

Publications and ISPRS Journal

ISPRS Highlights 2000

During 2000 we have produced Volume 5 of ISPRS Highlights. It is being produced with good teamwork with the ISRS Secretary General (John Trinder, Ian Dowman),



the Publisher's Production Manager (Sandra Visscher) and the Editor-in-Chief (Lucas Janssen).

A landmark in 2000 has been the signing of a new contract between the Publisher, GITC, and the ISPRS Council for a new 4-year period (2000-2004). Also the contract with the Editor-in-Chief was renewed.

A major concern remains the submission of material for publication. At different moments the Editor has invited Council and TCPs to send in material. During the second part of 2000 the input has been relatively low which may be due to the change of Council and TCPs. We sincerely hope that the different bodies and officers will take advantage of this publication opportunity in the next years.

A number of changes were implemented in the layout. As from the September Issue we have used the new ISPRS logo. Starting in the December Issue we implemented some improvements including header-bars and typos.

With respect to distribution we have started to 'direct mail' it to individuals rather than to ISPRS member contact address. At present, there are 377 addresses to which a single Highlights is directly send.

The current view on electronic distribution is that both a hardcopy version of Highlights as well as a digital version in PDF should be available. This will be periodically evaluated. Since some of the recipients do not have the facility to download the PDF version or simply prefer to read a tangible magazine, we foresee that the need for a hardcopy version will be required for the next few years.

Issue	Nr pages	Print run	Remarks
March Vol 5.1	68	2.150	Annual Reports 1999
June Vol 5.2	52	4.000	Congress Issue
September Vol 5.3	48	2.000	Post-Congress Issue
December Vol 5.4	48	2.000	Late Issue

Statistics regarding ISPRS Highlights in 2000.

Johan Boesjes (GITC)
Lucas Janssen (Editor-in-Chief)

ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

A detailed report for the period 1996-2000, distributed at the General Assembly of the Amsterdam Congress, can be found at www.photogrammetry.ethz.ch/journal. Here, the main developments in 2000 will be listed.

Administrative Matters

A new contract between ISPRS and Elsevier was signed with substantial improvements

- number of pages per year increased from 360 to 480;
- cheaper personal subscriptions for members of ISPRS members (national, sustaining etc.) from 30% of institutional subscriptions, i.e. for 2001 131 USD, to 40 USD;
- cheaper personal subscriptions for non ISPRS members from 438 USD in 2001, to 80 USD; institutional subscriptions for organisations from developing countries from 438 USD in 2001 to 50 USD;
- improvement in other financial matters (complimentary free copies, honorarium and travel expenses of Editor, profit sharing of electronic sales, reduced ad rates for sustaining members, free pages for ISPRS related announcements) ;
- more control, through consultation or approval, over several topics regarding the journal (e.g. subscription rates, price of individual issues, layout and format of journal, variation of page number, PR material);
- more control over title of Journal: ISPRS, ISPRS Journal of ..., the logo, the legend "Official Publication ..." and any derivatives thereof belong now to ISPRS (previously the journal title belonged to ES).

A new contract between the Editor and Elsevier along the above lines was also signed. A new Editorial Advisory Board was appointed for the period 2001-2004 with substantial increase of members from remote sensing and particular spatial information sciences. Due to internal restructuring, a new Elsevier publishing editor responsible for the Journal, Peter Henn, based in Oxford, was appointed, as well as a new Marketing Manager.

Relations with Council/Publisher

The Editor was invited to ISPRS Council and Joint Council/TCP meetings and presented matters related to the Journal. In particular the role of the new technical commissions and working groups with respect to the journal has been discussed. Each Commission will prepare a proposal for special/theme issues of the journal. Measures to make known the new cheaper subscription rates and increase subscriptions have been decided. Two meetings with Elsevier took place.

Papers, Reviews and Publication Time

The number of incoming papers has been continuously increasing leading to even longer paper queues, and combined with slower reviews, long publication times. The quality of papers and reviews seems stable, which means improvements are still needed. Due to various problems, publication delays are occurring. The impact factor, based on ISI's Citation Index, although still small, quadrupled from 1998 to 1999. To leave more space for the many regular papers which are waiting for publication, only one theme issue on Dynamic and Multi-dimensional GIS was published and another one on Imaging Spectroscopy and Hyperspectral Imaging is planned for 2001.

