

Report on ISPRS Council and Joint Meeting with Council and Technical Commission Presidents (TCPs) in Melbourne 22-26 August 2011



ISPRS Council met in session and also with ISPRS TCPs in Melbourne Australia to discuss plans for the ISPRS Congress in from 25 August to 1 September 2012 as well as inspect the facilities. The meetings were held at the intended venue for the Congress Dinner, Flemington Race Course and home of the Melbourne Cup, and at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre. All participants at the meeting agreed that the Congress venue is excellent and they are looking forward to a very successful Congress and Exhibition.

Congress

Technical Program Committee Chair Mark Shortis presented the TCPs with details of the procedures for abstract and paper submission, and the timetable for processing, reviewing, and notifications to authors, as well as the final dates for submission of papers. Presenters of papers in Technical Commissions II, III, IV and VII can opt to have their full paper peer-reviewed or submit an abstract only. Presenters of papers in Commissions I, V, VI and VIII will be required to submit an abstract only.

Abstracts must be submitted by 24 October 2011. The significant dates for the submission and review of full papers and abstracts, as well as notification of acceptance/rejection and preparation of full papers are as follows:

24 October 2011	Submission of abstracts
21 November 2011	Abstracts for peer reviewed papers reviewed, rejections/changes notified to authors
12 December 2011	Authors of abstracts only notified of acceptance or rejection of paper
16 January 2012	Full papers submitted for peer review
26 March 2012	Paper reviews transmitted to authors
09 April 2012	Draft of Technical Program released
16 April 2012	Full papers submitted; checking commences
04 June 2012	Final edited papers submitted
02 July 2012	Final draft of Technical Program
25 August 2012	Congress begins

The Congress will include 4 Plenary Sessions, and there may be as many as eleven parallel streams operating in any session, comprising Working Group, Special and Theme Sessions and including sessions of the 16th Australian Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Conference (ARSPC) from 27-29 August. There will be no hardcopy posters at the Congress: all posters will be presented electronically. If a presenter arrives with a hardcopy poster, it will be electronically scanned so that it can be presented electronically.

There will be significant funds provided by the Government of the State of Victoria for the provision of travel funds for attendees from developing countries. As well, The ISPRS Foundation will assign all of its available funds for 2012 to travel grants for potential attendees from developing countries. The deadline for submission of requests for travel grants is 7 March 2012. A Summer School will be held in the vicinity of Melbourne leading up to the Congress.

Additional Business Covered by the Meetings

TCPs reported on the progress of their Working Groups and that resolutions passed at the Congress in Beijing in 2008 have been largely complied with. TCPs were informed of the details of the contract that ISPRS recently signed with Copernicus Gesellschaft mbH for the preparation of archives and indexation of papers for inclusion in ICI. The new version of the Orange Book will reflect the mandatory new arrangements with Copernicus Gesellschaft mbH.

ISPRS will launch a new Open Access Journal in 2012, named the ISPRS Journal of Geo-information, IJGI, which will be published by MDPI, with Professor Wolfgang Kainz as the Editor-in-Chief. An Advisory Board is currently being established, and Council is hoping that colleagues will support and publish in the Journal. For the first 2 years only, authors will not have to pay the compulsory charges for submitting their paper.

Council has decided to introduce a category of individual membership of ISPRS with a small joining fee and the list of benefits is currently being finalised. The proposal will be submitted for approval to the General Assembly in Melbourne in August 2012.

President Orhan Altan and Abbas Rajabifard, President of GSDI, signed a MoU between ISPRS and GSDI during the meeting. Both Orhan Altan and Abbas Rajabifard expressed their hopes to develop procedures for real outputs from collaboration between ISPRS and GSDI. Council also discussed the possibility of joint sessions between TCIV and GSDI during the ISPRS Congress in Melbourne.

John Trinder

Recorder of minutes at the meetings