

Minutes, Joint Council and TCP Meeting 2014

December 10+11, 2014

Hyderabad, India

In Attendance:

President	Chen Jun (CJ)
Secretary General	Christian Heipke (CH)
First Vice President	Orhan Altan (OA)
Second Vice President	Marguerite Madden (MM)
Congress Director	Lena Halounová (LH)
Treasurer	Jon Philip Mills (JPM)

TCP Commission I	Charles Toth (CT)
TCP Commission II	Songnian Li (SL)
TCP Commission III	Konrad Schindler (KS)
TCP Commission IV	Jie Jiang (JJ)
TCP Commission VI	Jianya Gong (JG)
TCP Commission VII	Filiz Sunar (FS)
TCP Commission VIII	Vinay K. Dadhwal (VD)

Excused and partly present via Skype:

TCP Commission V Pres. Fabio Remondino (FR)

Minutes:

ISPRS Headquarters Annette Radtke (AR)

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Minutes

1. Opening Remarks

CJ thanked all participants for their presence and opened the meeting at 11.20am on 10th December 2014.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Review of Previous Meetings

3.1. Approval of Minutes, Antalya, Nov. 12 + 13, 2013.

The minutes from Antalya were approved.

3.2. Review of Action List

The action list was reviewed and updated.

4. Science Issues

4.1. ISPRS Vision Paper

There are some delays in writing the vision paper. The aim is to finalise the paper by April, 2015 and then forward it to all authors for comments.

4.2. ISPRS Journal of Ph&RS Theme Issue for Congress

While all Technical Commissions will be asked to contribute to the Theme Issue as planned, Council intends to launch an open call for review papers in order to cover as much of the ISPRS related areas of interest as possible. Both, the TC contributions and those from the open call, will have a deadline of May 15, 2015.

4.3. IJGI Theme Issue on state-of-the-art in GI for Congress

At present, MM has only received preliminary information from TCPs. Based on her proposal, Cnl decided to ask the IJGI Editor-in-Chief of the journal to publish the theme issue covering the state-of-the-art in geospatial information after the Prague Congress, to avoid competing with the ISPRS JP&RS Theme Issue. TCPs are further encouraged to contribute. An open call will also be made.

4.4. Scientific Initiative

Submissions were received from all TCs. Although the budget was initially set at CHF25K, it was decided to fund seven of the 11 submissions at 33K due to their high quality. JPM is asked to inform all applicants about the results and to also provide information to the webmaster for publication on the home page.

The next call for applications in the Scientific Initiative is planned for late 2016, and then every two years.

5. Policy Matters and Society Management

5.1. Restructuring of Commissions and Meeting Structure

CH summarised the response received to the consolidated draft, mainly from TCPs, ISAC and several others, and the results of the discussions held at the 2014 Midterm Symposia. Most responses were overall positive. Also the TCPs were in favour of the restructuring.

Cnl thanked all TCPs for their active involvement and participation in the discussions. The new structure as outlined in the consolidated draft will be voted upon by postal vote in the first half of 2015.

5.2. Relation to Industry

CH proposed the creation of an International Industry Advisory Committee (I²AC) (in compatibility with other committees is it not better to name as Industry Advisory Committee) with the goal to give industry partners a better voice within ISPRS. The committee should consist of a relatively small number of representatives from both, larger and smaller companies doing business in areas related to ISPRS. I²AC would advise Council, and also ISPRS as a whole, in questions related to exhibitions, commercial sessions during ISPRS events, improving benefits for StMs etc. CH will prepare a draft of a rationale paper and the Terms of Reference and circulate both to TCPs for comments.

5.3. ISPRS Geospatial Week

The Geospatial Week 2015 will be held in Montpellier, France from Sept. 28-Oct 2, 2015 under the leadership of Nicolas Papparoditis (NP). All commissions are encouraged to support the event.

6. Review of Technical Commissions

6.1. Reports from Symposia

The TCP reported on the symposia held during 2014. Most symposia went well, they were well attended, also by international participants, and had high quality presentations. Some TCPs presented evaluations carried out during and after the symposium, which showed a high satisfaction of the participants.

The symposia of Com. I, II, III and VIII were held in conjunction with national (Com. I: ASPRS Pecora, Com. VIII: ISRS + IGS) or international (Com. II: IGU, Com. III: ECCV) meetings, which proved to be a good choice overall, although it complicated the organisation to some extent.

Some symposia experienced no-shows, i.e. author did not show up to present their contribution in oral and/or poster format. While in some cases this is acceptable (illness, visa problems etc.), future organisers should strive to minimize this issue.

Also, it was found that in future, a separate external device for presenting the proceedings to the participants (e.g. a CD or a USB stick) should be considered as optional, depending mainly on the availability of a W-LAN with appropriate bandwidth.

The commission board meetings were in general well attended with in most cases at least one WG officer per WG presenting the status of the WG. Only in a very few cases, WG officers seem to be so overloaded with other duties, that their ISPRS activities somewhat suffer. Two cases were identified, in which the TCP, in accordance with Council, will strive to find a better solution.

