

Minutes, Council Meeting 2013

Nov. 10, 9:00 - 18:00; Nov. 11, 8:30 - 15:00; Nov. 14, 11:00 - 13:00

Antalya, Turkey

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)

In attendance as special advisor and for specific items:

ISAC Chair	Ian Dowman (ID) - Nov. 11 and 14
IPAC Chair	Gunter Schreier (GS) - Nov. 11 and 14
Chair, Financial Commission	Marie-José Lefèvre-Fonollosa (ML) - Nov. 10 and 11
Editor-in-Chief, ISPRS J.	Derek Lichti (DL) - Item 8.1
Editor-in-Chief, IJGI	Wolfgang Kainz (WK) - Nov. 11
Rep. Elsevier	Elaine van Ommen Kloeke (EO) - Item 8.1
Rep. Copernicus	Xenia van Edig (XE) - Item 8.3

Minutes:

ISPRS Headquarters	Annette Radtke (AR)
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Minutes

1. Opening remarks

CJ opened the meeting, welcoming council and thanking OA and Filiz Sunar (FS) for organising the meeting at an excellent location.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Review of previous meetings

3.1 Approval of minutes, CM Stuttgart, Sept. 9, 2013

The minutes of the Sept. 9 CM were approved.

4. Science issues

4.1 Scientific Initiative

JPM reported on the Scientific Initiative Call. 11 submissions had been received by the deadline. JPM, CH and MM had independently reviewed the submissions before the CM and, after meeting to discuss reviews, recommended six submissions for funding. Although above the budgeted CHF40.000,-, it was considered appropriate and decided to fund all six projects at a total of CHF47.720,-.

The results will be announced to the TCPs, the proposers, and will then be made public on the ISPRS web, the eBulletin and in other appropriate media.

Action 13/1074: JPM to coordinate necessary arrangements for announcing the results of the evaluation appropriately, asap.

4.2 ISPRS vision paper and position papers

CJ reported on the status of the Vision Paper, presenting a progress summary and work plan. From the invited contributors, four text passages have been received (although some are too short), seven have been agreed upon; two authors did not reply yet. CH suggested integrating (parts of) the definition paper written by ID and KS into the vision paper, he will also try to find a replacement for the contribution on spatio-temporal data management/big data.

All text passages will be collected and integrated into the current draft by CJ as soon as possible. In order to do so council members will support him upon his request. A final draft will be distributed by CJ to council by 31th March 2014 for discussion at the CM in April 2014. The manuscript is then to be submitted to the ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing by 31th July 2014 for possible publication at the beginning of 2016.

CJ also presented the idea of producing a special edition of the ISPRS Journal for P&RS, instead of a congress book, which should be published before the Congress. This issue was further discussed in the JM.

Action 13/1075: CH to find a substitute for the section on spatio-temporal data management/big data, by Nov. 30, 2013.

Action 13/1076: CJ to collect and integrate the missing text passages and to distribute a further draft to Cnl, by March 31, 2014.

5. Review of Technical Commissions

Progress in general is very good; no particular issues are foreseen for the upcoming JM. Each Cnl M was delegated to particular TC to prepare for discussion at the JM. The status of the contracts with the TC's for the Symposia are to be monitored by JPM.

Action 13/1077: JPM to monitor the status of contracts with TC's for the Symposia, in due time.

6. Congress 2016

LH reported on the sponsoring system for the Congress, and the negotiations with Leica. The Platinum Sponsorship contract with this company was signed at Intergeo in Oct. 2103. Contact with other companies is under way. LH invited Cnl to suggest further companies suited to the various sponsorships.

OA suggested the organization of a platform for National Mapping and Cadastre Agencies (NMCAs) within ISPRS, to increase their interest. CH suggested applying the same principle to Space Agencies. LH and CH are to work on an action plan to stimulate cooperation with NMCAs in the next congress involving also EuroGeographics, while CJ will do the same for space agencies, supported by GS and ML.

