



Land Surveying Division

Sr Dr Conrad Tang LSD Council Chairman

Smart City

The SDI Working Group has been renamed the Smart City Working Group in order to reflect the broad areas of a smart city that are related to the various forms of expertise in the land surveying discipline. This working group is led by Sr Paul TSUI Hoi Yuen with following members:

Sr LAM Lit Yin
Sr LEUNG Chi Yan, George
Sr KOO Tak Ming
Sr Dr LAM Lik Shan, Lesly
Sr LIU Bessie
Sr NG Ying Tik, Paddy
Sr LAI Lit Ki, Ricky
Sr NG Wai Tak, Victor
Sr WONG Ching Kei, Eddie
Sr CHAN Yuk Ying, Ada
Sr WONG Kin, Michael
Sr CHIU Kam Hon, Oliver

The aim of the Working Group is to promote the role of land surveyors in Hong Kong's development into a smart city and advocate the importance of SDI as the key infrastructure of a smart city.

Boundary

To continue working on the site area determination under the General Plan Submission to the Building Authority, the Chairman of the Land Boundary Committee (LBC), Sr Prof SC Leung, reported that the LBC aimed to seek the consent of the Survey and Mapping Office (SMO) to conduct cursory checks on land boundary plans (LBPs) prepared by authorised land surveyors under the General Boundary Plan (GBP) Submission.

These LBPs shall follow the requirements of the Code of Practice, even though they are not for lot subdivision surveys. A time limit of 60 days for the relevant District Survey Office (DSO) to reply to the submission, so that it could cope with the same time limit for a GBP submission by the authorised persons (APs) to the Buildings Department, has been proposed.

The LBC proposed a procedure for GBP submissions:

1. The SMO introduces a submission fee for the LBP to be paid under the GBP submission in the long run.
2. In every GBP submission for a development project, the AP is expected to appoint a project ALS for a relevant LBP submission. The SMO should follow up/liase directly with this appointed ALS for all boundary and/or land surveying issues instead of going through the DLO because that would override the professional status of a land surveyor.
3. The boundary lines of lots that have gone through the above checking procedures should be updated and shown on the lot index plan.
4. The SMO should clearly stipulate the kind of survey data and lot information, if any, that is restricted to private ALSs. In this connection, the old SRPs of any source should not be restricted by referencing the "Privacy Ordinance" because they are not feasible for obtaining consent from retired, migrated, or even deceased ALSs.
5. Data/information so restricted should not be subsequently used by the DSO to comment on LBPs submitted by private ALSs.
6. The SMO will impose the same standards and practices on all DSOs and officers.

Sr Prof Leung further reported that during a recent Authorised Land Surveyors meeting with the Land Survey Authority (LSA), the LSA indicated that the SMO could only accept voluntary submissions from ALSs. The SMO would look into a submitted boundary re-

establishment case upon the request, say, of the Buildings Department. The LBC will continue to communicate with the LSA on the GBP submission procedure.

Membership

Recruiting newly-qualified land surveyors is one of the HKIS's most important tasks, if not *the* most important one. Its Office Bearers have always kept this role in mind. One of the channels for attracting newly-qualified members is the "direct membership route" and is being considered by the HKIS. Should there be a favourable decision on the proceedings of such a proposal, it would be subject to a vote by all HKIS members.

In the near future, the LSD will have only one route for entry as a corporate member – the Assessment of Professional Competence (APC). Many non-members, including experienced land surveyors, have been unhappy with the two-year instituted training period for the APC. I vocally reiterated that for an experienced practitioner, whether a construction surveyor in a mega infrastructure project or an academic at a local university, the Divisional Education Council may reduce the required training period to one year. I sincerely urge our related colleagues to consider this route.

For the professional qualification of Resident Land Surveyor, the Government recognises the HKIS's professional qualification or its equivalent. However, the previous mutual agreements, which were categorised as equivalents, all expired a few years ago.

Last year, the LSD wrote to the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD), Airport Authority, and AECOM to state the abovementioned fact. A group of professional surveyors working on infrastructure projects also communicated with then-President Sr C K Lau on this issue last year. Current President Sr

Thomas Ho, LSD Vice Chairman Sr Edmond Yu, Council member Sr Michael Wong, and I met with a group of professional surveyors consisting of TN Wong, SRLS-AECOM CWB; Frankie Yip, SRLS-AECOM BCF; Gary McAuslan, SRLS-AECOM LTH BCP; Clayton Li, RLS-AECOM TM-CLK Link; To Kai Chan, RLS-AECOM TM-CLK Link; Mark Chung, RLS-AECOM TM-CWB; and Roy Lim, RLS-AECOM BCF in the HKIS Board Room on 8 February to follow up on it.

