



The FIG REPORT VOL. II, NO. 5

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The FIG Report Vol. II, No. 3 (ACSM Bulletin, June 2007) highlighted the 2007 FIG Working Week in Hong Kong. In the FIG Report Vol. II, No. 4 (ACSM Bulletin, August 2007) Curt Sumner (ACSM Delegate to FIG Commission 1: Professional Standards & Practice), Steven Frank (ACSM Delegate to Commission 2: Professional Education), and Chuck Pearson (ACSM Delegate to Commission 3: Spatial Information Management) gave an account of their activities during the FIG Working Week in Hong Kong, May 13-17, 2007. This FIG Report includes a report on activities by Dave Doyle (ACSM Delegate to FIG Commission 5: Positioning and Measurement); John Hamilton (ACSM Delegate to FIG Commission 6: Engineering Surveys); John Hohol (Acting ACSM Delegate to FIG Commission 7: Cadastre and Land Management); and Bob Foster (ACSM Delegate to FIG Commission 9: Valuation and the Management of Real Estate).

Report from FIG Commission 5: Positioning and Measurement

FIG Working Week, Hong Kong, SAR, China
ACSM FIG Forum Delegate—David Doyle



Commission 5 met on Sunday, May 13. The meeting was well attended, with representation from 15 countries present. Even though the meeting was brief, a number of important issues were discussed (see below). The commission sponsored a number of significant technical presentations, including a presentation on the status of improving reference frames in developing countries. Neil Weston from National

Geodetic Survey presented a paper on the enhancement of OPUS to include network solutions, which was very well received. In addition, Commission 5 co-hosted a dinner with Commission 4 (Hydrography). This annual event has become very popular with attendees for both commissions. The dinner provides an excellent forum for cross-collaboration between the two commissions' activities and programs.

OBSERVATIONS

1. The Commission 5 webpage (<http://www.fig.net/commission5/wg52/index.htm>) is very important to the group and needs to be updated. The web page is a portal with links to other sources. These sources can be in English, French, German, Spanish or other languages.
2. Review automatic GPS processing services, such as AusPOS (Australia), OPUS (U.S. NGS) and PPP (Canada) and others. It would be interesting to have updated information on these automatic processing services on the Commission 5 web page. The commission is currently working on having a number of students at IGN/ESGT in France go through the theme and report on the state-of -the-art, but this does not prevent others from being active to report news, development, tests etc. The work being done by the students will be done in cooperation with the various service holders, as well as users.
3. On-going discussions on dynamic datums due to crustal movements are being developed. This is an issue that the commis-



Members of Commission 4 and 5 host a joint dinner.

sion thinks needs to be reported on various occasions. It would be interesting to have dedicated sessions on this topic so as to accumulate knowledge on how different countries are handling crustal movements and deformation and their implication on reference frames.

4. Publication of fact sheets (one pagers) on various geodetic issues such as the geoid, vertical reference frames, ellipsoid, ITRF, and transformation strategies and more in English and other languages is being discussed. A link to the fact sheets will be posted on the Commission 5 web page.
5. Detail elements of CORS sites: This includes everything from monumentation and instrumentation to various services related to them. Because this topic is not primarily a reference frame issue, it is being addressed in cooperation with other working groups. The aim is to put together a "template" for information retrieval on various CORS, send it to managers and ask them for information on the status of CORS in their countries. Posting the information on the Commission's web site would give surveyors a good overview of the status world-wide.

The commission maintains a very good working relationship with IAG that we hope will continue. IAG had its General Assembly

in Perugia, Italy, in July, and Commission members were encouraged to attend. FIG and Commission 5 continue to have cooperative activities with ION as well.

**Report from FIG Commission 6:
Engineering Surveys**

FIG Working Week, Hong Kong, SAR, China
ACSM FIG Forum Delegate—

John Hamilton



FIG Commission 6 (Engineering Surveys) held its annual meeting on Sunday, May 13, 2007, during the FIG Working Week in Hong Kong. Center stage at the meeting was discussion on progress made on the Draft Work Plan for 2007-2010, introduced at the 29th General Assembly held in Munich in October 2006.

