AN AUTOMATIC SEARCHING AND PUBLISHING SYSTEM FOR SPATIAL INFORMATION

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Key words: Spatial information, Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, GIS, Internet.

ABSTRACT

The author has been appointed Editor (http://www.isprs.org/structure/editors.html) of International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) for 2000-2004. The author is responsible for compiling the Events Calendar (http://www.isprs.org/calendar.html), which is published in ISPRS Highlights bulletin and placed on the ISPRS home page (http://www.isprs.org). The author has been chairperson of WG VI/4 for 1996-2000, Internet of ISPRS, and in that capacity has guided the ISPRS Internet and Web Pages.

This Events Calendar was compiled manually by previous editor and contained some incorrect information, or missed some important events. The author has established an automatic system to search and to publish the information of spatial information, photogrammetry, remote sensing, surveying, and GIS on the Internet.

The Calendar contains a list of all ISPRS and Sister Societies (FIG, ICA, IAG, IHO, IGU, etc.) sponsored and co-sponsored workshops, symposia, tutorials and other meetings. It also contains details of all international and national events on topics related to the activities of spatial information, photogrammetry, remote sensing, geomatics, surveying, mapping, machine vision, image processing and similar areas.

The system is using the newest technique of searching engine and programming tools for web pages and Internet server.

The purpose for this system is to allow Sister Societies 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 other Sister Societies to do likewise.

The system searches for relevant events and identifies events, which will be of interest to ISPRS and to other Sister Societies, automatically. 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 Sister Societies. The new events and updated events of Spatial Information will be compiled immediately, then up-loaded and published on the Internet to keep it up-to-date.

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1. FOREWORD

The author has been appointed as one of the Editors of International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) (http://www.isprs.org/structure/editors.html) for 2000-2004. The author will be responsible for compiling the Events Calendar (http://www.isprs.org/calendar.html) (Chen, 2001), which will be published in ISPRS Highlights and placed on the ISPRS home page (http://www.isprs.org). The author has been chairperson of WG VI/4 for 1996-2000 (Chen, 2000), Internet of ISPRS, and in that capacity has guided the ISPRS Internet and Web Pages (Chen, 1999s; Chen, 1998). This Events Calendar was compiled manually by previous editor and contained some incorrect information, or missed some important events. The author has established an automatic system to search and to publish the information of spatial information, photogrammetry, remote sensing, and GIS on the Internet as well as on the ISPRS Highlights.

2. APPOINTMENT

The author has been appointed Event Calendar Editor of ISPRS for 2000-2004. The author will be responsible for compiling the Events Calendar, which will be published in ISPRS Highlights and placed on the ISPRS home page. The author teaches photogrammetry in China Institute of Technology, Taipei, Taiwan and has been Chairperson of WG VI/4, Internet of ISPRS 1996-2000 and in that capacity has drafted the Guidelines for the ISPRS Web Pages.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

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 and Sister Societies (FIG, ICA, IAG, IHO, IGU, etc.) sponsored and co-sponsored workshops, symposia, tutorials, conferences, congresses, and other meetings. It also contains details of all international and national events on topics related to the activities of spatial information, photogrammetry, remote sensing, 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 page on an up-to-date basis in an agreed format, updated versions of the Calendar for the ISPRS Home Page.

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-   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.

4.   PROCEDURES

4.1   Versions

For efficiency, different headings, and to avoid errors in signifying changes, two versions will be created - one for Highlights and another for the Web Page. The Web Page version is maintained constantly as new entries are found by this searching system automatically daily. The Highlights version is created and modified from the final Web Page version created for the months of March, June, September and December.

