



OPENING CEREMONY

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Welcome Address by Chen Jun, ISPRS President

Awards Presented at the Opening Ceremony

Keynote Speakers

Opening Ceremony Program

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 Opening Address by Congress Director, Lena Halounová
 Welcome Address by ISPRS President, Chen Jun
 Address by representative of the Ministry of Transport, Karel Dobeš
 Address by Chair of the Czech Office of Survey, Mapping and Cadastre, Karel Večeře
 Presentation: Jürgen Dold: Digital Reality
 Presentation: Nadia Magnenat-Thalmann: Automatic Modelling of Virtual Humans

Presentation of Awards

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- Presentation of Otto von Gruber Award
- Presentation of U.V. Helava Award

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 Proposal for ISPRS Honorary Membership
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 Welcome Reception

Opening Address by Lena Halounová, Congress Director

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests, friends, future friends and colleagues,



I am happy to have this opportunity to express my gratitude to you for deciding to write a paper, abstract, to buy an air ticket, to book a hotel, to pack your luggage and to do other necessary steps to be here.

You uploaded 1994 contributions, reviewers made 3570 reviews in six weeks and the International and Local Program committee, with the enormous support of Working Group Chairs decided on the acceptance or rejection of each contribution. That was the first step. The second one was to decide who will present orally and who will take part in the interactive sessions.

We encouraged all of you to deliver final papers of your submissions. Thank you very much.

For the first time, the Local Program Committee used a complex registration and paper handling system for the Congress. It was a test for both you and us, the organizers, which nevertheless, turned out to be a very good experience for both parties – or at least for us. We managed to process the reviewing with the great effort of 16 members of the Local Program Committee, 25 members of the International Program Committee, 8 Technical Commission Presidents, 60 Working Group

Chairs together with 663 reviewers. Out of 1994 submissions, one fourth were full papers which were reviewed by at least two reviewers. The process started on 13 December and was completed on 31 January; authors were notified about the acceptance on 21 February after a discussion with ISPRS WG Chairs and TC Presidents.

I dare to say that it is proof of our very successful joint efforts.

I must stress that the situation was complicated from the organizational perspective since many WG Chairs were also the authors of double blind papers. So, to preserve the double-blindness for them and the members of both committees was a huge challenge in which we succeeded. I would like to encourage future ISPRS event organizers to profit from our experience.

Nevertheless, the Congress is not only the presentation of many authors in parallel oral sessions.

I would like to highlight the importance of interactive sessions. They form a very important part of the Congress. Therefore, they are situated in the most beautiful place of the PCC – the balcony with a wonderful view of the city dominated by Prague Castle and the overview of the lower floor of the Congress Centre with the many exhibitors.

More than 50 % of papers will be presented within the interactive sessions. We really expect intensive discussions during them. You can find most of them on the same days as the oral sessions of the respective Working Groups. We believe that it will bring both sides closer to each other, more so than oral presentations, since the Congress should be an

occasion for colleagues to meet and not be perceived as a lecture of a professor delivered to “students.”

The Congress is also an occasion to listen to carefully selected keynote and plenary speakers. With the exception of the Opening Ceremony, we offer you 3 plenary sessions on Wednesday, Saturday and Monday each with three speakers with very interesting topics.

ISPRS has organized two new special events – the National Mapping and Cadastre Agencies Forum and the Space Agency Forum on Thursday and Friday – for the first time. These events are going to host carefully selected speakers from all over the world.

The third Forum is dedicated to young scientists under the umbrella of the Student Consortium. We have also prepared an additional social and sports program, for them, which is open for everyone, of course.

But work is not the sole purpose of life. Prague is the center of culture and a bountiful collection of all architectural styles. Every day, you can choose from a wide selection of concerts, happenings, museums, theatres, or decide to wonder through old narrow streets with many souvenirs, cozy restaurants and

pubs with beer gardens. I believe you will find time to walk through the city or castle and enjoy the atmosphere. There is a beautiful park in the fortress called Vyšehrad just a few steps from the Congress Centre.

We have prepared three evening programs for all of you, including your family members.

One of the Council members recently said – people will not remember the Congresses for its presentations, but for the food and the environment of the Congress.

I would like you to remember the Congress – those of you who will attend the Gala Dinner – by the Žofín (Sofia) Palace on a small island, those of you who will join the icebreaking party of the Youth Forum – by your new friends and maybe the soccer match, etc.

