## Rawal Darshana Rameshchandra, India TIF Travel Grant Awardee ISPRS Technical Commission VI, Wuhan, China 19-21 May, 2014

Dear All,

First of all I would like to Thank you for giving me an opportunity through Grant to Attend the Mid-Term ISPRS Commission VI Symposium on "Data, Information, and Knowledge Sharing for Geo-Education" with this mail I would like to share my view and experience in the Mid-term Symposium at Wuhan University.

The initial days of the trip involving the ISPRS Conference turned out to be fruitful, by meeting people, students, experts from all over the globe in the field in which we happen to work. The best session for me was by the White Elephants, training about confidence building and guiding for levelling up presentation skills and thesis capabilities. The presentation of geospatial studies by different professors from Germany, Australia, Netherlands, and Finland did open my mind to new areas of work for us. Other sessions were equally interesting. The experience of hearing oral presentations in an

international conference was one of a kind for me. Listening to presentations by students was a learning experience too. The conference did include a one-day trip to the Three Gorges Dam. This trip was a perfect combination of learning and also spending quality time with all professors, university students, other tourists and all people gathered from all across the world for the conference. It was a time with happiness at its peak and then a farewell and good bye to the conference and the new friends we made. Then we jumped with a fresh mind for the summer school.

I feel I was lucky to be a part of this summer school "Geospatial Service Platform for Education and Research". Before joining I was completely new to this terminology, but the first session was such that it started introducing the basics and added applications to it, dividing students in different theme based teams as per their area of interests and training them with newly developed softwares. The professor and other guides were always helpful and full of innovative ideas and thoughts. The lectures were very interactive and involving. I found an increase in the level of my interest level in the field of remote sensing after this session. Working in a team of seven with people from China, Russia and others proved to be an interesting learning experience. Learning software designed by

the students of the university encouraged and motivated me to pull my socks up. I knew that China will always have this language problem and food issues, but we did manage well and sort things by either finding helpful Chinese people around with Basic English knowledge or using Google translator.

The sessions either in the conference or summer school were managed very well by the students and other department people of the university. There was a lot to learn from them in a way of how to manage things at such international scale. I take full pride in saying that a lot of our ideas and thoughts were very well attended and appreciated by them.

Evenings were spent to viewing parts of Wuhan City with my Professor and students. The infrastructure kept my eyes wide open always. The East Lake on one side of the university, the yellow crane tower, dinner at five star hotels with Chinese cuisine (though there was nothing we could eat) all such attractions in Wuhan made this trip worth while.

I am very happy to meet with Prof. Marguerite and Prof. Tinder during the symposium. Attachment is a report on Symposium and summer school which we had submitted to our University for your reference. Thanking you for giving me a wonderful opportunity.

With best regards

Darshana Rawal

Research Assistant

**CEPT** University

Ahmedabad,India