

# “MISCLOSURES” NEWSLETTER



Website: [www.lsjaj.com](http://www.lsjaj.com)

Land Surveyor's Association of Jamaica Newsletter

April 2019

## How to attract the next generation of property leaders - RICS



**Laura Lindberg**, Head of Media & Communications, RICS, Europe

*Young property sector leaders have urged senior role models to embrace new strategies to attract new talent into the profession.*

Speaking at the MIPIM Young Leaders Summit in Cannes on 13 March, a group of young, successful property leaders outlined how talent could be attracted by a new, positive version of the profession, based on highlighting personal experiences and the profession's contribution to society.

The industry is currently struggling with a lack of new talent, as technological changes and new skills bring about business transformation. To attract people with emergent skills requires a change of mind and professional adaptation.

### ***Harnessing industry role models***

The summit suggested that younger generations are increasingly looking for inspirational role models, good mentoring and quality advice. Getting insight from successful property professionals can be a great introduction to the profession. Harnessing the passion and experience of senior professionals with experience of improving and shaping the built environment will help attract and retain talent.

“The property sector needs to promote and better explain to young people what it offers: in terms of personal growth, the variety of roles and disciplines, and creativity, but also looking at the real value professionals in this sector bring to people,” said Žofia Voda from Skanska in the Czech Republic.

“Real estate is not about selling. Every professional has a role to play bringing benefits to citizens and the community. However, there are still some barriers to overcome.”

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## Editor's Notes



*Timothy A. Thwaites BA, MSc., CLS*

**Dear readers,** welcome to this quarter's issue of the LSAJ's Misclosures newsletter.

It is the first issue of a new Association president, a new newsletter editor, and of the new decade of the Association's existence.

Strengthened by our 90 years of history and experience, we begin this new chapter focused firmly on the new and exciting challenges and opportunities facing us as individuals and a profession.

How do we reconcile the rudiments of our 'first principles' with the increasingly fast-paced and result hungry business climates in which we exist? What are the business practices and service offerings that will help us stay at the cutting edge of industry, add value for our clients, achieve financial viability, and attract and retain high-quality talent? How do we translate the values of the 'old school' to tech-dependent and impatient millennial employees and prospects, so as to harness their energies and ensure the survival and continuity of our businesses and the profession?

Worldwide the geomatics/surveying industry is grappling with these issues of evolution and attractiveness. The industry is changing; technology is democratizing many tasks that used to require professionals, automation is completing tasks more precisely and efficiently, and young people are not just looking for jobs - but rather want cultures and causes that they can identify with and grow in.

The LSAJ must be at the forefront of this inevitable transition, and actively seek to construct the bridge between 'the good old days' and 'the good new days'.

In this issue we've highlighted some of the social and volunteering efforts of the Association and its members that serve to build the foundation that will set us on a bearing to a future that is even brighter than our illustrious past!

*Timothy A. Thwaites, Newsletter Editor*

## LSAJ Council & Committees 2019-2020

### LSAJ President

Chairman: Christopher Grant

### LSAJ Immediate Past President

Chairman: Noel Brown

### Legal Affairs

Chairman: Charles Johnson (LSAJ Vice-President)

### Finance and Events Planning (Treasurer)

Chairman: Duel Thames

### Grievance and Complaints

Chairman: Michael Spence

### Education

Chairman: André Gordon

### International Affairs, Newsletter and Public Relations

Chairman: Timothy Thwaites

### Planning and Development

Chairman: Al Taylor

### Secretariat

Chairman: Karsten Johnson

### Membership & Professional Practice

Chairman: Tristan Wiggins



The LSAJ is becoming more environmentally responsible! Our Misclosures newsletter will now primarily be circulated in electronic format. This will increase our reach through e-transmission to a wider readership, and also drastically reduce our collective carbon footprint!

# The President's Notepad



Christopher Grant, CLS - LSAJ President

## Colleagues,

I am humbled to welcome you to this second quarter of 2019 as president of The Land Surveyors Association of Jamaica (LSAJ). I trust that you had a favourable first quarter and now brimming with anticipation for the future.

