

Surveying Engineering Technology Newsletter

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

Spring 2013

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: Ali Alghamdi (Saudi Arabia), Monsour Alghamdi (Saudi Arabia), Mohommed Aljafar (Saudi Arabia), Jon Brundage (CT), Tyler Camick (ME), Jacob Patrick McIver (MA), Daniel Menard (VT), and Jared Serpico (ME). In addition, Mark Ingraham graduated with a Bachelor of University Studies with an emphasis in SVT



Graduating seniors Jon Brundage, Patrick McIver, and Dan Menard after induction into the Francis Crowe Society.

EMPLOYMENT: Employment offers have been steady. To date over 19 notices for employment have been received and posted since January. This exceeds the number of graduates we have. All graduates have reported finding employment.

THANKS: The SVT program would like to thank John Chagnon, P.L.S. for his hard work with TrigStar. Each year John visits several high schools to run the TrigStar program and sends

the names to the SVT program for our recruiting efforts.

Alfred Leick upon his retirement donated two computers to SVT and \$2000 of equipment funds. These funds were used to move the GPS base station and obtain more electrical outlets and internet connections in the photogrammetry lab.

The Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors donated \$1000 to the RI Donald Davis scholarship fund with the University of Maine Foundation.

The School of Engineering Technology paid for a table and chair upgrades to the SVT computer lab.

RECRUITING: Please help recruit more students for the two-year and four-year surveying programs. Employment opportunities are increasing. Salaries are better than most college graduates will earn.

This is a reminder that the program has adopted a recruiting video that was kindly provided by our Canadian neighbors. To see the video go to the following:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTVTFbYJ3Nw&feature=youtu.be>

NEW TRANSFER AGREEMENT: The SVT program has a transfer agreement with the Northern Maine Community College (NMCC). This will allow individuals attending NMCC to take two years worth of courses and transfer the credits to the University of Maine SVT program.

Ray Hintz is reviewing other transfer agreements. If you have comments, contact Ray.

DUAL SURVEYING & FORESTRY DEGREE: SVT is working with the University of Maine Forestry program to offer a dual degree in surveying and forestry. The SVT program has focused on surveying practice along with relevant engineering and business courses. Students that enroll in the dual degree will continue to have a focus on surveying practice. However, forestry courses will replace some engineering and business courses ordinarily taken in the SVT program.

ABET ACCREDITATION: In 2014, the SVT program will once again have an ABET accreditation visit. The SVT program is ABET/TAC accredited. Under Maine licensing regulations, graduates can take the fundamentals of engineering exam in addition to the fundamentals of surveying exam. In other words, graduates with successful scores and proper experience can become dual licensed as both professional land surveyors and professional engineers. (For additional information on ABET, visit www.ABET.org)

As alumni or employers, please complete any surveys you receive from the School of Engineering Technology. Your response will aid in accreditation.

SVT CAPSTONE PROJECT: The capstone project was a simulated boundary survey of 185 acres of 7 parcels in Argyle, ME on Rt. 116 and the Penobscot River owned by retired former

chair of Civil Engineering, Dean of Engineering, and University Vice-President John Alexander. Note John was instrumental in starting surveying engineering at the University of Maine.

ENROLLMENT: Enrollment has dropped to 42 students. (We need more students!). There are more employment offers than graduates to interview. Please help recruit students to the program.

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

- ACSM – NES Ellsworth Stanley Scholarship — Ben Bartlett, Ryan Bateman, Terrell Carver, Caleb Gervais, Timothy Lackedy-McCormick, and Gordon Wilson.
- Virginia and Roger Ferguson ACSM New England Scholarship – Stephanie Mazerolle, Lauren Pratt, Benjamin Salzberg, and Terrence Talbot.
- Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors – Jonathan Brundage
- Maine Society of Land Surveyors Scholarships - Daniel Buscemi, Timothy Lackedy-McCormick, Stephanie Mazerolle, Andrew Piccirillo, Glenn Roberts, and Jared Serpico.
- Vermont Society of Land Surveyors (awarded after graduation) – Jeff Spaulding
- Professional Surveyor Magazine Scholarship – Gordon Wilson
- Andrew J. Shyka Scholarship – Myles Sykes
- Taverner (Senior Alumni) Scholarship — Terrence Talbot

ACSM STUDENT CHAPTER: Students from the ACSM Student Chapter helped out at the MSLS Spring meeting that was held at the Black Bear Inn in Orono. The ACSM Student Chapter did not compete in the 2012 NSPS Student Competition because the students would have had to miss a week of classes to attend the competition. We look forward to competing in future student competitions.

