



THE FIG FOUNDATION  
*Celebrating 20 years  
of Building a Sustainable Future  
2001 - 2021*

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Please join me in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the FIG Foundation.

On 11 May 2001, at its last session of the FIG Working Week in Seoul Korea, the FIG General Assembly endorsed the statutes of the FIG Foundation that was established by transferring the former Education Foundation from Australia to the FIG office in Denmark. The FIG Foundation is administered by the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) office in Copenhagen, Denmark with the FIG Foundation Board of Directors appointed by the FIG Council.

The first FIG Foundation Board of Directors consisted of Holger Magel (Germany) as President with Directors Stig Enemark (Denmark), Iain Greenway (Ireland), John Hohol (USA), Ian Williamson (Australia). The current Board consists of John Hohol (USA) as President with Directors Winston Ayeni (Nigeria), Michael Barry (Canada), Enrico Rispoli (Italy), Jixian Zhang (China). Over the years 23 people from 14 countries have served on the Foundation Board. All have generously served as volunteers receiving no compensation for their time and activities on the Board.

Trimble has been a Charter Partner of the FIG Foundation since 2010, donating over 160,000 EUR since the establishment of FIG Foundation in 2001. Thank you so much for your continued generous support!

The purpose of the FIG Foundation is the funding of educational and capacity building projects and scholarships. For the over 100 years of its existence FIG has experienced a shortage of funds to finance education projects, even though education is vital to the surveying profession and is relevant to all the organizational members of FIG. The FIG Foundation raises funds to secure a sustainable future for surveyors. Donations finance educational and capacity building projects and scholarships, especially in developing countries and countries in transition, and encourage research into all disciplines of surveying and help disseminate the results of that research.

The FIG Foundation proudly supports:

- Participation of several Young Surveyors at the FIG Working Weeks/FIG Congresses
- Participation of Young Surveyors at FIG Young Surveyors Regional Meetings
- FIG Foundation PhD Scholarships
- FIG Foundation Academic Research Grants
- FIG Commission Publication Author Support Grants
- Other worthy activities such as Volunteer Community Surveyor Program (VCSP)
- Aubrey Barker/FIG Foundation Course Development Grant

To date the FIG Foundation has awarded 242 grants to surveyors in 75 countries, totaling over 352,000 EUR. Congratulations to all recipients of an FIG Foundation grant and the best to you in your career in surveying.

Many thousands of people have supported the Foundation through their FIG conference registration fees and attendance at FIG Foundation dinners. Some supporters have also generously donated hundreds and even thousands of euros in additional donations over the years in support of the Foundation and its activities. Thank you to all!

A special thank you to all the board members of the FIG Foundation who have donated their time, expertise, and knowledge to help the Foundation help others. Thank you to the FIG Council and FIG General Assembly who over these past 20 years have supported the activities of the Foundation. And, finally, a big thank you and recognition to all the work and support by the FIG Office which has administered the FIG Foundation activities over the years, especially FIG Directors Markku Villikka and Louis Friis-Hansen, FIG Event and Support Manager Claudia Stormoen Pedersen, and Finance and Administration Maria Bargholz. Thanks to Claudia for renewing and updating the Foundation website last year. Take a look and learn the complete story about the Foundation and its work, complete with stories about grant recipients.

**A perfect opportunity to celebrate its 20th anniversary:** The FIG Foundation is proud to facilitate the publication of an important collection of books on the history of surveying, with the generous financial support of FIG Foundation Charter Partner Trimble. Thirty-five years of extensive research by Jan De Graeve and Jim Smith, FIG Honorary Members and respectively Director and Honorary Secretary of The International Institution for the History of Surveying and Measurement- a Permanent Institution (IIHS&M) within the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), has resulted in two sets of important publications on the history of surveying and measurement, covering 2760 years, in seven volumes totaling 3000 pages with over 350 historical pictures: a five-volume set titled *Notes on the History of Determining the Shape and Size of the Earth Using Meridian Arc* and a second set of two books titled respectively *Meridian Arcs in East & Southern Africa with emphasis on the Arc of the 30th Meridian* and *Connection Between the Struve Geodetic Arc and the Arc of the 30th Meridian*. A special edition of 100 sets of these seven books will be published this summer. More information will be available soon.

Unfortunately, with the cancelation of the 2020 FIG Working Week and the 2021 FIG Working Week being held virtually, the FIG Foundation has lost its primary source of income during these two years (income composed of a portion of each registration fee received, the FIG Foundation dinner, and additional donations made during the working week). Please consider donating on the FIG Foundation webpage to help ensure the Foundation continues to *Build a Sustainable Future*. Please visit the FIG Foundation website for more information or to donate: [fig.net/figfoundation](http://fig.net/figfoundation).

Thank you.

Best regards,



John D Hohol  
President  
FIG Foundation