



Friday, March 11, 2016

Professor Christian Heipke  
Secretary General  
International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing  
Email: [isprs-sg@ipi.uni-hannover.de](mailto:isprs-sg@ipi.uni-hannover.de)

Dear Professor Heipke,

The Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG) is representing Canada as an Ordinary Member of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS).

As the Canadian representing member, the Canadian Institute of Geomatics is respectfully submitting, as first choice, the nomination of Dr. Songnian Li as Second Vice President, and, as second choice, the nomination of Dr. Songnian Li as Treasurer of the ISPRS Council for the 2016–2020 term.

Dr. Li was Chair of CIG Toronto Branch from 2009 to 2013, has served as an Associate Editor of the CIG flagship journal, *Geomatica*, since 2002, has served as Chair of the Canadian National Committee for ISPRS and as Council Member of the Canadian Institute of Geomatics since 2008, and he has been the Canadian National Delegate to FIG Commission 3 since 2007. In 2004, Dr. Li became involved in ISPRS and has served the Society as the Co-Chair and Chair of ISPRS WG IV/5 "Distributed, Web-Based Geoinformation Services and Applications" (2004-2008), and as Chair of the same working group from 2008 to 2012. He is currently the President of ISPRS Technical Commission II.

Dr. Li has contributed to ISPRS-related publications through publishing papers and editing special journal issues and conference proceedings. He has co-authored and published over 10 research papers in the *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*, *ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information*, and *ISPRS Archives*. One of the papers he co-authored as the lead, "Geospatial big data handling theory and methods: a review and research challenges" in *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*, is ranked as the 6th top-downloaded as of March 9, 2016, based on the last 90 days. Dr. Li is also invited to be a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing* (May 1, 2016 – Apr 30, 2019).

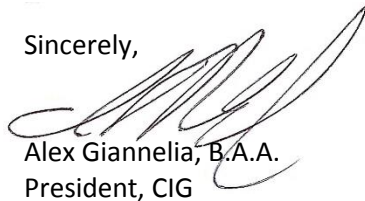
Dr. Li was the lead co-editor of the theme section "Towards intelligent geoprocessing on the Web" in *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing* in 2013, and is currently a lead co-editor of a special issue on "Bridging the gap between geospatial theory and technology" and a co-editor of a special issue on "Analysis and Applications of Global Land Cover Data" in *ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information*. He has also co-edited six other special issues for ISPRS-organized events in *International Journal of Digital Earth* (2014, 2016), *Transactions in GIS* (2011), *Geomatica* (2010, 2015) and *Applied Geomatics* (2013). In 2011, Dr. Li was the lead co-editor of a volume in the ISPRS Book Series on "Advances in web-based GIS, mapping services and applications." Further, he also co-edited the Proceedings of ISPRS Technical Commission II Symposium in *ISPRS Annals and Archives*, and *WebMGS'2010 Proceedings* in *ISPRS Archives*.

Dr. Li's other involvements in ISPRS include contributions in various capacities to the organization of two ISPRS congresses (Melbourne in 2012 and Prague in 2016), five Technical Commission Symposia (Goa in 2006, Orlando in 2010, Suzhou in 2014, Wuhan in 2014 and Toronto in 2014), ISPRS Conference on "Serving Society with Geoinformatics" in Turkey in 2013, and several ISPRS-organized workshops and conferences, among many other professional activities. He has played a major role in establishing an international workshop series on web-based mapping, geo-processing and services, which was held in Como, Italy in 2010, Vancouver, Canada in 2011, Xuzhou, China in 2013 and Cagliari, Italy in 2015.

In short, over the last 12 years, Dr. Li has demonstrated his contribution and commitment to ISPRS and CIG as an Ordinary Member of ISPRS, through active participation in ISPRS activities, scientific research and publications, organization of ISPRS events, and leadership roles at the national committee, ISPRS working group and technical commission levels.

