University of Maine

Surveying Engineering Technology (SVT) News

http://www.umaine.edu/set/svt/

Fall 2012

This newsletter is sent to alumni and friends of the surveying program at the University of Maine. We want to stay in touch with you and we hope you will want to stay in touch with us. We are very proud of your accomplishments. A major purpose for the SVT program is to make you a success.

ENROLLMENT — Starting in the Fall semester 2012, there were a total of 52 students in the SVT program. There were thirty-seven Maine residents, six Saudi Arabia (ARAMCO) students, five Massachusetts residents, two Vermont residents, one Connecticut resident, and one New Hampshire resident.

RECRUITING — The program could use more students. This program and the "health" of our profession require motivated individuals that are able and willing to enter the surveying profession. We need your help to recruit these students. Please consider spending some time over the winter visiting high schools and community colleges. Talk to students about a career in surveying. Encourage students to enroll in a two or four year degree program in surveying. Transfer from a two-year program to the four-year SVT program at the University of Maine is relatively easy. Recruiting information can be obtained from any SVT faculty member. Our first year student surveys indicate surveying students were attracted to the surveying profession because they liked outdoor activities, independence, and responsibility. Many of our students are non-traditional students such as veterans or individuals who have worked for surveying firms. (Marines are in the lead for veterans.) Several students have transferred from two or four year programs. Please help!

Please check out the You-Tube SVT recruiting video!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTVTFbYJ3Nw

EMPLOYERS – Alumni are encouraged to check out the SVT website (http://www.umaine.edu/set/svt/) for recruiting, program and employment information. Be sure your firm and a link to your firm is available under the heading: "Surveying or Mapping Related Firms Owned By, Employing Alumni, or Supporting the Program"

TRANSFER AGREEMENTS — New transfer agreements have been prepared for Kennebec Valley Community College, Southern Maine Community College, Washington County Community College, Northern Maine Community College, and York County Community College. There are existing agreements for Eastern Maine Community College and Central Maine Community College. There are also numerous transfer agreements with community colleges throughout New England (see **http://www.umaine.edu/set/svt/Articulation.htm**) The transfer agreements provide guidance to students attending community colleges on courses that will transfer into the four year SVT program. In almost all cases, community college students can earn at least two years worth of credits toward a four-year surveying degree at the University of Maine. If you have a New England community college near you that is not listed on the website, let one of the SVT faculty know about the college.

LINKEDIN — There is a SVT forum on Linkedin. Consider joining this group to stay in touch with other alumni and friends.

SVT ARTICLES – Recently, the surveying program has been featured in two articles. (The articles are available on the SVT website.) Professional Surveyor Magazine featured an article on the surveying program in its "Red Pages 2013" supplement publication that was mailed to subscribers in November 2012. (see http://www.profsurv.com/redpages.aspx) The cover of this magazine features former University of Maine students Lori-Ann Stubbs (2006), David Sheehan, P.L.S. (2006), and Jonathan Miller (2006). The picture shows these former students collecting data for their capstone project with a GPS receiver. The second article focusing on the SVT program can be found in the annual 2012 University of Maine's College of Engineering Magazine. If you are an alumnus of the surveying engineering program you should have received a copy of this publication. (see https://engineering.umaine.edu/home/newslettermag/) A copy of the article is attached to this newsletter

DECEMBER GRADUATES — There are five December graduates: Matthew Brooks, Joshua Eon, William Hirst, Benjamin Hodge, and Kymberly Turk.

EMPLOYMENT OF GRADUATES — All the May 2012 graduates were employed shortly after graduation. If you plan to have employment openings in 2013, please send an employment notice to Knud Hermansen for posting (Knud.Hermansen@umit.maine.edu). In the employment notice please list the contact information and what information the student should send to you.

NEW LICENSED LAND SURVEYORS — Faculty were informed that Matt Plante, P.L.S. (2009) and Nicholas Dutil, P.L.S. (2009) have recently become licensed surveyors in Maine. Congratulations to Matt and Nick!

