

BLITZ INTERVIEWS WITH PARTICIPANTS



**TXOMIN
HERMOSILLA
GOMEZ**

Where do you come from and in which year of studying are you?

- I represented the Universidad Polit cnica de Valencia. I am a researcher at the university and I'm near the end of my doctor studies.

How many times have you participated on the IGSM?

- Six times (Istanbul, Krakow, Sofia, Valencia, Zurich, Zagreb).

Can you describe us what are the main reasons why you are participating on the IGSM?

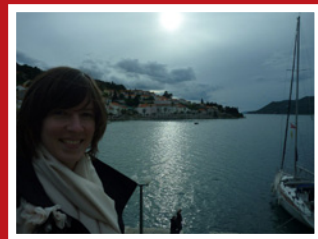
- To meet with geodets from all around the world and exchange experiences.

Tell us, how did you like Croatia and can you compare University of Zagreb with the city and University that you are coming from?

- I am a fan of Croatia and Croatian people: dalmatinac sam!

Describe us your experiences and what will you remember the most from the IGSM 2010?

- Plitvice Lakes, International Party, dinners, people, people and people.



MARIKA BOELEN

Where do you come from and in which year of studying are you?

- I'm from Australia and have only just finished studying at the University of Melbourne - Geomatic Engineering and Science.

How many times have you participated on the IGSM?

- I have participated in the IGSM twice; this year in Croatia and last year in Zurich.

Can you describe us what are the main reasons why you are participating on the IGSM?

- I love the IGSM for all the different people you get to meet. Everyone from different nations can come together and you can talk about how Geodesy works in different countries and how different university courses work. It's a fantastic and unique opportunity!



**UGUR
COLAK**

Where do you come from and in which year of studying are you?

- Istanbul Technical University - Istanbul - graduated a month ago.

How many times have you participated in IGSM?

- Only once - IGSM 2010 Zagreb

Can you describe us what are the main reasons why you are participating in IGSM?

- To meet new people from my sector and to participate in workshops

Tell us, how did you like Croatia and can You compare University of Zagreb with the city and University that You are coming from?

- It was just awesome. There is not one thing that I did not like. If I need to compare, Istanbul is much bigger and crowded than Zagreb. However, I cannot say my university is better or worse than University of Zagreb since I was there for only a week and I do not believe that I know enough to compare them.

Describe us your experiences and what will you remember the most from the IGSM 2010?

- I had one of the best weeks in my life. I had a chance to get to know more people and everyone was very friendly and nice. The most memorable thing is that.... well, I actually cannot remember since I got so drunk during the national evening.

Tell us, how did you like Croatia and can you compare University of Zagreb with the city and University that you are coming from?

- I loved Croatia. The countries scenery varies so much from east to west and north to south. It's amazing in a country that's so small. I have also never seen water as blue as that in the Lakes, it was amazing and a wonderful experience! The university was very different to ours; even the way the department was run was different, so I can't really compare them.

Describe us your experiences and what will you remember the most from the IGSM 2010?

- I will remember the Lakes, the people and the parties the most. An all round fantastic time!

MUZAFFER IBAN CAN



Where do you come from and in which year of studying are you?

- I come from Istanbul, Turkey. I am attending the Istanbul Technical University, Geomatics Engineering Department, Undergraduate Degree. I'm in the fourth year.

How many times have you participated on the IGSM?

- IGSM 2010 Croatia was my first IGSM event, however I heard a lot about IGSM 2005 Istanbul event held at my university.

Can you describe us what are the main reasons why you are participating on the IGSM?

- The main reasons why I am participating on IGSM are getting in touch with geodesy students throughout the world, getting to know new cultures, technical share and curiosity about Croatia. (especially about Zagreb and Dalmatian Coast)

We know that you like beer, what can you say about beer that you drank in Croatia?

- Yes, I tried variety of brands of Croatian beer! I think the best one is Ožujsko beer as you prefer it so much more! Karlovačko was also good. Tomislav beer was preferable for dark beer choices!

