

Year in Review

- **Sustaining Partners and Sponsors.** We are grateful for the ongoing support of our regional and national Sustaining Partners and event sponsors. Our connection to industry through these relationships is pivotal to the success of SSSI.
- **Fellowships conferred.** A number of our respected SSSI members were conferred Fellow and Honorary Fellow status during the past year.

Honorary Fellowships

- Dr Andrew Barnicoat
- Associate Professor Chris Bellman
- Gypsy Bhalla
- Bernard O'Sullivan
- Professor Abbas Rajabifard
- Rob Sarib

Fellowships

- Peter Kinne
 - Associate Professor Dipak Paudyal
-
- **South East Asia Survey Congress, Darwin.** Built around the theme of *Communication, Collaboration and Capacity-building*, this event brought ASEAN and Australian surveying practitioners together. In addition, the inaugural Youth Forum provided an opportunity for young professionals both in ASEAN countries and Australia to develop next generation collaboration.
 - **Active and relevant events calendar.** Well over 100 learning and networking events were held for SSSI members and industry professionals all over Australia, creating opportunities for increased connection between professionals as well as gaining valuable continuing professional development. We have delivered to date 24 webinars, with a total of over 2700 participants, including the SSSI/ICSM Upgrades to the AGRS Series, which has had over 1700 viewers.
 - **Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards (APSEA).** In 2019, APSEA dinners were held all over Australia and New Zealand announcing regional winners. This year, for the first time ever, the Oceanic APSEA ceremony will be held online. APSEALIVE will celebrate finalists and announce the Oceanic 2019 APSEA winners.
 - **SSSI National Bushfire Recovery Map-a-thon.** In response to the devastating bushfires affecting many parts of Australia, the Map-a-thon was held on 9 February 2020. Over 600 national and international surveying and spatial science professionals mapped a total area of 2,793,879 hectares, with 15,731 edits, 13,891 building edits, 1,091 damaged features mapped, and 945 damaged buildings mapped. It is believed the SSSI National Bushfire Recovery Map-a-thon is one of the largest single mapping events ever held in Australasia.
 - **Young Professionals Mentoring Program.** Championed by the SSSI YPs, the Mentoring Program facilitates connections between students and early career professionals with experienced practitioners in the surveying and spatial sciences industry. In its second year, just over 200 mentors and mentees graduated from the program.

- **Formation of new Special Interest Group – Disaster Management and Recovery.** From the SSSI National Bushfire Recovery Map-a-thon, there was a clear need for SSSI to form a group to coordinate volunteer surveying and spatial science activities when a natural disaster strikes (such as bushfires, floods etc), hence the Disaster Management and Recovery group was formed. The group’s mission is to drive collaboration and information sharing in relation to surveying and spatial information citizens science initiatives.
- **ESP-AP Certification.** The Engineering and Mining Surveying Commission has reviewed and updated the ESP-AP procedures manual and application form. ESP-AP is formal national recognition that a person has the necessary knowledge and experience to competently perform engineering surveys and associated activities. It benefits an employee by providing recognition and career opportunities and an employer by increasing their credibility to customers.
- **MOU agreements.** Formalising our relationships with key organisations is critical in fostering a stronger collaboration of surveying and spatial professionals in our region and beyond, as well maintaining our sustained relevance and opening opportunities for improved learning and knowledge sharing. During the past 12 months, MOUs have been signed with:
 - Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)
 - Association of Southeast Asian Nations Federation of Land Surveying and Geomatics (ASEAN FLAG)
 - Pacific Geospatial and Surveying Council (PGSC)
- **SSSI Representation.** SSSI was represented by our President at several domestic and International events, including the:
 - UNGGIM Plenary meeting in New York during August, where the SSSI-OGC MOU was signed
 - Prime Minister’s Prize for Science Dinner in Canberra in September
 - Australia New Zealand Land Information Council (ANZLIC) planning day in October in Canberra
 - United Nations Science Policy Business Forum GeoWeek2019 in November in Canberra
 - Roundtable discussion *Peak Professional Bodies strengthening collaboration with overseas Professional Bodies* with the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs in November in Canberra
 - Future of the Profession, an online panel discussion hosted by Survey and Spatial New Zealand in February – our President-Elect participated as a panel member.
- **Appointment of Tony Wheeler, Chief Executive Officer.** Appointed in May 2020, Tony has led the spatial industry in various forums in the past and has a track record of delivering successful outcomes for the Industry.

OUR 2019/20 NATIONAL SUSTAINING PARTNERS

