



**FIG Commission 1 Professional Standards and Practice
April 2012**

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the Commission 1 newsletter. This contains an update for the FIG Working week 2012 in Rome, Italy, 6-10 May 2012.

In this newsletter we have included the technical program for Rome for Commission1 and an update on the Work plan which will be presented to the council at the working week.

We are preparing an agenda for the Commission 1 meeting – this is attached as a draft. You are invited to submit other agenda items to us by sending to me at Leonie.Newnham@dse.vic.gov.au by 1 May or at eastmalvern@hotmail.com after 1 May.

Robyn McCutcheon and I are leaving on 2 May to travel to Rome so will be hard to contact until we reach Rome on 3 May.

I will attend the Young Surveyor's Meeting on 4 May and give an update on Commission activities.

There will be very interesting History of Surveying sessions before the Working Week starts and these will have a great source of material given Rome's many great collections of history material and of course the many examples of historic developments and monuments that can be seen.

The Working Week includes a recent addition with a session to be held on Professional Women - Development of Advanced Economy to be held on Wednesday 9 May from 14.00 to 15.30 at Cavalieri 4.. Robyn and I will attend this.

There is still place in the Commission for people who would like to work with one of the set Working Groups or nominate a topic that can be addressed in the remaining two years of our work program.

I am looking forward to catching up with you all at the working week,

Regards,
Leonie Newnham,
Chair of FIG Commission 1

Technical program for Rome WW

http://www.fig.net/fig2012/technical_program.htm

List of presentations to be made by Commission 1.

Monday 7th May 2012

TS01A - The Changing Work Environment of the Surveying Professional - Looking towards 2020

5 papers

TS02L - Cultural Diversity of Work and the Surveying Professional (Commission 1,2 & YSN)

3 papers

Wednesday 9th May

TS08E - Professional Work Environment - Associations, Ethics and Practice

7 papers

TS07E - Setting the Boundaries for Large and Small Territories (Commission 1 & 7)

4 papers

Meetings – the open commission meeting will be held on Sunday 6th May at 16:00 – the agenda is attached below.

Sunday night Commission Dinners – What would you like for a Commission 1 Dinner, send in your ideas to us.

Update on Activities on Year to Date

FIG Commission 1 – Professional Standards and Practice

1. Title

Professional Standards and Practice.

2. Report on activities for 2011

Working Week Activities:

Bridging the Gap Between Cultures – Marrakech, Morocco. May 18-22 2011.

I attended the working week along with Vice Chairs Robyn McCutcheon, Australia and Brian Coutts, New Zealand.

The Commission held its annual meeting at the FIG Working Week at Morocco with close to 20 people attending. The group heard about the Work Plan for the next four years and contributed ideas to the implementation of the Plan. Delegates attended representing the Young Surveyors group, the Standards Network and the FIG Council.

Four Technical Sessions were held that attracted good audiences who were engaged with the topics. Our colleagues in Morocco provided very enthusiastic professionals to assist with chairing and reporting for the sessions. They produced very comprehensive reports for the sessions where they were rapporteurs.

A number of successful joint sessions were held. Details follow:

- Young Surveying Professionals and Students – joint session with the Young Surveyors Network
- Organisational and Legislative Issues – joint session with Commission 7
- Boundary Delineation Issues: From Parcel to Country Level – joint session with Commission 7
- Surveyors and Different Ways of Service Delivery

The joint work with YSN and Commission 7 provided a good opportunity to discuss professional issues that are complex and affect a number of aspects of professional life. This type of awareness of the need to deal with many issues from a variety of angles, ie: as a professional running a business, working on behalf of the community and also dealing with technical aspects of the task

The last session proved very successful and the local association was thrilled with the content. This was very popular as it looked at surveying practice from across the world and gave a flavor of FIG as a international organization allowing professionals to share understanding of how others systems work in a range of countries. It was a good way to gain ideas that might be able to be taken on by others across the world.

Working Week– Rome, Italy. May 6-10, 2012.

A number of very good papers and abstracts were received and this will allow the Commission to run some informative technical sessions. It is very pleasing to be able to work across Commissions to tackle some of the more complex issues and questions facing the profession.

There are four technical sessions planned. Once again there will be some joint sessions to develop professional activities across a broader sphere. They will allow the themes of a range of our working groups to be developed.

- **The Changing Work Environment of the Surveying Professional – Looking towards 2020.**

This will explore the work being done by Working Group 1.1 and also 1.5 considering the role of social media in how we work.

- **Cultural Diversity of Work and the Surveying Professional** – joint session with Commission 2 and the Young Surveyors Network

This will support the worldwide surveying profession analysis work being undertaken by Cecilia Lindén, Sweden for working group 1.1 and work undertaken by Robyn McCutcheon, Australia, on the status of women in the spatial industry.

- **Setting the Boundaries for Large and Small Territories** – joint session with Commission 7

This will continue the work from the last working week for Working Group 1.4. Vice Chair Haim Srebro, Israel, has progressed the FIG publication on boundary issues and is close to having this completed.

- **Professional Work Environment – Associations, Ethics and Practice**

This is a similar session to the very successful one held in Morocco and covers a wide range of issues across countries. It should prove to be a very good way to gain ideas from the expertise that exists in our profession from across the world.