The LSAJ is now officially ninety (90) years old, having attained that milestone on September 18, 2018. We now look forward to the next significant milestone on our journey, our centennial. I consider this an opportune time to reflect on our position as an association, examining our core objectives, our accomplishments, our relevance and our capabilities as we navigate the current realities holding steadfast to our mission of "promoting the highest level of professional practice among our members in the delivery of high quality and efficient service to the clients we serve".

As we've observed over recent years and further reinforced in several presentations at our 90th anniversary conference, the expanded roles of the Land Surveyor in society cannot be overstated. The Land Surveying profession is far reaching. It demands dynamism and forward thinking. The explosion of technological advancement have had a significant impact on the profession. Not only has technology changed our approach to the various tasks we undertake, it has also created opportunities in areas previously unimagined.

Capitalizing on these opportunities will depend firstly, on our ability to conceptualize the change. Thereafter, we have to seek to understand the demands and then prepare to participate. Undoubtedly, the most significant element of this preparation is educational development. This will involve; learning new technologies, revising business structures, review marketing strategies, develop and expand human resources and at all times remain ground-

ed, adhering to the core objectives outlined at the inception of this noble association; protecting the profession of Land Surveying and upholding the highest standard of professional practice among our members.

This administration is not lost on the responsibilities commensurate with our privileged position. As we embrace the current realities and prepare for the future, it is our intention to focus significantly on improving and reinforcing various fundamental structures and practices aimed at protecting the character, status and interest of the profession of Land Surveying Jamaica and engender continuity. Our various committees are committed and focused on the important tasks assigned to them. These include;

**Education Committee**, chaired by Mr. Andre Gordon. This committee is committed to the Continued Professional Development of all our members and affiliates, including the promotion of information on surveying methods which are efficient and economically viable.

**Membership and Professional Practice Committee**, chaired by Mr. Tristan Wiggins. This committee is focused on promoting members' welfare, including health, social inclusion and professional ethics.

**Grievance and Complaints Committee** chaired by Mr. Michael Spence. As conflicts arise due to human error or omission, this committee is tasked with the task of seeking to protect interests of the public as well as the interests of the Land Surveying profession through mediation between, the Land Surveyor and the public as well as between fellow practitioners.

**Legal Committee** chaired by Mr. Charles Johnson. This committee is tasked with monitoring the legal frameworks which impact the practice of Land Surveying in Jamaica, including promoting changes in laws to protect the status and principles of Land Surveying.

**Development, Planning and Advisory Committee** chaired by Mr. Al Taylor. This committee monitors and report on development projects within the island of Jamaica, including changes in planning procedures which impact the practice of Land Surveying as well as provide technical assistance to the public via representation on the planning agency's planning committees.

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# The President's Notepad (cont'd from page 3)

**Public Relations and International Affairs** chaired by Mr. Timothy Thwaites. This committee is tasked with promoting Land Surveying within the public, including academic institutions; publish periodicals and promote international affiliations.

These committees are supported by the **Headquarters Committee** chaired by the **Secretary** Mr. Karsten Johnson and includes the **Treasurer**, Mr. Duel Thames. The duties include; coordinating the activities of the various committees, approving funding for projects and managing the affairs of the LSAJ Headquarters.

While it's arguable to pinpoint which area of focus requires the most urgent action, much attention must be directed to our human resource development. There's a limited number of aspirants choosing Land Surveying as their vocation. This limits the potential for improvement, expansion and growth, resulting in countless missed opportunities. We must focus on strategies which are deliberate and thoughtful in tackling this challenge. It is not beyond us. . We can and we will build a greater profession, protecting the collective interests of the public we serve, the hard-working practitioners and the students who will carry the profession of Land Surveying into the centennial and beyond.

God Bless,

*Christopher Grant, President*

## How to attract the next generation of property leaders - RICS (cont'd from page 1)

### ***Increasing collaboration***

To attract future talent, the industry should be less fragmented and more open to collaboration between different disciplines and generations. New technologies and a sense of community will help here. Opening accreditations, such as RICS status, to a more diverse group of professionals with different skills and knowledge is a must. That is why, for example, RICS is looking at new pathways to offer its AssocRICS, MRICS, FRICS accreditations.



### ***Embracing innovation***

Being more innovative will improve the perception of the industry among younger generations. An important aspect to bear in mind is the importance of embracing the digital era and being less

afraid of new technologies that can help the profession become more efficient and innovative. At present, the sector is not innovative enough and over time new, soft skills will be in great demand.

