

## Message from the Head

Dear Valued Readers:

This semester has been a busy one with several activities taking place. We had our Geomatics Exposition Day, which used to be known as Career Day, on January 31st. This year, we had a record number of participating organizations (forty national and international companies participating in this event). We also had a record number of first year engineering student who joined this event to explore potential career opportunities in Geomatics. On behalf of the Department, I would like to thank the Geomatics Engineering Student Society (GESS) and the Geomatics Exposition Student Committee for all their efforts in organizing this year's event. We also hosted our annual meetings of the Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee (GELC) on January 30th and the Geomatics Engineering Advisory Committee (GEAC) on March 14th. These meetings gave us the opportunity to meet with the Department's external supporters and solicit valuable feedback to ensure first-class service to our undergraduate and graduate students. As part of our efforts to promote Geomatics to first year engineering students, we had a recruitment event on March 5th where we had speakers to highlight the wide range of Geomatics applications in various industries, in general, and Oil and Gas, in particular. The

Department's Annual Awards Night took place on March 14th. On behalf of the Department, I would like to congratulate all the award winners and wish them continued success throughout their academic and professional careers. More details regarding these events are provided throughout this newsletter.

I would like to congratulate the Geomatics second year students for finishing the first full semester in Geomatics Engineering. I hope that they had a chance to know more about Geomatics and we are looking forward to providing more information about the exciting activities in Geomatics Engineering throughout the third year. To our fourth year students:

well done on finishing your studies. It has been a pleasure having you in the Geomatics family for the last few years and we wish you all the best in your future endeavors as Geomatics Engineers. We hope that you will maintain a long-term relationship with the Department through your active participation in the recently formed Schulich School of Engineering Geomatics Alumni Chapter. Your feedback regarding your experience in the department and how it relates to your work experience will be essential to the success of our efforts in delivering graduates ready for any challenges they might face.

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### COMING EVENTS

- Geomatics Student  
Switzerland Trip  
May 2-14, 2013
- ENGO 623  
Inertial Surveys and  
INS/GPS Integration  
Spring Session  
May 21-31, 2013
- Schulich School of Engineering  
Convocation  
Monday, June 10, 2013  
2:00 pm  
Jack Simpson Gymnasium
- ENGO 638  
GNSS Receiver Design  
Summer Session  
July 2-August 14, 2013
- ENGO 501  
Geomatics Field Surveys  
Kananaskis Field Station  
Kananaskis, Alberta  
August 18-28, 2013



**First Year Special Event**  
Tuesday, March 5 · 5 - 8 pm  
That Empty Space (next to Subway), MacEwan Student Centre  
Food and refreshments will be served.

**FIND YOURSELF HERE.**

**Come hear where a career in Geomatics Engineering can take you.**

**2 Prize Draws for a Samsung Galaxy Tab**

www.geomatics.ucalgary.ca

# AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

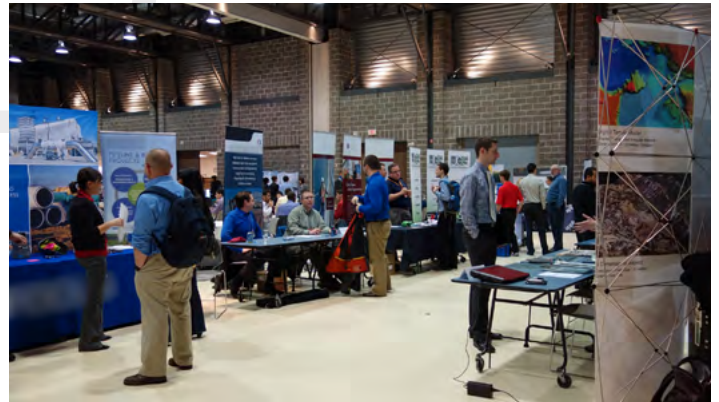
- Congratulations to students who completed their graduate studies: Gayan Wijesekara, PhD; Vyas-araj Rao, PhD; Lani Roux, PhD; Eunju Kwak, PhD; Sherif Ibrahim, PhD; Ren-Yu Li, MSc; Xiaojuan Qi, MSc; Saeed Daneshmand, PhD.
- Dr. Shashank Satyanarayana, Dr. Daniele Borio and Professor Gérard Lachapelle were presented with the Burka Award at the International Technical Meeting of the (U.S.) Institute of Navigation. The award recognizes the best technical article having appeared in the Summer issue (Volume 59, No. 2, 2012) of *NAVIGATION*.
- In January, Derek Lichti began his position as Editor-in-Chief of the *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*. He was selected by the Council of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) in a competitive process.
- Professor Michael G. Sideris has been appointed to the Council of the Institute (CI) of the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Greece, (equivalent to our Board of Governors) for a four year term. The fifteen-member CI is comprised of 8 internal faculty members, 6 external members from foreign institutions, and one representative of the student body. The CI is officially appointed by the Minister of Education of Greece.

## Geomatics Exposition 2013

by Shana Davis  
GESS, Career Day Commissioner

The 19th annual Geomatics Exposition (formerly known as Career Day) took place on January 31st, 2013. We have had incredible success in previous years, having provided an invaluable meeting place for young talent and established industry members alike. This year, we successfully hosted the biggest and best showcase of the Geomatics Engineering profession at the University of Calgary to date; we were fortunate to have approximately forty companies and associations attend. This full-day event is an excellent opportunity to mingle with students and other professionals in both a formal and informal setting. We actively pursued the involvement of

First Year engineering students to enhance their knowledge of Geomatics; over one-hundred First Year students attended the Exposition. The support of the department and industry sponsors were crucial in making this day a success. We hope that the future GESS Councils can continue to grow and develop the Geomatics Exposition!



