



31. Report of The ISPRS Foundation

Dieter Fritsch, Chair, Board of Trustees

1. Introduction

The ISPRS Foundation Inc. is a non-profit entity, managed by a Board of Trustees, which responds to ISPRS grant needs that are identified by the ISPRS Council. The ISPRS Council will solicit proposals for grants and then collaborate with TIF Board to support worthy candidates. The Board of Trustees is responsible for fund raising, investment, management and approval for grants of Foundation funds. Day-to-day operations of the Foundation are managed by an Executive Committee (ExCom), comprising the Chair, Operations Officer and Finance Officer. Decisions requiring approval by the Board are made by electronic ballots. It is required that the Board meets regularly in conjunction with the ISPRS Congress or otherwise by teleconference.

The ISPRS Foundation (TIF) was legally established in August 2003 and the Board of Trustees, comprised of prominent professionals in the fields of ISPRS, were then appointed. TIF has as its aims to improve the ability of ISPRS to satisfy its philanthropic aims and objectives, by administering a broadly-based international program of fund-raising to provide grants to qualified individuals and organizations, pursuing and/or applying knowledge for advancing the sciences and technologies associated with the disciplines embodied by ISPRS. The areas that are expected to be funded by The ISPRS Foundation include awards, awareness education, distance learning, exchange programs, fellowships, grants, international workshops, internships, preservation and archiving, research initiatives, scholarships, standards projects, tools and literature, and travel grants. It is contributing significantly to the efforts of ISPRS in capacity building, international cooperation and technology transfer. The Foundation has now been in operation for almost 13 years. The first grants were provided to participants to attend the Mid-term Symposia in 2006 and further grants have been awarded every year since then.

2. Summary of TIF BoT Decisions Melbourne 2012

During the last meeting of the TIF BoT at the ISPRS Melbourne Congress, 27 August 2012 the following decisions were made:

- Changes were recommended to the Bylaws to allow the Chair Dieter Fritsch to continue for a further term. *These changes were implemented, so that Dieter Fritsch could extend his term till July 2016.*
- Existing Officers were re-elected as listed below.
- Recommendations were made on future members of the Board and committees as listed below.
- Juergen Dold offered the assistance of Sara Vermeulen from Leica Geosystems, Heerbrugg, to review TIF's marketing plan. *Subsequently, recommendations were received from Sara Vermeulen, including the preparation of a newsletter on a quarterly basis. This newsletter is now incorporated into the ISPRS Bulletin.*
- Regarding financial management:
 - TIF should try to maintain its capital base and therefore increase its donations.
 - Trustees should aim to boost capital by 5% per year after expenditure.
 - TIF should not fund science initiatives in future.
 - TIF should aim to allocate funds with max. \$30,000 per year.

3. TIF Activities and Funding 2012-2016 (Travel Grants for 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016)

TIF provided funding for the following activities throughout the past 4 years:

2012 - Total USD 33,910.00

Travel Grants: USD 26,600.00

Partial travel grants were awarded for 11 participants to attend ISPRS Congress in Melbourne, Australia.

Congress Awards: USD 7,310.00

Wang Zhizhuo Award (CHF 2,500 or USD 2,560)

Frederick J. Doyle Award (USD 2,500)

CATCon (3) Awards (USD 2,250) of Gold (USD 1,000), Silver (USD 750) and Bronze (USD 500) for winners of software contest organized by ISPRS Commission VI Working Group 2, Computer Assisted Teaching and sponsored donor companies.

