

**Report on
ISPRS Commission I Mid-Term Symposium
November 10-14, 2002
Denver, CO USA**

Welcome to Denver and the ISPRS Commission I Mid-Term Symposium, taking center stage among the glittering ballrooms, glassy towers, and myriad of elevators, elegant meeting rooms and walkways that is the Adam's Mark Hotel. Despite the notable absence of slot machines and neon, the venue had a 'Vegasian' air, with delegates greeted by a lofty atrium, harboring numerous bars and restaurants.

Fine fare, flowing wine (at the exhibition opening at least) and a friendly, jovial atmosphere set the tone of this event, held jointly with the ASPRS, Transportation Research Board (TRB) and organizers of a Future Intelligent Earth Observing Satellites (FIEOS) symposium. Delegates were tempted by a delectable array of tutorials, meetings, exhibits, technical and poster sessions, which had the scientific excellence and international flavor that are coveted ISPRS trademarks.

Delegates who managed to decode the organizationally challenged conference program, made their way to a selection of pre-program tutorials. These covered a broad range of topics including: integration of Lidar in mapping and GIS programs; the 10-year industry forecast; and a portable digital aerial imaging system that may be transported in a briefcase.

At the Commission I Council Meeting, Working Group Officers jetting in from more than ** nations, recounted an impressive list of activities, including: symposia; workshops; and collaborative research efforts, which have been undertaken during 2002-2003. Discussions were rounded off with a dynamic overview of the 2004 Congress in Istanbul, by Congress Director Orhan Altan. It was all rather exciting, especially when the chair, Commission I President Stan Morain, admitted that convening this first 'family meeting' rendered him quite 'tingly'. Returning to the business of the day, ISPRS President John Trinder invited members to contribute to the ongoing debate surrounding a possible redefinition of the technical missions for Commission I-VII. Comments regarding the 'Terms of Reference', which have stood since 19**, were presented and discussed at a well-attended session in the Century Room.

The ISPRS program included fifteen technical sessions, comprising two poster and thirteen sessions of presented papers. All were well attended, with the airborne technology sessions hosting standing-room only crowds. Presentations covered a wide range of topics, including advances in and evaluation of the next generation of large format digital cameras, software integration for digital image capture systems, direct georeferencing, new developments in LiDAR systems, radiometric and geometric calibration, new satellite systems that are in development, and a lively panel discussion of barriers to the adoption of digital image capture technologies. Overall, the presented papers and posters ran the full gamut of platforms - from satellites to kites; provided detailed technical discussions of existing and planned sensors; and offered a venue for philosophical discussions on the benefits and economics of applying

competing technologies to photogrammetric and remote sensing data collection and processing problems.

Following a free-flowing dialog on 'Policies Affecting the Use of Satellite Imagery', the final General Session culminated in the presentation of the 'Young Author's Award' to Daniela Poli of the Institute of Geodesy and Photogrammetry, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Zurich, Switzerland), for a paper entitled "General Model For Airborne And Spaceborne Linear Array Sensors". The meeting concluded with ISPRS President John Trinder recognizing the Commission-I President Stan Morain and Secretary Amy Budge for their significant contributions to an extremely successful conference.

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