Innovative models to foster connectivity and collaboration in real estate are still in their early stages. According to a recent global survey by EY, the construction and real estate industry is far behind others in terms of the investment in technology. Although approximately 25% of respondents to the survey have a digital strategy and agenda in place, only 9% felt were on the high end of the digital readiness scale. This was despite 98% of respondents believing that digital solutions will be critical to the future viability of real estate and construction companies.

### ***Improving diversity and building trust***

Young people are also looking for flexible, open-minded employers who respect their autonomy and encourage diversity and inclusion; respecting and integrating different disciplines, generations, genders and social backgrounds.



## How to attract the next generation of property leaders - RICS (cont'd from page 4)

An example of how doing this could be a 'win-win' approach for employers is mentoring and collaboration between senior and junior professionals: both sides of this exchange would surely learn, develop new skills and benefit their businesses.

"Trust young people to have answers: give them a legitimate say," said Deborah Cadman, chief executive, WMCA. "Reverse mentoring in tech initiatives ensures the community and economy are fit for the future."

### *Defining purpose*

Finally, new professionals need to be able to find their roles. According to Bernardo Asuaje, managing director at Grupo Attia, "we need to have a purpose to be in a company and understand our role to make a difference".

Organisations, like RICS, can play a key role in fostering collaboration and diversity, as well as opening new pathways

and learning opportunities for young surveyors.

Reference:

<https://www.rics.org/north-america/news-insight/future-of-surveying/future-business-skills/how-to-attract-the-next-generation-of-property-leaders/> (Accessed: 30/03/19)

## LSAJ at the Sagicor SIGMA Corporate Run 2019

For the first time the LSAJ fielded its own team in this year's Sagicor Sigma Corporate Run, held on February 17, 2019. Notwithstanding a short planning period, an impressive 46 participants turned out for the run.

The team, comprising members, associates, NLA staff, our LSAJ Administrative secretary, family and friends, was led home by LSAJ president Christopher Grant, CLS who stopped the clock in an impressive 32:05!

The morning had great comradery and was a special bonding experience for all participants. We intend to build from strength-to-strength, and make this a yearly event.



# A Millennial's View of Land Surveying

"Dying Profession": This term is mentioned quite a bit when discussing the land surveying profession these days. Many believe that, with the continuing advancement of technologies related to data collection, construction staking, and GIS mapping, there will soon be almost no need for the professional surveyor.

If that isn't a major deterrent for someone who may just be getting involved in the profession, then I don't know what is. Do I think that drones and scanners are going to wipe surveyors off the map (pun intended)? Absolutely not.

However, if we don't stop sabotaging ourselves the way that we have been in recent years, I honestly believe it could happen somewhere down the road. It is up to us, the land surveying community, to do whatever we can to keep this great profession alive and thriving.

## Mentors Are Needed

We are allowing time, money, technology, and workload to dictate how we train the newer generations of surveyors.

It used to be that a novice surveyor worked alongside the same party chief for about four years or so before he or she possessed the knowledge and skills to become a party chief themselves. That is at least four years of daily field calculations, boundary evidence gathering, stakeouts, topo surveys, and, most importantly, questions. These days, many surveying and engineering firms are teaching their field surveyors just enough so that they can take their data collector to the field and throw stakes in the ground.

This generation of surveyors is missing a gigantic piece of what was once the professional standard, the one-on-one mentorship and guidance with someone who knows much more than they do. It is your responsibility as a professional land surveyor to make time to teach your subordinates in a similar manner in which you were taught as a junior surveyor.

Every PLS should make it a personal goal to help develop truly skilled professionals and not just someone who knows how to operate a data collector. Sit down with them, review plats, discuss what should be done when they are unable to find monumentation in particular situations, explain how mistakes can be prevented by taking check shots or making sure a tie in point elevation matches the plan set, etc.

Depending upon what type of company you work for, you may have to do some of this on your own time, and I fully understand that sometimes it just isn't ideal for you, or for the junior surveyor, but it is our responsibility to make the profession as good as it can be. To me, that means that we are responsible for training our people appropriately.