On the national evening you were cooking traditional Turkish soup, how did other people like it?

- I cooked in the kitchen a big pot of Turkish traditional soup called "Tarhana". It consists of tomato mark, flour and some kind of herbs.

It's really easy to cook; therefore I decided to cook it in order to serve some hot food from Turkey. Most of the participants tried it and the comments were really determining. I think they liked it so I gave the recipe to those people who liked it most.

Tell us, how did you like Croatia and can you compare University of Zagreb with the city and University that you are coming from?

- Zagreb is an epic and a fantastic city. The churches, streets, the heritage from older ages are really worth seeing. There is a well-organized transportation infrastructure in Zagreb that helped us reach any place we wanted. Plitvice Lakes made me want to jump into the water so much. The scenery was quite fascinating and peaceful. Slavonia district is also interesting. I saw some farm fields and natural parks over there and got the chance to see the country-side lifestyle in Croatia. I couldn't see Zadar but had the chance to see Split and Dubrovnik by a short trip before IGSM event. Actually, I am quite sure that Croatia should be proud of having such cities and coasts in Dalmatia. It was like in a fairytale. As a contrast, Zagreb University is in the heart of the capital, therefore students can easily integrate into the city life. The opportunity to reach the faculty by bike is also great. My faculty is in a big campus a bit out of the city center and it is impossible to use a bike here. I need to get on a bus or metro train in order to reach city center and social places; however, you can go to such places on foot without any doubt!

Describe us your experiences and what will you remember the most from the IGSM 2010?

- The memories that I'll remember most are drinking beer in front of the sport-hall till late at night and parties in brilliant clubs. The conversations among us were quite wonderful and friendly. It helped us get so close easily and rapidly. I had not expected such a close relationship before the event began, but I can easily say that we're now close friends that do geodetic works on the planet! Even though we live in different countries, we feel like we are next to each other. The biggest experience that I earned through IGSM 2010 event is having a big family and lots of houses throughout Croatia I can visit anytime.



PETAR LOJANICA

Where do you come from and in which year of studying are you?

- Serbia, Belgrade, University of Belgrade, 3rd year of bachelor studies.

How many times have you participated on the IGSM?

- This was my first time but it didn't hurt...

Can you describe us what are the main reasons why you are participating on the IGSM?

- Main reasons are networking, getting to know new people, fun, and having a good time...

Tell us, how did you like Croatia and can you compare University of Zagreb with the city and University that you are coming from?

- Plitvice Lakes are the miracle of nature; I was surprised how beautiful and clean the lakes are. Zagreb has justified my expectations as the capital of Croatia. I can't compare the whole university, but what I can compare are the buildings of faculties, your building is much modern than our in Belgrade. Interior of your faculty is very impressive, especially the toilet... :) And the way of learning math was new and interesting for me because of the professors' modern approach. Serbia is well known for the parties, and night life, now after you've been to Croatia, can you compare the differences? I was satisfied with parties, first one was the best, and the others were good.

Which alcohol (especially Šljivovica) is better and stronger, Croatian or Serbian?

- I'm not drinking alcohol so I'm going to compare food. Food in the student canteen was terrific, and I wasn't hungry, which is a great achievement of organizers. That claim has even more weight when it comes from someone who has 110 kilos!

Describe us your experiences and what will you remember the most from the IGSM 2010?

- Greatest experience is meeting new people and staying in touch with them, especially with friends from the Ex-Yugoslavia republic.



RONALD
SCHMIEDER

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- I was born in Höxter, Northrhine Westfalia, Germany, 07. March 1965. Since 2010 I live and work for an international Consulting Company in Leipzig: GCI – Dr. Schindler Geo Consult International GmbH & Co. KG. I studied in Braunschweig and Hannover, where I graduated in 2006. Further on, I achieved my second state examination Assessor after 2 years working in different cadastral, land consolidation, land readjustment, urban planning, land registry, land valuation and other state institutions all over Germany. Then I worked 1 year in a cadastre office in Hesse, before starting my actual consulting job in Leipzig with GCI.

