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29th Annual General Meeting

The 29th Annual General Meeting of the Surveying & Mapping Industry Council of NSW was held on Friday 22nd July 2016 at the Ports Authority office in Walsh Bay. The Annual Report outlined the activities and achievements of the Council over the past 12 months. Highlights included:

- Support of the NSW Surveying Taskforce
- Increase in the number of trainees
- Representation on the University of Newcastle Liaison and Program Advisory Committee
- Representation on the UNSW School of Civil & Environmental Engineering (CVEN) Industry Advisory Committee.

A copy of the full Annual Report is available on the SMIC Website.

Following elections the executive committee for 2016/2017 is: Chair – Narelle Underwood
Deputy – Venessa O'Connell
Secretary/Treasurer – Peta Cox

Industry Reports

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 emailing smic@smicnsw.org.au

ACS – has been undertaking a number of member surveys covering various topics such as wages and hourly rates

- ACS NSW held their annual State conference at Parliament House, Sydney on Wednesday 2 August. Key speakers were Mark McCrindle, Australia's foremost social researchers, and Martin Lakos, Division Director at Macquarie Wealth Management. The conference also included updates and Q & A sessions with a number of key NSW parliamentarians including Hon. Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Mark Coure MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Infrastructure. The Hon. Victor Dominello MP, Minister for Finance, Services and Property was the dinner speaker.
- ACS NSW held its first Strata and Community Title workshop for candidate surveyors on 29 June. This new workshop is run alongside ACS workshops in Engineering and Town Planning which are held twice a year.

AIMS – will be holding their annual conference at Crown Plaza – Hunter Valley on 13-16 September. Conference will consist of a combination of interactive workshops with numerous technical papers, sponsor presentations and guest speakers Surveyor General Narelle Underwood, and ex Newcastle Knights football player Alex McKinnon. The annual conference will also include the AIMS general meeting and awards dinner. Awards to be conveyed include Mine surveyor of the year, Junior mine surveyor of the year, and best technical presentation. Nominations for awards close on Thursday 31 August.

- AIMS are in discussions with the Chief Inspector about making the submission of mine plans electronic.
- AIMS is taking part in a review of the Survey & Drafting Directions which will investigate the introduction of a common scale across metalliferous and coal submissions, and the removal of borehole data from the plan sheets and submitted in shape file format only.

Industry Reports Continued ...

AHS – in conjunction with SSSI held a successful World Hydrography Day seminar and dinner at Darwin on 21 June 2017.

- The Australasian Hydrographic Surveyors Certification Panel is currently seeking nominations for 2 positions on the panel being the coastal zone management and private practice positions.

APAS – Government Surveyors Dinner is being held on 26 October and 2018 APAS Conference is being held on 10-11 April at Jindabyne.

ISNSW – Australian Registry Investments (ARI), the corporation that will be managing the private concession of LPI has made contact with ISNSW via letter which has been replied in kind and hopeful this is the start of a co-operative relationship between the two organisations. It is believed one of the partners of the group who were awarded the private concession, Hastings Funds Management is on the market to be sold. The Office of the Registrar General has assured that the concession will be binding on all parties. It appears the Victoria government is commencing a scoping study towards privatising their titles office.

- ISNSW will be holding their Cadastral workshops for candidate surveyors at the ISNSW office on 26-27 August with a plan assessment day following on 9 September.
- EISSI Awards night is to be held on Saturday 19 September. Judging of all categories besides the Professional of the Year and the Young Professional of the Year has been completed. Discussions between SIBA, ACS and ISNSW has commenced towards developing a new agreement.
- ISNSW will be holding its Australia Day Seminar at the Four Seasons Hotel near Circular Quay on 24-25 January 2018.
- Recent 457 Visa changes include the restriction of skilled technician level surveyors entering into Australia. This same restriction is not being applied to professional level surveyors. There has been some concern raised regarding this restriction by some companies which rely on technician level staff.
- ISNSW has interviewed the first candidate for accreditation as an Engineering Surveyor under ISNSW's schemes. As a result of this interview ISNSW will be reviewing their scheme to broaden the categories for assessment.
- ISNSW held a webinar on planning for subdivisions on 22 June. This was presented by ISNSW President-elect Tony Proust and attracted 37 attendees.
- ISNSW held a twilight seminar at the ISNSW office on 25 May with about 40 people attending. Topics covered included Construction Surveying, Section 88K of the Conveyancing Act 1919, and Property Investments.
- A contingent from ISNSW attended the IS Vic Awards which were held in St Kilda on 14 July. The awards follow a day of seminars which were moderated by young surveyors. IS Vic is also well on the way in organising a group representing Women in Surveying.