Each working group gave a report on the status of their activities, and several attendees made comments regarding this information. Other issues discussed were development of standards and upcoming events, in particular the 13th International Symposium on Deformation Measurements, to be held in Lisbon, Portugal, in May 2008. The symposium is the next in a successful series of symposia initiated in May 2006.

There are currently four working groups in Commission 6:

- 6.1 Deformation Measurement and Analysis. Chair: Stathis Stiros; Vice-Chair: Cecilia Walker.
- 6.2 Engineering Surveys for Industry and Research—Chair: Thomas Wunderlich; Vice-Chair: Peter Kyrinovic.
- 6.3 Engineering Survey Data Bases and Facility Management—Chair: Lothar Grundig; Vice-Chair: Vladimir Seredovich.
- 6.4 Engineering Surveys for Construction Works and Structural Engineering—Chair: Gethin Wyn Roberts; Vice-Chair: Joel van Cranenbroeck.

Commission 6 held the following technical sessions:

- TS 1F Deformation Measurement
- TS 2F Monitoring of Large Structures
- TS 3F Subsidence and Landslide Monitoring
- TS 4F Engineering Applications
- TS 5F Building Information Systems and GIS Applications (with Commission 3)
- TS 6F Terrestrial Laser Scanning I (with Commission 5)

TS 8C Terrestrial Laser Scanning II (with Commission 5).

Each of these technical sessions was well attended, and the papers and proceedings are available on the FIG web site.

A Chinese evening and FIG Foundation dinner was held on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at Stanley. This event was the highlight of social activities, and many interesting discussions among participants ensued.

I found the 2007 Working Week to be a well organized, useful forum for the exchange of ideas and the development of professional contacts.

**Report from FIG Commission 7:
Cadastre and Land Management**

FIG Working Week, Hong Kong, SAR, China
Acting ACSM FIG Forum Delegate—

John Hohol



There were 64 technical sessions with 300 presentations given during the FIG Working Week in Hong Kong. Commission 7 was the major contributor

to the technical sessions, generating 25 percent of the more than 75 papers given. We organized 19 sessions of which five were joint sessions with other commissions. Because many of the Commission 7 members attending the Working Week couldn't attend the Commission's annual meeting in Seoul, a briefing was organized to acquaint members with the agenda of the Seoul meeting and other Commission 7 news.

The FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting and Symposium on "Good Practice in Cadastre and Land Registry" was held in COEX Intercontinental Hotel Seoul, Korea, May 18-23, 2007. The meeting was a successful, very well organized event. Our thanks go to the Korean organizers, especially the Korean Cadastral Survey Corporation (KCSC), who provided excellent facilities and a first-class program, and also to Commission 7 working group chairs, the vice chair, and secretary for their dedication.

Despite conflict in attending the Working Week and the Annual meeting, 40 participants, including Korean speakers, were on

hand in Seoul for the Commission's annual meeting. We were happy to welcome new participants—delegates Mr. Markus Seifert from Germany, Mr. Sung Hon Kwong from Hong Kong, Mr. Radnaabazar Gankhuyag and Ms. Yondon Enkhee from Mongolia, and Mr. Alexander Lazarov from Bulgaria, and hope they will become regulars at our future meetings.

The Commission's annual meeting received strong political support from the Korean Cadastral Survey Corporation and the Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs (MOGAHA). The meeting was opened by the president of KCSC, Mr. Kong Min Bae, and the vice minister of MOGAHA. The KCSC president also hosted the welcome dinner on May 18th and the farewell lunch on May 23rd. During the technical tour we visited MOGAHA, and Minister Myung-Jae Park received András Osskó (the Chair of Commission 7), Paul van der Molen (vice president of FIG), and the three working group chairs for discussion.

The program of the Commission's annual meeting included three days of business meetings, a one-day open symposium, and a one-day technical tour. Korean representatives introduced participants to the activities of KCSC and the land surveyor profession in Korea. They are very advanced in technology and electronic services. There was a good discussion on the preparation of the special technical session to be held in 2008 at the Stockholm Working Week on "slum financing" and Commission 7's contributions. In addition, delegates received information about the past FIG conferences and future events, including the 2008 Commission 7 annual meeting in Verona, Italy.

