



The 144th General Meeting of the Surveying & Mapping Industry Council of NSW was held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at the RMS offices at Parramatta.

Following the publication of Australian Standard AS5488 *Classification of Subsurface Utility Information*, SMIC has been in discussions with ICSM to develop a promotional plan and best practice guide for the understanding and implementation of the standard. Funding for the project has been secured and development of the program will begin shortly.

Andrew Bryson, Executive Officer of the Construction and Select Property Industry Training Advisory Body (CSPSITAB) attended the meeting as an invited guest. In December 2013 the Smart & Skilled List was released. This list outlines VET (TAFE) courses that will be entitled to government subsidised training from 1 January 2015. The following surveying/spatial courses were included on the list:

- ❖ Certificate III in Surveying and Spatial information Services
- ❖ Certificate IV in Spatial Information Services
- ❖ Certificate IV in Surveying
- ❖ Diploma of Surveying

Andrew is also working with the TAFE's to apply for funding through the 2014 Strategic Skills Program (SSP). If awarded, the funding will assist existing unqualified workers in our industry to gain qualifications at the Cert III, Cert IV or Diploma level.

SMIC will be working with Andrew to promote the existing traineeships our industry has available. A flyer with the relevant information is being prepared and will be distributed soon. The next time your business is hiring new staff, please consider doing so through a formal traineeship. There are government incentives available to both the employer and employee and if we don't start to take advantage of these traineeships then they will lose government funding.

Keep up to date, ask questions, or share information with SMIC by joining us at:



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The following information may 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](mailto:smic@smicnsw.org.au) or by contacting the SMIC Chair, Narelle Underwood. Acronyms are explained on the SMIC website at [www.smicnsw.org.au](http://www.smicnsw.org.au) Links to our member organisations are on the SMIC website.

**ACS:** together with Sutherland TAFE have developed and made available on line three business skills modules in an effort to assist surveyors that are conducting their own business but without a great deal of business training. The three modules include – Managing Risk, Marketing the Small Business and Manage Budgets and Financial Plans.

Consulting Surveyors National (CSN) are working with CPSISC to have Surveying included on the National Skills Needs List (NSNL).

**AHS:** HYDRO 2015 conference has been planned to take place in late 2015 in Cairns, Australia. Planning will begin shortly with a date to be chosen so as to avoid clashes with other similar events worldwide.

A poster commemorating the 200th Anniversary of Captain Matthew Flinders death and the publishing of his map that first stated the name "Australia" has been published. The Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute, the Australasian Hydrographic Society and Land and Property Information, NSW have jointly produced this poster; 2000 posters have been produced for presentation to schools around Australia.

Andrew Ternes from the Port of Melbourne recently appeared on a local Victorian travel show (Coxy's Big Break) showcasing the technology utilized on their vessel *John Norgate* to survey Port Phillip Bay. The video can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ka7tazF9Mv8&list=PL-Os630zim6Uf-jTiDbyWO3o0S5xXJOku>

**AIMS:** The Singleton seminar was held in November with a large attendance. There was an encouraging attendance from candidate surveyors to the morning session and a great turn out to the afternoon session for Registered Mine Surveyors. Mudgee seminar is being held on the 22nd of February with a candidate session on the Friday and main session on the Saturday.

A CPD Audit was conducted and one mining surveyor failed, resulting in withdrawing their registration.

AIMS is currently preparing a submission against the QLD proposal to cease the annual submission of mine plan information

**ISNSW:** The new website is up and running. Members are encouraged to log onto [www.surveyors.org.au](http://www.surveyors.org.au) to have a look and log into their membership portal where they can now track your CPD points online. Future improvements will include the ability to pay for membership fees and events online.

Through the NSW Surveying Taskforce the North Coast, Hunter-Manning & Southern regional groups have each donated \$1500 towards the publication of 500 copies of Beverly Neil's book - *Working in the Country, Rural Surveyor*.

Beverly Neil has also been commissioned to produce another book on the *Urban Surveyor*. The Cumberland Group has consented to fully fund the production and printing of this new publication.

**NSW Surveying Taskforce:** has employed Michelle Brooks from Cookie Dough Marketing. Currently Michelle is researching through personal interviews what activities are being undertaken by the various associations and groups in NSW. Her next task will be to contact the academic organisations to document what promotional activities are being undertaken by each organisation so please give her some time if you are the point of contact for your organisation. When the interviews have been completed, a report will be compiled with recommendations for the next step. The report is due by the end of April 2014.

**SSSI:** The winner in the category of SSSI NSW Undergraduate Student of the Year is Ailesh MacGillicuddy who studied at UNSW. The winner in the category of SSSI NSW Professional of the Year is Mr. Wayne Patterson. Congratulations to Ailesh and Wayne.

The Inaugural Locate14 Conference is on 7-9 April at the National Convention Centre, Canberra. This new event will be the premier national Spatial Information conference in Australia, combining the spatial industries top events including the Surveying & Spatial Sciences Conference, the Spatial@Gov Conference and the Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards. For more information [www.locateconference.com](http://www.locateconference.com).

