

# ISPRS Travel Grant Receiver Report

## 27<sup>th</sup> International CIPA Symposium (Avila, Spain, 1-5 September 2019)

During the opening ceremony of CIPA 2019 I had the honour of being awarded by The ISPRS Foundation (TIF) a travel grant to join this conference, held from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of September in an amazing location as Avila is. I am very thankful that it was made possible to receive this financial support allowing me to take part at this event. So I would like to thank Prof. John Trinder and Prof. Marguerite Madden for selecting me as a beneficiary of this travel grant. I was awarded 1000 \$ and it helped me to cover part of my expenses of to flight and accommodation during the conference.

CIPA 2019 wasn't the first conference I have attended during my accademic career, but for its relevance on themes discussed it represented a great opportunity for my research topics and field.

A quick introduction of myself before expressing my impressions attending at CIPA 2019.

My name is Francesco Di Stefano, I'm a PhD researcher in Geomatics, in DICEA department of Faculty of Engineering at Polytechnic University of Ancona, in Italy, and my supervisor is the Full Professor Eva Savina Malinverni. My field of research concerns the interoperability between information management systems like GIS (Geographic Information System) and BIM (Building Information Modeling) or HBIM (Heritage Building Information Modeling). During this my first year of PhD programm I did several researches and detailed studies about these information systems trying to analysis their characteristics, features, applications and cases of study where other researchers or experts dealt with this topics. I extended my research improving my knowledge with Photogrammetry and Topography subjects and their instruments of survey, in particular innovative techniques like SLAM (Simultaneously Localization and Mapping) and UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) technologies.

At the conference I held, during the HBIM session, an oral presentation for the contribute titled "HBIM implementation for an ottoman mosque. Case of study: Sultan Mehmet Fatih II Mosque in Kosovo", which is now published in the Archives of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. I wrote this paper helped by my supervisor and Prof. Gabriele Fangi, an associate member of CIPA Academy. The work describes the implementation of an information system applied to a first example of ottoman historical building starting from an architectural survey based on spherical photogrammetry useful to realize a 3D model ready to be imported in a BIM environment where a relational database linked to its elements has been implemented. This outlined approach of work wants to represent a contribution to a country with a low technological progress as Kosovo is, but that's trying to redeem itself after drafted the *National Strategy For Cultural Heritage 2017-2027*. A strategic document that aims the enhancement of the system for the protection and preservation of Kosovan cultural heritage.

After the presentation, it was grateful to hear positive responses, including suggestions and receiving good feedback, from some professors.

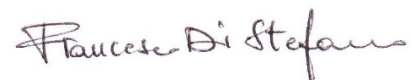
I had an amazing impression about the conference: the sessions were very well scheduled, and it was a great experience to follow some interesting presentations, improving my knowledge on geomatics techinques and applications, and also complementary topics, for example the BIM/HBIM approaches and AR/VR tests during the demo sessions. Following some lectures and parallel sessions permits me to select projects and experiences I can use as useful references for my research programm or give me the possibilty to create new interactions with other researchers or experts in the same field in order to compare and discuss the way of doing and the results of our works. During the days of the conference I had the opportunity to meet and know dear and esteemed colleagues from other universities, who are currently working on my field of research or on complementary fields. I believe that such kind of events can be the right chance to discover interesting people for potential collaboration in future works. I had also the occasion to meet again some friends, already met during the previous conferences I attended.

Outside the conference center awaits so wonderful city center of Avila, and I and my colleague had the pleasure to visit the magnificent and well conserved Walls with its innumerable towers and the Cathedral, and to join the curious experience of *tapas tour*.

CIPA 2019 was a significant, memorable and rewarding experience. And I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the officers of The ISPRS Foundation for giving me the opportunity to attend at this event.

Ancona, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019

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