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E-LEARNING AND THE NEXT STEPS FOR EDUCATION

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ISPRS Headquarters 2004-2008

c/o ORHAN ALTAN, ISPRS Secretary General
Division of Photogrammetry, Faculty of Civil Engineering
Istanbul Technical University
Ayazaga, 34469 Istanbul, Turkey
Phone: +90 212 285 38 10
FAX: +90 212 285 65 87
Email: oaltan@itu.edu.tr

ISPRS WEB Homepage: <http://www.isprs.org>

Available from

GITC bv
P.O.Box 112
8530 AC Lemmer
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 (0) 514 56 18 54
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PREFACE

It is our great pleasure to organize the ISPRS Commission VI Symposium in Tokyo, Japan from 27 to 30 June, 2006. The theme of Commission VI is “Education and Outreach”. In recent years, meaning and role of e-Learning are expanding in the field of education. The highly integrated multimedia & internet technologies are pushing e-Learning to change the style of education. The needs of education are also changing. The rapid advancement of technologies is increasing the needs for on job training and life-long education. Reduction of children’s interest to science is requesting some excitement to science education. Recognizing the importance of face-to-face education, we have to think about optimizing e-Learning for education.

The main theme of the Symposium is “e-Learning and the Next Steps for Education”. In order to clarify the main theme, we have invited three experts on education from different fields as keynote speakers, namely Prof. Hans van Ginkel, Prof. Yasunori Matogawa, and Prof. Joachim Höhle. We would like to thank them for kindly accepting our invitation in spite of their busy schedules.

Total of 60 papers, including manuscripts of the three keynote speakers, have been submitted to the Symposium. We would like to thank all the authors for providing their papers in due time for printing the proceedings. Reflecting the activities of the five Working Groups and one Special Interest Group of the Commission, the themes of the papers include, but not limited to, s-Learning, training, capacity building, distance education, datasets, and student organizations. We believe that this symposium will give us an excellent overview of the current status and the future of various aspects of education in the field of remote sensing, photogrammetry and GIS.

Finally I would like to thank Mitsunori Yoshimura and Takahiro Endo of the symposium secretariat group for their dedicated work on preparing the proceedings.

Kohei Cho
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