On-line Electronic Journal

Gratis access of full-text articles started in October 1999 and was discontinued by December 1, 2000. From August 1999 to July 2000 there were 21,155 hits of single full text papers or an average of 1763 single papers retrieved per month. These hits include gratis access and members of hardcopy institutional subscribers, who automatically have free access to the electronic full text. They do not include electronic subscriptions, which have increased in 2000, although detailed data on them are missing. A conservative estimate is that over 3 million persons have access to the electronic version of the journal.

Hardcopy Subscriptions

Following the trend of recent years, common for most peer-reviewed journals, subscriptions declined from June 1999 to June 2000 by 4.2% (-5.2% institutional, +4.4% personal ISPRS member).

Helava Award

The evaluation of the 1999 papers and the selection of the 1996-1999 winner were completed. The Award was presented for the first time during the Opening Session of the ISPRS Congress (see www.photogrammetry.ethz.ch/journal).

Publicity and Congress

The Journal had a special display booth in the Amsterdam Congress Exhibition, with new PR flyers, sample copies, other related journals and books, order forms etc.

Main problems and aims for the next period include: publication speed-up to come to normal publication deadlines, decrease of long paper queue and long publication times, improvement of speed and quality of reviews.

E. Baltsavias
Editor-In-Chief

ISPRS Homepage

General Remarks

The homepage of ISPRS is one of the most important components of ISPRS communications. It provides information about the society and links the various activities of ISPRS. In September 2000 a new webmaster was appointed and the ISPRS server has been moved (back) to ETH-Zürich and is always accessible under the Internet address 'www.isprs.org'.

Information on the Homepage

In December 2000 there are about 400 HTML pages with approximately 150'000 lines of information available on the ISPRS web site. These documents are assigned to the following major headlines (Table of Contents):

- The society (including Objectives and Activities, Historical Background, Management Structure, Officers, Editors);
- Member Organisations (including Ordinary Members, Associate Members, Regional Members, Sustaining Members, Honorary Members and application forms for the different types of membership);
- Legislative documents (including Statutes and Bylaws, Manual of Operation, Guidelines, Awards);
- Publications (including International Archives of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, ISPRS Highlights, ISPRS Annual Reports, ISPRS Organisation and Programs (Silver Book), ISPRS Member List (Blue Book));
- Technical Commissions and Working Groups (including relative web pages);
- Calendar (including ISPRS Events Calendar, Symposiums and Editor Announcements);
- Congresses and Meetings (including Last Congresses, Minutes of Meetings, Resolutions of Congresses);
- Links (including ISPRS Related Links, ISPRS Employment Opportunities and some Tutorials);
- Tools, News and Contact (including Recent Entries, ISPRS Sample Pages and Feedback form for comments or requests).

In September 2000 the main entrance of the Homepage was completely redesigned; now it consists of the new logo, some image-links to the main destinations and in the central part of the page the breaking news of the last entries. The pages of links, of Technical Commissions and the Calendar were also redesigned and a clear menu has been inserted. The basic information about all Member Organisations, Technical Commissions and Working Groups is provided on the ISPRS Homepage in the related pages. In the period 1996-2000, about 85% of the Technical Commissions, 70% and Working Groups and 30% of the Member Organisations has provided information on their own webpages.

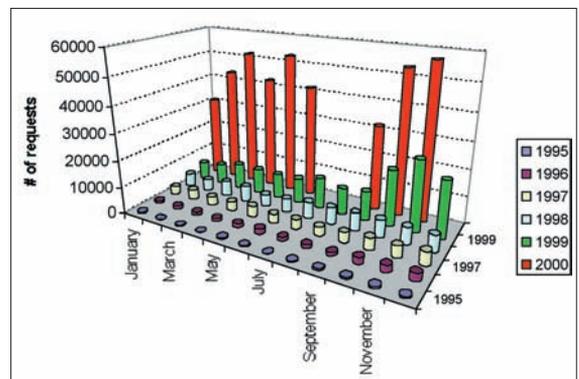
New Addresses

Thanks to the international reservation of the domain name 'isprs.org' concluded in September 1999, now it is

possible to release for all different ISPRS activities an Internet address ending on the suffix 'isprs.org'. So it was decided that all the Technical Commissions must have an address like 'www.commissionX.isprs.org' and the related Working Groups will have as Internet address with the format: 'www.commissionX.isprs.org/wgX'.