6.2. Plans for 2015/2016

The TCPs reported on the WG activities planned for 2015 and 2016. Most WGs have attractive plans for the next 1,5 years, which comprise workshops, summer schools, special issues in peer-reviewed journals, benchmark tests etc.

In addition, all WG will contribute to the ISPRS Congress in Prague in July 2016.

CH requested that TCPs ask their WG officers to involve ISPRS in their activities to a larger degree. This could be the case, by placing the ISPRS logo on announcements for meetings, mentioning the role of ISPRS in editorial for special issues etc., thus including visibility to ISPRS in activities the WG officers carry out as individuals. He also asked those TCPs, who have not done so yet, to provide a report of the respective Symposia for the eBulletin.

Action 14/2038: TCPs to ask WG officers to involve ISPRS more in their activities, ongoing.

Action 14/2039: TCPs to provide a report of the respective Symposia for the eBulletin, By January 31, 2015.

7. Congress 2016

7.1. Status of Preparations

LH reported on the status of preparations for the Congress.

She has attended multiple events during 2014 to promote the Congress, among them the Intergeo 2014 in Berlin, seven of the eight midterm symposia and other national and international conferences.

Beside the Platinum Sponsor, a contract with the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, as Bronze Sponsor has been signed, and also ESA and GEO will support the congress.

7.2. Programme: Sessions and Session Titles

An intensive discussion was conducted surrounding the number of technical, theme, special and plenary session during the Congress. The following was agreed:

- Each of the conference days (Wed - Monday) will have four slots for oral presentations and one slot for poster presentations.

- For reasons of simplicity, the daily schedule should be identical for all days. The schedule looks like this:

- 08:30 - 10:00 Oral 1
- 10:00 - 10:30 Coffee
- 10:30 - 12:00 Oral 2
- 12:00 - 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 - 15:00 Oral 3
- 15:00 - 15:30 Coffee
- 15:00 - 16:30 Poster
- 16:30 - 18:00 Oral 4

- Each WG is allocated at least one technical session. For WGs with a large number of submitted contributions, additional sessions will be made available.

- Each WG should nominate one Invited Speaker. The content of the talk should review the state-of-the-art in the area (or parts thereof) covered by the working group. The review procedure for the paper will be identical to that of other submitted papers (see also Orange Book). An Invited paper is given more time for presentation than regular oral presentations.

WG officers are to forward their nomination proposals to their TCP for approval prior to inviting a speaker. WG officers should not nominate themselves as Invited Speakers for their WG. They can, however, accept an invitation from another WG.

Invited Speakers are not entitled to any financial support from either Congress or ISPRS. As everybody else, they can of course apply to TIF for travel grants.

Invited Papers do not count towards the fact, that for each accepted contribution (oral and poster) one person must register and must pay the registration fee. Therefore, an author of an Invited Paper is entitled to submit another paper under his name.

- In case a session has an invited speaker, there will be 4 presentations, otherwise 5.

- There will not be any sessions parallel to the plenary sessions. For the other slots, the number of parallel sessions was not fixed, however, too many parallel sessions should be avoided.

- Titles for Theme Sessions and Special Sessions (see also Minutes of the Novosibirsk CM) are requested for the second announcement of the congress, which will also contain an open call for Theme and Special Sessions (details will be specified in the second announcement). These sessions can also take the form of a panel discussion.

All these decisions are preliminary and need to be confirmed after the number and quality of submitted papers is known.

Action 14/2040: Council and TCPs to suggest titles of further Theme and Special Sessions to LH, by January 31, 2015.

7.3. Paper Submission and Management System

The system from etouches of Norwalk, Connecticut, US (www.etouches.com) has been selected for the Congress, the contract has been signed already. Using etouches, registration, paper handling and other aspects of the congress organisation will be dealt with in a single system.

Cnl asked LH to make sure the system is tested in an ISPRS event prior to the congress, so that potential issues can be found and corrected early enough. In particular, this seems to be important for paper handling, incl. peer-review, since it seems that etouches has not been extensively used in this area before.

LH has made contact with Anjana Vyas (AV), chair WG VI/2. AV will use the system for the workshop "Advances in Web-based Education Services" to be held in Potsdam, Germany on June 18/19, 2015. LH will also organise a "virtual conference", in which paper handling incl. all aspects of the review will be thoroughly tested.

For the congress an International Programme Committee (IPC) has been established. It is chaired by George Vosselman (Chair), Uwe Stilla (Co-Chair) and Marguerite Madden (Co-Chair). LH is asked to involve the IPC into the testing phase of the congress management system.

Action 14/2041: LH to make sure, the system is thoroughly tested prior to using it for the Congress and to report the results to Council, by July 31, 2015.

Action 14/2042: LH to involve the International Programme Committee in the testing of the Congress management system, by July 31, 2015.

7.4. Awards

At the Congress various awards will be presented. Detailed preparations will start at the next CM in Newcastle.

Action 14/2043: OA to prepare list of sequences for award presentation for discussion at the Newcastle CM, by February 28, 2015.