OA suggested producing a new video for the next congress. LH agreed to look into the possibilities of doing so, but would need input material from Cnl, TCPs, other ISPRS officers and other individuals. Cnl agreed to support Lena in obtaining this input.

Action 13/1078: LH and CH to develop an action plan to involve NMCAs in the 2016 Congress, by March 31, 2014.

Action 13/1079: CJ, GS and ML to develop an action plan to involve Space Agencies in the 2016 Congress, by March 31, 2014.

Action 13/1080: LH to look into the possibility of producing a new ISPRS video and report back to Cnl, by Jan. 31, 2014.

7. ISPRS Membership

CH gave a general status report. One application for associate membership is currently being processed, two new sustaining members (Nastec, India and Basir, Iran) were recently accepted.

A cancellation was received from COWI (sustaining member, DK) and LINZ (ordinary member, NZ) is considering leaving the society.

7.1 Individual Membership

IdM Policy has been distributed to all OdMs, with the request for replies and comments by Dec 31, 2013. Several replies have been returned with various opinions. After compilation, a summary will be sent to Cnl for further action.

Action 13/1081: CH to compile the incoming answers to the Individual Membership Policy and distribute to Cnl for further action, by Jan 15, 2014.

7.2 Sustaining membership

LH had proposed finding several strong sponsors in preparation for reduced income, should further StMs resign. It was decided to cooperate with TIF in this issue, alongside with keeping the current structure of StM for the time being.

OA reported that the StM meeting has, in the past, been the basis for the congress and conferences. Such meetings were organised at InterGeo and similar events (e. g. ASPRS Annual Conference). StM's should be informed as far in advance as possible, including an agenda, to allow for travel arrangements. Also, give-aways should play a more important role in the future. CJ and LH will look into organising electricity adapters and small ISPRS flags which StM can display at their booth.

Action 13/1082: LH to organise StM meetings at forthcoming InterGeo's and similar events (incl. appropriate give-aways etc.), in due time.

8. ISPRS Publications

8.1 ISPRS Journal of Ph&RS

EO, who is responsible for publishing the ISPRS J. for Ph&RS at Elsevier, reported on the ISPRS Journal's success, with statistics showing, among others, a growth of 46% in submissions. 11 issues were published in 2013, one more is to follow. Due to the high number of papers being submitted, it is planned to publish 14 issues in 2014. The 5-year impact factor rose to 3,3, making the journal one of the most successful in photogrammetry and remote sensing on a worldwide scale. EO stressed the importance of speed in the reviewing process, and having more reviewers at hand.

DL reported on the status of the Journal. Altogether, the journal is very healthy, being ranked third among 27 remote sensing journals. Six new associate editors joined the team since the Melbourne Congress. According to DL, at least one additional associate editor is necessary to handle the increasing amount of incoming papers. Also, a new Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) was appointed in May 2013. Comprising 36 members with expertise spanning the broad scope of the Journal, the EAB's role is to provide an additional source of reliable reviewers for the associate editors.

Attracting reviewers to deliver timely reviews remains a challenge for the Journal's editors. The EAB members are responsible for performing at least four reviews per year during their four-year appointment.

Cnl also discussed the contract with EO. The current contract is valid until 2016. Issues to review are the possibility to include advertising in the journal, the role of printed vs. digital copies, potential costs for additional issues and pages per volume, the availability of free copies for Cnl and other ISPRS members (e.g. StM's), and a general review of the financial agreement. JPM and MM agreed to work on a strategy draft paper to present to Cnl by April 15, 2014. Subsequently, MM, JPM will contact EO to negotiate this matter with Elsevier. As a first and immediate measure, EO agreed to finance an additional associate to help DL cope with the increasing number of incoming papers.

Finally, Council discussed further support for DL. One idea is to install a second Editor-in-Chief, preferably someone from remote sensing. Cnl supports the idea of additional support for DL. MM was asked to coordinate the issue together with DL.

