

**ISPRS Technical Commission VI**  
**Theory and Concepts of Spatial Information Science**  
**2010 Annual Report**

**1. The Commission**

**1.1 The mid-term symposium**

The ISPRS Technical Commission VI on Education and Outreach organized a midterm symposium from 2 to 4 June at the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) in Enschede, The Netherlands. The symposium had the title “Cross-Border Education for Global Geo-information”. It was co-organised by ITC in collaboration with the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) and Geo-Information Nederland (GIN). It was attended by over 70 participants from some 30 countries

The Mid-Term Symposium was opened by the Conference Chair and President of ISPRS Commission VI, Prof. Martien Molenaar who highlighted the importance of Cross-Border Education for Global Geo-information. This was followed by the welcome speeches of Prof. Tom Vedkamp, the Rector/Dean of ITC, Mr. Marien de Bakker, on behalf of the President of the Geo-Information Netherlands (GIN) and Prof. Ian Dowman, on behalf of the ISPRS President Prof. Orhan Althan.

The three days Mid-Term Symposium featured: around 10 sessions, 40 papers presented, over six Demonstrations, a number of Posters, business meetings, an Ice-Breaker Reception, and one symposium dinner. The papers dealt with topics like: e-learning methods and tools, web based education, e-delivery of educational services, cross border educational programs and the institutional aspects of cross border education. Furthermore attention has been paid to the promotion of our profession to young people and the activities and strengthening of the ISPRS Students Consortium.

There were special sessions on the promotion of our profession to young people and the activities and strengthening of the ISPRS Students Consortium. Furthermore the participants had the opportunity in special demonstration sessions to show their material for e-courses and for promotion and exchange idea's.

The highlight in the last day of the symposium was the “Best Paper Award” presented to Mr. Arnaud deshogues for his paper entitled: “ Enhancement of E-Learning in Geomatics by the Integration of Dynamic Mathematics Tools”. The prize consisting of a certificate and a grant of

Euro 500.00 was awarded for its originality and degree of innovation, relevance to the symposium topic and in particular for the quality, clarity and style of presentation.

The proceedings and the powerpoint presentations is available on the ISPRS Commission VI web site: [http://www.isprs.org/technical\\_commissions/tc\\_6](http://www.isprs.org/technical_commissions/tc_6)

## **1.2 Organizational aspects**

In the TC VI business meeting during the symposium the Commission decided to discontinue the activities of WG VI/3, because this working group had not been able to develop any activities, and it could not be expected that this would be better for the remainder of this term. This is due to the fact that the working conditions of key persons of this WG had changed, so that no more time for ISPRS activities was available. The task of this WG have integrated with the tasks of WG VI/for the remainder of this term.

Dr Dadhwal stepped down as vice chair of WG VI/4. Dr. Kufoniyi stepped down as chair of this WG and took the position of vice chair. Dr P.S. Roy from IIRS, India, took up position of chair of this WG.

## **2. Working groups activities**

### **WG VI/2: e-Learning**

**Homepage:** [www.commission6.isprs.org/wg2](http://www.commission6.isprs.org/wg2)

The internet and e-learning is now established in lifelong education. Not only universities are distributing additional training material but also companies are offering e-learning courses, webinars or podcasts for customer training more and more often. Despite the growing availability of web based educational products and e-learning courses, it is not easy to find appropriate educational material. WG VI/2 on e-learning analyses existing courses and promotes online information on the working group's webpage.

WG VI/2 participated in the ISPRS Technical Commission VI Mid-Term Symposium "Cross-Border Education for Global Geo-Information" in Enschede, organized by Martien Molenaar as commission VI president. Eight lectures covering WG VI/2 topics were discussed in four sessions, focussing on E-learning methods, tools and web-enabled education. The lectures presented by experts from New Zealand, Iran, Mongolia, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Tanzania and Germany gave an excellent overview about the current state of general education in geomatics and on challenging activities in e-learning in this field. All contributions are available on the proceedings CD.

WG VI/2 actively participated in the annual “Education in GIS” workshop held in Potsdam. A session on Tertiary Education was organised on June 11, 2010 in co-operation with a DDGI (Deutscher Dachverband für Geoinformation). Four speakers were found to give a talk on ‘Spatial Shop’, ‘Cooperative learning in international archeological projects’, ‘Development of learning material in Remote Sensing’, and ‘Distance based learning in GIS’.

#### **WG VI/4: Joint Educational Programs**

The main activities of this Working Group concentrated on the TC VI mid-term symposium. A **keynote** address was based on the ISRO Distance Learning Program EDUSAT with the title “EDUSAT based Distance Learning Program in Remote Sensing, GIS and GPS – Sharing Experiences of IIRS, India” by P.L.N. Raju. Two sessions have been organized on the topic of this working group.