2013 – USD 20,649.79

International Workshops – USD 12,678.11

9th ISPRS Student Consortium and WG VI/5 Summer School, 25-30 October 2013, Bali, Indonesia (USD 4066.11)

10th ISPRS Student Consortium and WG VI/5 Summer School, 28 October – 1 November, 2013 at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (USD 8,612.00)

Travel Grants: USD 7,971.68

ISPRS Hannover Workshop ‘High-Resolution Earth Imaging for Geospatial Information’, at Leibniz University Hannover Germany, from 21-24 May 2013 (USD 3,750)

ISPRS Conference on Serving Society with Geoinformatics –SSG-2013, Joint Meeting, 11-17 November 2013, Antalya, Turkey (USD 2,953.30)

Student Consortium Representative to ISPRS SC and WG VI/5 Summer School, Addis Ababa, 29 October to 2 November 2012, (USD 1,268.38)

2014 - Total USD 33,443.22

International Workshops – USD 4,952.22

ISPRS Student Consortium, 3S and WG VI/5 Summer School, Wuhan, China (USD 3,000.00)

Support, Student Consortium representative to attend SC/WG VI/5 Summer Schools (USD 1,952.22)

Travel Grants: USD 28,491.00

Partial travel grants were awarded for 29 participants from 16 countries to attend ISPRS Symposia for Commissions I to VIII.

2015 – USD 24,376.02

International workshops – USD 11,423.78

ISPRS Student Consortium and WG VI/5 Summer Schools at ACRS, Myanmar (1-5 November 2014) and Philippines (23-28 October 2015)

Students Summer School (3S), Moscow, Russia (13-16 August 2015)

Travel grants – USD 12,952.24

Photogrammetric Image Analysis (PIA) 2015 and HRIGI in Munich 25-27 March 2015 – USD 3,952.24

ISPRS Geospatial Week-2015 28 September – 3 October 2015, La Grande Motte, France – USD 9,000

2016 (Estimated Total USD 53,462 with contribution from ISPRS of approximately USD 29,000)

Travel Grants for 63 grantees to attend the ISPRS Congress in Prague (USD 30,000)

International workshops – (Estimated USD 12,757)

IEEE-ISPRS Summer Schools in Curitiba, Brazil (29 October to 1 November 2015) and Sao Paulo, Brazil (19-21 October 2016)

ISPRS Student Consortium and WG VI/5 Summer School, Prague Congress (10 July 2016)

Congress Awards – (Estimated USD 10,705)

Wang Zhizhuo Award of CHF 2,500 or USD 2,560)

Frederick J. Doyle Award (USD 2,500) and medal (USD 720)
 IGI Africa Ambassador Award (EUR 2,500 or USD 2,675)
 CATCon (3) Awards (USD 2,250) of Gold (USD 1,000), Silver (USD 750) and Bronze (USD 500) for winners of software contest organized by ISPRS Commission VI Working Group 2, Computer Assisted Teaching and sponsored donor companies.

Total grants for the period 2012-2015 total USD 112,379 with an additional USD 53,462 expected to be granted in 2016.

4. TIF IGI Africa Ambassador Award

IGI has offered the IGI Ambassador Award, via The ISPRS Foundation (TIF) valued at €2,500 per year, to young scientists in photogrammetry and laser scanning coming from regionally under-represented African countries in the geospatial sciences and technology fields. The award allows for visits at IGI's Central Office, Kreuztal, Germany, and active participation at ISPRS Workshops, Conferences, and Symposia. The first recipient of this award was M.Sc. Muna Khamis Birra Ali, Khartoum, Sudan who visited IGI in Kreuztal in March 2016 as well as the Institute for Photogrammetry at the University of Stuttgart, and nFrames in Stuttgart. A further award is available for 2016.

5. White Elephants Travel Grants

A *White Elephants Restricted Travel Grant Fund* has been established in The ISPRS Foundation to support young people to attend ISPRS events and especially the quadrennial ISPRS Congresses. The restricted grant category will be funded by senior members of ISPRS, who are members of the White Elephants, (a group of TIF former officers, TIF Honorary Members and Fellows) and who wish to demonstrate their continued commitment to the aims and goals of ISPRS. By supporting young outstanding scientists worldwide to attend ISPRS international scientific events, the White Elephants Travel Grants will demonstrate their commitment to the future of ISPRS. The support for these young people will encourage and equip them to take over the leadership of ISPRS in the future. The White Elephants Travel Grants are offered for the first time in 2016 for awardees to attend the ISPRS Congress in Prague.