Cnl thanked DL and EO for their very successful work. DL agreed to contribute a report on the journal to one of the next GIM pages and the eBulletin.

Action 13/1083: MM and JPM to prepare a strategy draft for discussions with Elsevier in order to further develop the journal and to send to Council, by April 15, 2014.

Action 13/1084: MM to further discuss with DL possibilities for additional support, and to report to Cnl, by Jan. 31, 2014.

Action 13/1085: DL to prepare a report on the journal for one of the next GIM pages and eBulletin, by Dec. 31, 2014.

8.2 ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information

WK gave a brief report on the journal. Publication started in early 2012, currently about 10 papers are submitted per month. The rejection rate is about 50%. Up to today, 69 papers were published, the average publication speed is 3 months. The number of editorial board members has risen to 28. The possibility exists in 2015, after four years existence, to apply for ISI citation.

WK requested Cnl and TCPs to encourage authors to submit their work to the journal, also in terms of special issues managed by the working groups.

MDPI would like to set author processing charges (APC), at CHF500 per article, with 50% discount for members, beginning January 2014. Selected articles of high quality may have the APC waived at the society's judgement. WK reported that an additional waiver for 2014 might be achievable. Cnl asked WK to negotiate both issues with MDPI in consultation with MM, and to try to have the term "member" interpreted as "individual, who is a member of an OdM of ISPRS". Payment of APCs could also be linked to success in getting the journal indexed.

The contract with MDPI has to be renegotiated in 2016. WK expressed his confidence in MDPI as publishers.

Action 13/1086: WK to negotiate with MDPI future financial agreements in consultation with MM, in due time.

8.3 Archives and Annals

XE (Copernicus) summarised the discussion with CH regarding the renewal of the contract. According to XE, Copernicus is currently operating at a loss.

It was decided that the contract remains in effect until the end of 2014. In the meantime, a new contract will be negotiated. September 2014 was considered a good time to review the new contract.

Action 13/1087: CH to prepare a new contract with Copernicus, by September 31, 2014.

8.4 e-Bulletin, GIM and GeoInformatics page

CH reported on the status of the three publications. Currently, enough material is available that has been agreed upon, that publication is secured for the time being.

8.5 ISPRS Book series

Zhilin Li, the new book editor, requested Cnl to change its policy on royalties. In the future, authors should obtain such payment rather than the society. Cnl agreed to that request.

9. Financial affairs

9.1 Report to Financial Commission

JPM outlined his activities, including the review of the financial policy document and ISPRS spending policy. Both documents were forwarded to the Financial Commission (FC) for review.

ML reported that the FC has approved the documents. They will now be placed on the ISPRS web.

Action 13/1088: CH to coordinate publication of financial policy and ISPRS spending policy on the web, by Nov. 30, 2013.

9.2 Budget for 2014 and 4-year budget

JPM explained the proposed 4-year budget. The proposal was approved by Cnl.

JPM requested that all expenses for 2013 travel, subsistence etc. be passed to him by Dec. 16, 2013 for processing ahead of the close of the current financial year.

Travel plans and related cost estimates for 2014 are to be passed on to JPM by Dec. 31, 2013; they will be incorporated by JPM in the 2014 budget.

JPM outlined the position of Dan Brooking-Coker, the Newcastle University employee tasked with the ISPRS book keeping. Due to a change in job role at Newcastle, Dan had recently been undertaking the book-keeping role in his own time outside of contractual hours at the University, and so JPM requested that the second payment for his services in 2013 be paid directly to Dan rather than Newcastle University. Cnl agreed to this and thanked Dan Brooking-Coker for his efforts.

Action 13/1089: Cnl to forward all outstanding 2013 expense claims to JPM by 16 Dec. 16, 2013.

Action 13/1090: Cnl to forward travel plans and related cost estimates for 2014 to JPM, by Dec. 31, 2013.

Action 13/1091: JPM to incorporate this information into the 2014 budget and to provide Cnl with a revised 2014 budget, by Jan. 31, 2014.

