



*Young
Surveyors
Network*
Newsletter

February 2011

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EDITOR'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the FIG Young Surveyors Newsletter & to 2011!

What a busy Year 2010 was! With FIG2010 in Sydney, we now have a new committee, and we farewell some members who have been key in getting the Young Surveyors Network up and running – to Cecilia and Thorsten, we thank you for all your hard work over the years and wish you all the best for your next projects.

We also welcome a few new members, and you can read all about them in the following pages.

Please read on to find out what our Young Surveyors have been doing around the globe. Our next meeting will be in Marrakesh, and we are looking forward to seeing you there!

Best Regards,

Cemal Özgür Kivilcim & Chris McAlister
Editors



JOIN THE FIG YOUNG SURVEYORS ONLINE!

Join the Young Surveyors Network to receive our quarterly newsletter, announcements and become involved in our profession!

[Young Surveyors Yahoo Group](#) :

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FIG_young_surveyors/

The YSN are also on Facebook – just search for FIG Young Surveyors and join!

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FROM OUR OUTGOING CHAIR...

Cecilia Linden
Past Chair

Sitting on my balcony home in Sweden trying to summarize these four years as the chair for the FIG Young Surveyors Network I hardly know where to begin. All the amazing new people that I have met and the passion that people engaged in FIG have for our profession of land surveying is just a joy in itself.



The first four years have been about creating awareness and making people within FIG understand that there is a need for rejuvenation within the organisation. This with the background that there is a difficulty to attract young people the surveying industry in many parts of the world and that the average age of a surveyor is just getting higher and higher.

It all started at the FIG Congress in Munich 2006 where the first official student meeting ever was organized at an FIG event. After this I was asked by the outgoing chair of Commission 1 if I was interested in starting a working group for young surveyors within FIG. I was of course and we had our first official meeting at the Hong Kong Working Week the year after.

The year after that was the Working Week in Stockholm and speed mentoring was introduced for the first time and one of our sessions was so popular that the FIG President Stig Enemark was rejected in the door. At the Working Week in Eilat, Israel we officially gained status as a Network within FIG and got our first budget.

This year we got more than one hundred young surveyor participants to the FIG Congress in Sydney, a new chair, Kate Fairlie from Australia, was elected. She is currently working on putting together a work plan for the next four years and a working group to make it all come together is also happening. You can read their presentation further down in this newsletter.

“...we have the coolest profession in the world...”

I hope that Kate and her new group will receive as much support as I did with mine. We do have the coolest profession in the world and we have to make sure that there will be new people to take over as an aging surveying population goes in to retirement.

Best wishes from a warm and sunny Stockholm

Cecilia Lindén

Outgoing Chair of the FIG Young Surveyors



Cecilia Linden & Chris McAlister at FIG2010

FROM OUR NEW CHAIR...

Kate Fairlie
YSN Chair

I write this having just left the Sydney Crisis Camp where volunteers are geocoding to assist in the Pakistan Floods aid effort. It's simply amazing how much can be achieved with a few volunteers, a laptop and an internet connection. We translated SMS's from people on the ground, geocoded data into OpenStreetMap and generally contributed to a more targeted aid effort.

Easy tasks that anyone could do, from any location, with only a computer and internet. Extensive skills and experience not required.

However – such tasks need a dedicated coordination team, volunteer or otherwise. The basic infrastructure needs to be in place. And easy instructions need to somehow be communicated to erstwhile volunteers (see for example the youtube movie we made here-http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Ub9PSLw7M4).

And such tasks need a network. To spread news of the tasks, the needs and even the successes to a vibrant community. To you.

And so we come to the next phase in the life of the FIG Young Surveyors Network. We have the support structure – the FIG Council and community is behind us. We have the dedicated coordination team – your new Young Surveyors Network Committee introduced in this newsletter. What we need now is you and your ideas!

“And so we come to the next phase in the life of the Young Surveyors Network...”

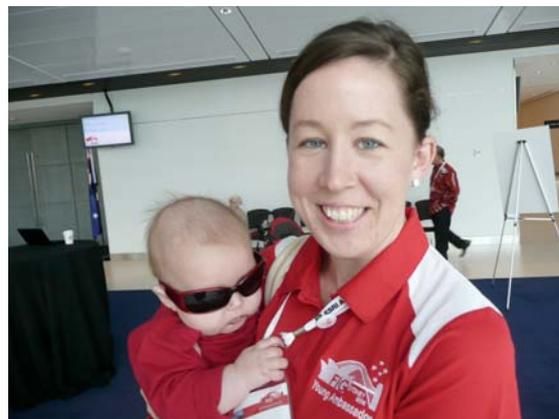
Some ways we think you should get involved?

1. Join (or form!) a local or regional professional surveying body, and make sure they have a young surveyor group!
Why? To network, get help with your career, get help with problem solving and to support and be supported by other young surveyors.
2. Contact your national professional surveying body – what support do they provide for you, how can you get involved and have a say in the direction of the future of surveying?
3. Talk to the wider community
4. Organise events to meet and network with other young surveyors and support the profession.
5. Write up your events and share with us, so that we can provide ideas to other groups
6. Share interesting surveying-related websites, youtube videos and other networks/groups with us (eg. Your university, jobs for offer at your workplace...)

