

SMIC NEWS

The 22nd Annual General Meeting of the Surveying & Mapping Industry Council of NSW was held on Friday 9 July 2010 at the magnificent new ACS NSW office in Bathurst Street, Sydney. Mark Gordon was returned for his 12th year at Chairman, Dr Veronica Bondarew was returned for her second year as Deputy Chair and Paul Harcombe was again voted in as Secretary Treasurer. Kevin Volk received appropriate acknowledgment for his excellent work as Executive Officer. The Chairman acknowledged the success of the Council over the last 12 months, in particular the exhibition booth at FIG2010 and sponsoring 5 undergraduates to attend the international Congress.

The 127th General Meeting of the Council followed the AGM. The Chairman welcomed Bess Moylan as our guest speaker.

The meeting commenced with a video hook-up with BlueFrog Marketing in Victoria. We were assured that the 'life without limits' campaign included both the surveying and the spatial sciences aspect of the sector. BlueFrog provides coordination and facilitates implementation, as well as being a central point of contact. It was agreed to contact Gerry Shone, Chair of the Victorian Taskforce, to clarify Taskforce roles, financials and responsibilities prior to any commitment by the Council to take on this activity. Whatever decision is made, the Council believes that any involvement should be clearly aimed as the sustainability of the Surveying & Spatial Information Sector in the future, with particular emphasis on attracting new students and improving our profile in the wider community.

Bess Moylan gave a presentation on the progress of e-learning and distance education in Certificate III at TAFE Wollongong. These initiatives are specifically targeted for (1) people already in the industry but who do not possess formal qualifications; (2) lifestyle change people who want a taste of Surveying but do not want to leave their current job just yet or (3) school leavers coming back after a 'gap' year. Contrary to popular belief, there is not a lot of time saving for lecturers involved in e-learning, as administratively it is more intense. There are plans to extend flexible learning to Diploma level, with the Advance Diploma course also being considered as a pilot. Bess also mentioned the success of the pilot e-learning Post Graduate Certificate and Diploma courses in Applied GIS.

With TAFE employing more part time teaching staff, SMIC has been approached to encourage its member organisations to consider sponsoring part time teachers in the attainment of the prerequisite Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. The development of this concept into what may become a "SMIC Teacher's Scholarship" is being seriously considered.

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:** The 2010 ACS/CSA October conference will be held on 22-23 October at Ballina, with the theme 'Coastal Sustainability'. The BOSSI Workshops commenced on 17 June, with 24 attending. Three On-line seminars have been delivered in 2010. ACS is continuing to deliver information seminars on the Surveyors Modern Award 2010. The regional roadshow targeting property professionals is being conducted, in 5 major regional centres. A new logo and signage is being developed for the Association.
- **AHS:** World Hydrography Day was held on 21 June and celebrated the 90th anniversary of the Australian Hydrographic Service. AHS Literary achievement Award was presented to Robert King, noting in particular his work on the erroneous origins of the 'Dieppe Maps'. L-3 Communications Nautronix Pty Ltd has been awarded the AHS Award for Industry Achievement in the Private Sector, especially in recognition of its Raster Data Centre. The East Australia Region seminar and dinner will be held on 13 September at the Royal Automobile Club, Circular Quay. HYDRO11 will be held in Fremantle WA on 7-11 November 2011.