ACSM STUDENT CHAPTER – The ACSM Student Chapter has decided not to attend the 2013 NSPS Student Competition (As of the end of November, 2012, information about the 2013 NSPS Student Competition had not yet been released.) Instead, the student chapter will be performing some self-study and setting up speakers to talk to the student chapter and other interested people. They are currently working on an ("unofficial") academic exercise

of performing deed research and a field survey of land owned by the family of one of the student members. They have also set up a speaker to talk to the student chapter and prospective new members at a pizza night to be held in early December. The first speaker will be faculty member Carlton Brown.

SCHOLARSHIPS — The following are the current market values for scholarships listed with the University of Maine Foundation:

- ACSM-NES Ellsworth V. Stanley SVT Scholarship - $52,903
- Andrew J. Shyka Surveying (SVT) Scholarship - $15,405
- Col-East, Inc. SVT Scholarship - $5,907
- Fritz Petersohn Memorial Surveying (SVT) Scholarship - $7,710
- Carol & George Gay New England Section Scholarship - $3,101
- Virginia & Roger Ferguson New England Section Scholarship - $56,484
- Gunther Engineering Surveying Engineering Technology (SVT) Scholarship - $17,762
- Massachusetts Association of Land Surveyors & Civil Engineers Scholarship - $5,712
- Plisga & Day SVT Scholarship - $3,244
- Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors Scholarship - $5,493
- Robert P. Titcomb Memorial Scholarship - $5,403

Scholarships in excess of $20,000 can make awards to students. Old scholarships over $5,000 can also make awards.

SURVEYING ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW ENGLAND SVT PHOTOGRAMMETRY LAB FUND – The amount of funding available for the SVT Photogrammetry Lab is $54,509.

TRIBUTE & MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS — For those individuals who would like to make a tribute to a surveyor or firm or honor a departed surveyor, a memorial scholarship can be established for as little as $500 (awarding the scholarship requires at least $20,000). Tribute and memorial scholarships insure that great surveyors and surveying firms will be remembered forever by those students training to enter the surveying profession.

GRADUATE PROGRAM - Ray Hintz is working on a graduate program in surveying engineering. The current plan is to call the degree a: "Professional Science Masters (PSM) Degree in Engineering and Business - Surveying Engineering Emphasis" For additional information on the proposed graduate program, contact Ray Hintz (Raymond.Hintz@umit.maine.edu).

PHOTOGRAMMETRY ROOM – The endowed Photogrammetry Room (316 Boardman Hall) is proving to be a great resource for the program. The room is being used for two surveying classes (SVT 322 - Preparing Effective Property Descriptions and SVT 329 – Site Planning and Subdivision Design). Ray Hintz has also moved the base station computer into the room and setting the room up with photogrammetry software.

ALUMNI NEWS — The following are recent alumni news reported to Knud Hermansen (knud.hermansen@umit.maine.edu). These highlights are provided as a means to keep

alumni informed of former classmates and to encouraging networking among alumni. (Also use the link "Hearsay and Rumors" on the SVT website.) Alumni reported the following:

- Jeff Paradis (1992) now owns and operates Paradis Outfitters in Sidney, Maine. He sells a large range of hunting and fishing gear. See his website at: http://www.paradisoutfitters.com/paradis-outfitters for more information.

- Dr. Kurt B. Wurm, P.L.S. (Ph.D., Spatial Information Engineering 2003) has been elected to the Board of Directors of New Mexico Geographic Information Council, Inc. (NMGIC). NMGIC is a multi-disiplinary group dedicated to all things geospatial: education, information sharing, technology advancement, and collaboration in the state of New Mexico. NMGIC has several hundred members drawn from people in all walks of life - public, private, NGOs, corporate, educational institutions - professionals and students

- Sean Pierce (2010) is currently working for Coler & Colantonio out of South Portland with Jeff Broumas (2011), under Eric Poreda, P.L.S. (1990). These alumnae are, for the most part, involved in a project called MPRP (Maine Power Reliability Program). Sean started working for Coler & Colantonio in June of 2011. For the past six months he has been overseeing all survey operations for MPRP, which includes over 400 miles of transmission structure layout. Jeff Broumas is now serving as a party chief, as well as an office technician.

