

**University of Maine
Industrial Advisory Committee Meeting**

**University of Maine
Surveying Engineering Technology
Industrial Advisory Committee Meeting
Boardman Hall, Room 123
Orono, Maine**

Friday, April 16, 2004

**Meeting Convened at 1545 EDT
Meeting Adjourned at 1800 EDT**

Attendees

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|--------------|--|
| Ray Hintz | Surveying Engineering Technology | 207-581-2189 | RayHintz2000@yahoo.com |
| Knud Hermansen | Surveying Engineering Technology | 207-581-2168 | Knud@mail.spatial.maine.edu |
| Jason G. Racette | Bureau of Land Management | 202-452-0345 | Jason_Racette@blm.gov |
| David Titcomb | Maine Board of Licensure | 207-797-9199 | DTitcomb@titcombsurvey.com |
| Stephen Gould | Maine Society of Land Surveyors | 207-474-6223 | SGould@sackettandbrake.com |
| Tim Patch | Vermont Society of Land Surveyors | 207-347-8100 | T.Patch@sgceng.com |
| Claire Kiedrowski | KAPPA Mapping, Inc. | 207-942-5200 | Claire@kappamap.com |
| Shep Sheppard | Shyka, Sheppard, & Garster Land Surveyors | 207-942-1955 | SSheppard@ssgsurvey.com |
| Andy Tupper | Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors | 863-633-8341 | ATupper@purcellassociates.com |
| Joseph McNichols | Norfolk County, Massachusetts | 508-543-0533 | JMcNicholspls@aol.com |
| Dave Brandt | Maine Army National Guard | 207-626-4479 | David.Brandt@me.ngb.army.mil |
| Rich Vannozi | Wentworth Institute of Technology | 617-989-4186 | VannoziA@wit.edu |

Minutes

Ray Hintz began the meeting by thanking everyone in attendance for coming to the meeting and then reviewed the agenda. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as written.

The Rhode Island Society of Land Surveyors does not have a consistent representative to the Industrial Advisory Committee (IAC). The group discussed the names of several potential representatives. A few members of the IAC agreed to keep this in mind and explore potential representatives with members of the Rhode Island Society. This topic shall be revisited at the next IAC meeting.

The SVT Program now has Room 123 in Boardman Hall designated as its computer room. There are five dell computers in the room, an additional network connection for students with laptop computers, two large desks, and a conference table. Additionally, reference materials are

located in the room which are the beginnings of a SVT library. Materials located in the SIE library related to land surveying, shall be moved, over time, to the SVT library.

Since December 2003, Ray has done his best to advise current and former SIE undergraduate students who are interested in graduate studies in land surveying at the University of Maine. SVT does not have a graduate program at this time. Students interested in graduate work in land surveying tend to lean toward the Forestry or Civil Engineering programs.

Ray informed the IAC that it appears as if the Fall 2004 enrollment in SVT may be between thirty-five and forty students. One of the new students entering the program has been recruited to play on the University's ice hockey team.

The IAC decided it would be wise if each member drafted a letter of support for the SVT Program and sent it to the University President, Peter Hoff, with courtesy copies being sent to the University Provost, Robert Kennedy, Dean Larryl Matthews, Dave Dvorak, and Ray Hintz. The IAC decided it would be wise if one of the IAC members sent a letter of support on behalf of the entire group. Jason Racette agreed to draft the first copy of the letter, distribute it to the IAC for review, compile comments, and ship the final draft to Shep Sheppard who agreed to send the final copy on behalf of the SVT IAC.

During the first and second weeks of March 2004, Jason Racette visited seven of the two-year institutions whose curriculum have been reviewed by Knud Hermansen and cross-walked to the SVT curriculum.

The programs visited include:

Bristol Community College, Fall River, MA
 Springfield Technical College, Springfield, MA
 New Hampshire Community Technical College, Berlin, NH
 Central Maine Community College, Auburn, ME
 Paul Smiths College, Paul Smiths, NY
 University of New Hampshire Thompson School of Applied Science, Durham, NH
 Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT

The purpose of the visit was to inform students about employment opportunities with the BLM and to explain how a person interested in working for the BLM as a land surveyor must meet the positive education requirement. The visit to each of the two-year schools was not portrayed as a recruiting trip for the University of Maine's SVT program. When initial contact was made with schools in January 2004, there was an indication from a few professors that if the intent was to recruit students for UMO SVT, BLM would not be invited to confer with the students. These professors expressed concern about students being "taken away" from their current programs.

