

Preface: Technical Commission V (Education and Outreach) - Annals

Songnian Li¹, Derek Lichti², Shabnam Jabari³

¹ Department of Civil Engineering, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada - snli@torontomu.ca

² Department of Geomatics Engineering, University of Calgary, Canada - ddlichti@ucalgary.ca

³ Department of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering, University of New Brunswick, Canada - sh.jabari@unb.ca

ISPRS Technical Commission V, **Education and Outreach**, promotes the development, dissemination and inclusive application of knowledge in photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information sciences. During the 2022–2026 term, the Commission and its Working Groups have had a mandate to support curricula development, professional education, capacity building, open educational resources, international cooperation and greater engagement of students, early-career professionals and underrepresented communities. Particular attention has also been given to strengthening awareness and competencies in emerging areas such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, data analytics, the Internet of Things and cloud-based geospatial technologies.

The papers published in this volume of the *ISPRS Annals of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences* present selected scientific contributions associated with Technical Commission V at the XXV ISPRS Congress, held in Toronto, Canada, from 4 to 11 July 2026. They reflect the growing importance of education and capacity development in enabling the transition expressed by the Congress theme, "**From Imagery to Understanding**". Advances in sensors, Earth observation, GeoAI and spatial information systems can achieve their full societal value only when accompanied by effective learning frameworks, qualified professionals, accessible educational materials and strong institutional capacity.

A total of 6 full papers were submitted under Technical Commission V. Following double-blind peer review and revision, 5 papers were accepted for publication in this volume, corresponding to an acceptance rate of 83%. Each paper received at least 2 reviews wherever possible and was assessed for originality, scientific quality, methodological soundness, relevance to the Commission and clarity of presentation. Accounting for withdrawals, 5 papers are included in this volume.

The contributions address topics such as capacity building for better HQP training. Collectively, they demonstrate that education and outreach are not secondary to scientific and technological progress, but are essential conditions for its responsible and equitable implementation. They also highlight the need for cooperation among universities, government agencies, professional organizations, industry and local communities in developing a skilled and adaptable geospatial workforce.

We sincerely thank the authors for submitting and revising their work and the reviewers for their careful and constructive evaluations. Their dedication has ensured the scientific quality and integrity of this volume.

We hope that these papers will stimulate further research, collaboration and innovation in geospatial education and capacity development and will contribute to making the knowledge and benefits of photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information sciences more accessible throughout the world.