

"Fore-Sight"



"Fore-Sight" - Quarterly Newsletter of the Association of Surveyors of P.N.G.

Historic 40th PNG Survey Congress Scheduled for Kokopo, E.N.B.

Survey Congress Manager Skerry Palanga advises that the 40th PNG Survey Congress will be held in Kokopo from Tues 11th to Sat 15th July 2006. This coincides with the famous Rabaul Mask Festival that is celebrated from July 12th - 16th.



Aerial view of Kokopo Courtesy GEO-GRAPHICS

Skerry is keeping arrangements on track despite having a busy work schedule on Simberi Island where the newly approved gold mine will shortly commence operations.

The theme for this year's Survey Congress is 'Preparing The Profession For The Future'. This is a timely theme with the emphasis on subjects relative to planning, surveying and land management. It also is in line with the National Government's push for Rural Development, On-going Reforms, 'Down-sizing & Right-Sizing', and the Training of Surveyors to meet the demands of the future.

The congress venue is the Vunapope Convention Centre Kokopo.

As Congress venues go, the Provincial Capital in East New Britain has provided some memorable ones. The 20th Survey Congress in 1985 - "Seeking Stability in a Volatile Environment" - was particularly notable. Dr. Peter Lowenstein's paper in regard to the effects of a major volcanic eruption in Rabaul was delivered just prior to lunch - then at 1:30 pm we were hit by a "7.6 Guria" that had us all running for the open spaces (top that Skerry if you can !!! ... and he probably will !!!).

Rabaul was also the venue for the 6th in 1971 - "The South West Pacific and the Surveyor"; the 25th in 1990 - "Land Mobilization in Papua New Guinea - An Overview"; and the 29th in 1994 - "After Resource Development - What Next ?"



(a bloody great bang a few months later in September '94 that's what !!! .. "Vulcan" doing its thing).

The move of the provincial capital to Kokopo has seen the development of a number of village guest houses and resort type accommodation. You're sure to find something there to suit all tastes and budgets.

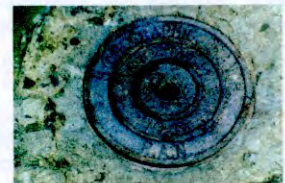
CALL for PAPERS 2006 Survey Congress

ASPNG members and other interested parties are now invited to submit a notice of intention if they want to present a Technical Paper or other type of presentation at this year's PNG Survey Congress.

An abstract of your paper will need to be submitted to the Congress Manager by 30th May 2006 at the following address :-

Mr. Skerry Planaga, Congress Manager,
P.O. Box 319, Kokopo. ENBP.
Telephone : (675) 982 8874
Facsimile : (675) 982 9074
Email :
palanga@daltron.com.pg

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COMING EVENTS :

8-11 May : Enviro 2006 Conference & Exhibition, Melbourne.
quitz@bigpond.net.au

12-15 Jun : Intergraph 2006, Orlando, Florida (USA)
conference@intergraph.com

18-21 Jul : IGNSS 2006 Surfers Paradise, Qld
ignss@ignss.org

7-11 Aug : ESRI User Conference 2006, San Diego, USA
www.esri.com/events/uc/dates.html

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Report from the Secretary / Treasurer

by Masang T. Bangindo, Hon. Sec. / Treasurer - ASPNG

Before I begin, I would sincerely apologise to the Council and the members of ASPNG for my absence in serving the members.

Anyway, this year 2006 brings to us another year of challenges, commitments and responsibilities. There seems to be a fair bit of survey requirement for major projects, like the PNG Gas Pipeline, Mining and Petroleum Exploration and other projects. It is hoped this year brings good returns.

Council Members for 2005 - 2006

Re-Elected or New Members to Council

Masang Bangindo	Hon Sec / Treasurer
Fancis Posanau	Councillor

Continuing Members on Council

Jones Taugaloidi	President Elect
Terrance Kuniaka	Vice President
Stephen Low	Councillor

The ASPNG Council held their 241st Council Meeting on the 4th of March in Lae.

New Members

The 241st Council Meeting approved the following membership applications and we are pleased to announce the new members and their membership category :-

Gairo Wari	Member
Joseph Kote	Member
Gideon Asagi	Member
Manama Keneke	Associate
Pomat Kove	Associate
James Murray	Associate

Membership Certificates for these new members will be presented during the 2006 Survey Congress in Rabaul.

