

Editorial

On behalf of the Council I wish to welcome you to the first Annual Report of the 2000-2004 inter-Congress period. This Annual Report is intended to provide Members with a summary of developments in the scientific and technical activities of the Technical Commissions, as well as activities of the international organisations with which ISPRS collaborates. Council hopes that in providing such a document, Members will be brought up-to-date with current developments in the photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information sciences, and be able to assess the progress of the Society in these areas.

As you will be aware, the 19th Congress of ISPRS was very successfully held in Amsterdam in July 2000. It brought together more than 2000 scientists, managers, exhibitors and practitioners to a single location where they could view recent scientific and technologic developments in the photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information sciences. At the Congress as well as a large technical and scientific exhibit, many technical and poster sessions were held, where almost 1000 scientific and technical papers were presented. During the period from 1996-2000 the Commissions were very competently managed by the following Technical Commission Presidents:

Commission I: Dr George Joseph, India
Commission II: Professor Ian Dowman, UK
Commission III: Professor Toni Schenk, USA
Commission IV: Professor Dieter Fritsch, Germany
Commission V: Professor Hirofumi Chikatsu, Japan
Commission VI: Dr Lukman Aziz, Indonesia
Commission VII: Dr Gabor Remetey-Fülöpp, Hungary

The new Technical Commission Presidents for the period 2000-2004, listed in this publication, were elected to their positions at the General Assembly during the Amsterdam Congress and took over the management of the Commissions from July 2000. I am sure that these eminent scientists will fulfil their responsibilities in a very competent and efficiently manner in managing the Technical Commissions until 2004.

The contributions to the scientific content of this Annual Report have been prepared partly by the former Technical Commission Presidents, who have reviewed the activities up to July 2000, and partly by the newly elected Technical Commission Presidents, who have reported on their planning of the future activities of the Commissions. I hope that you find these reports informative.

Within its limited resources, ISPRS aims to provide assistance in training and technology transfer to developing countries, through conferences, and education and training programs. To assist it in these activities, ISPRS collaborates with a number of international organisations, particularly those in the UN. Reports on these activities are also reported in this Annual Report.

This four year inter-Congress period will bring many new developments in the photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information sciences. The Congress demonstrated that we have certainly entered the digital era in photogrammetry, remote sensing can now look forward to a much broader range of data from space and the air, including high spatial resolution and high spectral resolution imagery, while we are also experiencing a high level of integration of photogrammetry and remote sensing data with spatial information systems. We can look forward to further developments in these fields over the next four years.

I commend this Annual Report to you and wish all Members a success in their scientific and technical activities in 2001.

John Trinder
President