CONGRATULATIONS: Mohammed Aljafar received second place as the most outstanding international graduate in engineering. Jared Serpico was a finalist for the most outstanding undergraduate in engineering.

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 Ryan Bateman achieved 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. Andrew Piccirillo and Jared Serpico received this award.

TAU ALPHA PI INDUCTEES: Tau Alpha Pi is the national honor society for engineering technology students/graduates. Members are selected from top-performing students in engineering technology programs. Terrence Talbot was inducted into the honor society.

SVT CROWE AWARD: Congratulations to Robert Garster, P.L.S. for the honor of receiving the Surveying Engineering Technology Distinguished Francis Crowe Award.

Robert Garster received an AS in Civil Engineering Technology (surveying) and a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Maine in 1989 & 1990. After graduation, he spent three seasons working in Alaska on BLM Native Allotment Cadastral Surveys. In 1994 Rob Garster and Stevenson W. Sheppard founded Sheppard & Garster Land Surveyors. In 1998, they acquired the records and assets of Andrew J. Shyka, PLS and became Shyka, Sheppard & Garster Land Surveyors. Mr. Garster is the treasurer and co-owner of Shyka, Sheppard & Garster Land Surveyors, as well as a principal and treasurer of KAPPA Mapping Inc., a full range photogrammetric services firm. He has over twenty years experience in the practice of land surveying. His experience includes boundary retracements, subdivision design, topographic surveys, ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys, hydrographic surveys, Elevation Certificates and Letter of Map Amendments (LOMA's) and GPS control surveys. A significant portion of his work has included site development projects for commercial, residential, municipal and industrial sites. He is member of the Maine Society of Land Surveyors (MSLS), the National Society of Professional Land Surveyors, and the Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS). In 2005, Shyka, Sheppard & Garster Land Surveyors (SSG) established the Andrew J. Shyka Surveying Scholarship. SSG continues to fund this scholarship on a yearly basis.



The Distinguished Francis Crowe Award recognizes individuals who have made considerable contributions to the surveying engineering technology program and the 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), and Stevenson "Shep" Sheppard (2012).

ALUMNI NEWS: Alumni have reported the following news:

- David O'Brien, P.S.M. (1993) of SurvTech Solutions reported opening their first branch office in Jacksonville, Florida.
- Claire Kiedrowski, P.S., (1990) of KAPPA Mapping, Inc. reported hiring Mark Bradstreet, Certified Photogrammetrist. Mark Bradstreet was the owner and lead consultant for Bradstreet Consultants, Inc., which provided photogrammetric mapping services to

surveyors, engineers, and municipalities across the country from 1998 to 2012.

- Sam Suorsa (), co owner of Coventry Surveys, has replaced David Hilbern as the Rhode Island representative on the SVT industrial advisory committee.
- Ryan Brown (2008) has passed his fundamentals of surveying exam. He is working with Mike Zmuda (1990) at Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson in Virginia. Mike is the Surveys Senior Associate for the Richmond office.

ALUMNI OUTREACH: In March, Dean Dana Humphrey visited with David O'Brien (SIE'93) and Stacy Brown (CIE'96), the founders of SurvTech Solutions in Tampa, Florida, along with their UMaine Surveying Engineering Technology crew (Matt Brooks, Hank Simpkins, and Ben Hodge). SurvTech is a thriving business that serves the State of Florida and beyond. David and Stacy grew up in Burnham, Maine, and joined forces to create this company. Dean Humphrey remarked that: "they had so many UMaine alumni working for the firm that they could start their own alumni chapter."

FACULTY NEWS:

Knud Hermansen – Knud Hermansen has given several webinars for the Maine State Bar Association on property descriptions, surveyors and surveying services. He gave an ethics seminar to the Florida Surveying and Mapping Society. He educated participants on timber trespass and damages at the NERCOFE convention. He also provided seminars on law, land development, and surveying to the Maine State Bar Association, Penobscot County Bar Association, Maine Society of Land Surveyors, and New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors.

Ray Hintz – Ray has presented seminars this past semester in Maine, New Hampshire, Florida, and Idaho.