4.2   Home Page version

This automatic searching system will make the following procedures daily.
Cut out obsolete entries.
Using previous Web Page version, do three "find" and "replace" operations on: "NEW", "UPDATED", bold. The bold headings and "Confirmed by Council" or "Cosponsorship" notations are to be retained in bold. At end of this operation there will be a clean version.
Search for new entries and updates on Internet. Make all new entries in bold and signify as "NEW". Make updates and signify as "UPDATED", with changed data only in bold. Add ISPRS logo to all ISPRS sponsored events as informed from Secretary General. Secretary General will also inform whether the event has been approved "Confirmed by Council" or is "pending Council approval" or if the event has "Cosponsorship" by ISPRS.
Publish updated version to Web page.

4.3   Highlights version

Change header information to show Web Page site.
Using current Web Page version, cut out obsolete entries from the previous quarter and current month.
Send by e-mail to ISPRS Highlights and Council one month before publication month.

4.4   Contents

Receive inputs from outside sources. Seek events from trade publication calendars and from Internet searches of relevant organizations (see links below) by this automatic

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searching system.

Keep all entries to those having international interest (e.g. international in event title) or from those of ISPRS member organizations (Ordinary, Associate, Regional, Sustaining).

Do not list user groups unless the organization is an ISPRS Sustaining Member, e.g.. Intergraph, ESRI, ERIM, etc. That helps promote organizations to become ISPRS Sustaining Members.

Except for ISPRS events, do not list events, which do not have city, country and a phone or e-mail contact address.

Except for ISPRS events and those of the JBSIS (Joint Board of Sister Societies-ICA, IAG, IHO, FIG, IGU), do not list events, which have pending dates.

Details- a) Check locations column to verify that the country is in all capital letters; the city is in lower case. b) Check order of dates to ensure earliest dates are first. c) Check that all ISPRS events have a "Confirmed by Council" or "Confirmation pending" notation in the leftmost column. d) Check these items in the event field: make sure ISPRS is before WG; make sure WG is before all WGs in listing; make sure ISPRS WGs are Roman for Commission and Arabic for WG number, e.g.. IV/3; use IC WG for intercommission WGs; put quotation titles on a separate line if space permits; put hyphen before each event if multiple events are in same listing; always seek ways to reduce number of lines; verify www addresses when time permits.

There should always be in the left column for all ISPRS events either "Confirmed by Council" or "approval pending" or "Cosponsorship Confirmed by Council". The "approval pending" gives ISPRS Council and TCPs an indication of what is being proposed and will help them coordinate events and avoid conflicts.

4.5   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 organizations.

4.6   Searching Technique

The system is using the newest technique of searching engine and programming tools for web pages and Internet server (Lin, 1997). Following software, operating system, programming languages, and programming tools have been used: Microsoft Windows 2000 Server, Microsoft SQL Server 2000, Microsoft .NET Web N-tiers, IIS, Microsoft Office XP, Dynamic HTML, XML/SOAP, JAVA Script, VB Script, CGI, ASP, PHP, Delphi, etc.

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The system searches for relevant events and identifies events, which will be of interest to ISPRS and to other Sister Societies, automatically. 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 Sister Societies. The new events and updated events of Spatial Information will be compiled immediately, then up-loaded and published on the Internet to keep it up-to-date.

The following are some examples of sources:

http://www.astronautical.org/conferences/
http://asprs.org/meetings.html
http://www.ceos.org/
http://www.ddl.org/figtree/events/
http://iris.usc.edu/Information/Iris-Conferences.html
http://cospar.itodys.jussieu.fr/Meetings/meetings.htm
http://www.eumetsat.de/en/
http://www.earsel.org/
http://www-earsel.cma.fr/earsel_events/
http://www.cehu.com.ar/Futuro.htm
http://gcmd.nasa.gov/Confcal/calendar.html
http://www.wmo.ch/web/gcos/meeting.html#y98
http://www.gpsworld.com/calendar.htm
http://www.gfy.ku.dk/~iag/symposia.html
http://www.iafastro.com/
http://www.iasted.com/
http://www.ico-optics.org/contacts.html
http://www.icsu.org/Information/calendar.html
http://www.w3.org/
http://ewh.ieee.org/soc/grss/igarss.html
http://www.ieee.org/conferences/tag/sct1grs.html
http://iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/meetings/meet.htm
http://www.ceo.org/eventsop.html
http://www.ioccg.org/news.html
http://www.opengis.org/events.htm
http://www.permcom.apgis.gov.au/
http://www.permcom.apgis.gov.au/related.htm
http://www.oosa.unvienna.org/SAP/sched2000.htm
http://www.spie.org/meetings/calendar/index.cfm?fuseaction=Asia-Pacific
http://www.spie.org/meetings/calendar/index.cfm?fuseaction=TheAmericas
http://www.spie.org/meetings/calendar/index.cfm?fuseaction=Europe
http://spie.org/web/meetings/programs/ae00/invite.html
http://www.ioccg.org/workshop.html

