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ISPRS Highlights



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ISPRS Events Calendar

Towards the Beijing Congress

ISPRS is now approaching to a very busy period of the last 10 months before the Beijing Congress. We held completed seven Technical Commission Symposia, as well as a number of ISPRS workshops and meetings of other organisations at which ISPRS has sponsored and being represented.

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Dreiländer Tagung

Once every 3 years; the Austrian, German and Swiss Societies of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing organise joint conferences for their members in rotating places in three countries and this organisation has become a tradition for several years. This year the Swiss Society organised the so called Joint Conference (Dreiländer Tagung) in Muttentz-Basel.

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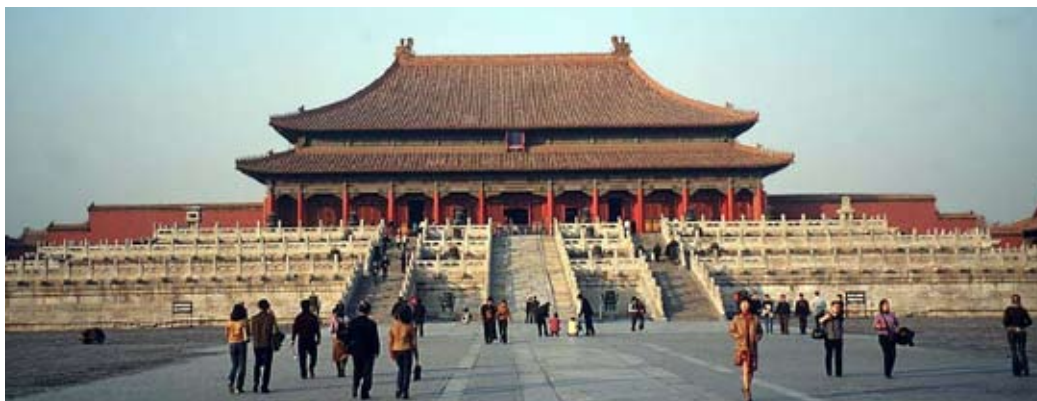


Editorial

Towards the Beijing Congress

ISPRS is now approaching to a very busy period of the last 10 months before the Beijing Congress. We held completed seven Technical Commission Symposia, as well as a number of ISPRS workshops and meetings of other organisations at which ISPRS has sponsored and being represented.

Council has met on different occasions and besides dealing with ongoing issues such as the Congress, finance and ISPRS publications, has discussed to set up a new strategic plan, addi-



tional benefits for members, restructuring the Council, and our strategy for capacity building in Africa.

In 2007 we have had number of important workshops including the 5th International Symposium on Mobile Mapping Technology in Padua-Italy, the workshop on High Resolution Earth Imaging for Geospatial Information, the Conference on 'Optical 3D Measurement Techniques' and the workshop on Photogrammetric Image Analysis will be held in Munich coming September. We were heavily involved in the International Symposium of Remote Sensing of Environment. CIPA will be holding its biennial conference in October. We have supported and organised special ISPRS sessions at the Conference on "The Environment: Survival and Sustainability" February 2007, in Northern Cyprus, at the GeoSiberia Conference in Novosibirsk, Russia in April 07 and Map Middle East Conference in Dubai April 07. The Annual Asian Conference of Remote Sensing series is always one of the major events, which ISPRS give a high importance and value. Last year (2006) it was organized in Mongolia and several ISPRS related people attended this Conference. This year it will be held in Kuala Lumpur. These are important events which will be paving the way to the XX1st Congress in Beijing in 2008.

We look forward to meet with all of you in Beijing and for further information about the Congress please refer to the website of the Congress <http://www.isprs2008-beijing.org/>

Orhan ALTAN
Secretary General

[Read online](#)

Congress

News from LOC for ISPRS 2008 Beijing

ESRI has been a silver sponsor of ISPRS 2008 Beijing since Sept. 28, 2006. PCI Geomatics became a bronze sponsor of ISPRS 2008 Beijing on February 8, 2007. The Local Organizing Committee for ISPRS 2008 Beijing highly appreciates their contribution to ISPRS 2008 Beijing, and invites more companies and organizations to participate in its sponsorship programme.