NSW Surveying Taskforce – is continuing with its activities including career events such as the Northern Beaches Career Expo, presentation at Kogarah Careers Café, Northwest Regional Careers Expo, Newcastle Lake Macquarie Career & Training Expo, Hunter Valley Career Expo, Western Sydney Taste of Trades & Careers Market Events, Professional Services Career Workshops, Wagga Wagga Careers Expo, and Western Sydney Careers Expo where the taskforce secured 70+ student and teacher registrations. Monthly email communication to career advisors and posting of career packs are continuing. 9 secondary student work experience placements were organised in June/July, with 1 placement to be organised for August and 12 more placements to be organised later in the year. The website has been relaunched and a Search Engine Optimisation program has been put in place which has delivered a 22% increase in website traffic. The taskforce has continued promotion of the maths in surveying teacher resources to maths teachers.

SMMF – The Port Authority of NSW has entered a submission to be part of the Federal government Satellite Based Augmentation System trials based upon "Marine Pilotage Navigation and offshore survey enhancement".

- Recruitment is an ongoing issue with seemingly 'good' jobs not attracting applicants of either suitable quality or numbers to conduct a proper merit-based selection process.
- Public Works transformation to Public Works Authority (PWA) is now officially complete. PWA is currently developing their business plan with PWA focusing on providing engineering, infrastructure and related support services to other state agencies and local government wherever needed. PWA Surveying & Spatial team will be commencing a wide ranging recruitment campaign to add more capability and capacity.
- Graeme Gaggin, Principal Surveyor at Sydney Trains has recently retired after a long and distinguished career in public service. Position is soon to be recruited with David Brown acting in the role presently.
- Department of Industry – Lands & Forestry Surveyors are creating a centralised reporting structure with a Survey Manager/Principle Surveyor position being recruited and reporting to a Director for Regional Services, offering better career pathways for their survey team.
- RMS Maritime Survey has reported that they have seen an increased number of junior staff keen to undertake work experience and surveying placements over recent months.

SSSI – website has now been made available online again and work is being undertaken to get all data back online

- SSSI NSW & ACT Regional Conference will be held in partnership with NSW Spatial Services in Bathurst on 6-7 December 2017. The awards night will be held on 6 December as part of the conference. SSSI NSW Individual Award categories include SSSI Professional of the Year, SSSI Young Professional of the Year, SSSI Women's Leadership Award, SSSI Educational Development Award, SSSI Postgraduate Student Award, SSSI Undergraduate Student Award, SSSI Special Achievement Award (Regional Only). The night will also include NSW and ACT Asia Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards in categories including Spatial Enablement, Innovation and Commercialisation, Technical Excellence, People and Community, Environment and Sustainability, and Export. Closing date for award nominations close on 30 October.
- Locate18 will be a joint conference with GeoSmart Asia at the Adelaide Convention Centre on 8-11 April.

Surveyor General – A decision on the RICS trademark application for the term ‘Chartered Surveyor’ has been handed down by IP Australia. The CRSBANZ objection was successful on the basis that the trade mark is non-distinctive and the evidence filed by RICS was insufficient to show that the trade mark had become distinctive through use.

