

Surveying Engineering Technology Newsletter

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

Spring 2015

The SVT faculty are pleased to provide the Spring SVT Newsletter to alumni and friends of the surveying program at the University of Maine.

GRADUATES: Congratulations to the following graduates: Ryan Bateman*, Daniel Begin, Dustin Hargreaves, Stephanie Mazerolle, and Tyler Young.

* Veteran

EMPLOYMENT: Employment opportunities have been very good for graduates. There were far more opportunities for employment than graduates.

DUAL DEGREE: There are six students enrolled in the dual forestry and surveying degree. One student is pursuing a dual civil engineering and surveying degree.

PSM DEGREE: Twelve students are currently in the Professional Science Masters program with a surveying engineering concentration. The states represented by students and alumni were Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Texas. This semester Florida and North Carolina were added. All veterans pay in-state tuition, while all other out-of-state students will pay 1.25 times in-state tuition. This is a large savings compared to out-of-state tuition. In the Fall semester, SVT 501 Advanced Adjustment Computations and SVT 511 Geodetic US Public Land Survey will be taught completely on-line along with the required business courses.

DRONE: SVT will have a drone as a teaching tool in the Fall semester as a result of the income from the Foundation investments of the Photogrammetry lab account, a donation from SET, and a significant discount from Sensefly. The drone is the eBee and can be seen at www.sensefly.com

RECRUITING: We always need help with recruiting. Please spread the word about the program and job opportunities available in surveying.

SVT CAPSTONE PROJECT: The capstone project involved a "boundary survey" of 4 rural parcels abutting I-95 in Orono, totaling approximately 120 acres of which half were boggy. Students individually produced final plans and survey reports.

ENROLLMENT: Enrollment stands at 40 students. Student residency is the following: 23 Maine, 6 New Hampshire, 3 Massachusetts, 3 Vermont, 2 Connecticut, 1 New York, 1 Pennsylvania, and 1 Saudi Arabia

PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS: Seventeen, \$900 scholarships were awarded this spring at the SET awards ceremony thanks to donations and a great rate of return from the University of

Maine Foundation investments. Surveying Engineering Technology is pleased to announce the following scholarship recipients:

- Geomatics Society of New England Section Ellsworth Stanley Scholarship — Mitchell Berlandy (CT), John Fanotto (CT), Brendon Giroux (VT), Shawn Mitchell (ME), Dillon Pillow (ME), James Santos (MA), Benton Schwartz (PA), and Christian Stock (NH).
- Virginia & Roger Ferguson Scholarship – Ben Greenwood (ME), Kristina Leeds (ME), Konnor Longfellow (ME), and Jeffrey Weeks (ME).
- Gunther Engineering Scholarship – James Spalding (NH)
- Fritz Memorial Petersohn Scholarship – Edward Clark (NY)
- Andrew J. Shyka Scholarship – Charles Hildebrant (ME) and Brian Renfro (VT)
- Robert P. Titcomb Memorial Scholarship – Ella Chapman (VT)

Other Scholarships Awarded

- Maine Society of Land Surveyors Scholarship — Anne Howell, Stephanie Mazerolle, and Ben Salzberg
- MALSCE Scholarship — James Santos

ACSM STUDENT CHAPTER: The ACSM Student Chapter was active this year with seven members. Members generally met once a week. This year the student chapter planned on helping the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) with its height modernization program. This project entailed planning, reconnaissance and vertical bench mark recovery in our general area of Maine, GPS observations of the found benchmarks using the procedure outlined by NGS for OPUS Database, and data submittal. After determining an area in Lagrange Maine that had a high need for modernization, 6 students spent a Saturday looking for Benchmarks, many of which had not been recovered in 30 years. After uncovering two Benchmarks that were good candidates, the students planned a date on which to go in the field for the 4 hours of GPS observation. Unfortunately, an October snowstorm followed by a winter of snow did not allow us to perform the observations. The students will be ready in the Fall 2015!

