

Update from the NSPS Young Surveyors (YS) Conference

By Jeremy Klapper, PLS and Jacob Elliot

The Joint-Conference between the NSPS Young Surveyors (YS) and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) in College Park, MD was a tremendous success. The Maryland Society of Surveyors sponsored event followed the FIG meeting held three years ago in Istanbul. Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Argentina, New Zealand were there, as well as many young surveyors from across the US.



(Pictured Left to Right: Jeremy Klapper, Curt Sumner, Christopher Glantz Lead Remote Sensing Surveyor at Oregon Department of Transportation and Jacob Elliot)

The event ran Wednesday through Friday, with NSPS sub-committee meetings also taking place. Long Island Surveyors Gayron de Bruin of Bethpage, NY were represented on a "Survey Leadership" discussion panel, while Land Development Professionals spoke in great lengths about Design-Build opportunities for the modern Surveyor. Many of the Private sector attendees were taking part in acquisitions and transitioning into leadership roles within their organizations. The public-sector was represented by the event organizer, Chris Glantz of the Oregon State Department of Transportation where mobile mapping technology is taking off in a very big way.

The conference had a much different feel than a statewide industry meeting or technical gathering in that products, accuracy, or liability were not repeated focal points. Professional maturation, business development and client relationships seem to dominate the stage time. Reserved Q&A was repeatedly allowed to overlap the next scheduled event, as career-long reflections seemed prior to a group inheriting the profession. It was welcoming to see that next wave of professionals have moved beyond debating the quality and methods of adopting new technologies, shifting more into how they have already implemented them into their existing workflow. It will be very exciting to see how the NSPS grows the YS Network in the upcoming years.

The NSPS YS Group meets every third year as locations and hosts permit. The Tri-State area would be an exciting and always popular destination to host both the NSPS YS Network as well as the FIG group in the upcoming years.

The NSPS Young Surveyors are defined by surveyors aged 35 years or under, students of surveying or those surveyors within 10 years of graduating from a Bachelor or Master's Degree. Every surveyor is welcome to join to the group; however the focus is to provide support for those individuals that meet the definition. More information can be found at <https://www.nsp.us.com/page/YSNetwork>.

FIG is the premier international organization representing the interests of surveyors worldwide. It is a federation of the national member associations and covers the whole range of professional fields within the global surveying, geomatics, geodesy and geo-information community. It provides an international forum for discussion and development aiming to promote professional practice and standards. More information can be found at <http://www.fig.net>.