

FieldNotes...

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Professional Surveyors

The Monthly Newsletter of the **Maine Society of Land Surveyors**

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International Ice Carousel Spun on the Saint John River



March 15, 2025 - Northern Maine Ice Busters (NMIB) crafted an ice carousel that not only spun but also bridged two nations. Choosing the St. John River as their canvas, NMIB strategically positioned their colossal creation between Van Buren, Maine, and St. Leonard, New Brunswick. This wasn't just any ice carousel; it was the first-ever to straddle an international border.

This historic event was made possible by extensive coordination between government agencies from both Canada and the United States. Canada Customs and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) worked seamlessly alongside the U.S. Border Patrol and the CBP Office of Field Operations to ensure the smooth execution and safety of this cross-border event. Additionally, close collaboration with the Town of Van Buren, Maine, was instrumental in managing logistics, community engagement, and local support, making the event truly representative of international cooperation and goodwill.

After overcoming a few technical hiccups, the carousel completed not one but six full revolutions. Behind this effort stood a group of dedicated individuals and notable for MSLS, member Mike Cyr, PLS of Northern Maine Surveyors ensured everything necessary was precisely placed.

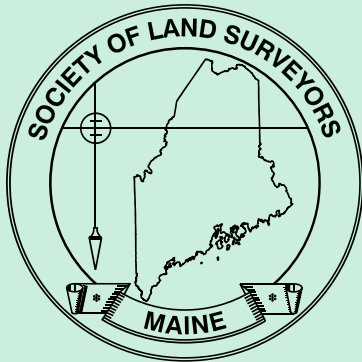
The Northern Maine Ice Busters didn't just set a new world record; they showcased community power, international friendship, government collaboration, and a shared passion for doing incredibly cool things on ice. As the carousel spun, so did tales of teamwork, creativity, and the joy of collaboration.



Mike Cyr is on the right in orange.

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Legislative Committee
(Jonathan Stewart - Chair & Daniel Bernier, Esq.)

Nominating & Membership Committee
(Cassandra Quintal - Chair)

Budget & Finance Committee (Jimmy Courbron)

Board of Licensure (Jonathan Stewart - Liaison)

NSPS (Matt Ek, NSPS Director)

SVT at UM (Stephen Gould - Liaison)

GIS (Greg Copeland - Liaison)

FEMA (Mark Carpenter - Liaison)

DOT (Guy Ladd - Liaison)

Education Committee - (Cassandra Quintal - Chair)

Scholarship Committee
(John Lloyd & Stephen Gould - Co-Chairs)

Historical Committee - (Tom Blake - Chair)

Benevolent & Betterment Benevolent Fund Com't
(Matt Ek - Chair)

Program Committee
(Steve Gould & John Lloyd Co-Chairs)

Publications, FieldNotes and Website
(Bruce Bourgoine)

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Governor's Restaurant – Waterville, ME
March 20, 2025

Members Present

Officers -	
President	Levi Ladd
Vice President	Jon Stewart (Zoom)
Secretary	Kevin Farrar
Treasurer	Jimmy Courbron
Directors -	
Androscoggin	Keith Morse (Zoom)
Narragansett	Jimmy Courbron (proxy)
Penobscot/Hancock	Jon Stewart (proxy)
Somerset	Steve Gould
At Large	Ellen Brewer (Zoom)
Past President	Cassandra Quintal
Legislative Committee	Dan Bernier
Executive Director	Bruce Bourgoine

The meeting was called to order by President Ladd at 6:04. With no agenda changes the meeting proceeded.

Legislative Committee (Jon Stewart) – Dan says that this session is odd because the partisanship is running higher than usual. He that there are many party line votes coming out of committee. He said that LD 65, “An Act to Update the Definition of ‘Coastal Wetlands’ Under the Natural Resources Protection Act”, is going to pass. This bill, submitted by DEP will make the upland edge of a “coastal wetland” the “highest astronomical tide” elevation. LD 121 will define brush and yard debris as litter and that has passed committee. LD 128 would amend the definition of a subdivision by including multi-unit (up to 4 units) residential buildings. Also related to subdivision law, LD 161 would form a group to look into overhauling Maine subdivision laws. Dan suggested that if we are interested in that bill MSLS could ask for participation or provide input in the form of a letter taking a position. LD 353 is a resolution to establish a commission to create a bill to limit deed fraud in Maine. LD 358 will raise registry fees for recording plans from \$21 to \$45. The fee for downloading/printing deeds in bulk will go up too. LD 383 would move LURC into DEP. Dan’s list of pending legislation that he is monitoring which is emailed to members regularly. If you are not receiving them, contact MSLS director, Bruce Bourgoine to make sure he has your email address. The following bills which can be researched at the following web address are included on the emailed list.

