Report of Commission 2, 2010-2014

Dr. Steven Frank, Commission Chair

Commission 2 has made some progress on achieving its mission in the areas of curriculum, learning methodology, education marketing and recruitment, and education assessment. The commission has participated in the FIG Working Weeks in Abuja (Nigeria), Rome (Italy) and Marrakesh (Morocco) as well as the FIG Regional Conference in Montevideo (Uruguay). Commission 2 partnered with the Surveying and Geomatics Educators Society (SaGES) for workshops on surveying education in Mayaguez (Puerto Rico) and In Tyler (Texas, USA) as well as coordinated a workshop in Moscow (Russia). In addition, Commission 2 participated in the conference of the National Order of Surveyors in Cameroon (OGEC) in April 2012 where several papers on education were presented.

The working week in Abuja saw two sessions of Commission 2 papers: one session was of special interest focusing on surveying education in Africa; the second session was devoted to assessing education. The working week in Rome held four Commission 2 sessions with 25 papers on all aspects of the Commission 2 Work Plan. Commission 2 also participated in a special Rome Working Week session with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization on introducing the FAO Voluntary Guidelines into university curriculums. Commission 2 had 30 papers presented during the Marrakesh Working Week, again covering all aspects of the Work Plan.

The FIG Regional Conference has two sessions of Commission 2 papers, one session in English and a second session in Spanish. Excellent translation services were provided for those participants who were not bilingual.

The SaGES/FIG Commission 2 Workshop in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, In June 2011 had approximately 30 participants. The meeting was hosted by the University of Mayaguez. Papers were presented on curriculum, student learning, and learning assessment. Most of the presentations were in English with some translation available for the few presentations given in Spanish. There was a good presentation on student projects given by students from the University of Mayaguez. Excellent excursions were made along the east coast with great sampling of Puerto Rican food and entertainment.

The FIG Commission Workshop in Moscow, Russia, in September 2012 was hosted by the University of Moscow (MIIGAK). The workshop had approximately 20 participants on site and another 10 people participating through the Internet. Papers were presented on curriculum, learning methods and assessment/accreditation. There were discussions about having Commission 2 develop an accreditation process that could be used by FIG Academic Members. No consensus was made. Again, the hosts provided an excellent exposure to Russian food and culture. The workshop concluded with a day-long visit to Star City to learn about and view the Russian/Soviet space program. Papers from this workshop are available on the University of Moscow (MIIGAK) website.

The SaGES/FIG Commission 2 Workshop in Tyler, Texas, USA was hosted by Tyler Junior College. Approximately 25 participants attended to hear papers presented on curriculum, learning methods, recruitment and accreditation. Attendees were treated to Texas food and culture culminating with a trip to Dallas for shopping and museum excursions. Selected papers from this workshop are scheduled to be printed in the near future in the Surveying and Land Information Science journal.

In addition to workshop activities, Commission 2 also reviewed and recommended a series of articles on the Body of Knowledge for Surveying printed in the Surveying and Land Information Science journal. While not covering all aspects of surveying, the articles are good guidelines for developing technical curricula for surveying education programs.

Finally, a trip to New Mexico State University and to Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi, by a delegation of Russian surveying educators was arranged through Commission 2 by NavGeoCom, a Russian company related to Leica Geosystems. The trip allowed an excellent exchange on surveying education in both countries and the opportunity for our Russian visitors to enjoy American food and culture.