

Surveying Engineering Technology Newsletter Fall 2016

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

Please note the web page has been modernized thanks to Ms. Vicky Wingo of the Dean's office. We tried to bring all pertinent information forward – please tell us if anything is missing. Thanks to Knud for his years of web page maintenance.

The SVT faculty is pleased to share with you this information. Ray is doing the newsletter now, thanks Knud for many years of newsletters! We tried to get the newsletter to more people/e mail addresses including more e mails of surveying degrees prior to SVT. If you know of someone who is not getting this please tell Ray.

December Graduates – a big congratulations!!

Caleb Gervais, LSIT (ME)

Christopher Lamotte (ME)

Undergraduate enrollment

Fall 16 undergraduates total 55 students.

21 ME

6 CT

6 NH

6 MA

4 VT

4 NY

3 NJ

3 PA

1 RI

1 Saudi Arabia

16 of these are dual degree either with forestry or forest operations.

Professional Science Masters (PSM) in Surveying Engineering news

Our enrollment is 22 students in the completely on-line program with only one student from Maine (Joshua Bragg of Machias). Note that is approximately 20% of the entire graduation school population of the College of Engineering. Rumor is that Knud is creating an advanced survey law class that will be taught for the first time in spring 2018.

Of high importance is the PSM's first graduate in May – Ambrose Gmeiner of New Jersey - turned his final project (a thesis for all practical purposes) "The Land Surveyor as a Project Lead and Providing Professional Testimony" into 3 consecutive articles in xyHt magazine.

<http://www.xyht.com/surveying/leveraging-land-surveyors-roles-part-1/>

<http://www.xyht.com/surveying/leveraging-the-land-surveyors-roles-part-2/>

<http://www.xyht.com/surveying/leveraging-the-land-surveyors-roles-part-3/>

Congratulation to Ambrose for exposure of graduate survey education at the University of Maine through publication.

Scholarships awarded in April (\$800 each) – Thanks for your support!

Note spring is the season most awards are made.

New Hampshire
James Clasby (NH)
Cole Gallant (NH)
Tara Mullen (NH)
Christian Stock (NH)

NSPS Fellows Scholarship (a national award!)
Tara Mullen (NH)

Donations

David Chittim of Lewiston made a \$500 donation to SVT. While “retired”, David is working on a very large survey for a non-profit bird sanctuary in his area.

SGC Engr. Of Westbrook, ME donated a Trimble GX HDS scanner, targets, peripherals, and laptop computer with Trimble software (est. worth \$18500) to SVT in July. Scot MacDonald of SGC coordinated the donation. SVT is deeply appreciative of SGC’s continued support of SVT.

NCEES 2016 Surveying Education Award

<http://ncees.org/winners-2016-ncees-surveying-education-award-announced/>
SVT at the University of Maine received \$10000 this summer from the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). NCEES awarded 10 surveying programs from 39 applications in an award that was based on successful education that impacts surveying licensure in a positive fashion.

Thanks Elwood!

Elwood Ellis, PLS of China, ME has served tirelessly for NCEES on multiple platforms including exam question preparation. Elwood worked hard to formulate the NCEES surveying education award and we are benefitting from his efforts. Elwood is now working hard with NCEES to support on-line surveying education efforts at the University of Maine to ensure university education exists in surveying independent of one’s location. Elwood was kind enough to attend our fall Industrial Advisory Meeting and individually make the NCEES award presentation.

Student chapter leader Chris Lamotte, NCEES representative Elwood Ellis, and Board of Licensure of Land Surveyors/IAC member David Titcomb celebrate the NCEES award.

On-line SVT – we need your help!

The University of Maine Surveying Engineering Technology (SVT) invites the surveying community to take any of the following on-line classes Fall 2017 starting on Jan. 17

SVT 201 – Adjustment Computations
SVT 331 – Photogrammetry
SVT 352 – Practical Field Operations
SVT 532 – Survey Strategies in Use of Lidar
SVT 541 – Geodesy

All five classes can count toward a BS in SVT. The 500+ courses count toward a Professional Science Masters Degree (PSM) in Surveying Engineering. If you wish to take a class or classes please contact Ray Hintz (Raymond.hintz@umit.maine.edu) and I will set it up for you. The lectures, homeworks, and exams exist on an internet site and you have no exact lecture times. All homework and exams have exact due dates. Questions are presented via e mail and phone.

For Maine residents cost is simple – in state tuition. For the it is complicated.

- (1) Simply taking a class you will pay out-of-state tuition.
 - (2) Applying to U Maine as a SVT undergrad will reduce tuition to the “NEBHE” rate – in state *1.5 if you are from a New England state other than Maine
 - (3) Applying to U Maine as a PSM graduate student will reduce tuition the the E tuition rate – in state * 1.25 for all states outside of Maine
- Applying for admission to a degree program immediately will be approved before classes begin – see <https://go.umaine.edu/apply/> or <https://umaine.edu/graduate/apply/>

For Tuition questions see <http://umaine.edu/bursar/tuition-and-fees/>

All veterans of the US Armed Forces pay in state tuition!

The future!!!!

