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**Wei Gao
Hao Wang**
Editors

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Introduction

These proceedings comprise papers presented during the conference titled Remote Sensing and Modeling of Ecosystems for Sustainability V, which was held in San Diego, California, USA, 13 August 2008, as part of SPIE's annual Optics + Photonics Symposium. This conference was designed to focus on the ecosystems remote sensing and modeling theory, techniques, and applications. There were over 40 presentations delivered in the sessions of oral presentations and poster presentations. This conference provided a great opportunity for scientists from different countries to exchange scientific ideas and discuss their latest research. Papers were reviewed and edited by conference chairs and conference program committee members with help from Ms. Laurie Richard, Mr. William Smith, USDA UV-B supporting staff Rita Deike, and SPIE editorial staff. Special thanks goes to the USDA UV-B Monitoring and Research Program and Center of Remote Sensing and Modeling for Agricultural Sustainability, Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory (NREL) at Colorado State University, Water Resources Dept. of China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research, the Key Laboratory of Geo-Information Science of the Ministry of Education at East China Normal University, and International Center for Desert Affairs-Research for Sustainable Development in Arid and Semi-arid Lands, who served as cooperating organizations. The conference owes its success to the diligent efforts of the SPIE technical staff, and Dr. Daniel Schmoldt, project manager of USDA/CSREES, for their continued guidance and support.

We would like to extend our appreciation to the outstanding program committee, the session chairs, and especially the authors for their contributions to this successful conference.

Wei Gao