5.   ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: ALL ISPRS ORDINARY MEMBERS, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, REGIONAL MEMBERS, SUSTAINING MEMERS, TECHNICAL COMMISSION PRESIDENTS, & WORKING GROUP CHAIRPERSONS; ALL SISTER SOCIETIES

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ISPRS EVENTS CALENDAR EDITOR GREATLY APPRECIATES YOUR RESPONSES TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT

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 and Sister Societies (FIG, ICA, IAG, IHO, IGU, etc.) sponsored and co-sponsored workshops, symposia, tutorials, conferences, congresses, 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 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. It is important that we cover events which are on the interdisciplinary boundaries of ISPRS so that our Commissions and WGs are aware of who and how they can interface with related organizations.

The ISPRS Events Calendar Editor respectfully asks all TC Presidents, WG Chairpersons, Members, and sister societies to submit the details of their workshops, symposia, tutorials, conferences, congresses, and meetings:

1)   Date (maybe open or pending, see above),
2)   Event,
3)   Web site address
4)   City, Country
5)   Contact person, TEL, FAX, & E-mail.

Please email or fax the details to:

Professor Tuan-chih Chen (ISPRS Events Calendar Editor)
13-1, LANE 12, YEN-PING ROAD,
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TEL.+886-3-362-5089 or +886-918-953-197
FAX: +886-2-2653-9148
E-mail: profchen@ms13.hinet.net
http://www.isprs.org/calendar.html

Thank you very much for your support and your assistance.

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APPENDIX

Appendix on next page is a part of the result of this Automatic Searching and Publishing System for Spatial Information.

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APPENDIX

ISPRS EVENTS CALENDAR
Sample Version
Note: ISPRS Sponsored Events are logo Highlighted
New entries and changes are bold highlighted
For up-to-date updates - visit the ISPRS Web Page **www.isprs.org/calendar.html**
Send Updates to: Prof. Tuan-chih CHEN
Fax: +886-2-2653-9148
E-mail: profchen@ms13.hinet.net

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T = Telephone   F = Facsimile   E = E-mail   *tbr* = to be resolved   WG = Working Group IC = Intercommision WG