Council News Item

The Council received a few complaints from its members and the public regarding the conduct of some surveyors. This is sad especially now we are trying to create training and job opportunities for graduates.

Condolence Message

Surveyor Simon P Kupa (43) recently lost his life in a tragic road accident in the Southern Highlands. ASPNG extends heartfelt sympathy to his wife Jennifer, 5 children, other family and friends on the untimely loss of a respected colleague.

PNG Surveyors Board

The Council has nominated the following ASPNG members and Registered Surveyors for the Minister's Approval for appointment to the PNG Surveyors Board

1. Michael Siribis
2. Choulai Polume
3. Skerry Palanga
4. Terrence Kuniaka (Council member)

The Council stresses that at least one of its council members in on the Surveyors Board.

Dept of Lands & Physical Planning

The Office of the Surveyor General had an introduction meeting regarding the review of the Survey Act and Survey Regulation. More meetings are to follow and will include surveyors from the industry.

Dept of Surveying & Land Studies, University of Technology, Lae

The 241st Council Meeting also recommended the following students awards :-

1. 1st Year of Course (SDXX)
Best 1st Year Student with the highest overall academic achievement throughout the common year in Surveying / Cartography
2. 2nd Year of Course (Dip. Surveying)
Best 2nd Year Student with the highest overall academic achievement throughout the Diploma in Surveying
3. 3rd Year of Course (BTSR 3)
Best 3rd Year Student with the highest overall academic achievement throughout the B. Tech in Surveying
4. Final Year of Course (BTSR 4)
Best Final Year Student with the highest overall academic achievement throughout the B. Tech in Surveying

ASPNG, with its continuous support in encouraging students to achieve academic excellence in their studies has donated K1000.00 to the academic board award of prizes of the PNG University of Technology. This is to be awarded to the four best students with the highest overall academic result throughout the various stages of their academic year.

Once again, ASPNG is proud to be associated with the department of Surveying & Land Studies in encouraging students to achieve high academic results.

ASPNG Policy Submission PSRAG re Training & Reg'n of Graduate Surveyors

The Council's endorsed policy submission to the Public Sector Reform Advisory Group (PSRAG) has received a favorable response from the Office of Higher Education and the Vice Chancellor of the PNG University of Technology.

It is understood that the VC will initiate discussions with the PNG UniTech to further deliberate then advise PSRAG and ASPNG.

The next Council meeting has been planned in Lae on the 6th of June in order to meet with the Vice Chancellor. This is to introduce Training and Registration of Graduate Surveyors through the Dept of Surveying & Land Studies. This process is still in the initial stages.

ASPNG 2006 - 40th Survey Congress

As the front page of this newsletter indicates the 2006 PNG Survey Congress will be held in Kokopo from the 11th to 15th July.

The theme of the Congress is - *"Preparing The Profession Into The Future"* - and it is hoped this provide some interesting papers and lively discussion. The venue is the Vunapo Convention Centre at Kokopo. There are also 25 rooms for accommodation available at the convention centre for K55 per person per night. To book a room there contact Lucas on 982 9384.

Guest houses basically with walking distance to the Convention centre are the Kokopo Beach Hotel (5 Star), Ron's Apartments, Taklam Guest House (good food), the Vavagil Guest House and the Kokopo Village Resort (about 2 km away). If you can arrange transport, the Rapapo Resort (5 Star) is 3 to 5 km away.

- Masang T. Bangindo

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Phone : (675) 325 8322 Fax : 325 8813
Email : aspng@daltron.com.pg

SURVEYOR'S CPD QUIZ

Where does the Editor get these stupid CPD Questions ???

- A. He invents them
- B. He steals them
- C. He gets them from text books
- D. He gets them from a Surveying and Mapping Course he did as 'CPD'

Answer "B" was the correct response to the last question.

Difficulties in Registering Graduate Surveyors through the PNG Surveyors Board

Introduction

At the 241st ASPNG Council Meeting held in Lae (15/03/06), the council approved a policy submission on the difficulties we are now experiencing on the registration of Graduate Surveyors through the PNG Surveyors Board. It was highlighted that after thirty-five (35) years since the first group of our four (4) Graduates received their Surveying Degrees from the University of Technology early in 1970, we have now only about forty (40) Registered PNG Surveyors practicing in the country. When we consider that well over 1,000 survey graduates so far have graduated from the PNG University of Technology, the bell is now ringing for us to do something. Why is it that we have only this small number of Registered Surveyors? Do we need to review our registration system after all these years? And what are some of the options we could consider if we want to see some improvements in the registration of surveyors. And may be, is there a need?

