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ISPRS Events Calender

Tibet – Roof of the World

Chen Jun recommends you to visit some
of the following places to understand
the mysterious Tibet. [ISPRS Society](#)

36th Scientific Assembly of COSPAR

The 36th COSPAR Scientific Assembly
was visited by 2,000 participants from
over 70 countries and regions in the
world, including experts from various
space science research insitutes.

[ISPRS Society](#)



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Editorial

By Orhan Altan, Secretary General ISPRS

In this issue, I would like to share my experiences from the days of XX Istanbul ISPRS Congress Director to the days of Secretary General of the ISPRS with you. First of all, I recall some of my friends' warnings which were served as Congress Director and Secretary General previously. They told me "Orhan don't expect an easier job. Be sure that being a Secretary General is more difficult than being a Congress Director." "At the very beginning I didn't believe or I didn't want to believe them. From my point of view, ISPRS has a history close to hundred years, very well established, has certain traditions and rules; almost everything defined and categorized with utmost management standards. Today, I completed almost half of my term as Secretary General, and realized what my friends' warned me about during the Congress is exactly true.

As a Congress Director I was working with approximately a hundred people, trying to coordinate task groups on various subjects and follow up the Congress directives was really an easier job comparing with what I am dealing as the Secretary General in these days. However, the main difference between these jobs is quite obvious. Although during the congress period you are working with various task groups on various subjects and manage the congress committees with democratic rules, you are the only decision maker and you have to bear all the responsibility personally. The only way to follow is to control if the related action is done properly, with coordination and in time.

Meanwhile, as the Secretary General of the ISPRS you have to establish close contacts with OdM, AsM, RgM and StM's, follow the activities



John Trinder
visiting the ITU
Division of Photogrammetry

of WG's and 200 people working within, most of these activities don't need your decisions but it's your duty to follow these up and ask the related people to conduct these activities as per the regulations of the organization. You have to deal with different cultures, different traditions and different understandings, different mode of operations. All those are the hardest part of the job really!

The Congress Director is the king of his own operations within already established terms. You are familiar with your own country's regulation, you are familiar the costumes and method of workings of your team and you also familiar with the capacity of your own country and environment whereas The Secretary General is only the servant to the most of the people that he is working with! I think this is something that the next Secretary General should really note...

I assume that you don't evaluate above mentioned facts as complaints. I only liked to share my feeling for my job up to now. Taking into account the reactions received from the various parts of the world, I proudly say that the General Secretariat team is quite successful.

[Read the Full Editorial online](#)

ISPRS Society

ISPRS Commission III Symposium “Photogrammetric Computer Vision”, September 19-22, Bonn, Germany

This first ISPRS symposium consisting entirely of double blindly reviewed papers featured a single track high quality program with talks of thirty minutes giving rise to vivid and intensive discussions. Of seventy submitted full papers the program committee selected twenty four for oral and twenty for poster presentation. Three days of intensive discussions between photogrammetric and computer vision researchers focused on



TC III President Wolfgang Förstner Presents the Best poster Award to Matthias Butenuth

building as well as road and vehicle extraction, laser range data analysis, surface reconstruction, Lidar and SAR processing, as well as image orientation.

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Symposium of ISPRS Technical Commission I



Jose Achache

The Symposium of the Technical Commission I of ISPRS took place in Marne la Vallée, near Paris, in France from 4th July to 6th July 2006. 200 participants from 30 countries have shared their experience and presented their work in the premises of the Ecole Nationale des Sciences Géographiques, the engineering school of the Institut Géographique National (the French National Mapping Agency).