DATE	EVENT	SITE	CONTACT
29-31 Oct 01 **"UPDATED"** *Confirmed by Council*	*isprs* WG IV/3/5/6/7 Joint Workshop "Challenges in Geo-Spatial Analysis, Integration and Visualization" http://www.crms.uga.edu/wg_iv6/joint_workshop.htm	Athens, Georgia, USA	Dr. Marguerite Madden P: +1-706-542-2379 F: +1-706-542-2358 E: mmadden@crms.uga.edu Dr Costas Armenakis(President Com IV) E: **armenaki@nrcan.gc.ca**
30 Oct - 2 Nov 2001	6th International CARIS Users' Conference & Educational Sessions (CARIS 2001) "Extending Your Boundaries" http://www.caris.com/caris2001	San Diego, California, USA	CARIS - Sheri Flanagan P: +1-506-458-8533 F: +1-506-459-3849 E: caris2001@caris.com
5-9 Nov 2001	22nd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS2001) http://acrs2001.crisp.nus.edu.sg	Singapore, SINGAPORE	ACRS2001 Organizing Committee E: acrs2001@crisp.nus.edu.sg
6-7 Nov 2001 **"NEW"**	The 15th Plenary Meeting of CEOS **http://www.ceos.org/**	**Kyoto, JAPAN**	**Ms. Kazuko Misawa P: +81-3-5561-4533 F: +81-3-5574-8515 E: misawa@restec.or.jp**
8-9 Nov 2001 **"UPDATED"** *Cosponsorship Confirmed by Council*	1st IEEE/ISPRS Joint Workshop on Remote Sensing and Data Fusion Over Urban Areas *isprs* WG III/6 http://tlc.unipv.it/urban_2001	Rome, ITALY	Paolo Gamba P: +39-0382-505781 F: +39-0382-422583 E: p.gamba@ele.unipv.it E: urban_2001@ele.unipv.it **Olaf Hellwich(Chair WG III/6) E: Olaf.Hellwich@photo.verm.tu-muenchen.de**
8-9 Nov 2001 *Cosponsorship Confirmed by Council*	*isprs* ,FIG & ICA Symposium "Geodetic, Photogrammetric and Satellite Technologies - Development and Integrated Application" http://acstre-ma.vmei.acad.bg/Sofia2001	Sofia, BULGARIA	Prof. Dr. Eng. Georgi Milev P: +3592 893 379 F: +3592 9879 360 E: milev@bgcict.acad.bg milev@argo.bas.bg
9-10 Nov 2001	The Ninth ACM International Symposium on Advances in Geographic Information Systems http://outlook.cs.purdue.edu/ACM_GIS2001	Atlanta, GA, USA	Prof. Walid G. Aref P: +1-765-494-1997 F: +1-765-494-0739 E: aref@cs.purdue.edu
12-16 Nov 2001 **"NEW"**	**International M. Sc. in Airborne Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing** **"Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar. Airborne SAR"** **http://www.ideg.es/**	**Barcelona, SPAIN**	**Ms. Ester Gimó P: +34-93-567-1500 F: +34-93-567-1569 E: Ester.Gimo@ideg.es**
19-20 Nov 01	International Symposium on Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) http://www.sli.unimelb.edu.au/SDI/	Melbourne, AUSTRALIA	Ian Williamson F: +61 3 9347 4128 E: sdi@sunrise.sli.unimelb.edu.au
5-7 Dec 2001	International Phenological Conference "The times they are a changing" http://www.dow.wau.nl/msa/epn/conference/	Wageningen, The Netherlands	Ir. Arnold J.H. van Vliet P: +31 317 485091/484812 F: +31 317 484839 E: arnold.vanvliet@algemeen.cmkw.wau.nl
11-13 Dec 01 **"UPDATED"** *Cosponsorship Confirmed by Council*	**ISRS 2001** National **Symposium** of Indian Society of Remote **S**ensing **on** "Advances in remote sensing technologies with special emphasis on high resolution imagery" *isprs* WG IV/4 **http://www.isrs-ac.org/symposium.html**	Ah**m**ebdabad, INDIA	**Dr. Parth Sarathi Roy(Chair IV/4) P: +91-135-744-583 F: +91-135-741-987 E: psr@iirs.gov.in Shri N.S. Mehta P: +91-79-6774036 (O), 6860409 (R) F: +91-79–6762735 / 6748813 E: mehta_ns@yahoo.com**
11-13 Dec 01 **"NEW"**	**Bluetooth Developers Conference** **http://www.bluetooth.com/devcon**	**San Francisco, USA**	**Colette Beraut E: bluetooth@key3media.com**

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

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Events Calendar Editor, ISPRS (2000-2004)
Chair, WG VI/4, ISPRS (1996-2000)
Co-Chair, WG VI/1, ISPRS (1992-1996)

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