

SMIC NEWS

The 118th general meeting of the Surveying & Mapping Industry Council of NSW was held on Tuesday 23 September 2008 at the RTA offices in Parramatta. The Chairman welcomed AHS representative Venessa O'Connell, returning from maternity leave.

The Council has been working on modifying the national brochures that explain the introduction of cadetships/ traineeships at Diploma level. The brochure templates and accompanying PowerPoint presentations were produced by the Construction & Property Services Industry Skills Council (CPSISC) and are being adapted by SMIC for use in NSW. The Council is also putting together the finishing touches on the design for a new SMIC brochure, designed to attract school leavers to careers in Surveying and Spatial Information.

The Council was pleased to learn that former Chairman, Norm Mann, (1990-1999) has become the first former NSW IEMS member to be elected a Corporate member of ISNSW. Congratulations, Norm!

The following information may be of interest to members of constituent organisations and the general public. Full reports by the representatives on SMIC can be obtained on request by e-mailing smic@smicnsw.org.au or contacting your organisation representative. Acronyms are explained on the SMIC website at www.smicnsw.org.au. Links to our member organisations are on the SMIC website.

- **ACS:** Program 9 & 10 of the BOSSI Candidates' Workshops are scheduled for January and July 2009. The joint conference with the Country Surveyors Association will be held in Tamworth on 24-25 October 2008, with high profile speakers such as Dr Fred Watson, Rob Gell and Peter Andrews. A Breakfast Forum is scheduled for Goulburn on Tuesday 4 November. The APSIC (Asia-Pacific Spatial Innovation Conference) will be held at Rydges Lakeside Hotel, Canberra on 18-19 November 2008: see www.apsiconference.com.au. The Association sincerely appreciates the work by Pat McNamara towards the High Court's recognition of intellectual property rights for surveyors' work.
- **AHS:** The AGM was held at HMAS Kuttatubul on 4 September. A Forum Page has been established on the AHS website to encourage communication amongst members. An education page has been added to the AHS website at www.ahs.asn.au. The Australasian Hydrographic Surveyors Certification Panel has updated the certification guidelines and information on the Spatial Sciences Institute (SSI) webpage: www.spatialsciences.org.au under the Hydrographic Commission Certification section. The biggest change is for degree qualified surveyors wishing to gain Level 1 certification. All surveying experience including Lidar can be used towards the 5 years of experience.
- **BOSSI:** A Cabinet Minute detailing proposed changes to the Surveying Act has been prepared. 19 candidates are eligible to receive their Certificate of Competency in Land Surveying, and 3 candidates in Mining Surveying, following the recent examinations.
- **FIG2010:** See www.fig2010.com. The new FIG2010 logo has been approved by the Opera House Trust. FIG2010 will be represented at the NZIS conference in Napier at the end of October. Sponsorship packs have been prepared for InterGEO 2008 in Bremen, Germany. The FIG President and Director will both attend the next meeting of the organising Committee on 12 November.

- **GITA:** 300 people attended the GITA Sydney *Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions* Conference on 25-27 August 2008 at Olympic Park. The 2008 GITA Excellence Award was won by Infotech Australia and the Best presenter's Award was won by Captain Wallace Cray of Torres Industries. Energex won the 'Dial before You Dig' Derby. GITA and SSI have met to discuss opportunities for collaboration and cooperation. There will be a joint GITA/ SSI event in 2009. GITA has 3 bursaries to offer students commencing GIS studies at either TAFE or university. Meeting with FIG2010 representatives are planned later this year.
- **ISNSW:** The new ISNSW office is being equipped with hot desks and a small meeting room for the use of members. An Engineering & Mining Surveying regional interest group is being formed. The name of the new national organisation is the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SASSI). The AGM is being held on 3 October, with Greg Goodman handing over the presidency to John Minehan.
- **NSW IEMS:** a paper on the training of Engineering Surveyors and instrument persons was tabled at today's meeting of SMIC.
- **SSI:** A successful speed networking event was held on 25 September at NSW Leagues Club. The recent SSI/MSIA technical evening at NSW Rural Fire service attracted more than 50 people. SSI and ASIBA will jointly host a 2 day conference to coincide with the Australian Spatial Excellence Awards in Canberra in November. Go to www.spatialsciences.org/nsw for more information.
- **Surveyor-General:** ANZLIC has released an Australasian All Hazards Symbology project Resource Kit which is available for testing and feedback from www.anzlic.org.au/symbology.html. 12 SydNET stations are now on line, ten being GPS + GLONASS. There are over 500 registered SydNET users. The south-western corner of NSW was dedicated as MacCabe's Corner on 6 September, commemorating the work of 1840s surveyor Francis Peter MacCabe.
- **TAFE NSW:** Details of a cadetship system for Diploma level are still to be finalised. The 2009 Surveying & GIS courses will be based on the 'competencies' model, and a combined staff meeting was held on 8 August to discuss course framework. Patrick Cram has been appointed a FT teacher at Sydney Institute. An Industry questionnaire will be released soon.
- **Uni of Newcastle:** The annual dinner was held on 5 September, with the BOSSI medal being awarded to Samuel Nicoll. The Graduates Careers Booklet has just been revised: graduates should contact the university for a copy. The annual Surveying Seminar will be held on Thursday 30 October from 9 am to 12 noon (cost \$44 incl GST). The SPAC and SILC meetings will be held in the afternoon of the same day.
- **UNSW:** The annual 3rd year Survey camp was held at berry for the first time. The enlightening Location Privacy Seminar was well attended on 23 July. Ten presenters took part in Industry Day on 12 August, speaking to students from UNSW, Newcastle University, Wollongong University and the three TAFEs. The Undergraduate Thesis Conference will be held on Monday 27 October. The Courses & careers day was held on 6 September and the lecture attracted more students than last year, which is very promising. The Advisory Board is to meet on 10 October: a prime concentration will be on the promotion of the School.

Mark T Gordon
Chairman