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Volume Introduction Letter

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Volume Introduction Letter

This Conference Proceedings is a collection of selected papers and posters submitted to the Academic Program of the International Conference for Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G 2016), 24th to 26th August 2016 in Bonn, Germany. Again geospatial open source software was the focus of a well-attended international conference flanked by presentations on open standards and the open data movement, a meeting place for open communities.

Similar to previous FOSS4G conferences at the national and international level, the academic papers and posters cover an extensive wide range of topics reflecting the contribution of the academia to this field by the development of open source software components, in the design of open standards, in the proliferation of web-based solutions, in the dissemination of the open principles important in science and education, and in the collection and the hosting of freely available geo-data.

This volume follows a 10-year tradition of FOSS4G Academic Proceedings that with many published on the former “OSGeo Journal” website. However, with the help of the University of Massachusetts Amherst Scholarly Communication team, we are publishing this volume and individual papers using the new bepress-supported publishing system. A benefit of this system is that it feeds many library databases making the proceedings and individual papers much more identifiable through library search mechanisms.

On the page <https://scholarworks.umass.edu/foss4g/vol16/iss1/> the reader will get an overview about the selected papers and posters published in the Conference Proceedings.

A few additional papers found their publication on other platforms. The paper “PaleoMaps: SDI for open paleoenvironmental GIS data”¹ by Christian Willmes, Daniel Becker, Jan Verheul, Yasa Yener, Mirijam Zickel, Andreas Bolten, Olaf Bubenzer, Georg Bareth and the paper “Development of a New Framework for Distributed Processing of Geospatial Big Data”² by Angéla Olasz, Binh Nguyen Thai, Dániel Kristóf have been published through the *International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructures Research* of the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre, organized by Sven Schade. Anita Graser’s paper “Towards landmark-based instructions for pedestrian navigation systems using OpenStreetMap”³ has been published in the *AGILE 2017* proceedings.

The presentations of the conference are also available in the AV-Portal of TIB, the German National Library of Science and Technology⁴. All videos are assigned a digital object identifier (DOI) and a media fragment identifier to cite presentations as a whole or single segments separately.

The support of Christian Willmes and Sergey Voinov amongst other reviewers is gratefully acknowledged. Moritz Lennert pushed the process forward. The support of Charles Schweik, Mohammed Zia and Erin Jerome was very helpful and encouraging!

As the editor of the FOSS4G 2016 proceedings I’d like to encourage the Academia to intensify the usage of open software, tools, data, science and education and to contribute actively to forthcoming conferences on local, national and international level searching the contact and exchange with practitioners, developers and users to extend and foster the worldwide community – “Building bridges”, as the motto of AGSE 2016 was.

Sincerely,

Franz-Josef Behr – FOSS4G 2016 Academic Committee chair and Proceedings editor

¹ <http://ijmdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/ijmdir/article/view/431>

² <http://ijmdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/ijmdir/article/view/423>

³ https://agile-online.org/images/conference_2017/Proceedings2017/shortpapers/46_ShortPaper_in_PDF.pdf

⁴ Via <https://av.tib.eu/series/253/foss4g+bonn+2016>