



Commission 2 – Professional Education

FIG Commission 2 (Professional Education) Newsletter

Dear FIG Commission 2 friends,

Well, what a difficult year for all of us? Our thoughts are with you all and hope you are well during this pandemic.

On behalf of the Commission 2 Chair, Vice-chair and working groups, we share the second newsletter for 2020. Below is an update of activities and actions so far in this term as well as upcoming activities. Feel free to contact us to discuss any of these.

While we were not able to go to Amsterdam in May 2020, we hope to see either you in person or virtually in Amsterdam in June 2021 for the next FIG Working Week. The “Call for Papers” for this event will be coming out soon.

Kind Regards,

David Mitchell, Mohsen Kalantari

Commission 2 Chair and Co-Chair

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Professional Education (Commission 2) focus on Blended Learning

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the principal aim of Commission 2 for this term is to produce a publication that provides an update on the fantastic FIG Publication 46 from 2010 (Enhancing Surveying Education through e-Learning), and has a working title of "*Enhancing Surveying Education through Effective Blended Learning*". Each of the working groups will provide contributions to this report with WG2.3 considering the different approaches learners have in the context of blended learning, WG2.2 considering challenges and best practice in blended learning and professional education in general, and WG2.1 discussing how regional academic networks can support knowledge sharing and capacity building using blended learning approaches. During 2020, there have been significant developments in surveying professional education due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Out of this has come excellent lessons for blended learning and we should take the opportunity to capture lessons and share the experiences with others. This presents an opportunity for discussions in webinars in 2020, as well as the FIG Working Week in 2021.

Upcoming Commission 2 session at the Commission 7 Annual Meeting in October

Save the date. With the theme: Building community resilience: Urban-rural land linkages and strategies to deal with COVID-19 FIG Commission 7 is organising a virtual annual meeting. I am pleased to inform you that there is a very exciting agenda for the FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting, which this year will be online between the 20th and 22nd of October. For full information see: https://fig.net/organisation/comm/7/activities/events/2020_annual_meeting.asp. I am also delighted that the Annual Meeting is free for FIG Commission 2 delegates. Please ensure you select this option when accessing the registration page (See the annual meeting webpage).

As part of the Commission 7 Annual Meeting, Commission 2 will be running a session entitled "***Blended learning: lessons from our responses to COVID:19***" on ***Tuesday 20 October 2020 at 17:00 Sydney time (06:00 UTC)*** at this online webinar and the presenters are:

1. Chethna Ben (University of South Pacific): University of South Pacific experience in online learning for students across many islands.
2. David Mitchell (RMIT University): How are students learning and studying during COVID-19? Preliminary results of student questionnaire.
3. Dimo Todorovski (University of Twente): A review of the University of Twente experiences in e-learning.
4. Kelly Lickley (RICS)
5. Online and Blended learning in RICS professional development.



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Followed by a discussion. We would be delighted if you could join this meeting.

Important Questionnaire on Surveying Students Learning and Studying Approaches

Commission 2 recently received ethics approval for a voluntary questionnaire on surveying students learning and studying approaches! Note that in this context “surveying” means all the professional areas covered by FIG Commissions.

This is a joint FIG Commission 2 and FIG Young Surveyors Network project that is looking at the way students learn and study in the context of blended learning. The aim of this questionnaire is to explore the learning and studying approach used by surveying students globally and better understand how these approaches differ across regions, age, religion and gender. In this questionnaire we ask students about their experiences on a particular course unit and about the kinds of knowledge and skills they feel they have developed.

To access the questionnaire please use this link and it can be completed on any device:

https://melbourneuni.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6QXeXwYIscknLxP

Participation is voluntary and it takes about 10-15 minutes to complete and so please forward this to any undergraduate or postgraduate students you know. We would love to get as many responses as possible from all over the world. Note that all responses will remain strictly confidential and anonymous. More information is here in the Participant Information Sheet

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LDtdMaGIVFbliapkFUuDd4WTm22Gm4tu/view?usp=sharing>

The outcome of this research is to better understand how these lessons inform blended learning (mix of face-to-face and online learning). This research will contribute to a Commission 2 report on blended learning.