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Symposium of ISPRS Technical Commission II

In the week 10 – 14 July 2006 the international conference GICON 2006 – Geoinformation Connecting Societies was held at the University of Vienna. On 10 and 11 July the pre-conference event PreCARTO provided a mix of practical and theory oriented workshops, innovative forums, and cartographic outdoor activities. GICON 2006 embraced three scientific events



Conference director Wolfgang Kainz addressing the participants at the opening ceremony

- Central European Cartographic Conference (CECC)
- Mid-term Symposium of Technical Commission II of ISPRS
- 12th International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling (SDH 2006)

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ISPRS Commission VI Sympo- sium

The International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) Commission VI Symposium was jointly organized with the Japan Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (JSPRS) at the Institute of Industrial Science

(IIS), University of Tokyo, Japan from 27th to 30th of June, 2006. The main theme of the symposium was “e-Learning and the Next Steps for Education”. Total of 150 participants from 27 countries have attended, and 53 papers were presented in 16 technical sessions. A technical exhibition by nine companies was also organized.

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Group photo taken at the Sensoji Temple, Asakusa on June 29, 2006.

ISPRS Com.V Symposium ‘Image Engineering and Vision Metrology’

The quadrennial symposium of ISPRS Com.V took place on 25-27 September 2006 in Dresden/Germany, organized by the Institute of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing of TU Dresden.

ISPRS Com.V deals with optical 3D measurement techniques in fields such as industrial production and quality control, cultural heritage recording, terrestrial laserscanning, virtual reality data acquisition, 3D motion analysis, robotics and quantitative biomedical imaging. Driven by progress in sensor technology, algorithms and data processing capabilities, the focus of ISPRS

Commission V has propagated into a wide range of new application fields. A central issue in many developments is the integration of sensor technology with reliable data processing schemes to generate highly automated online or real-time photogrammetric measurement systems. Here we often find the term ‘image engineering’, standing for custom-made solutions based on active and passive sensing and illumination devices combined with task-specific image analysis techniques. Terrestrial laserscanning has become a thriving topic in photogrammetry, adding a new dimension to cultural heritage recording, as-built documentation and facility management.

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Obituary

Georges Masson d'Autume

by Alain Baudoin

It is with deep sadness that we have been informed of the death of Georges Masson d'Autume on 14th of January 2006. He was an Honorary Member of ISPRS since 1976 and remembered as a great photogrammetrist who has contributed to major developments in aerial triangulation, DEM generation and space imagery modelling.



Georges Masson d'Autume

Georges Masson d'Autume was born in Cherbourg, France on 1st December 1916. He graduated from the Ecole Polytechnique (promotion 1935) and he began his career in the French Army at the Ecole d'Application d'Artillerie de Fontainebleau (Artillery Application School of Fontainebleau) during two years (1937-1939) and participated to the French Campaign in 1940. He was sent in 1941 to Dakar (Senegal) in the Service Géographique de l'AOF (Geographic Survey of the French Western Africa) and he discovered the interest of aerial photography (still unknown at this time in Africa) with pictures taken by the American Army and developed a dedicated method to use these images. In 1945, as the Service Géographique de

l'AOF became part of IGN, Georges Masson d'Autume joined the corps of Geographic Engineers. Back in France (metropolitan) in 1946 he spent a few months at Ecole Nationale des Sciences Géographiques (National School for Geographic Sciences) before being appointed at the Research Department of the Photogrammetry Service of IGN.

In 1948 he presented a new method of aerial triangulation at the SIP Congress in The Hague and until 1964 he worked on the theory of photogrammetry for improving its accuracy while compensating the different error sources. In parallel he developed new photogrammetric devices, as easy to use and as accurate as possible for medium scale mapping, such as the Stereoflex (constructed and marketed by SOM) and elaborated new efficient procedures presented at the Stockholm Congress in 1956 and used during many years by IGN, especially overseas. He was always aware of the new technologies and open-minded and when he discovered computer science he directly understood its potential for photogrammetry. Under his leadership IGN could then develop, test and operationally use all phases of analytical aerial triangulation techniques.

This work had been internationally acknowledged and he was elected President of Commission III of ISP for the 1960-1964 period.

