. 26, 2006.

Apart from this, The working groups of Commission IV also have organized tutorials, workshops, special issue ISPRS Journal, ISPRS theme issues, and collaborative activities with GEO/GEOSS, ICA, Cartosat-I Scientific Assessment Programme (C-SAP), a joint activity between ISRO and ISPRS is a major activity undertaken this year.

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[www.elsevier.com/locate/isprsjprs](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/isprsjprs)

## Annual Report 2006

### ISPRS Technical Commission V Close-range Sensing: Analysis And Applications

President: Hans – Gerd Maas

Secretary: Danilo Schneider

Driven by progress in sensor technology, algorithms and data processing capabilities, the focus of Commission V has propagated into a wide range of new application fields such as industrial quality control, robotics, virtual reality or quan-

titative biomedical imaging over the past two decades. A central issue in many developments is the integration of sensor technology with reliable data processing schemes to generate highly automated online or real-time photogrammetric measurement systems. A new dimension has been added to the activities of Commission V by the advent of powerful terrestrial laser scanners and novel 3D-cameras.

[Read more](#)

### Technical Commission VI Education And Outreach

President: Kohei Cho

Scientific Secretary: Mitsunori Yoshimura

E-Learning is expanding the possibility of education. The technical matters to be discussed within Com.VI are increasing. 150 participants from 27 countries have attended the Com.VI mid-term Symposium organized in Tokyo in June 27-30. Various presentations and discussions on education mainly focused on e-Learning were

performed at the symposium. Organization of CATCON4 and JICA distance learning demo were highlights of the symposium. The Com.VI. is performing strategic approaches to reinforce the educational activities of ISPRS.

[Read more](#)



### ISPRS Technical Commission VII Thematic Processing, Modeling And Analysis Of Remotely Sensed Data

President: Prof. Dr. John van Genderen

Secretary: Andrew Skidmore

2006 was a very successful year for our Technical Commission. The highlight of the year was the ISPRS MID-TERM SYMPOSIUM held at ITC in Enschede, the Netherlands, on the theme of: "From

"Pixels to Processes" It was attended by over 500 persons from around the World (participants from 75 countries!!). For next year, our Technical Commission has organized no less than nine Workshops/conferences in various regions around the World. Please check the ISPRS Calendar of Events for full details on these events. We have also started preparations for the next ISPRS Congress to be held in Beijing in July, 2008.

[Read more](#)

# Annual Report 2006

## ISAC Annual Report 2006

In 2006 ISAC welcomed as new Member Dr. Mustafa Onder; GIS and Photogrammetric Applications Manager Inta Spaceturk, Ankara (monder@spaceturk.com.tr). Dr. Oender will help us enforcing the Professional Practice and Industry connections.

The Symposia of 2006 were attended only by a small number of ISAC Members; therefore a sound analysis of the events was not feasible. For the Committee several tasks lie ahead:

- Drawing conclusions from the ISPRS Commission Symposia 2006 concerning scientific content, relevance of issues, future directions, WG structure and activities, etc.

- Discussing further the goals, tasks and structure of ISAC
- Issues surrounding the establishment of a User Forum (permanently?) and related activities at the Beijing Congress
- Discussion of emerging scientific and technical topics, with the goal of addressing them at the Congress and in future Commission activities

*A. Gruen, ISAC Chairman*

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## EuroSDR Annual Report 2006

2006 proved a milestone year for EuroSDR with the distribution of its 50th publication in December. It contains the reports of four completed EuroSDR projects or project phases.

In addition, EuroSDR published the proceedings of three workshops. We also delivered four E-Learning courses; continued or completed twelve

research projects; continued to actively participate in the INSPIRE drafting teams for the European Commission's awaited Spatial Data Infrastructure directive, and commenced initiatives in the areas of Land-Sea data harmonisation, digital camera certification and Interoperability Test Bed planning.

*Kevin Mooney, Secretary-General, EuroSDR*

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## ISO Report

In 2006 the two plenary-meetings of the ISO/TC 211 took place in Orlando, Florida, U.S.A. (May) and in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (November). The current imagery-projects are ISO 19101-2 "Reference model – Part 2: Imagery" and ISO 19115-2 "Metadata – Part 2: Extensions for imagery and gridded data". With great certainty both will reach the Draft In-

ternational Standard stage (DIS) in 2007. The ISO 19130 "Sensor data models for imagery and gridded data" has reached its time limit and will be restarted as a New Work Item Proposal (NWIP) in 2007.

