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Business: (435) 673-3075  
E-Mail: khamblin@infowest.com

**Past State Chair**

Ernest Rowley (GS)  
3648 W. 6050 S.  
Roy, UT 84067  
Business: (801) 399-8353  
Fax: (801) 399-8316  
E-mail: erowley@co.weber.ut.us

**State Chair-Elect**

Scott Woolsey  
43 S. 100 E., Suite 100  
St. George, UT 84770  
Business (435) 628-6500  
Fax: (435) 628-6553  
E-mail: scottwoolseyalphaengineering.com

**Treasurer**

Brad Mortensen (SL)  
3268 S. 930 W.  
Syracuse, UT 84075  
Business: (801) 363-5605  
Fax: (801) 363-5604  
E-mail: btmort@earthlink.net

**NSPS Representative**

Steven Keisel (SL)  
604 S. Blossom Circle,  
Fruit Heights, UT 84037  
Business: (801) 468-2043  
Fax: (801) 468-2045  
E-Mail: skeisel@slco.org

**West Fed Representative**

Michael W. Nadeau (SL)  
5226 W. Ashland Rose Dr.  
Herriman, UT 84065  
Business: (801) 569-1315  
Fax: (801) 569-1319  
E-mail: mikenadeau.ucls@gmail.com

**Book Cliffs President:**

D. Ryan Allred  
P.O. Box 975  
Duchesne, UT 84021  
Business: (435) 738-5352  
Fax: (435) 738-5722  
E-Mail: dallred@ubtanet.com

**Chapter Representative:**

David Kay  
85 S. 200 E.  
Vernal, UT 84078  
Business: (435) 789-1017  
Fax: (435) 789-1813  
E-mail: dkay@uintahgroup.com

**Chapter Representative:**

Roger Bundy  
257 Prickley Pear Drive  
Washington, UT 84780  
Business: (435) 673-2918  
Fax: (435) 673-2918  
E-mail: rbsurveying@awinets.com

**Golden Spike President:**

David K. Balling  
198 E. Shadowbrook Lane  
Kaysville, UT 84037  
Business: (801) 295-7237  
E-mail: dkballing@msn.com

**Chapter Representative:**

Val Schultz  
2096 W 5750 S  
Roy, UT 84067-2330  
Business: (801) 399-8018  
Fax: (801) 825-1320  
E-mail: vschultz@co.weber.ut.us

**Salt Lake President:**

Brad Mortensen  
3268 S. 930 W.  
Syracuse, UT 84075  
Business: (801) 882-6385  
E-Mail: btmort@earthlink.net

**Chapter Representative:**

Dale Robinson  
12227 S. Business Park Dr., #220  
Draper, UT 84020  
Business: (801) 523-0100  
Fax: (801) 523-0990  
E-mail: drobinson@sunrise-eng.com

**Timpanogos President:**

Bradly D. Daley  
3814 Sage Vista Lane  
Cedar Hills, UT 84062  
Business: (801) 566-5599  
Fax: (801) 566-5581  
E-mail: bdaley54@msn.com

**Color Country President:**

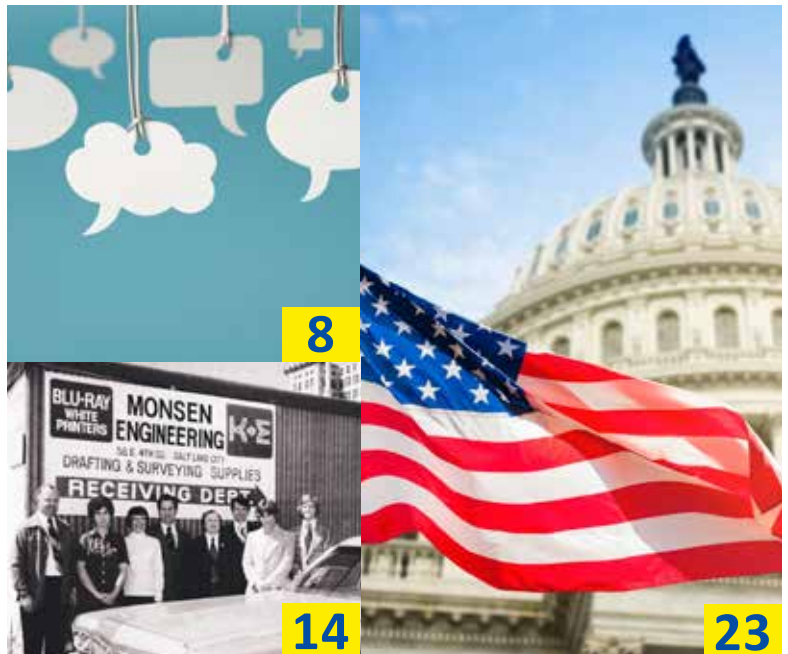
Todd Jacobsen  
2458 Scenic Drive  
Santa Clara, UT 84765  
Business: (435) 627-4124  
Fax: (435) 627-4133  
E-mail: HYPERLINK  
tjacobsen@sgcity.org

**Chapter Representative:**

Jim Kaiserman  
1020 Sage Circle  
Heber City, UT 84032  
Business: (435) 657-3222  
Fax: (435) 657-3207  
E-mail: jkaiserman@co.wasatch.ut.us

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## From the Editor

STEVE KEISEL



# "So What Do You Do For a Living?"



**A**s I get older, I find my perspectives are often out-of-sync with the thoughts and ideals of others. Understanding that this may be a gender deficit or perhaps a symptom of early senility, I find it fascinating to observe the response of others – and it helps pass the time. I have discovered that things that seem obvious to me may be oblivious to others. Maybe it is lack of knowledge, possibly arrogance, or perhaps we just do not care as much as we used too; but simple questions require simple answers – Right?

For the past twenty years, I have worked for the office of the Salt Lake County Surveyor. In this capacity, I have ample opportunities to examine the absurdity of people.

For the most part, the staff of our office is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. Well maybe not brave and reverent – but we try hard and would therefore make some

very gosh-darn good scouts. Nevertheless, we diligently try to provide a meaningful service to the public – even if their questions are as insignificant as “where are the restrooms?” Actually – that question becomes very significant at times.

“So what do you guys do here?” asked a citizen, as she entered through the front door of our office.

Pam and Henna were somewhat perplexed by the inquiry but responded appropriately “that’s a good question” and then proceeded to educate the citizen on the duties and responsibilities of the Office.

“Oh” she responded, “so what do I have to do to get a job here?”

“Unfortunately, we do not have a current job opening but you are welcome to contact the County Human Resources department for possible job opportunities” she was advised.

“Does it take any experience or education to be a surveyor,” she asked.

“None at all” I thought - but did not say, “Anyone can do it.”

I know this conversation is not unique and many of you have had similar discussion about what we do for a living. How do you respond to simple questions – knowing that the questioner has no flipping idea what a surveyor is or what they do! Their eyes often glaze-over as you instructed them on the intricacies of surveying. Surveying is just not a glamorous job.

Just for fun, I used a modern-day Webster dictionary and googled “survey-

or.” Wow - there were 7,500,000 results! I wonder if that was the amount that google was capable of returning or if there were actually more hits? Unfortunately, I did not have time to check every website, but on the first page, I found out how I could become a surveyor and what the definition of a surveyor really is. Additionally, I was directed to a Surveyor Recreational Vehicle site and provided information on the NASA Science mission. However, one of my favorites was a welcome to the center for Clinical Standards and Quality Certification Group training where by a collaborative effort between CMS and providers we would ensure that Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries are receiving quality health care. Humph – that must be the type of surveying that is done over the phone in the afternoon around dinnertime.

### "SO WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?"

May I be so bold as to suggest the majority of people have no idea what surveyors do? Unless they are land developers or unfortunate enough to experience property boundary issues with their neighbors, most people do not have a need for surveyors and therefore do not know what we do. Vaughn Butler sarcastically suggested that if your property is good, then treat it to a boundary survey. However, if that was true, we have a lot of real bad property.

Sorry – I am getting off topic. Wait, what was the topic? Oh ya - what do you guys do for a living?

We spend nearly a third of our lifetime at work. Shouldn’t we enjoy what we do and have fun while doing it?



- By working faithfully eight hours a day, you may get to be a boss and work twelve hours a day. — Robert Frost
- Who says nothing is impossible. I've been doing nothing for years. — Anonymous
- I like work: it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours! — Jerome K. Jerome
- If work is so terrific, why do they have to pay you to do it? — Anonymous
- People are still willing to do an honest day's work; trouble is they want a week's pay for doing it. — Joey Adams
- Doing nothing is very hard

to do...you never know when you're finished! — Leslie Nielsen

- Nobody notices what I do until I don't do it — Anonymous

You know when you go to meet some friends, or friends of your friends, or to a party or whatever, when you meet someone new, at some point they will always ask you:

### “SO WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?”

What I really want to do is tell them that I do some bizarre thing or have a real crazy occupation; you know, shock people or create an extremely awkward moment. Normally people do not take you serious when you acknowledge being a mere Surveyor.

