

## SMIC NEWS

The 116th general meeting of the Surveying & Mapping Industry Council of NSW was held on Friday 18 July 2008 at the RTA offices in Parramatta. This meeting was held immediately after the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, at which the Chair, Mark Gordon, was returned for a tenth term; Paul Barnett (SSI NSW) was elected Deputy Chair and Paul Harcombe retained his position as Secretary/Treasurer.

The Chair welcomed Michael London, replacing Grant Kilpatrick as the TAFE NSW Sydney institute representative, and Alexandra Lyle, our graphic designer for the proposed SMIC brochure.

SMIC's long-standing desire to have Mt Juson recorded in the NSW Geographical Names Register has at last succeeded, with "Mt Juson" being restored as an alternate name for Mt Gamdri near Parkes. As you may recall, "Mt Juson" was named by Sir Thomas Mitchell at the request of his botanist, Richard Cunningham, during Mitchell's Third Expedition in 1835 and still supports a cairn of stones erected by Cunningham whilst Mitchell was measuring angles.

The Council has received draft advertising material relating to the introduction of cadetships to Diploma level at TAFE. This matter is ready to proceed as soon as the NSW Government accepts the proposal and TAFE has advised that it is ready to proceed. Our CITAB CE, Douglas Greening, is keeping a watchful eye on developments for us.

Members of the Survey & Spatial information Sector are reminded that the Awards Dinner for the NSW Excellence in Surveying & Spatial Information is to be held at the Shangri-La Hotel in the Rocks on Friday 26 September 2008.

The following information may be of interest to members of constituent organisations and the general public. 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:** Program 8 of the BOSSI Candidates' Workshops is commencing on 25 July: no further courses are scheduled for 2008 but it is expected to hold one course in 2009. The annual Business Seminar will be held on Monday 4 August at Rydges on World Square. The joint conference with the Country Surveyors Association will be held in Tamworth on 24-25 October 2008, with Dr Fred Watson as guest speaker at the dinner. Diane North is retiring from the Executive Officer position in November. ACS and ISNSW have engaged a PR consultant to develop and implement a communications strategy. A reminder that the website has been re-vamped and is worth a look at [www.acsnsw.com.au](http://www.acsnsw.com.au).
- **AHS:** Application Forms for the annual Education Award of \$2500 are available from the Australasian Hydrographic Society website at [www.ahs.asn.au](http://www.ahs.asn.au). The Eastern Australia Region of AHS held a technical evening on 15 July. The AGM is to be held in September 2008. World Hydrography Day was celebrated in Western Australia with a dinner at which the guest speaker was Ted Graham, Chairman of HMAS Sydney Search Pty Ltd, which successfully located the wrecks of the HMAS Sydney and the HSK Kormoran.
- **AIMS:** AIMS is a gold sponsor for the Excellence Awards and will present the award for excellence in mining surveying. The Annual Conference is on 14-15 August 2008 at the Crowne Plaza, Coogee Beach.
- **BOSSI:** 27 candidates attended the annual Kurri Kurri Candidates' weekend on 1 June 2008. The Board has agreed to the proposal to invite SSI NSW to the biannual JAM (Joint Administration Model) meetings that the Board has with representatives from ACS, ISNSW and AIMS. A Memorandum of understanding has been signed with the ACT Chief Surveyor.
- **FIG2010:** A revamped website is now available: same address at [www.fig2010.com](http://www.fig2010.com). A contingent of nine Young Ambassadors and ten FIG2010 "older" representatives attended the FIG Working Week in Stockholm, Sweden in June 2008. Our PCO Tour

Hosts presented a comprehensive promotional strategy for the Stockholm Working Week. We were given a booth in the exhibition area to promote the Sydney World Surveying Congress in 11-16 April 2010. Congress Director Paul Harcombe gave a presentation to the FIG General Assembly on the last day of the Working Week. Our FIG 2010 Ambassador and colleague Teo Chee Hai from Malaysia was elected as the 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President of FIG. The last event of the Stockholm Working week was a farewell YA party that was strongly promoted as an "Aussie" FIG 2010 sponsored event. Over 500 people attended. It generated some odd looks when Young Ambassadors Chris, Jemma and Cecilia ran a "chook raffle" with all of the promotional materials left over.