I'm looking forward to hearing your ideas, and perhaps meeting you at an FIG Working Week near you.

All the best,

Kate Fairlie



Kate with FIG2010 Baby-basador Patrick Burns

FIG YS CALENDAR

Marrakesh, Morocco, Working Week (2011)

Rome, Italy, Working Week (2012)

Abuja, Nigeria, Working Week (2013)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, FIG Congress (2014)

A SUCCESS STORY...

Young Surveyors pave the way

Stig Enemark

FIG President

Establishing the Young Surveyors Network has been a real achievement for FIG during this term of office 2007-2010. It has provided some vital input to the organisation and has been overwhelmingly well received by our members.

FIG can easily be seen as a kind of “old boys’ club” without any real access for the young and younger surveyors including students to participate. By providing a platform the young surveyors first as a working group under Commission 1 and from 2009 as Network, they now have the opportunity to interact both among the young surveyors themselves and with the wider FIG community. And this interaction has been highly successful. It looks that the Network is filling a gap and maybe therefore is driven with enthusiasm and received with excitement as something that FIG has just been waiting for.

The sessions organised by the Young Surveyors during the Working Weeks and the congress have been highly successful and very well attended – I recall a certain situation at the WW in Stockholm where the room was so full that not I as the President could get access...Also the speed mentoring sessions have been seen as real highlights.

As in any organization the success of such an innovation depends on some “fire-souls” to take on the challenge and make it fly. FIG is grateful to these lead persons such as Cecilia Lindén, Sweden who has acted as chair for the first four years and Kate Fairlie, Australia who is now taking over. But many more has been involved. You have paved the way for the future role of the young surveyors in FIG.

Let’s all capitalize on this achievement.



INTRODUCING OUR NEW COMMITTEE ...

Jens-André Paffenholz

Treasurer

My name is Jens-André Paffenholz I am 29 years old and I live in Hanover, Germany. Since 2006 I am PhD student at the Leibniz Universitaet Hannover. There, I work at the Geodetic Institute in the Engineering Geodesy and Geodetic Data Analysis Section. My research area focuses mainly on precise direct geo-referencing of static terrestrial laser scans.

I have attended the FIG congress in Sydney 2010 and Munich 2006 as well as the FIG Working Week in Stockholm 2008. There I got the first contact with the YSN. I am getting involved in the work of the German DVW - Society for Geodesy, Geoinformation and Land Management.

I will be an elected member of the DVWworking group "Profession" in the coming period 2011-2014. I look forward to being an active member in the FIG YSN.



Eva-Maria Unger

Secretary

Hi my name is Eva-Maria UNGER I'm 24 years old and currently studying Surveying and Geoinformation at the Vienna University of Technology (Austria). Since 2005 I'm elected student representative of the Austrian Society for Surveying and Geoinformation (OVG). I was a member of the organizing team preparing the Workshop in Vienna on Educational Management and Marketing "Navigating the Future of Surveying Education" in February 2009.

In April I attended the FIG congress in Sydney, which was a really great experience. So because of that and all the nice people I got to know there, I now want to be an active member of the FIG Young Surveyors Network.

I will be the secretary in the coming period 2011-2014 of the FIG Young Surveyors network and I'm really looking forward to this great opportunity.



Daniel Helmricks
USA Representative

My name is Daniel Helmricks and I'm 21 years of age. I currently am a student attending the Oregon Institute of Technology in the United States. I'm a junior pursuing my Bachelors of Science degree in Geomatics surveying option with a minor in GIS. When asked which commission I am interested in the most I would have to say all of the commissions in FIG the reason, is to help broaden my knowledge of surveying.

When I'm not attending college or working for the US Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management during the summer, I enjoy spending time with my dog, family, and just being outdoors.

EVENTS UPDATE...

Christian Tufvesson
Events

Since the start of the YS there have been a number of different events during the FIG conferences and congresses. The main purpose of the events has been to develop and integrate both young surveyors with each

other, but also with older and more experienced surveyors. So far the events have had both social and professional character.

For example, there have been functions like the speed mentoring. The idea of speed mentoring was brought in to the YS group by Australian's, who first mentioned it during a meet in Brisbane in 2007. During the past conferences there have been speed mentoring in one of the main areas or coffee areas of the conferences. Promotion has been made in advance and older surveyors have been helpful in the way of giving suggestions in career choices for student. Also possibilities for work abroad have been an outcome from the speed mentoring.

Besides speed mentoring there have also been events of more social character during the conferences. Meetings in the park with picnic, barbeque on the beach or simple bar gatherings have all been very successful.

For the best event outcome, the YS need someone local who's also involved in the arrangements of the conference. Maybe you are this idealistic local person who is honored to have an upcoming FIG conference in your home country? Please don't hesitate to let us know in that case.

The YS are a growing and intensive burning new organization with a great future ahead. It obviously those future events will be joyful and fun in the same time as they will be worthwhile!



PHOTOS FROM FIG2010...