A drug dealer would be an interesting occupation. Why thanks for asking - "I'm a drug dealer actually, and I must say I am pretty successful at it too. Can I get you something?" (it gets even funnier when they say they do not do drugs and then I answer: "No I was talking about drinks or chips... Can I get you a something to eat or drink?"

If I really wanted to impress someone with my chosen occupation, I would borrow a quote used by the Seinfeld sitcom character George Costanza; “why couldn't you make me an architect? You know I always wanted to be an architect.” Architecture is much more glamorous than surveying – right.

Then there is the proverbial Christmas brag letter where we ooh and awe over the success of Uncle Bob and the failures of Cousin Mildred. Oh, I see Steve is still working as a what-do-you-call-it person. He should get a real job!

Then there is social media! If I am not linked to John Doe or liked by Mary Roe, how will I ever become a successful surveyor? I believe most people use social media because it allows them to say happy birthday to needy Aunt Dorothy, without having to actually talk to her. Did you know there is an app called Social-Radar that tells you just how many feet you are from another person? It sounds like stalking to me - but since it involves measuring and determining boundaries, could the use of this tool be

construed as surveying? I do understand the value of networking but really; should I be concerned if I have only seven friends? Those seven friends probably do not know what surveying is either.

### “SO WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?”

To do something well you have to like it – right? That idea is not exactly novel. Do what you love and love what you do! However, the very idea is foreign to what most of us learn as kids. When I was a kid, it seemed as if work and fun were opposites by definition. Life had two states: some of the time adults were making you do things, and that was called work; the rest of the time you could do what you wanted, and that was called playing.

The world then was divided into two groups, grownups and kids. Grownups, like some kind of cursed race, had to work. Kids did not, but they did have to go to school, which was a diluted version of work meant to prepare us for the real thing. Teachers in particular seemed to believe implicitly that work was not fun. Why did we have to memorize state capitals instead of playing dodge ball?

By high school, the prospect of an actual job (i.e. work) was on the horizon. Adults would sometimes come to speak to us, or we would go to them and learn that these adults enjoyed the work they were doing. In retrospect, I believe the private jet pilot enjoyed his work but the bank manager did not.

It is perplexing to read about people who like what they did so much that they have nothing that they would rather do. Come-on - really? How many surveyors do you know who would survey for free, in their spare time, and take part time jobs to support themselves?

Do I love what I do? Um- some of the time.  
Am I proud of what I do? Ya – most of the time.

Has surveying been good to me? Yup! It has afforded an adequate income, provided a degree of accomplishment, and established life-long friendships with many truly outstanding people.

Is surveying an occupation that my children should embrace? The opportunity was there but they chose other vocations. However, I witnessed growth and the development of strong work ethics as they assisted me in various survey-related activities. Additionally, the exposure to surveying helped them to better understand and appreciate the value of ownership, the reward of completing assigned tasks, and an increased gratitude for the diversity of people.

**So what do I do for a living?**  
**Why – I live of course.**



# UCLS Salary & Benefit Survey

## August 2014

**D**uring the early part of August, an email was sent to all members of Utah Council of Land Surveyors (UCLS) inviting them to participate in a surveyor's survey. The intent of this survey was to anonymously evaluate the general salary and benefit structure of its membership and to ascertain trends of our profession.

The UCLS website indicates a membership of 405 individuals, segregated into five chapters and nine member types. A total of 107 members (26.4%) responded to our invitation to participate. Not all questions were answered and therefore the "skipped" amount is noted below each graph.

**1 2** A member may live in one chapter area but work in another. However, when they register the member selects a chapter they wish to be associated by. The follow is a response by chapter:

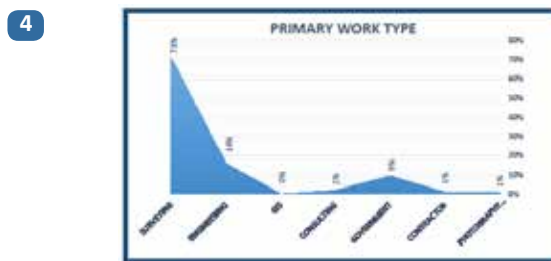
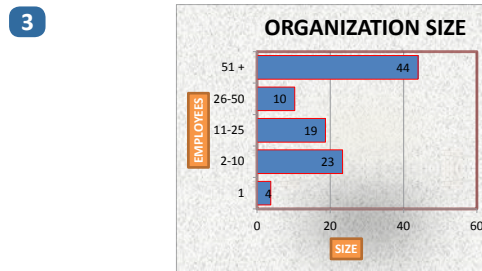
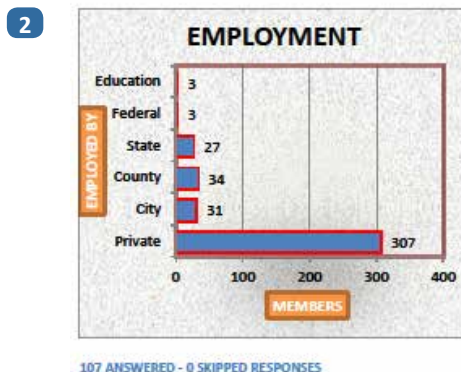
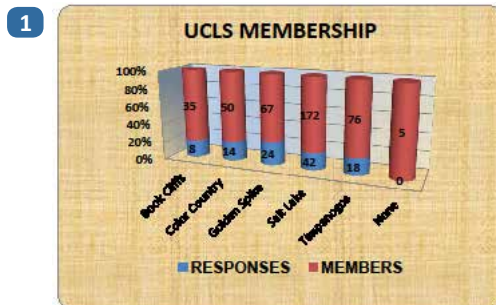
- Book Cliffs 22.9%
- Color Country 28.0%
- Golden Spike 35.8%
- Salt Lake 24.4%
- Timpanogos 23.7%
- None 0%

A query of the UCLS website provides insight as to our employment demographic. The majority of our membership (76%) is employed by the private sector and the remaining 98 members (24%) work for various governmental entities.

**3** Most of us work for larger organizations of 51 or more employees. However, small and medium size companies were well represented.

**4** Not-surprisingly, our primary type of work is defined as surveying but engineering and government services were noted in the survey.

**5 6 7 8** Of the 107 who responded, 89 (83%) indicated they were professional licensed surveyors; 29 (27%) were project managers or team leaders; 49 (46%) had an associate degree, and 34 (32%) had 11-20 years of experience.

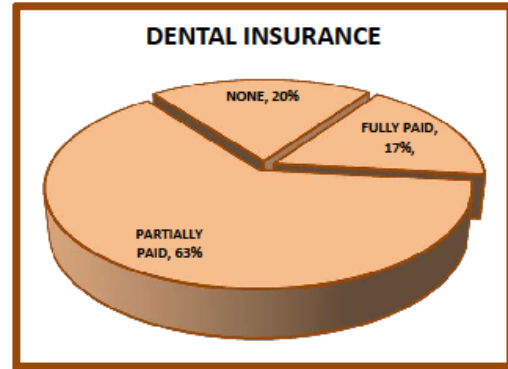


5



107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

9



107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

9

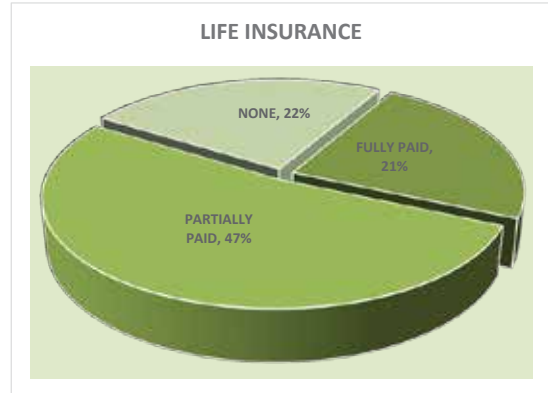
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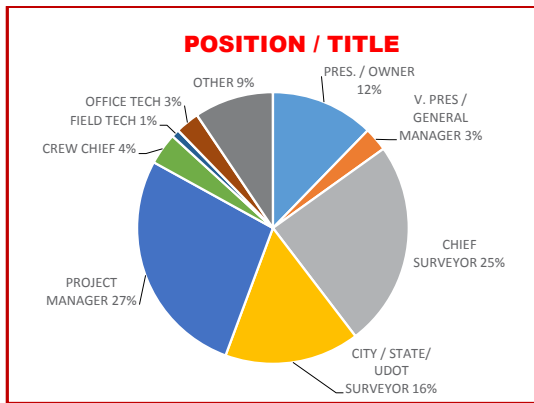
Life and medical benefits were segregated into categories of fully paid, partially paid, or none.

