

## Board of Examiners Coordinating Committee Summary Report

### September 2007

The Board of Examiner Coordinating Committee is a long standing committee of CCLS. A new terms of reference for the committee was approved by the CCLS Board of Directors after being reviewed and revised by the committee at the syllabus review meeting in the spring of 2006. The terms were broadened to include a fuller description of the mandate and objectives of the committee (see excerpt below) and to add non-voting participants, called observers, representing educational institutions that maintain an accredited program.

The individual members of this committee are the same individuals who have been working in the past two years on the harmonization and syllabus review initiatives. They are also, by definition, individuals who are involved in regular activities of the CCLS or the Boards of Examiners.

Currently there are two urgent action items that require attention.

1. A Champion for the CCLS Board of Directors needs to be identified to monitor and facilitate the progress of the committee under its terms of reference. The Champion's responsibilities are described in the terms of reference and are copied below.
2. Work needs to progress in reviewing and revising the national accreditation system administered by the BECC in order to improve its effectiveness in today's educational environment. The current system has proven ineffectual in addressing the needs of the surveying community and the associations with respect to programs at Ryerson, Laval, and BCIT in particular. Laval and OAGQ have asked for information about the accreditation process and may be formally requesting a review in the near future. It is unclear how that review would unfold given the current rigidity of the accreditation process and the survey law content in the syllabus which is not geared towards the civil law system in Quebec. BCIT has also requested a review and has expressed concern how long a review could take given the syllabus review process underway.

#### Excerpts from the BECC Terms of Reference

- The specific aims and objectives of BECC are:
  - To administer the CCLS accreditation program for baccalaureate degree programs in geomatics.
  - To foster uniformity in the accreditation of educational programs for purposes of registration with the governing surveying associations in Canada.
  - To foster, in co-operation with the educational institutions, a standard of surveying education in Canada.
  - To provide a medium for the exchange of ideas between the educational institutions and the profession as to the educational needs of the profession.This is not intended to supplant the advisory committee role within individual

educational institution programs which are the front line contact for those programs.

- To foster cooperation among the various boards of examiners for land surveyors or committees/agencies of each governing association.
  - To promote uniformity of academic standards for admission to the land surveying profession among the governing associations in Canada.
- A champion will be appointed from the Board of Directors. The term of the Champion will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Champion will:
    - bring policy direction from the Board to the committee,
    - bring policy and resource issues to the attention of the Executive Committee,
    - ensure the committee meets its terms of reference,
    - provide a report to the CCLS Board as required to keep Board generally informed of progress or provide background to address policy issues, and
    - is an observer at the committee meetings but is not expected to perform committee work.