- Fred Stohlman (2007) is employed at Harry R Feldman, in Boston. Charlie Dexter (2012) is working as an instrument person. Dave Holland (2011) is also working at Harry R. Feldman and is doing well. At the moment, Fred reports they are very busy and hoping work will continue through the winter (2012-2013)

- Brent Jones, P.L.S., P.E. (1987) now works out of ESRI's DC office. He no longer manages the Survey and AEC portion of ESRI. He is concentrating solely on land records and cadastre. He has traveled worldwide and found it very exciting. He's been to many places without functioning land systems. (There are only about 40 well-functioning land systems in the world.) Donny Sosa is now leading the ESRI survey efforts. ESRI will continue to support students and graduates with software and other GIS materials. Here is a link for a free book for those interested.
  http://www.esri.com/industries/apps/cadastre/offers/bookOffer/index.cfm

- Dan Oakes (2010) was hired by SGC as a survey tech and was sent to northern NH and worked on preliminary site work for the Granite Reliable Power Wind farm near Errol, NH. The next job was as party chief. He was responsible for construction stake out on the Kibby Wind Farm. He spent his first summer as an alumnus in the middle of western Maine setting and re-setting grade stakes. After the completion of the Kibby Wind Farm project he worked on a couple other wind farms staking clearing limits, pole locations, wetlands (on top of mountains in February in at least chest deep snow), and so on. SGC has had him busy traveling – New Jersey to fill the role of a data technician on a construction pipeline project; Colorado laser scanning gas valve assemblies with Chris Michaud, P.L.S. (2002); Arizona for laser scanning of a 20 acre compressor station; and Pennsylvania filling the role of a survey supervisor on the restoration process of a pipeline.

- Dr. Phoebe B Mcneally (Ph.D. 1997) is the DIGIT Lab Director at the University of Utah.

- Joseph L. Stanley, P.L.S. (2002) has started his own firm - Line Pro Land Surveying - that serves southern Maine & New Hampshire. Check out his website at: www.lineprosurveying.com/About.html

HEARSAY & RUMORS WEBSITE – Readers are encouraged to send current employment, work, and family news to Knud Hermansen (knud.hermansen@umit.maine.edu) for the Hearsay & Rumors link that is accessed from the SVT program website. This is a way to share news with alumni and others.

ALUMNI LISTING – If you are an alumni of the program, please check the alumni list at http://www.umaine.edu/set/svt/SVTAlumni.htm If you have licenses and certifications that are not included with your name, please send the information to Knud Hermansen at knud.hermansen@umit.maine.edu so the alumni list can reflect your accomplishments.

SIE DEPARTMENT – The Spatial Information Engineering department (formerly the home of the surveying program) has been transferred to the College of Liberal Arts and Science. Only a graduate program in the area of GIS remains of the original surveying program (no undergraduate degrees). Students can earn a Master of Science degree in Information Systems.

DONATIONS — With appreciation, the SVT program has received a Topcon CR-G5 GNSS choke ring antenna http://www.topconpositioning.com/products/gps/antennas/cr-g5 The program thanks to Hank Boudreau, educational representative of Topcon Positioning

ABET ACCREDITATION — In the Fall semester 2013, the ABET/TAC accreditation process will begin again for the University of Maine technology programs. Alumnus and employers will be asked to complete and return surveys regarding the knowledge learned in the program. Please complete these surveys when you receive them.

FACULTY NEWS — SVT faculty have been busy. In addition to teaching classes, grading papers, and advising, faculty support the profession by providing advice and seminars.

Raymond Hintz – In the last semester, Ray Hintz provided seminars to the Florida Dept. of Transportation, Arkansas Highway Department and the Vermont Society of Land Surveyors. (Raymond.Hintz@umit.maine.edu)

Carlton Brown — In the Fall, Carlton Brown provided a seminar for the Geomatics Society of New England (Formerly the New England Section of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping). (Carlton.Brown@umit.maine.edu)

Knud Hermansen – During the Fall semester, Knud Hermansen provided webinars for the Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors, Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors, and the New York Association of Professional Land Surveyors. He has also provided a seminar to the Washington County Bar Association.
(Knud.Hermansen@umit.maine.edu)

E-MAIL ADDRESSES — This newsletter is sent to all alumni and friends by e-mail. If you have the e-mail address of other alumni, please send the address to Knud Hermansen at knud.hermansen@umit.maine.edu so they will receive news about the program from the University of Maine.

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR (DR. SCOTT DUNNING, P.E.) — It has been another great year for the School of Engineering Technology with our overall enrollment constant at peak levels. Although the economy is still weak, our graduates continue to report 100 % placement within six months of graduation in their field.

The Surveying Engineering Technology program continues to receive positive feedback from graduates that are working as practicing surveyors. We have excess capacity in the program and our looking at ways to broadcast the excellent career opportunities for program graduates. We now have a new video to share with prospective students courtesy of the Association of Canada Land Surveyors and the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors. With the Photogrammetry Lab now in full use and recent improvements to the computing laboratory, students are enjoying the facility enhancements. We are very thankful for all of the student scholarships. Ray Hintz is able to report to prospective students that almost all of our program graduates have received some form of scholarship support.

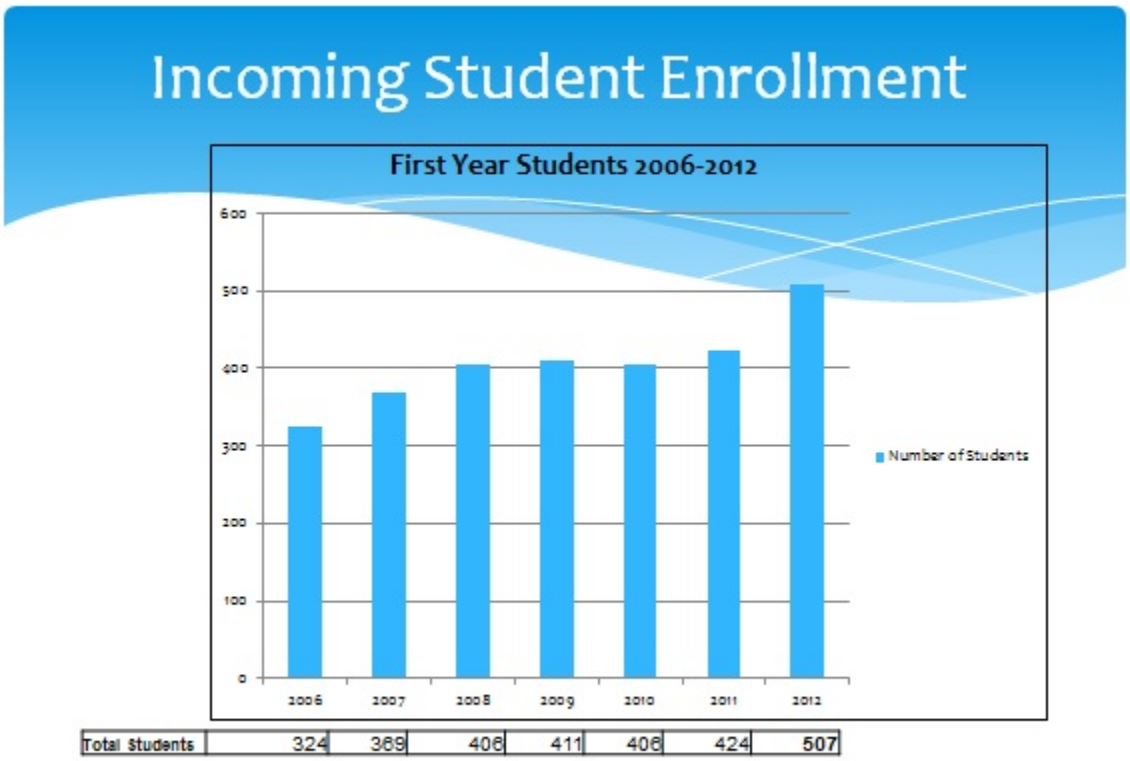
Finally, my thanks go out to all of our alumni for their performance in their career field. At our latest Industrial Advisory Committee meeting we received many positive comments from employers regarding the quality of our graduates.

NOTES FROM THE DEAN (DR. DANA HUMPHEY, P.E.) — The College of Engineering experienced record numbers for the Fall 2012 incoming class and are seeing growth across the spectrum of engineering programs. In the last four years, the number of UMaine engineering students has grown 25 percent versus just 16 percent for the U.S. as a whole. In 2006, Maine ranked 49th in the country in per capital production of engineering bachelor's degrees. By 2011, production of degrees increased by 27 percent, but this raised Maine's ranking only to 47th. We would need to increase production by another 70 percent to reach the national average.

It is critical that the university and the state continue to invest in engineering education so that we can have the faculty and facilities to keep up with the growth of engineering students and meet the needs of Maine's economy.

One hundred forty eight years of engineering excellence moving Maine forward — the College of Engineering at the University of Maine.

Online at www.engineering.umaine.edu
Find the University of Maine College of Engineering on Facebook at
http://www.facebook.com/umaine.engineering



Total students	324	369	406	411	406	424	507

The student number for 2012 is from the College of Engineering as of July 31, 2012

Source: Office of Institutional Studies, UMaine

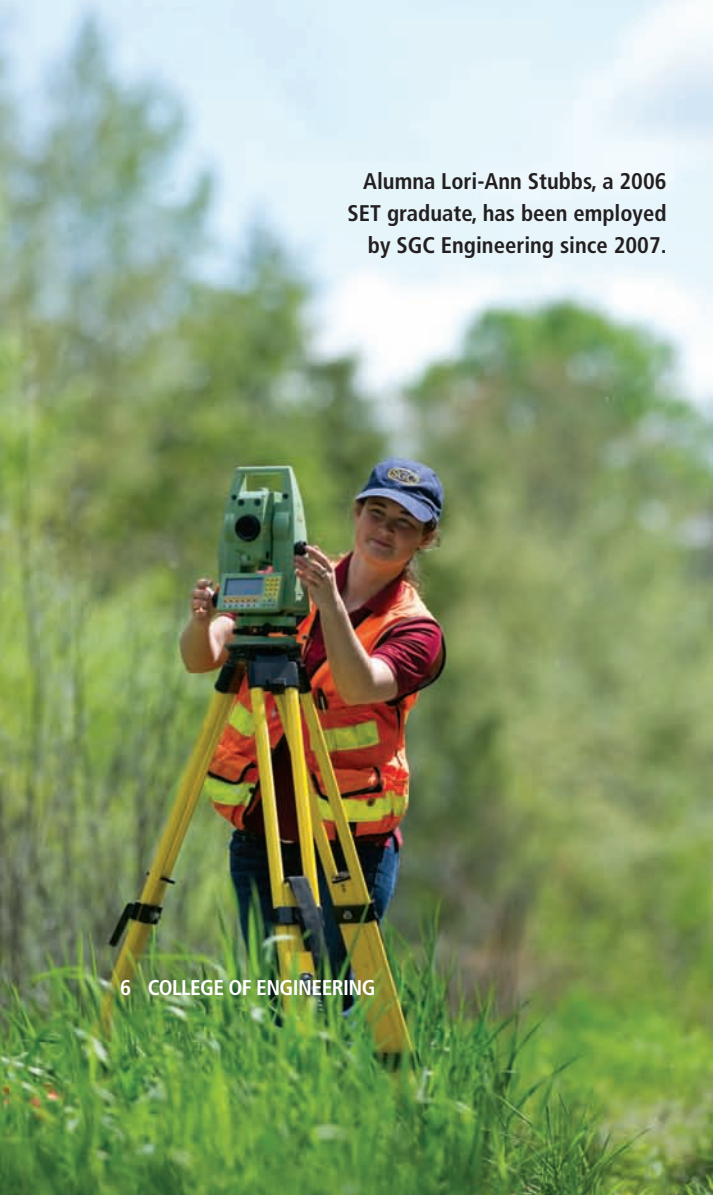
NEW YEAR – The faculty and students of the Surveying Engineering Technology program wish all of you a happy Christmas and a very prosperous New Year!!!

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS - Contact Knud Hermansen at 207-581-2168 or Knud.Hermansen@umit.maine.edu if you have comments or questions regarding this newsletter or program information.

Established baseline

UMaine continues its leadership role in SET education

The University of Maine's surveying engineering technology is the only four-year program in New England. Classes in land surveying have been offered throughout UMaine's history. A two-year degree program started in the 1960s.



Alumna Lori-Ann Stubbs, a 2006 SET graduate, has been employed by SGC Engineering since 2007.

AS A MEMBER of the Surveying Engineering Technology Program faculty in the University of Maine School of Engineering Technology, Carlton Brown teaches in one of the smaller programs on campus. But survey engineering at UMaine — the only four-year program in New England — has an important history and an essential mission for the future, and Brown says it is positioned for growth.

"There will always be a need for professionals who know the art, science and technology of measuring the shape of portions of the Earth's surface, and of locating things precisely on the Earth's surface," he says.

New technologies — such as geographic information systems (GIS); global positioning systems (GPS); and light detection and ranging (LiDAR) — have changed the way land surveyors practice, he says, but these tools demand an ever-higher level of expertise in a field long defined by the need for precision. Although digital and satellite capabilities have usurped some of the traditional tasks of land surveyors, Brown says survey engineers will always be in high demand.

UMaine has offered classes in land surveying throughout its history. A two-year degree program started in the 1960s.

But in the mid-1970s, professional surveyors across New England were worried that the field wasn't attracting or adequately preparing new young surveyors to enter the field. Standards for entry-level jobs and professional licensure varied from state to state, making it harder for qualified surveyors to practice across state lines.

In 1973, Boston surveyor Fritz Petersohn, then chair of the New England Section of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, proposed establishing a professional land surveying program at one regional university that would serve all six New England states. The program would develop a curriculum reflecting a common professional standard for all the states and would prepare students at several levels, including the Ph.D. needed for careers in research and academics. Students from New England would pay a reduced tuition to attend.

After a review of more than two dozen colleges and universities in the region, a request for proposals was issued. With support from the New England Land Grant Deans of Engineering organization, UMaine was selected to host the land survey program.

To this day, UMaine's Surveying Engineering Technology Program still offers the only four-year survey engineering degree in New England, according to Brown. Thanks to an

ongoing agreement with the New England Board of Higher Education, students from other New England states pay approximately half the out-of-state tuition rate.

The program is ABET-accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission for Surveying and Geomatics Engineering Technology.

Today, about 50 students are enrolled in the survey engineering program and graduates have no trouble finding jobs in-line with their personal and professional goals, Brown says. The field appeals to those who enjoy working outside and with a degree of autonomy.

Older, nontraditional students typically are well represented in survey engineering classes, as are military veterans and a growing number of women.

While many graduates of UMaine's Surveying Engineering Technology program find jobs in Maine, others are working farther afield. For instance, one 2009 graduate is a project manager at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, managing the construction of dry docks and other facilities.

A 2008 graduate worked three years for the city of Denver, Colo., as a senior survey technician before accepting his present position with the Arizona Public Service Company. And a 2011 graduate is pinpointing new underwater drill sites for the petroleum industry in the Gulf of Mexico. ■

Point of beginning

TARA HARTSON of Hancock, Maine, is a 2007 graduate of the Surveying Engineering Technology Program and a Maine-licensed professional land surveyor. Since graduating, she has been employed by Herrick & Salsbury Land Surveyors in Ellsworth, Maine, where she interned the summer between her junior and senior years.

Hartson was eager to pursue a career path that would allow her to stay in Maine, earn a good salary, and work outdoors much of the time. For a while, she worked for the National Park Service on the trail crews and considered studying landscape design. Then her sister suggested surveying.

Since graduating, Hartson has worked on projects ranging from subdivisions and residential layouts to airport runways and power lines. She performs legal research and presents projects to municipal planning boards. She estimates she spends at least half her time outside, which is where she most wants to be.