

GRSS Young Professionals and ISPRS Summer School – 2015

Event Report

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INTRODUCTION

From 26th to 30th October 2015 an event called Young Professionals & Summer School 2015 (YP&SS 2015) was held in the city of Curitiba in South Brazil. The event aimed at guiding young professionals to plan their careers and at providing technical update on selected topics in the Geoinformation field. The target audience was primarily young professionals and graduate students of the Geoinformation community.

The meeting was locally organized by professors of four Brazilian Universities under the technical guidance and sponsorship of IEEE - Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) and the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) .

ORGANIZATION

YP&SS 2015 was hosted by the Federal University of Paraná (UFPR) in partnership with the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio), Santa Catarina State University (UDESC) and Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ). The organizing committee was composed of Prof. Raul Queiroz Feitosa (PUC-Rio/UERJ), Prof. Edson Mitishita (UFPR) and Prof. Veraldo Liesenberg (UDESC). The meeting was

further supported by SIMEPAR (Paraná State Meteorological System), which provided the physical infrastructure.

PROGRAM

The event was organized into two blocks. The first block took the two first days and followed the [Young Professionals](#) model of GRSS. It aimed at “helping young professionals evaluate their career goals, polish their professional image, and create the building blocks of a lifelong and diverse professional network” ¹. It consisted of ten lectures and two interactive sessions held and moderated by 10 renowned Brazilian professionals from private companies, universities and research institutions, namely:

- Laurent Martin ([ENGESAT](#))
- Dr. Renato Asinelli ([ANEA](#))
- Dr. Leila Fonseca ([INPE](#))
- Luiz Henrique Godinho ([BRADAR](#))
- Prof. Alejandro Frery ([Federal University of Alagoas](#))
- T. Cel. Antonio Correia ([DSG - Brazil's Army](#))
- Alexandre Lopes de Moraes Donizete ([UFRP](#))
- Prof. Elenice Mara Matos Novak ([UFRP](#))
- Dr. Marcio Mello Pupin ([BOEING](#))
- Dr. Flavio Andre Cecchini Deppe ([SIMEPAR](#))

The second block covered three days and followed the ISPRS Summer Schools model. The goal was to convey technical/scientific knowledge on selected topics in Geoinformation. It consisted of two 12 hours courses. The first course was held by Prof. Charles Toth (Ohio State University) under the theme *Imaging/Photogrammetry in Navigation*. The theme of the second course, held by Prof. Stefan Hinz (University of Karlsruhe), was *Selected Topics of Image Processing and Image Sequence Analysis for Optical and Radar Remote Sensing*.

Social activities were also included in the program to foster the interaction among participants and guest speakers. Specifically, a barbecue evening and a soccer game with the participants were highly appreciated.

FUNDING

The event received financial support from ISPRS and GRSS, which funded the travel and accommodation expenses of invited speakers, as well as from UFPR and SIMEPAR, which provided the coffee breaks and infrastructure. In order to attract as many participants as possible the registration fee ranged from R\$ 75.00 (approx. € 18.00) for students and R\$ 125.00 (approx. € 31.00) for non-students. The revenue from the registration fees were used to cover expenses with the social program, which was free for all students.

¹<https://www.ieee.org/membership-catalog/productdetail/showProductDetailPage.html?product=MEMYP060>

PARTICIPATION

The event had a total of 78 registrations (see group photo in Fig.1), mostly students (approx. 85%) and researchers (approx. 13%) from 8 Brazilian universities. It is worth mentioning that 6 students from outside Curitiba received a grant from the organizing committee to cover accommodation costs.