10



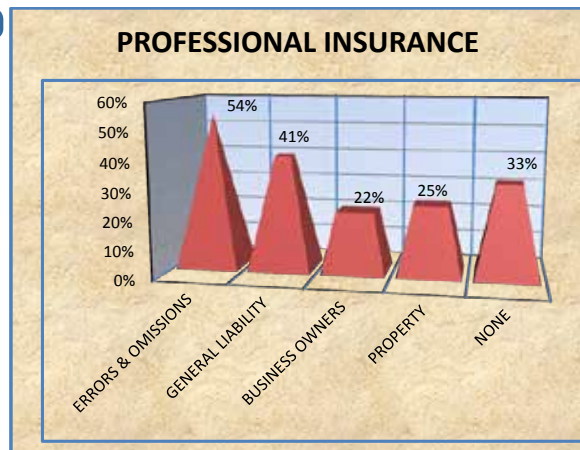
107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

7



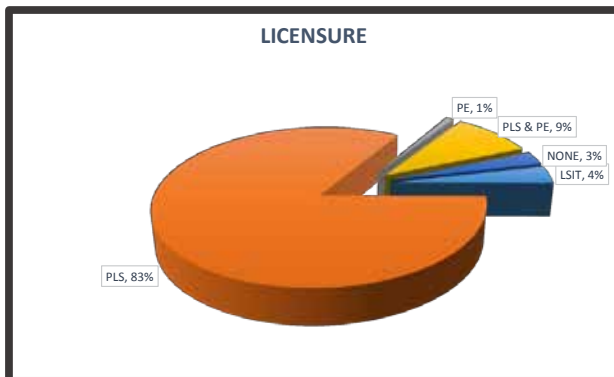
106 ANSWERED - 1 SKIPPED RESPONSE

11



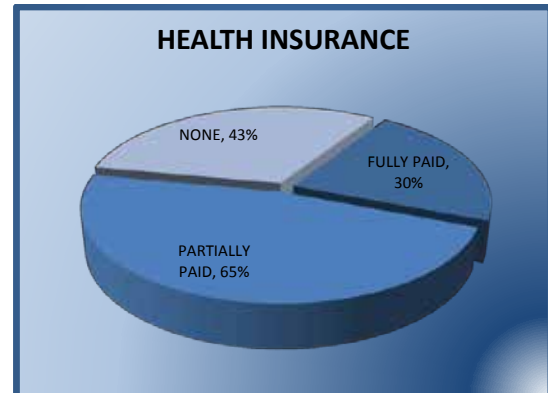
101 ANSWERED - 6 SKIPPED RESPONSES

8



107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

12



107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

**SURVEY** continued on page 8

**SURVEY** continued from page 7

**13 14 15** Other benefits included in the survey were leave types, retirement, profit sharing, tuition reimbursement, and use of a vehicle or gas card.

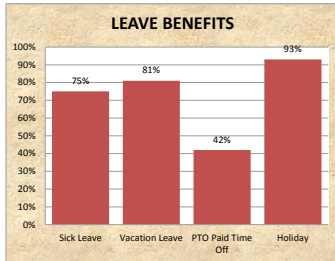
**16 17 18** Most of the responders, **61 or 59%**, experienced an increase in salary when compared with last year with the largest group (24%) earning an annual salary between \$70,000 and \$79,999. Additionally **25 or 24%** of us experienced an increase in benefits during the same period.

**19 20** The survey also asked questions regarding the future of surveying. Specifically, what will have the greatest influence in surveying and support of a four-year surveying degree?

**21** Would you be willing to serve on a UCLS committee? The survey said that a third of us would not participate in a committee. Although the survey was anonymous, 16 of the responders chose to skip this question.

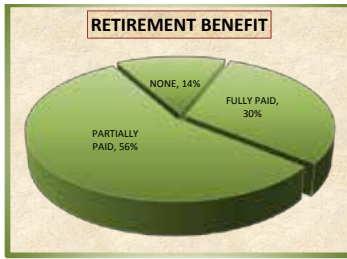
Please visit the UCLS website for a complete copy of the Surveyor Salary & Benefit Survey. ◀

**13**



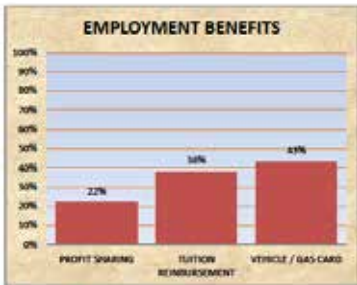
107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

**14**



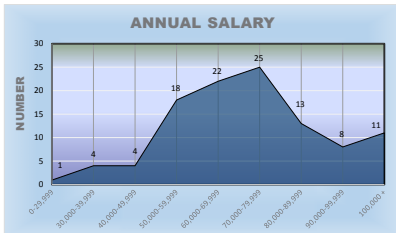
107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

**15**



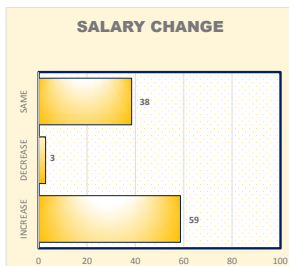
107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

**16**



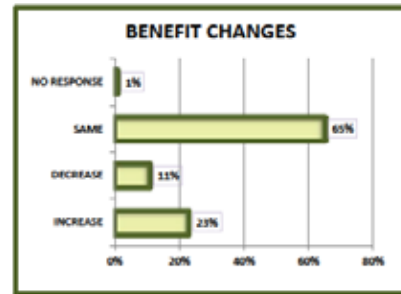
106 ANSWERED - 1 SKIPPED RESPONSE

**17**



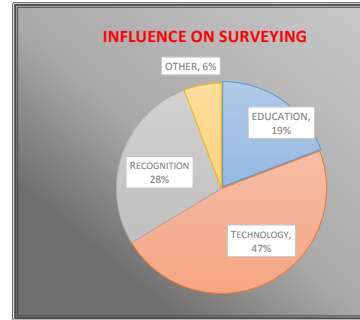
104 ANSWERED - 3 SKIPPED RESPONSES

**18**



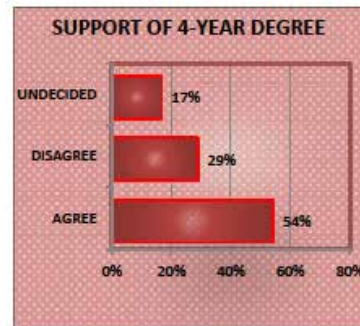
105 ANSWERED - 2 SKIPPED RESPONSES

**19**



104 ANSWERED - 3 SKIPPED RESPONSE

**20**



107 ANSWERED - 0 SKIPPED RESPONSES

**21**



91 ANSWERED - 16 SKIPPED





# Legislative Committee Report

BY DOUG KINSMAN



**F**irst off I would like to thank those committee members that have been so diligent in attending the meeting on a monthly basis. The legislative committee meets the second Wednesday of every month for the past four or five years at the Dominion Engineering's Office at 5:30 PM. Starting In August 2014 we will be meeting at Ensign Engineering office, located at 45 West 10000 South in Sandy, Suite 500, at 5:30 PM the second Wednesday of every month. Please come and join us or if you have any questions please feel free to contact me on my cell phone at 801-573-8607.

UCLS's Legislative Committee, has been diligently watching the Utah house and Senate to ensure that there are not any state laws that get passed without our review and input. In the last year Division of Professional Licensing (DOPL) had rule change creating some new levels of licensing, for example in the State of Utah you can become a Licensed Professional Land Surveyor if you meet the following requirements: Have an Associate's Degree in surveying or a related field and have 4 years of qualifying experience, A Bachelor's Degree in surveying or a related field and have 4 years of qualifying experience, A Master's Degree in surveying or a related field and have 3 years of qualifying experience or a Doctorate Degree in surveying or a related field and have 2 years of qualifying experience. Also House Bill (HB 220) just passed clarifying the law about amending and vacating, when you amend an existing plat you are automatically vacating that portion of the plat that you are amending.

Two items that we have been watching and may be of interest to you: There is a right-of-entry law being reviewed in Wyoming right now with an environmental twist, the state of Wyoming is in the process of trying to keep environmentalists off of private property with the goal to keep them from collecting data about the farms, farming practices and Petro Chemical pipe lines and easements. <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2014/Introduced/SF0085.pdf>. And the FAA is behind the curve on allowing individuals the right to license and fly unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV's) for any kind of use. If you have plans to use them for commercial use the FAA is watching you particularly close. SB 167 <http://le.utah.gov/~2014/bills/static/SB167.html> enacted this year restricts Utah law enforcement's use of UAV's. The committee is watching for further laws to govern the use of such equipment. So in the next few years there might be some laws that come down in reference to the use and activities for UAV's. There was a good article in the May 2014 POB magazine you may want to read.

