

President's Report – November 2020

Dear Fellow AIMS Members,

This last year has been like no other, Covid19 has raised many new challenges for AIMS. With consideration given the safety of our members and the risks involved with people meeting together AIMS has decided to cancel all seminar including the Conference in Newcastle. Going forward AIMS is working closely with Conference Images and Mark McShane to present webinars on a regular basis so that those members who require CPD points to maintain their registration can continue to do so. I urge all members to consider assisting with this task as sourcing presentation is always difficult and some of the best material comes from what you do in your day to day work.

Whilst our membership continues with steady growth especially in Western Australia, AIMS has continued to work in many areas to represent and support all mining Surveyors around Australia. The Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales sub committees have all been active, discussing matters and changes to legislation to advise the board regarding issues relating to that state.

An organisation like AIMS would not continue to grow unless it was for the efforts of people assisting the Board. I would like to thank Alan Mellor and the CPD committee for their continuing effort in accessing CPD all those events. I would also like to thank Tinos Mutyiri in his role as Membership Coordinator, Adrian Wall who recently has stepped down and Stewart Stevenson now representing AIMS on the SMIC committee and all the chairpersons for the state-based committees.

AIMS continues to provide representation to the Survey Boards of Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales. The dedication and efforts of Shane Watson, Ken Cross and Dan Cherry is commendable and on behalf of all members of AIMS I would like to thank them for their efforts this past year. A special mention to Chris Moy for his dedication and tireless efforts over 10 years representing AIMS on the BOSSI board. His professionalism, contributions, and willingness to share information with everyone has greatly contributed to taking AIMS to be acknowledged as the leading organisation representing Mine Surveyor across Australia.

AIMS continues to support the promotion of Mine Surveying with scholarships to surveying students in Queensland, Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales Universities. AIMS also continues to sponsor Destination Spatial in Queensland and NSW Surveying Task Force whose objective is to promote Surveying, my thanks to Quentin Albertyn and Frank Cook for the continuing effort in these vital roles.

Sadly, this year the AIMS awards committee only received 2 entries for the young Mine Surveyor and none for the Mine Surveyor category. I believe it is important to recognise and reward those Surveyors striving to achieve above and beyond the norm but with little response the last 2 years AIMS might have to reconsider the future of these awards.



Despite Covid-19, the mining industry has continued to grow and many large infrastructure projects throughout Australia have placed renewed demand for experienced Surveyors. However, enrolments at TAFE and Universities are still low and high school students don't seem to be aware of the careers available in the mining industry. To address this shortfall, I see a need for all surveying associations across Australia to increase support for organisations like A Life Without Limits, Destination Spatial and NSW Surveying Taskforce to assist them in raising our profile in schools and the community hopefully increase surveying enrolment numbers back to where they need.

Finally, after 10 years as a director and the last 4 years as president I am stepping down from both roles. It has been a privilege and an honour to serve on a board where everyone's sole objective has been the advancement of AIMS and would like to thank everyone who served as executives and directors during that time. Their dedication and time taken to the promotion of our industry continues to make AIMS the leading Mine Surveying organisation in Australia.

I would like to wish the new board continued growth and success in the future.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mario Fantin', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mario Fantin
President