- **GITA:** The GITA Sydney *Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions* Conference will be held on 25-27 August 2008 at the Novotel Hotel, Olympic Park and will include a workshop to discuss the outcomes of the Sydney 'DownUnder' Project. Parallel sessions will be run on 'Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions' and 'GIS in Oil, Gas and Mining'. The 2008 GITA Excellence Award will be presented on Tuesday 26 August 2008 at the Waterview Convention Centre, Olympic Park, with special guest Dr Karl Kruszelnicki. GITA is actively promoting its bursaries for tertiary students. Greg Oaten represented GITA in a national summit on workforce development for the spatial information industry on 10 April, organised by SEAC.
- **ISNSW:** ISNSW has moved to 162 Goulburn Street. NSW IEMS members have voted in favour of a merger with ISNSW. Plans for a national merger of ISA and SSI are progressing. Paul Swan is the new TAFE representative on the ISNSW Board of management. A subcommittee has been formed to promote methods of preserving survey control marks and cadastral survey marks. A weekend seminar for BOSSI candidates is being held on 2-3 August 2008.
- **MSIA:** The national 2008 AGM was held in Brisbane on 30 May, with Trevor Menzies re-elected President. The national MSIA Council met on 1 June 2008. Professor William Cartwright has been elected President of the International Cartographic Association. The inspection of the RTA's Transport Management Centre on 30 June 2008 was very popular. The next technical evening will be held at the Rural Fire Services, Homebush on 20 August 2008. The annual MSIA/SSI one day seminar is on 14 August 2008 at the Mercure Lawson Hotel Ultimo. Contact Hank Staal on [staal1@bigpond.com](mailto:staal1@bigpond.com) for all details.
- **NSW IEMS:** 98% of returned votes were in favour of the amalgamation with ISNSW. An ISNSW subcommittee for Engineering & Mining Surveyors has been formed. The NSW IEMS TAFE scholarship will continue, and Georgina Olsen is the recipient of this year's scholarship. Graeme Douglas was awarded this year's "Best in Survey Projects" prize at Sydney TAFE.
- **SSI:** A Wiki communication tool is being established. The Spatial Students Working Action Group (SSWAG) has joined SSI. SSI and ASIBA will jointly host a 2 day conference to coincide with the Australian Spatial Excellence Awards in Canberra in November.
- **Surveyor-General:** Two Surveyor-General International Fellowships are being offered this year: one in Surveying and one in Spatial Information. The CS2i Program office has been established in the Lands Dept and an Executive Assistant has been appointed. An expression of interest for a Consultancy Brief for the next stage of CS2i will be issued in August. Related subprojects include the review of the Street Addressing legislation and systems, and the redevelopment of the Register of Public Surveys.
- **TAFE NSW:** A meet & greet BBQ was held on 24 June. Damien Cole is the new Head Teacher at Sydney TAFE. Surveying & Spatial Information Services has moved to a new facility. The new course for Surveying and GIS will be introduced in 2009. A questionnaire is being distributed to industry members. Kate Moore is liaising with CPSISC about the continuity of NSW TAFE involvement with the national teaching resources network.
- **Uni of Newcastle:** Mid year enrolments have commenced. A HSC Bonus Scheme is being introduced in 2009 with up to an additional 4 UAI points for students enrolled in HSC Maths, Physics & Chemistry and achieving superior performance. The degree will be subject to accreditation by Engineers Australia in August.
- **UNSW:** The Chinese Consulate-General thanked the School for supporting the earthquake rescue operation in China. There will be an Industry Day on 12 August. Chris Rizos has been named by GPS World as one of the 50 leaders to watch in the field of GPS.