

Annual student representative report 2010

The student section of the RSPSoc society has gone from strength to strength this year and there is clear indication that this momentum will continue in the coming years. The RSPSoc Annual Conference, which took place at Leicester University, saw a large turnout from its student members with a number of strong poster and oral presentations. A student social event took place prior to the start of the conference and gave students the opportunity to meet up with a friendly face. Continuing from last year, efforts were made to improve the communication between student members and individual members of the society, highlighted in the successful Chairman's 11 vrs Students' 11 football match which also took place at the Annual Conference.

The Annual Student Meeting (ASM) was held in Plymouth this year at a popular watersports activity centre. The meeting was a resounding success. In addition to maintaining a high academic standard, as with any RSPSoc event, the meeting offered students the opportunity to present their work in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere, and to get to know other students members from different disciplines and academic institutions. Attendance was encouraging considering the journey to Plymouth was quite long for some individuals and we even had students flying over from Dublin to attend the event. The event was sponsored by a variety of companies involved in remote sensing and photogrammetry, highlighting the support the industry has for the students and for such a unique event, with many of the sponsors already agreeing to support the 2011 ASM. Efforts should be made to continue correspondence with these organisations and perhaps other companies that may be interesting in advertising at the ASM. Following on from the 2009 ASM, a variety of keynote speakers presented from different areas in industry which gave the students an insight into the industry and advice that may make them desirable to future employers.

Papers from the ASM 2009 were published earlier this year in a special issue of the Journal of Maps Student Edition. This was the second consecutive year that a special issue from the ASM has been published and plans for a third special issue, from papers presented in the 2010 meeting, is currently underway. Our correspondence with the Journal of Maps has given RSPSoc students the opportunity to gain a friendly introduction to what journal publication and peer- review is all about as well as the opportunity to publish an academic peer-reviewed paper.

The RSPSoc student link to the ISPRS Student Consortium continues, with a write up of this year's ASM due to be published in the ISPRS Student Consortium newsletter. In the future, focus should be made to maintain correspondence with the ISPRS in order to continue international student collaboration. The revamp of the RSPSoc newsletter includes an RSPSoc student section which has strongly promoted student activities and allows members to stay in touch with student events. The RSPSoc society have recently made every effort to keep students, who are finishing their studies, on as member of the society. Based on a student survey undertaken, plans are underway to offer a new membership category for students leaving education and entering the workforce. This is a clear example of the continued support the RSPSoc society have for their student members.

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RSPSoc Student Representative (2009-2010)