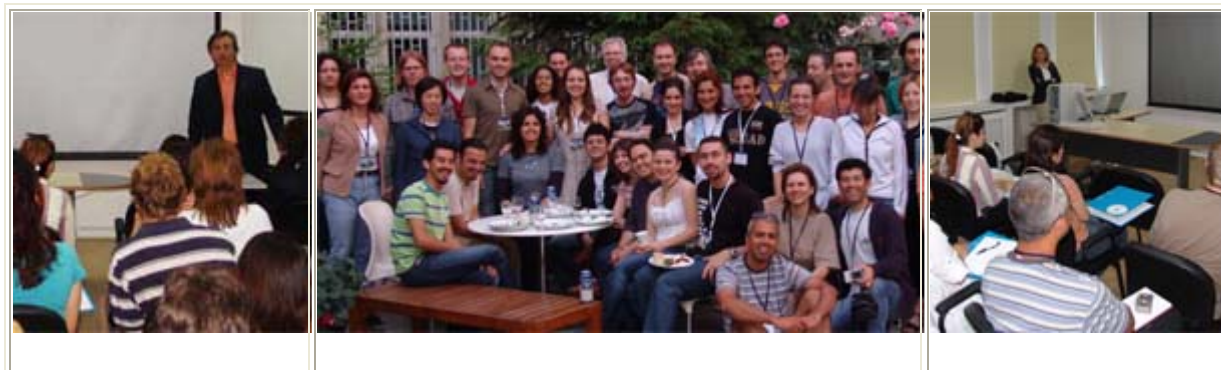


## ISPRS Student Consortium – First Summer School

19-26 June 2005, Istanbul, Turkey



The ISPRS Student Consortium (SC) was founded during the ISPRS Congress in July 2004 in Istanbul, when it was established under ISPRS Commission VI "Education and Outreach". The continuity of the SC was ensured by setting up an ISPRS Working Group "Promotion of the Profession to Students" that will provide a stable link between SC and ISPRS.

The main purpose of Student Consortium is to provide an important viewpoint into the work and activities of this professional international scientific society for students. It is open for all the advanced diploma students and young researchers in the ISPRS scientific fields. SC is also supposed to be an important link between the students from different countries, providing a good platform for cultural and information exchange.

During the first year of the SC, we have started from the basics to build up our organization in stable but also flexible way. In practice, this means among other things that we have prepared a WEB site for the SC (<http://www.students.itu.edu.tr/~isprs/>), introduced our organization internationally in many ways and also started to gather information of our members with a member questionnaire located at our WEB site. The current number of SC members is 130 from almost 30 countries all over the world, from India to United States. Especially many European countries are represented.

The designing and realization of the first ISPRS Summer School (SS) has also been one of the main goals for SC during the first year of its appearance. This event took place at Istanbul Technical University's Maslak campus during 19-26 of June and it was arranged in cooperation between SC Student Coordinators and the Local Organizing Committee consisting of Turkish students. Altogether almost 50 students registered for our meeting, from which 39 from 11 different countries finally participated. The furthestmost guest came all the way from Australia (University of Melbourne).

For practical reasons, this first ISPRS Summer School was arranged right after IGSM-GHG student meeting, which also took place at ITU's Maslak campus this year. Thus, many students were able to participate in both events. This kind of integration between ISPRS SC Summer School and other international meetings and conferences might be a useful approach also in the future.

The general topic of ISPRS Summer School was “Satellite Data Processing and Spatio-Temporal Analysis (for Resource and Disaster Mapping, Monitoring and Management)”. In practice, this topic was presented to the participants in a wide range of theory and application lectures provided by many world-class lecturers, real professionals in their own subject matter. Useful and extensive teaching material was provided on CD and in hardcopy.

The programme of the summer school including lecturers and other related information can be found at <http://www.students.itu.edu.tr/~isprs/SummerSchool.htm> . At the same WEB site, we plan to put soon also the teaching material of the summer school for free access.

Every evening after the lectures the members of Local Organizing Committee arranged for the participants interesting and variable social events, providing a chance to get to know the Turkish culture. These social events were important for building personal relationships between the participants, while the students could meet and discuss with the lecturers in person as well.

The last official event of the week was a discussion forum on Friday, where all the participants had a chance to express their thoughts about the Summer School. In general, the participants were very satisfied with the arrangements and the content of the Summer School. It was also a unanimous decision that this kind of events should definitely continue in the future. One of the things that participants would clearly want to have more in coming Summer Schools are computer labs, workshops and other similar activities.

This would provide also an important practical view into the material that was taught in theory during lectures. There was also a discussion about whether the Summer School should have a more specific topic, which then would be handled in more details. Maybe these both ideas might be combined in such way that the first part of the Summer School would be a little bit more general lectures for all together and after that participants would split into smaller groups with more specific topics and applications. But as a new organization we should be open and able to try different arrangements, while searching the most functional and practical form for our Summer Schools in the future.

In his conclusion speech at the end of discussion forum, Dr. Rahmi Nurhan Celik, Chair of ISPRS WG VI/5 – Promotion of the Profession to Students, pointed out an important view that the Summer School should be only one of the many activities of the Student Consortium. This means that we should not concentrate too much in optimizing just one annual event, but should instead try to develop several activities covering different needs. We all agree that this is the way for the ISPRS Student Consortium to reach its major goal - to unite all the students around the world working in the ISPRS fields, by providing them many chances to meet each other and to really cooperate.

At the end, we would like to express our special gratitude to Mr. Emmanuel Baltsavias the Second Vice President of ISPRS, Mr. Kohei Cho the President ISPRS Commission VI, the lecturers of the Summer School and all other persons who have greatly helped us during this first year of Student Consortium and especially in arranging of ISPRS Summer School. We would also like to express our gratitude to our sponsors: the ISPRS Council, ESA, ITU, ITU CSCRS, Leica Geosystems Turkey, Yildiz Technical University and the Turkish Chamber of Surveying and Cadastre Engineers. And of course we want to thank all participants as well.

Thank you!

Jaakko Jarvinen, on behalf of the  
Organizing Committee

Organizing Committee

Ahmet Sengul, Banu Yuksel, Cemal  
Kivilcim, Esra Erten, Goksel Akkoca,  
Jaakko Jarvinen, Kirsi Koivula, Oguz  
Ozdogan, Petek Tatli, Saygin Abdikan,  
Sultan Kocaman, Yelda Ademoglu, Yohei  
Shiraki

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