Dear colleagues,

as you may know ISPRS had issued a postal vote on the re-organisation of the Commission structure incl. a change of Bylaws. The deadline for voting was April, 25, 2015. I am pleased to announce that an overwhelming majority of the ISPRS Ordinary Members has voted in favour of the new structure suggested by Council. This means that at the 2016 ISPRS Congress in Prague, bids will be solicited for five commissions:

The five new ISPRS Commissions are entitled:

Commission I   Sensor Systems
Commission II  Photogrammetry
Commission III  Remote Sensing
Commission IV  Spatial Information Science
Commission V  Education and Outreach

The contents of the Commissions are:

Commission I - Sensor Systems
Commission I is concerned with the design, construction, characterisation, calibration and use of imaging and non-imaging sensors, sensor systems and sensor networks for photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information science, such as air- and space-borne digital cameras and laser scanners, and thermal, hyperspectral and radar sensors. Commission I investigates the different platforms for data acquisition, including (but not restricted to) unmanned aircraft systems, mobile mapping systems, aircrafts, satellites including small satellites, and satellite constellations and cooperates with the related industry.
Commission II - Photogrammetry
Commission II deals with the theory and application of extracting and analysing spatio-temporal information of objects from terrestrial, aerial and satellite images, image sequences and point clouds using approaches from photogrammetry, image analysis, computer vision and machine learning, with emphasis on accurate and reliable geometric information. Applications comprise of image-based 3D measurement in geospatial data acquisition, extra-terrestrial mapping, engineering and industrial metrology, heritage recording, forensic analysis, robotics, driver assistance systems, surveillance, medical applications and other fields. Commission II cooperates with international societies in computer and machine vision and related industry and is the point of contact for CIPA.

Commission III - Remote Sensing
Commission III is concerned with research, development, investigation and operational use of methods and systems for the analysis of remotely sensed observations of the Earth from air- and space-borne sensors, in synergy with in situ and hand held measurements, such as physical modelling of electromagnetic radiation, the analysis of spectral signatures, image classification, data fusion and pattern recognition. Applications dealt with in Commission III comprise of environmental monitoring for sustainable development and global change; mapping of human and natural activities including land cover, land use and biodiversity; physical and empirically based process monitoring; assessing and mitigating disasters; identifying and assessing renewable and non-renewable resources; and monitoring temporal changes in weather, land and sea cover. Commission III cooperates intensively with national space agencies and is the point of contact for ICORSE.

Commission IV - Spatial Information Science
Commission IV deals with theoretical and practical aspects of the modelling, management, analysis, dissemination and visualisation of spatial and spatio-temporal data, including interoperability, web services and geospatial data infrastructure. Commission IV is concerned with applications and operational use of spatio-temporal information in areas such as environmental monitoring, disaster management, mobility, 3D city models, Building Information Systems, social media, location based services and health. Commission IV also provides links to international bodies such as UN-GGIM, ISO and OGC and to National Mapping and Cadastre Agencies.

Commission V - Education and Outreach
Commission V deals with education, training, capacity building and outreach in all areas related to ISPRS. It is also the home Commission for the ISPRS Student Consortium. In carrying out its tasks, Commission V cooperates intensively with Commissions I - IV and with other international geospatial societies.

Christian Heipke,
ISPRS Secretary General 2012-2016