

ASPRS – Professional Practice Division, Licensing Committee Report
Summaries of Regional Licensing Activity
March 2005

Prepared by: Doug Fuller, Chair of the Licensing Committee

Alaska Region:

Reported By: Paul Brooks, Karen Schuckman

Current Activity: ASPLS passed a motion at their meeting the week of 2/21/2005 with language for licensure. It came up at the ACSM Alaska Section business meeting where the proposed Survey Regulations, developed by the Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AELS) Board on 2/17 & 18, 2005, were presented. The AELS Board passed motions to initiate the regulations and ACSM Alaska Section adopted their recommendations this week at their annual meeting. It was a complete surprise to everybody involved except for the few in the know. Not sure what action ASPLS has taken in regard to these proposed regulations, but will try and find out. Not sure where this will lead to, but from what I hear, it will be presented to the Legislature.

Central Region:

Reported By: Jackson Cothren

Current Activity: Missouri - no activity to report

Kansas - no activity to report

Oklahoma - no activity to report

Arkansas - A grass roots effort by surveyors, photogrammetrists, and geospatial professionals to modify the language of the land surveyor licensing statute is underway. The intent of the modifications is to strengthen and clarify the current legislation. No bill has been proposed in the current session.

Central New York Region:

Reported By: Ed Freeborn

Current Activity: I don't have anything to report regarding regional licensure activity other than the attached draft proposal which is currently under review.

If it is accepted, it will be put before the NYS GIS Coordinating Body on 3 March. Let me know if you have comments, questions or markups, especially since I will be coming back to all of you if it is accepted.

Columbia River Region:

Reported By: Mike Renslow

Current Activity: In Oregon, the Photogrammetry Task Force worked closely with the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveyor (OSBEELS) throughout the summer of 2004. The process involved several changes to the language of proposed legislation for the 2005 Oregon Legislature. ASPRS representatives became involved as a possible source for an examination for new licensed photogrammetrists.

In December, OSBEELS representatives and the Task Force met to finalize the proposed legislation language which contained a 'grand fathering clause and a process to license photogrammetrists. This proposed new law is now in the agenda for the 2005 Oregon Legislative Session. The local supporters have written letters of endorsement to the appropriate committees.

Eastern Great Lakes Region:

Reported By: Charles Olson

Current Activity: Currently all of the licensure movement has been by surveyors wanting all mapping and GIS under them. Michigan is staying on the sidelines so far. Michigan has no enforcement capabilities so I do not anticipate any action in the near future.

Florida Region:

Reported By: Gary Florence

Current Activity: Here is the latest for the state of Florida concerning PSM's:

The Florida State Statutes - Chapter 472 which regulates the licensure of surveyors and mappers may be amended to consider certifying as qualified for a license by endorsement any applicant who

is a practicing photogrammetrists
holds the Certified Photogrammetrist designation of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS).

Held such designation on or before July 1, 2005;
Be a graduate of a 4-year course of study at an accredited college or university;
Has a specific experience record of 6 or more years as a subordinate to a Certified Photogrammetrist of the ASPRS in the active practice of surveying and mapping,

Have 5 years of which shall be of a nature indicating that the applicant was in responsible charge of the accuracy and correctness of the surveying and mapping work performed.

The course of study must have included not fewer than 32 semester hours of study or its academic equivalent.

The applicant must have completed a minimum of 25 semester hours from an approved college or university in surveying and mapping subjects or in any combination of courses in civil engineering, surveying, mapping, mathematics, photogrammetry, forestry, or land law and the physical sciences at the third or fourth year or graduate level.

Work experience acquired as a part of the education requirement shall not be construed as experience in responsible charge.

The applicant must have applied to the Department for licensure on or before July 1, 2007.

This proposed bill must be sponsored in both the House and the Senate. It appears that they are trying to get this through this session. If that is the case, then by the end of the year it could be law.

Intermountain Region:

Reported By:

Current Activity:

Mid-South Region:

Reported By:

Current Activity:

New England Region:

Reported By:

Current Activity:

North Atlantic Region:

Reported By: Terry Ann Coleman

Current Activity: With regard to licensing requirements for photogrammetrists in New Jersey, there are none to date. There have been some issues that have come on board lately about the production of topographic mapping with regard to the State requirement that it be produced by a licensed New Jersey Land Surveyor and signed by same, with no mention of the role of a photogrammetrist in this process. I am currently sitting on a committee with the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors trying to establish some guidelines for same.

As far as a GIS Specialist no licensing requirement to date but there is talk of that soon changing.

Northern California Region:

Reported By: Lorraine Amenda

Current Activity: I have not heard of anything happening in California.

Potomac Region:

Reported By: John Simmers

Current Activity: Virginia- Briefly, the legislation being proposed provides for the following: Gives authority to the Virginia Board to sub-regulate disciplines. This will allow them to add a license under "Land Surveying" that will be used to license photogrammetrists. The legislation also allows current Virginia licensed Land Surveyors to practice within the area of the sub-license providing they are duly-qualified to do so. A third item in the legislation provides for a "grandfather" period, the details of which would be worked out in the regulations.

By the end of February, the legislation had been approved by the Senate (SB 1306) by a vote of 40 – 0, and by the House (HB 2863) by a vote of 100 – 0. These two identical bills will now become one, and will head for the Governor's desk to be signed. It is anticipated that the legislation will become law effective July 1, 2005.

All parties involved had to compromise to reach the final legislative language that was proposed and approved by the Senate and the House. No interest group got everything they wanted, but all involved were satisfied with the final legislation. It is important to note the diligent and collaborative efforts invested by the Virginia Association of Surveyors (VAS), and the ASPRS Potomac Region. All involved deserve great credit for the positive outcome.

Puget Sound Region:

Reported By:

Current Activity:

Rocky Mountain Region:

Reported By: Allen Cook

Current Activity: I know of no activity in this area in the Rocky Mountain Region.

Southwest US Region:

Reported By:

Current Activity:

Western Great Lakes Region:

Reported By: Marvin Bauer

Current Activity: As far as can be determined there are no active efforts to license either photogrammetry or GIS practice in the Western Great Lakes Region.

MISC.

ASPRS became involved with the Colonial States Board of Land Surveyor Registration (CSBLSR) to develop a Photogrammetry Exam to support the licensure process. Mike Renslow and Robert Burtch met with the Exam Committee to continue development of the question bank. At the moment, the question bank has 140 questions with a goal of 250. The Committee is following the NCEES exam development procedures. NCEES will provide the housing of the question bank and administration of the exam. States have the option to use this exam for licensing photogrammetrists. The next meeting is scheduled for March 9 (hosted by ASPRS) in Baltimore to write more questions, followed by a 'review' meeting in April. He goal is to have a 2 or 4 or 8 hours exam ready by January 2006.

OSBEELS is very comfortable with the CSBLSR exam and the NCEES administration.