

Surveying Engineering Technology News

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

Fall 2007

ENROLLMENT — Our enrollment has remained steady at around 60 students. A little over half are Maine residents. The remainder of the students are from New England, with a couple from outside the New England area. Aside from Maine, the next largest group of students claim their state of residence to be Massachusetts.

ABET ACCREDITATION — The program was recently accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. Accreditation covers all past and future graduates.

At the time, only two years of accreditation was sought and given in order to place the next accreditation visit on par with the other technology programs. The next accreditation visit is scheduled for the Fall semester 2008.

The program owes considerable thanks to our IAC members who took the time to meet with the evaluators and help assess the surveying program.

EMPLOYMENT OF 2007 SENIORS — All May 2007 SVT graduates were employed before or shortly after graduation. The average starting salary was \$45,000 a year.

EMPLOYMENT 2008 — Ten students will be graduating in 2008. Seniors will be starting to seek employment during the next semester. If you would like to employ a graduate, please send a job description and announcement to:
Knud.Hermansen@umit.maine.edu

Student resumes are posted on-line at
<http://www.umaine.edu/set/svt/Resumes.htm>

Undergraduates will start looking for summer employment next month. If you would like to employ a student for the summer, please review the student resumes posted on-line at
<http://www.umaine.edu/set/svt/Resumes.htm>

Student contact information is provided at the end of their resume. Please contact them directly if you would be interested in hiring one of the students.

FUNDAMENTALS OF SURVEYING EXAM — The program continues to enjoy a 100% pass rate when seniors take the fundamentals of surveying exam (a.k.a. S.I.T. exam). The program can not expect this remarkable success to continue.

ACSM STUDENT CHAPTER — This year there are nine SVT students who are members of the ACSM Student Chapter. The Chapter once again voted that membership dues also include membership as a student member of the ACSM-NES (The New England Section, American Congress On Surveying and Mapping).

This year the Chapter has decided to work on local projects rather than compete in the ACSM 2008 Student Competition. Members have been meeting weekly to practice using Total Stations and RTK GPS. They are working on a project with the Orono Land Trust to gain more hands-on experience on a practical land surveying project. The Chapter is also working with Ken Roy, President of the Penobscot-Hancock Chapter of the Maine Society of Land Surveyors, to establish a geocache that will promote both MSLS and the Chapter.

The Chapter wishes to thank all those who have supported them in past ACSM Student Competitions.

DIGITAL PICTURES – The program is looking for digital pictures showing surveyors using ATVs, snowmobiles, snowshoes, etc. If you have a digital picture showing surveying and outdoor activities, please send them to Knud.Hermansen@umit.maine.edu

SCHOLARSHIPS — Currently, the program has ten scholarship funds: Col-East, Inc. SVT Scholarship (\$5,382), Carol and George Gay New England Section Scholarship (\$2,499), Virginia & Roger Ferguson New England Section Scholarship (\$37,508), Gunther Engineering Surveying Technology Scholarship (\$21,677), New England Section Ellsworth V. Stanley Surveying Engineering Technology Scholarship (\$29,174), Fritz Petersohn Memorial Scholarship (\$2,850), Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors Scholarship (\$5,332), Andrew J. Shyka Scholarship (\$4,653), Robert P. Titcomb Memorial Scholarship (\$6,038), and the SVT Alumni Scholarship (\$6,676). Those scholarships in excess of \$5,000 can make awards to students. Scholarships under \$5,000 cannot make awards until they reach \$5,000 through additional donations or interest accrual.

TRIBUTE & MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS — For those individuals that would like to pay 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 \$5,000). Tribute and memorial scholarships insure that great surveyors and firms will be announced forever by those students training to enter the surveying profession.

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED — We are pleased to announce the following scholarship recipients during the last six months: Robert Buzzell received the NHLSA scholarship. Andrey Lopez, Robert Miles, and Fred Stohlman received MALSCSCE scholarships. Andrew Paradee received the Vermont Society of Land Surveyors scholarship. Timothy Brauer received the Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors scholarship. SVT students received scholarships from every New England state except Rhode Island. Fred Stohlman has received the Virginia & Roger Ferguson New England Section Scholarship.

EQUIPMENT DONATIONS — The program would like to thank Martin Duffany and Paul Swett courtesy of Wagner Forest Management LTD for the donation of 2 Trimble Pathfinders and software. Equipment donations allow students to become familiar with equipment that they may be using or purchasing as a graduate.

PROGRAM CHANGES — Starting in the Fall 2008, students entering the program will be required to have a laptop PC. The University of Maine is wireless, allowing students to access the internet anywhere on campus. Individual, portable computing power means students can use CAD to prepare a plat in one class while in the next class calculate surveying values using spreadsheets.

RECRUITING NEWS — First year surveys indicate that many students learn about the program from alumni, friends, and family. Thank you for passing the word to potential students about the great surveying education that is provided at the University of Maine. Please continue to talk to daughters, sons, nieces, nephews, coworkers, etc. about the program. Just like promoting a business, word of mouth is extremely effective for recruiting students.

DEAN'S LIST — The following SVT students earned the honor of being recognized in the Spring 2007 Dean's list: Nicholas Acheson, Jacob Bartlett, Sarah Bell*, Timothy Brauer, Ryan Brown, Tyler Durant, Shane Enos*, Robert Goodwin, Suzanne Graves-Hall, Nathan Hart, Tara Jeffers*, Sean Lahann, Justin McCoubrey*, Robert Miles, Andrew Paradee*, Jared Patenaude, Isak Porter*, Tyler Rigazio, Samuel Stietzel, and Frederick Stohlman IV*. An asterisk (*) indicates the student graduated in 2007.

