



WELCOME TO ISPRS HIGHLIGHTS



Dear Colleagues:

At the XVIII Congress in Vienna, a Council proposal for establishing a timely news bulletin was briefed to the ISPRS General Assembly delegates. The Council has been discussing for some time how ISPRS can better serve its Member's interests and those of relevant international organizations who can benefit from ISPRS activities. I am pleased to welcome you to our first issue. Allow me to provide some background on where we are, how we got here and where we intend to be.

In early September 1996, the Council of ISPRS formally selected **ISPRS Highlights** Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Mauricio Araya-Figueroa of Chile. His selection was based on his vast experience in producing publications in photogrammetry, remote sensing and GIS, especially since 1986 as Editor-in-Chief of the SELPER Journal. Through his voluntary efforts and sage recommendations, and with the distribution of this first issue, Council has achieved its objective of providing a timely news publication which is **free** for all individuals that are members of ISPRS Member Organizations. We want **ISPRS Highlights** to complement our **ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing**. We want the **ISPRS Journal** to continue to provide high-quality, peer-reviewed scientific and technical articles, whereas we want **ISPRS Highlights** to provide current information about activities of our membership and news about where our spatial and imaging sciences and technologies are heading.

ISPRS Highlights is intended to enhance communication of Society objectives and activities. We will be providing it on a complimentary basis to those interested organizations which are relevant to the aims of ISPRS. It is our intent for **ISPRS Highlights** to become self-supporting through the generation of sufficient advertising and donation revenues. **ISPRS Highlights** will also be published on the World-Wide-Web (WWW) through our ISPRS Home Page (<http://www.geod.ethz.ch/isprs>). Our eventual goal is to migrate all, including image intensive, portions of **ISPRS Highlights** to the WWW as access to that technology matures.

Our plan is for **ISPRS Highlights** to contain the following types of ISPRS information: Annual Reports, News, Event Reports, Calendar of Events, Commission and Working Group Newsletters, Terms of Reference,

Book Reports, Project Reports, Officer lists, Advertisements, invited keynote speeches and technology review articles, Minutes of Council Meetings, publicity of fellowship opportunities and awards, announcements and Calls for Papers of ISPRS sponsored conferences, annual Sustaining Member summaries, reviews of activities with other organizations, etc. and other items which our readership may suggest.

As you can see in this issue, we plan to provide at least 16 pages of color in each issue and abundant photographs of activities as available. We encourage you to submit news and good color images for publication.

The ISPRS is a non-profit, volunteer based, international Society which has very limited finances for operation. Our objectives are to promote communication about our activities and the benefits which our spatial information science disciplines can provide for humanity. Multiple copies of this **ISPRS Highlights** have been air mail distributed to our Ordinary Member Organizations located in 97 countries worldwide. We are requesting our Ordinary Members to support the distribution of **ISPRS Highlights** by delivering copies to their individual members and to ISPRS Member organizations in their country, be they Associate Members, Sustaining Members, Honorary Members or ISPRS officers.

Initially we are distributing five copies free per ISPRS Member category, e.g. 5 to 40 for categories 1 to 8 respectively. We encourage wider circulation by asking our Ordinary Members to request copies for all of their individual members which wish to receive a free copy. As circulation grows, we may need to request a nominal fee from our Ordinary Members to defray shipping costs, but not to make a profit!

We seek your encouragement and support of this endeavor. Please let us know your interests and send us your news for publication.

Sincerely,

Lawrence W. Fritz
ISPRS President



10. A great many of the Austrian users and scientists are engaged successfully throughout the world in photogrammetry and remote sensing.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Many of them are here in this festival hall today. Thank you for your promotion of the Vienna Congress. Regarding Austrian scientists I will mention one personally. My predecessor as head of the Institute for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing at the

Vienna University of Technology, Prof. Karl Neumaier is attending this opening ceremony. This is not extraordinary, but if I add that he is 98 years old, you understand, why I mention his name with greatest respect. We should give him a special applause. He told me many stories about Eduard Dolezal.

This was my opening address. Thank you again for coming to Vienna. I wish you pleasant days at our Congress. Let me now repeat this speech in German.