



ISRPS Geospatial Week 2015

From Gianluca Boo, PhD Student / Research Assistant
To John Trinder, ISRPS Operations Officer
cc Marguerite Madden, ISRPS Foundation Finance Officer

Date 12 October 2015

Conference Report

Dear Prof. Trinder, Dear Prof. Madden,

With regard to the travel grant I have recently been awarded by the ISRPS Foundation, please find below a report on my experience at the Geospatial Week 2015. The report details the main benefits I gained from attending the conference.

1. Poster/oral presentations attendance

I took part in the Silvilaser/Laserscanning poster session of Monday evening and the ISSDQ poster session of Tuesday. During the Monday session I have been exposed to a topic that is not strictly within my field of expertise. However, as an end user of remote sensing products, I found existing applications of LIDAR technologies fascinating, since I am a final user of remote sensed products. On the Tuesday session, I learned about issues of spatial data quality mainly in the context of remote sensing, from which I could draw some interesting parallels with my research project. I attended most oral presentations at the ISSDQ sessions of Tuesday and Wednesday. I found that the program was rich and thematically broad, spanning from Volunteered Geographical Information to semantics of crowdsourced data. A large part of the presented topics was new to me, and I was therefore excited to learn about different ways to deal with spatial data, quality and uncertainty in different research contexts.

2. Feedbacks on my research project

I have been selected to give an oral presentation at the ISSDQ's special session on the quality of spatial objects. This was my first talk on my ongoing interdisciplinary PhD research project. It has been a great opportunity to present results and concepts issued from GIScience, epidemiology and veterinary to an audience that is not necessarily familiar with the topic. As an added value, I believe that talking in front of such a vast audience allowed me to refine my presentation and Q&A skills. Presenting my research at the ISSDQ allowed me to benefit from feedback and questions from an extremely competent audience. I was delighted to hear that the spatial data quality implications of my research have been



understood and was finally complimented on the clarity of the presentation. I was also happy to receive feedbacks validating my research methods and suggestions on how to improve the research design, especially regarding the use of land cover data.

3. Networking and social events

Attending the presentations and social events allowed me to meet researchers from wide range of fields and levels of experience. I had the opportunity to share my research with students, postdocs and professors, thus increasing my visibility within the scientific community. During the discussions, I learned about how research is performed in different institutions and established first elements of a network for future collaborations. Finally, I would like to add a special mention regarding the gala dinner of Tuesday, to which I have been kindly invited by the conference organizers to be awarded with the ISRPS Travel Grant. The event exceeded all expectations, with the finest French cuisine and wines.

On the overall, I really enjoyed attending the poster and oral sessions, exposing me to a great diversity of approaches, issues and solutions. This diversity allowed me to draw some lessons from domains that are not strictly within my field of expertise. Giving my first talk about my ongoing PhD research project has also been a great opportunity for gaining confidence about my research topic, and for finding ways to share it with a heterogeneous audience. Finally, from a social standpoint, I was delighted to meet other researchers.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to you and the IRSPS Foundation for providing me with the financial means for attending the Geospatial Week 2015.

Sincerely,

Gianluca Boo

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gianluca Boo'.