If you find yourself interested in any of the topics I just mentioned then you just might want to come and join with us-on the legislative committee. So I hope to see you at the next second Wednesday of the month's meeting at 5:30 PM, at the Ensign Engineering office in Sandy. ◀



# Why a Two-Year Degree in Surveying & Geomatics?

BY WALTER M. CUNNINGHAM, PLS,  
BS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

## SLCC Surveying & Geomatics Program Coordinator:

**T**his brief article will focus on the Salt Lake Community College two-year AAS Degree in Surveying & Geomatics relative to State Law, its Mission Statement, its success and longevity, and why the degree is still a relevant key-stone of the most affordable, time-efficient, flexible, user-friendly, and direct path in meeting the Surveying Education requirement in the process of becoming licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor (PLS) in Utah.

- 1) **What State Law says about the two-year AAS degree:**  
**QUESTION:** Why a Two-Year Degree in Surveying & Geomatics?

**ANSWER:** It is one of the many Surveying Education options allowable under State Law, as created and referenced under Utah Title 58-22-302(3)(d), Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors Licensing Act, and as defined in greater detail within State Administrative Code R156-22-302b(2), which is directly accessible and open to all under this State of Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (DOPL) link: [http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/engineer\\_land\\_surveying.html](http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/engineer_land_surveying.html)

- (2) Education requirements - Professional Land Surveyor. In accordance with Subsection 58-22-302(3)(d), an applicant applying for licensure as a professional land surveyor shall verify completion of one of the following land surveying programs affiliated with an institution that is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and approved by the Division in collaboration with the Board:
- (a) an associates in applied science degree in land surveying or geomatics;
  - (b) a bachelors, masters or doctorate degree in land surveying or geomatics;
  - (c) an equivalent land surveying program that includes completion of a bachelors, masters or doctorate degree in a field related to land surveying or geomatics comprised of a minimum of 30 semester hours or 42 quarter hours of course work in land surveying or geomatics which shall include the following courses:
    - (i) successful completion of a minimum of one course in each of the following content areas:
      - (A) boundary law;
      - (B) writing legal descriptions;
      - (C) photogrammetry;

- (D) public land survey system;
- (E) studies in land records or land record systems; and
- (F) surveying field techniques; and
- (ii) completion of the remainder of the 30 semester hours or 42 quarter hours from any or all of the following content areas:
  - (A) algebra, calculus, geometry, statistics, trigonometry, not to exceed six semester hours or eight quarter hours;
  - (B) control systems;
  - (C) drafting, not to exceed six semester hours or eight quarter hours;
  - (D) geodesy;
  - (E) geographic information systems;
  - (F) global positioning systems;
  - (G) land development; and
  - (H) survey instrumentation; or
  - (d) an equivalent land surveying program that includes completion of a bachelors, masters or doctorate degree in a field related to land surveying or geomatics that does not include some of the course work specified in (c)(i) or (ii), or both, as part of the degree program, provided that the deficient requirements specified in (c)(i) or (ii), or both, have been completed post degree; and
  - (e) if the degree was earned in a foreign country, the land surveying curriculum shall be determined by the NCEES Credential Evaluations, formerly known as the Center for Professional Engineering Education Services (CPEES), to fulfill the required curricular content of the NCEES Education Standard. Deficiencies in course work reflected in the credential evaluation maybe satisfied by successfully completing the deficiencies in course work at a recognized college or university approved by the Division in collaboration with the Board.

What this means, among other things, is that SLCC's two-year Associates of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Surveying & Geomatics **meets the mandated educational standard for licensure as a PLS.**

## 2) Mission Statement:

The SLCC Surveying & Geomatics Program serves three distinct purposes:

1. Provides students who have little or no experience in the field the skills needed for employment as a surveyor,
2. Gives those already working in the profession additional knowledge needed to prepare for their professional licensing examinations,
3. Gives licensed professionals opportunities for upgrade training on new issues and equipment in surveying.

## 3) Program Success & Longevity:

With over 200 successful graduates, Salt Lake Community College is one of the two schools in the State of Utah that

offers a degree in Surveying & Geomatics. The program started in **1987** as a partnership between the Utah Council of Land Surveyors and SLCC, and is approved by the State Licensing Board for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors, and endorsed by the UCLS. This program was, and is, the first bona fide **"Surveying"** Degree program in Utah, and is by far the longest-running.

**In short, the program has survived the Test of Time,** and has consistently played a highly relevant and key role in the successful careers of many licensed Professional Land Surveyors in Utah.

## 4) Some Keystone Reasons of Program Success:

- **Above all,** the greatest reason the program continues is because of the **passionate and committed dedication, funding, and on-going support** of the UCLS and its Members, of Salt Lake Community College, of the program Administrators, Faculty, and Staff, of Private and Public-Sector employers, and of the **many others** who have played a vital role in its on-going popularity and success. Here are others:
- SLCC Surveying & Geomatics Faculty are highly experienced, well-educated, **LICENSED**, and successful... who love the Profession and its Students.
- SLCC is the **most affordable** of any Surveying degree in Utah, especially when it comes to **Tuition.**
- **The program was developed to wrap around and accommodate the schedules of working people.** Onsite classes are taught during weekday evenings, on Fridays and Saturdays, and in Online and Hybrid formats. This allows for **greater flexibility** in meeting the needs of our Students. The program is "hands-on, and user-friendly." Many of the courses are Project-based.
- Class enrollments typically average between 8 to 12 Students per course, which allows for more Teacher/Student and Student/Student interaction, and is a great facilitator for learning.
- This time-efficient program has an open enrollment policy, which allows for **quicker entry** into the program. A typical SLCC Surveying & Geomatics Student is able to complete the AAS degree in 2 to 3 academic years, with many working at their own pace. ◀

For more information about the SLCC Associates of Applied Science Surveying & Geomatics Degree, please send an email to [walt.cunningham@slcc.edu](mailto:walt.cunningham@slcc.edu), or call at (801) 957-4176.

# WORKPLACE DEAL BREAKERS REVEALED

## STUDY DEFINES THE LINE BETWEEN ANNOYING AND IRRECONCILABLE FOR U.S. EMPLOYEES

**W**hat aspects of work are most likely to get on employees' nerves? More importantly, at what point does it go beyond annoying and into "deal-breaker" territory? If your gut reaction is "it's all about compensation," a recent survey suggests that instinct is wrong. In truth, issues related to advancement and work-life balance elicit the highest emotional response from U.S. employees.

Recently, BambooHR polled more than 1,000 U.S.-based employees to ask why they left previous jobs and rate how annoying various aspects of work are on a scale from "acceptable" to "deal breaker" (1= acceptable; 2 = somewhat acceptable; 3 = annoying, but tolerable; 4 = considerably annoying; 5 = deal breaker that would make you want to leave). The results show that among the common reasons employees decide to move on, being valued and respected and maintaining a healthy work-life balance are what matter most.

Managers play a key role in an employee's workplace satisfaction, as not being trusted/empowered by your boss and taking the blame for management's mistakes are two of the leading employee deal breakers, along with workplace inflexibility and required after-hours work. Sure, having a salary that is lower than expected is annoying, but according to the study it doesn't rank as one of the leading irritations. In fact, slights in compensation become increasingly easier to swallow as employees age.

This survey reveals "Tiers of Tolerance" and illustrates that as long as employees' pressing needs are met, they're willing to deal with what they consider to be lesser annoyances.

### KEY RESULTS

The No. 1 reason respondents left their previous job is lack of opportunities for advancement (22 percent). The top five deal breakers for employees are:

1. Your boss doesn't trust/empower you (1 in 4).
  2. You are expected to work/answer emails on sick days, on vacations and/or after work hours (1 in 4).
  3. Management "passes the buck" when things don't go as planned (1 in 5).
  4. Work is not flexible with regard to your family responsibilities (1 in 5).
  5. You don't get along with your co-workers (1 in 6).
- "You are expected to work/answer emails on sick days, on vacations and/or after works hours" is polarizing, as it is also seen as one of the most acceptable issues (14 percent of respondents marked it as "acceptable").
  - Men find it more acceptable (1 in 5 men vs. 1 in 10 women), and women see it as more of a deal breaker (1 in 3 women vs. 1 in 5 men).
  - Women are more likely to consider "work is not flexible with regard to your family responsibilities" to be an employment deal breaker than men (1 in 4 women vs. 1 in 8 men).