## Educational Requirements

These are a major deterrent for many young surveyors. Simply put, someone who does not enjoy school and who really has no intentions of achieving an associate or bachelor's degree is almost guaranteed to not get involved in, or stick with, the surveying profession if a degree is required for licensure.

There is now a limit placed on how high that individual can climb within the industry because he or she will never be able to achieve their professional licensure within most of the United States. I know some of you are probably thinking, "Well, we don't really want someone involved in our profession who isn't willing to work for a degree," and I suppose that is certainly a fair train of thought. However, I firmly believe that a person does not need educational credentials to become a great land surveyor. What they will need is a passion for the profession, a thirst for knowledge, and about a decade of real-world experience.

The above-described individuals are not the only ones whom we as a community have now steered away from the profession. Even men and women who plan to attend college now have a serious decision to make about their education and

# A Millennial's View of Land Surveying

futures. It is no secret that on average civil engineers make more money than surveyors, and when these people are deciding what they want to go to school for, what professional track do you think they are going to choose when the cost of a four-year degree is the same and the field of study is within the same industry?

I understand wanting to make the profession as good as it can be and filling it with educated minds. However, the truth is that we have created a burden for potentially great surveyors, and I don't doubt that we have lost the interest of many who would have turned out just fine.

## Staying up to Date

Continuing Education Units requirements (CEUs) are one of the best ways that we can ensure that fellow professionals are staying up to date with technology advancements, changes to state laws or national standards, and generally important information related to the profession. This requirement is enforced by state law and typically regulated by the state's governing surveying board (board titles vary state to state) and is put in place so that licensed professionals are required to attend a certain amount of continuing education courses in order to renew their professional license.

This means that every single licensed land surveyor is required to learn or refresh their knowledge within a multitude of different topics related to the profession, within a particular timeline set forth by said board. While most states that do currently require CEUs have instituted an annual or biannual licensure renewal timeline, I would like to see some states adopting a three- to five-year timeline instead.

I feel that requiring CEU submittals for licensure renewals on a biannual (or less) basis creates more problems for the professionals than it resolves. (Aside from possible counterproductive timeline requirements, I do feel that CEU requirements will provide a professional surveyor an excuse to take a course on a subject that he or she doesn't fully grasp or that they otherwise may not ever familiarize themselves with.)

I think there are quite a few surveyors out there operating in this highly complex equipment without having nearly a firm enough understanding of how it truly works. If you believe that you have a firm understanding of GNSS equipment, quiz your field crews and see that they share your understanding.

It is just as, if not more, important that they comprehend what they are doing in the field with this equipment as it is that you do. With CEUs as a requirement, the professional is almost guaranteed to improve their comprehensive knowledge and understanding without the heavy burden of affording a college degree.

You may know a lot. You may even know everything, but if your field crews are not taken care of and are not being groomed as if to—maybe one day—have your position in the company, then their work will either inevitably be flawed, or you will never see them grow to their full potential. In today's surveying world, having a knowledgeable and skilled party chief is just as important as having an excellent professional surveyor.

It is your license on the line. Your party chief may know how to locate the rebar with the shiny new cap in the ground but may have had no idea that the 80-year-old fence line 10 feet away could have mattered as well. The next generation of licensed surveyor's skills, competencies, and professionalisms are heavily dependent upon the values, work ethic, and follow-through that you instill into them as being the standards for our profession.

It is imperative that we do not let deadlines and money pull us astray from the overall greater good of our work.

Article by Anthony Whitlock - Anthony is a land base services senior at Colorado Springs Utilities. He has more than 10 years of land surveying experience.

Reference: <https://www.xyht.com/surveying/a-millennials-view-of-land-surveying/> (Accessed: 30/03/19)

## A Message from the Land Surveyor's Wives Association

"Coming together was the beginning, staying together we are making progress, and working together we will succeed."  
– Henry Ford.

The Land Surveyors Wives Association of Jamaica celebrates 50 years of existence and we are most grateful to the editor of this newsletter for allowing us the opportunity to give thanks to our founder Mrs. Sylvia Whittingham whose vision has been continued till now where the association meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday "These meetings are normally used to unwind, relax as we enjoy food, fun and fellowship and continue to embrace our motto 'We link to serve'.