Our Industrial Advisory Committee (IAC) wants us to have an on-line SVT degree option and an 18 credit on-line SVT certificate program as soon as possible. The certificate would meet current educational requirements of all New England states. The conventional SVT BS degree will still exist for students who chose to be in Orono. We realize many people want the education but cannot relocate so we are bringing the classes to you. The classes offered spring 2017 will count toward the BS degree or certificate. These will be at the E Tuition rate (in-state * 1.25) for anyone not living in Maine! We cannot proceed with such a major effort unless we hear from you. In other words we need a guaranteed interest level. Thus if you are interested in an on-line SVT BS degree or an on-line SVT certificate (specify which one) it is imperative that you e mail Ray Hintz (Raymond.hintz@umit.maine.edu) with your intent today! I will keep you on a mailing list that will provide you with our target dates for implementation. If we do not receive a requisite interest level in these on-line options we will not be able to move forward with their implementation.

Thanks

Ray Hintz

SVT program coordinator

Spread the word please! Have people e mail me with interest in the on-line BS or certificate or they will not happen due to lack of interest. This is very important and I ask for your help in this venture!

SVT Crowe Award

The distinguished Francis Crowe award recognizes individuals who have made considerable contributions to Surveying Engineering Technology and the profession.

Congratulations to Mr. Russ Desjardins of Spillers, Inc. Of Lewiston, ME for his selection to receive the Crowe award in December 2016.

In 1987 Spillers became a Topcon dealer and sold (at dealer cost) to the University its first total station – a 3-B that actually is totally functional today. We use it at least once a year because it fits the solar filter Russ acquired for us at dealer cost.

In 30 years Russ, Spillers, and Topcon have been instrumental in obtaining free equipment for us (a permanent base station GNSS antenna, data collectors, etc.) or at no profit to Spillers or Topcon (10 total stations, 10 GNSS units and peripherals, 2 digital levels, 5 laser levels, tapes, prisms, tribrachs, etc.).

Without Russ 30 years of surveying, construction, and civil engineering students would not have been able to experience modern surveying techniques. Russ also ensured all equipment needing maintenance would be efficiently corrected at no profit to Spillers or Topcon. Russ always worked closely with the University of Maine in providing a combination of education to professionals using modern equipment. Russ retires on May 31, 2017 and the New England surveying community will miss his presence but wish him a long, healthy, and enjoyable retirement.

Dean of Engineering Dana Humphrey, Russ Desjardins with hardware, and Knud

Alumni news

Taking a slightly different track, we decided to focus on our Saudi Arabia SVT graduates and will have a larger general alumni news in the spring. We are very proud of this select group of graduates. Imagine having to relocate halfway across the world, learn a different culture, deal with snow and cold, pick up a wide variety of common ailments that we are immune to, and still excel in academics! So here is some of their stories as of May 2016.

Hatim Gazzaz writes

After completing my MS in Engineering Management in 2013, I went to George Mason University in 2014 to start my MS in Geoinformatics and Geospatial Intelligence. I have completed the program this May and already back in Saudi Arabia to continue my work with Saudi Aramco. I regret not visiting Maine during my two years in the US.

Emad M. Ghamdi is with Residential District 2 (N/H 2A & 2B) South Dhahran Home Ownership Projects Dept. or Aramco.

Abdulaziz Al-Mugaiteeb is an Assistant to VP Project Management (A) of Aramco.

Other Aramco SVT (the most recent 5 graduates) news

We all work in the same division "Geomatics Services Division" which is responsible for all Geomatics works within Aramco. This Division is divided into three main operating sections covering offshore, onshore and aerial operations.

Ali Al-Ghamdi & Mossa Bakhari:

They both work offshore onboard a vessel equipped with acoustic sensors, motion sensors and positioning equipment. They perform all types of Hydrographic surveys to map the seabed floor and even to penetrate the seabed when conducting shallow seismic surveys. Now they are well familiar with using Multibeam Echo Soundar, Side Scan Sonar, ROV and sub-bottom profiler. Actually, they have been involved a lot in rig-move operations to ensure safe navigation to the drilling locations. You can say that they are now Hydrographic Surveyors.

Abdulaziz Al-Assaf:

He is with the photogrammetry survey section where he is involved in all aspects of aerial survey, which includes flight planning, Aerial Triangulation, Digitizing, etc. He sometimes participates in some flight missions to capture images and scan areas using Airborne LiDAR.

Mohammed Aljafar & Mansour Al-Ghamdi:

We work together in the land survey section as supervising surveyors. We do various types of surveys within Aramco and throughout the Kingdom. We've been exposed to different kinds of surveys such as deformation surveys for tanks and other construction surveys for quality control and quality assurance on construction projects. In addition, we work on establishing control points and maintaining Aramco geodetic network and CORS network as well. Mansour is now in charge of a group called High Definition

Survey Group. In this group terrestrial laser scanners are being utilized to scan complex facilities such as Gas plants or manifolds in order to have precious 3D models for retrofits or expansion projects. By the way, Mohammed has been blessed with a baby boy.

Faculty News

Knud Hermansen is on phased retirement which means he works in the fall and spends spring in the wintry confines of Florida. The plan is for three more falls of teaching (2017-19). While we wish Knud the best he will be impossible to replace.

Ray Hintz spent the previous academic year converting more SVT education to an on-line format.

Carlton Brown pulled off a miracle by adding boundary law and the lectures of plane surveying (replacing Knud) to an already heavy teaching load last spring. We hope having teaching those once will make the coming semester a little easier. Carlton is building an on-line boundary law course which will be offered spring 2018.

Steve Adam continues to teach SVT 475 Small Business Management which has become one of the most successful CED courses at the University of Maine. Note a wide variety of students not in SVT also take the course.

Louis Morin teaches the Geographic Information Systems course for SVT students plus many School of Forest Resources students plus several other courses in SFR. The GIS course tends to be one of the most popular in the SVT curriculum.