- Complaints related to compensation are highest in the 18–29 age range and steadily decline as employees get older.
- Conversely, a lack of fringe benefits progressively becomes more of a deal breaker as employees age.
- A positive social atmosphere is important – employees want to get along with their co-workers, but they aren't looking to be best friends or hang out together on the weekends.
- While not getting along with your co-workers is one of the leading deal breakers, "Your coworkers don't interact outside of work" is the most acceptable irritation on the list (more than half of respondents marked it as "acceptable").
- The age range of 30-44 is disproportionately more annoyed by lack of flexibility when it comes to family responsibilities compared to any other age demographic. These people clearly crave flexibility from an employer.
- 3 in 4 of those in the 30-44 age range marked "work is not flexible with regard to your family responsibilities" as "considerably annoying" or a deal breaker.
- Manager-level employees accept less flexibility with regard to family responsibilities.
- 18 percent of managers vs. 27 percent of non-managers marked "You are expected to work/answer emails on sick days, on vacations and/or after works hours" as a deal breaker.
- 45 percent of managers vs. 52 percent of non-managers marked "Work is not flexible with regard to your family responsibilities" as a deal breaker or considerable annoyance.

These results illustrate that employees aren't in it just for the money. They're in it for the experience—the way a job fits into their lifestyle and meets their social needs. Employers that are aware of, and focus on addressing the issues employees find the most egregious, will have a higher chance of succeeding in attracting and retaining valuable employees. ◀

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## ABOUT THE RESEARCH

The June 2014 study collected responses via an online survey from 1,034 U.S.-based individuals who are currently employed, over the age of 18 and located in the U.S. This research was generated by BambooHR.



## ABOUT BAMBOOHR

BambooHR is the leading Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) provider of online HR Software for small and medium businesses that have outgrown spreadsheets. BambooHR's cloud-based system is an intuitive, affordable way for growing companies to track and manage essential employee information in a personalized Human Resources Information System (HRIS). Now HR managers have more time for meaningful work; executives get accurate, timely reports; and employees can self-serve their time off, using a convenient mobile app. BambooHR's clients include innovators like Snapchat, SoundCloud, Pinterest, Fab, Freshbooks, Klout, Lyft, Fitbit, and Squarespace, among hundreds of others in over 70 countries worldwide.

A BAMBOOHR INFOGRAPHIC

# WORKPLACE DEAL BREAKERS

Where's the Breaking Point for Employees?

MORE THAN MONEY, PEOPLE WANT A CHANCE TO PROVE THEMSELVES BY WORKING THEIR WAY UP AND HAVING A HEALTHY WORK/LIFE BALANCE.

## WHY DO PEOPLE LEAVE JOBS?



## THE TOP FIVE DEAL BREAKERS



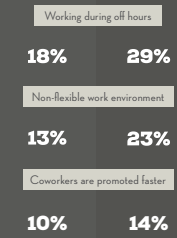
## GENDER GAPS



## AGE DIFFERENCES



## DEAL BREAKERS



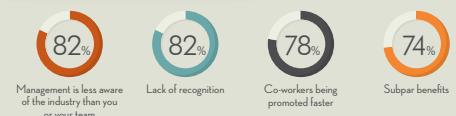
61% of 18-29 year old employees find it "considerably annoying" when management "passes the buck."

80% of 30-44 year old employees find it considerably annoying or a deal breaker when the boss doesn't trust or empower them.

Beginning at age 45, employees find it substantially more acceptable to be expected to do work on weekends, vacations and after hours.

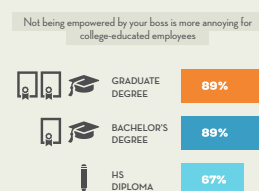
Employees over 60 stop caring as much about money. Only 8 percent would quit because of unfair salary.

## SITUATIONS THAT ANNOY EMPLOYEES



## EDUCATION MATTERS

THE HIGHER THE DEGREE LEVEL, THE MORE EMPLOYEES SEEK ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS THAT CHALLENGE THEM TO GROW.



Employees must be valued and respected at work while maintaining a healthy work-life balance or they won't stay at a job. As long as employees' pressing needs—empowerment, flexibility in the workplace and fair wages—are met, they're more willing to tolerate lesser annoyances.

ABOUT THE SURVEY | bamboohr

The June 2014 study collected responses via an online survey from 1,034 U.S.-based individuals who are currently employed, over the age of 18 and located in the U.S. This research was generated by BambooHR.

# Monsen Engineering



Founder: Roger Paul Monsen, Sr. (1916-2004)



Monsen Family (left to right): Ali, James, Richard, Emily, Mikel, Paul, David, Jason and Roger Paul Monsen, Jr.

Photographer: Trish Empey



Original Monsen Engineering employees (left to right): Roger Paul Monsen, Sr. , Joe Bertrum, Grace Jones, Jack Nelson, Ron Andrews, Paul Monsen, Jim Vealie and Richard Monsen.



Paul Monsen, Roger Paul Monsen, Jr. and Richard Monsen

Photographer: Ladd Marshall



Monsen Engineering, 960 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah

Photographer: Trish Empey

**M**onsen Engineering, Inc. is the leading supplier of measurement products and solutions to the design and building industries in Idaho, Wyoming, Utah and Nevada. The third generation, family-owned company is excited to be celebrating their 40th year in business. The moral compass and business policies set by the company's founder, Roger P. Monsen, Sr., created a strong foundation for Monsen Engineering to grow from.

At the age of fifty-seven, Roger found himself out of work after spending more than twenty-five years with the Pembroke Company. This 100 year old, family-owned company was sold to Boise Cascade. Roger felt that the new customer policies

and how accounts were going to be handled would likely prevent him from doing business with half of his clients. Roger's philosophy no longer fit into the new owner's corporate culture and he was told to clean out his desk by the end of the day.

At the age when most men would be looking toward retirement, Roger was facing an uncertain future. However, Roger was determined to remain in the industry and put together the idea of going into business for himself. He had an established reputation in the industry for fairness, and that reputation paid off. He was able to convince several of the major suppliers to give him their products to sell in the region.

In May 1974, just 30 days after being fired from Pembroke's, Roger was able to open the doors of Mosen Engineering with financial backing from his brother, Kent Mosen. The store was located at 58 East 400 South in Salt Lake City, just one block away from his former employer. Roger was joined by three of his previous employees who followed him to Mosen Engineering.

Just as the company was being formed, Roger's nephew, Paul Mosen had just graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in accounting. Paul was hired to perform the accounting and financing functions for Mosen Engineering. Paul went on to become the company's CFO and a partner in the business. Richard Mosen, Roger's youngest son, assumed a sales position with the company and eventually became its President.

In the 1970's, Mosen Engineering sold hand drafting tools, drafting room furniture and blueprinting machines, as well as survey levels and transits. In the 1980's, Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) replaced hand drafting tools causing drafting and engineering practices to change. The company branched out into large format scanners, plotters and Xerox engineering copier sales. Mosen Engineering opened the first large format xerographic reproduction department in Utah, managed by Roger P. Mosen, Jr.

In 1992, major changes were taking place in the land surveying industry. The U.S. Department of Defense had developed a constellation of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) satellites. Trimble Navigation began designing GPS receivers that could locate the longitude, latitude and elevation of points in space. Land surveyors adopted this technology over time and today it is the industry standard. Mosen Engineering was one of the first suppliers to present and support this technology.

After 20 years of being located in the heart of downtown Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County made plans to demolish the existing buildings and build a courthouse complex in their places. This forced Mosen's to relocate to its current, much larger, location at 960 South Main Street.

In 1998, Clark County, Nevada became the fastest growing county in the United States. "The strategic addition of stores in Nevada was important to our growth." Richard says. "During a Las Vegas building boom in 1998, we partnered with Mike Grill, who helped us gain a strong foothold in the Las Vegas market. He manages and operates our Las Vegas store to this day."

In 2003, Mosen Engineering had an opportunity to acquire a twenty-year old family-owned company in Reno, Nevada. Marty Crook, a well-known supplier to the local survey industry and former competitor, became a valuable part of the Mosen Engineering team. He continues to manage

Mosen Engineering's Reno store and oversees repair services and equipment sales in Northern Nevada.

Mosen Engineering's talented employees have been a vital component to its success. Most employees have been with the company for a decade or more. "We pride ourselves in growing talent from within and molding them into great contributors of our success," Richard said. "For the last thirteen years, the third generation of the Mosen family has been built into its core."

**"At the age when most men would be looking toward retirement, Roger was facing an uncertain future. However, Roger was determined to remain in the industry and put together the idea of going into business for himself. He had an established reputation in the industry for fairness, and that reputation paid off. He was able to convince several of the major suppliers to give him their products to sell in the region."**

Based on Mosen Engineering's reputation within the industry, manufacturers continue to present them with new opportunities and ground breaking technologies. The company recently added a completely new department dedicated to the newest industrial measurement technology, 3D scanning and printing. Opportunities to expand into new markets and geographic locations also continue to present themselves.

