

University of Maine Surveying Engineering Technology Fall 2023 Newsletter

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

<https://online.umaine.edu/online-surveying-engineering-technology-programs/>

The SVT faculty is pleased to share with you this information. We try to get the newsletter to more people/email addresses including more emails of surveying degrees prior to SVT and friends of SVT. If you know of someone who is not getting this (and should) please tell Ray. Any work or family related information you want in the next newsletter please email Ray ray.hintz@maine.edu.

Graduates / Fundamental of Survey exam results

If I missed someone tell me. This is not easy due to our numbers! This list includes both summer and fall graduates. Congratulations!

Bachelor of Science in Surveying Engineering Technology

Todd Dill (AZ)
 Andy Ives, PLS (CT)
 Lars Johnson (CT)
 Brandon Key (KY)
 Will Parks, LSIT (ME)
 Jacob Williams, LSIT (PA)
 Brian Yorkiewicz (PA)

Undergraduate Certificate in Surveying Engineering Technology

Christopher Albrecht (MA)
 Nicholas Burdick-Chapel (CT)
 Logan Burdwood (PA)
 Zachary Cox (MA)
 Jonathan Green (MA)
 Melissa Harkness (NH)
 Nathaniel Mason, LSIT (ME)
 James O'Reilly (MA)
 Mark Patterson (KY)
 Dylan Richardson (MA)
 Jacob Snyder (WI)
 Anthony Theodoro (SD)
 Matthew Tirocchi (MA)
 Andrew Whaley (MD)

Graduate Certificate in Surveying Engineering Technology

Matthew O'Bryan, PLS (OH)
 David Ogden, LSIT (OH)
 Wesley Loudon (LA)
 Joseph Molidor, CST(IL)
 Schuyler Van Pelt (MA)
 Kolton Wilson, LSIT (OH)

Five of six are continuing for their Masters degree. Joe will continue, but he needs a break as he will be a new father soon.

Master of Science in Engineering Technology, Surveying Engineering Concentration

Shaine Bonin,PLS (MA)

Jay Jacobson (AZ)

Professional Science Masters in Engineering and Business Surveying Engineering Concentration

Katie Wade (ME)

New Surveying Licenses etc. (and ones I never listed before, in order I found out)

Please email Ray when you receive a new license as trying to figure this out online is not easy. I am worried I am missing a lot of your licenses. Congratulations!

Wes Abercrombie (VA & FL)

Thais Ahlstrand (NM)

Kevin Benitez (DC)

Rafael Bombacini (FL & NM)

Shaine Bonin (RI)

Aaron Brown (AK)

Brian Cook (ME)

Megan Cleaves (ME) national portion

James Flores (NJ & NY)

William Heft (LA)

Connor Hill (CT)

Andrew Hutzler (SC)

Steve Hyde (OR)

Natasa Ilic (FL)

Brandon Key (CA, SD, & WI)

Oscar Keydel (ME)

Daniel Namyst (CA)

Billy Olmsted (CO)

Mark Powell (OH)

Joseph Rappa (NY)

Zach Robinson (CA)

Jediah Scott (ME)

David Sheehan (PA)

John Stratton (NY) national portion

Steven Wasik (NY)

Passed the Fundamentals of Surveying exam

Congratulations!

Christopher Bedford SC

Jeff Blachly (MD) (cert)

John Bowers (OK)

Conor Burns (MA) (cert)

Kevin Carter (MA) (cert)

Travis Gibson (CO)

Brian Gish (MO)

Dillon Hamilton (GA) (cert)

Jared Harbold (PA)
 Tucker Humphrey (MA)
 Jacob Lawler(SC)
 Nathaniel Mason (ME) (cert)
 Benjamin Minnix (MA)
 Byron Muniz (FL)
 Michal Niczewski (NJ)
 Wil Parks (ME)
 Nathan Rocha (RI) (cert)
 John Stratton (NY)
 Peter Utesch (GA)

Scholarships

All scholarships will be listed in the spring newsletter.

Undergraduate enrollment (including undergrad certificate)

Based on the start of fall semester, we have approximately 220 students in BS SVT, 110 students in the SVT undergraduate certificate, and 37 surveying graduate students. We have the largest population of undergraduate students per faculty in the College of Engineering. We receive great support from Division of Lifelong Learning's (DLL) undergraduate retention and enrollment specialist Tiffany Peterson.

Professional Science Masters (PSM) in Surveying Engineering, Graduate Certificate in Surveying Engineering, and Master of Science in Engineering Technology surveying engineering concentration news

Our enrollment is 37 students in the completely on-line programs. Note that is approximately 20% of the entire graduate school population of the College of Engineering. We now have the largest number of graduate students per faculty in the College of Engineering. Todd Cooley is our online support specialist for the graduate programs.

Doctorate of Engineering in Engineering Technology Surveying Engineering Technology concentration

Your support had a major impact. The proposal has been approved by the Dean of Engineering and the Graduate School and now is in the Provost's office receiving final approval from a series of committees. We are on track for a start date of fall 2024. This will be the first new doctorate/PhD at the University of Maine in 10 years. Surveying is equivalent to all other branches of engineering, and this is the last step in achieving academic equivalence.