I believe you will have only great memories from Prague. At least I can proudly say that everyone from the small group of wonderful people who prepared the entire program for you have done their very best. Thank you, Markéta, Linda, Petra, Eva, Martina and Martin.

Welcome Address by Chen Jun, ISPRS President

Honourable Minister,

Congress Director Lena Halounová,

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the twenty-third ISPRS Congress. I must, first and foremost, thank our Czech hosts for the immense effort which they have put into organising this Congress. Lena and her team have prepared an exciting program reflecting both the scientific work of ISPRS and other activities in the field of geospatial information relevant to ISPRS.



A Congress such as this is more than a gathering of ISPRS members; it is also an opportunity to show our work to others, and to look for opportunities to collaborate.

I am delighted that we have with us many distinguished guests from other societies; in particular I welcome Chryssy Potsiou, President of FIG, Menno-Jan Kraak, President of ICA, Dave Lovell, President of GSDI, Ted Florence representing IMIA and Chris Rizzos, Past President of IAG.

I would also like to welcome those of you, particularly young people, who have been funded by the ISPRS Foundation, Congress travel grants, and Young Authors Awards.



You know that ISPRS was founded in 1910, in Vienna on the initiative of Prof. Eduard Doležal. He was born in the town of Moravské Budějovice, now within the territory of the Czech Republic. This photo was taken in 2010 when ISPRS council, former presidents and representatives from the Austria society went to visit his tomb.

Since its foundation, ISPRS has been devoted to obtaining and utilizing information from imagery. It

was carried out through scientific research, technological development and operational applications. First of all, there are a number of basic scientific questions to be answered, (such as the mechanism of electromagnetic radiation and its interaction with the earth, the recognition of spatio-temporal patterns in images, as well as the modeling and representation of spatio-temporal phenomena and their relationships). New concepts, theories and algorithms need to be developed. Secondly, advanced tools and systems need to be designed, tested, fabricated, and commercialized to realize the image acquisition, information extraction and spatial information services. Thirdly, these science and technologies are applied for operational topographic mapping, civil engineering, heritage documentation, resource inventory, disaster monitoring, industrial measurement, medical imaging, and many other societal or domain needs. This leads to the development of technical standards, data collection and processing, education and outreach.

After one hundred and six year's development, we are entering an era in which the application of imagery is ubiquitous, playing an important role in many aspects of life and work today. This has been accompanied with the increased availability of very high-resolution satellite imagery, terrain based imaging and participatory sensing, inexpensive platforms, and advanced information and communication technologies.

ISPRS is now a leading organization in this field, with a series of influential conferences, (Congress, Geospatial Week, and Symposia), a good collection of publications, awards and projects.

Today, we are facing grand challenges. Global change studies, location-based services, sustainable development and many other societal benefits areas have put forward new demands, such as providing higher quality information, enabling advanced geospatial computing, and supporting collaborative problem solving. Since the beginning of 2013, ISPRS council has led the preparation of a scientific vision paper. The motivation is to examine the major scientific challenges, and to set out a forward research agenda for the Society. This work has been supported by TCPs, ISAC, IPAC and many members.

The major development trends are summarized. For instances:

Sensing - Integrated sensors, citizen or participatory sensing, high-resolution imagery up to multiple times per day of every corner of the globe in near real-time;
Processing: Integration of image matching, tracking and object extraction, and high geometric accuracy, coupled with the highest degree of automation

Modeling: Convergent cyber-physical world, integrated indoor and outdoor modeling, and navigate across space and time.

Service: From information provision to geospatial knowledge delivery, from change mapping to dynamic monitoring and the prediction of future trends.

Multidisciplinarity: more domain specific knowledge and principles into traditional geometry-dominant geospatial data processing and analysis.

The research topics to be tackled by ISPRS community were identified and followed the new commission structure. The details can be found in the vision paper. We hope to call upon and to mobilize all ISPRS scientists, practitioners and stakeholders to continue improving our understanding and capacity related to the generation of information from imagery, and to deliver geospatial knowledge that will enable humankind to confront the challenges ahead.