We are thankful to God that we continue to support and contribute to the Women's Center. The Waugh Hill Basic School and the Reddies Place of Safety; on their thrust to shape lives. I would like to thank the Land Surveyors Association of Jamaica, our husbands and spouses who have supported us over the years through their dedication and commitment in our endeavors and is pleased to announce that a special appreciation award was presented to Mr. Everard Scott at our Annual General Meeting, held on March 16, 2019.

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen Keller. I hereby encourage all the wives and spouses who are not yet a member of the movement to join us to shape lives for a better future knowing that "If I can help somebody as I travel along, If I can help somebody with a word or song then my living shall not be in vain.

Verene Henry-Brown  
President

## Land Surveyors represent at the ISSA Grace Kennedy Boys and Girls Championships 2019 - Glen Watson, CLS

The curtains have come down on another championship which saw the incumbent Edwin Allen High, and Kingston College winning the girls and boys titles respectively. 'Champs' 2019 again saw the participation of members of the LSAJ by virtue of their volunteering time as electronic measurement judges.

The Association was initially approached by meet manager Mr. Anthony Davis of ISSA through Dr. Silburn Clarke, to oversee judges that were trained on the Fieldlynx electronic measurement system that the JAAA had procured for the field events it hosts nationally. The surveyors were only to play the role of advisers to the new judges who had limited experience in the use of total stations (or lasers as they called them). At our first training session however, we quickly realized that our role would be much more involved than first envisioned.

At the five-day event, electronic measurements were to be taken for five field events: the long jump, triple jump, discus throw, shot put throw and javelin throw. The JAAA only had



*Mr. Ian Henry conducting a measurement*

one fully operational system, which meant that it had to be employed to only one event at a time. The tight schedule of Champs saw, at the very least, two events occurring simultaneously on any given day. This meant that the surveyors had

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## Land Surveyors represent at the ISSA Grace Kennedy Boys and Girls Championships 2019 - Glen Watson, CLS (cont'd from pg. 8)

to take their own instruments to the championship to augment that of the JAAA.

From our experience at last year's outing, we knew that we had to use the missing line function, a program on total stations, to calculate the measurement of each athlete's effort. The measurement of each event also had a constant that had to be applied to it based on the radius of the ring from which the implement was released. All throws are done from an actual circle (or, a theoretic one in the case of the javelin) with the measurement of the effort calculated from the edge of said circle. To get an accurate measurement, the missing line function had to be initiated, or zeroed, at the marked center of the circle being used; a measurements made at the mark where the implement first impacted the field; then the constant deducted from the displayed result on the instrument. This result was then manually input into the Fieldlynx system to be recorded and displayed on the display boards. It took great coordination and focus to repeatedly and consistently sight the found mark, take the measurement, and relay correct information to the computer operator, media result liaison, and measurement judge in the time frame allotted by IAAF rules. It however became second nature and was executed seamlessly by the team.

Over the course of the games the measurement judges and survey team forged a tight bond. Our (tribe) leader, a twenty something IT practitioner, was a bit apprehensive at our presence at first, but soon realized that were there to help the section make a good showing of itself and not to show anyone up. The measurement judges, headed by chief judge Mr. Dennis Samuels, were always at hand to clarify any issues we had on the ground before, during, and after events. While our primary duties were the operation of the total stations, the team assisted the section in any way needed. We carried and set up the electronic boards, helped to display results and helped to troubleshoot the problems that arose. At the end of the day we performed well, and while there were very minor hitches, none of the events were held up and all were executed on time and according to schedule.

The members of this year's volunteer team were Dr. Silburn Clarke, Mr. Ian Henry, Mr. Everard Johnson, Mr. Mikhail Bar-

ton and the writer Mr. Glen Watson; the same team that worked in 2018. It is however the wish of the writer that more members of the Association volunteer to: (1) lessen the time burden that any one member would have to bear to participate throughout the length of the games, and (2) add to the list of charitable activities in which we partake. We look forward to helping ISSA again next year in this regard as we seek to keep the spectacle that is Champs at this new standard and even seek to take it to the next level in tandem with IAAF regulations.



Electronic measurement team members et. al.

(L-R) Dennis Samuels, Sodja Peters, Ian Henry, Glen Watson, Olive McNaughton, Everard Johnson, Silburn Clarke, Mikhail Barton (stooping)



# Geomatics@UTech,Ja

The Division of Land Surveying and Geographic Information Sciences, UTech,Ja shares the highlights of some of our activities during the last two (2) quarters.