The open symposium on "Good Practice in Cadastre and Land Registry" was a great success and was a parallel event with the Cadastre Expo organized by KCSC. The venues of the Symposium and the Expo were in Convention Centre, right next to the hotel.

The symposium was held in the Grand Ballroom, with 400-500 Korean participants in attendance. There were four technical sessions with 14 presentations, five of which were from Korea, two from Japan, seven were contributed by Commission 7.

The opening ceremony of the Cadastre Expo—held in the auditorium of COEX—attracted an audience of 3000, including politicians, and professionals from Korea and other Asian countries. The Minister of MOGAHA and the KCSC president of KCSC opened the event.

The chair of Commission 7 was invited as the only keynote speaker. The Cadastre Expo was open for three days.

**Report from FIG Commission 9:
Valuation and Management of Real Estate**
FIG Working Week, Hong Kong, SAR, China
ACSM FIG Forum Delegate—Robert Foster



I chaired a technical session “SDI in Support of Real Estate Markets,” a session of interest to Commissions 3 and 9. I also attended several other technical sessions, both sessions of the General Assembly, meetings of Commission 9 as delegate from ACSM, and meetings of Commission 3 as Corresponding Delegate from ACSM.

The chair of Commission 9, Valuation and Management of Real Estate, for the period 2007-2010 is Professor Kauko Viitanen of Finland. The focus of the commission is:

- Information exchange about real estate economics for valuers, analysts and economists;
- Development of best practices for real estate analysis and valuation;
- Research on real estate plans, models and ideas;
- Development of contact networks with real estate organizations and universities; and
- Identification and development of specific focus areas and working groups.

The working groups of Commission 9 for the coming four-year period are:

- WG9.1 Compulsory Purchase and Compensations in Land Acquisition and Takings—Chair: Kauko Viitanen, Finland.
- WG9.2 Improving Slum Conditions through Innovative Financing—Chair: Bengt Kjellson, Sweden.
- WG9.3 Diagnostic Tools and Prescriptive Practices for the Valuation Profession—Chair: Steven Nystrom, USA (Appraisal Institute).
- WG9.4 Review of Valuation Methods and Standards Worldwide—Chair: David Smejkkal, Czech Republic.
- WG9.5 GIS as a Tool in Real Estate Market Analyses and Valuation—Chair: Henning Elmstrom, Denmark; Vice Chair: Steven Nystrom, USA

I attended Commission 9 meetings in Hong Kong. Of interest is the work of WG9.3. Chairman Steve Nystrom reported the difficulty of writing guidelines on valuation methods and standards worldwide due to different national customs and systems of land ownership, lack of transparency of systems, and local economics. A purely mathematical analysis, for instance, will not be acceptable. Chairman Nystrom continues to gather information and statistics from several sample countries.

I also attended sessions of the “Dialogue on Core Issues re Improving Slum Conditions Through Innovative Financing.” This issue, which is a subject for Commissions 3, 7, 8, and 9, is being examined in two parts. Part One is on land-use management and property rights—implications for access to finance. Part Two is on

land management practices and tools and their links to efficient finance.

These issues were addressed at the FIG Commission3/UNECE Working Party on Land Administration/UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management Workshop held in Sounio, Greece, from March 28 to 31, 2007. The title of the workshop was Spatial Information Management Toward Legalizing Informal Urban Development and Informal Settlements—Real Estate Market Needs for Good Land Administration and Planning. I attended the workshop and presented a paper on “Land Use Control through Zoning.”

FIG Commission 3 is planning a second session on the topic to be held in Valencia, Spain, from February 18 to 22, 2008. This will be an annual meeting of Commission 3 combined with a workshop titled “Spatial Information Management Toward Environmental Management of Mega Cities.” I intend to attend this function as well.

Observations

While the areas of interest of FIG Commission 9 may not seem important to members of the U.S. surveying profession, they represent subject matter at the very center of the activities of surveyors in all free-market countries. It would be well for surveyors, especially those in national leadership roles, to develop an understanding of and appreciation for the dynamics of the market which directly affect our industry. I recommend that ACSM continue to monitor the work of this commission and participate in its activities, even with the possibility of expanding the role of surveying in the U.S.

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