The Photogrammetry Education for Multidisciplinary Geomatics in China

ZHU Qing Member of the Scientific Program Committee, ISPRS 2008 Beijing
LIESMARS, Wuhan University, 129 LuoYu Road, Wuhan, P. R. China

CHEN Jun: ISPRS Congress Director Chair, National Geomatics Center of China

ABSTRACT

After briefly review on the history of photogrammetry education in P.R.China, the development of undergraduate and graduate program, the corresponding curricula design are analyzed by using the data from Wuhan University in which the photogrammetry is awarded as the state-level key discipline. The academic educational program of photogrammetry in universities has trained students to perform tasks in all fields of the photogrammetric profession. In recent years,

the nature of photogrammetry is changing and multidisciplinary geomatics are developing very rapidly, the educational program of photogrammetry has also been changed in new concepts and structures to adapt such new technologies and the extension of the field. Finally, the prospect of photogrammetry education for the requirements of multidisciplinary geomatics is proposed. The growing interest in fast and accurate 3D spatial data collection (such as city modeling and digital earth) results in the increasing need of photogrammetry as principal tool, photogrammetric courses are therefore requested to be up to date and to become one kind of the fundamental professional courses for university geomatics and remote sensing degree programs.

KEY WORDS: Photogrammetry, Education, Remote Sensing, Geomatics, China

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Minutes of the Council Meeting

Vienna, 3-5 March, 2007

Opening

ID opened the meeting, noting that this would be one of the important meetings of the four-year period before the Congress, and expressed hope for a fruitful exchange of ideas especially on

the Congress, Statutes and Bylaws, Recruitment, External Relationships. He thanked the Austrian Society for hosting the meeting. ID explained that EB was unable to participate in this Council Meeting due to his mother's health problems and expressed the common wish of the Council for a quick recovery for his mother.

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Conference on Signal Processing, Pattern Recognition and Applications

I am with the International Association of Science and Technology for Development (IASTED, www.iasted.org). We are currently organizing the Signal Processing, Pattern Recognition and Applications (SPPRA 2008) conference, which will take place in Innsbruck, Austria from February 13 - 15, 2008. The chairs for this conference are Dr. Rob-

ert Sablatnig of the Vienna University of Technology and Dr. Otmar Scherzer of the University of Innsbruck.



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2nd ISPRS International Workshop 3D-Arch 2007. "Virtual Reconstruction and Visualization of Complex Architectures" ETH Zurich, Switzerland, 12-13 July 2007

by Francesca Voltolini, FBK-IRST, Trento, Italy, www.itc.it

Digital documentation of monuments and architectures is an important research topic that needs different sciences and technologies to reach good results. For this reason it is important to collaborate and exchange information between scientists coming from different fields.

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Invitation to Promote and Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Space of Space

To reach mass society, we must use the mass media. One way to get mass media coverage is to hold a massive celebration on an historic anniversary. UN-declared World Space Week is 4-10 October annually. In 2007, it will be the 50th anniversary of the Space Age. This is an unprecedented opportunity for the global space community to positively impact the public, government leaders, and students by organizing a synchronized global celebration.

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Workshop „Visualization and Exploration of Geospatial Data“

45 participants from 18 nations and 4 continents attended the Joint Workshop "Visualization and Exploration of Geospatial Data" which was held in Stuttgart by the end of June 2007. Besides Commissions of the German and international cartographic associations (DGfK and ICA, respectively) the following four Working Groups of ISPRS organized this event: WG IV/4 („Land-

scape Modelling and Visualization“, chair: Jochen Schiewe), WG IV/6 („Location Based Services“, Michael Hahn), WG II/3 („Multiple Representation of Image and Vector Data“, Monika Sester) and WG II/5 („Communication and Visualization of spatial data“, William E. Cartwright).

[Read more](#)

Bringing together the multidisciplinary scientific community addressing desertification issues: The European DesertNet Initiative (EDN).