NSPS Student Chapter

The NSPS Student Chapter had a busy year. Several of the new first year students, and transfer students from other programs, who are on campus joined the club at the beginning of the fall semester and have stayed active and engaged in the club. Weekly meeting attendance was 10-12 students and also participated in the following activities:

- As a group they attended the MSLS fall meeting at Sunday River, and will have representatives at the MSLS Annual Meeting coming up in February in Portland.
- The club has altered its concept for a fundraiser for the NSPS national student competition. If your donation is significant enough you/your firm will be advertised on the T-Shirts they will be wearing at the student competition. Attached is the letter from the Club soliciting donations, so as you look to make end-of-year donations, please consider supporting the students. It costs about \$1200 per person to attend so the need is significant.

- Earlier this year the students went on a “field trip” to MSLS Stalwart Steve Gould’s camp for a cookout and are hoping to go again in the Spring for Ice Fishing if the lake cooperates.
- The end of semester social function was a trip to Smoke and Steel in Bangor for Axe Throwing and BBQ dinner.
- The technical details regarding the 2024 NSPS Student Competition were recently received and along with the traditional monument “Scavenger Hunt” and Compass and Chain survey, the 2024 Competition will include a level run with a four-post Dumpy Level on a stiff leg tripod. Students will be taking an independent study with their advisor so that they can learn how to operate historical equipment and develop proficiency ahead of the competition in April 2024.

NCEES survey education award

SVT was again a recipient of this award (2nd place). University of Maine SVT is the only program to have received this award every year it was provided. The financial support of NCEES to survey education in the USA is deeply appreciated.

Foundation Based Donations

Peter and Knut Greulich donated \$10000 to their late father Gunther’s Foundation scholarship account. This amount remains in the account forever and income from investments is used for scholarships. Gunther was a major supporter of survey education in New England. \$15000 was added to the NCEES excellence fund due to the NCEES survey education award.

Please do not be afraid to consider a Foundation account in support of SVT. The Foundation has performed amazingly in managing our accounts and helping with a long stream of continuous donations.

Online SVT

Obviously, a large influx of students has been due to the online degrees which are combined with an incredible reduction in out of state tuition costs (so-called E tuition which is in-state*1.25). Veterans, no matter where they live, qualify for in-state tuition along with dependents using a veteran's G.I. Bill. The degrees are

- (1) Bachelor of Science in Surveying Engineering Technology <https://online.umaine.edu/online-bachelor-of-science-in-surveying-engineering-technology/>
- (2) Professional Science Masters (PSM) in Engineering and Business Surveying Engineering concentration <https://online.umaine.edu/online-professional-science-masters-in-engineering-and-business/>
- (3) Master of Science in Engineering Technology Surveying Engineering Technology concentration <https://online.umaine.edu/online-master-of-science-in-engineering-technology/>
- (4) Graduate Certificate in Surveying Engineering <https://online.umaine.edu/online-graduate-certificate-in-surveying-engineering-technology/>
- (5) Undergraduate Certificate in Surveying Engineering Technology <https://online.umaine.edu/online-undergraduate-certificate-surveying-engineering-technology/>

Many of our students have a previous degree and only need surveying classes. Likewise some students simply need a core of surveying classes. (5) will be the option for those students. The 9 cr. of BUA/MBA in the PSM is replaced with 9 more cr. of graduate surveying coursework in the MS.

Please pass the word to all potential students. We want to continue to be the leader in online surveying education in the United States. Your help makes us achieve that goal.

On-line Teaching Studio

The online SVT teaching studio in the basement of Boardman Hall is totally in 100% production. This greatly enhances our abilities to create the best online content possible.

Getting an early start in surveying education

In the spring Carlton Brown is again teaching a section of SVT 101 Basic Surveying Field and Office Processes to high school students at Bucks County Technical High School in Pennsylvania. Carlton's enthusiasm to bring university education to an expanded population is truly exciting. We hope to find similar high schools that could benefit from this liaison. To learn more about this listen to the "Surveyor Says" podcast at <https://surveyorsays.podbean.com/e/ep162-bonus-episode-the-bucks-county-technical-high-school-program/>.

Topcon Technology and Education Agreement

Our dream of keeping up to date with modern equipment has come true. Topcon is supplying us with several hundred thousand dollars of all types of survey equipment which will totally satisfy our laboratory needs. Approximately every three years the existing equipment will be swapped out for the latest updates. We sincerely thank Topcon Corp. for this incredible agreement – specifically Mr. Jeff Waggamon and Mr. Jim Hinson of Topcon who were instrumental in this process.

The equipment being provided includes, among other things, 12 Robotic Total Stations, 12 Digital Levels, 12 Multi-constellation GPS receivers, Tablets, Software and Accessories (e.g. tripods, rods, bipods, etc.). New(est) SVT Faculty Member Joe McNichols will be organizing and managing this equipment and is dedicating significant time and effort to creating a "model" modern equipment room befitting such a prestigious gift. Not only will this equipment support our on-line education, but it will form part of a strategic effort to recruit traditional on-campus students going forward. Look for pictures in the Spring Issue of this newsletter!