Statistics of ISPRS Server

The statistics shown in figure 1 give a reasonable estimate of the use of the ISPRS web server, as it counts only requests for single HTML documents and the requests for images, graphics, icons etc. are not taken into account. Moreover, the statistics refer only to the requests made from outside the ETH domain, which excludes all the accesses during maintenance of the documents. The data missing from the table in the period July-August 2000 is due to the movement of the server from Delft to Zurich.



Number of requests per month on ISPRS server in the period January 1995 - November 2000.

The figure shows an increasing interest of the community for the ISPRS homepage. The steady increase of use of the HTML documents over the years and especially in the last one, since the domain name 'isprs.org' has been registered, is obvious. In the last months, since when the HTML data are in Zurich, the ISPRS server answered an average of about 48,000 requests per month (with a pick of 57,000 answers in the month of November). This is an average of 1,600 successful requests per day or 70 requests per hour or 1.1 requests every minute.

The domains (~country) served at least once by the server were 108 while the distinct hosts (~users) served were 8400 with an average of 14 Mbytes of data transferred per day.

Acknowledgments

I am grateful for the efforts of Dr André Streilein in transferring over the web master responsibilities and hosting it in Zurich. He also gave me a lot of advice to continue with this job.

Fabio Remondino
Webmaster

ISPRS Events Calendar

Appointment and Terms of Reference

Professor Tuan-chih Chen has been appointed to the new position of Event Calendar Editor of ISPRS. He will be responsible for compiling the Events Calendar which will be published in ISPRS Highlights and placed on the ISPRS home page.

The ISPRS Events Calendar is published in the quarterly ISPRS bulletin, ISPRS Highlights, and regularly updated on the ISPRS Home Page. The Calendar contains a list of all ISPRS sponsored and co-sponsored workshops, symposia, tutorials and other meetings. It also contains details of all international and national conferences on topics related to the activities of ISPRS, including those in photogrammetry, remote sensing, spatial information systems, geomatics, surveying, mapping, machine vision, image processing and similar areas.

The Editor – ISPRS Events Calendar will be responsible for updating the entries in the Calendar on a regular basis. The tasks are:

- Provision to the ISPRS Highlights publishers in an agreed format, of an updated Calendar for each quarterly edition of ISPRS Highlights, approximately five weeks before the publication dates of 1 March, 1 June, 1 September and 1 December. The commencing date of the entries in the Calendar will be one month after the publication dates.
- Provision to the ISPRS Web Master on an up-to-date basis in an agreed format, updated versions of the Calendar for the ISPRS Home Page.

- Collection of details from ISPRS officers of all ISPRS sponsored and co-sponsored events, including theme of the event, dates, location, contact persons and addresses for publication in the Calendar.
- Collection, from appropriate sources, of details of events on topics related to the areas of activity of ISPRS, including theme of the event, dates, location, contact persons and addresses for publication in the Calendar.
- Maintenance of contact with the ISPRS Secretary General on the status of the events calendar on a monthly basis.

General

The purpose for ISPRS is to allow WGs and Commissions to identify open dates or events which they may link up with or avoid conflicting with. This avoidance of conflicting with other events externally and definitely internally is a major responsibility of ISPRS. We publish the calendar to encourage others to do likewise.

The margins of the table are set so that the calendar may be published in Highlights without alteration.

Search for relevant events. Identify events which will be of interest to ISPRS Members and to Members of the JBSIS. It is important to cover events which are on the interdisciplinary boundaries of ISPRS so that all Commissions and WGs are aware of who and how they can interface with related organisations.

Tuan-chih Chen
Editor Events Calendar

ISPRS Highlights will now be available from GITC by at



US\$ 28 per year
(for individuals who belong to an ISPRS member organisation)

US\$ 35 per year (for non-members)

Please contact GITC's subscription department for more details or e-mail: martina.sonsma@gitc.nl

To receive ISPRS Highlights you only have to send us the complete address (personal name, organisation name, address, city + postcode, country, phone, fax, e-mail, date, signature) together with the (details of) payment. You can pay by credit card (number, expiry date, signature) or by mailing to GITC by separate post (cheque, postal order, international money order, evidence of bankdraft). The delivery of the magazine will start after receipt of payment.