Figure 1: Group photo

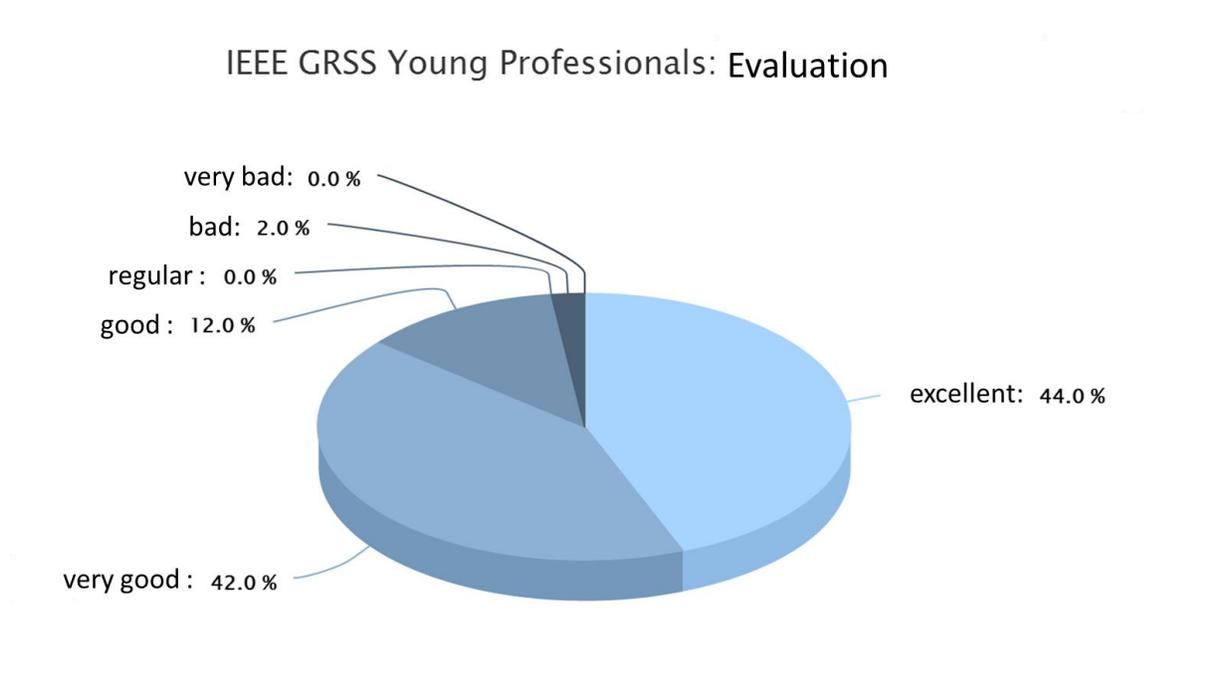


Figure 2: Evaluation of the Young Professionals Event

ISPRS Summer School: Evaluation

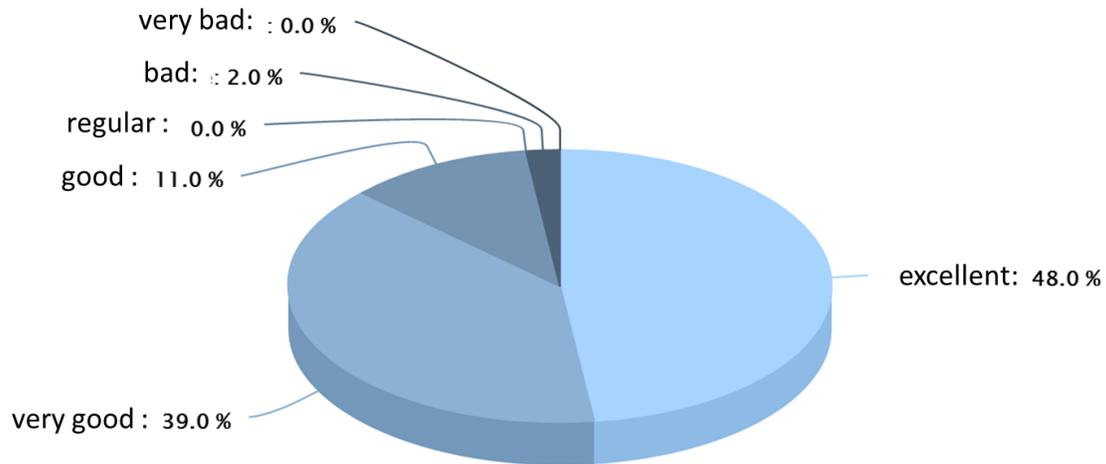


Figure 3: Evaluation of the Summer School

EVALUATION

At the end of meeting the participants were asked to fill an evaluation form. The summary of all 41 collected responses is depicted in Fig.2 and Fig. 3.

Remarkably, about 86% of the participants rated both the Young Professionals and the Summer School as excellent or very good, indicating that the event met the expectations of most attendees.

SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

The event was an unprecedented initiative in Brazil. For the first time a meeting of this kind was held through a partnership between ISPRS and GRSS with Brazilian institutions. The positive outcome motivated professors from other universities to consider organizing a similar event in their institutions. As a matter of fact, a new YP&SS meeting is being planned for 2016 at the State University of São Paulo, in the city of Presidente Prudente. Moreover, at the end of the meeting in Curitiba, researchers from Federal University of Goiás also expressed their interest to host a similar event in a near future.

For further details the event webpage http://www.lvc.ele.puc-rio.br/grss_brazil/ypss2015/index.html is recommended. Beyond the slides of talks and lectures, videos of lectures held in the first two days of the Young Professionals event will be soon accessible on the same website.