

ISPRS TIF Travel Grant – Feedback Report

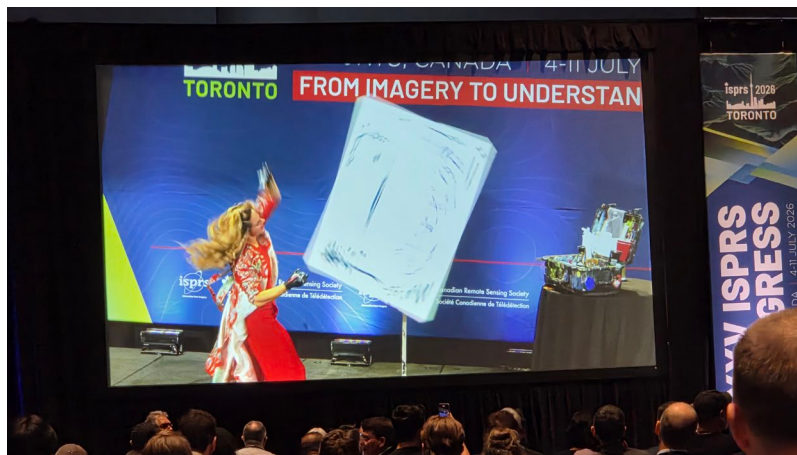
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I am deeply grateful to the ISPRS Foundation for the Travel Grant that made it possible for me to attend the ISPRS 2026 Congress, held in Toronto, Canada from July 3–11, 2026. As a first-year Ph.D. student in the Geospatial Data Analytics Lab at The Ohio State University, advised by Professor Rongjun Qin, this was a wonderful opportunity to present my research to the international photogrammetry and remote sensing community, and the experience proved to be one of the most valuable of my academic career so far.

Conference Activities

The Congress began with tutorial sessions on the Saturday before the main technical program, and I co-led an 8-hour tutorial with my advisor, Professor Rongjun Qin, titled "TuT1: 3D Reconstruction from Multi-View Satellite Imagery: From Classic to Modern Methods." The session took participants from classical multi-view satellite photogrammetry through to modern methods, including our recent work on SatSplat and SatSplatDiffusion, and walked 23 participants through the material using an interactive Colab environment for the hands-on portions. Preparing and delivering this tutorial pushed me to distill complex research code into a format that other researchers, many encountering Gaussian Splatting for the first time, could follow and apply to their own work.

On Monday, I attended the Congress reception. The reception featured a striking live-painting performance that was genuinely impressive to watch, and over dinner I had the chance to meet and speak with researchers whose work I had long admired, including Gunho Sohn and Impyeong Lee. It was also a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with people I had known back in Korea, and my conversation there with Hangeol Kim of Telepix led to concrete plans to explore a future collaboration.



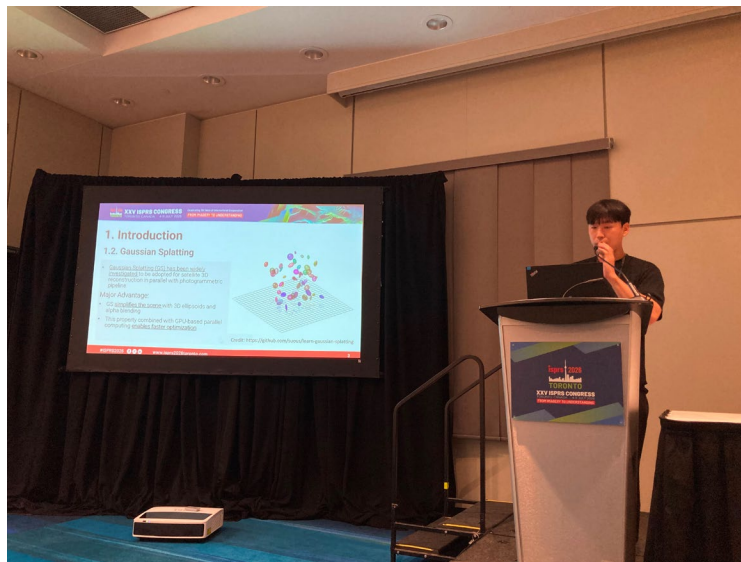
Live-painting performance at the Congress reception.

On Wednesday, I attended a networking dinner with fellow Congress attendees, which was a relaxed and welcome change of pace after a full day of sessions. It was a great chance to chat informally with researchers from other institutions over drinks and get to know people outside of the usual conference-room setting.