## **Its now Dr. Silburn St. Aubyn Clarke!!**

We join with the rest of the profession in congratulating our own Dr. Silburn St. Aubyn Clarke who in October 2018, successfully completed his Doctorate in Business Administration, with commendation. A distinguished past student of our Diploma course, Dr. Clarke has been a perennial supporter of our programmes, particularly in the field of Geographic Information Sciences, and at one point served as an external examiner for four (4) years. We wish Dr. Clarke all the best in his future endeavours.



Figure 1: Drs. Silburn St. A. Clarke and Glendon G. Newsome

## **New Graduates**

Last academic year we graduated a total of thirty-four (34) students. Twenty-six (26) qualified for the Bachelors Degree and eight (8) gained the Associate Degree. Many of our graduates turned out for the ceremony at the National Arena in November 2018.



Figure 2: Graduation 2018

Mr. & Mrs. Prendergast shared in a photo opportunity with their son Reis and his Programme Director (left picture), while Sanjay Banton, Reis Prendergast and Christov Finnikin is pictured with their Programme Director (right picture). We wish all our graduates prosperity in their pursuit of a career goals.

## **GIS Day**

The Division made its usual appearance at GIS Day in November 2018. This event which is attended by hundreds of High School students, continues to be reliable source of new entrants to our programme.



Figure 3: LSGIS Booth at GIS Day 2018



# Geomatics@UTech,Ja

## **Scholarship Award**

Distinguished Alumni Past President Ainsworth Dick made available a scholarship bursary of sixty-five thousand dollars (\$65,000.00) for a third year student who was deemed to be in need. Mr. Randy Farquarson was selected for the award. We thank Mr. Dick for this very kind gesture and look forward to more of this kind of support for our students, most of whom are in dire need.

## **University 60th Anniversary Scholarship Awards**

Mr. Kevin Gutierrez, a Year 3 student from Belize, Freddie Reid, a Year 2 student, and Ms. Trudy-ann McLean, a Year 1 student, were among sixty (60) of the University's students to be awarded scholarships by the University in recognition of their high GPAs. This formed part of the University's commemoration of its 60th Anniversary. We are very proud of their achievements.



Figure 4: Mr. Kevin Gutierrez



Figure 5: Mr. Freddie Reid



Figure 6: Ms. Trudy-ann McLean

## **Staff News**

We are very pleased to welcome to our staff Ms. Trecia K. Williams a graduate of our Bachelors programme. Ms. Williams comes to us after successfully completing a Master's degree in Geomatics at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Ms. Williams who is a 2018 Prime Minister's Youth

# Geomatics@UTech,Ja

Awardee joined our team in August 2018.



Figure 7: Trecia K. Williams receiving the Prime Minister's Youth Award

We congratulate Ms. Julie-May Larmond-Dixon a graduate of our Bachelors and Master's (Built Environment) programmes, for successfully completing the University's Post-Diploma in Education.

We also celebrate with Mr. Wayneworth Hamilton who will be recognised at the Faculty's Awards function to be held on April 10, 2019, as a distinguished alumni.

We wish all three (3) staff members a very long and distinguished career in Surveying/Geomatics Education.

## **Guest Lectures**

Three (3) Surveyors: Dean Bradshaw; Hopeton Chambers; and Andre Gordon, continues to share their knowledge and expertise in Cadastral Surveying with our final year students. Past President Mr. Earle Spencer also delivered a lecture on the topic of Professional Practice & Ethics to the same group of students. Our gratitude goes out to these gentlemen for their continued support of the programme.



Figure 8: Mr. Earle Spence being thanked for his lecture.

We also thank Ms. Sheree-Jay Redwood for sharing her expertise in 3D Laser Scanning with our Year 2 Electronic Surveying Instrumentation students.



Figure 9: Ms. Sheree-Jay Redwood demonstrating the use of a 3D Laser Scanner.