You have been on almost all IGSM meetings, so can you say what changed during so many years, and can you compare this IGSM with previous?

- In the beginning the IGSM's have been much more informal, but nevertheless also much more influenced by educational policy discussions. The organization of these meetings is more "professi-

onal" nowadays and modern IT helps a lot (I think that in the beginning of the nineties Internet and Email was not easily available for everyone). The atmosphere and mood during these early meetings was characterized by the political changes in Europe, for the first time it was possible for many students from all over (Eastern) Europe to travel without restrictions wherever they wanted!! That was a wonderful experience for everyone! Maybe that was also one of the reasons why the parties lasted much longer.

Can you describe us what are the main reasons why you are participating in IGSM?

- The main reason for me to participate at IGSM is to meet new and old friends from all over the world. I like to exchange experiences with regard to educational systems, changes in the "university lives" over the years and just to have some fun with young students. (It hopefully helps me staying young longer). Additionally, in the year 1991, during the 4th IGSM in Graz I was one of the responsible participants for drafting the first IGSO statutes and finally one of the students who signed the agreement of founding IGSO. Now of course I'm still interested in knowing that the organization still exists and is further developing and enhancing!
- Another reason is my job. So, as I'm working as an international consultant in various Land Administration, Land Management, Cadastre, Valuation projects all over the world, having contacts in many places sometimes helps me to get professional contacts as well. But the main reason is of course having a wonderful, relaxed, interesting and funny time during one week of the year.

I suppose that you like those meetings because you are going every year, but what does your wife say about that?

- My wife has absolutely no objections, because she knows how important these IGSMs are for me. She also knows already a lot of my friends which are visiting our home in Leipzig sometimes. And finally I started to participate at IGSMs before knowing her ;-)

You are coming from Germany, but how come that every time on the national evening you brought Tequila?



BARBARA CZESAK

Where do you come from [from which city and university] and in which year of studying are you [undergraduate student, graduate student, postgraduate].

- I come from Kraków, Poland. I study at the Agricultural University of Kraków, I'm a graduate student and it is my last year of studying. I'm doing my major in land surveying.

How many times have you participated on the IGSM? [where and when]?

- I've participated three times on the IGSM. My first IGSM was IGSM 2008 in Valencia, then 2009 in Zurich and the last one in Croatia in Zagreb.

Can you describe us what are the main reasons why you are participating on the IGSM?

- There are many reasons why I participate in IGSM. First of all, I must say that we are the best international group in the world. All IGSM meetings are quite amazing. I think that the best thing is that you can meet every year with your friends from all over the world. Not only can you learn a lot about land surveying and new technologies, but you can also exchange experiences with people from various countries. The world is so colorful and diverse even if the meeting is just in one city, you can get to know various cultures because each person represents his or her country, culture, tradition. It is great that each year so many people with the same interests from all over the world meet in one place. It is simply cool to be a member of IGSO. Also I must say that I got used to IGSM, the year without it would just not be the same.

- That's easy to explain: During my studies in Braunschweig I was a member of the Association of students of Latin America (I was working there for a while in Ecuador) and lived together in a students flat with a student from Mexico....He woke the spirit in me of having fun drinking Tequila from time to time and so, when I went for the first time to an IGSM in 1991 I had a bottle of Tequila with me and shared it with my friends. Since then it is simply a tradition and fun, hence my "equipment" improved over the years. Since there are usually no students from Mexico at IGSM, there is also no overlapping with others....

Tell us, how did you like Croatia and can you compare University of Zagreb with the city and University that you are coming from, and other universities that organized IGSM?

- I enjoyed Croatia a lot! I have been to Croatia many times already, but usually to the coast (I also spent my honeymoon in Istria). It was nice to meet so many old and new friends and to see that everything was organized in a professional way. We had short ways to walk (that's important for older people), good food and enough cultural and professional programs! But to compare it with other universities or IGSM's is nothing that I would like to do. Every IGSM is very special and you have more or less students participating, some issues of the program you like and others not, the cities are small or bigger, the parties are longer or shorter, the food is better or worse..... So again, I enjoyed so far every visit to IGSM and didn't regret to go there ever! Joining people is one of the main goals of IGSM and that was achieved always.

