

ASPRS Professional Practice Division Meeting Minutes

Date: September 12, 2004
Location: Hyatt Regency Crown Center,
Kansas City, Missouri
Room: Benton B

Meeting Attendees: John Simmers-Director, Doug Fuller-Licensure Committee Chair, Eric White, Terry Curtis, Eddy Seaton, Ron Rinas, Doug Ward, Sharon Hawk, Bill Heidbreder

Director Simmers called the meeting to order at approximately 1:10PM.

Introductions

John Simmers introduced himself then introductions continued around the table.

Website

Meeting attendees were informed of the existence and location of the divisions website. Website content was briefly reviewed. It was mentioned that the website is regularly maintained and updated with information relevant to the division and its two committees. A suggestion was made to place a counter on the website to determine the number of hits made on the site. The director will pursue this possibility with the ASPRS webmaster. The director has been serving as caretaker of the website and asked if there were any volunteers to take over that responsibility. No volunteers came forward.

Strategic Plan

It was mentioned that the ASPRS master strategic plan will be revised in 2004 with Excom working on it at their December meeting. This revision will be an update to the plan and will not be a total rewrite of the plan. PPD and the other divisions use a spreadsheet to track their activities as related to the master strategic plan's goals and objectives. PPD's spreadsheet is updated periodically, and will be modified to align with the revised society's plan when it is finalized. The divisions spreadsheet may be added to the website in the near future.

Professional Definition Workgroup

The actions and history for formulating this workgroup were discussed. The workgroup met officially for the first time at 10:00AM today. Good discussion ensued from the attendees at the PPD meeting. One comment cautioned that to define singular activities (such as aerotriangulation) as professional, may conflict with the current premise of the ASPRS technologist certification program. This emphasizes the need to have a variety of individuals involved with the workgroup that can bring a broader knowledge base to help identify such potential conflicts or problem areas. Another comment suggested that the workgroup consider "professional services" or the individuals "in responsible charge" of such services as a whole, instead of the individual activities within those services. The director asked the attendees if this workgroup should become a new committee under PPD, placed under the direction of the Licensure Committee, or simply left as a "workgroup" under PPD. The majority opinion preferred to maintain as a "workgroup" under PPD. The PPD director will assume the role of

coordinator for now. The proposed plan and timeline were briefly discussed. A website under PPD will be established for the Professional Definition Workgroup.

FGDC Framework Data Standards

A comment period was opened by FGDC to receive feedback regarding the Framework Data Standards. The comment period closes October 30. See the FGDC website for details. Gary Higgs sent out an email in July to ASPRS directors requesting any feedback so that he may summarize and prepare a submittal to FGDC. A suggestion was made to notify the Census Bureau so that they would be aware of the comment period and provide comments as well.

Conference Sessions

The sponsoring of special sessions for the Baltimore conference was discussed next. The Standards Committee plans to sponsor three of ten sessions regarding standards. The Licensure Committee is planning to sponsor one session.

Licensure Committee Report

Minimal activity had occurred since May until a few days ago. A call was received by the committee chair regarding the New Mexico law which includes photogrammetry within the definition of land surveying. The New Mexico Board has begun looking at the language in an effort to determine how best to address licensing photogrammetrists. This dialogue sparked additional discussion by the PPD attendees regarding licensing activities in other states. MAPPS has implemented legislative tracking to monitor the legislation in each state. ASPRS should likewise implement a tracking system that would track the activity in each state prior to legislative development. This could benefit the committee and the regions by providing advance notice to prepare those states for future action.

Standards Committee Report

Gary Higgs was unavailable for the afternoon PPD meeting, and had briefed the PPD director and Bill Heidbreder during the morning. The Standards Committee report was given by director John Simmers. The Standards Committee has represented ASPRS at eight INCITS L1 meetings and has voted on twelve ballots since January. Emails have been broadcast to the region and division directors requesting experts for standards reviews. Seven reviews are currently active being guided by ASPRS members. A number of documents have been developed and posted to the Standards Committee website. Gary requested the following items be presented to the full board for informational purposes: A listing of 42 worldwide standards being reviewed by INCITS L1; a response from Dan Paulsen evaluating one of the standards; and a list of the standards currently being worked on by the Standards Committee. Also, a reminder needs to be made to the full board to include funds in the 2005 budget for continuing membership in INCITS L1.

The director asked for any other business, or for anything that had been missed or not discussed. Nothing further was mentioned resulting in the meeting adjournment at 4:45PM.