Mosen Engineering prides itself in being a valued community partner. The Nevada Association of Land Surveyors has presented multiple "Member of the Year" awards to Mosen Engineering for its supportive role through consistent involvement with NALS, its programs and objectives. In addition, the company offers the Roger P. Mosen Memorial Scholarship to students in both Utah and Nevada, in an effort to promote the land surveying profession among the region's college students.

After 40 years in business, Mosen Engineering's products have changed, but their clients within the design and building industries have remained the same. "We have been blessed with many years when the economy and growth within the architectural, engineering, land surveying, mining and construction industries were very strong." Also unchanged is what Richard says was Roger's business plan when he started the company, "Do the right thing, take care of the customers, and the profit will follow." That simple plan is still in effect at Mosen Engineering. ◀

# Communicating to the Members



BY MICHAEL NADEAU, PLS/CFeds



I was recently in a meeting when the subject of TwiST came up. One of the surveyors in the conversation spoke up and said..."what is TwiST". As I went on to explain TwiST, I was interrupted with, "See, we got the same problem with the current WestFed Rep as we had with the last one. The general members never hear what's going on in WestFed!" I was shocked by this response. I went on to explain that I have had many reports about TwiST, WestFed, and what is going on in WestFed, as did the previous representative. I was astonished that somebody didn't know what was going on in WestFed and for that matter, hasn't read any of my reports. Then I came to the realization, this surveyor has probably not read any of the reports from any committee, chapter, or board minutes, and has no clue what is going on in the UCLS.

If you are still reading this...that's a good thing and maybe you are one of the members who reads the reports from the UCLS and knows what is going on, but

I'm really reaching out to the opposite member. The member who may not read all the reports and for that matter, may not know where to get the reports on what the UCLS is doing. With this article, I'm hoping to let the membership know where they can go to be informed and stay informed.

I've heard before that many members feel that the UCLS Executive Board is a group of surveyors who act on their own needs and not the needs of the membership. I can definitely assure you, the executive board is not a bunch of maverick surveyors that don't have your best interest in mind. We are surveyors just like you, and we take direction from the general membership with regard to the profession. Sadly, many times, we just don't get any direction from the membership, even when we ask for it. So we act in your best interest based on the best available information we have. I can assure you that the members of the UCLS

board are human just like you, and we make mistakes. So if you have a gripe or frustration, come talk to any member of the UCLS Executive Board (see below of how to get into contact with any of us).

**An involved and engaged membership is one who knows what the officers are doing and helps guide those officers to the needs of the membership.**

I would like to point out to our members a few good communication recourses that will help all of us stay involved, engaged, and up to speed with what is going on in the UCLS.

- First and foremost, if you can't find something you need, go to the UCLS website. It's recently been revamped, and gets more information added all the time. Most member questions can be answered here:  
<https://www.ucls.org>
- Another link you can look at for updates, links to the Newsletter and Foresights, as well as find pictures of recent conventions (including old surveying comrades you might know), you need to add <https://www.facebook.com/pages/UCLS.org> to your Facebook newsfeed. You are much more inclined to read the UCLS Newsletter when it pops up on your Facebook newsfeed.
- Here is a cool link. Did you know the UCLS publishes the approved minutes of every executive board meeting? You can find out what the board is talking about, voting on, and working on, by clicking this link: <http://www.ucls.org/ucls-history>. Currently, all board meeting minutes back to January of 2011 are on-line!



- ▶ As a member, you get your own username and password to enter the member's only area of the UCLS website. You can search for other members of the UCLS, email other members of the UCLS through an online messaging service, or browse through old issues of Utah Foresights. A link to the Foresights dating back to 2008 is right here: <https://ucls.memberclicks.net/publications>
- ▶ If you have a questions or comments about a specific chapter of the UCLS, the UCLS in general, the NSPS, or WestFed, you can contact any of those officers here: <http://www.ucls.org/officers>. Many of you have questions, or even want to join a committee of the UCLS, but don't know who to talk to. I definitely urge everyone to join a committee, because this is where all the real work in the UCLS happens. Point your browser here <http://www.ucls.org/committee-listing> and see if there is a committee you would be interested in, then contact the chairman of that committee. All of our committees are open to the general membership to attend and participate in.
- ▶ As of the beginning of this year, with your membership, you are also a member of the National Society of Professional Surveyors: <http://www.nsps.us.com/>. Also as a member of the UCLS, you are also under the umbrella of a couple other organizations including the Utah Engineers Council: <http://www.utahengineerscouncil.org/> and the Western Federation of Professional Surveyors: <http://www.wfps.org>. These links have tons of information for you to browse though.
- ▶ If all else fails, please don't hesitate to contact our Executive Secretary Susan Merrill who can be reached at [srmerrill@ucls.org](mailto:srmerrill@ucls.org). She is invaluable when you need help and can't find something in any of the links above. Of course you can always reach me at [MikeNadeau.UCLS@gmail.com](mailto:MikeNadeau.UCLS@gmail.com) and I certainly welcome your comments and questions.

Hopefully you have a little better understanding of how to get current information about what the UCLS is doing locally, regionally, and nationally. I urge you to use the links above regularly. You will stay informed and become engaged in this great profession.

Just so we come full circle now...what is TwiST? TwiST is "Teaching with Spatial Technology" and is geared toward educators in Jr. High and High school. It specifically introduces them to the technology we use as surveyors in the hope that they will bring some or all of the curriculum back to their schools. This is a great marketing tool for our profession as it teaches students a little about the technology we use, and may also guide a student into this profession when they get older. For the last two years in a row, the UCLS has sent 2 educators to Washington for this training, and the NCEES has reimbursed the UCLS for 50% of our costs for this. If you know of a Jr. High or High school educator who would like to go, please contact me. More TwiST information can be found at <http://www.wfps.org>.◀

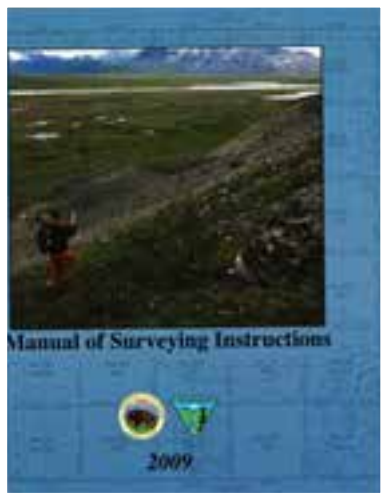


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The Bureau of Land Management has released an electronic, searchable, version of the 2009 Edition of the Manual of Survey Instructions. The link to this downloadable version is:

<http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/more/cadastralsurvey.html>

Daniel W. Webb  
BLM, Utah State Office (UT925)  
Division of Lands & Minerals  
Chief, Branch of Geographic Sciences  
Chief Cadastral Surveyor, Utah  
801-539-4135  
dwebb@blm.gov

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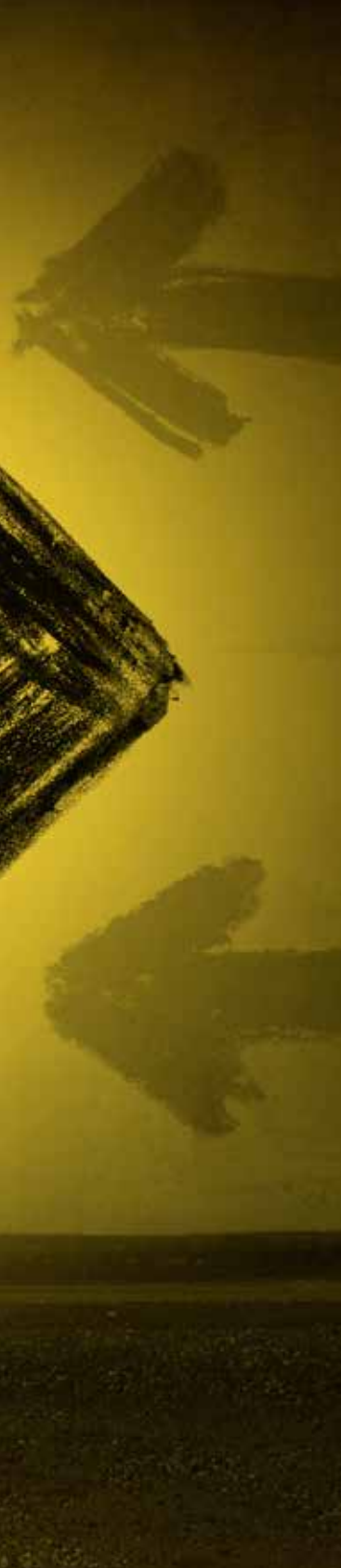




# Standards Committee Report

BY TIM PRESTWICH





**M**any years ago I was in the office of a municipal government employee to talk about a land development project. His office was rather ordinary, full of the familiar décor of plan sheets and file folders. But one thing in his office stood out to me, an ordinary 8.5x11 white sheet hanging skewed from a pin on the wall behind him with a quote attributed to Voltaire:

“The wonderful thing about standards is that there are so many to choose from.”

