

Minutes, Council Meeting 2015

7 - 10 July, 2015

Prague, Czech Republic

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)

Guests:

Franz Leberl (FL), Chair IIAC (July 7)
George Vosselman (GV), Chair Int. Prog. Com. Congr. (July 8)
Ian Dowman (ID), Chair ISAC (July 8)
Markus English (ME), Web Master (July 10)
Ursa Kanjir (UK), Student Consortium Rep. (July 10)

Minutes:

ISPRS Headquarters	Annette Radtke (AR)
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Minutes

1. Opening remarks

CJ welcomed all and opened the meeting at 9:10.

2. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Review of previous meetings

3.1. Approval of minutes of CM, Newcastle, 30th March - 2nd April, 2015

The Minutes from Newcastle were approved.

3.2. Review of council action lists

The council actions were updated.

4. Science issues

4.1. ISPRS vision paper

The vision paper was submitted on May 15, 2015, and reviewing is now in progress.

4.2. ISPRS Journal of Ph&RS theme issue for Congress

15 papers were submitted, and reviewing is now in progress. The aim is to have the theme issue ready a few months prior to the Prague Congress.

5. Policy matters and society management

5.1. Restructuring of Commissions and meeting structure

Restructuring was accepted by the Ordinary Members with overwhelming majority. Information about this decision has been widely distributed.

5.2. ISPRS Geospatial Week

With a total of 11 events, 342 papers have been submitted and 380 participants had registered by early July.

UNOOSA has generously offered to buy air tickets up to \$8,000 for attendees coming from developing countries.

All members were informed of the bidding process for the GSW 2017 in a letter circulated in May, 2015. Wuhan University has indicated their intention to submit a bid.

The content of the GSW document *Organisation, Scientific Programme and Bidding Process* is to be integrated to the Orange Book after taking into account the experiences made in Montpellier.

Chen Jun will not be able to attend the GSW 2015.

Action 15/1038: CH to integrate the content of the GSW document into the Orange Book, by Nov.30, 2015.

5.3. Strategic plan actions

OA is to prepare a draft of the Strategic Plan actions for Congress to be reviewed at GSW.

Action 15/1039: OA to prepare a draft template for Strategic Plan actions to be filled out by task force leaders, by Sept. 15, 2015.

Action 15/1040: Task Force leads to fill out template for report on Strategic Plan, by Sept. 30, 2015.

5.4. Revision of statutes and bylaws

The updated version of the Bylaws facilitating the change in Commission Structure is online. MM is to draft changes to the statutes, to be reviewed at the PHOWO in Stuttgart.

Action 15/1041: MM to draft changes to Statutes and distribute to Cnl, by 31st Aug. 2015.

5.5. Revision of statutes for Gruber Award

Sponsorship for the Von Gruber Award has been transferred from the ITC Foundation to the Netherlands Center for Geodesy and Geo-information (NCG). As a consequence editorial changes to the Gruber Award statutes, as requested by NCG were reviewed and approved.

Action 15/1042: CH to inform NCG about approval of new statutes for Von Gruber award and have the new version published on the web, by July 31, 2015.

6. Review of Commission

WG II/4 Co-chair Jennifer Dungan has stepped down from her position. Council took note of this information. It was decided that due to the short remaining time a replacement is not necessary.

Council asked the Com. IVI President to suggest replacements for inactive WG officers of WG IV/6. Council also asked the Com. VIII President to suggest replacements for inactive WG officers of WG VIII/3 and VIII/8.

7. The XXIII Congress in Prague 2016

7.1. Second announcement

The 2nd Announcement of the Congress has been disseminated via email, the web site and facebook. The printed version will be distributed to Cat. 4-8 OdMs. The digital version will be continuously updated and can be found at www.isprs2016-prague.com/download.

7.2. List of action items prior to congress

The list of actions was reviewed and some modifications were made to fulfil the Prague Congress requirements.

7.3. Awards

Awards handling and presentation was discussed based on documents prepared by OA. Further discussion will take place during PHOWO in September.

Council suggested names of people to act on the Awards Nomination Committee. CH is to invite them and ask for confirmation of participation.

Action 15/1043: CH to invite suggested persons to act on Awards Nomination Committee, by Sept. 30, 2015

7.4. Review and paper handling

GV explained the paper review and handling process adopted for the Congress. The implementation is based on the Conftool software.

All papers to be published in the Archives and Annals will be subjected to the review process. That includes Invited Papers. TCPs should ask WG officers to suggest names for invited speakers (max. one speaker per WG) and oversee the selection process.

Action 15/1044: CH to distribute the documents for paper review and handling to all Commission Presidents, by July 31, 2015.

7.5. Technical sessions, theme sessions and special sessions

LH presented the current status based on the distributed documents, which were discussed and updated.

7.6. Opening and closing sessions, plenary sessions

The importance of a high profile opening ceremony speaker was discussed. Further discussion is to take place during PHOWO in Stuttgart and during GSW in Montpellier.