#### **WG VI/5 and ISPRS STUDENT CONSORTIUM**

##### **Progress and Achievements**

The year 2010 was an active and productive year for ISPRS SC from many aspects. Our network development is an ongoing topic which impressive results. Currently, the ISPRS SC has 484 members from 74 countries. During a special joint symposium of ISPRS Technical Commission IV & AutoCarto in November 2010, ISPRS SC Board Members and the ASPRS Student Advisory Council propose an agreement of cooperation between two student organizations (MoU which is in the process of being signed). It was proposed that the chair of ASPRS SAC becomes an ISPRS SC Regional coordinator for North America.

##### **PR and Publication**

Newsletters were published every three months (4 issues per year) of which two issues were printed in hardcopy. The Summer edition was printed for the need of the ISPRS 100th anniversary in Vienna and another one for 5<sup>th</sup> Summer School in Hanoi. All together there were 700 (500 for Vienna and 200 for Hanoi) copies distributed among the participants of events.

##### **SC Online**

We are now under development of our new webpage which gives us more flexibility. Here are some recent facts of the web site by middle of October 2010:

- The pages are visited over 16000 times every month,
- Over 60 topics are being discussed by our members,
- Over 20 events were added,

The issues of the newsletter are available online free of charge. More info at: <http://www.isprs-sc.org/materials/newsletter>

### **Past Activities**

The 5th Summer School “Advanced Remote Sensing for Mapping, Monitoring and Management of the Environment” took place from 6-10 November in Hanoi, Vietnam, at the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography (VIGAC). It was organized directly after the 31st Asian Conference on Remote Sensing. The main local hosts organizers were: Nguyen Dinh Duong, Trinh Anh Co, Lai Vinh Cam and Ha Minh Hoa. 54 participants from 13 countries joined the event. There were 100 copies of CDs with proceedings distributed, not only to participants but also to other SC related persons (Council, TCP VI, sponsors, Kohei Cho, etc). There was a lot of interaction with the participants and in general participants were very satisfied with the organisation of the event, the major deficiencies were the insufficient practical labs. During the SS there was a SC presentation made. PR material was distributed also during the ACRS2010 and a special student session was organized.

More info at: <http://hanoi2010.isprs-sc.org/index.html>

### **Headlines of ISPRS Students Consortium Past Events in 2010**

- Annual Student Meeting RSPSoc. Plymouth, UK, March 2010  
**Activity:** PR material were distributed and SC presentation was done by ISPRS SC Board members.
- Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol4\\_no2.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol4_no2.pdf)
- ASPRS 2010 Annual Conference. San Diego, California, April 2010  
**Activity:** PR material was distributed.
- ISPRS Com VI Mid-term Symposium, Enschede, Holland, June 2010  
**Activity:** PR material were distributed and SC presentation was done by ISPRS SC Board members. Meeting with ITC student leaders, preparative discussions for the 2011 SS in USA.  
Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol4\\_no2.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol4_no2.pdf)
- GEOBIA 2010, Ghent, Belgium. June 2010  
**Activity:** There were posters of SC hanged and leaflets were distributed among participants.
- ISPRS Technical Commission V Symposium, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, June 2010  
**Activity:** PR material was distributed and a special Student Consortium session was organized.  
Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol4\\_no3.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol4_no3.pdf)
- ISPRS 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and ISPRS TC VII Symposium in Vienna, Austria, July 2010  
**Activity:** PR material was distributed and SC presentation was done by ISPRS SC Board

members.

Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol4\\_no3.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol4_no3.pdf)

- SilviLaser 2010, Freiburg, Germany, September 2010
- **Activity:** PR material was distributed.  
Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol4\\_no3.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol4_no3.pdf)
- Geoinformation Student Forum held as an event of G-Spatial EXPO, Yokohama, Japan, September 2010
- **Activity:** PR material was distributed.  
Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol4\\_no3.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol4_no3.pdf)
- Latin American Remote Sensing Week (LARS). Santiago, Chile, October 2010.  
**Activity:** PR material was distributed.
- Spatial@Gov 2010, Canberra, Australia, October 2010
- **Activity:** PR material was distributed.  
Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol4\\_no3.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol4_no3.pdf)
- 5th IPSRS SC Annual Summer School 2010, Hanoi, Vietnam, November 2010
- **Activity:** PR material was distributed.  
Report: <http://hanoi2010.isprs-sc.org/index.html>
- A special joint symposium of ISPRS Technical Commission IV & AutoCarto in conjunction with ASPRS/CaGIS 2010 Fall Specialty Conference collocated with ACSM Fall Business Meetings and MAPPS Fall Policy Conference, Orlando, USA, November 2010
- **Activity:** PR material was distributed and an SC presentation was done by ISPRS SC Board members.