

16 February 2012

CheeHai Teo
President - International Federation of Surveyors, FIG
Kalvebod Brygge 31 -33
DK – 1780 Copenhagen V
Denmark

Dear Mr President,

Nomination of Matthew Bryan Higgins for FIG Honorary Membership

On behalf of the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI), it is our great pleasure and honour to nominate Mr Matthew Bryan Higgins as a candidate for FIG Honorary Membership.

In Australia and the international surveying and mapping community Matt is well known and regarded as an expert in operational Geodesy, Global Navigation Satellite Systems and related positioning applications. His effort and time spent on promoting the surveying discipline to the traditional and non-traditional surveying profession has been exemplary. Matt's FIG activities since 1995 are well documented, and his achievements as an ambassador for the FIG organisation at the Commission technical work group level through to his executive role on FIG Council is extensive. Please refer to the attached resume of Matt's professional career to assist with your deliberations.

Also, Matt has been a great people's person and communicator. He has often provided leadership in many industry groups and has fostered or inspired the development of many young surveying professionals to "bigger and better" things. Such selfless acts were often displayed by him in the FIG 'family' arena. Ultimately, this service to the industry was recognised in 2005 when he was awarded the highest honour for an individual at the Asia Pacific Excellence Awards - Professional Eminence and Excellence in Spatial Sciences.

In summarising, we trust this application for FIG Honorary Membership receives favourable consideration, as we are unanimous in our opinion that Matt is deserved of this prestigious accolade because of his significant contribution from a professional and interpersonal perspective.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Maguire', written over a horizontal line.

Gary Maguire
President

Nominee for FIG Honorary Membership - RESUME	
Name:	Matthew Bryan Higgins
Member association:	Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute
Country:	Australia
Contact address:	97 Cavendish St, Nundah, Qld, 4012, Australia
Email address:	matt.higgins@derm.qld.gov.au
Age:	51
Degrees and educational background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Applied Science, Surveying (With Distinction), Queensland University of Technology, 1983; • Registered Cadastral Surveyor, Surveyors Board of Queensland, 1985; • Master of Surveying and Mapping Science, University of Queensland, 1988.
Employment history	<p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manager Geodesy and Positioning, Spatial Information Group, Department of Environment and Resource Management <p>Previously:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Survey Advisor, Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management; • Project Leader in Australia's Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information. • More than 30 years experience in several roles as manager, advisor and professional specialist in the Queensland Government; • Several periods of work external to government while seconded to private surveying firms, universities and research organizations.
Positions of trust	<p>In addition to FIG Positions outlined in the next section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of several industry sub-committees for policy development under the Australia and New Zealand Land Information Council; • Member of the United Nations mandated International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems; • Current President of the International Global Navigation Satellite Systems Society (IGNSS Society); • Current Chair of the Expert Panel for the Australian Region of the European Satellite Navigation Competition and associated business incubation activities; • Past member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the US based magazine GPS World.

Positions in FIG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice President of FIG (2007 to 2010); • Chair of the Advisory Committee of Commission Officers (2007 to 2010); • Chair, Commission 5 (2003 to 2006); • Chair-Elect, Commission 5 (1999 to 2002); • Chair Working Group 5.5 (1995 to 1998).
Other activities in FIG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed liaison processes to revitalize and give substance to the Memorandum of Understanding between FIG and the International Association of Geodesy (IAG); • Initiated FIG's Membership of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems, which is mandated through the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space; • Initiated the development of Memorandum of Understanding between FIG and the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs. It covers Space Technology for Disaster Management, GNSS and Education in Space Technology, especially in developing countries. <p>Member on several FIG Task Forces including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force on the Cultures and Languages; • United Nations Cooperation Network. • Task Force on Governance Structures.
Field of surveying discipline	<p>Land Surveying and Spatial Science as a Registered Cadastral Surveyor and expert in Positioning Systems and Geodesy and the associated legislation, policies, field operations and data management.</p>