

eNEWS

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 **Flinders
University**

Surveying Degree commences 2024 at Flinders University

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Surveying Degree - Flinders University

2024

Media Release



Government of South Australia

Nick Champion MP
 Minister for Housing and Urban Development
 Minister for Planning

Wednesday, 9 August 2023

New tertiary courses build State's planning skills

South Australians can now apply to undertake tertiary study in their home state to pursue a highly sought-after and much-needed career in surveying amidst the national housing crisis.

Announced today, Flinders University has worked with the Malinauskas Labor Government to introduce a new Bachelor of Surveying from next year.

The four-year degree will ensure students can locally acquire the skills needed to become Licenced Surveyors – rather than being forced to study interstate, after the existing surveying course in South Australia stopped taking new students mid-2022.

The new course is a direct result of the Malinauskas Government's Built Environment Education Liaison Group (BEELG) which brings together key stakeholders to build study pathways and support industry growth.

It follows strong advocacy from the Surveyor General, the Surveyor's Board of South Australia and wider industry to train local talent to address a skills shortage in 'built environment' roles.

Major infrastructure projects rely on surveyors to set out bridges, tunnels, and roads, or re-establish existing property boundaries and create new ones.

[The Flinders University course](#) will be a four-year double-degree Bachelor of Geospatial Information Systems (BGIS) / Bachelor of Surveying (BSU) with a common first year. Applications are now open via SATAC.

The BGIS-BSU will be available from 2024, meaning first year BGIS students in 2023 can transfer to the second year of the double degree next year.

Flinders University has also started discussions with TAFE SA to plot extra tertiary options and recognition pathways into the Bachelor of Surveying double degree.

BEELG has also overseen the expansion of additional tertiary options with the establishment of a new planning diploma at TAFE SA, designed to bridge the skills gap and fill entry-level vacancies, particularly in regional councils.

Media contact: Tom Angley 0431 704 801

premier.sa.gov.au

Audit Survey Report

August 2023

Since the last edition of the E-news the Office of the Surveyor General has sought to return to an audit program that includes a larger percentage of field audits. This not only enables checks on field procedures and connection to evidence, but also gives surveyors the opportunity to improve their audit priority rating through a favourable audit result. Desktop checks will continue to be used to allow for a greater representation of surveyor's overall performances and to identify common deficiencies that may need further attention across the profession.

One such area that has come to the attention of the Audit Sub-committee is the area of supervision. The certification in EPL now allows for surveyors to specify if the survey has been conducted by them, another Licensed Surveyor or by a person other than a Licensed Surveyor under their personal supervision. It is clear from the desktop checks that plans that are found to be in error are over-represented by plans done by a non-Licensed surveyors under supervision. This highlights the requirement of the Licensed Surveyor certifying the plan to find the correct balance between assisting in the development of the skills of non-licensed surveyors and ensuring that adequate checks are in place to identify deficiencies in boundary redefinition.

One recent example, an urban survey that had abutting surveys to the west and north. Inexplicably, the rear boundary disagreed with these two abutting surveys as well as the subject land title depth by 0.30m. The incorrect position of the rear boundary had been pegged and a substantial new fence and footing constructed as a result. The surveyor responsible was invited to meet with the Audit Sub-committee to detail how an error such as this could possibly occur. Often these errors highlight either a breakdown in the checking or data management procedures or simply rushing to get the plan lodged without complying with the requirements detailed in the certified plan checklist. Licensed surveyors run the risk of having conditions being placed on their license by the Surveyors Board should these fundamental errors be found to continue.

Other examples of plans signed by a supervising surveyor include missed plans in the search, taking surplus to push through occupation, overlooked connection to reference marks and not connecting adequately to adjoining surveys, all of which impacted redefinition. Surveyors also are reminded to undertake PC Plans and mark to mark checks and to ensure the PM coordinate joins are within the specified tolerances. It is often easily identifiable

when these checks have not been done, despite the surveyor having completed the certified plan checklist.

Of the completed field audits some of the errors identified included -

- Surveyor laid road width from the recently defined western side of the road that had been widened by a transfer in the 1950's ignoring old occupation and data discrepancies on the eastern side of the road that was still on the original road alignment. It was found that better agreement to old occupation and subject land data could be achieved by utilising a survey that had connected to the occupation on the eastern side of the road in the early 1940's. This changed the road alignment by up to 0.4m.
- Two rural surveys were assessed as Low Compliance having called metal pins gone that were found to exist by the audit. In each of these cases these marks had previously been connected by relatively modern surveys, meaning they were easily able to be set out from other reference marks that had been connected.
- Another rural survey was found to have placed a peg 0.5m out of position when compared to the data on the plan.
- A survey in the city had failed to include the Application survey over the subject land in the search. The application survey had adopted occupation to define the boundary and this occupation still existed. The subject land changed by up to 0.17m as a result. Surveyors are reminded that the X-searches on microfilm are available upon request from the Office of the Surveyor General. These X-searches are the examiners original worksheet and are extremely useful as they highlight all the historical surveys and comparisons in the locality. The Town Acre Plots are also useful to identify surveys that exist within each Town Acre.