<http://www.mainelegislature.org/LawMakerWeb/search.asp>
Once at that web address, add the LD# and hit search.

LD 1 – “An Act to Increase Storm Preparedness for Maine’s Communities, Homes and Infrastructure” was assigned to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. A public hearing was held on February 27th.

LD 36 – “An Act to Clarify Processes of the Board of Environmental Protection” was assigned to the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. A public hearing was held on January 27th. It has received an “ought to pass as amended” recommendation.

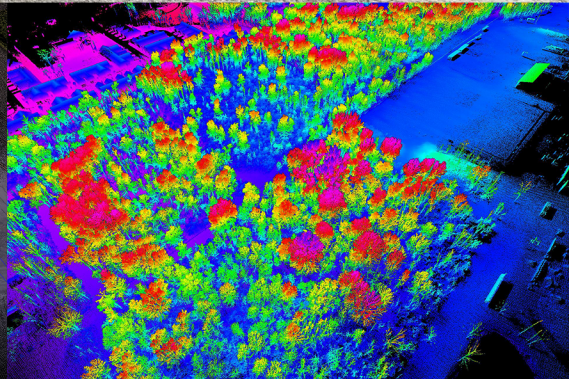
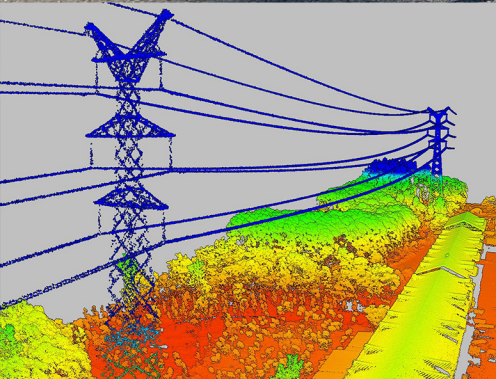
LD 39 – “An Act to Require Forest Landowners to Report the Registration or Sale of Their Forest Carbon Credits” was assigned to the Agricultural, Conservation and Forestry Committee. A public hearing was held on January 28th. It has received an “ought to pass as amended” recommendation.

LD 65 – “An Act to Update the Definition of ‘Coastal Wetlands’ Under the Natural Resources Protection Act” was assigned to the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. A public hearing was held on January 27th. It has received an “ought to pass as amended” recommendation.

LD 75 – “An Act to Update Funding for the Board of Environmental Protection” was assigned to the Environment and

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Natural Resources Committee. A public hearing was held on January 27th. It has received an “ought to pass” recommendation.

LD 121 – “An Act to Include Brush and Yard Debris in the Definition of Litter” was assigned to the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. A public hearing was held on February 3rd. It has received an “ought to pass as amended” recommendation.

LD 128 – “An Act to Support Permitting of Certain Multifamily Housing Developments Under the Site Location of Development Laws” was assigned to the Housing and Economic Development Committee. A public hearing was held on March 11th.

LD 161 – “Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Convene a Stakeholder Group Tasked with a Comprehensive Overhaul and Modernization of the State Subdivision Laws” was assigned to the Housing and Economic Development Committee. A public hearing was held on February 27th.

LD 353 – “Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Recommend Methods for Preventing Deed Fraud in the State of Maine” was assigned to the Judiciary Committee. A public hearing was held on February 12th. It received an “ought to pass as amended” recommendation.

LD 358 – “An Act to Increase the Fees Paid to Registers of Deeds” was assigned to the State and Local Government Committee. A public hearing was held on February 24th.

LD 383 – “An Act to Facilitate the Consolidation of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Planning Commission into a Single Combined Entity” was assigned to the Housing and Economic Development Committee.

LD 398 – “An Act to Amend the Definition of ‘Transient Occupancy’ in the Laws Governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission” was assigned to the Housing and Economic Development Committee.

LD 413 – “An Act Regarding Disclosure by Sellers of Residential Real Property of Notices of Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Violations” was assigned to the Housing and Economic Development Committee. A public hearing was held on February 27th. It received an ought to pass as amended recommendation.

LD 530 – “An Act Regarding Occupational Licensing Reform” was assigned to the Labor Committee. A public hearing was held on March 11th and it was referred to judiciary.

LD 578 – “An Act to Improve Occupational Regulation” was assigned to the Labor Committee.

LD 870 – “An Act Regarding the Membership of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission” was assigned to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee. A public hearing is scheduled for March 20th.

LD 928 – “An Act to Maintain Public Access to Town Ways in Maine” was assigned to the State and Local Government Committee. A public hearing is scheduled for March 26th.

