Workshop Organization

The workshop was organized by the following Working Groups and Organizations:

ISPRS WG III/5 **Remote Sensing and Vision Theories for Automatic Scene Interpretation**
Chairs: B. Csatho, Byrd Polar Research Center, OSU, Columbus, OH, USA
D. Wang, Computer and Information Science, OSU, Columbus, OH, USA

ISPRS WG III/2 **Algorithms for Surface Reconstruction**
Chairs: A. Krupnik, Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel
C. Toth, Center for Mapping, OSU, Columbus, OH, USA

Cecil H. and Ida M. Green Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics (IGPP)
B. Minster, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, CA, USA

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Published by

ISPRS WG III/5 **Remote Sensing and Vision Theories for Automatic Scene Interpretation**
Byrd Polar Research Center, OSU, Columbus, OH, USA

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Preface

Airborne and spaceborne laser ranging is a rapidly emerging technology for capturing data on physical surfaces. An ever increasing range of applications takes advantage of the dense sampling, the high accuracy, and the direct way to obtain 3-D surface points that characterizes laser ranging methods. The objective of the workshop **Mapping Surface Structure and Topography by Airborne and Spaceborne Lasers** was to bring together researchers, developers, and users of airborne and spaceborne laser altimeter systems, to present results, and to discuss issues related to deriving surface properties from laser ranging data.

The three-day event brought together 56 participants with different backgrounds, expertise, and affiliations. The interdisciplinary audience engaged in lively discussions with the 25 presenters of papers, ranging in content from theoretical and conceptual topics to applications. Nearly all presentations are contained in this volume, organized in the sequence of the workshop sessions. The workshop was hosted by the **Cecil H. and Ida M. Green Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, Scripps Institution of Oceanography,** in La Jolla, California.

Originally, it was planned to include a synopsis of the discussion that took place at the end of the workshop. Although we took copious notes of the discussion I have decided against including a synopsis as it may not be relevant for readers who did not participate. The opinion expressed most often was to continue with this kind of workshop; and to establish test sites, conduct, and coordinate tests with laser ranging data.

I thank all authors for their very valuable contributions and all participants who contributed to the success of the workshop. I am sure the readers will find the proceedings a valuable source of information.

Beáta M.Csathó

Editor

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