Over the years I have seen that quote, or variations of it, attributed to many different authors. Regardless of who first said it, I believe most surveyors understand the sentiment. Particularly when it comes to preparing and recording Subdivision Plats.

It seems that every City and every County has its own idea of what a plat should look like. And the requirements from any two cities are never the same. Worst of all, just when you think you have a city’s plat requirements figured out, they change them. It can leave surveyors frustrated and confused.

It is common to hear questions about Subdivision plats like: Who signs on the plat? What does the Surveyor certify? Does zoning information belong on the plat? How about fire hydrant and street light locations? What does State Law say about plats? And who decides what goes on a plat?

The UCLS Standards and Ethics Committee started asking these questions and many others about subdivision plats in Utah. Under the direction of the State Executive Board the Standards and Ethics Committee has assembled a document on Subdivision Plats and it will soon be available for the UCLS Membership.

The Final Subdivision Plat Guidance Document/ Model Standard is a result of hundreds of hours of research, presentation and debates by the Standards and Ethics Committee. It is intended to provide guidelines for Professional Land Surveyors and other land use professionals regarding the laws, ordinances, and requirements for the preparation of subdivision plats in the State of Utah.

One of the tasks assigned to the Standards and Ethics committee is to prepare and maintain standards of practice manual. This has gotten a lot of momentum in recent years. In 2010

the Committee worked on the revised Model Standards for Boundary Surveys. In 2012 the Committee produced the Guide for Preparing Corner Records in Utah. After Subdivision Plats the Committee is planning to address condominium plats, Final Local Entity Maps, Road Dedication Plats and Rights-of-Way Surveys.

In producing these standards UCLS is attempting to educate its members as well as people who work with surveyors in allied professions or in State or Local Government. The standards provide thresholds limits governing surveyor’s behavior that can be recognized by surveyors and the public.

Steve Dale, the Co-Chair of the Standards and Ethics Committee was discussing the Final Subdivision Plat Guidance Document/Model Standard with a well known and regarded Land Title Professional. When asked his opinion the Title Professional responded enthusiastically, “Great, this is wonderful. Why has it taken you guys so long to do it?” He went on to explain the difficulties that are created in his work because of the lack of a standard. Particularly when working with people from other states, because after learning there is no Utah Standard to rely on they too often insist the plat follow the standards from the state they are familiar.

A Subdivision Plat is a unique document prepared by a Professional Land Surveyor, and he or she is the only one who puts a professional stamp on it. But a surveyor does not make a subdivision plat alone. A plat represents a collaborative effort of many people and agencies.

Will the Final Subdivision Plat Guidance Document/Model Standard make it so that all plats look the same for every city in the State? No, that would take a very carefully crafted State Law to do that. But after reading the Final Subdivision Plat Guidance Document/Model Standard a surveyor will better understand why each city is different and why all those signature blocks are on a plat. And a surveyor will be better prepared to have intelligent, meaningful discussions about plats with their clients and government officials.

It is also my personal hope that it will encourage Professional Land Surveyors to think and talk about what, why, and how things are shown on the subdivision plat. With the end result being subdivision plats that are more complete, accurate and informative while protecting the property rights and interests of the public. ◀



# UCLS Education Committee Report

BY DANIAL L. PERRY



- Handouts including how-to instructions will be provided to each attendee
- The training will include learning how to use the basics of the software such that each person could take home a map at the end of the day that they have completed using ArcGIS®

We are excited about this year's Fall forum because we think knowing how to use GIS in your professional practice will enhance your business by giving you added skills and knowledge which can be used to add value to your deliverables and provide you with more billable hours.

## Other Educational Topics

On behalf of the Education Committee UVU is looking into the possibility of offering a variety of workshop/seminars on topics which often do not get covered during the Annual Convention or the Fall Forum but which are still relevant and useful to Survey Technicians and Licensed Surveyors. Some of these topic ideas could include Geodesy, Least Squares Adjustment, Metrology, Civil3D, Control Networks, etc. We have met with UVU's Senior Director of Community College and we think these workshop/seminars can be of the caliber and academic rigor that the hours could be accumulated towards to completion of specific UVU Geomatics courses for credit. Of course they can also count as professional development hours. If you have any topics you think would be useful please contact Dan Perry at [perrydl@uvu.edu](mailto:perrydl@uvu.edu) or 801-863-8525. ◀

## 2014 Fall Forum: An Update

Utah Valley University has the privilege of hosting the Utah Council of Land Surveyors (UCLS) 2014 Fall Forum. This year's forum will provide excellent hands-on workshop training for the most common Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software called ArcGIS® produced by ESRI. In addition to the flyer which you have already received the following is an update and enhancement of the information previously provided.

The last time this training was attempted was during the 2012 UCLS Annual Convention held in Sandy, Utah. We had several problems with this training session ALL of which were logistical in nature (i.e. No internet connection,

not enough computers, software, and/or workbooks for the attendees). However, we have a totally different environment and circumstances this year.

The 2014 Fall Forum will be held in the UVU GIS/Drafting and Design computer labs. This means:

- 1-2 people per computer (depending on number of attendees)
- An instructor and two lab aides for each computer lab with 20 computers per lab
- Each computer is already loaded with functioning ArcGIS® software (because these are the labs we teach GIS in every day)



# Lobbyist Report

BY RYAN PETERSON



**H**ow does government impact our lives and our businesses? When asked this question, many people immediately talk about taxes, healthcare, military, etc. What people are sometimes unaware of is the impact of the state legislature.

Many of you may already know, but for those of you who don't, Utah has a lay, part time legislature. The men and women who serve in the House and Senate have other jobs outside of being legislators. They are attorneys, real estate agents, doctors, business people, stay at home moms, etc. Utah also has a very short legislative session. Each year, they convene in full session for only 45 days from Mid January to early March. That

gives them a very short window to negotiate and vote on a budget and to deal with nearly 1000 proposed policy changes. This combination can often lead to quick decisions regarding important issues with sometimes missing information. This is why the UCLS has hired me as their consultant. As a consultant, I work in tandem with the UCLS board and the legislative committee to make sure that the legislature understands your industry and the impact that their laws may have on the professional land surveyor in the state of Utah. It is often a relationship that is able to open the doors necessary to truly make an impact on policies; I hope that I am able to appropriately provide that service to the professional land surveyors in the state.

**LOBBYIST** continued on page 24

## LOBBYIST continued from page 23

There are a few interesting items that are on the horizon that we have been following as a legislative committee. Some are immediately impactful to the industry while others we are simply trying to “keep an eye on them”.

One that we are keeping our eye on is a bill proposed in the state of Wyoming to significantly alter their trespassing law, and it is heading in the wrong direction. Legislators often look to surrounding states to find laws that can be adopted here in the state of Utah. We will work with legislators to ensure that the way our neighbors to the east are headed is not the direction we should be heading.

Another one we are watching is the increasingly tight regulation on the use of drones. As commercial grade drones with high definition cameras are becoming more affordable, the government is stepping in to ensure that privacy is protected and that drones are used safely. Often when a new technology is beginning to gain momentum, the government gets nervous and wants to overregulate it. This last session there was a bill that was meant to stop someone from gathering information or images about someone using a drone, without a search warrant. The bill had good intentions, but the way it was drafted was significantly too broad and could have impacted the use of a drone

by a surveyor. We are going to want to watch how this plays out and make sure that legislators don't overregulate a technology that could be a great forward leap for this industry.

We are continuing to work on changes to the education requirements for professional land surveyors. There are those who feel that we are simply trying to be “gate keepers” or trying to cost other industries more money. We are working with the leaders of those industries to help them better understand the reasons for the proposed changes.

Finally we are intimately involved in the changes that are being made to the Utah state procurement code. They are beginning to work with service contracts and they are dealing specifically with ethics reform and a few other minor changes. We are working along side ACEC, AGC, and others to make sure that this is done in a fair and reasonable way. We will provide updates as available.

If you have an issue that you would like to discuss, or you would like more information on how the UCLS is involved with the Utah State Legislature, please contact the UCLS legislative committee. ◀

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# Golden Spike Chapter Report

BY DAVID BALLING



It's time to be thinking about getting involved in UCLS. Elections are right around the corner and we always welcome help like yours. Don't be shy. Come give back something to this great profession that has served you so well.



**T**he Golden Spike Chapter held a meeting at noon on August 14th at the Coppermill restaurant in Logan (55 N Main Street). Our speaker will be Shanon Esplin from DOPL. He answered our questions on PDH's or how they review a complaint about a surveyor. The food was great and the company is good to be with.

September 11th is also a Thursday and our lunch. It was held at the Roosters in Layton. Troy Langston told us about the latest and greatest equipment in the field.