- The ANZAC Centenary Soil Collection project is currently looking for volunteers to collect soil samples at various locations across the State. These soil samples will be installed in the new upgraded memorial at Hyde Park as part of an artwork within the new Hall of Service. Geographic Names Board was involved in identifying the 1699 sites which represent the hometowns of our ANZAC men and women. Currently soil samples have been collected from 133 sites, volunteers have been found for an additional 300 sites and there are 1266 sites requiring volunteers.
- During 2016/2017, 13 new CORSnet-NSW stations were built with a further 7 upgraded to multi constellation receivers. Capital funding for 2017/2018 has been confirmed and it is planned to construct 13 new stations and upgrade a further 20 receivers. The upgrade of the management software has now been completed.
- BOSSI held Candidate Workshops at Kurri Kurri on 19-20 May with 42 candidates in attendance. Registrations renewals are now open and are due for payment before 31 August. Approximately 30% of all registered surveyors will be audited for CPD Compliance in September. Annual Registration Certificates will be sent out to all registered surveyors in October. Next Mining Project Assessments are to be held on 6 September, Mining Legislation to be held on 27 September, and Land Candidate Assessments and Mining Candidate Finals Orals are to be held on 9-11 October. Next JAM meeting and certificate presentation ceremony is to be held on 24 November.
- The National Positioning Infrastructure Advisory Board held a meeting in Canberra on 12 May. Their current focus is the Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS) trials. NSW Spatial Services expression of interest, Assessing dual-frequency multi-constellation SBAS and SBAS-aided Precise Point Positioning for surveying applications, as been accepted. Thomas Grinter is leading the project and the official project proposal has now been submitted.

Surveying Education Reports

TAFE – is modernising and revitalising the organisation to ensure we are relevant, competitive and able to meet the skills demand for NSW in to the future. Christina Praise has been appointed the new manager of the Property Services SkillPoint

- All regions have seen an increase in student numbers. Illawarra campus has 35 students undertaking the Certificate III in Survey and Spatial Information Services, 36 undertaking the Certificate IV in Surveying, and 44 undertaking Diploma of Surveying for a total of 115 students. Illawarra campus is negotiating training contracts with Roads and Maritime Services and the Department of Defence. Albury campus has 73 students undertaking Certificate III in Survey and Spatial Information Services, 36 undertaking Certificate IV in Survey, 68 undertaking Certificate IV in Spatial Information Systems, 58 undertaking Diploma of Surveying, and 30 undertaking Diploma of Spatial Information Services for a total of 265 students. Albury campus also runs short courses with 53 participants undertaking the Statement of Attainment GIS Essentials, and 30 undertaking the Statement of Attainment GIS Analysis and Problem Solving. Sydney campus has 65 students undertaking the Certificate III in Survey and Spatial Information Services, 48 undertaking the Certificate IV in Survey, 46 undertaking the Diploma of Surveying, and 10 undertaking the Statement of attainment (commercial LPI) for a total of 199 students. Hunter campus has 44 students undertaking the Certificate III in Survey and Spatial Information Services, and 19 undertaking the Diploma of Surveying for a total of 63 students. Hunter expects 18-19 Certificate III students to enrol in the Certificate IV, plus a new group of 18-19 starting in the Certificate III in semester 2.

University of Newcastle – Surveying doctoral student Seyedeh Mahdijeh Razeghi took out second place in the Faculty of Engineering Annual Three Minute Thesis competition. This competition included over 30 Doctoral and Masters students where each presenter was allowed 3 minutes to explain their concept and value of their research. Mahdijeh will now compete in the University wide competition.

- Doctoral student Khosro Ghobardi has won a travel grant from the International Association of Geodesy to present his research work at the Joint Scientific Assembly of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI) to be held in Kobe, Japan later this year.
- A number of academics and post graduate students attended the annual gathering of the Australian Geodesy community at the Australian National University in Canberra on 28-29 June 2017. The two day program included eight technical sessions with 36 papers presented. Newcastle attendees presented papers on tide models for the Great Barrier Reef region, marine gravity field investigations, satellite altimetry investigations, and the use of geodetic observations for ground water monitoring across Australia.

