

ASPRS Professional Practice Division Meeting Minutes

Date: May 24, 2004
Location: Adams Mark Hotel,
Denver, Colorado
Room: Directors Row E

Meeting Attendees: John Simmers-Director, Dan Paulsen-Assistant Director, Doug Fuller-Licensure Committee Chair, Gary Higgs-Standards Committee Chair, Jim Plasker-ASPRS ED, Karen Schuckman-ASPRS Vice President, Nadine Alameh, Eric White, Dave Maune, Terry Curtis, Keith Hangland, Earl Burkholder, Richard Carlson, Jr.

Director Simmers called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05AM.

Introductions

John Simmers introduced himself and the newly elected PPD Assistant Director, Dan Paulsen. Introductions continued around the table.

Division Operating Procedures

The division's operating procedures were briefly discussed to inform those in attendance that PPD and the other four divisions had developed operating procedures. As per ASPRS bylaws, each division must have operating procedures for executing the business of the division. The procedures were developed to be used "as-is" by the divisions or used as a "template" to develop unique procedures for the respective division. PPD had elected to use the procedures "as-is" at the fall, 2003 conference in Charleston, SC. PPD will continue to use the procedures in this manner until a need arises to customize them for a specific/unique reason or application.

Website

The division's website was discussed and committee members were notified that the website had been relocated to the University of Missouri server. This move is transparent to users, and access is accomplished in the same manner. Unique pages for the Licensure and Standards committees have been developed. Varying documents and links to other information have been posted to the pages. A unique section regarding INCITS L1 activities has been posted on the Standards Committee page. John Simmers has been serving as caretaker of the website and asked if there were any volunteers to take over that responsibility. No volunteers came forward, so John will continue to maintain the division website.

Division Activities

Several items had come to the attention of PPD since the Charleston conference.

- The ASPRS Qualifications Based Selection Policy originated by Karen Schuckman and completed by John Simmers, had been submitted to Excom at their February, 2004 meeting. Excom approved the policy and the item was added to the consent agenda for consideration by the full board at Denver. The QBS policy indicates that ASPRS advocates the use of Qualifications Based Selection for the procurement of professional services as defined by the

ASPRS Policy and Procedures on the Licensure of Photogrammetrists and GIS Professionals, and endorses the premise that QBS serves the best interest of the public.

- The General Services Administration (GSA) and FAR Secretariat had opened a comment period regarding the removal of a reference to NIMA in FAR 36.601-4(a)(4). ASPRS learned of the comment period late, and had only a few weeks to submit a statement. PPD developed a position statement which was reviewed and modified with comments from the External Affairs Committee, several Excom members, and the Executive Director. The statement was submitted under the Executive Director's signature to the FAR Secretariat on May 20, 2004. The position of ASPRS was that the removal of the reference to NIMA did not affect the intent of the law and that the statement should remain "as-is", without the reference to NIMA.

The division's strategic plan will need to be updated to include the previously mentioned items.

Strategic Plan Update

The division's strategic plan was then discussed. Paper copies were distributed to Doug Fuller and Gary Higgs. It was mentioned that the ASPRS master strategic plan will be revised throughout 2004, with a portion of the board meeting in Kansas City being devoted to this effort. Individual division strategic plans will need to be harmonious with the society's master plan. John Simmers updated the division's plan in November, 2003, and will update the plan again in June, 2004, after the spring conference. John asked Doug and Gary to review the division's plan and provide him with any changes, additions, etc. by mid-June. The final draft will be posted to the website and a copy will be provided to the chair of the Division Directors Committee.

Conference Sessions

The sponsoring of special sessions for upcoming conferences was discussed next. The Kansas City conference deadlines have passed, so the committees will plan for sessions at Baltimore, 2005. Both the Licensure and Standards Committees will plan to hold a session or panel discussion at Baltimore. Dave Maune (technical program director for Baltimore) was present and stated that the paper deadline was July 1, and that the panel session deadline was September 1. John, Doug, and Gary will stay in contact with each other to further develop the sessions.

Licensure Committee Report-

Doug Fuller presented his report on regional licensing activity. Only four regions had reported back to Doug regarding the activities within their respective region. It was suggested to remind the National Directors that this is one of their responsibilities and they need to work with individuals within their regions who are knowledgeable about licensing activities and communicate back to the Licensure committee. John Simmers stated that he would bring this to the attention of the National Directors at the board meeting on Thursday. Included in Doug's report was a document regarding legislative action initiated by the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) in Oregon. OSBEELS has agreed to sponsor new legislation that would change Oregon's current definition of surveying to better clarify practices that require supervision by a licensed land surveyor. Additionally several states were mentioned that are initiating some level of activity regarding licensure. These states include Alaska, Arizona, New York, South Dakota, and Texas. John asked Doug to follow up with the regions, or other representatives of these states, and include whatever information he

found in a revised licensure report. The revised regional licensing report will be posted at the Licensure Committee website. Jim Plasker mentioned that ASPRS is working with the state of South Carolina to provide questions for their state photogrammetry examination. The ASPRS POLC representatives are Karen Schuckman and Doug Fuller. The 2004 POLC report is posted at the Licensure committee website. Future POLC reports will likewise, be posted at this website. A suggestion was received to send the POLC report to the National Directors.

Standards Committee Report-

Gary Higgs presented his report on Standards Committee activity. ASPRS began its representation on the INCITS L1 committee at the beginning of 2004. Gary attended the first meeting in-person, and has teleconferenced on the second and third meetings. Seven ballots have been submitted for approval. Gary has maintained ASPRS at 100% participation in INCITS L1 meetings and voting (as required). In response to the varying standards issues put forth on the ballots, Gary has developed two reference teams to support him with emerging standards research. One team is headed by Dan Paulsen, with the second team headed by Kathy Peila. Rick Pearsall is the alternate representative for the INCITS L1 participation and offers an extensive amount of knowledge to support Gary and the INCITS L1 effort. Nadine Alameh volunteered to assist Gary with INCITS L1 activities from her Washington-area location as well. Gary is polling the other divisions for emerging standards that will need to be sponsored by ASPRS through INCITS L1. A document will be developed outlining how this process works and the actions that must occur in order to elevate a standard to an INCITS L1 ballot. It was proposed to start with the Lidar LAS format approved by the board last year, but the Lidar committee has requested that they be permitted to re-draft their standard, so the standard is not ready to submit to INCITS L1 at this time.

The position statement, definitions, and procedures that Gary developed for the standards committee have been posted to the Standards Committee website, along with the INCITS L1 reports, and various other standards related links and documents.

New Business

At the External Affairs Committee meeting, an action was requested to develop an ASPRS-sponsored definition for "professional" and professional activities. The definition must accommodate the industry and should not be exclusive to ASPRS only. PPD was charged with taking the lead on developing the definition. Several ASPRS members with affiliations in other professional organizations were suggested as participants to develop an accurate and applicable definition. The definition should be in draft form for review at the fall, 2004 conference. John Simmers will initiate the effort to develop the definition.

John Simmers 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 11:00AM.