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Commission 2 Publications

FIG and GIM International worked together to package the FIG WW 2020 proceedings on both the FIG and GIM International websites, with each day of the conference in May having a theme and special focus including feature articles by Commission chairs. The Commission 2 feature article “COVID-19 responses and FIG2020: lessons for Surveying Education” can be found on both websites -

The focus of FIG Commission 2 is on innovative and effective professional education and training for surveyors. This involves curriculum development, innovations in teaching and learning, life-long learning, attracting new students, and continuing professional development (CPD). A key aim of this term is to update the FIG Commission 2: FIG Publication No. 46, Enhancing Surveying Education through e-Learning with a focus on “Blended Learning” and better understanding how to combine face-to-face (f2f) and e-learning approaches. We seek to understand how current students best learn, good practices in e-learning, and in blending f2f and e-learning approaches for both teaching and training.

https://fig.net/fig2020/articles/FIG2020_2_professional_education.htm and <https://www.gim-international.com/content/article/covid-19-responses-and-fig2020-lessons-for-surveying-education>

Home > Resources > Monthly articles > 2020

Article of the Month - September 2020

Blended Learning in Support of Life-long Learning for Surveyors

David Mitchell, Australia; Winnie Shiu, Hong Kong SAR; Stig Enemark, Denmark; And James Kavanagh, United Kingdom



David Mitchell



Winnie Shiu



Stig Enemark



James Kavanagh

This article in .pdf-format (18 pages)

SUMMARY

https://www.fig.net/resources/monthly_articles/2020/Mitchell_etal_September_2020.asp

We are also pleased to say that a high level Commission 1 and Commission 2 paper “Blended Learning in Support of Life-long Learning for Surveyors” submitted to the 2020 Working Week was also published as the FIG Article of the Month for September.

Call for those interested in becoming the next Commission 2 chair, vice-chair or chair of a working group

As we get near the half-way point of the current FIG term we start to think about who will take over for the next term 2023-2026. Later this year there will be an opportunity to nominate for the position of chair of Commission 2 for this next term. This is a great opportunity and I can say that it is a very enjoyable experience engaging with the wonderful FIG and Commission 2 community.

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Does the opportunity interest you and you have the support of your organisation? Or, perhaps you would like to be Vice-chair of Commission 2? Or to chair a working group? If so then reach out and let us know. You can email David on mitchelldp2020@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to discuss what the role involves.

Capacity building for blended learning curriculum by WG 2.1

WG2.1's activities focus on how regional academic networks can support knowledge sharing and capacity building using blended learning approaches. Specifically,

WG 2.1 organized one session in the FIG 2020 Amsterdam program on Regional Academic networks and CPD. The papers are available in the conference proceedings on the FIG website https://fig.net/resources/proceedings/fig_proceedings/fig2020/techprog.htm

WG2.1 activities include:

1. New activity of LALAN early 2020 with funding from School for Land Administration Studies -SLAS (joint initiative of the Netherlands Kadaster and Faculty ITC)
2. Contribution to the proposed ISPRS, NICS, NSPRS International Workshop on 'Capacity building and Education Outreach in Advanced Geospatial Technologies and Land Management' in Nepal December 2019.

Innovative learning and teaching and Curriculum on the Move by WG 2.2

WG 2.2's activities focus on increase our understanding of the challenges and trends and innovation in professional education. The aim is to capture the very best teaching that our members are doing and not currently writing about. Several fantastic papers were also submitted under three sessions in the 2020 FIG Working Week are relevant to this working group:

- Blended learning and innovations in professional education
- Innovation in Professional Education in Europe
- Responsible Land Administration Teaching Essentials

