

Developing More Accessible Undergraduate Education in Surveying Through Institutional Collaboration

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ABSTRACT

The availability of accessible four-year baccalaureate degrees in surveying in the United States is sparse. While programs exist in a geographically sporadic manner, the full potential of these programs is unfilled because of residency issues or distance from a residence required for wage-earning reasons. NSPS is trying to innovate a win-win-win program for potential students, existing four-year degree programs and regional universities and colleges. The basic plan, already anecdotally found acceptable by a few institutions is to introduce cameras to lectures and recitation sessions at existing ABET-accredited programs. This survey-degree-specific content would be provided under individual agreements between the survey programs and local colleges and universities. The local schools would provide the majority of non-degree specific content, and would award degrees from the source institution or the local institution, depending on the arrangements. Students would benefit by not having to travel far to attend a surveying program and by adding opportunities to engage in study on a part-time basis. This paper will present more details and progress that has occurred in promoting this effort.

Wil Anderson, L.S. has forty years experience in the surveying industry. His background includes experience in mapping, boundary, mining, defense, and construction markets both within the USA and internationally. He is the Survey Services Segment Manager for BHC RHODES a Kansas based Surveying and Civil Engineering firm. He is the current Chair of the Education Committee for the Kansas Society of Land Surveyors and Chair of the Charitable Foundation of KSLs both with aims of promoting and supporting education goals. Wil has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Surveying) from the Queensland University of Technology, Australia.

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