LD 958 – “An Act to Prohibit Eminent Domain on Tribal Lands” was assigned to the Judiciary Committee. A public hearing was held on March 19th.

LD 994 – “An Act Regarding the Enforcement Provisions of the Law Governing Private Road Maintenance” was assigned to the Transportation Committee. A public hearing is scheduled for March 24th.

LD 997 – “An Act to Allow Residential Use Development in Commercial Districts” was assigned to the Housing and Economic Development Committee. A public hearing is scheduled for March 25th.

LD 1026 – “An Act to Provide Mapping Services for Aquaculture Lease Siting” was assigned to the Marine Resources Committee. A public hearing is scheduled for Mar. 27th.

Secretary Report (Kevin Farrar) – The minutes from the February 20th ExCom meeting held at Governor’s in Waterville were amended to reflect the proper spelling of Richard Salisbury (no ‘i’). Motion to accept was made by Courbron, seconded by Quintal, approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report (Jimmy Courbron) – Jimmy reports that there is \$38,726.17 in the Checking Account. The scholarship fund currently contains \$232,821.38, a loss of about \$11,000 over the last reported amount. There is \$8080.24 in the Bereavement and Betterment Fund. Moved to accept the Treasurers Report by Farrar, seconded by Gould, approved unanimously.

Executive Dir. Report (Bruce Bourgoine) – Bruce apologized for difficulty with the “Owl”. He said he’d do a couple of dry runs at home. His written report is below.

From: Bruce Bourgoine, Executive Director

Regarding: February 2025 Report

Date: March 16, 2025

Here are the items focused upon during February:

Annual Conference follow-up on payments to suppliers and registrant invoice clean up, issuing CEU’s to members with the new AMS system, auction billing.

Reorienting the website from strong event promotion emphasis to member services and public outreach; created video instruction on CEU’s for members.

Routine matters of ExCom meeting preparation, deposits, broadcast e-mails, website updates, FieldNotes publication, and handling external and member communications as required.

Looking ahead, the following item will be of intermediate focus:

Support the Spring Meeting Chapter Host, Androscoggin Chapter.

Annual Conference evaluation to be undertaken.

Looking ahead, the following items will be of long-term focus:

Encouraging/educating members to use their MemberClicks interface resources.

Launching new web-based member-only and Committee web services over time.

As always, I appreciate your support in meeting Society goals.

Nominating & Membership Committee (Cassandra Quintal) – Bruce said that he extends a grace period for the first three months and that we have about 30 people listed as members who have not paid dues yet. Below is the monthly report on membership numbers.



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Member type	March 2025 Report		+/-
	Feb	March	
Associate	18	18	0
Complimentary	2	2	0
Honorary	8	8	0
Life	11	10	-1
Life Charter	1	2	+1
Out of State	18	19	+1
Out of State Charter	1	1	0
Regular	169	159	-10
Retired	43	33	-10
Student	14	16	+2
Sustaining	7	7	0
	-----	-----	-----
	292	275	-17



Education Committee (Cassandra Quintal) – Cassandra read the section of the MSLS bylaws about what this committee is supposed to do. She has one more course that she can offer in the workforce development program before funding for the program dries up. It would have to be wrapped up by June 27th.

Scholarship Committee (John Lloyd & Steve Gould) – No report.

Benevolent & Betterment Fund Committee (Matt Ek) – No report.

Historical Committee (Tom Blake) – No report.

Program Committee (Steve Gould & John Lloyd – MSLS Annual Meeting) – John Lloyd has spoken to Gary Kent about being the main speaker at our next annual conference. Gary accepted and will be speaking on the upcoming new ALTA standards. Bruce said that we’ll need to decide where to have that meeting by around May. Jon Stewart said that the UMaine Law School facility (300 Fore St., Portland) as a meeting site. The Holiday Inn in downtown Portland is another possible meeting location.

Pending General Membership Meeting Planning (MSLS Spring Meeting) – The Androscoggin Chapter will be hosting this meeting. The date is set for Friday May 16th. They plan to hold the event in Gray at Spring Meadows. Keith said that they have three different ideas that they are exploring. Jimmy said that he’s wants to organize a golf event for after the meeting in the afternoon.

LIAISONS –

Board of Licensure (Jon Stewart) – The last meeting was held on February 25th at 9am at the State office building at 76 Northern Avenue in Gardiner. Jay Raitt was re-elected as Chairman. Bruce Martinson was elected as Vice-Chairman and Michaeline Mulvey was elected as complaint officer. There were 5 complaint presentations. All were dismissed due to insufficient evidence. The board did decide in one of those cases that a formal complaint be filed against the licensee by the board. The next meeting is set for April 22nd.