Audit Survey Report (continued)

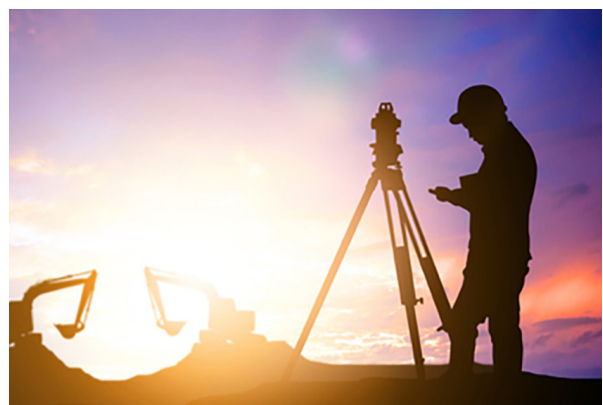
August 2023

Of the completed plans that were found to contain errors through desktop investigations, these include -

- Rural survey ignored the original fix to a PMFD (converted MP placed in the 1950's) that defined the subject land boundary on the eastern side of the road. A plan in the 1980's on the opposite side of the road had not found the MP and defined a section boundary heading to the west. A subsequent plan directly to the north of the 1980's survey then found the MP and was forced to give it a new fix to protect the abutting boundary on the western side of the road. This new fix was incorrectly applied to the eastern side resulting in a change in the subject land boundary of around 0.60m
- Rural survey that included the redefinition of a historical railway corridor was off very old railway fencing by up to 0.70m. As outlined in Section 4.6 of the CSG under Section 81(1) (c) of the Railways Act 1936, the railway land was determined to be land within the railway fences, provided the fences had not been moved or replaced since 1936. In this instance the very old fences should have been adopted.
- Another rural survey was found to contain significant errors of more than a metre in distance and ten minutes in bearing along the road alignment when compared to a modern survey (2018). This was despite reference marks existing on each of the bends and a detailed survey report that had failed to identify that these discrepancies existed. It was unclear what data was used in the comparisons as it was obvious the distances and bearings were not comparable with the 2018 survey despite the comparison plan suggesting they had agreed.

These examples continue to underline the importance of applying thorough checking procedures and analysis of evidence to arrive at a boundary redefinition that is logical and well considered. A survey report in the form of an annotated version of the plan continues to be the most reliable way to identify distance and angular discrepancies to original data origins as well as material differences to modern surveys. An accurate and comprehensive survey report should allow the supervising surveyor (and examiners) to thoroughly review and understand the logic of the definition. This does not mean that the Licensed Surveyor blindly accepts what has been put before them without the appropriate checks being done.

