

SMIC NEWS

The 23rd Annual General Meeting of the Surveying & Mapping Industry Council of NSW was held on Friday 12 August 2011 at the RTA offices in Parramatta. Mark Gordon was returned for his 13th year at Chairman, Dr Veronica Bondarew was returned for her third year as Deputy Chair and Paul Harcombe was again voted in as Secretary Treasurer. Kevin Volk received appropriate note for his exemplary work as Executive Officer. The Chairman acknowledged the success of the Council over the last 12 months, in particular the introduction of the TAFE Teaching Scholarship and work of the Council towards establishing a Committee to develop an Australian Standard in Subsurface Utility Engineering.

The 132nd General Meeting of the Council followed the AGM, with Allan Gordon attending from SMMF and Ian Pearson visiting from Illawarra TAFE.

In terms of the sudden demise of the Construction Industry Training Advisory Board, the Chairman has asked for additional information from the liquidator. On a more positive note, ACS NSW has accepted an offer to assume the role of an industry training advisory board for the Surveying & Spatial Information sector of the CITAB.

The Chairman announced that SMIC's support for bid by UNSW for the international Mobile Mapping Technology Conference had been successful, with the 2015 Conference to be held in Sydney.

Another success story for the Council is the number of applications received for the inaugural SMIC TAFE Scholarship in Certificate IV Workplace Training & Assessment.

The Chairman gave the Council an update on the contributions raised to fund the proposed Australian Standard in Subsurface Utility Engineering, with a 'kick-off' meeting set for 17 August 2011.

The Chairman gave a presentation to the Council alerting it of a July 2010 change in the National Parks & Wildlife Act, with the consequence that Surveyors need to be aware of the location and extent of Aboriginal Heritage sites as it is an offence to damage or desecrate areas of cultural significance, even unknowingly or unintentionally.

The following information should be of interest to members of our 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 by contacting the SMIC Chairman, Mark Gordon. Acronyms are explained on the SMIC website at www.smicnsw.org.au. Links to our member organisations are on the SMIC website.

- **ACS:** ACS NSW and ACS VIC have formed a national association, known as Consulting Surveyors National (CSN). WorkCover OHS seminars are progressing well. See website for details. The 'Surveyors Industry Day' at Martin Place has been postponed until March/May 2012. The State Excellence Awards are being held on 24 September 2011 at the Hilton Hotel, Sydney.
- **AIMS:** The National Conference will be held in Melbourne at the Sebel Albert Park, 65 Queens Road, Melbourne, from 17-19 August 2011. A new draft code of practice covering all mines and mine surveying within Australia is being developed.
- **BOSSI:** Warwick Watkins has resigned as Surveyor General and therefore President of the Board. Des Mooney is Acting Surveyor-General. The Kurri Kurri Candidates' Workshop in May attracted 19 land surveying candidates, 10 mining surveying candidates and 9 supervising surveyors. It is the Board's intention to incorporate aspects of spatial information into the current examinations. A 12 month extension has been requested for the introduction of the 2011 Surveying & Spatial Information Regulation. An audit of CPD ratified organisations is underway. BOSSI Exams are scheduled for 17-19 October 2011. The Joint Advisory Meeting (JAM) and presentation of Certificates will be held on 25 November 2011.
- **GITA:** The 16th Annual GITA Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions Conference – "Intelligent Infrastructure.....Anything, Anywhere, Anytime" was held at the Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour on the 8-10 August 2011. The SMIC Chair is presenting a paper on Subsurface Utility Engineering.

- **ISNSW:** The LPI 'Protection of Survey Infrastructure' brochure was included in the August edition of Azimuth. *Hallmann* is currently being updated. The Hunter Manning Group's 'Maths in Surveying' day will be held on 19th August at Kurri Kurri TAFE. The Cumberland Group's land development seminar held on 22 July 2011 was well received and attended. Work Safe Australia has written to the Institution concerning the use of lasers under the Work Health & Safety Regulation. The Australia Day Seminar will be held again in 2012.
- **SMMF:** The 60th meeting was held on 10 June 2011 and brought a slight name change to the Surveying & Mapping Managers' Forum. An additional Objective of the Forum is to *"Provide public sector surveying and mapping representation and advocacy to the Surveying and Mapping Industry Council and as required"*. Members agreed to 'benchmark' each organisation's salaries for succession planning and restructure purposes. The RTA has introduced a 'Surveying Community Network' section to its intranet. RailCorp is hosting the Government Surveyors dinner on 1 September 2011
- **SSSI:** The national Land Surveying Commission conference will be held in Melbourne in April 2012. SSC2011 will be held in Wellington New Zealand on 23-25 November 2011.
- **Surveyor-General:** LPI has new a domain name; www.lpi.nsw.gov.au :as well as email addresses; name@lpi.nsw.gov.au. The new SCIMS Online integrated delivery system is operational. A brochure covering the need to protect survey mark has been distributed. A policy for access to CORSnet-NSW for education purposed has been developed. An increasing amount of Crown Land reserved for trigonometrical purposes is being converted to freehold land through sale or Aboriginal Land claims. The Real Property Amendment Regulation 2011 was approved on 10 June 2011. The Strata Industry Working Group has issued a definition of boundaries in strata plans registered before 1 July 1974 and is developing a memorandum on responsibilities for common property. the general public are able to view the location of permanent survey marks, via the 'survey mark' layer of the Spatial Information Exchange; www.six.nsw.gov.au
- **TAFE:** CPSISC is implementing amendments to the national training package, these include: qualification title change for Cert. III; introduction of Advanced Diploma in Surveying; and a broader scope for the consideration of Vocational Graduate Certificates and Diplomas. Work on the 'Better Opportunities & Outcomes for School Transition' pilot program for year 12 school leavers is progressing. Hunter Institute staff will assist at the 'Maths in Surveying Day' on 19th August 2011 and are in discussions with the local industry groups in order to increase local involvement in the region's delivery models. Illawarra is recruiting new part time teaching staff; with 32 students enrolled in Cert III in Spatial Information Services, Cert IV in Surveying, and the Diploma of Surveying.
- **Uni of Newcastle:** This year there were 26 commencing students for the B. Surveying degree, 14 for the combined Degree. Mid-year admissions will be offered for 2011. The Annual Dinner will be held on Friday 2 September 2011 on the campus. Scholar's Week Award Ceremony for the faculty was held on 20 May 2011. Four surveying scholarships were awarded at the ceremony
- **UNSW:** Focusing on increasing undergraduate numbers. Open day will be held on 3 September 2011; members of the profession who would like to assist or attend, contact Linlin Ge at l.ge@unsw.edu.au. The 'Endangered Species' road show has now been presented 5 times.

The next meeting of SMIC is planned for Monday 24 October at the RTA offices in Parramatta.

Mark T Gordon
Chairman