

## ISPRS TECHNICAL COMMISSION VI WORKING GROUPS REPORT

### I. WORKING GROUPS VI/1 & VI/2 JOINT WORKSHOP REPORT

The workshop entitled: **ISPRS E-Learning 2011** within ACRS, held in Taipei, Taiwan from October 4-5, 2011 attracted about 30 participants from 6 different countries (Taiwan, India, Vietnam, Australia, Switzerland and Germany). It was jointly organized by ISPRS VI/ 1 (Web-Based Education), VI/2 (E-Delivery of Education Services), and CTSPRS (Chinese Taipei Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing). The Program Committee included Manos Baltsavias (ETH Zurich, Switzerland), Kohei Cho (Tokai University, Japan), Joel Fisler (University of Zurich, Switzerland), Gerhard König (Technical University of Berlin, Germany), Jinn-Guey Lay (National Taiwan University, Taiwan), Henny Mills (Newcastle University, United Kingdom), Peter Tian-Yuan Shih (National Chiao-Tung University, Taiwan), and Fuan Tsai (National Central University, Taiwan).

Since the workshop was fully embedded in the 32nd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS) held during October 3-7, participants could attend the entire ACRS conference program and join in the extensive social events. In return, regular ACRS participants visited the ISPRS sessions, provided for a wider audience, and contributed to the success of the workshop. From the numerous contributions received and accepted as full paper by the program committee, unfortunately some were withdrawn due to financial problem of the authors for attending the conference, even with accommodation support from CTSPRS. Finally, the workshop featured 3 technical sessions comprising 15 oral presentations. Two contributions were arranged as poster. Main subjects focused on the development of e-learning material in high school, university institutes, and organisations. Contributors reported on the integration of e-learning within traditional educational institutions, shared experience with distance learning, covered net based services, and referred to students' learning process and acceptance with web-based material.



Group Picture of Speakers and Distinguished Guests



Group Picture after Session 3

All papers were included in the workshop proceedings, which is published by ISPRS at <http://www.isprs.org/proceedings/XXXVIII/6-W27/default.aspx>. The contributions are free for download.

A special conference highlight was the web contest (WEBCON). The main objective of this contest is to promote the development of web materials which may give us a future vision of the web related to geo-information sciences. It was planned by AARS (Asian Association of Remote Sensing) in cooperation with ISPRS WG VI/1&2 and organized the first time on October 5. Each contestant had 5 minutes of oral presentation to explain the submission in advance of around two hours of demonstration. The awards, sponsored by the CTSPRS, were given at the Closing Ceremony. Ernest Macalalad (Taiwan) was granted the Gold award referring on 'The Visualisation of Platform Track on Google Earth'. Silver was given to Hirotohi Kishi (Japan) who presented a web-based remote sensing application for disaster response. Sara Brugger (Switzerland), an ISPRS workshop participant, introduced multimedia web-based learning material for GIS repetition and won the Bronze award.

The workshop was successful at stimulating significant levels of interactions and lively discussions. The positive feedback from the audience showed that this event was viewed as important and informative.

## **II. WORKING GROUP III REPORT**

No Report: Working Group VI/3 Terminated per August 2010

## **III. WORKING GROUP VI/4 REPORT**

### **Workshop: Multinational Geomatics Capacity Building – Achievements and Challenges April 7-8, 2011, IIRS-ISRO, Dehradun, India**

The ISPRS Technical Commission VI (i.e. Education and Outreach), Working Group 4 on "Cross Border education for Standard course Frameworks and promotion of Joint Education Programs at National and International level" organized two days International workshop at Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Dehradun, India. The workshop had the title "Multinational Geomatics Capacity Building – Achievements and Challenges". It was co-organized by IIRS in collaboration with International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), Centre for Space Science Technology Education in Asia Pacific (CSSTEAP), affiliated to UN, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok and Indian Society of Remote Sensing. The event was sponsored by ISRO, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MOES), Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Symbiosis Institute of Geoinformatics (SIG), India. It was attended by 82 participants that include 16 from other countries (Austria, The Netherlands, Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal, Nigeria, Magnolia, Taiwan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam) and the remaining 66 participants are from India.



Photo: Inauguration of ISPRS VI/4 International Workshop, April 7, 2011

The two days International workshop was inaugurated opening with Welcome address by Dr. P.S. Roy, Chair, ISPRS VI/4 (i.e. Cross-Border Education: Joint Education programmes), Dean, IIRS and Director, CSSTEAP (UN Centre), who has highlighted on need of the hour for Joint International Programs through Cross Border Education to reduce the gap in Capacity building. Presidential Address was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Martien Molenaar, President, ISPRS VI raised the issue of Internationalization of education as the geo-processes like climate change are now beyond national level, they are supra natural and even at global scale. This was following by **Chief Guest** address was given by Dr. V. Jayaraman, Director, NRSC expressing that we have to “Domesticate Technology” but not the technology domesticate us. He said that capacity Building is much more than education or training. It is hands on skill development on continuation basis.