Networking dinner with fellow Congress attendees on Wednesday.

On Friday, I gave an oral presentation titled "BAEOGS: Bundle-Adjusted Initialization for Efficient Earth Observation Gaussian Splatting," which introduces a sparse point augmentation strategy that accelerates 3D Gaussian Splatting training for satellite imagery by roughly 20–30% compared to prior approaches.



Giving the BAEOGS oral presentation at the XXV ISPRS Congress.

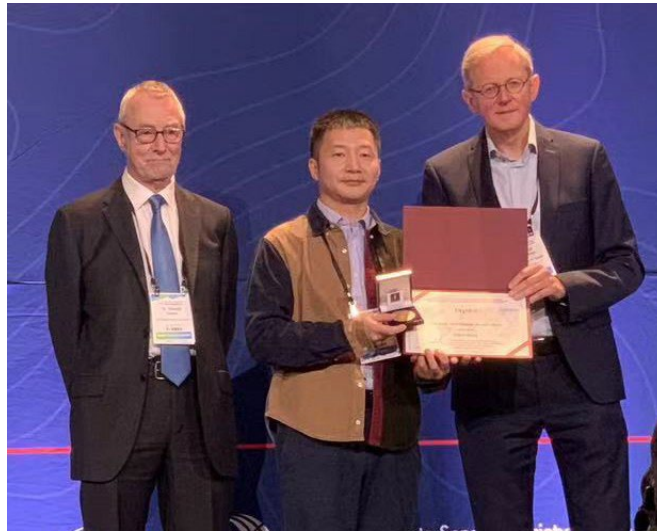
Benefits to My Research and Career

My goal is to become a professor, so the chance to present in front of others, both through the 8-hour tutorial I co-lead with Professor Qin and through my own oral talk, was the single most valuable part of this Congress for me. Standing in front of 23 participants and walking them through our methods from classical multi-view satellite photogrammetry to modern Gaussian Splatting was an incredibly good opportunity to practice exactly the kind of teaching I hope to build a career around, and it gave me a much clearer sense of how to structure and pace technical material for an audience with a wide range of backgrounds.

My oral presentation of BAEOGS was an equally valuable complement, letting me put my own work in front of a broad, engaged audience and receive direct feedback in real time. Both experiences pushed my public speaking and teaching skills forward in a way that directly serves the career I am working for. The feedback I received, together with the conversations from the tutorial and reception, has already sharpened the direction of my ongoing work on uncertainty-aware, diffusion-based refinement for satellite Gaussian Splatting.

Networking and Community

The Congress was also an excellent venue to meet researchers and students from around the world working on satellite photogrammetry, 3D reconstruction, and geospatial deep learning. I had the chance to speak directly with Wagner, the author of RPC-GS, a paper closely related to my own work, and we agreed to keep in touch and share our future research as it progresses. Both Wagner and Hangeol Kim of Telepix showed genuine interest in SatSplatDiff, the paper I am currently pursuing, which was encouraging validation of the direction I am taking. These connections are ones I expect to stay in touch with as our research areas continue to overlap. It was also a proud moment to see my advisor, Professor Rongjun Qin, recognized on stage on Saturday, the final day of the Congress, a reminder of the strength of the lab community I am fortunate to be part of.



Professor Rongjun Qin receiving recognition at the XXV ISPRS Congress.

Looking Ahead: ISPRS 2030 in Incheon

One of the most exciting announcements of the Congress, for me personally, was the confirmation that ISPRS 2030 will be hosted in Incheon, South Korea. As a Korean researcher currently based in the United States, it was a genuinely joyful moment to see the community I am building my career in choose to gather in my home country. I am already looking forward to attending, and I would love to volunteer for that Congress in whatever way I can.



Celebrating the announcement that ISPRS 2030 will be held in Incheon, South Korea.

Closing Remarks

Without the support of the ISPRS TIF Travel Grant, attending this Congress would not have been possible for me as an early-career Ph.D. student. I was presented with the ISPRS Foundation Certificate of Support recognizing me as a TIF Travel Grant recipient, which I will keep as a reminder of this experience. I am sincerely thankful to the ISPRS Foundation and the Congress Organisers for this opportunity, and I look forward to continuing to contribute to and engage with the ISPRS community in the years ahead.



ISPRS Foundation Certificate of Support, TIF Travel Grant.

On a personal note, just before the Congress began, I had the chance to visit Niagara Falls, an unforgettable side trip that made the whole week in Toronto feel even more special.



Niagara Falls, visited just before the Congress.