Report to the 43rd General Assembly
FIG Working Week 2020, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

FIG Commission 2 – Professional Education

Report of Activities 2019

1. General

During previous Commission 2 terms some excellent publications on professional education have been produced, including the 2010 FIG Publication 46 *Enhancing Surveying Education through e-Learning*. While many of the key messages of this report still apply, much has happened in professional education since 2010. The focus on e-learning has evolved into a focus on "blended learning" which attempts to include the best of traditional face-to-face approaches with the best of e-learning approaches. This has many benefits to younger learners who, while they are very competent with online approaches, vary enormously in how they prefer to learn.

The major aim of Commission 2 for this term is to produce a publication that provides an update on FIG Publication 46 and has a working title of "*Enhancing Surveying Education through Effective Blended Learning*". Each of the working groups will provide contributions to this report with WG2.3 considering the different approaches leaners have in the context of blended learning, WG2.2 considering challenges and best practice in blended learning and professional education in general, and WG2.1 discussing how regional academic networks can support knowledge sharing and capacity building using blended learning approaches.

The theme if blended learning is also relevant to the concept of "life-long learning" and professional development is therefore relevant to Commission 2. This connection is discussed in a paper by the Commission 1 and 2 chairs as well as Stig Enemark and James Kavanagh to be presented at the 2020 FIG Working Week "*On 'Blended' learning and the benefits for surveying education, professional development and 'life-long learning'*".

Another aim of this term is to increase the interest and involvement of FIG members in Commission 2. A pleasing change to date has been the increase in the number of Commission 2 sessions (Excluding the FIG/FAO Academic Forum) - in 2016 (2), 2017 (3), 2018 (2), 2019 (3) and in 2020 (5 sessions planned). Credit must go to the very active academic members in Europe and especially in the Netherlands.

2. Working Groups

2.1 WG 2.1 Developing academic networks for knowledge sharing

Each of the working groups will provide contributions to the final Commission 2 report *Enhancing Surveying Education through Effective Blended Learning* with WG2.1 discussing how regional academic networks can support knowledge sharing and capacity building using blended learning approaches.

Progress since the endorsement of Work Plan in FIGWW in Hanoi in April 2019

WG 2.1 organised and chaired one session within FIG WW 2019. Wokrign Group 2.1 also have one session in the FIG 2020 program - 02.1 - Regional Academic networks and CPD.

- New activity of LALAN is planned for the beginning of 2020 with funding from School for Land Administration Studies -SLAS (joint initiative of the Netherlands Kadaster and Faculty ITC)

- Possible attendance/contribution to the proposed ISPRS, NICS, NSPRS International Workshop on 'Capacity building and Education Outreach in

Advanced Geospatial Technologies and Land Management' in Nepal from 10 December. Commission 2 is keen to support this workshop.

- Planning for a session organized and chaired by FIG Comm 2 WG 2.1 within FIG WW 2020.

2.2 WG 2.2 Innovative learning and teaching / "Curriculum on the Move"

WG2.2 will contribute to the final Commission 2 report *Enhancing Surveying Education through Effective Blended Learning* by considering challenges and best practice in blended learning and professional education in general.

Progress since the endorsement of Work Plan in FIGWW in Hanoi in April 2019

WG 2.2 organised and chaired one session within FIG WW 2019.

Three sessions are planned for the 2020 FIG Working Week that are relevant to this working group:

- 02.2 - Blended learning and innovations in professional education
- 02.3 - Innovation in Professional Education in Europe
- 02.4 - Responsible Land Administration Teaching Essentials

2.3 WG 2.3 Joint Commission 1 and 2/YSN working group - Learning strategies and approaches in surveying education

Working group 2.3 will contribute to the final Commission 2 report *Enhancing Surveying Education through Effective Blended Learning* through considering the different approaches leaners have in the context of blended learning. The questionnaire will also include questions on life-long learning relevant to the work of Commission 1. This input will be informed by the questionnaire on learning styles and validation of these results in workshops in Amsterdam 2020 and Cape Town 2022.

Progress since the endorsement of Work Plan in FIGWW in Hanoi in April 2019

- initial literature review completed.

- draft questionnaire developed and Ethics approval for a pilot study of approximately 300-400 students (in 4 countries) in 2020 submitted to RMIT University and University of South Pacific in early 2020.

-The questionnaire will then be sent out through FIG networks in the first quarter 2020, and preliminary results
of this pilot study to be presented in Amsterdam in 2020 and discussed at a YSN workshop.

3. FIG/FAO Academic Forum

A Letter of Agreement between FIG and FAO has been signed and is in place for 2020. The general objective of this Letter of Agreement is to disseminate the "Guidelines", *raise awareness, develop capacity, engage professional, academic and teaching institutions, and develop partnerships and networks between FAO Tenure staff and* FIG surveyors as key land, natural and built environment professionals *globally and regionally,* towards improved governance of tenure and support to the application of the "Guidelines". Within the context of the FIG Work Plan, the FIG Council has a vision of a "modern and sustainable surveying profession in support of society, environment and economy by providing innovative reliable and best practice solutions to our rapidly changing and complex world, acting with integrity and confidence about the usefulness of surveying, and translating these words into action."

The Letter of Agreement supports two joint FAO/FIG sessions organized in cooperation with FAO Tenure staff to address the *experiences related to the implementation* of the *Guidelines'* and specific aspects of (a) "*FAO's Legal Guide on Land Consolidation and its application in Eastern Europe and Central Asia with country cases*" and (b) "*VGGT and UNCCD COP 14: how to integrate the VGGT into the implementation of the Convention and land degradation neutrality - land-based solutions, involving LA/LM instruments to combat climate change"*, including invitees, selected in consultation with FAO as presenters and participants.

At the 2020 FIG Working Week, this includes the FAO/FIG Academic Forum which has been a feature of FIG Congresses and Working Weeks. The theme for the 2020 Academic Forum is:

Progress in supporting the application of the Guidelines, and opportunities to engage regional, sub-regional, academic and young surveyors' networks to discuss and raise awareness on VGGT and UNCCD COP 14: how to integrate the VGGT into the implementation of the Convention and land degradation neutrality - land-based solutions, involving LA/LM instruments to combat climate change.

Commission 2 will work with FAO to plan and run this session at the 2020 FIG Working Week.

4. Cooperation with other Commissions

As discussed above Commission 1 is involved in Commission 2 activities that relate to how blended learning can support life-long learning and professional development – in particular the questionnaire on student learning strategies and approaches.

Joint Commission sessions at the 2020 FIG Working Week include

- 02.4 - Responsible Land Administration Teaching Essentials Commission 2 and 7
- 05.1 - UN-GGIM/SCoG/ETCB and CDN discussions Commissions 1, 2 and 5