The two days International workshop on Multinational Geomatics Capacity Building - Achievements and Challenges consists of seven technical sessions, 34 papers presented out of 37 papers, organized one session (i.e. Technical Session 6) for promotion of the profession to Young People. The major themes of the papers dealt national level with topics like: Geomatics training and education at International Level and in India, cross-border education: initiatives, achievements and best practices of Joint Education Programs (JEP), distance and e-Learning initiatives and outreach in India and at International level, institutional and legal frameworks at national level. One special session entirely focusing on Free and Open Source Geomatics and Tools for Education and Training considering wide spread use among public sector and research institutions in India. The highlights of the international workshop are: capacity building, cross border education under joint educational programs, emphasis on free and open source tools, distance and e-learning initiatives and mobility of students etc. On behalf of IIRS, the workshop organizers are very much grateful to sponsoring institutions (i.e. MOES, DST and SIG) and joint host institutions like ITC, Netherlands, AIT, NRSC, Hyderabad, CSSTEAP, Dehradun,



Group Photograph of ISPRS VI/4 International Workshop participants, April 7-8, 2011

#### **IV. WORKING GROUP VI/5 & ISPRS STUDENT CONSORTIUM REPORT**

The order and content of the reports will include:

##### **I. State of Science and Technology of Working Group**

Student Consortium: Number of registered individuals and countries increased (700 members from 85 countries). More newcomers from Asia and America as expected. For the first time two summer schools were held in one year.

The issue of organizing a summer school next year in Melbourne is not clearly defined yet.

##### **II. Accomplishments of Working Group during the current year, e.g. Event Reports from meetings, colloquia, etc. in chronological order**

1. ISRSE 34 at Sydney, Australia, April 5th to 10th 2011, SC Participation and PR Activity, Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol5\\_no1.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol5_no1.pdf)
2. May 2011. ASPRS 2011 Annual Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA. SC Participation and PR Activity, Event page:

- <http://www.asprs.org/a/milwaukee2011/index.html>
3. 6th ISPRS WG VI/5 and Student Consortium Summer School on “Advanced LiDAR Processing and Applications” Fayetteville State University, NC USA. July 30th - August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011. 53 Participants from 20 countries and 20 US States.  
Report: [http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs\\_sc\\_vol5\\_no3.pdf](http://www.isprs-sc.org/material/isprs_sc_vol5_no3.pdf)
  4. Latinamerica ESRI User Conference. San Jose, Costa Rica, September 2011. PR Material distribution  
Event page: <http://www.geotecnologias.com/lauc2011/index.htm>
  5. ASPRS/ Pecora Fall Special Conference. Herndon, Virginia, USA, November 2011..  
PR and meeting for ISPRS Regional Coordinators with ASPRS Student Board.  
Event page: [http://pecora.asprs.org/conference\\_overview.php](http://pecora.asprs.org/conference_overview.php)
  6. 32<sup>nd</sup> Asian Conference on Remote Sensing, Taipei, Taiwan.  
Dedicated student sessions, participation in assembly of AARS, PR Activity, Event Page: <http://www.acrs2011.org.tw/>
  7. 7th ISPRS WG VI/5 and Student Consortium Summer School “Spatial Information Sciences for Environmental Monitoring”, National Central University, Jhongli, Taiwan. October 8-12, Number of participants 48 from 16 countries. The school included presentations of papers from students with two awards.
  8. Event Report: [http://www.acrs2011.org.tw/ISPRS\\_SummerSchool/](http://www.acrs2011.org.tw/ISPRS_SummerSchool/)

### III. In Addition:

- Dr Basanta from ICIMOD, Nepal, Invited a representative from the Students Consortium to participate in a Youth Forum “Benefiting from Earth Observation: Empowering Youth for Climate Actions” in Bhutan, November-2011
- Three Newsletters were published up to now, two of them with focus in the host countries/regions of the two Summer Schools, and a fourth one is planned towards the end of the year. One of the issues was distributed at ACRS2011 in hardcopy.

### V. WORKING GROUP VI/6 – SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP “TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CARAVAN” REPORT

#### Accomplishments of WG VI/6 in 2011 include:

1. A Workshop on “Spatial Information Technologies for Emergency Management” was conducted at the Institute of Space and Earth Information Science, Chinese University of Hongkong on 18 April 2011. Supporting organizations were the Hongkong Institute of Planners and the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RISC). Lecturers: A. Gruen and Sh. Murai with 2 presentations each.
2. On 18 November 2011 a Workshop on “Advanced Geo-spatial Technologies and Applications” was conducted at the Remote Sensing Department of the Mandalay Technological University, Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Division, Myanmar. Lecturers: A. Gruen and Sh. Murai with 3 presentations each.

3. (3) OBSERVE (Strengthening and development of Earth Observation activities for the environment in the Balkan area) activities have continued throughout the year 2011 with P. Patias in the lead.
4. (4) The Working Group was acting as co-sponsor for the “2011 International Workshop on 3D Digital Heritage Modeling”, 25-29 September, Dunhuang, China

**SIG news and future plans for 2012**

- With the ISPRS Congress 2012 in Melbourne the term of office of the current officers will end. The future task, structure and composition of this Working Group should be discussed before and during the Congress.
- For 2012 at least one more Caravan event is planned before the Congress (negotiations are currently being conducted with groups in China)