*Wolfgang Kresse  
Chairman Ad-hoc Group on Standards*

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## ISPRS Highlights Report 2006

In 2006 we have published three issues of ISPRS Highlights as e-bulletin and distributed via e-mail



as announced before. Articles about the Meetings, Reports of the midterm symposia of ISPRS Technical Commissions, News about the Beijing 2008 Congress and Annual reports have been published in these three issues of ISPRS Highlights.

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## EARSeL Report 2006

EARSeL is a scientific network of European remote sensing laboratories, coming from both academia and the commercial/industrial sector. EARSeL is unique in that it represents the interests of these institutes rather than individuals. There are at present about 250 member laboratories.



## ISPRS Journal Report 2006

In 2006 a large number of articles could be published which reduced the journal's backlog in publication, the impact factor further increased and Ling Bian started as associate editor for optical remote sensing papers.

### New associate editor

As of January 2006 Ling Bian (University of Buffalo, U.S.A.) succeeded Marguerite Madden as the associate editor. Ling Bian will handle the manuscripts on optical remote sensing applications.

### Processing pipeline

After the numerous review requests organised in 2005, many manuscripts could be accepted and published in 2006. In total 47 papers have been published (compared to 20 and 22 in 2004 and 2005) in 9 issues. Because of this the backlog in publishing could be reduced from 5 to 2 issues.

*George Vosselman, ISPRS Journal Editor*  
[Read more](#)

EARSeL was founded in 1977 under the auspices of the European Space Agency, the Council of Europe and the European Commission. EARSeL is run by a Council of elected national representatives from each country where there are member laboratories and an executive Bureau, elected by the Council.

[Read more](#)

## ISPRS Book Review Report

The book review for ISPRS Highlights has progressed well in 2005-2006. We have very positive support from publishers and overwhelming responses from our members to the call for book reviews.

Majority of the titles received were research-

orientated titles which were reviewed by people who are in the related field with a creditable background (PhD as minimum requirement). Textbooks, however, were only sent to university faculties who were experienced and actively involved in teaching undergraduate courses.

[Read more](#)

## ISPRS Web Page

The ISPRS homepage, online since 1995, is nowadays one of the most important components of ISPRS society. With more than 25 000 lines of information and 1250 PDF files, it proves up-to-date information about the society, its events and publications and links its various activities. A mailing list communicates the latest news inside the website as well as new events, links, call for papers, online material and job opportunities.

*Fabio Remondino*  
Webmaster

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## ISPRS Events Calendar Report

The ISPRS Events Calendar is regularly updated on the ISPRS Web Page and has a hyperlink on the ISPRS e-Highlights. The Calendar contains



## Book Series Report

### General progress

2006 has been a quiet year for the ISPRS Book Series, and no new volumes have been published. This is disappointing given that several volumes have been under preparation for a considerable period of time. However, the delays are probably a 'fact of life' for programmes such as this. Too much pressure on volume editors to deliver volumes in a timely manner

## CIPA Report 2006

The Annual Report of CIPA describes events and publications the Commission has undertaken in 2006. Also, the links to other organisations and a summary of the world areas where this group is active are reported.

[Read more](#)

a list of all ISPRS sponsored and co-sponsored workshops, symposia, tutorials and other meetings. It also contains details of all international and national conferences on topics related to the activities of ISPRS, including those in photogrammetry, remote sensing, spatial information systems, geomatics, surveying, mapping, machine vision

*Tuan-Chih Chen, ISPRS Calendar Editor*

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*ISPRS President, Ian Dowman (right), visited Events Calendar Editor, Tuan-chih Chen (left), in June 2006 in Taiwan.*

can lead to tension in working relationships and, importantly, a reduction in the quality of publications. Too little pressure, of course, can lead to severe delays. If anything, volumes have been prepared too hastily this year, with three initial manuscripts being received, none of which were in a publishable state.

*Paul Aplin, ISPRS Book Series Editor*

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## Council Minutes

The Council has met in Reno and in Paris. The minutes of the meetings are online.

