

SMIC NEWS

The 129th General Meeting of the Council was held on 10 December 2010 at the RTA offices in Parramatta.

The first order of business was an agreement to make a donation to MND NSW in memory of our late former Executive Officer, Chris Jeremy, who died from Motor Neurone Disease on 24 September 2010.

The *SMIC Training Scholarship Program* Agreement has been approved. This unique scholarship will provide financial assistance to part-time TAFE teachers in Surveying who are undertaking the TAE40110 Certificate IV in Training & Assessment. SMIC delegates will be asking their respective organisations for financial support for the Scholarship, and this has already been forthcoming from AIMS and LPMA.

The Council was informed by the SMIC Hydrographic Working Group (Venessa O'Connell, Damien Cole and Rick Bartholomew) that the Category A Hydrographic course in Otago New Zealand will cease at the end of 2011 and they are not taking any further registrations to the course. This is currently the only course in the Aust/NZ region and this gives more pressure on developing a Category B course at TAFE Sydney with distance learning components.

SMIC delegates will contact their respective organisations to gauge support towards the establishment of a Surveying Taskforce, similar to that in Victoria and South Australia. The recent publicity of the profession in regional newspapers, with quotes from ISNSW and UNSW, was noted and it was hoped that this trend would continue.

The Council noted with great concern the winding up of the Construction Industry Training Advisory Board (CITAB) and is investigating the ramifications with DET and CPSISC.

The Chairman advised the Council that plans to develop an Australia-New Zealand Standard for the location and mapping of underground utilities (also known as SUE – Subsurface Utility Engineering) were progressing, with financial agreements with Standards Australia being considered. He reminded the Council that the impetus for this development came from SMMF, GITA and SMIC.

The following information should 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 Chairman, Mark Gordon. Acronyms are explained on the SMIC website at www.smicnsw.org.au. Links to our member organisations are on the SMIC website.

- **ACS:** Daryl Bath is the new Chair of ACS NSW. 130 people attended the Ballina Conference in October. The official opening of the new ACS office will be in February 2011 and a history of the association will be launched. The February BOSSI workshops are both full. ACS NSW is progressing with its programs for regional workshops and on-line seminars.
- **AHS:** A promotional DVD is being produced in conjunction with SSSI. 83 people attended the AHS Seminar on 13 September and all papers can be viewed on the website at www.ahs.asn.au.
- **AIMS:** The next AIMS Conference will be held on 17-19 August at Albert Park, Melbourne. A review of the Surveying & Drafting Directions for Mine Surveyors (NSW Coal) has been completed and is awaiting gazettal. 4 Mining Surveyors received their Certificates of Competency in November and Tinos Mutyiri was awarded the Clarence Smith Jeffries Award. The next candidate workshop will be in Mudgee in February, prior to the annual AIMS Mudgee Seminar. Chris Moy is replacing Phil Orr as the AIMS representative on BOSSI. Phil steps down after 8 years on the Board.
- **BOSSI:** BOSSI last met on 25 November 2010. Ten Certificates of Competency in Land Surveying and four in Mine Surveying were presented on 26 November. A Joint Administration Model (JAM) meeting was held on 26 November with ISNSW, ACS NSW, AIMS, SSSI and GITA. A statue of James Meehan was unveiled at the old Lands Department building by Governor Professor Marie Bashir on 28 November. Exam dates for 2011 are 14-16 March and 17-19 October, with the Kurri Kurri Candidates' Weekend on 27-28 May 2011.

- **GITA:** The AGM was held on 25 November 2010. The 2011 GITA Conference 'Smarter Infrastructure for a Sustainable Future' will be held in Sydney 1-3 August 2011.
- **ISNSW:** The Australia Day (Remote Members) Seminar will be held on Thursday 27 and Friday 28 January 2011 at The Mercure Sydney, 810-818 George Street Sydney (Railway Square). Arrangements are in hand for the 2011 Cumberland Group Land Development Seminar. The venue will be the Liverpool Catholic Club (just off the M7 & plenty of parking) on Friday 22 July 2011. A warning regarding GPS antennae in close proximity to power lines has been distributed to SMIC members. There is unsubstantiated advice that the Federal Government is intending to limit the number of frequencies available for RTK GNSS Surveys. The ISNSW Lunch at Parliament House is on 8 February 2011.
- **MSIA:** The Annual Seminar was held on 21 October 2010 at the Aspire Hotel, Bulwara Road Ultimo. Mapping Sciences institute, Australia is hosting its 2011 Conference "**100 Years of National Topographic Mapping**" at University House, Australian National university, Canberra, 1 Balmain Crescent, Acton, ACT on 28 – 29 March 2011.
- **SSSI:** SSSI held its NSW regional committee meeting on 6 November 2010. Two twilight seminars will be run co-jointly with ISNSW at ISNSW headquarters. Events are planned for March, May, June, September and November.
- **Surveyor-General:** A NSW Spatial Council briefing will be held on 16 December 2011. LPMA is currently embarking on a new major program to create a 'Comprehensive Property Addressing System (CPAS) for NSW. As of 25 October 2010 LPI have incorporated a total of 47 Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) into the CORSnet-NSW network. The most recent addition includes Macksville.
- **TAFE:** 85 people plus 5 internationals have expressed interest in studying Surveying and Spatial Information at Sydney TAFE in 2011. All organisations and companies are encouraged to offer work experience to TAFE students. The effect of the CITAB closure is being closely monitored.
- **Uni of Newcastle:** The University held a summer school for 180 Year 9 girls. The annual Surveying Seminar was held on 29 October. Enrolments in Surveying continue to be strong. The ATAR has reduced from 74.25 in 2009 to 70.70. Enrolments in first year have increased over 15% compared to the past 3 years.
- **UNSW:** A short course GPS/GNSS for the Modern Surveyor is being held on 17-18 February 2011 and a short course on LIDAR Data Acquisition & Processing is being held on 21-22 February 2011. The Thesis Conference was on 9 November 2011. Members of the profession are encouraged to supply undergraduate thesis topics for 2011.

The next meeting of SMIC is planned for 11 March 2011 at the RTA offices in Parramatta.