## 1<sup>st</sup> Year Special Event

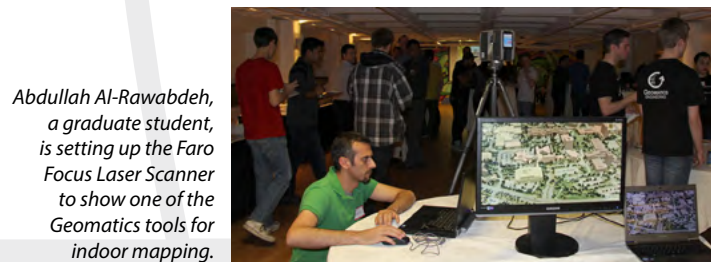
On Tuesday, March 5, first year students at the Schulich School were invited to attend a supper meeting, sponsored by Geomatics, to learn more about careers in the oil and gas industry for Geomatics engineers.

Representatives from Shell Canada, Husky Oil, Talisman Energy, and Trimble Navigation provided information to students, and encouraged them to consider geomatics when making their choice of Department. Members of the GESS executive were available to provide information on their experiences as a student in Geomatics.

*First year students listen to one of the industrial speakers explaining the role of Geomatics in the Oil and Gas industry.*



*Dr. Habib is discussing with some of the first year students the role of Geomatics in 3D modeling/mapping of our environment.*



*Abdullah Al-Rawabdeh, a graduate student, is setting up the Faro Focus Laser Scanner to show one of the Geomatics tools for indoor mapping.*



## Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee (GELC)

On Wednesday, January 30, the department held its annual meeting with the Geomatics Engineering Liaison Committee (GELC). The function of GELC is to serve as a forum for representatives from the Department and the Land Surveyors' Associations to consult each other on matters of mutual interest. The committee also organizes a number of guest presentations by members of the surveying profession to our undergraduates in second year classes and on the final day of ENGO 501 - Field Surveys. Discussion at this year's meeting focused on recent changes we have made to our program, updates from the professional associations, and ongoing ideas to recruit more students into Geomatics Engineering and the professions.



**Back Row L to R:** Victor Hut, Mike Barry, Robert Scott, Paul Dixon, Kyle O'Keefe, Courtenay Canivet, Andrew Hunter, Jason Holway  
**Seated L to R:** Bronwyn Denton, Jill Burridge, Arlin Amundrud

## Geomatics Engineering Advisory Committee (GEAC)



**Back Row L to R:** Mike Barry, Michael Szarmes, Irwin Natt, Daniel Boudreault, Corinna Vester, Kyle O'Keefe  
**Front Row L to R:** Ayman Habib, Rita Leung, Amanda Side, Landra Trevis, Camal Dharamdial, David Parker (Chair)

On Thursday, March 14, the department held its yearly meeting with the Geomatics Engineering Advisory Committee (GEAC). The mandate of GEAC is to assist the department in ensuring that the department's undergraduate, graduate, and research programs are kept up-to-date with changing technology and meet the needs of the country.

Members of industry and local and federal government provided key feedback to the department, which assists in guiding the department's direction over the next year. We sincerely appreciate their input and involvement in the department. Their interest is a good measure of the strength of the geomatics sector in Canada, and assists us in providing the best possible program to Geomatics students.

## Awards Night

On Thursday March 14, 2013 Geomatics scholarship donors and industry guests were invited to the annual Geomatics Award Night to celebrate with the award recipients from the Geomatics students in 2nd, 3rd and 4th year of the program.

This year was the largest turnout to date of students and industry guests, which included previous alumni and new industry colleagues. The Geomatics

Award Night was enjoyed by all and we wish to extend all of the award recipients our sincerest congratulations on their achievements.



# GESS Update by Vaasu Khurana, Frosh Week and Engineering Week Coordinator

## ENGG Week

For this year's Engineering Week, our theme was 007, more specifically Geoldeneye. With an all-star cast consisting of GESS President Adam Thomas in the role of GIS Bond, and Sam Rondeel as his nemesis Johnny Geoldeneye, the movie dominated the awards ceremony. It received four golden brews (awards), for Best Special Effects, Best Hydration Cue, Best Actor (Adam Thomas), and Best Movie. Overall, Geomatics finished in third place for the

week, losing the Key Clue event by about 20 minutes, which was heartbreaking. That said, we're still very proud of the effort put in by everyone.



## PI Week

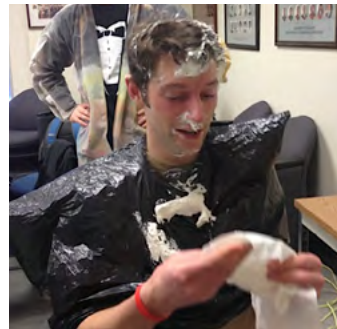
This year the University of Calgary saw its most successful Pi Week ever, with a total donation of \$6110.15 towards the Calgary Urban Project Society (CUPS). Pi Week is an event where students pay \$5/pie to have their friends pied, who can then redirect the pie to someone for \$10, and so on. With a team of Pi Squad and Pi Committee members, the event ran quite smoothly. We were able to pie at least



*Dr. Ayman Habib with Vaasu Khurana*



*Brave Girls*



*GESS President Adam Thomas*

20 faculty members, including Dr. Ayman Habib and Dr. Guy Gendron, along with professors from every other department. We would like to thank everyone for their support.

## Department Activities



*Welcome to new team member Kristal Turner our Graduate Program Administrator.*



*Farewell to Lu-Ann Markland who stepped down after 14 years of committed service to the department and university.*



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*Find Yourself Here*