[Read the minutes of the Reno Meeting, 30 April-2 May 2006](#)

[Read the minutes of the Paris Meeting, 5th of July 2006](#)



*Some Council members and TC I officers preparing themselves for the Group Photo in Paris Symposium.*

## Congress Director Report 2006

The Congress Director reports on the organisational and the promotional activities for the 2008 ISPRS Congress in Beijing, China. He also mentions the visits of congresses and symposia that he has undertaken in order to promote the event.

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## In Memoriam Madeleine Godefroy



On Thursday 28-th of September in the evening, and during the EARSeL SIG-meeting on Land Use and Land Cover in Bonn, Germany, the sad news came to us that our dear former secretary Madeleine Godefroy passed away in a Hospital in Caen, France. Madeleine served our Association for more than 24 years. Besides running EARSeL's secretariat, she was organising the annual symposia and the numerous workshops of the association and collecting articles for the Newsletter.

*Prof. Rudi Goossens, President of EARSeL*

[Read more](#)

## Joint ISPRS/KCL/GMOSS Workshop: "Treaty Monitoring & Data Dissemination Policies"

On the 26th and 27th October 2006, the Department of War Studies, King's College London, in conjunction with ISPRS (International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing) and GMOSS (Global Monitoring for Security & Stability), hosted a workshop on Treaty Monitoring and Data Dissemination Policies. The Department of War Studies has long been a leader in research devoted to the multi-disciplinary study of war and conflict. Dr. Bhupendra Jasani of the Department, who has an excellent reputation in

## International Symposium on Geoinformation for Disaster management (G4DM)

*By Sisi Zlatanova and Shailesh Nayak*

Geo-information technologies have proven to offer a variety of opportunities to aid management and recovery in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters such as industrial accidents, road collisions, complex emergencies, earthquakes, fires, floods and similar catastrophes. Intelligent context-aware technologies can provide access to needed information, facilitate the interoperability of emergency services, and provide high-

## Call for Book Review

The ISPRS Highlights is a widely distributed journal among ISPRS members including professionals of surveying, photogrammetry and geospatial information sciences worldwide. From time and time, the Highlights publishes reviews on the newly published books, which will provide the most up-to-date information and comments about publications in the discipline.

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nuclear weapons proliferation areas in general and outer space affairs in particular; was a major driving force in persuading the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) to use commercially available space-based remote sensing data to monitor the nuclear activities of the signatories to the IAEA safeguards agreement. As early as 1984, the European Union Satellite Centre (EUSC) was conceptualised and since 1990 has been actively involved in monitoring arms control treaties, crisis and environment monitoring using information available from commercial remote sensing satellites.

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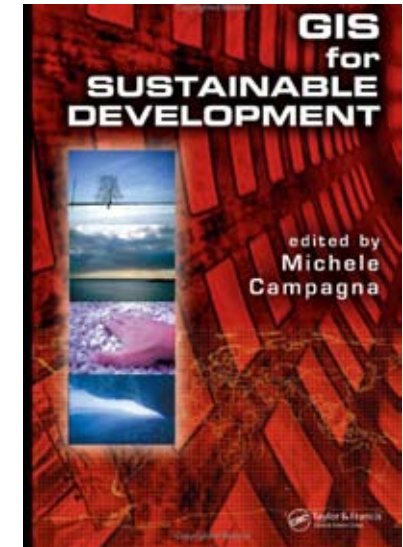
quality care to the public. However, disaster management poses significant challenges for data collection, monitoring, processing, management, discovery, translation, integration, visualisation and communication of information. Challenges to geo-information technologies are rather extreme due to the heterogeneous information sources with numerous variations: scale/resolution, dimension (2D or 3D), type of representation (vector or raster), classification and attributes schemes, temporal aspects (timely delivery, history, predictions of the future), spatial reference system used, etc.

[Read more](#)

## Campagna, M (ed.), 2006: GIS for Sustainable Development,

*Taylor & Francis, Boca Raton, pp535*

*Reviewed by Dr Pramod K Singh, Assistant Professor, Institute of Rural Management (IRMA), Anand, Gujarat, India. E-mail: pramod@irma.ac.in*



Sustainable development is a complex process that encompasses the different dimensions of development such as economic, environmental, and social. The book by Michele Campagna presents recent research results and case studies which offer a diverse perspective of the problem, taking into account methodological, technical, organizational, and societal issues related to the use of GIS to solve complex problems faced by practitioners in planning and implementing the objectives of sustainable development.

[Read more](#)