During the past month three to four students have been studying applications of least squares adjustment, first by solving a problem graphically, and then solving the same problem with a calculator, excel spreadsheet, and some big equations.

The ACSM Student Chapter would like to thank all those who have supported us over the years.

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Sean Pierce (2010), Jacob Bartlett (2009) and Sam Glidden (2009) on successfully becoming licensed surveyors in Maine.

NEW WEBSITE: Gordon Wilson (2014) has been working on a new website. It's an online directory for land surveyors and other geomatics professionals. It's called geomaticsdirect.com.

DIRECTOR'S 3.5 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: The Director's 3.5 Achievement award is made just one time in a student's studies at the University of Maine. Full-time students must attain a

3.0 grade point average or better for two consecutive semesters. The student must also achieve a 3.5 grade point average or better for the most recent semester. Very few students achieve this honor. This academic year Daniel Begin, Anne Howell, Stephanie Mazerolle, and Jeffrey Weeks received this honor.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR ACHIEVEMENT RECIPIENTS: The Presidential Scholar Achievement Award is a selective award for students who are academically at the top of their class. To be eligible for the Presidential Scholar Achievement Award a student must have completed 12 or more calculable credits in the semester and have earned a 4.0 semester GPA. Edward Clark and James Clasby received this award.

SVT CROWE AWARD: The Distinguished Francis Crowe Award recognizes individuals who have made considerable contributions to the surveying engineering technology program and the profession.

Congratulations to Jon Stewart of Plisga and Day Land Surveyors for his selection to receive the Crowe Award. Jon is the Crowe inductee for May 2015

Jon has been a licensed Professional Land Surveyor since 2001. He grew up in Bangor attending school and playing many sports but also spending much time outdoors camping, hunting and fishing with relatives. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Maine. Jon lived in New York and Massachusetts for several years but enjoys being settled back in Maine.

Jon's work resume extends from municipal development to township surveys and tracing of miles of utility lines. He regularly works with residential clients for boundary retracement such as house lots, camp lots and vacant lands. Jon enjoys the diversity of working in this mostly forested state of rugged hills, inland lakes and coastal charm. He travels from the western Maine mountains to Downeast coastal islands. He consults for the use of GPS technology applications, remote sensing, GIS and analysis of least squares networks. As an expert witness, Jon has given depositions and court testimony.

Jon has been actively involved in the local and state level of the Maine Society of Land Surveyors. He has presented at various conferences, classes and meetings for MSLS, Maine Bar Association, University of Maine and local schools as an advocate for the land surveying profession.

Prior distinguished Francis Crowe inductees include David Cook, M.S., P.L.S. (Dec. 2003), Joseph McNichols, P.L.S. (May 2004), A. Richard Vannozzi, M.S., P.L.S. (May 2006), Claire Kiedrowski (May 2008), Dominick Auletto (Dec. 2008), Gunther Greulich, P.L.S., P.E. (May 2009), Andrew Shyka, P.L.S. (May 2010), Timothy Patch, M.S., P.L.S. (Dec. 2010), David Titcomb, P.L.S. (May 2011), Stevenson "Shep" Sheppard, P.L.S. (May 2012), Robert Garster (May 2013), Scot Macdonald, M.S., P.L.S. (Dec. 2013) and David Humphrey (May 2014).

ALUMNI NEWS: Alumni have reported the following news:

- Sean Pierce, P.L.S. (2010) recently earned his license. Sean was promoted to Senior Surveyor. He has entered his 5th year with CHA Consulting out of South Portland. CHA

Consulting recently completed a four-year survey effort for the Maine Power Reliability Program throughout the state.