UNSW – In June, 11 BE (Surveying) students had their graduation ceremony. The ceremony also included Masters and PhD awarded to students in the SAGE group. UNSW now classified the date of graduation to be when requirements of their degrees have been completed and is usually considerably earlier than the date of the graduation ceremony.

- On the day of the graduation ceremonies, the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering held a prize giving ceremony for undergraduate students. From the SAGE group, Eloise Harch received the RS Mather Memorial Prize, Belinda Serafin received the ISNSW Prize, the ACS NSW Prize in Land Development, and the BOSSI Medal, Luke Chidzey received the EGM Memorial Prize, Allen Qi received the APAS Prize, Alec Xie received the SSSI Prize, and Eryan Chen received the Maurice Maughan Prize.
- UNSW has now commenced with the classification of some academics as being Education Focussed. Bruce Harvey and Craig Roberts have been appointed to these important roles.
- The search for a new discipline head for the SAGE group to replace Prof Chris Rizos has not yet commenced.
- In 2019, UNSW will change their teaching schedule from 2 x 13 week semesters to 3 x 10 week trimesters. The administrative organisation is underway to prepare for the change. There are no structural changes to teaching for 2017 and 2018.
- Samsung Lim attended the FIG Working Week in Helsinki, Finland on 29 May – 2 June. He presented two technical papers, one on LiDAR and the other on spatial data management and participated in the annual meeting of Commission 3 – Spatial Information Management.



How to Establish a Surveying & Spatial Information Services Traineeship in YOUR workplace

Available Traineeships

- Cert III Surveying & Spatial Information Services
- Cert IV Surveying
- Cert IV Spatial Information Services
- Diploma Surveying
- Diploma Spatial Information Services

- 1. Employer selects Australian Apprenticeship Centre (AAC)**
Contact Australian Business Apprenticeships Centre (ABAC)
Bree Milburn ABAC Account Manager 1300 652 236
bree.milburn@australianbusiness.com.au
- 2. Recruitment process to select suitable candidate**
The traineeship must be established within 3 months of an employee starting employment with your company.
- 3. Employer selects a Registered Training Organisation (RTO)**
Contact Australian Business Apprenticeship Centre or TAFE NSW
- 4. AAC consultant assists employer to complete required paperwork**
- 5. RTO in consultation with employer develops a Training Plan**
- 6. Training Plan delivery commences**
- 7. Apprenticeship Centre**
Tracks trainee progress
Actions payments to employer
- 8. RTO and employer assess trainee as competent**
- 9. Traineeship Completed**

Surveying & Spatial Information Services Traineeship Numbers

Commencements	2015	2016	2017 (as at 30 June)
Cert III in Surveying & Spatial	4	8	9
Cert IV in Surveying	2	3	1
Cert IV in Spatial	8	6	2
Diploma in Surveying	0	1	0
Total:	14	Total: 18	Total: 12

If your company is looking to hire new staff please investigate how a trainee may benefit your business.

SMIC Training Scholarship Program

SMIC in conjunction with TAFE NSW offer a scholarship program for potential part-time teachers in Surveying and Spatial Information who are studying towards their TAE40110 Certificate IV in Training & Assessment. This qualification is a pre-requisite for teaching at TAFE. The scholarships are to a value of up to one thousand dollars.

Eligibility Criteria

- Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia
- Made an application for or is enrolled in TAE40110
- Haven't received the scholarship previously
- Hold a recognised surveying qualification

Selection Criteria

- Meet eligibility criteria
- Academic merit
- Reasons for undertaking TAE40110
- Demonstrated teaching ability and aptitude
- Career direction, aspirations and goals
- Teaching qualities
- Motivation and attitude

Applications for the next round close **Friday 11 August 2017**.

For further information and application forms please refer to the Education Options tab under Services on our website www.smicnsw.org.au or email us at smic@smicnsw.org.au

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The Chair - SMIC NSW
Level 1, 1 Prince Albert Road
Sydney NSW 2000
Email: smic@smicnsw.org.au
Tel: 0428 834 081
www.smicnsw.org.au