

Working Group V/6- "Close range morphological measurement for the earth sciences"

Key topics addressed by WGV6 this year included: measuring soil surfaces in flumes and in the field by CRP, use of TLS to quantify surface change in debris flows and for quantifying dips and strikes in rock outcrops. It was clear that work in these areas is ongoing and will develop further. Working group V6 has grown steadily over the last year, now with 77 members from around the world. Our website <http://isprsv6.lboro.ac.uk/> was active at an early stage and has been maintained and updated regularly since inception. Interest in our activities continues to grow, as indicated by the increasing access to the ISPRS V6 website, on average it receives 10 hits per day.

Our first open meeting took place on the 10th September, 2010 as part of the RSPSoc 2009 conference, held at Leicester, United Kingdom. Here seven papers were presented by members of the working group, across two dedicated technical sessions. Presenters were truly international, travelling from Switzerland, Norway, Austria/Ethiopia, Italy and even Australia! Interest was high, with between 30 to 45 people attending both technical sessions. It is planned that papers from these sessions and perhaps other submissions from remaining working group members will be put together to form a special issue of The Photogrammetric Record. Members of the working group are currently reviewing papers that have been submitted for this special issue.

Over the last year the group has been developing two "tips" documents <http://isprsv6.lboro.ac.uk/tips.html>, providing guidance to users of digital photogrammetry and laser scanning to use when measuring and monitoring in the Earth sciences. This document is ongoing, providing a useful and pragmatic output from our activities.

Two working group V6 activities are planned for 2010, are coordinated by two ordinary group members, for which the chair wishes to acknowledge their enthusiasm and help. In May 2010, Dr. Dirk Rieke-Zapp and Prof. Norbert Pfeifer will be coordinating a session at the European Geomorphological Union in Vienna, entitled "High Definition Topography- Data Acquisition and Analysis". A further working group V6 session is planned for the Midterm Symposium, to be held in Newcastle, UK in June 2010. Recognition that events held and planned have a European bias means that a non-European event is desired in 2011. Contact has been made the Association of American Geographers, with a view to hold a joint session in North America at the AAG conference in 2011.

Jim Chandler (Chair); Simon Buckley, Greg Hancock (Co-chairs),
Rene Wackrow (Secretary)
November 2009