- **AIMS:** The Coal Mine Health and Safety Amendment Act was assented to on 26th May 2010. Maptek founder and chairman Dr Bob Johnson was recently named as an Innovation Hero by Sydney University's Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering. The next AIMS Conference will be held on 11-13 August at the Holiday Inn, Surfers Paradise. The International ISM Congress will be held in Sun City, South Africa on 20-24 September 2010.
- **BOSSI:** BOSSI last met on 28 May 2010 at Kurri Kurri, followed by the annual dinner with the ISNSW Hunter Manning Group and then the Candidates' Workshop on Saturday 29 May. There were 21 land surveying candidates and 11 mining surveying candidates. The Board has received a Subpoena to supply a file to the District Court regarding proceedings against a currently registered surveyor. The matter before the court was not by any of the original complainants to the Board but related to the same issue. There is a national push to have endorsements noted in all instances of surveyor registration and therefore in effect NSW registered land surveyors may have endorsements for cadastral, engineering and town planning competencies. The Board recognises that more calibration baselines are required in NSW. A Speed Mentoring evening for Young Professionals is being considered for 25 November. The next meeting of the Board is on 29 July 2010.
- **GITA:** GITA has entered into a 12 month trial with Geospatial Training Services Inc to deliver webinar-style training. The 2010 Geospatial Solutions Conference will be held on 2-4 August 2010 in Brisbane. Anthony Jahshan was elected Chair and president of GITA at the May Board meeting.
- **ISNSW:** A Surveying Spectacular will be held at Olympic Park on 20 August. In 2011, SEASSIC will revert to its original format of a single stream Remote Members' Seminar and be held around the Australian Day holiday. The ISNSW Cumberland Group is reintroducing its Land Development Seminar in 2011. This will be held in July 2011. 40 entries have been received across all categories of the Excellence Awards. The Institution has formed a subcommittee to look at the effectiveness of its current management structure and business focus.
- **ISNSW IEMS Group:** The Engineering & Mining Surveyors Group is holding an evening seminar from 6 pm to 9 pm on Thursday 26 August at the Sunnybrook, Warwick Farm.
- **MSIA:** The Annual seminar will be held on 21 October 2010 at the Aspire Hotel, Bulwara Rad Ultimo. Presentations will be given by Department of Defence, ESRI, ERDAS, RTA, City of Sydney, LPMA (Bathurst) and others. The range of topics will include ESRI tools to present, provoke thought and analyse location based actions. A comprehensive 3D model of The City of Sydney using high resolution aerial photography will be discussed in addition to locating, itemising and valuing of assets for long term infrastructure funding. Also automatic data capture from aerial photography delivered over the internet with on demand geoprocessing. One of the most interesting topics will be how we are using spatial technology in the war in Afghanistan.
- **SMMF:** Met on 17 June. Doug Kinlyside updated the Forum on the development of CORSnet, and his paper has been included in the reports to the July 2010 SMIC meeting. Casino, Ivanhoe, Tamworth, Moruya, Ebor, Yarrowitch and Tenterfield are being planned, with a RFQ for a further 12 GNSS base stations closing on 1 July. Network RTK is being tested in the Central West Region. Parramatta City Council advised that one of their foremen had been taking out and then replacing survey control marks in kerbs that were being replaced. He has been doing this for some time without being aware of the consequences. LPMA reported on the CS2i Spatial Summit held in November 2009 and the resultant March 2010 LPMA Workshop, attended by more than 120 local government representatives from 75 different local governments, which included such topics as Cadastral Upgrade, Addressing, Metadata, Data Sharing, Data Delivery, User Forums, Crown Land, SIX Website, Imagery and Lidar. Sydney Ports has purchased a high resolution multibeam echosounder. The City of Sydney is hosting the next Government Surveyors Dinner. The NSW Maritime Survey Manager can now approve subdivisions of Maritime land (previously a function of the CEO). RailCorp is continuing to work toward converting RailCorp's survey and track control networks to MGA. The project is currently estimated at \$23m. The RTA is providing active encouragement for the development of an Australian Standard for Subsurface Utility Engineering.

- **SSSI:** The 1 June seminar featured such diverse subjects as underground utility standards and temporal patterns of Syrian Bedouins. The national Land Surveying Commission conference will be held in Melbourne in April 2012.
- **Surveyor-General:** An updated version of the LPMA 'Fast Facts' on strata is due to be published in September 2010. Applications for the 2010 Surveyor-General's Fellowship close on 27 August 2010. The Surveying and Spatial Regulation 2006 is due to remake in 2011: consultation with industry will commence in September 2010. The new LPMA heritage portal Baseline (www.baseline.nsw.gov.au) has been launched. The structure of the Spatial Council has been realigned to engage the private sector and now include additional representation from the Department of Industry & Investment. A NSW (Spatial Information) Metadata Policy has been adopted.
- **Uni of Newcastle:** There are 29 commencing students in the Surveying degree course and 9 for the combined degree. The Annual Dinner will be held on 3 September 2010 (contact is Anne.Ramsey@newcastle.edu.au). Harvey Mitchell will be on Long Service Leave and Xiaoli Deng on Study Leave for Second Semester.
- **UNSW:** The Surveying Spectacular on 21 May attracted 80 high school students. The next Advisory Board meeting will be on 21 July. The School has a new promotional website at www.ssis.unsw.edu.au.

The next meeting of SMIC is planned for 15 October at the RTA offices in Parramatta.

Mark T Gordon
Chairman