

PREFACE

It is an honor for our Institute to be invited to organize the quadrennial International Symposium of ISPRS Commission III, held in Graz, Austria, from 10 to 12 September 2002. After all, our Institute was created in the fall of 1992 and is currently celebrating its 10th birthday. It may easily have been considered too immature to organize an event with a nearly 100-year history. Thank you, ISPRS-leadership, for this vote of confidence!

You are holding Part B of the proceedings of that symposium. It presents those papers that had been developed from abstracts. While the abstracts underwent a short review, the papers did not. Separation of the proceedings into two parts A and B became necessary to accommodate both the new approach of peer reviewed full papers as well as the ISPRS-tradition of a review of abstracts. These reviewed and accepted full papers are collected in Part A.

ISPRS Commission III addresses the theory and algorithms of photogrammetry and remote sensing. Among the seven ISPRS Commissions it may therefore be the most academically oriented, with less in governmental or commercial interests. It is only logical that it would be Commission III to experiment with the call for full papers and their double blind peer review, as is customary in all academically prestigious and relevant conferences. Our call for papers was very successfully promoted by the Working Groups of the Commission and resulted in an unprecedented number of 170 submissions. Of these, 71 are presented in this Part B.

For almost 100 years, photogrammetry had a monopoly on the development of technologies and theories of photographic measurement and interpretation. However, since the late 1960's, computer science has evolved very rapidly into a separate academic discipline. It is very recent that advances in computer technology have spawned the emergence of computer vision. A separate vision-community evolved hesitantly from the mid-1980s as a new field within computer science. The current year 2002 demonstrates that computer vision has enormously grown, has diversified into more than 10 sub-communities and has moved center stage within computer science. It now is a formidable and very broad alternative home to scientific work with images. We believe that there is room for both a photogrammetric as well as a computer science approach to "seeing by computer". At the intersection is "photogrammetric computer vision", and to emphasize this idea, we chose this term as an alias for this year's symposium.

The look over the "photogrammetric fence" is also visible in the selection of the three keynote speakers of the symposium. Luc van Gool, Giulio Sandini and Gerd Hirzinger have their homes in various segments of computer vision. We invited them to present an overview of their work, and instead of making them create a new write-up of their widely published work, we include pointers to their work in Part A of these proceedings. I want to thank these keynote speakers for their contribution to the conference!

Recent ISPRS-symposia have become multi-track events with many parallel sessions. Inspired by the standards of international conferences on computer vision, we wanted to revert back to the single-track organizational format that was customary in early ISPRS symposia, and combine this with a wide offering of poster contributions. We hope that the work in selecting a program of oral presentations will pay off in a rewarding experience for the symposium attendees.

Franz Leberl
2002 Conference Chair