7.7. National Mapping and Cadastre Agency Forum and Space Agency Forum

As discussed in the Newcastle CM promotion material for the Fora is to be prepared. The material is to be distributed at the UNGGIM meeting in New York in early August 2015.

Action 15/1045: LH to prepare flyers for the two Fora with the help of CH, by July 31, 2015..

ID offered to help with organising the Space Forum. CH was asked to find a NMCA contact representative, e.g. from EuroSDR to help with the NMCA Forum.

Action 15/1046: CH to ask a NMCA contact representative to help with the NMCA Forum, by July 31, 2015..

7.8. Exhibition

Negotiations for sponsorship are taking place with various companies, incl. Google, Trimble and ESRI.

7.9. Prague Declaration

The Prague Declaration, prepared by ID, CJ and SL, was discussed. Comments from Cnl and CPs were added. ID was requested to now solicit comments from ISAC and IPAC.

OA asked to consider an addition to be added, noting the importance of our science for disaster management and the need for more interaction between ISPRS and ICSU.

Action 15/1047: ID to forward Prague Declaration to ISAC and IPAC for comment, by August 31, 2015.

7.10. Other preparations

The current form of resolutions was discussed. It was decided to simplify the format and a template will be forwarded to all CP's in due time.

MM is asked to prepare this template. It should be one (max. two) pages in length for each of the new commissions, i.e. the current Com. II+IV as well as III+V and VII+VIII will each fill in this template together.

Action 15/1048: MM to prepare a template for the resolutions and forward to Council, by Sept. 15, 2015.

LH reported that the general media partner for the Congress is GIM International, who will also be responsible for the daily newsletter. Other media partners are V1 Media and LLC, and negotiations with SPAR Point Group are taking place.

The Congress will also be promoted during Intergeo in September 2015 in Stuttgart. A booth together with DGPF will be used for this purpose. LH is asked to organise the presence of ISPRS at Intergeo with the help of CH.

Action 15/1049: LH to to organise the presence of ISPRS at Intergeo with the help of CH, by August 31, 2015.

8. ISPRS Membership

Ivory Coast/Cote d'Ivoire applied for ordinary membership and was accepted to ISPRS.

CH reported on the status of Individual Membership. As of end of June, 2015, 308 Individuals were registered from 62 different countries and regions. Letters to OdMs informing them of the IdMs within their country/region were sent in June. In the future OdMs will be informed every 6 months.

9. ISPRS Publications

9.1. ISPRS Annals and Archives

The Annals are now also indexed in the Web of Science. Applications for inclusion into the Engineering Index EI are in preparation.

9.2. ISPRS Web

ME reported on the status of the website. In 2014 it was visited 80-100,000 times per month by 20-30,000 different visitors. Most requests are being implemented within 24 hours.

The TC sites are housed on an extra server which received 30-40,000 hits monthly from 1600-8000 visitors. Both servers are updated daily.

StMs have complimentary access to the digital version of the ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. Their logos are displayed at random and rated per category on the site.

Not all WGs keep their sites updated, and ME asked that TCs and WGs use their websites for announcements instead of requesting email distribution.

He also reported of good communication with Copernicus publishers.

Council expresses its satisfaction with this important medium of communication achieved and thanks ME very much for his successful efforts.

9.3. ISPRS Journals

9.3.1. Journal strategy document

The status of the strategy document was discussed. MM is to further refine the content based on comments received, and then to forward it to all EiCs requesting their advice. Cnl and EiCs are to discuss the next version in Montpellier.

Action 15/1050: MM to revise the journal strategy document and get advice from all 3 EiCs, by Sept. 15, 2015.

9.3.2. ISPRS Journal of P&RS

JPM summarised the contract draft received from Elsevier. Further negotiation is necessary. To this effect MM and OA are to send comment to JPM. JPM is asked to continue the discussions with Elsevier, based on comments from OA and MM.

Action 15/1051: MM and OA to revise Elsevier contract and send comments to JPM by July 31, 2015.

Action 15/1052: JPM to continue discussions with Elsevier, by Sept. 15, 2015.

9.3.3. The International Journal of Geo-Information

Since April 2015, the ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information is indexed in the Web of Science. The first impact factor is due to be published in the June 2016 release of the Journal Citation Reports.

9.4. Book Series

CJ offered to prepare a report on the Book Series with the help of ZL, incl. a suggestion how to continue the series, to Council during August.

Action 15/1053: CJ to prepare a report on the Book Series with the help of ZL, by Aug. 31, 2015.

9.5. eBulletin

The eBulletin appears regularly. Council updated the list of responsibility for the editorial.

9.6. GIM and Geoinformatics page

Council updated the list of responsibility for the pages for GIM and GeoInformatics.

10. Financial affairs

10.1. Treasurer activities report

JPM reported that the Financial Commission approved the 2014 accounts/report and the 2015 budget.