Scientific councillor at the Headquarters, Logistics Director; then President of the Scientific and Technical Research Committee, he had always worked for IGN, continuing his researches in photogrammetry even after his retirement in October 1982.

Tibet: The Roof of the World

By Chen Jun, Congress Director ISPRS Council
2004 – 2008

Tibet Autonomous Region is located in the southwest part of China, with an area of 1.22 million square kilometers and a population of 2.7 million. Its average altitude is 4,000 meters above sea level. Tibet has 38 mountains higher than 7,000 meters and 47 lakes covering more than 100 square kilometers each. There are many holy mountains and lakes, historic sites, beautiful scenery spots, unique culture and folk custom. I recommend you to visit some of the following places to understand the mysterious Tibet.

[Read more](#)



He published many scientific papers, most of them in the Bulletin de la SFPT and in the ISPRS Archives but also in Photogrammetria or the Canadian Surveyor:

One can mention his researches on spline functions and their applications to photogrammetry (for DEM generation, data filtering, error modelling, bundle adjustment) presented at the Helsinki Congress in 1976 and on the new sensors and especially SPOT. As soon as 1978 he developed accurate geometric modelling to be used for image calibration and correction and new DEM generation techniques based on automatic correlation along quasi epipolar lines. His work will then be adapted for SPOT images processing. In December 1982 he received the prestigious Laussedat Prize given by the French Academy of Sciences for his work in photogrammetry.

Georges Masson d'Autume was highly thought by his colleagues, in France and abroad, always available to explain and discuss his ideas and to encourage and help students or young researchers (I was lucky to be one of them in the eighties)

ISPRS has lost one of its older members and even if not very well known by the youngest Georges Masson d'Autume should be recognized as an outstanding researcher by our photogrammetry and remote sensing community.

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ISPRS Society

ISRSE Symposium

The 32nd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment scheduled for June 25-29, 2007 in San Jose, Costa Rica will be conducted with the theme "Sustainable Development through Global Earth Observations". The Symposium will address the nine societal benefits defined by the Group on Earth Observation as well as related topics dealing with remote sensing technologies and education.

[Read more](#)

Costa Rica is the venue for the 32nd ISRSE Symposium.



36th Scientific Assembly of COSPAR held in Beijing

The 36th COSPAR Scientific Assembly was held from July 16 to July 23 in Beijing, China. There were about 2,000 participants from over 70 countries and regions in the world, including the experts from such famous space science research

institutes as ESA, CSA, CNES, CNSA, DLR, ISRO, ASI, NASA, JAXA, NSAU, SUPARCO, RKA etc. Chinese Vice Premier Zeng Peiyan gave a welcome address at the opening session of the 36th COSPAR, saying China will continue to support various activities concerning outer space exploration, and to push forward bilateral and multilateral collaboration in space exploration.

[Read more](#)



Roger-Maurice Bonnet, president of COSPAR, cut the ribbon for opening ceremony of the scientific exhibition.

Book Reviews

Introduction to Microwave Remote Sensing

Iain H Woodhouse, Talyor & Francis Group,
London, 2006, pp 370.

Reviewed by: Prof Tony Milne, University of New South
Wales, Australia

To some practitioners' within the field of remote sensing and GIS and to many application experts in the environmental sciences, microwave and radar remote sensing presents a substantial challenge, a challenge which is often not taken up. The challenge revolves around making meaning and seeing the usefulness of data which is unfamiliar and acquired in a manner very different from optical imagery. This data is also subjected to intricate and unfamiliar processing routines and requires a different analytical approach or mindset to be adopted in order to derive and extract information.

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GIS-Based Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences

Okabe, A. (ed), 2006, Boca Raton: CRC Press.