The group asked the LSD to issue a letter to the CEDD, Highways Department, and AECOM to accept those who qualified before 2 January 2014 (for the RICS) and August 2015 (for ICES) as equivalent qualifications to HKIS membership under the terms and conditions stipulated in the Reciprocity Agreements that were in force between the two organisations and the HKIS before the two respective dates indicated above. I agreed to bring this issue up for the decision of the LSD Council at the next meeting.

Both sides believed that there are an insufficient number of senior and corporate resident land surveyor posts in Hong Kong's current construction projects. The LSD will join the negotiations with the relevant government bodies and construction institutes over this matter. For the sake of promoting construction surveyors, the group proposes increasing the ratio of professional land surveyors to engineers who work as resident site staff (RSS) in the Government's infrastructure projects:

1. One CRE should have at least one senior land surveyor, one land surveyor, and two assistant land surveyors.
2. Two CREs should have one senior land surveyor, two land surveyors (one for each contract), and two assistant land surveyors (one for each contract).
3. One PRE and four CREs should have a chief land surveyor, two senior land surveyors, and four land surveyors (one for each contract).

We need our professional members to speak up for our industry. The HKIS is the most appropriate platform for raising our voices to the Government and the general public.



Admission to **Master of Science in Geomatics** (GIS/Surveying)

Department of Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics (LSGI) at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University is the leading department of geomatics in research output in the world, and the only academic department in Hong Kong that offers a range of education, training and research opportunities for professionals in the fields of geographic information systems (GIS) and surveying.

for the Academic Year
2017-18

Programme Outline

- Duration: 1-2 years Full-time; 2-5 years Part-time
- Medium of instruction: English
- Students complete 30 credits for graduation

Core GIS and Surveying Subjects

- Principles of GIS
- GIS engineering
- Advanced GIS
- Spatial data analysis and mining
- Spatial data visualization and modelling
- Spatial data acquisition
- Remote sensing image processing
- Advanced surveying
- Satellite positioning and navigation

Professional Recognitions

The M.Sc. programme accredited by

- The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS)
- The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
- The Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors (ICES)
- The Hong Kong Institution of Engineering Surveyors (HKIES)



Elective Subjects

- Urban remote sensing
- Location-based computing and services
- Construction information technology (BIM)
- Subjects related to project management, environmental studies, civil engineering, real estate and construction technologies

Career Prospectives

The application of GIS and surveying technology in Hong Kong and many other countries has increased rapidly in the last two decades. Currently, a large number of government departments in Hong Kong used GIS and surveying technology, e.g., the Lands Department, Planning Department, Highways Department, Transport Department, Fire Services Department, Civil Engineering and Development Department, etc. In the private sector, utilities such as gas and power companies have been frequent users. In recent years, telecommunications, planning, public administration, transportation, logistics, car navigation, civil engineering, archaeology and real estate companies have also adopted GIS in their operations. As such, new career opportunities arise for graduates from these postgraduate programmes. A rather high percentage of the graduates continue their academic career with a doctoral study at Hong Kong or international universities.

Entrance Requirements

- A relevant Bachelor (Hons) degree in GIS, Surveying or other related disciplines (e.g. engineering, science or technology, geography), or
- A professional qualification plus relevant work experience related to surveying or GIS

Entry Scholarships

- Two Faculty Scholarships (Tuition fees + HK\$50,000 for full-time student) in each academic year
- Three Department Scholarships (HK\$30,000) in each academic year

Application Deadline

- 29 April 2017

Enquiry and Application

Programme leader: Dr. Bo WU
Tel: (852) 2766 5968
Email: bo.wu@polyu.edu.hk



PolyU Online Application URL

<https://www38.polyu.edu.hk/eAdmission/index.jsf>



M.Sc. (Geomatics) Programme URL

<http://www.lsgi.polyu.edu.hk/prospective-students/degrees-and-qualifications/master-of-science-in-geomatics/index.asp>