3.5 AWARDS — The following students were awarded the 3.5 Presidential Achievement Award: Jacob Bartlett, Sara Bell*, Tyler Durant, Robert Goodwin, and Tara Jeffers.*

Full-time students must attain a 3.0 GPA or better over two consecutive semesters (a minimum of 24 credits) of accumulated course work, and must also achieve a 3.5 GPA or better for the most recent semester (a minimum of 12 credits).

FRANCIS CROWE DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS — Each year the School of Engineering Technology may nominate an individual who has made major contributions to advancing the art, science or practice of engineering. SET often takes turns with the other technology programs. Two individuals have achieved this honor: David Cook, P.L.S., M.S. (2003) and A. Richard Vannozi, P.L.S., M.S. (2006).

A. RICHARD VANNOZZI — The SVT program is pleased to recognize Richard Vannozi. Richard has earned a M.S. degree in forestry with a concentration in surveying. While other surveyors were working or taking vacation, Richard spent two summers living at UM working on his graduate degree. His sacrifices were well worth it. Richard's graduate work resulted in an important study on the effectiveness of

mandatory continuing education in the field of surveying. Richard is currently teaching at the University of Connecticut while he is working on his Ph.D.

SHIRTS — The Surveying Engineering Technology program has polo and long sleeve dress shirts available for donations made to the SVT program in excess of \$30. The shirts are embroidered with the University of Maine crest above "Surveying Engineering Technology." Available sizes include medium, large, X-large, 2X large and 3X large. If you are interested in making a donation please call Linda Liscomb at 207-581-2340 or complete the attached form. Donations should be made to the "University of Maine"

CONDENSED SURVEYING CLASSES — The Surveying Engineering Technology program offers surveying classes that meet only once a week for three to four hours each week. This condensed time slot allows students to make the drive to the University of Maine just once a week for fourteen weeks to complete a surveying course. In the Spring 2008 semester the following three-hour courses will be offered once a week for 14 weeks: Adjustment Computations, Boundary Law (Core Curriculum), Photogrammetry, and Practical Field Operations. Students can take CET101, Plane Surveying course (Core Curriculum), one day a week for four hours.

TRANSFERS — The SVT program recognizes that many of the current students and alumni have transferred from two-year programs. These students have opted to take advantage of the transfer credits the program gives to graduates of quality two-year programs. Currently, SVT has four students that have transferred from two-year programs. We have had students from the following two-year institutions: Central Maine Community College, Eastern Maine Community

College, New Hampshire Institute of Technology, Paul Smiths College, Vermont Technical College, and the Thompson School of Applied Science.

As a result of the quality education provided by these institutions, these students have had no academic difficulty transferring from a two year program to the B.S. program in Surveying Engineering Technology.

Course transfer sheets for numerous two-year programs are available on the SVT web site. We would be happy to work with two-year programs to facilitate opportunities for their alumni.

NEW DIRECTOR — Dr. Scott Dunning, P.E. has assumed the director's position of the School of Engineering Technology. He has made major improvements in the looks of the office. He has many new funding initiatives he plans to explore.

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR — I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak to the alumni of our SVT program at the University of Maine. As this is my 16th year as a member of the School of Engineering Technology, I have had the opportunity to meet some of you as students and later as industry leaders participating on our Industrial Advisory Committee. For those I have not met, I hope to meet you in the future and urge you to stop by the SET office anytime to visit.

This is an exciting time for the School of Engineering Technology. The demand for our graduates continues to be extremely strong and student enrollment continues to grow. At the beginning of the semester, we have 57 students in Surveying Engineering Technology program. Of course this is not without its challenges.

Our SVT program has expanded beyond administrative projections and thanks go out to Prof. Hintz, Prof. Hermansen and Prof. Brown along with our professional and alumni partners for their success. In a short time they have built a top-notch program that is receiving national recognition. I was at the ABET National meeting in Washington D.C. this summer and saw their program sail through accreditation with flying colors.

We would like to develop a new photogrammetry laboratory for our SVT students. The SVT faculty are working hard to put the required resources in place and I will be working to secure the best academic space for that laboratory. This would be an excellent program addition and would greatly benefit our students.

In the upcoming year, we will be requiring laptop computers for incoming students. This will allow us increased options for covering software-based content in the classroom as well as increased availability of software tools for students after hours. I am hopeful that it will also move us closer to providing increased distance educational opportunities for all of our students.

In the long term, I would like the University of Maine to consider offering a Masters Degree program in Engineering Management with the majority of class offerings being on-line. It would offer an alternative to the M.B.A. for our graduates from the School of Engineering Technology. However, we will need to survey alumni to determine if adequate demand exists for this type of degree.

I look forward to working with our SVT faculty to continue to improve our programs. I encourage you to stay in touch with our faculty and provide feedback on how the

professional needs change so that we can respond with necessary program changes. Thank you for your continued support of our SVT program!

DECEMBER 2007 GRADUATES — Fred Stohlman, Andrew Paradee, and Shane Enos will graduate in December 2007. Fred has obtained employment in Massachusetts. Andrew has obtained employment in Vermont. Shane is seeking employment in the Bangor/Orono area. Andrew is seeking employment in Vermont.

MINOR — In May 2007, three students graduated with minors in Surveying

Engineering Technology: Eric Castonguay, (CMT), Travis Hamel (CIE), and Joseph Orefice (FTY). The minor is designed to meet the core curriculum educational requirements for licensure as a Land Surveyor in Training (LSIT) in Maine.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS – The faculty and students of the Surveying Engineering Technology program wish all of you Happy Holidays!!!

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.