Surveying Education:
Facing the Challenges – Building the Capacity

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Congratulation to Commission 2

- Annual meetings and seminars
  Enhancing the commission work plan and working groups through annual meetings and seminars
- Publication
  on e-Learning in Surveying Education
  Feeding into the council agenda of building the capacity
  A highly successful term of Office

Current Policies

Is the role of the Surveyors changing?

- From Measurement
  Surveyors will still be high level experts within measurement science, but due to technology development the role is changing into managing the measurements
- To Management
  Surveyors will increasingly contribute to building sustainable societies as experts in managing land and properties

Policies - the big swing

- From Measurement
  Surveyors will still be high level experts within measurement science, but due to technology development the role is changing into managing the measurements
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The Land Professionals

Positioning infrastructures

Versus traditional Geodetic Datum

- Enables description of position as latitude, longitude and height and underpins all geo-spatial data;
- Characteristics:
  - Coverage - initially local but has evolved to national and continental;
  - Measurement - initially ground based, labor intensive, now more efficient using GNSS;
  - Data management - initially very analogue but now a key part and often integrated in Spatial data infrastructures (SDI)

Positioning infrastructures are the only truly global infrastructure underscoring capture and management of spatial data world wide

Source: Matt Higgins, Washington, 2009

Land Governance

Do Surveyors have a role to play in the global agenda?

Yes!

Simply, no development will take place without having a spatial dimension
And no development will happen without the footprint of the surveyor

Facing the new challenges

- Climate change
- Food shortage
- Energy scarcity
- Urban growth
- Environmental degradation
- Natural disasters
- Global financial crisis

All these challenges relate to governance and management of land
The surveyors – the land professionals - play a key role

Global partnership drives development for achieving the MDGs

The role of the land professionals

Dealing with the land issue will require skills in the following areas:

- High level geodesy models to predict future change
- Modern surveying and mapping tools to support management and implementation
- Spatial data infrastructures to support decision making on the natural and built environment
- Secure tenure systems and sustainable systems for land valuation, land use management and land development
- Systems for transparency and good governance

Land governance is an interdisciplinary and cross-cutting area mixing technical, natural and social science

The Educational Profile of the Future

Design/build/manage the natural/built environment and connected spatial/legal rights

Key Message

Facing the challenges requires an innovative and adaptable approach to both curriculum design and course delivery within the framework of an overall quality culture.

Building the capacity will eventually depend on an efficient interaction between education, research, and professional practice.

FIG Commission 2 Work Plan 2011-2014

- **WG 2.1 – Curriculum and Core Survey Knowledge**
  - Understanding core curriculum needs for a consistent and interchangeable education for professional surveyors.
- **WG 2.2 – Learning and Teaching Methodology**
  - Identifying best practices for learning and teaching methodologies for universal continuous development of the surveying profession
- **WG 2.3 – Marketing and Management**
  - Developing a logical, universal approach to promotion of professional survey education
- **WG 2.4 Accreditation and Quality Assurance**
  - Promoting quality survey education meeting international needs for developing a universal understanding of the role of surveyors in society
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Learning to Learn

Professional and technical skills can be acquired and updated later in one’s career, while skills for problem solving and skills for learning to learn can only be established through the process of academic training at the universities.

Skills of dealing with the unknown problems of the future

Pedagogical Models

Lecture courses – project work ...

Course

Course

Course

Course

Course

Project

Theme frame

Project-organised and Problem-based Learning

Problem-based Learning
- Based on real-life engineering problems

Project Organised Education
- Project work supported by lecture courses

Group Work
- Groups of four to six students
- Supervised by the teachers

Interdisciplinary Studies
- Integration of theory and practice
- Focus on Learning to Learn

Facilitating the learning process of the students

The Aalborg Curriculum

- Final Thesis
- Internship - International Exchange - project work at Aalborg University
- Measurement Science
- Spatial Information Management
- Land Management
- Graduate Management
- Land Surveying
- Large Scale Mapping
- Spatial Planning and Land Use Management
- Data Analysis
- Basic Studies

Project-organised and problem-based learning
Virtual Academy

- Web-based course provision
  - Lecturing based on virtual learning documents
- Web-based course libraries
  - Available for ongoing improvement
  - Available for professional practice
- Web-based spatial data libraries
  - Available for courses and project work
- Web-based distant learning courses
  - Offered as CPD activities, summer schools etc.
  - Integrated platforms for professional knowledge

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Facing the challenges

- Lack of students
- Too big a gap between supply and demand
- Option for double degree and new specialisations in cooperation with Lund University, Sweden
- Option for offering a range of specialisations as master programs under the Bologna agreement
- Option for offering the program also in Copenhagen

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Rate of unemployment < 1%

Lifelong Learning

Professional competence relates to the status as an expert.
This status cannot be achieved only through university graduation and it cannot be achieved solely through professional practice.
The idea of “learning for life” is replaced by the concept of lifelong learning.
All graduates must have access to the newest knowledge throughout their professional life.
E-Learning and innovative interaction between education, research and professional practice is essential in this regard.
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Quality Management

• Structural Challenges
  - Local level: Department structures.
  - National level: Performance criteria, resources.
  - International level: Agreements such as Bologna.
  - Call for leadership, focus on the professional competence of the graduates.

• Accreditation, monitoring and assessment
  - Evaluation towards minimum standard criteria.
  - Monitoring the labour market of the graduates.
  - Establishing and Advisory Boards of stakeholders.

• Creating a quality culture
  - Internal monitoring.
  - Handbook of Quality Management.
  - Quality circle.

The Quality Circle

Planning for the upcoming semester
Assessment and decisions by the Board of Studies
Ongoing evaluation and evaluation of lecture courses
Final evaluation from the students

Without assessment of the completed semester - the students cannot expect to commence on a well-planned and improved semester.

Key Message

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Looking Ahead

• Academic Members – enhancing the potential
  - Pursuing the potential of the Academic network.
  - Providing opportunities and clear benefits of being an academic member.
  - Facilitating interaction at national, regional and global level.
  - Enhancing interaction between academia and professional practice.

• Surveying Education Database – interactive communication
  - Promoting updating and accessibility.
  - Providing opportunities for interaction (curriculum design, research projects, etc).
  - Facilitating institutional development at regional level.
  - Sharing initiatives on recruitment, gender equity, etc.

• Global Academic Partnership – building the capacity
  - Promoting Land Governance in support of society and the global agenda, including:
    - Positioning Infrastructures.
    - Spatial data Infrastructures.
    - Land administration infrastructures.

Thank you for your attention.