6. Financial Statements (2012-2016)

The Bylaws were constructed in accordance with regulations to be exempt from Federal and other taxation. The Foundation's net worth is expressed as Net Fair Market Value (NFMV). Over the past 4 years, the year-end NFMV in US\$, the amount of grants, administrative costs, and investment earnings are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1. TIF Net Fair Market Value (NFMV), Grants, Admin Costs, Earnings and Donations

General Comments:

- Donations from Leica Geosystems of USD 10,015 should be added to the NFMV for 2013 and 2014. Invoicing for these donations to secure the payments was inadvertently omitted.
- Actions are solicited from Trustees, ISPRS Council and Delegates to the General Assembly to improve the number of donations received by TIF. The level of donations is generally lower than required to satisfy the Board's intention in 2012 of boosting capital by 5% per year and providing USD 30,000 per year in grants.
- The online donation capability using PayPal has been initiated with buttons providing options for donations in USD, CHF and Euro.

Year-end	NFMV	Grants Distributed	Operating Cost (% Admin Expense)	Investment Earnings	Donations
2012	\$ 170,206.27	\$ 34,905.54	\$ 1,350.00 (0.79%)	\$ 10,041.60	\$ 15,121.60
2013	\$ 166,761.89	\$ 20,649.79	\$ 75.00 (0.04%)	\$ 7,235.18	\$ 20,130.34
2014	\$ 162,306.03	\$ 33,443.22	\$ 1,675.00 (1.00%)	\$ 4,259.06	\$ 23,658.01
2015	\$ 148,559.28	\$ 24,376.02	\$ 2,850.00 (1.92%)	\$ 4,622.30	\$ 12,853.77
2016	TBD	~ \$ 53,462.00	TBD	TBD	TBD

- Pledges to TIF by members of the White Elephants Club have been rejuvenated following the Melbourne Congress and the development of the White Elephants Travel Grant.
- Efforts to solicit new donations from TIF Sustaining Members are ongoing and assistance by Trustees and ISPRS Council is encouraged.
- Due low interest rates earnings have reduced over the past 4 years.
- Unrealized losses and gains are being experienced due to fluctuations in the market values of TIF's investments.

7. Acknowledgement of Major Donors

- The annual generous donations by Leica Geosystems of CHF 5,000 per year (period 2012-2016) are acknowledged and gratefully received.
- A generous donation of USD 4,990 from Geoway, (China) is acknowledged and gratefully received.
- The donation of € 2,500 per year (period 2014-2016) for the IGI Ambassador Program from IGI Kreuztal, Germany, is acknowledged and gratefully received.
- ISPRS Council for continued financial support for TIF activities over the past 4 years.

8. Board of Trustees – 2012-2016

The Board of Trustees comprises 11 persons, who are appointed by ISPRS Council. Only two members of the Board of Trustees may be members of the existing Council of ISPRS. Trustees are leaders in fields of the photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information sciences, who have significant knowledge and experience in the needs of industry and governments. Membership of the Board reflects the international character and diversity of the Society. Trustees do not receive any salary or other compensation for their services.

Current Board Members

Dieter Fritsch, Stuttgart University, Germany – Chair and ExCom Officer

John Trinder, University of New South Wales, Australia – Operations and ExCom Officer

Marguerite Madden, University of Georgia, Athens GA, USA – Finance and ExCom Officer

Chen Jun (China) – ISPRS COUNCIL REP

Jon Mills (UK) - ISPRS COUNCIL REP

Juergen Dold, President, Hexagon Geosystems, Heerbrugg, Switzerland

Lewis Graham – President/CTO GeoCue Group, Huntsville, USA

Mazlan Othman, Director UN Office of Outer Space Affairs (UN_OOSA), Vienna, Austria

LI Deren (China) – Wuhan, China, newly appointed September 2012

Mario Hernandez (Switzerland), newly appointed March 2014

Lawrie Jordan ESRI, Redlands, USA, newly appointed August 2014

Former Board Members

Akihiro Yamura (Japan) - Term ended in 2012

Lawrence Fritz – Term ended in July 2013

Vanessa Lawrence - Director General & Chief Executive Ordnance Survey (UK) – Term ended July 2013

Special thanks and acknowledgements are extended to all present and past Board members for their commitment and contributions to the work of The ISPRS Foundation.

