



January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Dear colleague,

this letter is to invite you to join the Working Group V/2

[Cultural heritage data acquisition and processing](#)

in the period until 2016.

The goal of the WG is to coordinate research development, technological innovation and integration and best-practice protocols across the full range of close-range measurement techniques applicable to cultural heritage and to identify ways to engage non-photogrammetrists with the ISPRS community

The WG will perform the following activities

1. Development and promotion of close range measurement techniques and spatial information systems applicable to cultural heritage
2. Integration of measurement techniques supporting documentation metric and remote sensing survey, monitoring and presentational valorisation requirements of the archaeology, architecture, conservation, restoration and archiving communities
3. Development and dissemination of best-practice protocols to aid appropriate application across related cultural heritage fields
4. Development and promotion of low-cost, rapid, innovative, automated, commercial and open-source approaches for documentation metric and remote sensing survey of heritage assets
5. Close co-operation with related disciplines, national / international groups (e.g. CIPA) and other ISPRS working groups

During the first meeting of the ISPRS Council the following actions have been approved:

- Participation in CIPA Symposiums organization (Strasburg, Sept. 2013, Taiwan (?) 2015) with dedicated sessions
- Participation in possible conferences and meetings about discussions related the ToRs of the WG
- Analysis of the most appropriate guidelines for Cultural Heritage metric survey and discussion about proposed updates and integrations in order to present a possible international guideline for 3D metric and remote sensing survey of heritage assets
- Setting up of manuals and best practices about open source software to support 3D metric and remote sensing survey of heritage assets
- Setting up of a basic bibliography for cultural heritage 3D metric and remote sensing survey

In the last CIPA Symposium in Strasbourg seven sessions about CH metric survey techniques ranging from 3D cameras up to mobile mapping systems and UAV have been organised. Furthermore a couple of sessions about GIS for Cultural Heritage.

It is up to us and to the incoming members of the WG to joint local initiatives and promote special sessions about Cultural Heritage metric survey. Up to now the following collaborations have been started:

- ISPRS Laser Scanning Workshop 2013, Antalya, Turkey, 11-13 Nov 2013;
- Digital Heritage 2013 conference taking place in York on 6th July 2013;
- Two MicMac training courses at Politecnico di Torino.

To give an answer to activities 3 and 4 I thought a lot about a possible action also by considering the critical economic situation and the fact that a lot of conferences are organized at different levels (national and international) especially devoted to techniques and instruments for CH metric survey.

One possible different action can be to promote an e-book on existing guidelines and protocols for Cultural Heritage metric survey and a set of sections about open source/ low cost software for the following topics:

- camera calibration
- photogrammetric data management (orientation, plotting and matching)
- point clouds data managements (both from photogrammetry and LiDAR systems – not only terrestrial because also historical urban centres and landscapes are Cultural Heritage assets)
- GIS (e.g. the new ARCHES that will be presented in Strasbourg).



The WG's interested members will become co-authors and will suggest possible people to be involved in such action.

The Commission V meeting in Riva del Garda (24-27 June 2014) will be the place where we can meet and test the feasibility of the initiative. Therefore I suggest the interested people to submit papers about low-cost, rapid, innovative, automated, commercial and open-source photogrammetric software mainly concentrated on accuracy and usability of the different solutions (both developed by you or by other communities).

If you join this initiative it will be possible to arrange a meeting in Riva del Garda to discuss the possible steps to reach the goal and to present the results in Prague 2016.

You will have the possibility to take part in the work of the WG at a level which best fits your own interests:

- submitting papers to Commission V meeting in Riva del Garda (deadline 7<sup>th</sup> march 2014)
- joining the authors team of the proposed book
- taking part in workshop and conference organisation at local level
- getting informed about the activities of the WG.

At this point I want to kindly ask you to send me an e-mail expressing your interest to be appointed as member of the WGV/2 and to join the initiative about photogrammetric low-cost and open source solutions.

All the steps of the projects will be published inside our homepage

<http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm5/wg2.html>

With kindest regards

Fulvio Rinaudo