It's time to be thinking about getting involved in UCLS. Elections are right around the corner and we always welcome help like yours. Don't be shy. Come give back something to this great profession that has served you so well.

We will continue to have meetings each month and keep you informed. Even if you're not a member, please come and enjoy with us. ◀

# Western Federation of Professional Surveyors Report

BY MICHAEL NADEAU, PLS/CFedS

**T**he Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) held a Board of Directors meeting on May 3, 2014 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The meeting focused on strategic planning and further defining the role of WFPS. A draft mission statement was developed as follows:

*The Western Federation of Professional Surveyors is a conduit for interstate communication and provides resources to its member associations. WFPS advances the profession of surveying by fostering common goals and relationships with-*

*in the western states, promoting public awareness of the profession, supporting education, and providing a regional voice.*

The above draft mission statement will be further refined as WFPS continues the strategic planning process at their September meeting. WFPS will remain steadfast in their commitment to better serve the individual state associations. With that in mind, a survey is being developed and will be sent to state association Presidents and Executive Directors. The survey will request input from WFPS state Associations regarding possible services and/or assistance that WFPS can provide.

Highlights from the meeting include the development of some new programs/resources and the expansion of existing programs.

- Programs being developed to promote the surveying profession:
- 30 second "Elevator Pitch"
  - Brochure "How the Profession Serves the Public"
  - Continuation of the Teaching with Spatial Technology (TwIST) program
- Resources being developed to benefit all state associations:
- Speakers bureau
  - Article bank
  - Quarterly book review articles



Examples of WFPS serving as a regional voice:

- Support letters (continuing education, four-year degree programs, etc.)
- Compilation of QBS information



I would love to see more UCLS members join the WFPS Facebook page.

For those of you with a Facebook account, go and like the page at: <https://www.facebook.com/westfed>

Our next meeting will be held September 13th in Phoenix, Arizona and we

“Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude.”

– Thomas Jefferson

are looking at Boise, Idaho in early 2015. As your representative, I represent you. If you would like anything survey related discussed on a regional level at these upcoming meetings, don't hesitate to contact me at [MikeNadeau.UCLS@gmail.com](mailto:MikeNadeau.UCLS@gmail.com).

“Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his

goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude.” – Thomas Jefferson ◀

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**About WFPS**  
The Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) was formed in 1979. The Board of Directors includes two Delegates from each of the 13 western states. WFPS serves as a regional voice for land surveyors and meets quarterly to discuss practice issues affecting western state surveyors. For more information about WFPS and the state associations, visit [WFPS.org](http://WFPS.org)

# National Association of Professional Surveyors

BY STEVE KEISEL



## It's a great day to be a surveyor!

**A**s the elected representative from the Utah Council of Land Surveyors, I attended the spring meeting of the National Association of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) and the Western States Governors Council meeting in San Diego California April 13-16, 2014. The NSPS fall meetings will be in Overland Park, Kansas during October 22-24, 2014. Additionally, numerous phone calls have been made and text messages circulated to keep the UCLS Board and the general membership informed.

The following NSPS items may be of interest to you:

- NSPS News and Views is a great way to obtain survey related information. As a member of UCLS/NSPS, you should be receiving an email every Wednesday morning. If you are not getting this valuable information, I suggest you review your UCLS user account and verify you have a correct email address.
- Lubin Deng of Cherry Creek High School in Greenwood Village, Colorado, was recognized as the winner of the National Trig-Star award.
- NSPS made the following recommendations to the House Committee on Appropriations on Interior, Environment, and Related Areas:
  - o NSPS enthusiastically support the USGS 3DEP, or 3-dimensional elevation program. We respectfully urge the subcommittee to fully fund this important program as requested in the President's budget, or, if possible, increase the appropriations level to meet the extraordinary demand for current, accurate elevation data for the nation.
  - o Language should be included to reaffirming that USGS utilize the private sector for more than 50 percent of its appropriated mapping and digital data production funds
  - o Request that the Secretary identify the over 100 property systems and indicate how many are still maintained by the Department today and what has been done to integrate, merge, consolidate, or terminate them.
- Now in its eighth year, the Schonstedt Humanitarian De-mining Initiative has provided 477 donated magnetic locators to United Nations-supported humanitarian de-mining teams operating in 27 countries. Each unit purchased for donation to this cause is matched one-for-one by the company and sent, according to UN priorities, to where they are most needed in the world.
- (NSPS) held its 13th Annual Student Competition in conjunction with the California Land Surveyors Association (CLSA) and the Nevada Association of Land Surveyors (NALS) conference in San Diego, California. Eight schools with baccalaureate degree programs in surveying, surveying engineering technology, and/or surveying engineering



participated. This year's competition was the completion of an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey, and culminated in a "client briefing" style presentation at the conference.

- o **Results: Honorable Mention - Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah**
- o The 2015 competition will feature two divisions, one for Associates degree programs, and one for Bachelor's degree programs. The competition will be a pre-development existing conditions mapping project.
- Question: I have often used whatever contract my client has presented to me, signing the agreements without giving it much thought. I have also completed projects without using a written agreement. Recently a client asked for insurance certificates with much higher insurance limits than I had agreed to when signing the contract. Although we resolved the matter amicably, should I be paying more attention to client-generated agreements?
  - o See NSPS News & Views Ask Vic column for the answer
- Table A of the ALTA/ACSM survey states; "place monuments at all major corners of the boundary of the property." At face value, every angle break of the property is a corner, but the word "major" seems interpretational to a degree. Such as the boundary that is generally rectangular in shape, but has 25 different corners/angle points.

Does setting the four (4) primary corners satisfying the item?

- o See NSPS ALTA/ACSM questions for the answer
- NSPS members and state surveying societies should contact their Senators and urge them to cosponsor the soon-to-be-introduced "Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform (FLAIR) Act of 2014." Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Mike Lee (R-UT) plan to introduce the Senate companion to H.R. 916, a bipartisan bill in the U.S. House by sponsored by Representatives Ron Kind (D-WI) and Rob Bishop (R-UT), that has already been approved by a House committee. This bill would formally authorize a comprehensive, multi-purpose inventory of Federal land by the Department of the Interior which will provide surveying and mapping data for our national assets and liabilities on a parcel-by-parcel basis.
- A Department of Transportation (DoT) plan that would establish limits on the power of transmissions from bands adjacent to GPS and other GNSS services will get its first hearing at a September 18 meeting in Cambridge, Massachusetts. ◀

Please let me, or a member of the UCLS Board, know if you have a need for a national voice to assist you with local issue and concern. Additional information and resources can also be found by visiting the UCLS and NSPS websites

# Another Trick or Two

BY SAM SURVEYOR



// If only I would have talked to them sooner, this whole misunderstanding could have been cleared up easy and over.” How many of us have heard something like this before? A would a, could a, should a, type experience. It brings to mind the story of a man stranded.

After doing a one man GPS survey job in the desert, John packed up and started for home. When he had gone only a little way on the dirt road, he heard that dreadful sound of a blowout. He got out and surveyed (ha ha) the situation. He pulled out the spare and tire iron. When he pulled out the jack, he found it had been busted. “How did that happen?” “No wonder my brother was so eager to put it back after he barrowed it last summer.” Finding no way to raise the truck, he looked around. He noticed a farm house

a mile or so down the road. “Every farmer has a jack “he said, so off he went. A mile is a long walk after a long day of work. If you’re like me, you tend to talk out loud or speculate. He thought to himself “I’ll bet some old rusty cogger lives there, and if he’s anything like my Uncle Sam he’s so stingy he’ll want a \$500 holding fee.” “He’ll tell me what an idiot I am for not checking these things before I left.” On and on he talked to himself, weaving a web of deceit and deception about this old farmer. By the time he had arrived, he was red with fury and very worked up. Pounding on the door the man answered and our stranded surveyor responded, “You can keep your damn jack I don’t need your help anyway!!”

How often do we say to our self that their survey is no good, and we weave a web? Our associates are like us. So much

like us that we choose the same work. If there was anyone who we should be able to get along with, it should be another surveyor. You are a good person aren’t you? Well, so are the other surveyors. Let’s trust them just like you are, you’re someone to be trusted. If someone needed my help, I would hold out the hand, just like you. Truly, we need to communicate; there is safety in numbers and opinions. Let’s talk about our work. I used to meet with other surveyors at lunch on Wednesdays. I would share surveys and concerns and together we grew friendships and insight. Brothers, let get it together and move forward. Oh, and by the way, Elections are coming. Get involved.

I hope to see you in the trades, I mean fields. Remember I’ve got you in my sights. ◀

## UCLS congratulates the following, who recently obtained their Professional Land Surveying License:

- Matthew A. Burrell
- Trevor J. Hatch
- Martina Nelson
- Kent D. Setterberg
- Benjamin Slater

## UCLS welcomes the following, who recently joined the Council:

- Travis Warren

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