We have been looking forward to this congress since the end of the previous Congress. When we left Melbourne, we were full of enthusiasm for our society, with many ideas for new research, new activities and making new contacts and collaborations. Now we meet again to see whether these ambitions have been met. This eight day Congress offers us a unique occasion to evaluate the significant progress achieved in our disciplines and to discuss future R&D issues.

You will hear more ISPRS voices, such as the Prague declaration, which is our ISPRS statement, or ISPRS response, to the challenges facing. It has just been endorsed by the General Assembly and was released to the press this afternoon.

You will witness our member's enthusiasm, such as interests in hosting the next congress, TC and council positions, new WGs, and so on.

I would like us to pause here for a moment to remember those of our number who, sadly, have passed away during the past four years, including two of our former presidents, F.F. Doyle and Kennert Torlegård. We will always remember their names and their contribution to ISPRS.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow council members, TCPs and ISPRS officers for the collaborative management of the society, along with JBGIS, ICSU-GeoUnions, and all sister organisations for their support and all participants for presenting at this opening and congress.

Dear Colleagues, in conclusion I urge you to take advantage of all of the opportunities which this Congress has to offer. I wish you all have a nice stay in Prague.



Address by the **Deputy Minister of Transport**,
Karel Dobeš

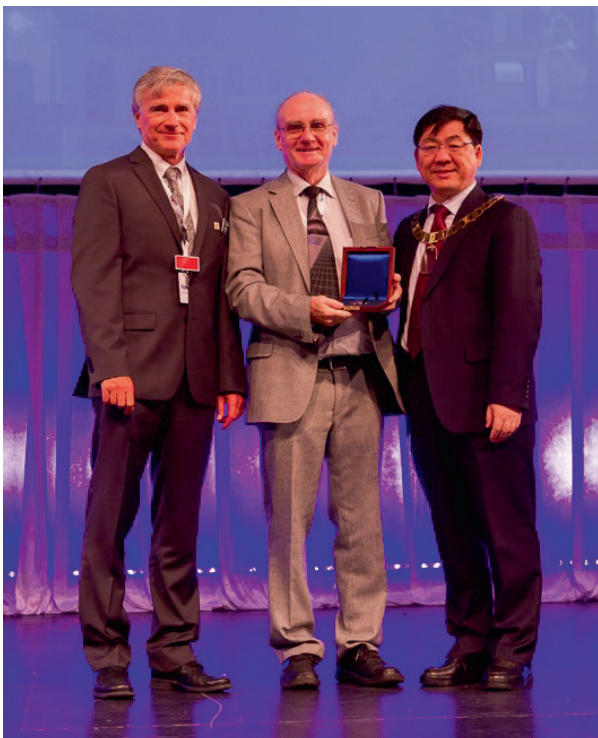


Address by the **Chair of the Czech Office of Survey,
Mapping and Cadastre**, Karel Večeře

Awards Presented at the Opening Ceremony

The Brock Gold Medal Award

Awardee: Wolfgang Förstner



Charles Toth, Wolfgang Förstner, Chen Jun

The Otto von Gruber Award

Awardee: Wai Yeung Yan



George Vosselman, Wai Yeung Yan, Christian Heipke

The U.V. Helava Award

Awardees: Devis Tuia, Rémi Flamary and Nicolas Courty:

Paper: “Multiclass feature learning for hyperspectral image classification: Sparse and hierarchical solutions” by.



Derek Lichti (Editor-in-Chief of IJPRS), Marije Hoogstrate (Elsevier), Rémi Flamary, Nicolas Courty, Helmut Rosengarten (Hexagon)

ISPRS Fellows

Awardees:

Alain Baudoin (France)
 Jiang Jie (China)
 Franz Leberl (Austria)
 Petros Patias (Greece)
 Ammatzia Peled (Israel)



Chen Jun, Clément Mallet (on behalf of Alain Baudoin), Jiang Jie, Petros Patias, Ammatzia Peled, Franz Leberl (from left)

ISPRS Honorary Member

Awardee: Orhan Altan



Orhan Altan and Chen Jun

Keynote Speakers

Digital Reality

Jürgen Dold

President & CEO of Hexagon Geosystems



Automatic Modelling of Virtual Humans

Nadia Magnenat-Thalmann

Director of the Institute for Media Innovation (IMI) in Singapore at Nanyang Technological University

Founder and head of the MIRALab Research Laboratory at the University of Geneva