Purpose of the Submission

Some of the reasons given, and the Council would like to invite suggestions or ideas from rank and file members of the Association as well;

1. Informing the Public Sector Reform Advisory Group of the survey registration system in the country.
2. The difficulties surveyors have in getting through their Board examination.
3. Before Independence, we have qualified and experienced expatriate master surveyors available in the country. Now there only a few around especially in private firms but with the workload and so on, makes it difficult to oversee graduates work.
4. Customary land registration and the need for qualified surveyors to carry out their land boundaries is increasing and this we, the Surveying Profession must plan ahead and prepare adequate manpower.
5. The National Government announced development policies on Expert Driven Economic Recovery and Poverty Alleviation as well as those policies, projects and programs spelt out in the MTDS. To implement them require surveyors to be out there on the field.
6. When the Reform Law or the Organic Law on Provincial Governments and Local-level Governments was enacted and subsequently implemented, the positions Surveyor Class in The Dept of Lands & Physical Planning and maybe other departments as well eg., Works, were abolished.

It was believed these positions were to be transferred to Provincial Governments established in their structure and funded well, this did not happen and the results, nobody care to look at this problem and do something about it because these funded positions were available for PNG University of Technology Survey Graduates, as well as creating "Master Surveyors" Surveyors Class 3 in or for all provinces before Independence.

Options for Improvements

Without going through the main body of the submission, under facts for considerations, the following options were considered and approved by the ASPNG Council.

Review the current PNG Surveyors Board

1. Examination requirements, consider their relevance in the light of the Government policies and the difficulties Graduates are now experiencing in their registration.
2. Establishment of the "Surveyors Training Institute" Similar concept to the Lawyers, Legal Training Institute. There is a law passed by Parliament on this legal Institute and therefore the Government is required to fund its operation in its annual budget. In this way we should be able to increase the number of our Registered Surveyors.
3. Review the PNG University of Technology Surveying Course either, Consider the course content or subjects, Consider increasing number of practical Registered Surveyors to be on the staff, and increase practical lessons, Extend the surveying course for another 6 months or one year to allow for registration. Thus when a student graduates, he has his degrees and license certificate as well.

Practical Training in Australia

This would be considered for selected graduates under our bilateral arrangement as they would have Masters Surveyors available and the Graduates would also learn a lot of other aspects of development in their profession, social and economic areas gaining more confidence in them.

CPD Workshops

We have discussed this in the past but have not tried it. We should start with this one or two weeks workshop for our Graduates who have been out in the field for more than two (2) years. The ASPNG Council approved the first CPD Workshop to be held in Lae, we spent well over K1,000 to advertise this Workshop with the pro-

grams, however only few graduates to attend this short workshop even though this CPD course was going to cost K500 per Graduate.

Graduates Attachment on Major Economic / Infrastructure Projects

There are a number of major economic and infrastructure projects the National Government is planning to implement. If we can cooperate and coordinate these various prospects with those Departments and leaders who would be directly involved in them, we should package these, allowing for many of our graduates to be involved in such projects. Thus over profession benefits directly from these major projects and assist in their registration.

Financial Implications

Whatever dimensions we take there are financial implications or cost involved. These are also legal implications especially if we need to draw up laws to establish the training required for example in the "Surveyors Training Institute", and so on. Some courses or options would take short period of time to implement while others will take a while. These need serious consideration.

Recommendations

The submission is now before the Public Sector Reform Advisory Group or Committee. However in the recommendation we have stated;

1. The members to be made aware of the problems our graduates are experiencing in their registration and note the PNG registration system itself.
2. The ASPNG, the office of the Surveyor General, Unitech and the PNG Surveyors Board and so on, consider appointing a working committee to investigate the registration system especially the difficulties of graduates registration, and consulting all relevant stockholders including private survey forms.
3. That the following be made members of this working committee,
Masang Bangindo (Rep.Private Survey Co)
Francis Posanau (Rep. ASPNG Council)
Samuel Kodawara (S/G & Board or his rep)
Michael Sirabis (Rep Works Department)
Jones Taugaloidi (Rep. Private and Unitech)
Terence Kunaka (Rep.Private and Unitech)
Robert Rosa (Rep National Mapping)

In the Policy Submission, there is a Term of Reference and we have suggested about six months be given to the Working Committee to draw up this comprehensive report and submit this to the National Government to improve our Graduate Surveyors Registration and that this submission go through the Public Sector Reform Advisory Group before it goes to the NEC.

