

**Heather McGrath, Canada
TIF Travel Grant Awardee
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Hi Marguerite,

I want to thank TIF for the bursary to attend and present at the ISPRS/IGU joint conference. Being in the beginning stages of my PhD research, I found this to be a great opportunity to see what is presently being done in the field and it has raised the bar for me.

The keynote speakers did an excellent job of inspiring me and showing how traditional roles of data and map making have changed in the new digital world. I particularly enjoyed Dr. Sui and his alternative GIS and six senses of the mind and Dr. Li's talk on map alike representations. The descriptions regarding the power of maps based on selection of display symbol and their effectiveness in academia, business, and to the general public have encouraged me to rethink the colours, symbols and design of maps that I create and share. Looking at the big picture of how map making and the choices of content and symbols can have a profound effect on its ability to convey information to the reader and ultimately influence the decisions being made from them.

The breadth and depth of topics across the globe as presented at the conference and in as many disciplines was inspiring. I'm looking forward to sitting down and reading the papers which were submitted and re-evaluating my research goals and objectives to become a better researcher.

I also really enjoyed the inclusion of industry, to give a 'practical' view of how our research may be shaping business and become implemented and used by the masses.

I look forward to seeing what the future brings and attending future ISPRS conferences, thanks again for this opportunity, I look forward to attending future conferences.

I did take a number of photos which would have accompanied this letter, but unfortunately I didn't turn the flash on, and none of them turned out very well L.

Kind Regards,
Heather

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