Office Bearers – 2012-2016

Chair – Dieter Fritsch

Operations Officer – John Trinder

Finance Officer – Marguerite Madden

Board Meetings

A meeting of the TIF Board of Trustees was held on 27 August 2012 during the XXIInd ISPRS Congress, Melbourne, Australia, with 8 Board members in attendance.

A meeting will also be held in Prague during the XXIIIrd Congress on Sunday 17 July 2016.

Committees

The Board has established the following Committees to assist it in its operations. Members of these Committees and Terms of Reference are given in the Appendix.

- Marketing and Promotions Committee
- Grants Evaluation Committee
- Large Grants Procurement Committee
- Audit Committee

9. Conclusions and Outlook

The continued need to provide assistance to young scientists to attend international workshops and ISPRS sponsored events has placed strong demands on TIF to attract funds. Nevertheless, TIF has been able to provide assistance to many young scientists from developing countries throughout the past 4 years.

The Net Fair Market Value (NFMV) has not increased to satisfy the Board's resolutions in 2012 to boost capital by 5% per year and providing USD 30,000 per year in grants. However, despite the difficult financial times the NFMV has remained close to the same amount of approximately USD 170,000 given the generous support of major donors for which the Board are very much appreciative. (Note: Although the NFMV dipped slightly below USD 150,000 in 2015, it is expected to increase in 2016 due to some 2013 and 2014 and new 2016 donations, all being received in 2016.) All persons involved in ISPRS are urged to seek donors for the Foundation so that its very beneficial work can continue.

APPENDIX - TIF COMMITTEES

Grants Evaluation Committee

Terms of Reference

1. Make recommendations to the Board of Trustees on priorities for grants in any 12 month period.
2. Consider applications for grants and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
3. Generally advise the Board on matter relating to grants.

Members of Grants Evaluation Committee

Chair – Jon Mills (UK) Chair
Nguyen Dinh Duong (Vietnam)
Hussein Farah (Kenya)
Sisi Zlatanova (Netherlands)
Norbert Pfeiffer (Austria)

Large Grants Procurement Committee

Terms of Reference

Advise and support the Board of Trustees on:

- International grant funding agencies/foundations, that would be sympathetic to the aims of The ISPRS Foundation and should be approached for financial support of The ISPRS Foundation
- Procedures for publicizing the goals and aims of The ISPRS Foundation to international grant funding agencies/foundations
- Appropriate procedures and points of contact for applying for grants from international agencies/foundations
- Procedures for renewal/maintenance of annual grants from international agencies/foundations.

Members of Large Grants Procurement Committee

Trustee – Dieter Fritsch (Germany) (Chair)
Member – John van Genderen (The Netherlands)
Member – Clive Fraser – (Australia)
Member - Alex Hoffman (USA)

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11. Audit Committee

Terms of Reference of Audit Committee

The responsibilities of the Audit Committee are to advise the Board of Trustees with its:

1. Submission of a report every February of its findings resulting from its independent examination and audit of all Foundation income and expenses of the preceding year.
2. Recommendations for improving the rules and procedures governing the receipt, anonymity and investment of gifts and donations, consistent with Foundation Bylaws and with federal and state law.

3. Recommendations for improving the rules and procedures governing the disbursement of grants, consistent with Foundation Bylaws and with federal and state law.
4. Prompt review of all proposed Foundation contracts and agreements to ensure consistency with Foundation Bylaws, as may be deemed necessary to carry on the business of the Foundation.
5. The term of members of the Committee will be three (3) years, with the term of the Chair for one (1) year, when it will be passed to another member of the Committee.

Members of Audit Committee

Chair – Lewis Graham – President/CTO GeoCue Group (USA)

Trustee – John Trinder (Australia)

Member – Laurent Polidori (France)