United Technologies Center and Central Maine Community College Donations

The Topcon donation has allowed us, in turn, to donate 3 of our more dated total stations to the United Technologies Center Construction Engineering and Operation and the Building Construction Technology and Surveying Workforce Development programs at Central Maine Community College. Outreach programs are ongoing to develop pipelines from both of these schools into both the Surveying Engineering Technology and Construction Engineering Technology Programs at U. Maine.

Curriculum Updates

SVT 329 Site Planning & Subdivision Design (1 cr.) will be taught for the last time next fall. Its content has been integrated into other classes. SVT 333 Team Workflows in Surveying Practice (1 cr.) replaces it as a spring 2024 class. It addresses an ABET requirement for working in teams. MAT 116 Introduction to Calculus (3 cr.) and MAT 117 Applications of Calculus (3 cr.) are being replaced with the traditional MAT 126 Calculus I (4 cr.) and MAT 127 Calculus II (4 cr.) as they fit the transfer process better. SVT 322 Preparing Effective Property Descriptions is being converted from 1 to 3 cr. to better reflect the importance of boundary surveying in our curriculum. One 3 cr. program elective will be eliminated to offset the additional credits of Calculus and SVT 322.

At the graduate level SVT 512 Advanced Boundary Law (3 cr.) is being converted into two 3 cr. courses SVT 512 Survey Business Law and Policy and SVT 513 Advanced Studies in Boundary Law. SVT 598 Selected Studies in Surveying Engineering Technology (3 cr.) is a new course for special topics or as a way to experiment with new course content.

SVT graduate news

Emily Canty (Mitchell) was promoted to Instrument operator (Field Technician II) at SAM and was married on December 1.

Wes Abercrombie recently joined Atwell as Director of Survey in Georgia/Alabama/Tennessee.

Brent Jones reports “I’m in London to receive the Michael Barrett award from the Royal Institute for Chartered Surveyors for:

To the person whom in the opinion of the Panel/Division has contributed most to the understanding of the subjects of Land Transfer, Registration and Administration, Encroachments, Cadastre and Boundary issues, or to an improvement in the administration of the Laws regarding them, within the UK and overseas.

Note that Peter Dale, a prior recipient, was a pioneer in land administration with John McLaughlin (President UNB) who encouraged Earl Epstein to study law and land, and close friend and colleague of Jim Clapp who was a plankholder and founder of the U. Maine Surveying Engineering Program.”

David Sadowski reports “Since graduation, in Worcester Ma, I have taken a three day on site class through MALSCCE offered by the National Society of Professional Surveyors concerning Floodplain surveying. I passed the 4 hour Exam and am now considered a Certified Floodplain Surveyor (CFS). This distinction will allow me to submit eLOMA and Elevation certificates and get an answer in 3 days instead of the normal 60 day review period. However, I cannot exercise this (CFS) certification until I pass the PLS.

Faculty News

Knud Hermansen (retired) has been teaching more than before he retired and is adding course content in boundary surveying as shown in “Curriculum Updates”.

Ray Hintz spent the previous academic year managing the ever growing undergraduate and graduate student online populations. He has spent a lot of time crawling through the complicated process of getting a new doctorate approved.

Carlton Brown teaches half of the “large population” early curriculum courses such as SVT 101 Basic Surveying Field and Office Processes and SVT 122 AutoCad for Surveyors II. Carlton is responsible for making incoming students happy with their SVT experience. He is teaching SVT 101 to high school students from a technical school in PA. His dedication to the students gives them the enthusiasm to finish their degree or certificate. Carlton passed the exam so now he is a Certified Floodplain Surveyor (NSPS) in Maine and Massachusetts.

Rich Vannozi teaches the other half of the “large population” courses such as SVT 102 Surveying Principles for Civil Engineers and SVT 121 AutoCad and Cartography for Surveyors. Due to its popularity SVT 102 will now be offered every semester. Rich continues to lead the faculty efforts in maintaining the SVT online teaching studio, and has recently passed the maintaining of the equipment room to Joe McNichols. Rich continues to serve as advisor to the NSPS Student Chapter. Rich has also taken on the responsibility to recruit professional surveyors from NSPS to become Program Evaluators for ABET/NSPS. If anyone is interested in doing this (NSPS NEEDS individuals with Bachelor and Master’s

degrees in surveying to do this!) please reach out to Rich at anthony.vannozi@maine.edu for more information. Rich is also active on the NSPS Education Committee. Rich just returned from the New Hampshire Land Surveyor's Association Annual Meeting and was presented with an Honorary Membership: "Honoring your 20 years of excellence teaching surveying in a variety of venues".

Joseph McNichols is in his second academic year and is contributing to SVT in outstanding fashion. His SVT 202 course is so popular he will be teaching two sections for the first time. His work in the FS exam review class is showing dividends with excellent record of students passing the exam. His years of public service surveying add depth to our program and his funded Foundation account will forever provide scholarship money to SVT students.

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. It has recently been expanded to two sections in the spring semester. Note a wide variety of students not in SVT also take the course.