Reviewed by Dr. Narimah Samat
Senior Lecturer, Geography Section, School of Humanities,
Universiti Sains Malaysia,

This text is a compilation of a set of well-selected papers on GIS applications in Humanities and Social Sciences. It is undoubtedly the kind of book that provide invaluable insights for Social Scientist and Humanities, who rarely use spatial analysis in their research (LeGates, 2005). Furthermore, the book by Okabe describes the development of up-to-date GIS techniques that covers a wide range of topic in Humanities and

Social Sciences. This book is definitely useful as a reference for students and researchers, who want to explore how GIS and spatial analysis can be used in anthropology, archeology, sociology, history and psychology.

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'International Study on Cost-Effective Earth Observation Missions'

edited by Dr Rainer Sandau (DLR, Germany) for IAA
Commission IV Study Group: System Operation & Utili-
sation, published by Taylor and Francis, October 2005,
160 pages including 21 tables, 10 figures and 3 ap-
pendices.

Reviewed by: Prof John Trinder, The University of New
South Wales, Australia. 1st Vice President ISPRS

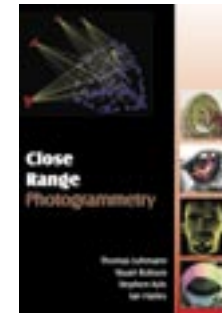
This book is an important contribution to the topic of Cost-Effective Earth Observation Missions and comprises inputs from 36 authors derived from 15 countries and 5 continents. The introduction states that the study focuses on small satellites, which are subdivided into the following: mini satellites <1000kg; micro satellites <100kg; nano satellites 10kg; and pico satellites <1kg. It quotes the indicative costs, according to details presented to the UN organised Unispace III conference in Vienna, Austria in 1999, to be \$US 5-20 million, \$US2-5 million, and \$US1 million respectively (1999 figures). The emergence of small satellites has been supported by the following developments:

- Advances in electronics
- Availability of small launchers
- The possibility of small nations developing their own technologies
- Reductions in mission complexities

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Close Range Photogrammetry

A major new geomatics book is to be published during August, Close Range Photogrammetry, Principles, Methods and Applications by the internationally-known and respected authors, Professor Thomas Luhmann, Dr. Stuart Robson, Dr. Stephen Kyle and Professor Ian Harley.



This is an authoritative guide to close range photogrammetry and is the first English language text that deals with the subject in such depth. It has been updated from the German text by Luhmann and at around 530pp is a very substantial edition. It provides a thorough presentation of the methods, mathematics, systems and applications which comprise the subject of close range photogrammetry.

[Read more](#)

Remote Sensing of Snow and Ice.

W.G. Rees, 2006, Taylor and Francis.

Reviewed by: Rudiger Gens, Alaska Satellite Facility, Geo-
physical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks

This book aims to "provide a reasonably comprehensive introduction to the remote sensing of the Earth's cryosphere". The author "envisaged the book as a successor to 'Remote Sensing of Ice and Snow' (Hall and Martinez)", published in 1985, with the intention to provide the reader with "a work of reference". The reader is assumed to have a limited knowledge of both the cryosphere and remote sensing.

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New Member Profile

GEOCAD-93 Ltd.

GEOCAD-93 was founded in January of 1993. Diplom Engineer Zlatan Zlatanov is the principle owner and President of the company. GEOCAD-93 provides wide variety of services in the area of geomatics engineering including land surveying, photogrammetry, creation and maintenance of digital models of towns, villages and rural areas, Geographic Information Systems, etc.

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Geoinformation society of Nigeria

The Geoinformation Society of Nigeria (GEO-SON) which has to do with Remote Sensing, GPS, Surveying, Mapping, GIS, Aerospace Survey, Web Mapping and related technology for the exploration, exploitation, development and management of resources, was inaugurated at a meeting of stakeholders on the 11 February 2003 here in Abuja to incorporate producers and users with the following objectives.

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Call for Book Review

The ISPRS Highlights is a widely distributed journal among ISPRS members including professionals of surveying, photogrammetry and geospatial information sciences worldwide. From time and time, the Highlights publishes reviews on the newly published books, which will provide the most up-to-date information and comments about publications in the discipline.

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