7.5. Tutorials

Tutorials are planned on the Monday and Tuesday before opening. A call for tutorials will appear in the second announcement of the congress.

Action 14/2044: LH to include a call for tutorials into the second announcement of the Congress, by January 31, 2015.

7.6. Summer School

A Summer School will take place at the Educational Centre of TU Prague in Telč, 150km from Prague, before the Congress. Krzysztof Sterenczak (Co-Chair, WG VI/5) has agreed to co-organise the Summer School. It is planned to have a 5 day event for approximately 45 students.

8. ISPRS Publications

8.1. ISPRS Annals and Archives

8.1.1. Status of Inclusion into Indices (CPCI, SCOPUS)

CH reported that six volumes of the Archives from the years 2010 to 2012 are now included in the CPCI of the Web of Science, Thomson Reuters will add the remaining issues of these

years and those of 2013 and 2014 as soon as possible. Future volumes need to be submitted separately to Thomson Reuters. The ISPRS Archives (is it Annals) have also been included in SCOPUS. An application for the DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) has been submitted.

An application for the Annals for SCOPUS has also been submitted. Applications for CPCJ and DOAJ are being prepared and will be submitted in early 2015.

The possibility to have Archives and Annals also listed in the EI (Engineering Index) and the PubMed are under investigation.

CH is asked to investigate with Copernicus the role of key words for indexing the proceedings.

8.1.2. Status of ISPRS Archive Repository, incl. Digitalisation of Old Material

CH reported of the transfer of the repository from the ITC in Holland to the Technical Information Library (TIB) in Hannover and the status of the digitalisation. It is planned to have all volumes of the Archives digitalised, the work will be carried out TIB free of charge.

8.2. ISPRS Journals

MM reported that both Journals are running very successfully.

8.2.1. ISPRS Journal of P&RS

MM reports, that the status of the journal is very healthy. As stated by DL, a significant increase in published papers (16%) could be witnessed in 2014, with an acceptance rate of approx. 30% (168 accepted from 438 submitted papers).

Two new AEs joined the journal in 2013; a second Editor-in-Chief will join in January, 2015.

For the U.V. Helava Jury two vacancies currently exist, which need to be filled in early 2015. Council is requested to nominate qualified candidates.

Action 14/2045: TCPs to suggest new candidates for U.V. Helava Jury, by January 31, 2015.

8.2.2. The International Journal of Geo-Information

MM reported that an Article Processing Charge (APC) of CHF150,- per accepted article will apply to submissions from Jan. 1, 2015. Once indexed, an increase of the APC is to be agreed upon.

8.3. Book Series

The Book Series has taken a new direction and is now soliciting authored books. All royalties will go to the authors.

8.4. eBulletin, Social Media, Web Page

Issues are published regularly, with 5 in 2014. More content is welcome, so are volunteers to write editorials. They should contact CH if they have an interesting topic.

8.5. GIM and Geoinformatics Page

Volunteers to write a page for either are welcome. They should contact CH if they have an interesting topic.

9. ISPRS Membership

CH reported on the status of the IdM. At the end of November 163 IdMs were registered.

IdMs need to renew their membership every year. However, for 2015, renewal will not be requested, since IdM was only introduced during 2014.

10. Financial Affairs

10.1. ISPRS Finances 2012-16

JPM thanked the TCPs for the successful symposia, both in terms of science and finances. In order to make the financial mechanisms of the society more transparent, he then explained the income and expenditures of the 2012 to 2016 period.

10.2. TIF Budget for 2015

MM briefly reported on the TIF budget 2015. Among others, the PIA15/HRIGI15 and the Geospatial Week will be supported by travel grants. In addition Summer Schools in Manila (in conjunction with the ACRS 2015), Moscow and in India will be supported.

11. Coming Meetings

11.1. Next Joint Meeting

11.1.1. Joint Meeting in Prague in July 2015

The next Joint Meeting of Council and Commission Presidents will take place in Prague from July 7 - 11, 2015

Preliminary schedule:

- Tues. 07.07. Council Meeting - Hotel Don Giovanni
- Wed. 08.07. Joint Meeting Council and TCPs - Hotel Don Giovanni
- Thurs. 09.07. Visit of Prague Congress Centre
Meeting of Council, TCPs, Int. Advisory Board, Hon. Members
- Fr. 10.7. Council Meeting - Hotel Don Giovanni
- Sat. 11.7. Excursion (location tbd.)

11.1.2. JM 2016

A further Joint Meeting will be held in the February - March time frame in 2016, mainly to prepare details of the Congress.

11.2. Any Other Business

KS asked about the importance of TC Resolutions in the future. Cnl will discuss this issue in the next CM in Newcastle in spring 2015.

12. Close

CJ thanked all for constructive comments and collaborative attitude. He reminded everybody that the next year will be work-intensive with the approaching congress and the selection of the awards and requested that all TCPs read and reply to any request from Council the best they can.

CJ wholeheartedly thanked VD for hosting the CM and praised the excellent hospitality.

He closed the meeting on Dec 11 at 18.00.