



The 25th Annual General Meeting and 142nd General Meeting of the Surveying & Mapping Industry Council of NSW were held on Friday 12 July 2013 at the RMS offices at Parramatta.

Mark Gordon stood down from the position of Chair after 14 years, but has not escaped all responsibility as he was voted in as Deputy Chair. A sincere thanks to Mark for his ongoing and dedicated work for the Council. Paul Harcombe was again voted in as Secretary/Treasurer and former Deputy Chair Narelle Underwood was elevated to the position of Chair.

Immediate Past Chair Mark Gordon thanked Kevin Volk for his ongoing exemplary work as Executive Officer. He also thanked retiring ISNSW Engineering and Mining representative Rick Bartholomew for his service on the Council for the past 12 years and particularly for his persistent and valuable work on the TAFE Training Packages

In his Annual Report Mark Gordon outlined the activities and achievements of the Council over the past 12 months. The highlight is the publication of Australian Standard AS5488-2013 Classification of Subsurface Utility Information which has been a SMIC project since 2006.

Other highlights for the Council included the awarding of a SMIC Scholarship in Certificate IV Training & Assessment to Ian Pearson and the Council's participation in the Surveying & Mapping Industry Day in Martin Place on 12 September 2012. The Council's somewhat tenuous first step into the world of Facebook and LinkedIn is also a matter for celebration.

The incoming Chair, Narelle Underwood, gave a presentation to the members on the use and benefits of both the LinkedIn and Facebook sites. Social media is a growing and instant form of communication that can be used to not only discuss important issues amongst our members but to also promote our activities and the wider profession. There is an opportunity for everyone to join us at <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/SMIC-NSW-Surveying-Mapping-Industry-4971932/about> or <http://www.facebook.com/groups/SMICNSW/>

The Council has written to the Acting Pro Vice Chancellor of the University of Newcastle, expressing its concern in the reduction of full time Surveying Lecturers to two, following the retirement of Dr Harvey Mitchell. The Council is aware that student numbers have now doubled in comparison to a time when the complement of fulltime Surveying staff was five, not that many years ago. The Council asked the University to ensure that succession planning through the employment of additional full time staff is in place to not only account for staff retirements, resignations and periods of ill health, but also to ensure that the current full time staff are allowed to undertake career development activities. Furthermore, the Council asked for the University's assurance that there will be sufficient full time staff to educate the number of students pursuing qualifications in Surveying at the University of Newcastle in the medium to long term.

Mark Gordon reported on the establishment of a Surveying Taskforce in NSW. Initial meetings with representatives from ACS NSW, AIMS, ISNSW, LPI, RMS and SMIC have been held to establish the parameters and aims of the group with the first goal being to increase the number of registered surveyors in NSW. The marketing company BlueFrog, who are responsible for the Victorian and SA models, have been asked to prepare a proposal for a research and marketing campaign. Mark also attended the inaugural CPSISC Industry Leaders Forum on 27 May 2013, contributing to the development of a strategic plan 2014-17 for the construction and property services sector. Two days later, Veronica Bondarew and Mark Gordon attended a meeting with DEC to lobby for the inclusion of Surveying & Spatial Sciences tertiary qualifications on the 2014 Industry Skills List.

Stephen Foster, Head of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CVEN) at the UNSW invited Mark Gordon to become a member of the CVEN IAC (Industry Advisory Committee) and he

attended his first meeting on 5 June. A subsidiary Surveying and Geospatial Engineering (SAGE) IAC is also being established to continue direct links with the surveying profession. Narelle Underwood, Paul Harcombe and Mark Gordon from the SMIC Executive have been asked to join the SAGE IAC.

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 or by contacting the SMIC Chair, Narelle Underwood. Acronyms are explained on the SMIC website at www.smicnsw.org.au. Links to our member organisations are on the SMIC website.

ACS: The salary survey has been completed and the results will be circulated to members and other interested parties in the next couple of weeks. Development of a CPD Bank has been completed and will be presented at a number of upcoming conferences and webinars. The Fee Estimating Tool (FeET) has also been completed.

AHS: The RAN Fleet Review is to be held in Sydney on 3-11 October to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Australian Navy. Invitations have been extended to over 50 nations, and 40 visiting war ships and 12 tall ships will be in Sydney Harbour for the event.

AIMS: The AIMS annual conference is on 14-16 August at the Adelaide Intercontinental Hotel.

ISNSW: Professor Stephen Foster attended the June ISNSW board meeting to discuss the demise of SAGE and the incorporation of the Surveying and Spatial Science into the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CVEN) at UNSW. Election papers have gone out in the June Azimuth for Hon Secretary; Hon Treasurer and 2 Members to the Board for 2013 - 2014. The 48th Annual Institution Golf Day 2013 is scheduled to be held on Thursday 8 August at Ryde-Parramatta Golf Club

MSIA: A Technical Evening is planned for 18 July and will be held at the City of Sydney CCTV camera operations rooms. MSIA will be hosting its Annual Seminar at the Aspire Hotel Ultimo on 24 October.

Surveyor General: There are currently 128 stations forming CORNet-NSW and network RTK now covers 36.7% of the state. The Conveyancing (General) Regulation 2013 is due to commence on 1 September 2013 replacing the current Conveyancing (General) Regulation 2008. Payment of registration fees for Registered Land and Mining Surveyors for the year 2013-2014 must be completed by 31 August. If a surveyor no longer wishes to remain on the Register, the Surveying and Spatial Information Act 2002 requires that you write to BOSSI and request removal from the Register.

TAFE: Enrolments are steady across the Institutes and offerings are up for semester 2 2013. TAFE Institutes are still moving forward with Institute reviews, with each institute is working through individual restructures to suit their own business model. The Training and Education Support (TES) units are being realigned to best suit the needs of TAFE NSW in the future. A draft set of future functions and roles for TES is to be released for discussion on 15 July.

University of Newcastle: surveying full time academic staff has been reduced two in 2013. Dr Eric Kniest was appointed as temporary academic staff member for Semester 1 and has been continued for Semester 2. Mr Ron Murtagh continues as a Professor Officer to replace Dr Kniest for this period. The EA accreditation visit for the Bachelor of Engineering programs at the University of Newcastle is scheduled for Monday 5 August to Wednesday 7 August 2013. A meeting with the EA accreditation panel with all industry personal (including Programme Advisory Committee members, recent graduates, industry people) is scheduled for the 6 August. This meeting includes all the engineering disciplines, and will have some surveying representatives.

University of New South Wales: On 18 June the achievements of the 2012 graduating class were celebrated and 11 undergraduate and 10 postgraduate students received their degrees. Emeritus Professor John Trinder was awarded the very prestigious Honorary Fellowship of UNSW and Mark Gordon, Principal Surveyor RMS gave the occasional address. During the period 17-21 June the

school organised a work experience week for 60 year 10 students from 60 schools across NSW. Assisted by RMS surveyor Ryan Fifield, Dr Craig Roberts took students to Circular Quay and ran an activity around the Opera House pointing out Fort Denison, the Bridge and an activity to locate the Sydney Harbour Tunnel by scaling maps and using GPS. They returned to UNSW campus for a bridge deformation exercise with digital leveling with Bruce Harvey.

The next meeting of the NSW Surveying & Mapping Industry Council is currently planned to be held at the office of the Roads & Maritime Services in Parramatta on Friday 18 October 2013.