Describe us your experiences and what will you remember the most from the IGSM 2010?

- I think I explained my experiences already with the answers to the other questions, but once again: the organizers did a great job and I have to admit my gratitude a thousand times again!!! Maybe I will remember most that I met some of my old Croatian friends which I've known already since IGSM 2004 or so and of course the visit to the wonderful Plitvice Lakes.

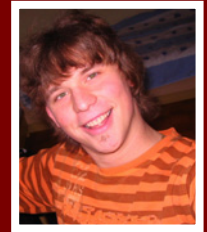
Are there any benefits for participants who come to these meetings? How many things can be learned during that time?

- There are many benefits from IGSM. I'm not sure if I will be able to tell all of them. First of all, I think that we are becoming more open minded and learn a lot about our countries during each IGSM. Secondly, we have a lot of fun during the meeting. Last but not least, we can learn really a lot about land surveying. There is no better opportunity to learn as during IGSM. Many students prepare presentations about their research. During presentations you can learn a lot about the new applications of geodesy. Then, there are workshops, where you can learn about new technologies or do something which really interests you. In addition talking to another person from different country may be a great opportunity to learn a lot. You can look at the field of your study in a different way. You can see how it looks like somewhere else. What is more, you can learn a lot about the country of the meeting.

Tell us, how did you like Croatia [Zagreb, Zadar, Plitvice Lakes...] and can you compare University of Zagreb with the city and University that you are coming from?

- I liked all the trips, Plitvice was really great, I have never seen so-

BOJAN
ŠAVRIČ



Where do you come from and in which year of studying are you?

- My name is Bojan Šavrič and I am an undergraduate student at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering in Slovenia. I have now finished 4th year of university study program of Geodetic Engineering at university.

How many times have you participated on the IGSM?

- I've participated two times on the IGSM. In 2009 I was in Switzerland on ETH Zürich and this year I've participated on the IGSM here in Zagreb.

Can you describe us what are the main reasons why you are participating on the IGSM?

- IGSM is a great opportunity to meet and socialize with students from all over the world. Here you get to know students from almost the whole Europe, as well as from some more distant continents.
- It is not just fun, which is characterized by IGSM. During the meeting, a number of interesting lectures are presented by experts from the host country, as well as from other students. Every year I'm enraptured with projects presented by students, who participate.

Tell us, how did you like Croatia and can You compare University of Zagreb with the city and University that You are coming from?

- Since I live near the Croatian border, I know Croatia quite well, especially the Croatian coast. It was the first time for me to be in Zagreb and also Plitvice Lakes. Zagreb is a nice city, and I must admit that I was surprised, how Zagreb is in good order. In my opinion, Plitvice Lakes are the most beautiful park in Croatia. It shows the power of Mother Nature, who creates an incredible image of karst with water.
- I do not know your university very well, but I like that you have your own Faculty of Geodetic Engineering. As well as we, you already have new Bologna study programs, even more, you already have some graduate students from this programs.

Describe us your experiences and what will you remember the most from the IGSM 2010?

- One week of IGSM in Zagreb was great. Like each year, organizers have done a great job, so it is difficult to expose just one thing. Maybe there are few, like: first morning at faculty, lectures about linear algebra, the national evening, Polish vodka, Plitvice Lakes and of course parties at Saloon, Boeing, Shamballa, hang out with the Australians, British, Croats, Serbs, etc.

something like that before. I liked also sightseeing and the museums a lot. If we talk about comparing the two universities, it is impossible right now. I liked the University of Zagreb but I can't say much more because I spent there just few days.

Describe us your experiences and what will you remember the most from the IGSM 2010?

- It is hard to say what I will remember the most from IGSM. For sure Plitvice lakes will be one of that, and also friendly Croatian people. ■