9.3 Credit card payment, contract with Copernicus

Cnl accepted Copernicus' proposal to handle credit card payment on behalf of ISPRS as of January 1st, 2014. XE was asked to contact the ISPRS web master ME to clear

any technical details. CJ signed the contract, the Copernicus counter signature will be done in the next few days.

Fees occurring from the payment will be absorbed by ISPRS; ISPRS members will not be requested to pay them.

Action 13/1092: CH to coordinate obtaining the signature from Copernicus for credit card contract with XE, by Nov. 30, 2013.

9.4 TIF

Current TIF sponsorships come from Leica (CHF 5.000,- p.a.), and IGI (€ 3.000,- p.a.). Sponsorship negotiations with several additional companies are under way; they will be coordinated with ISPRS.

Funding for 2013 is completed. Travel grants for the ISPRS Hannover Workshop and the ISPRS Joint Conference in Antalya as well as the ISPRS summer schools in Addis Ababa and Bali have been given in cash, totalling U\$ 15.000,-.

MM announced the availability of travel grants for midterm symposia from TIF: U\$ 24.000,- in Symposia year (on average, U\$ 3.000,- per TC), and U\$ 5.000,- additional funds for the three summer schools, planned in connection with the Commission VI Symposium as well as the African and the Asian Conferences on Remote Sensing in South Africa and Myanmar, respectively.

MM will make sure that travel grant opportunities will be announced on the ISPRS and TIF websites a minimum of 4 months prior to the event. The TIF Grant Review Committee will review all applications and awardees will be notified by the TIF Board. Certificates of recognition will be distributed.

MM was asked to prepare a strategy for both, TIF and ISPRS, on how best to support summer schools in the future.

MM reported that a South American representative is sought to complete the TIF Grants Committee.

Action 13/1093: MM to make sure that travel grant opportunities will be announced on the ISPRS and the TIF web sites a minimum of 4 months prior to the event, starting by Jan. 15, 2014.

Action 13/1094: MM to prepare a strategy on how best to support summer schools in the future, by March 31, 2014.

10. ISPRS Committees

10.1 ISAC

ID reported on ISAC activities. The suggestion for revision of the meeting structure was prepared (it will be discussed in the JM) and a discussion on the definition of photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information science was initiated, the results were forwarded to Cnl. ID will also present his views on ISAC at the Joint Conference. The new definitions will be made public appropriately via the web, the eBulletin etc. and incorporated into the ISPRS statutes in due time. They will also be included in the vision paper.

CJ and CH reported that several requests to reduce the number of Symposia have been voiced. Although too late for the 2014 Symposia, the idea of combining future meetings was discussed and consideration was given to revise the commission structure, thereby reducing the number of commissions. It was decided to organise an open consultation process involving, among others, TCPs, WG officers, OdM and Honorary Members. The consultation should be based on a concept to be developed

by Council and could include a reduction to five commissions, whereby Com. II + IV, Com. III + V as well as Com. VII + VIII would be combined.

CH was asked to draft a paper detailing a possible new structure together with a rationale for change. The new structure could possibly be implemented by ballot vote and be introduced in the 2016-2020 period.

Action 13/1095: CH to prepare a draft paper detailing a possible new commission structure and distribute it to Cnl for a first revision, by Dec. 31, 2013.

10.2 IPAC

GS presented the IPAC report. He has made a suggestion to revise the ToR's, these were accepted with minor changes.

GS also presented a list of current IPAC members and gave a summary of 2013 activities, incl. the track of three sessions within the Joint Conference in Antalya.

CH was asked to make sure the updated version of the ToR's along with the list of new members be uploaded to the web.

Action 13/1096: CH to make sure the updated ToR and the list of IPAC members be put on the web, by Nov. 30, 2013.

11. Relations with other international organisations

11.1 Policy for collaboration with international organisations

CJ and OA summarised the general role of the international organisations such as ICSU, GEO and various UN bodies (in particular UN-GGIM and UN OOSA) for ISPRS. These collaborations have a great potential to raise the general visibility of ISPRS for decision makers in politics and industry. Nevertheless, they need to be investigated on a case-to-case basis for their usefulness.

