

Task Force on Under-represented Groups in Surveying Working Week 2001 in Seoul, Korea

- Report -

Task Force Workshop

The Task Force Workshop held on Tuesday 8 May was well attended. Gabriele Dasse welcomed the participants and gave an overview about the Task Force activities.

The 10th issue of the Task Force Newsletter was distributed by the Task Force Chair. The Newsletter contents one report concerning the International Cartographic Association's (ICA) Commission on „Gender and Cartography“ by Ewa Krzywicka-Blum and Eva Siekierska and one report concerning the „Forum of Equal Opportunity“ of the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) by Gail Oliver, USA. The personality of that issue is Marie Christine Robidoux, Canada.

RECOMMANDATION FOR THE FIG CONGRESS 2002 IN WASHINGTON

One of the Task Force's charges is to support and encourage female and young surveyors as well as for example linguistic or cultural minorities within the FIG community. During the Workshop the participants discussed in which way the attendance for minorities in or entering the disciplines of surveying at the FIG Congress 2002 in Washington could be facilitated.

Mary Clawson, Congress Director, gave the information that there is a special low registration fee for students and also a lower registration fee for speakers. In addition also low-cost accommodation is available in Washington, DC.

It was proposed to write an e-mail on behalf of the FIG Task Force on Under-represented Groups in Surveying to Member Associations, Affiliates, Academic Members, Corporate Members, Correspondents, Council Members, Officers of Commissions and Permanent Institutions, Honorary Presidents and Honorary Members to ask for assistance to support and encourage the Under-represented Groups in Surveying to attend the FIG Congress 2002 in Washington, DC and to give presentations.

In the meantime an e-mail of the Task Force Chair was distributed by Markku Villikka, Director of the FIG Office.

SESSIONS AND MEETINGS DURING THE FIG CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON 2002

The Task Force Chair together with John Parker, Chair of FIG Commission 1 (Professional Standards and Practise) and Kirsi Virrantaus, Chair of Commission 2 (Professional Education) agreed upon 2 joint sessions.

The Task Force and Commission 1 would like to discuss „The Informal Ways to Surveying“. Mary Clawson suggested and the participants agreed that after this session there should be a second one with a plenary discussion instead of a separated meeting of Task Force members and members of the „Forum of Equal Opportunity“ of the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping.

The Task Force and Commission 2 would like to discuss „The modern Profile of a Surveyor - new educational Contents for new Students“.

The Task Force Chair would like to organise one Task Force meeting during the Congress.

FUTURE OF THE TASK FORCE

The Task Force on Under-represented Groups in the present shape was established 1998 during the FIG Congress in Brighton. The limited time period will end in 2002 with the FIG Congress in Washington.

The Task Force is a network of currently 56 members from 22 countries with many contacts to colleagues and a good co-operation with UNCHS (Habitat) and other international and national associations in the technical field.

The participants of the Workshop reflected all Task Force activities like networking, publishing Best Practises and giving recommendations on FIG and national level. The proposal was that the Task Force time period should be extended or that the Task Force should get a more permanent structure. Activities concerning equal rights for individual members within FIG, not depending on Gender, age, native language or some other cultural characteristics will also be necessary for the next period 2002 to 2006.

NOMINATIONS REVIEW COMMITTEES

In correlation with the report of Gabriele Dasse concerning the Task Force "Review of Commission Structure" the participants of the Workshop proposed that there should be at least one woman in all FIG Nominations Review Committees.

Presentation

In session 19, "Curricula II - How to Manage and Keep the Curricula Contents Up-to-date?", the Task Force Chair presented a paper "Which Changes in the Curricula do we need to attract more Women to study Surveying?".

Among other things decreasing numbers of students beginning surveying studies at German universities has led to changes in the curricula of some universities from surveying to geomatic, geoinformatic or geoinformation. A lack of students, male students, may necessitate activities designed to attract as well more women into studying surveying. But up to now there has been no evaluation of the target groups which should be addressed by this new curricula.

General Assembly

During the General Assembly on Friday the Task Force Newsletter 1/01 was distributed to all member associations and there was the opportunity to give a short report about the Task Force activities in Seoul.

2 August 2001

Gabriele Dasse, Task Force Chair