

ISPRS Activities for Students

at the 32nd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment,
San Jose, Costa Rica, 21-29 June 2007

The 32nd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of the Environment (ISRSE) took place in San Jose, Costa Rica on the 25th – 29th of June 2007, with a theme entitled “Sustainable Development through Global Earth Observations”. Through its continued commitment to young scientists and students in the fields of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences, the ISPRS Foundation sponsored participation of various students in this great event. This covered participation in the symposium and pre-symposium capacity building workshops.



In his presentation, Dr. Manos Baltasvias, 2nd Vice President of ISPRS, demonstrated the commitment of the ISPRS WG VI and the Student Consortium in advancing the interests of students within the activities of ISPRS. Participation included students mainly from Central and Southern America and also Spain, Turkey and South Africa. The workshops were characterized by intensive training coupled with practical demonstrations covering various aspects and application of optical and radar remote sensing.

A two day ISPRS Student Workshop was conducted by Alessio Cantone of SARMAP SA, Switzerland (www.sarmap.ch) on the 21st and the 22nd of June focusing on the processing of radar data. SARMAP kindly provided apart from the lecturer, Alessio Cantone, also software and data for practical labs. Other workshops followed on the 23rd and the 24th which included Unoccupied Airborne Systems, Synthetic Aperture Radar, Wetlands Education, Waveform Recording Lidar and TerraSAR-X SAR. The students got an opportunity to advance their skills, learn new concepts and share experiences in different applications.

The ISRSE symposium covered a diversity of topics revolving around issues of sustainable development through earth observation. Main issues covered the important aspects of Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) in the context of sustainable development to the entire earth, specifically focussing on societal benefit areas. This included among others aspects of human health, disasters, energy issues, food security, biodiversity & ecosystems, climate, agriculture, and earth observation technology & advances. The students presented both posters and papers in the topics ranging from floods, wetlands management, public health and land use monitoring and management.



Other student activities involved several social gatherings (see them singing in the photo), but also opportunities to built friendships, contacts for future research collaborations and possibilities for student exchange, together with continued participation in the ISPRS Activities.

Thanks go to:

- all Costa Rican (Ticos) students for their friendship and hospitality.
- Persons involved in the 32nd ISRSE who helped these activities: Allan Campos Gallo, Armond Joyce, Carlomagno Soto Castro, Chiyo and all other nice Costa Rican persons in the Organising Committee who helped.

And of course to ISPRS Foundation and SARMAP.

Brilliant Petja (South Africa) and Volkan Oral (Turkey)