

Surveying Engineering Technology Newsletter

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

Spring 2011

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

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to the ACSM/ASPRS student chapter. This team won second place in the National competition where student teams from across the United States compete. More information on the competition can be found later in this newsletter.

The faculty would also like to congratulate Claire Kiedrowski, CP (class of 1990), president of Kappa Mapping, Inc. Kappa Mapping, Inc. earned the Small Projects Award for the second time at the National Geospatial Excellence Awards Program.

Carlton Brown has been notified they he will be granted tenure and promoted to associate professor. Carlton teaches CAD, plane surveying, construction surveying, subdivision design, ethics, and research at the University of Maine. He is licensed in MA and ME as a professional engineer and professional land surveyor. He came to Maine after 20 years of private practice.

Carlton Brown also deserves to be congratulated on completing his Ph.D. dissertation and passing his defense. This completes the final step required to receive his Ph.D. in civil engineering at the University of Maine.

For other news, check out the SVT Hearsay & Rumors web site at <http://www.umaine.edu/set/svt/SVTHearsay.htm> We would really like to list some of your news so please send it to Knud Hermansen (Knud.Hermansen@umit.maine.edu)

ENROLLMENT: Currently there are 59 students enrolled in the program - Maine (45), New Hampshire (2), Massachusetts (4), Vermont (2), Rhode Island (1) and Saudi Arabia (5).

GRADUATES: There are 16 students graduating this year (three in December). The following students have graduated in May 2011: Eric E. Anderson, Clifford K. Bennett, Kevin A. Brooks, Clark R. Chattin, Nicholas S. Elliston, Kevin J. Gay, Matthew C. Holden, David C. Holland, Jared S. Johnson, Anthony G. Mazzarella, Kyle J. Peckham, Samuel Suorsa, and Matthew R. Verrill.

EMPLOYMENT: While employment offers still suffer from the economic slowdown, there are still employment offers being made.

SVT CAPSTONE PROJECT: The capstone project is a "boundary survey" of three

connected parcels of 320+ acres owned by Chris Dorion in Orono adjacent to the Orono-Old Town boundary and approximately 2 miles west of I-95. Mr. Dorion manages a large series of public access trails that are groomed for cross country skiing in the winter and is director of the annual Caribou Bog Bangor to Stillwater ski race. The retracement survey proceeds in the winter on snowshoes. No road access exists to the parcels. Of particular interest is the old Veazie railroad. This adjoins the parcel and is owned by Orono Land Trust and the Town of Orono. The existing description of a curve on the railroad is chord definition in 6 rod increments. Students individually produce complete survey reports and plans for all 3 parcels.

SURVEY WEEK GPS OBSERVATIONS: The ACSM student chapter contributed to the GPS observations of Survey Week on Friday and Saturday March 18-19. On Friday 4 to 6 hour observations were made on NGS station STIL and U Maine stations RAY and THEW. On Saturday six hour observations were made on NGS stations Dunphy and TT15-WCE1942-Reset1979.



The above photo shows the students taking part in an observation on station THEW.

SVT SCHOLARSHIPS & FUNDS: At the present time, the program has 11 scholarships and one lab fund due to the generosity of numerous firms and individuals. The number of scholarships in the program exceed all other technology programs. The amount shown in parenthesis is the fair market value of the scholarship or fund. The interest on this amount provides the scholarships to the students.

- Andrew Shyka Scholarship — Colleagues and friends of Andy Shyka created this scholarship in tribute to Andy's contributions to surveying. (\$13,080.80)
- Carol and George Gay New England Section Scholarship — This scholarship was established by Carol Gay. Her husband, George, devoted much of his life to educating surveyors. Carol devoted considerable time to the New England Section of ACSM. (\$3,186.48)
- Col-East, Inc. SVT Scholarship — This scholarship was established by Col-East, Inc., a photogrammetric firm in North Adams, MA. (\$6,069.49)
- Ellsworth Stanley ACSM-NES Scholarship — The New England Section of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping created this scholarship in

memory of the significant and numerous contributions by Ellsworth Stanley to the surveying profession. This is the oldest scholarship in the surveying program. (\$56,242.20)