**Surveyor General:** Applications for the 2014 NSW Surveyor General International Fellowship in Surveying and Spatial Information are open. For further information please go to [http://www.smicnsw.org.au/docs/SG\\_International\\_Fellowship\\_Flyer\\_2014.pdf](http://www.smicnsw.org.au/docs/SG_International_Fellowship_Flyer_2014.pdf)

There are currently 143 active stations forming CORSnet-NSW and network RTK now covers 50% of the State.

In November 2013 LPI released the 'NSW Globe'. NSW Globe displays authoritative data from across NSW onto Google Earth. LPI medium to high resolution imagery and elevation data, as well as private sector high resolution airborne and satellite imagery can be viewed. Imagery datasets covering past and recent emergency events for flood and fire, as well as historic 1943 imagery covering most of greater Sydney is also available. NSW Globe is accessed via: <http://globe.six.nsw.gov.au>

The Real Property Amendment (Electronic Conveyancing) Bill 2013 was introduced into Parliament on 14 November 2013 and is expected to be considered in early 2014. The Bill will facilitate the implementation of National Electronic Conveyancing in NSW by:

- a) providing for the optional issue of paper certificates of title, allowing the Registrar General to determine whether to issue or cancel a certificate in a particular case (replacing the current scheme, where a new edition of a certificate of title is for all privately owned Torrens title land each time a new transaction is registered), and
- b) allowing the Registrar General, in circumstances where a certificate of title is not issued or has been cancelled, to accept an electronic consent to the registration of a matter where currently a certificate of title is required, and
- c) making other minor amendments to make the operation of the Act technology-neutral, including by making it clear that, unless otherwise provided, electronic documents lodged through the new system will be processed in the same way and according to the same legal considerations as conventional paper transactions and that the powers of the Registrar General apply equally to paper and electronic conveyancing documents.

**TAFE:** Sydney Institute enrolment numbers are strong over full time and part time. A new part time teacher to teach spatial will be starting soon, teaching evenings and weekend block.

Illawarra Institute enrolments for 2014 are very healthy. They have had an outstanding response to new students starting the Cert III in Surveying and Spatial Information Services with a very long standby list (over 20 people). In addition to their Cert III and Diploma courses they are also running an Army training program for the Cert IV in Surveying, and a pilot Diploma RPL course. They also have a number of new part-time teachers starting this year. A formal part-time recruitment process will be occurring later this year. They are looking to design a new Cert IV and Diploma flexible/distance courses, progress will depend of staff resourcing and availability.

**University of Newcastle:** Preliminary figures for 2014 enrolments show that in early February, there were 31 acceptances for the B. Engineering (Honours) (Surveying) degree, and 5 for the surveying/civil engineering combined degree, giving a total of 36. The ATAR cut off for the B. Engineering (Honours) (Surveying) degree was set at 71.55. The cut off last year was 70.45.

The enrolments for 2013, can be finally confirmed and included mid-year admissions. Last year, there were 29 commencing students for the B. Engineering (Honours) (Surveying) degree and 7 for the surveying/civil engineering combined degree. There were a total of 127 students enrolled in the surveying degrees (includes the old B.Surveying) and associated combined degrees. This is slight increase from last year.

The procedure for a permanent replacement for Dr Harvey Mitchell continues. Interviews for the Professor/Associate Professor level were held in December 2013, and it would appear that an offer was made to one of the four candidates.

**University of New South Wales:** The Surveying And Geospatial Engineering (SAGE) group is expanding the curriculum review within the new School of Civil and Environmental Engineering to consider double degrees and ultimately to revisit the postgrad coursework offerings. The new school offers many opportunities to combine curricula and offer new material into our program relating to Civil Engineering, and also for SAGE to inform Civil Engineers about some of SAGE's many disciplines. UNSW is trying to structure the program to allow future Civil graduates easy passage into a Surveying degree part way through their studies or upon completion. It is hoped that SAGE numbers will increase now that it is part of the largest Civil Engineering school in Australia.

TAFE diploma students are encouraged to articulate their TAFE qualification into the UNSW degree program. This has never been an easy transition and made more difficult in recent years with the increasing demand of Engineering at UNSW pushing the ATAR up to 91. Despite this the relationship between TAFE and UNSW teachers is excellent with new pathways to improve the Maths skills of TAFE students introduced to smooth the transition. It is well understood that articulating TAFE students do well in the program and almost always go on to become Registered Surveyors – a terrific outcome. The School is currently negotiating with the central admissions administration to consider the recent 2 year Diploma more favourably easing future applications in this more competitive environment.

The next meeting of the NSW Surveying & Mapping Industry Council is currently planned to be held at the office of Roads & Maritime Services in Parramatta on Friday 23rd May 2014.

Narelle Underwood  
Chair