Peter Brinkley
Team Leader, Cadastral Survey
August 2023



Surveying - Education Pathways

2024 & Beyond

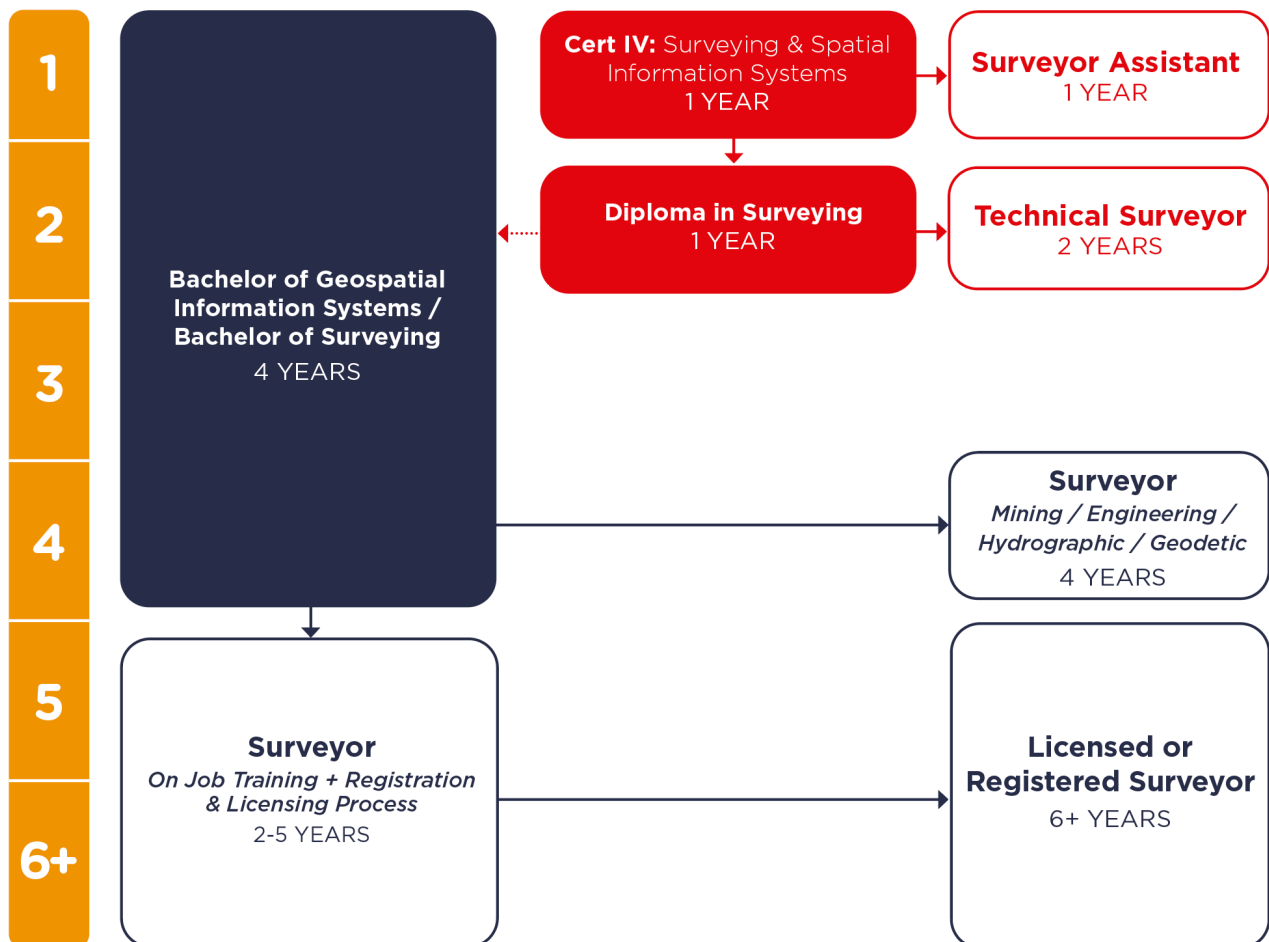
STUDYING SURVEYING

In South Australia there are various pathways to achieve whatever level of Surveying you wish to undertake. These pathways are offered through Flinders University (Bachelor Degree) and TAFE SA (Certificate IV and Diploma), with outcomes from Surveyor Assistant to a Licensed or Registered Surveyor.

Each of these outcomes offer different timeframes to achieve your chosen qualification. Below is a diagram outlining the levels of qualifications from these Institutions.



YEARS



Surveying SA - New Brand and Campaign

With the introduction of the new Surveying Degree starting at Flinders University in 2024, we realised this created a great opportunity to relaunch Surveying SA as a conduit of information for upcoming Surveying graduates and anyone interested in pursuing surveying as a career.

The first step was to rebrand Surveying SA giving us a foundation to then develop a unique and vibrant awareness campaign. The main purpose of which was to direct potential surveyors to enrol in the degree course at Flinders University as well as offer extensive information about the ***“career that knows no boundaries”***.

The campaign theme is “No Limits”, identifying the breadth and scope of a Surveying career and all the different types of choices available.

To help deliver this message and introduce the new branding, a website was designed to showcase all of the relevant information and offer potential surveyors and students the opportunity to connect with industry stakeholders and Board.

Along with the website an information kit, exhibition material, social media and QR codes were produced directing traffic to the website. A series of school career expos have been attended by members of the Surveyor-General’s office and industry giving students the opportunity to see, feel and learn about surveying.



Surveying SA - Career Expos

Further campaigning the awareness of Surveying as a career of choice, members of the Surveyor-General's office and industry representatives, attended multiple school career expos, giving students the opportunity to see, feel and learn about surveying.

These expos were both in the city and on regional campuses as well as the large Career Expo at the Adelaide Convention Centre run by the Department of Education.