- Fritz Petersohn Memorial Scholarship — This scholarship was established by the friends of Fritz Petersohn in memory of his work and efforts on behalf of the surveying profession and the surveying program at the University of Maine. (\$8,110.09)
- Gunther Engineering Surveying Engineering Technology (SVT) Scholarship — This scholarship was funded by generous contributions from Gunther Greulich to provide financial aid to surveying students and to recognize the contribution of education to the advancement of surveying. (\$18,250.33)
- Plisga & Day SVT Scholarship — The Plisga and Day Scholarship was established in 2006 by the surveying consulting firm of Plisga & Day. Plisga & Day is a Bangor, Maine based land surveying firm that was founded in 1972 by Stanley J. Plisga and Richard A. Day. (\$3,332.99)
- Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors (RISPLS) Scholarship — This scholarship was established by the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors in recognition of the contributions of the faculty and program to the New England region. (\$4,662.00)
- Robert P. Titcomb Memorial Scholarship — This scholarship was created by David Titcomb in memory of his father who was a leader in the surveying profession and a strong advocate of the surveying program at the University of Maine. (\$5,551.49)
- Surveying Education Foundation of New England SVT Photogrammetry Lab Fund — This foundation was established by the Surveying Education Foundation of New England to establish and maintain a photogrammetry lab. (\$60,898.96)
- SVT Alumni Scholarship — This scholarship was established by alumni of the surveying program to help students obtain an education in the surveying profession. (\$6,000 est.)
- Virginia and Roger Ferguson ACSM New England Scholarship — This scholarship was established by Roger Ferguson in loving memory of his late wife. Roger was a leader in the surveying profession and a strong advocate of surveying education. (\$59,041.49)

RECOGNITION SCHOLARSHIP: Do you want to create a perpetual memorial to a person or firm? Please consider establishing a scholarship to insure that the name of a person or firm will live on in perpetuity and help students with their financial needs. A minimum of \$20,000 is required before a scholarship can be awarded to a student. Any amount greater than \$1,000 will start a scholarship.

PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS: Surveying Engineering Technology is pleased to announce the following scholarship recipients:

- ACSM – NES Ellsworth Stanley Scholarship — Jeffrey Broumas, Joshua Eon, William Hirst, Phillip Mantelli, Anthony Mazzarella, Petrick McIver, Benjamin Payeur, Zachary, Pelkey, Andrew Strout, and Benjamin Ward.
- Andrew Shyka Scholarship – David Holland

- Gunther Engineering Boston Surveying Engineering Technology (SVT) Scholarship — Jared Serpico
- Fritz Petersohn Memorial Scholarship — Andrew Piccirillo
- Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors (SVT) Scholarship — Samuel Soursa
- Robert Titcomb Memorial Scholarship — Samuel Liberty
- Virginia and Roger Ferguson ACSM New England Scholarship – Ryan Flanagan

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIPS: SVT students applied for and received the following scholarships from professional societies:

- M.A.L.S.C.E. Scholarship – David Holland
- M.S.L.S. Scholarship — Andrew Strout, Eric Anderson, Kevin Brooks, Jared Serpico, Andrew Strout, and Judd Vear
- N.H.L.S.A. Scholarship — Clark Chattin

ACSM STUDENT CHAPTER: The UMaine Student Chapter of ACSM would like to thank everyone for all their support and donations for the 2011 NSPS Surveying Student Team Competition. The student chapter was able to send seven students to participate in the competition that was held at the joint CALS/NSLS Conference in Las Vegas, NV. The students who participated were Samuel Suorsa, Clark Chattin, Anthony Mazzarella, Andrew Piccirillo, Andrew Strout, Brian Moore, and Daniel Menard. The University of Maine came in second place in the competition. The subject of the competition was Hydrographic Surveying. The seven schools participating in the competition were judged on their submittal of a 30 page paper and wall poster, as well as a 20 minute presentation given to the conference.

An important aspect of the student competition is to have the students attend seminars, meet practicing land surveyors, meet vendors with their new and state-of-the-art surveying equipment, meet other students and professors from some of the other surveying schools around the country, and to generally start the networking process with others in the surveying industry. While at the competition one UMaine student who was graduating in May 2011 networked with a company that performs hydrographic surveying in the Gulf of Mexico, which resulted during the following months in a series of interviews and a job offer. He is moving to Houston, Texas and started working for his new employer right after graduation.

ACSM STUDENT THANKS: The Trip to Salt Lake City to compete in the NSPS student surveying competition for five Students and one faculty advisor cost \$6,500. The chapter would like to thank the many surveyors and the NES-ACSM for generous donations that made this learning experience possible.

PRESIDENTIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: The Presidential 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 Monsour

Alghamdi, Mohammed Aljafar, Kevin Brooks, Charles Dexter, Nicholas Elliston, Sterling Hooke, Mark Provo, Jared Serpico, Samuel Suorsa, and Judd Verr achieved this honor.