.... conclusion back page

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Conclusion to "Difficulties in Registering Graduate Surveyors through the PNG Surveyors Board" (from page 3)

We invite comments, suggestions and any contributions from our members or any body who would like to share or give to this important issue for the benefit of our profession and country.

Masang Bangindo
ASPNG Secretary

Francis Posenau
Member ASPNG Council and PSPGA

Members & Other News ... This year's **Survey Congress** in Rabaul (Kokopo) will be ASPNG's **40th !!!** That's quite an achievement and one that all members can be proud of. With that sort of heritage we can look forward to a solid future for surveying in PNG - (it's a bit like a 'PSM set in concrete' you might say).

Surveying Fellow Mick Larmer is 'quick to the mark' - he's already booked his accommodation in Kokopo for the 2006 Survey Congress and will be accompanied by his charming wife **Dianne**.

Remember the photo we had in *Fore-Sight* a while ago of **Ryan Pini**. Well in case you're the last to know he won "gold" at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne. With everybody wanting a part of Ryan's good fortune, maybe ASPNG should make him an '**Honorary Surveyor**'.

The **Australian Department of Defence** has called for tenders to undertake a major **aerial survey** contract in PNG. Some 34 sites will be covered by 'new capture' aerial photography. Apart from all provincial capitals, the coverage also includes airfields close to natural disaster prone areas and areas covered by major resource projects. A by-product of this contract will be the establishment of some 260 control points by **ground survey**.

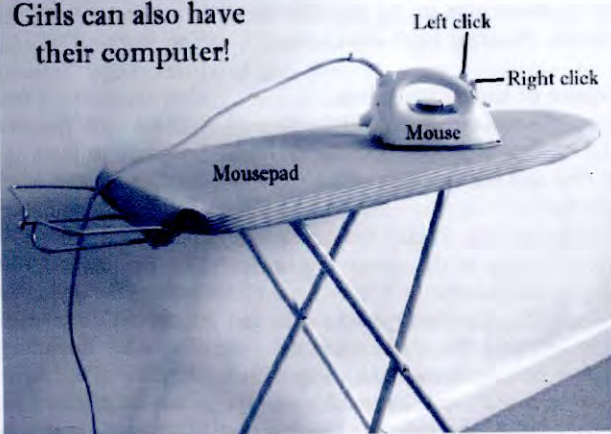
"Light Refreshments ..."

The Things You See on Field Trips !!!



... And on the Home Front as well !!!

Girls can also have
their computer!



POSITIONS VACANT : Editor Required ...

When I volunteered for this position, I said I'd give it a go for twelve months then we'd see what happened. That was in July 2000, and seven years later and nineteen issues of "*Fore-Sight*" down the track, I'm running out of literary ideas (and enthusiasm) to keep the whole thing going.

Everybody has their limit - and I've set mine at 20 issues. There'll be one more "*Fore-Sight*" to come from Al Dunley, and that will be it. Time for somebody fresh to 'take over the reins'. The Congress is the ideal time to get somebody 'pissed enough' to volunteer. I believe that's how it happened to me - and there's no regrets. In fact it's been a lot of fun apart from the actual hardcopy print production (two x A3 printers destroyed and / or worn out in the process).

The next Editor really should aim for '*electronic publication*' via the up-coming ASPNG website and reduce the hardcopy production as much as possible - there's a big cost saving to the Association by going in that direction as well.

I would urge somebody to seriously consider taking up the position of Editor for this newsletter. There's very few rules to follow, apart from 'common sense and decency' (after all, we are an Association of Professionals). It's a great opportunity to express your views, "have your say", and perhaps - just occasionally, have a bloody good shit stir !!! You can even tell lies and invent stories - providing you go about it the right way.

Possibly the hardest thing about being Editor, is to find the right content for the newsletter. You need to strike some sort of balance between boring technical jargon and the outright ridiculous. The other things that matter are that in some ways the newsletter should be entertaining; offer some variety; and wherever possible contain contemporary news and industry issues. One last thought - I wouldn't rely too much on seeking contributions from members - that's almost a "non-event". Some people will help out - but sadly most aren't bothered to *contribute something back to the surveying profession*.

- Ed