Experience report of the attendance at the ISPRS Commission IV Symposium 2018

I am Michael Georg Niestroj, a second year PhD student at the School of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Curtin University in Perth, Australia. I received an ISPRS travel grant that enabled me to attend the Symposium and I would like, therefore, to share my experiences and impressions during the ISPRS Commission IV Symposium 2018 in Delft. The ISPRS Symposium was together with the 3D GeolInfo 2018, the 3D Cadastres 2018 and the Smart Data Smart Cities 2018 part of the Joint Geo Delft Conferences 2018. The programme was well organised for a whole week with four presentation sessions each day, poster sessions, workshops, field trips and social events.

The opening session was held in the Auditorium of the TU Delft. This opening was very interesting, and further the best papers of The Netherlands were presented. I especially liked the digital representation of the city of Rotterdam, and the virtual representation of The Netherlands integrated into the computer game Minecraft.

I attended the workshops “Capacity Building for High Resolution Land Cover Intercomparison and Validation” and “OpenStreetMap Mapathon”, as these were very attractive to me and also in relation to my research that is about the information exchange of road asset data in Australia and New Zealand. During the Geo Delft week, I enjoyed high-quality presentations from the Working Group (WG) 3 (Spatial Data Analysis, Statistics and Uncertainty Modelling), WG 6 (Internet of Things and Spatial Decision Support), WG7 (Geo-Data Management), WG 9 (Geovisualization, Augmented and Virtual Reality), WG 2 (Ontologies, Semantics, and Knowledge Representation for Geospatial Information), as well as presentations related to open geospatial standards. The WG 2 sessions were for me very effective as I received good feedback while having the chance to present two publications.

In the scope of my presentations, I was in contact with Knut Jetlund who is working on a similar PhD project. As a result, we would like to work on a collaborated paper in the near future. I had another conversation with Eri Kawangano who is writing an article to a governmental magazine to inform about current Building Information Modelling (BIM) and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) approaches related to the construction site. She can further use some of our illustrations in her article related to the information exchange of road asset data in different stages of the road asset’s life cycle. That is very exciting and honourable for me and my co-authors.

The ISPRS Symposium was an outstanding experience and an opportunity to exchange information with other researchers, and to see what is currently being done in different research areas, such as computer vision, city modelling, open geospatial standards and Semantic Web Technologies. In addition to the exciting Symposium programme, the ISPRS organised a dinner. It was my first attendance at an international conference. I would like to thank the ISPRS travel grant committee for the travel grant that provided me with the opportunity to attend the ISPRS Commission IV Symposium in Delft.