The 8th ISPRS Student Consortium and WG VI/5 Summer School

Advanced Remote Sensing for Coastal Zone Monitoring and Disaster Management

November 30 – December 4, 2012 Burapha University, Chonburi, Thailand

The 8th ISPRS Student Consortium and WG VI/5 Summer School was held at Burapha University, Chonburi, Thailand from November 30 to December 4, 2012. The Summer School was one of the concurrent activities of the recently concluded 33rd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS 2012). The local organizers of the program were the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), a public organization supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology – Thailand, and the Faculty of Geoinformatics, Burapha University.

The theme for this Summer School was "Advanced Remote Sensing Coastal Zone Monitoring and Disaster Management." The lectures were as follows:

- Geo-spatial Technologies for Disaster Management (Dr. Shunji Murai, Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo)
- Environmental Management using Remote Sensing and GIS, including Disaster Management (Dr. Abhijat Arun Abhyankar, NICMAR, India)
- Optical Remote Sensing for Disaster and Coastal Zone Management (Prof. Emmanuel Baltsavias, ETH Zurich, Switzerland)
- Microwave Remote Sensing (Coastal Zone Approach)
 (Dr. Akira Mukaida, Remote Sensing Technology Center of Japan)
- Monitoring of Thailand's Eastern Seaboard (E.S.)
 (Ms.Supaporn Manajitprasert, Faculty of Geoinformatics, Burapha University)
- Coastal Zone Management (Captain Sommart Niemnail, Hydrographic Engineering Department Organization, Royal Thai Naval Academy)
- Remote Sensing & GIS for Coastal Zone Management (Dr. Anukul Buranapratheprat, Department of Aquatic Science, Faculty of Science, Burapha University)

A total of 56 participants comprised of 21 locals and 35 attendees from other countries gathered for this event. This year's Summer School continued the tradition of providing advanced knowledge in remote sensing and geospatial information sciences by inviting prominent speakers from the academe, the industry and other institutions. Moreover, this event provided another great opportunity for expanding and strengthening the social network among students and young professionals. The Opening Ceremony introduced Burapha University and the participants were welcomed by inspiring speeches from Professor Kohei Cho, the Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS) General Secretary, and Professor Fuan Tsai, the current Chairman of the ISPRS WG VI/5 (Promotion of the Profession to Young People).

The classroom lectures were supplemented by a field trip to Thailand's Eastern Seaboard, an actual coastal erosion site that is continuously being monitored using techniques in remote sensing. Professors and students of Burapha University explained the current conditions of the Ban Nong Fab and Saeng Chan beaches, two coastal erosion sites in Rayong province, and the mitigation efforts being carried out. After the site visit, participants were given an opportunity for sightseeing in Mab Ta Put and PMY beaches and a short stopover at the popular Ko Kloi Market.

In addition to these learning activities, social events and tours were also prepared by the local organizers. Participants were toured around the campus on the first day. Participants also discovered the diversity of marine species through a visit to the aquarium of the Institute of Marine Science. The Icebreaker Party created a more relaxing and comfortable atmosphere for the participants through entertaining games and a performance that showcased Thailand's rich culture. A visit to the Bang Saen Walking Street Market was also arranged, where participants were able to find handcrafted items at reasonable prices and taste some of Thailand's popular street foods. The Summer School ended successfully with a farewell party, which featured great performances from the participants.

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