CIG fully supports Dr. Songnian Li's nomination for the Council's positions, and is highly confident of his ability and commitment to serve ISPRS. Canada has not had an opportunity to serve on the ISPRS Council since its last presence in 1984–1988. CIG appreciates the delegates' vote for Dr. Songnian Li in the upcoming ISPRS Congress in Prague.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AG', is written over the typed name and title.

Alex Giannelia, B.A.A.  
President, CIG

Encl. Support letter from the Dean at Ryerson University

March 8, 2016

Professor Christian Heipke  
Secretary General  
International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing  
Email: [isprs-sg@ipi.uni-hannover.de](mailto:isprs-sg@ipi.uni-hannover.de)

Dear Professor Heipke,

Please accept this letter in support of the nomination of Dr. Songnian Li for the positions of Second Vice President (first choice) and Treasurer (second choice) of the ISPRS Council for the period of 2016-2020.

Dr. Songnian Li is a professor in Geomatics Engineering in the Department of Civil Engineering at Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada. As the Dean of the Faculty, I have witnessed first-hand Dr. Li's excellent capability to conduct a world-class research program in geospatial information management and GIS – in particular, he has been working in the areas of geo-collaboration, geospatial web, moving object and geosocial media data mining and knowledge discovery, spatio-temporal dynamics, public participation GIS, and solar energy potential mapping. He is well-recognized and respected in this area, with his research having a significant impact in the field. Since joining Ryerson in 2001, Dr. Li has played a very active role in promoting geomatics education at both undergraduate and graduate levels. In addition, he has played a leadership role in directing the civil engineering graduate program.

Dr. Li obtained his B.Eng. degree in Surveying Engineering from Wuhan Technical University of Surveying and Mapping (now merged into Wuhan University), China in 1983, and his PhD in Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering from the University of New Brunswick, Canada in 2002. He has worked at Wuhan Technical University of Surveying and Mapping as an assistant lecturer, and at Ningxia Institute of Technology, China as an assistant lecturer, lecturer, associate professor and vice-chair of the Department of Civil Engineering. From 1996 to 1997, he was a visiting scholar at Lakehead University, Canada. In 2001, he was hired as an assistant professor at Ryerson University, and was subsequently promoted to associate professor in 2005 and full professor in 2012. He also served as the graduate program director and associate chair of the Department of Civil Engineering from 2005 to 2007.

Dr. Li is a licensed Professional Engineer and licensed Land Surveyor in Ontario, Canada. He is a member of the Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG), the Canadian Society of Remote Sensing (CRSS) and the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS).

In 2009 and 2012, Dr. Li was an invited research fellow in Japan, under the Invitation Fellowship Program for Research in Japan, an initiative of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. He has been an adjunct professor and/or member of 10 different universities in Canada, Japan and China.

External to Ryerson, Dr. Li has significantly contributed to the scientific community. He has served on several national and international learned societies and associations, a testament to his credibility and respect from peers worldwide. He is currently an associate editor of *Geomatica* and a member of the editorial advisory board of the *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*; both journals are highly regarded in this field. He has been actively involved in many ISPRS activities, such as editing scientific publications, and chairing working groups and technical commissions. Dr. Li's professional involvement also includes chairing or co-chairing six international conferences/workshops and chairing or being a member of the program or scientific committees of over 60 international conferences or workshops. The fact that many of these conferences or workshops are ISPRS events is a clear indication of his dedication to serving ISPRS and the geomatics field.

In conclusion, I firmly believe that Dr. Li is ideally suited to serve the ISPRS Council over the next four years. I give my highest support for his nomination for the council positions, and will endeavor to accommodate him at Ryerson, so that he may devote time to the various activities of the ISPRS Council.

Sincerely,



Dr. Thomas Duever, P.Eng., FCIC  
Dean

cc. Mr. Alex Giannelia, President of Canadian Institute of Geomatics