Some of the programs visited do not offer the appropriate courses required by the BLM for employment as a land surveyor. In his presentation, Racette informed students that BLM has ways of providing support to students if they are interested in pursuing their education at a four-year institution after graduation from their current programs. It is the BLM's intent to direct

students who are interested in pursuing a four-year degree in land surveying to the UMO SVT program.

At the December IAC meeting and at this meeting, the IAC members discussed scholarships and how each of the New England professional associations have scholarships for interested students. There was some concern that we, as member organizations, may not be getting the word to the students about the availability of these scholarships. Therefore, each IAC member agreed to go back to his/her member organization and compile a list of scholarships. That information should be forwarded to Jason Racette who shall compile the complete list of scholarships and forward it to Knud for posting onto the SVT website.

Ray will create a listing of the current SVT students with their contact information, grouped by state, and send it to the members of the IAC. This information will be used to target specific students and inform them of scholarships. For example, the Maine Society of Land Surveyors may use this information to contact students about a scholarship if a requirement of the scholarship is that the student be a resident of Maine.

Ray and Knud asked members of the IAC to send employment opportunity notices to them so the notice can be posted on the SVT website.

The IAC discussed options about how contributed funding should be spent. It was agreed the contributed funding should be spent on scholarships for the Program and not on a third faculty position. This will put more of a burden on Ray and Knud, but they agreed to continue working as they have for the Program. Once the goal of having forty students enrolled in the Program is achieved, Dean Matthews agreed, in prior discussions, to fund the third faculty position. The IAC agreed it was better to fund scholarships and try to attract more students into the SVT Program than to fund the third faculty position.

Currently, the SVT Program has a full compliment of total stations, levels, prisms, tribrachs, etc. It would be nice to have a robotic total station as a part of the equipment cache, but bringing in a local survey company to do a demonstration for the students has worked well. Members of the IAC agreed that purchasing another RTK unit may be a better use of money if the Program were going to invest in additional equipment, but as of the close of the meeting, no additional funds were earmarked for equipment purchase.

Two new scholarships have been created at the University for SVT students. Gunter Greulich has donated \$10,000 for one of the scholarships and Roger Ferguson, currently a professor at the University of Idaho - Moscow, has donated \$20,000 for a scholarship in memory of his wife.

Course transfer agreements are currently being worked on by Knud and Ray, but getting these documents approved through the proper University channels is a slow process. Nonetheless, steady progress is being made.

Two capstone classes are being developed. One class includes the use of AutoCAD in boundary law and the other class includes practical field computations.

Other Business

Shepp Shepard expressed an interest in getting SVT students licensed as professional engineers as well as professional land surveyors.

Construction Management Technology taught a review course for the Professional Engineer (PE) exam. The PE exam will be held on April 17, 2004, and results of the exam, if available, will be shared with the IAC at the next meeting.

Action Items

1. IAC members are to keep in mind the name of someone who can represent the Rhode Island Society of Land Surveyors.
2. Each IAC member is to draft a letter of support for the SVT Program and submit it to the University President, Peter Hoff, with courtesy copies being sent to the University Provost, Robert Kennedy, Dean Larryl Matthews, Dave Dvorak, and Ray Hintz.
3. Jason Racette shall draft a first copy of a letter of support for the SVT Program, distribute it to the IAC for review, compile comments, and ship the final draft to Shep Sheppard who agreed to send the final copy on behalf of the SVT IAC.
4. Each IAC member shall compile a list of scholarships being offered by his member organization and submit that list to Jason Racette. Racette shall then compile the list and submit it to Knud Hermansen for posting on the IAC website.
5. Ray Hintz will create a listing of the current SVT students with their contact information, grouped by state, and send it to the members of the IAC.
6. IAC members are to send employment notices to Ray and Knud for posting on the IAC website.