# Geomatics@UTech,Ja

## **Equipment**

Our stock of aging equipment continues to be a serious problem for the efficient delivery of our courses of study. Efforts to replenish the stores with new equipment (Electronic Theodolites and GIS Data Mappers), was nullified by the fact that the Faculty's line item for equipment of \$5,000,000.00 was cut by the University to \$200,000.00. Effectively, this means that we cannot acquire not even one of the items under consideration. Our students are not happy, but remain as a result of the faith they have in their lecturers, as we work hard to do the best with the limited resources available.

## **Student numbers**

Our current cohort of students is constituted by:

LSGIS1 – 14

LSGIS2 – 13

LSGIS3 – 9

LSGIS4 – 11

SGIT1 – 14

SGIT2 – 6

Three (3) of our students are from other parts of the Caribbean.

## **Courses of Study**

A proposal for the revision of the B.Sc. in Surveying & Geographic Information Sciences was approved by the Academic Board and will be implemented for offering as at August 2019. The revision involves: the merger of some modules; changes to the content of some modules; as well as changes to some of the pre-requisite requirements (pass Academic Writing II before taking Research Methodology).

A Letter of Intent for a new B.Sc. in Geo-Spatial Information Sciences (Major/Minor) was approved by the University's Academic Board. The Faculty Board had previously approved the full proposal which will now be progressed

through the other approval stages in time to be offered, if approved, in August 2019.

## **Advisory Committee**

Our advisory committee is currently being reconstituted as a requirement of the University to renew the membership every three (3) years. The new membership will be subjected to the University's approval, thereafter the names of the new members will be announced.

## **International Coastal Clean Up**

Eighteen (18) of our students through a Land Surveying Club effort and as one of their projects, participated in the International Coastal Clean Up activities at the Boston Bay Beach in Portland, last year.

Please see Facebook: FoBE UTech (<https://www.facebook.com/fobe.utech.5>) for more events associated with the Faculty of the Built Environment.

Glendon G. Newsome, PhD  
Programme Director, Land Surveying & Geographic Information Sciences Technology,  
The University of Technology, Jamaica

# NATIONAL LAND AGENCY ONLINE SURVEYOR SEARCH REQUEST SERVICE

Since its formation in 2001, the National Land Agency (NLA) has played a key role in providing an efficient and transparent land administration system, through the land and fiscal based cadastres and their associated records. As an Agency that is pro-active and client-focused, we strive continually for improvements and expansion to our service offerings.

On March 27, 2019 the NLA launched the **Online Surveyor Search Request Service**. The **Online Surveyor Search Request Service** allows customers to receive electronically, scanned copies of documents that would normally be requested at the Documentation Centre, without having to visit our office. These documents include: Survey Diagrams, Subdivision Plans and Microfilm.

In order to access the service, customers will need to open a deposit account with the Agency, by making a request in writing to:

**The Senior Director  
Surveys and Mapping Division  
23 ½ Charles Street  
Kingston**

The creation of a deposit account will allow customers to top up their accounts by paying either with cash, credit card, manager's cheque or debit card.

The **Online Surveyor Search Request Service** can be accessed via the NLA's website: [www.nla.gov.jm](http://www.nla.gov.jm). Once customers have completed the online form and payment is received, the documents will be processed and delivered electronically within two (2) business days.

## For further information contact:

National Land Agency  
Business Services Division  
23 ½ Charles Street  
Kingston, Jamaica  
Telephone: (876)750-5263

Email: [asknla@nla.gov.jm](mailto:asknla@nla.gov.jm)

Website and live chat service: [www.nla.gov.jm](http://www.nla.gov.jm)

Call Us: (876) 750-LAND | (876) 946-5263 | Fax: (876) 948-9513 | Email: [asknla@nla.gov.jm](mailto:asknla@nla.gov.jm) Register Logout mijan.morgan

**NATIONAL LAND AGENCY**  
ONLINE SURVEYOR SEARCH  
REQUEST FORM

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### ONLINE SURVEYOR SEARCH REQUEST FORM

Date: 20/03/2019 (d/m/yyyy)  
Account/Company Name: mijan.morgan

I / We mijan.morgan hereby request the online survey search service listed below and authorize the deducting of the associated amount from my Deposit Account.

Services Required \*

Details		Delete
1 EX or PE Number* Instigator:	Property:	
Negative Number: Surveyor:	Parish*:	
	<input type="text" value="Please select a parish"/>	

Delivery Method  
 By email  By hand

Name of Person:   
Comment: