

**University of Maine
Industrial Advisory Committee Meeting**

**University of Maine
Surveying Engineering Technology
Industrial Advisory Committee Meeting
Orono, Maine**

Friday, April 7, 2006

Attendees

Dave Brandt	Ray Hintz	Shep Sheppard
Carlton Brown	Claire Kiedrowski	David Titcomb
Dave Cook	Joseph McNichols	Andy Tupper
Stephen Gould	Tim Patch	R. Michael White
Knud Hermansen	Jason G. Racette	A. Rich Vannozi

Minutes

Ray began the meeting by explaining Ken Roy produced the minutes of the last IAC meeting with the help of Dave Cook, via Dave's notes. Thanks Ken, and thanks Dave for making your notes available to Ken.

BUA 201 – Accounting. Ray spoke to the professor who teaches this course and discussed making modifications to the course material so that it was directly related to the surveying profession. The accounting professor felt the course was already on target and did not feel changes were necessary.

ENG 317 – Technical Writing. Technical writing continues to be one of the courses students must take despite the lack of student interest.

SVT 475 – Small Business Administration. Students are taught how to read balance sheets. Forty percent of the students are from SVT, the remaining sixty percent are from other programs.

More field data collection has been introduced into the SVT program. There is a data collector exercise in the Adjustment Computations course.

Students are interested in gaining access to a plotter. Ray expects to have an 11 x 17 inch plotter installed by the fall semester.

There are approximately fifty-five or fifty-six students enrolled in the SVT program; seven shall graduate this spring; there are six or seven transfer students, and approximately twelve new students. Ray expects there to be approximately sixty students in the SVT program this fall.

Last fall, CET 101 – Plane Surveying, had approximately sixty-five students in the course; this spring there were seventy-eight students enrolled in the course.

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Carlton Brown discussed the possibility of having a two week summer course for Plane Surveying I and II. Jason explained some of the ideas that were discussed in BLM and shall share his notes with Carlton.

The BLM funding for 2005, was \$75,000, and for 2006, the funding is \$25,000. On average, the BLM funding has been \$50,000 for the last four years.

Joe McNichols reported the Foundation funding is being carried from one year to the next. Each of the individual state professional associations are fulfilling their commitments. The three-year Surveying Education Foundation of New England commitment to the SVT program is over this year.

Carlton Brown will be taking seven students to the 2006 American Congress on Surveying and Mapping Conference in Orlando, Florida, in April. The students will be participating in the student competition hosted by ACSM.

Knud discussed his recruiting endeavors and the idea of the SVT program having coins for geocaching. This fall, there will be a letter sent to every New England high school which promotes the SVT program.

This year, the SVT program has awarded \$30,000 in scholarships.

Ray explained his thoughts about the potential for SVT to have a graduate program. Ray asked for the IAC members to think about this idea and keep it in mind for the future.

ABET will be making its first visit to the SVT program in October 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason G. Racette
April 26, 2006

The following information was provided by Dave Cook and gives an excellent account of the School of Engineering Technology's Award Reception and Dave's view of the IAC meeting. Thank you for sharing your notes with the members of the IAC. -JGR

I attended the School of Engineering Technology's Award Reception and IAC meeting on Friday, April 7. A total of 22 students in the four engineering disciplines received President's Achievement Awards for earning a 3.5 grade point average. Five of those were SVT students: Christopher Knowlton, Joseph LaBranche, Robert Miles, Isak Porter and David Sheehan.

Tara Jeffers & Tyler Durant received ACSM-New England Ellsworth Stanley Scholarships. Shane Enos received the Gunther Engineering Surveying Technology Scholarship.

The award ceremony handout also included the following information about previously awarded SVT scholarships:

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- a) 22 SVT students received BLM scholarships;
- b) David Miles received the Judith Nitsch Engineering Scholarship;
- c) Six students received MSLS scholarships;
- d) David Sheehan and Robert Miles awarded MALSCE scholarships;
- e) Fred Stohlman - the Virginia & Roger Ferguson ACSM/NES Scholarship.

After the awards ceremony, Director David Dvorak spoke briefly about enrollment and other school issues. Later the three SVT professors spoke about Surveying Engineering Technology.

There are currently 55 students in SVT and Ray expects that number may reach 60 for the fall 2006 semester. The program will have one graduate this year and that means they will receive and ABET accreditation visit this fall.

Due to the success of the program, the two basic surveying courses (CET 101 Plane Surveying and CET 102 Construction Surveying) are now offered twice a year. This allows greater flexibility for incoming transfer students. In addition, Carlton Brown may offer a May term basic surveying course that would allow students to complete both CET 101 & CET 102 in only two weeks. It is hoped that such a program would help full time surveying employees obtain the required "core curriculum" without losing too much time away from work. Carlton requests that prospective students or employers contact him to show interest in such a program.

Recruiting new students is an ongoing effort by all three faculty members. Carlton Brown has initiated SVT prizes to spark interest in the geo-cache hobby that allows SVT to showcase its program to parents and children who are already interested in GPS. Knud Hermansen mentioned that support from the BLM has allowed SVT to mail information about the program to every high school in New England every fall. Ray Hintz suggested that more local surveyors need to publish their own press releases as a way to bring the entire profession more visibility.

Respectfully submitted: David W. Cook