📷 Resources & Infrastructure Immersion Day for YP Alliance Schools









Newly Licensed Surveyor

Luke Ian Fritsch

Newly licensed Mr Luke Fritsch with Mr Michael Liebelt, Chair Surveyors Board SA following his Professional Assessment Presentation "Survey Markings in the Field - Historic Occupation". Presented 1st December 2022.

The Board congratulated Luke on his dedication, having completed his Registered Surveying Graduate Training Agreement in the minimum of 2 years.

Luke will be a valuable addition to the Licensed Surveyors of South Australia well into the future.



Luke Fritsch being presented his certificate by Chair Michael Liebelt

Newly Licensed Surveyor

James Edward Hughes

Newly licensed Mr James Hughes pictured with Mr Michael Liebelt - Chair Surveyors Board SA following his Professional Assessment Presentation "Artificial Intelligence - Surveying Industry". Presented on the 20th of April 2023.

The Board congratulated James on his presentation which they found extremely interesting and an insight to the potential influence AI could have on Surveying.

James will be a valuable addition to the membership of the Licensed Surveyors of South Australia well into the future.



James Edward Hughes being presented his certificate by Chair Michael Liebelt

Tribunal Hearing

Mr Shayne Hennig



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In June 2022 the Surveyors Board of South Australia (the Board) lodged in the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (the Tribunal) a complaint against Mr Shayne Hennig, alleging a number of breaches of professional standards under the Survey Act 1992 (the Act) across seven (7) different sets of lodged Plans over the period of April 2021 to February 2022. Namely, that Mr Hennig variously:

- failed to identify an encroachment in breach of regulation 11(1) and (2) of the Survey Regulations 2020 (the Regulations) and Guideline 7.3(b) of the Surveyor-General's Cadastral Survey Guidelines (Guidelines);
- failed to redefine a road passing through a new allotment in breach of regulations 11(1) and (2) as well as Guidelines 15.3 and 15.4;
- did not look, or did not sufficiently look, for metal pins, this failure to undertake a diligent search for reference marks in breach of regulation 11(2) and Guideline 15.5;
- failed to undertake a diligent search of public survey records in breach of regulation 11(1) and (2) and Guidelines 15.3 and 15.4;
- failed to locate all existing survey marks and connect the survey accordingly in breach of regulation 11(2) and Guidelines 15.4 and 15.5; and
- for a number of the impacted Plans, correspondingly certified a plan of a cadastral survey, contrary to his obligations under regulation 19.

The Tribunal determined that:

... Mr Hennig's practices in conducting a cadastral survey, as disclosed in the complaint and admitted by him, are prejudicial to the State's cadastre and lands titles registration system and would likely result in public confusion, inconvenience, delay and expense. We are satisfied that Mr Hennig's practices fall well short of what would be expected of a professional, licensed surveyor. His practices demonstrate a serious departure from professional standards ...

the integrity of the lands titles system under the Real Property Act 1886 depends upon surveys being accurately and competently carried out ...

the lands titles registration system is the "backbone" of the government's guarantee of security of land ownership and interests in land and it is vital to the community that the integrity of that system be maintained.

On Wednesday 28 June 2023, the Tribunal made the following orders against Mr Hennig under section 38 of the Act for these breaches of his professional obligations:

- that he be fined the sum of \$10,000.00;
- that his licence under the Act be cancelled and he is disqualified from being licensed for at least two (2) years, and not be eligible for a licence until he satisfies the Board that:
 - he has enrolled in and passed certain training courses; and
 - attends at continuing education events endorsed by the Board to obtain six points per year;
- with any future licence to be subject to the conditions that, until further order, he will not:
 - supervise any person undertaking a cadastral survey or certify any plan of cadastral survey prepared by another surveyor; and
 - submit comparison plans and detailed survey reports with proof of mathematical checks for every cadastral survey subsequently lodged in the LTR0.

As the statutory body responsible for controlling the training and conduct of licensed and registered surveyors in South Australia, the Board takes its obligations to protect the State's cadastre seriously, as well as to ensure the ongoing community trust and confidence in the profession.

Tracy Riddle
 Lawyer - Kellely Jones

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Committee of Management of the Institution of Surveyors Australia, South Australia Division Incorporated ABN 64 491 798 870

Surveyors Board of South Australia 2023 Calendar



Board Meeting Dates:

Thursday 21st September

Thursday 19th October

Thursday 16th November

Thursday 7th December

Special Dates:

Annual General Meeting

20th September 2023

November Cadastral Workshop Dinner

6th November 2023

VALE

John Reginald Porter (8 November 1940 – 2 April 2023)

John Reginald Porter, Surveyor-General of South Australia from 1987 to 1992, passed away in April this year, after a long illness. John was 82 years old.