Cnl will actively support OA in being nominated by the ICSU GeoUnions for a second term as member of the ICSU executive board.

ID reported on a European project named GI-N2K with the goal to compile a body of knowledge on GIS, based on an example of the American Association of Geographers. ID is a member of project advisory board and will keep Cnl informed on the progress of the project.

OA reported that, after the successful launch of the VALID booklet at the UN headquarters in Vienna, in September 2013, he was contacted by UN OOSA to initiate a third booklet about GI and disaster management. OA will present a corresponding proposal to the ICSU GeoUnions and will keep Cnl informed.

12. Coming meetings

12.1 Council attendance at upcoming meetings

Council discussed participation in ISPRS and other meetings during 2014. A list of potential participations is part of the minutes.

ISPRS Midterm Symposia

IV	May 14-16	Suzhou	CJ,CH,LH,OA
VI	May 19-21	Wuhan	CJ,CH,LH,OA,MM
V	June 23-25	Riva	CJ,CH,LH,JPM

III	Sept. 5-7	Zürich	CJ,CH,LH
VII	Sept. 29–Oct. 2	Istanbul	CJ,CH,LH,MM
II	Oct. 6-8	Toronto	CJ,CH?,LH?,OA,MM
I	Nov. 17-20	Denver	CJ,CH,LH,MM
VIII + CM	Dec. 9-12	Hyderabad	All
Joint Meeting	Dec. 13-14	Hyderabad	All

Other events:

EVENT	LOCATION	DATE	PARTICIPANTS
GEO minist. summi	Switzerland	Jan 16-	CJ
UN-COPUOS	Vienna	Feb. 10-21	OA
ASPRS	Louisville, KN	March 23-28	LH,MM,JPM ?
GWF	Geneva	May 5-9	ID,GS,CH,LH?
MundoGeo	Sao Paulo	May 7-9	JPM?,LH?
AGILE	Castellon (Spain)	June 3-6	CH?
FIG	Kuala Lumpur	June 16-21	JPM,CH?,MM?
Afrika GEO	Cape Town	July 1-3	CJ
JB-GIS UN GGIM	New York	Aug. 3 (JBGIS) Aug. 4 - 6 (GGIM)	OA, G. Konecny
ICSU General Assembly	Auckland	Aug. 30 -Sept. 03	OA,CJ,CH
SELPER	Medellim Columbia	Sept. 29 -Oct. 03 parallel to TC VII	MM
Intergeo	Berlin	Oct. 7-9 parallel to TC II	CH?,LH?
AARSE	Johannesburg	Oct. 27-31	CH,MM,LH?
AARS	Myanmar	Oct. 27-31	CJ,LH?
UN GGIM summit	China	Oct	CJ

12.2 Next Council meetings

The next Council Meeting will take place in April 2014 in Novosibirsk, Russia during **Interexpo Geo-Siberia-2014** (April 16-18, 2014).

Details will be worked out in order to maximise the travel, and to possibly also arrange for meetings with the Russian OdM in Moscow as well as Russian industry leaders.

CH is asked to contact the local host to find out possible expectations with regard to the stay of ISPRS Council (workshop, special lectures, special meetings etc.).

Action 13/1097: CH to make necessary arrangements with the help of LH, in due time.

A list of potential further dates and locations for CM follows.

Event	Location	Date
CM	Novosibirsk	April 2014
JM	Hyderabad	Dec. 13/14, 2014
CM	Tampa, Florida (?)	Spring 2015
JM	Prague	Summer 2015
CM	To be decided	Late 2015/early2016
JM	To be decided	Spring 2016
CM	Prague	immediately before Congress

13. Review of council action lists (CH)

The action list was updated.

14. Any other business (all)

none.

15. Close (CJ)

CJ thanks OA and FS for the excellent organisation and closed the meeting.