Understanding the contemporary learning styles by WG 2.3

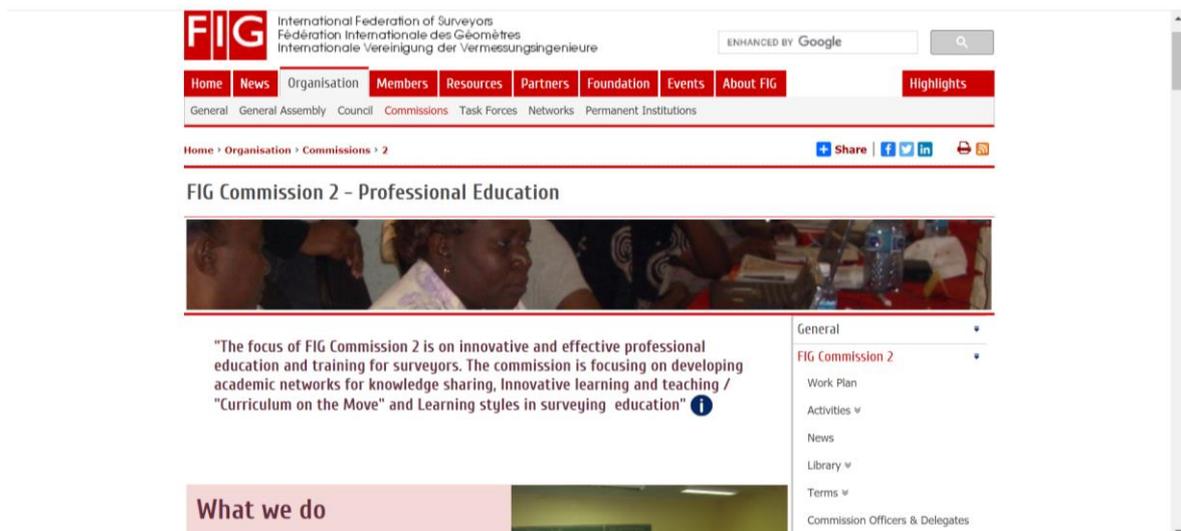
WG 2.3 works on the different approaches learners have in the context of blended learning. The working group is engaging with the FIG Young Surveyors Network to reach out to the surveying tertiary students to capture contemporary learning styles. This engagement is a coordinated activity with the work of Commission 1 on life-long learning. As mentioned earlier this engagement is facilitated through by a questionnaire on learning and studying styles and validation of these results

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in workshops in Amsterdam 2021 and Cape Town 2022. Ethics approval has been received from RMIT University and the questionnaire is NOW being distributed to surveying courses. Please make every effort to share this with current undergraduate and postgraduate students as mentioned above.

Commission 2 website and social media

This year we have working hard on energising our communication through the website and social media, with the fantastic support of Claudia in the FIG Office. Claudia developed a new and exciting webpage for Commission 2 and we encourage you to visit the website (<http://www.fig.net/organisation/comm/2/>) and have a look:



The screenshot shows the FIG Commission 2 website. The header includes the FIG logo and the full name of the International Federation of Surveyors in three languages. A navigation menu contains links for Home, News, Organisation, Members, Resources, Partners, Foundation, Events, About FIG, and Highlights. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Organisation > Commissions > 2. The main heading is "FIG Commission 2 – Professional Education". A banner image shows a group of people in a meeting. Below the banner is a text box with the following content: "The focus of FIG Commission 2 is on innovative and effective professional education and training for surveyors. The commission is focusing on developing academic networks for knowledge sharing, Innovative learning and teaching / "Curriculum on the Move" and Learning styles in surveying education". To the right of the text is a sidebar menu with the following items: General, FIG Commission 2, Work Plan, Activities, News, Library, Terms, and Commission Officers & Delegates.

We also have been communicating through the following social media channels and encourage you to connect with these for regular updates and new items:

- LinkedIn Commission 2 Group - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7404450/>
- Facebook FIG Group - <https://www.facebook.com/internationalfederationofsurveyors>
- FIG Twitter - https://twitter.com/FIG_NEWS
- FIG Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/figsurveyors/?hl=en>

If you would like more information on any of these, or would like to post an article or news item please email David on his new email – mitchelldp2020@gmail.com