Prof. Dr. Carlos San Juan Mesonada (Department of Economics, University Carlos III of Madrid, Spain); Dr. Mariam Akhtar-Schuster (University of Hamburg, Germany); Dr. Begni, G. (Cnes).

Desertification, A Serious Worldwide Concern

Desertification is a severe degradation of land induced by complex coupling between economic agents activity and natural factors in arid, semi-arid and sub-humid regions. Presently, 39,2 % (about 5.2 billion hectares) of the world are under threat, which bring vulnerable local people to extreme poverty situations. It may lead to massive human displacement which can not only generate economic problems to other regions but also frequently generate national and international tensions. Some 900 million people are estimated to be under threat – a figure that could rise to over 2 billion people by around 2050.

[Read more](#)

5th International Symposium for Spatial Data Quality 2007

The 5th International Symposium for Spatial Data Quality (ISSDQ) was held in Enschede, the Netherlands from 13-15th June 2007, organized jointly by the International Institute for Geo-information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) and the ISPRS Commission II, Working Group 7, and attended by more than 120 participants. They came from 28 countries on 5 continents. The symposium brought together experts from around the world to present the latest developments in quantitative and qualitative approaches and information theory towards spatial data quality.



[Read more](#)

Optical 3-D Measurement Techniques

The 8th conference on „Optical 3-D Measurement Techniques“ (Optical 3-D) took place from 9th until 12th July 2007 at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich, Switzerland. The conference was organized by Prof. Armin Gruen, the Head of the Chair of Photogrammetry at the Institute of Geodesy and Photogrammetry (ETH Zurich) and Prof. Heribert Kahmen, the Head of the Chair of Engineering Geodesy at the Institute of Geodesy and Geophysics (Vienna Univer-

sity of Technology) and was sponsored by the organisations ISPRS, IAG and FIG. This was the 8th conference in a row. The first seven conferences were held alternately in Vienna and Zurich.

The conference intended to review the latest developments in different technologies, algorithms, processing techniques, systems, hard- and software, to identify the major problem areas and to discuss the direction of future research and development in order to further advance the technology.

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Report on ISPRS Working Group VI/5 and Student Consortium Summer School

Theory and application of laser scanning Ljubljana, slovenia, 1 – 7 July 2007

Mojca Kosmatin Fras, Chair-woman WG VI/5 (mfras@fgg.uni-lj.si) and Anka Liseč, Secretary WG VI/5 (alisec@fgg.uni-lj.si)

The WG VI/5: Promotion of the Profession to Students, together with the Student Consortium (SC) organized the 2nd Summer School (SS) on

laser scanning in Ljubljana, Slovenia, 1 – 7 July 2007. Summer schools present one of the most important activities of the WG VI/5 and SC for the promotion of the science among the young researchers. The main purpose is to provide an educational week with training activities for the students and young researchers in the ISPRS's work fields.

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CFP Spatial Decision Support Systems

Please find the Call for the ISPRS Workshop on “Geo-information and Spatial Decision Support Systems”, meeting which is organized by the ISPRS WG II/IV on Spatial Planning and Decision Support Systems”.

[Read more](#)

Free Data Sets

There are the three links to the data sets of the three WG in ISPRS Technical Commission III to prepare papers.

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ISPRS Workshop on Up-Dating Geo-Spatial Databases with Imagery and the 5th ISPRS Workshop on DMGISs held in Urumqi, China 28-29 August 2007

80th Birthday Celebrations for Dr Sherman Wu

The Opening Session of the Workshop was Chair by Dr Jiang Jia, from National Geomatics Center of China and Chair ISPRS WG IV/1. Welcoming speeches were given by: Professor Ian Dowman, President ISPRS; Mr Song Chao Zhi, Vice-President of State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping, who described major developments in mapping in China which involves the large task of updating 1:50,000 maps, and hoped for increased cooperation with



ISPRS; a representation from Science and Technology in Xinjiang Province; and Mr Li Quanzhan, from the Bureau of Surveying and Mapping in Xinjiang Province, who described infrastructure developments in region and the importance of up-to-date geospatial data for this task, since Xinjiang is important for communication between east and west.

[Read more](#)

ISPRS President Ian Dowman Celebrating Sherman Wu's 80th Birthday.