10.2. Update on subscription payments received to date / members in arrears

A list of members with arrears was reviewed and Cnl members will take up personal contact where possible. JPM was asked to distribute an updated table of arrears with contact persons to Cnl, and to continue to follow up on other outstanding memberships.

Action 15/1054: JPM to distribute an updated table of arrears with contact person to Cnl, by July 10, 2015.

Action 15/1055: JPM to follow up on other outstanding memberships, by August 15, 2015.

10.3. Current 2015 financial position against budget

Approximately 80% of expected income has been received for the 2015 financial year. Reminders to outstanding members have been distributed.

10.4. ISPRS registration, banking and tax paying

JPM outlined his investigations regarding the UBS custody account location. UBS has now appointed a wealth management adviser for ISPRS, and the issue seems to be settled.

10.5. Amnesty issues

The ODM of Uruguay accepted the amnesty offered to them and have since paid their 2014 - 2015 invoices.

11. ISPRS Committees

11.1. Student Consortium

UK gave an informative presentation on the status and the impressive work of the SC. The SC has a large group on Facebook (> 4000 people). CH suggested merging this group with the existing ISPRS group.

UK requested a regular procedure to simplify the applications for Summer Schools. The application form for ISPRS events will be modified by MM and UK to suit SC requirements. A request, a schedule and a budget estimate should be included. For 2016, two summer schools will probably be run by the SC, the one in connection with the Congress and one in connection with the Asian Conference on Remote Sensing. The relationship between SS organised by the SC and other summer schools supported by ISPRS and TIF (e. g. the 3S school and the IEEE/ISPRS summer school to be held in Brazil) was also discussed.

CJ requested a comprehensive report incl. an evaluation of each SS by the SC to be submitted to Cnl to validate funding. The report should be published in the eBulletin.

The procedure for the reviewing process for Congress was discussed, to ensure Young Author papers will be handled in the same way as other papers submitted to the Archives and Annals.

Council informed UK that a report from the SC will be expected at the GA and that a report for the next Biennial Report will also be required.

A new branding of the Student Consortium was discussed, to integrate young scientists, who are not students. It was considered appropriate to add *Young Professionals* to the name. In this context a contact with other groups devoted to young scientists and /or professionals in GI, e.g. the FIG Young Surveyors, was discussed.

Action 15/1056: UK and MM to modify the SS application form, by August 31, 2015

11.2. New International Industry Advisory Committee

Council has initiated a new committee called International Industry Advisory Committee (IIAC) to improve relations with industry and the commercial sector. Franz Leberl has accepted to chair this committee and attended the meeting.

CH welcomed Franz Leberl, who spoke on the implementation of the IIAC. He requested Cnl review the benefits for StMs, e.g. Summer Schools involving StM employees, ISO certification, discounted registration at ISPRS events, other financial benefits when participating in ISPRS events. The approach to marketing should be directed towards the needs of StMs.

IIAC should have as its task to attract new sustaining members. A strategy to achieve this goal is to be developed, preferably in the coming months, so that a first IIAC meeting can be held during the Congress.

11.3. IPAC

The issue of a code of conduct for ISPRS was discussed. OA will forward the ICSU code and MM the ASPRS code to Cnl to review. A draft is to be made which may be submitted for adoption to the GA in 2016.

Action 15/1057: OA to forward ICSU code of conduct to Cnl, by July 31, 2015.

Action 15/1058: MM to forward ASPRS code of conduct to Cnl, by July 31, 2015.

12. Relations with international and other organisations

12.1. Geospatial World Forum

CH reported on the GWF which took place in Lisbon. It was a government-dominated meeting with 500 INSPIRE and approx. 1000 other participants. The next Forum is to take place in Rotterdam on May 23, 2016.

12.2. ICSU - Future Earth

OA reported on an article on disaster management initiated by ICSU which appeared in the June issue of Nature.

12.3. JBGIS

The next meeting will be held in New York, CJ is planning to attend.

12.4. GIM

GIM will organise a GIS Summit in Rotterdam in February 2016 and has asked ISPRS for endorsement. Council decided to endorse the meeting.

12.5. TIF

MM requested future Summer Schools be selected as early as possible, as the TIF budget for the following year is set in December, including a four year budget projection.

13. Coming meetings

13.1. Meetings to be attended by Council members

The attendance list was reviewed and updated.

13.2. Next meetings

CM Winter Beijing, Jan 7 - 9, 2016

JM Spring tbd, March 14 - 18, 2016

14. Any other business

14.1. Repository for some historical items

A location for a permanent display of plaques and other items of historical interest is to be found. The University of Vienna has been approached and further negotiation is awaited.

14.2. TIF

MM reported that the TIF Budget of \$2,500 includes approximately \$1,500 donations yearly. It is recommended that in 2016 \$90,000 be designated to travel to Congress and a further \$10,000 go to other events, such as summer schools.

15. Closing

CJ thanked LH for the warm hospitality. He also thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 16:30.