

Report on the ISPRS Journal for the year 2010

Published papers

In the past year the journal published 54 papers in the six issues of volume 65. The total number of published pages was 603, close to the 600 pages/year specified in the contract between ISPRS and Elsevier. As of January 2010, the ISPRS Journal no longer has a queue of accepted papers waiting for publication. All accepted and typeset papers are included in the next issue. To prepare for the transition to this time based publishing approach additional papers have been included in the last issue of volume 64 (2009).

Theme issues

Two theme issues appeared in 2010. Theme issue 65/3 focussed on “Visualization and Exploration of Geospatial Data” and was edited by Jochen Schiewe and Marguerite Madden. Issue 65/6 was the ISPRS centenary issue with invited papers only and was edited by Norbert Pfeifer, Juha Hyypä, and Helmut Mayer. In preparation are theme issues on “Scale, quality, and analysis aspects of city models” (editors: Monika Sester, Lars Harrie and Alfred Stein, to appear in March 2011 as issue 66/2), “Advancements in LiDAR data processing and applications” (editors: Frédéric Bretar, Wolfgang Wagner and Nicolas Paparoditis), and “Terrestrial 3D modelling” (editors: Fabio Remondino and Jan Böhm).

Impact factor

The field impact factor for 2009 is 2.308. This corresponds to 210 citations in papers published in 2009 of the 91 papers published in 2007 and 2008. The impact factor of 2008 was at the same level (2.293). Nevertheless, the impact factor is likely to fluctuate in the coming years because of the relative small size of the ISPRS Journal. A single well-cited paper can already make a significant difference in the impact factor. The total number of references to articles in the ISPRS Journal slightly increased from 1235 in 2008 to 1328 in 2009. In terms of impact factor the ISPRS Journal is ranked 3rd of the 21 remote sensing journals (previous year 3rd out of 15).

Paper submissions and decisions

In 2010 292 new papers were submitted, 81% more than the 161 submissions in 2009 (164 in 2008). The very strong increase may be related to the relatively high impact factor in the last two years. Obviously, this led to a much higher work load of the editors. Additional associate editors may be required if the paper submission rate remains this high.

The acceptance rate of submissions to the ISPRS Journal was 29% in 2010. This is a bit lower than the 35% of 2009 (32% in 2008).

Heleva Award

The U.V. Helava Award, sponsored by Elsevier B.V. and Leica Geosystems GIS & Mapping, LLC, is the prestigious ISPRS Award for the best publication in the ISPRS Journal in a four year period between the congresses. For the years 2008-2011 the Helava Award Jury will determine the best paper of each year. These four best papers will compete for the Helava Award. The best paper award for 2009 (volume 64) was awarded to Jérôme Korona, Etienne Berthier, Marc Bernard, Frédérique Rémy and Eric Thouvenot for their paper "SPIRIT. SPOT 5 stereoscopic survey of Polar Ice: Reference Images and Topographies during the fourth International Polar Year (2007-2009)".

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