Future of Land Imaging

The report on the National Land Imaging Program, developed by the Future of Land Imaging (FLI) Interagency Work Group, was released by

the White House on 15th of August. The full text of the report and related press release is available at <http://www.ostp.gov/> (see OSTP News item 8-14)



Dreiländer Tagung

Once every 3 years; the Austrian, German and Swiss Societies of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing organise joint conferences for their members in rotating places in three countries and this organisation has become a tradition for several years. This year the Swiss Society organised the so called Joint Conference (Dreiländer Tagung) in Muttensz-Basel. The place of the very well organised conference was the University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland and the conference was

chaired by Prof. Stephan Nebiker from the same university. More than 320 participants most of whom were from organizing societies attended the event.



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CRSS/ASPRS 2007 SPECIALTY CONFERENCE
Our Common Borders — Safety, Security and
the Environment through Remote Sensing

WESTIN HOTEL OTTAWA • OTTAWA, CANADA
OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 1, 2007

Join us in Ottawa, the Capital of Canada, for this specialty Conference which is a joint effort of the Canadian Remote Sensing Society and the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (CRSS/ASPRS). As geospatial professionals, we are often challenged by the constraints that borders impose on our work. The answers to the questions that we are asked must often transcend these borders, and that is what this Conference proposes to do. Through the mutual cooperation of our two Societies, many organizations, and friends, we hope to demonstrate that one's own interest doesn't need to end at a common border. Environmental, public safety, and homeland security issues - to name a few - demand that we work with our neighbors at the local, state, provincial, national, and international levels to build a foundation, apply the best technology, and leverage the best talent to solve our common problems.

Keynote Presentation
**Harmonizing Geospatial Activities Across the
World's Longest Common Border**

Mark Corey
Assistant Deputy Minister, Earth Sciences Sector,
Natural Resources Canada, Canada

Timothy R. Petty
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, U.S.
Department of the Interior, (invited)

<http://www.asprs.org/ottawa07>

CO-ORGANIZERS



New Members

Siberian State Academy of Geodesy

The academy presents a modern holding comprising the following institutes:

- Institute of Geodesy and Management;
- Institute of Optics and Optical technologies;
- Institute of Cadastre and Geographic Information Systems;
- Institute of Remote Sensing and Natural Resources Management;
- Institute of Distant Training
- as well as representative offices and branches.

The strategic purpose of the academy is to develop the university highly competitive at the market of education and R&D. The academy is ready for cooperation in the fields of education, research and production.

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Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science (CRMS)

The Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science (CRMS) is a research, teaching and training facility within the University of Georgia, Department of Geography that undertakes interdisciplinary projects requiring the development, use and analysis of geospatial data for applications in the physical, biological, human and mapping sciences. Specialties of the Center's multidisciplinary staff encompasses the full range of geographic information science (GIScience) including remote sensing/digital image process-

ing, digital photogrammetry, image interpretation, geographic information systems (GIS), Global Positioning Systems (GPS) surveys, geovisualization, web-mapping services and software development. Our applications are broadly based and include ecology, forestry, geography, geology, anthropology, hydrology, human geography and disease studies (www.crms.uga.edu). A staff of approximately seven full-time and part-time employees, along with five to seven graduate research assistants and five to seven undergraduate interns and student workers conduct research and training in GIScience.

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University of Calgary Department of Geomatics Engineering

Photogrammetry:

- Developing new methodologies for semi-automated registration of multi-source satellite imagery with varying geometric resolutions,
- Integrating photogrammetric and LIDAR data,
- True orthophoto generation,
- Geometric calibration and stability analysis of medium-format digital imaging systems,
- Photogrammetric techniques for manipulating biomedical imagery,
- Modeling the perspective geometry of high-

resolution imaging satellites,

- Multi-sensor triangulation,
- Mobile Mapping Systems (MMS),
- Feature-based photogrammetric triangulation,
- Self-calibrating bundle adjustment for masonry wall deflections,
- Automated extraction of buildings and urban road network from very high resolution imaging satellites, and
- Direct versus indirect geo-referencing techniques.

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