- Jeff Broumas (2011) - Jeff is entering his fifth year with CHA Consulting. He is headed to Bath County, Virginia to complete a deformation monitoring survey on a Hydro Electric Pump Storage Station.
- Jared Johnson (2011) - Jared is in his third year with CHA Consulting, and has relocated to serve as a senior Party Chief in New Hampshire.
- Kurt Wurm, P.L.S. (2003) - Kurt B. Wurm received the Earle J. Fennell award for 2014. Dr. Wurm is an Associate Professor in Surveying Engineering at New Mexico State University. He has been a faculty member since 2002. He received his Ph.D. in Spatial Information Science and Engineering at UMaine in 2003. Kurt teaches courses in Construction Surveying, Least Squares, Geographic Information Systems, and Computer Applications in surveying. He is the faculty advisor to the NMSU chapter of NMPS/NSPS, and Lambda Sigma. Kurt is also an active participant in various seminars and workshops for professional surveyors throughout the west.
- Joe LaBranche, P.L.S. (2006) got his Masters in Professional Studies in GIS at Northeastern University and then pursued his certification from the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, receiving the title of "Mapping Scientist, GIS/LIS (ASPRS)" on July 3, 2014.
- Josh Eon (2012) now works for Sebago Technics in South Portland.
- Jonathan B. Drew, P.L.S. (2010) was licensed as a PLS in Oregon as of December 2014. Last month he finished and received his Certified Federal Surveyors Program (CFedS) training & certification. He is currently working as a land surveyor for the USDA Forest Service in Springfield, Oregon and a few months a year with the BLM under a service first agreement. He started his career with the forest service in 2007 under the SCEP program. His position was converted to full time after graduation. In those seven years he has had many challenging projects including several large scale cadastral projects, right of way surveys, property line adjustments (small tracts act), as-built surveying, topo site surveys, etc. The most interesting was a two section subdivision project where there was a "Creeping Landslide" moving monuments and their accessories between 5 and 25 feet north towards the river during a 30 year period. The majority of his work with the government is cadastral, section breakdowns & cap to cap, with posting/brushing/blazing the limits of National Forest System Lands and other federal interest lands.
- Tim LeSiege, P.E., P.L.S. (1988) is getting married April 25th to Darcy Burke.
- Robert Miles, P.L.S. (2008) passed his Massachusetts surveyors exam in January. He is getting married in May.

- Ryan Brown (2008) and his wife Kristi and are expecting their first child at the end of June. Her name is Charlotte.
- Scott Roberts (1992), in December, received his Master in Public Administration from the University of New Haven in Connecticut.

FACULTY NEWS:

Knud Hermansen – Knud has been a faculty member since 1989. He is a member of the Maine Board of Professional Engineers. He plans to take a sabbatical during the Spring 2016 Semester. During the Spring semester, Knud has given webinars for the New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors and the Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors. He presented a seminar for the Florida Surveying and Mapping Society in March. Knud plans to go on sabbatical in the Spring 2016 semester. Thereafter, he may have to go on phased retirement due to his wife’s declining health.

Ray Hintz – Ray Hintz has been a faculty member since 1987. He has been the coordinator for the Surveying Engineering Technology since inception. Ray teaches photogrammetry, adjustments, advanced surveying, and geodesy. He also teaches several graduate courses in the PSM program. Ray presented seminars this spring in Maine, Florida, North Carolina, Arkansas, and New Hampshire.

Steve Adam – Steve has been an adjunct faculty in the SVT program since the surveying program was transferred to the School of Engineering Technology. Steve has an MBA and teaches SVT 475, Small Business Management. This course has consistently ranked as one of the most useful courses in the SVT curriculum.

Carlton Brown — Carlton has been a faculty member in the SVT program since 2005. Carlton has been a faculty member in the SVT program since 2005. He focuses on teaching students plane surveying, construction surveying, CAD, and land development design. Carlton is coordinating the 2015 Biennial Conference of the Surveying and Geomatic Educators Society (SaGES) to be held on campus from June 22 to June 25, 2015.

LOUIS MORIN — Louis is a faculty member in the School of Forest Resources and an adjunct faculty in the Surveying Engineering Technology program. Louis has been teaching surveying and forestry courses at the University of Maine since September 1978. Louis has and remains devoted to providing students with a practical education, including use of surveying equipment.

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.