John began his surveying career in the (then) Highways Department before moving to Wollongong to work for BHP. John returned to the Highways Department as Chief Surveyor and was promoted to Superintendent of Surveys in his early thirties.

John progressed from this role to become Surveyor-General in 1987. As Surveyor-General, John was interested in assisting others in the profession and created several graduate surveyor positions in the Department for Lands, many of whom are still working in the industry today. He also provided employment in the Highways Department for a non-English speaking surveyor from (the former) Yugoslavia who had emigrated to Adelaide.

John served continuously on the Surveyors Board from 1975 to 1992 and was made a Fellow of the Institution of Surveyors, he served as the SA Division President of the Institution of Surveyors and also as a Federal Councillor.

After resigning from the role of Surveyor-General in 1992, John practiced as an International Consultant in Land Surveying and Land Administration.

While stationed overseas, John represented Australia in Commission 1 of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG).

John had a great interest in the history of surveying in South Australia and was passionate about raising awareness of both its history and the profile of the profession.

As part of the South Australian Jubilee 150 Board, John was instrumental in a 1984/85 project that located, reconstructed and monumented significant explorer/surveyor reference marks throughout the state.

He established the Museum of Surveying and Exploration in the Old Treasury Building as a memorial to the explorers and early surveyors of South Australia.

John's passion for surveying history led him to present the paper 'South Australia's Shining Light' at the 2010 FIG Congress highlighting the work of the first Surveyor-General of South Australia.

John continued to actively research and deliver papers on the history of surveying, especially of the early explorers of South Australia, and many other topics until his health deteriorated.

Outside of his distinguished surveying career, John was an avid and respected footballer. He joined the North Adelaide Football Club in 1959 when he played his first A-Grade game as an eighteen-year-old. Over his seven years with the club John played 126 games, including 27 league and three Reserves Premierships.



Photo taken at the Evans Memorial in the Flinders Ranges when John was a volunteer, working on the upgrade of the memorial.

VALE

John Fredrick Petersen (28/11/1938 to 9/11/2022 - Aged 83)

Following a long career in Surveying working at the Department of Lands until 1972, John went to the Highways Department working for the Adelaide City Council.

In early 1974 he decided to further his education and in doing so enrolled at Further Education College (now TAFE). Then accepted a full-time position teaching.

In 1975 John became the first senior lecturer in Surveying at O'Halloran Hill College. In the early 1980's John served for five years as a member of the committee of the South Australian Division of the Institution of Surveyors Australia.

In 1994 he retired from academia and returned to the field of Surveying working for Arthur Patiniotis at State Surveys, as a Licensed Surveyor

John passed away 9th November 2022 following a battle with heart disease. The Surveyors Board SA remembers the contributions John made in his early career to the profession.



Richard Abbott (Died - 01/11/2022)

We sadly announce the death of Richard Poole Abbott, Licensed Surveyor.

Richard lost his long battle with Parkinson's Disease on Tuesday 1st November 2022.

A Licenced Surveyor from March 1976 to April 2021 a total of 43 years, Richard devoted his life to his profession.

A member of the Legislative Review Committee 2017 - 2019 and he addressed many issues regarding the introduction of the PDI Act in 2016.

Richard was instrumental in introducing the Licensed Surveyors Identity Cards in 2018 following his recommendations to the Board. He was an experienced licensed Surveyor with a sound understanding of cadastral principles and a willingness to contribute to cadastral seminars exposing thought provoking circumstances.

The surveying profession in South Australia will sadly miss Richards ongoing recommendations and interaction with the community.



Leo Moroney (Died August 2022 - Aged 94)

Born in Broken Hill in 1928 his father was Chief Editor of Broken Hill Times

Leo was Chief Surveyor for Adelaide to Alice Springs in the 50-60's after marrying in 1954 and having 8 children

Leo lived in Henley Beach area from 1963 and Michael O'Callaghan went to school at St Michael's College with one of his sons Damian.

Barry O'Callaghan who would have been same age 94 must have studied with him also at the School of the Mines in SA.

"At 21 he was at Woomera when a NASA landing was to take place and they could only stay within 100sq miles where it would be. Leo did some calcs and determined landing within 10 sq miles and was correct."

In retirement he took keen interest in the South Australian Historical Society, the Henley and Grange Historical Society and Henley and Grange RSL. He was a keen researcher. Leo lectured at the Adelaide University in advanced maths after retiring. Sadly another of our retired surveyors gone.