PROGRAM SUMMARY: Currently, the SVT program offers the following surveying or survey related courses in the program:

Surveying Related Courses	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
SVT 100 Introduction to Surveying Technology*	CET 101 Plane Surveying*
SVT 110 Instrumentation & Data Collectors*	SVT 122 AutoCAD for Surveyors II
CET 101 Plane Surveying*	SVT 201 Adjustment Computations*
SVT 121 AutoCAD for Surveyors I	CET 202 Construction Surveying*
CET 202 Construction Surveying	SVT 221 Boundary Law*
SVT 322 Writing Effective Prop. Descriptions*	SVT 331 Photogrammetry*
SVT 329 Site Planning & Subdivision Design	CET 332 Civil Engineering Technology
SVT 341 Advanced Surveying*	SVT 352 Practical Field Operations*
SVT 418 Fund, Surveying Exam Overview*	FTY 480 Applied Geographic Info. Systems
SVT 437 Practical GPS*	SVT 490 Surveying Capstone
SVT 475 Small Business Management	
MET 484 Engineering Economics	

The courses marked with an asterisk meet one time a week for 3 or 4 hours. These courses have been scheduled so that employees working full-time jobs can enroll in the course and only miss a half day of work per week.

SVT CROWE AWARD: Congratulations to David Titcomb, P.L.S. for the honor of receiving the Surveying Engineering Technology Distinguished Francis Crowe Award. The Distinguished Francis Crowe Award recognizes individuals who have made considerable contributions to the surveying engineering technology program and the profession.

David Titcomb is the principal in the firm of Titcomb Associates, a surveying firm located in Falmouth, Maine. The firm provides state-of-the-art land surveying services in the area of boundary location, topography, hydrography, site development, route and corridor surveys, and global positioning system (GPS) applications.

David has had and continues on a remarkable and commendable career in the surveying profession. David Titcomb started working summers for his father and

company founder, Robert P. Titcomb, more than 30 years ago as a rodman. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Surveying Engineering at the University of Maine in 1983. He has since become registered as a land surveyor in Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire. He became president and owner of Titcomb Associates in 1985.

David has served as chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Maine Society of Land Surveyors (MSLS), chairman of the MSLS Education Committee and is a past president of the local MSLS Chapter. Currently he is chairman of the Maine State Board of Licensure for Land Surveyors and is a member of the Visitors Advisory Board of the surveying engineering technology program at the University of Maine. He has served as a court appointed commissioner tasked to resolve a boundary dispute, has provided testimony as an expert witness in court proceedings, and has been appointed by the state of Maine to serve on a committee to study continuing education requirements for land surveyors.

He is a member of the Maine Society of Land Surveyors, New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association, Vermont Society of Land Surveyors, American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, and the National Society of Professional Surveyors.

David continues to support the SVT program not only through his service on the survey program advisory board but by helping countless surveying students through the Robert Titcomb scholarship named after his father.

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), and Timothy Patch, M.S., P.L.S. (Dec. 2010)

FACULTY NEWS: There are three full-time faculty and one part-time faculty (Steven Adam). The three full time faculty are Dr. Knud Hermansen, P.L.S., P.E., Esq. (Professor), Dr. Raymond Hintz, P.L.S. (Professor & Coordinator), and Dr. Carlton Brown, P.L.S., P.E. (soon to be Associate Professor).

Raymond Hintz has presented twenty workshops from Florida to New Hampshire. Ray presented workshops on geodesy, GPS, Lidar, data collection and processing, and photogrammetry. During this past semester, Knud has been active providing seminars to the Midcoast Realtors, Kansas Society of Land Surveyors, Maine Society of Land Surveyors, New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors, University of New Hampshire, California Association of Land Surveyors, Nevada Association of Land Surveyors, West Virginia Board of Professional Surveyors, and Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors.

THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR: As we finish the 2010-2011 academic year I am pleased to share that we have enjoyed an excellent year. What a difference a year

can make. Last year at this time, the university had just completed some significant budget cuts causing the loss of faculty positions in the College of Engineering and specifically the loss of an EET Lecturer position. This year, there have been no budget cuts. In addition the EET program was given back the lecturer position.

The SVT faculty are excited about new equipment donations that will greatly augment their program. Recent gifts from Kappa Mapping, Topcon, Spillers and SEFNE will enhance laboratory experiments and provide students with experience on state of the art surveying gear. All of us in the School of Engineering Technology are thankful for the generous support from our donors.