Meetings and Attendance at Conferences by Commission Members

I have provided an overview of the activities of our Commission office holders. (This does not include all activity by all our Vice Chairs.) It gives a snapshot of the activity and opportunities for our people to network with the larger professional community.

Robyn McCutcheon and I attended the local Victorian SSSI summit in September and the Institute of Surveyor's Victoria end of year function in December.

Robyn McCutcheon, is also chair of the SSSI in Victoria, Australia. She had an active year in 2011 attending the 25th International Cartography Conference in Paris in July, spatial@gov the national conference in Canberra in early November and the biennial Surveying and Spatial Sciences Conference 2011 in Wellington, New Zealand in late November. Brian Coutts was one of the organisers for the Wellington Conference.

Robyn also attended the invitation only 4th Land Administration Forum for the Asia and Pacific Region – Beyond Spatial Enablement, 5-7 October in Melbourne. Robyn and I met with our FIG President in Melbourne as he also attended this meeting. We discussed Commission 1 activities for the year and ways to continue building the work of the Commission. We also discussed the development of an international conference/working session to build the work of Working Group 1.1, in Australia in 2013.

Speaking Engagements

Robyn and I will spoke at the Land Surveying National Conference, April 18-21, 2012. Robyn on 'Women in Spatial' and Leonie on Commission 1 activities.

Special Achievements

Vice Chair, Brian Coutts was recognized for his work for the profession in New Zealand and awarded the Fulton Bequest Class A.1 award. Congratulations Brian.

General Commission Activities

LinkedIn sub group - Work progressed with building Commission 1 membership and its activity program. Robyn McCutcheon creative a Commission 1 group on LinkedIn as a sub group to the FIG group. There are regular messages posted on this group.

Analysis of the Topics from FIG working weeks and congresses - Commission 1 investigated the topics that have been covered by FIG working weeks and congresses over the last 5 years. Robyn McCutcheon created some word clouds of all of the topics listed on the FIG website. Looking at the results of these analyses for Commission 1, Robyn, found there was a lack of attention to gender issues. This may be because the last newsletter delivered by the taskforce into Under Represented Groups in Surveying was published in 2008. Robyn believes that the issues around gender have not been resolved and decided to write a paper to update FIG Commission 1 members on the state of gender issues in Australia.

The paper will report on the results of a survey carried out by the SSSI Women in Spatial group in 2011. The survey was a follow up from a previous survey performed in 2005 in Australia and New Zealand and indications are that the surveys show little change in the situation for women in the surveying and spatial industry in Australia and New Zealand. Robyn believes that this issue cuts across the topics covered by Commission 1 and 2 in relation to the issues of diminishing numbers of surveyors, the age structure of the surveying industry and how to attract young people to study the surveying and spatial sciences. This work was developed for all of the FIG Commissions and sent to them to assist them in analyzing the topics over the last years and considering what was and what was not presented. This is often a good way to consider what are developing themes and what could be issues of the future.

Cecilia has worked on the survey on the demographic composition of the FIG member organizations and I encourage you all to participate in this research as it will be an excellent resource for our work on an ongoing basis.

Commission officer news – Brian Coutts has moved to be a ViceChair in Working Group 1.1. This leaves a vacancy in Working Group 1.2 that has yet to be filled. Work Robyn McCutcheon is doing can be seen to be part of the activity of Working Group 1.3 as it is about tackling issues of concern for the larger professional community and as she outlined provides information of interest for other Commissions especially Commission 2 and the YSN. Curtis Sumner, USA has been involved in national issues and has not been available for Working Group 1.1 however I have been talking to him and asked him to nominate if he is available later in the term of office.

Once in a lifetime events - There are some very significant historical and natural events occurring this year with Victoria, Australia celebrating 150 years of the Torrens Land Title System and the astronomical phenomenon of the Transit of Venus on 6 June.

FIG

Commission 1 Meeting

Draft Agenda

Date: Sunday 6th May 2012
Start Time: 16:00-18:00
Room: Commission 1: Pisa

Commission Chairs and Vice Chairs:

Chair Leonie Newnham
Vice Chair Brian Coutts
Vice Chair Robyn McCutcheon
Vice Chair Curtis Sumner – (Apology for this working week)
Vice Chair Winnie Shiu
Vice Chair Brian J Coutts
Vice Chair Stephen Djaba
Vice Chair Dr. Haim Srebro

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Report from the chair – Leonie
Report on ACCO and Council Meetings
3. Commission 1 Working group reports
Working Group 1.1 - Changing Nature of Work and the Role of a Surveyor (Joint Working Group with Commission 2)
Working Group 1.2 – Regulation approaches that provide secure tenure
Working Group 1.3 – Community of Practice on Professional Standards and Practice
Working Group 1.4 – International Boundary Settlement and Demarcation (Joint Working Group with Commissions 4, 5 and 7)
Working Group 1.5 – Social Media and Surveyors (Joint Working Group with the Young Surveyors Network)
4. Reports from:
Standards Working Group
Young Surveyors Network
5. Other Business –
possible event dates and location in Australia or New Zealand in 2013. – Leonie and Robyn