NSPS (Matt Ek, Director) – Matt is currently at the NSPS Spring Business meeting in Silver Spring, MD. Steve Gould said that UMaine’s SVT program had a good showing and came in third place in the survey competition.

SVT at UMaine (Rich Vannozzi) – No report.

Central Maine Community College (Cassandra Quintal) – Previously discussed.

GIS (Greg Copeland) – No report.

FEMA (Mark Carpenter) – No report

MDOT (Guy Ladd) – No report.

Registries (Kevin Sargent) – The meeting materials included an email exchange between Kevin, Bruce and Levi as well as an email to MSLS from Cheri Crockett, the President of the Maine Registers of Deeds Association that outlined the recording requirements. Kevin was asking whether MSLS wanted to take any positions on the requirements. He noted that there is no mention of color on plans and asked if we should be pushing to allow for the digital recording of plans (instead of mylar and print).

Chapter Reports –

Androscoggin Chapter (Keith Morse) – Next meeting will feature, Robert Rogers who will be discussing abandoned railroads on March 27th. The meeting will be held at Terradyn’s office in downtown Auburn.

Narraganset Chapter (Wayne Wood) – The next meeting is tonight. Guy Ladd from MDOT will speak about the right of way acquisition process. There will also be a demonstration of uploading a PDF of a survey to ChatGPT (AI) and having it write a deed description.

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Crown of Maine (Spencer Caron) – The Northern Maine Ice Busters in conjunction with New Brunswick survey society created the first international Ice Carousel on March 14-16 on the St John River in between Van Buren, ME and Saint Leonard, NB. For pictures and more information go to <https://icebusters.me>. The next meeting is next Wednesday in Caribou.

MidCoast Chapter (Karl Olson) – Levi said that he attended the last meeting. The Chapter had some problems with accessing their checking account. They have a letter from MSLS to try and address this now. Levi said there are about 7 active members.


Penobscot/Hancock Chapter (Rich V) – No meeting.

Somerset Chapter (Steve Gould) – No meeting. No report.

Unfinished Business –

Online voting (Jimmy Courbron) – Jimmy did a test run for an on-line voting platform. He said he was happy with how easy it was to set up. Bruce suggested that we show a proposal for a change in bylaws to allow for online voting at the Spring meeting, then we have the membership vote on it at the Fall meeting. If it passes, we can start using it for our next election.

Host Chapter Rotation – Bruce put a host chapter list in our meeting materials. He projected the list out for the next six years. He added that Chapters do a nice job of selecting a topic and finding a speaker and that they shouldn't be intimidated when faced with hosting a meeting. He takes care of the logistics of the facility, meeting books, promotion and registration. Moved to accept the updated list by Steve Gould seconded by Cassandra, passed unanimously. The list now reads as follows:

2025		Spring – Androscoggin	Fall – Crown of Maine
2026		Spring – Somerset	Fall – Narragansett
2027		Spring – Hancock/Penobscot	Fall – MidCoast
2028		Spring – Crown of Maine	Fall – Androscoggin
2029		Spring – Narragansett	Fall – Somerset
2030		Spring – MidCoast	Fall – Hancock/Penobscot

New Business –

Levi talked about a job indexing project in a free GIS format that Nick Plummer has put together. Bruce showed some slides at the meeting. ExCom was curious but has many questions about whether it would be used, how much maintenance it would take, etc. It was suggested that Nick come to ExCom for a “show and tell”.

Next ExCom meeting – April 17th at 6pm. Bruce offered to book Governor’s again.

Correspondence – Final Point info from George Bouchles regarding the marker for Dick Bastow and a hand written note from a former MSLS member about “recent changes” as a reason for not renewing membership.

Consent Agenda -

March 20, 2025

From Whom	MSLS Committee	Amount
Bruce Bourgoine	Executive Dir. Expenses ~ February	\$157.60
Bruce Bourgoine	Executive Dir. Services ~ February	\$1,500.00
Lincoln County Publishing	Program Book	\$1,027.36
Governor’s Restaurant	Room rental	\$125.00
Maine Special Olympics	In memory of Richard Salsbury	\$120.00
The Carter Center	In memory of Owen Haskell	\$120.00
Camille Alden	Pub Crawl Food	\$115.51
Androscoggin Chapter	Annual Chapter Distribution	\$100.00
Crown of Maine Chapter	Annual Chapter Distribution	\$100.00
MidCoast Chapter	Annual Chapter Distribution	\$100.00
Narragansett Chapter	Annual Chapter Distribution	\$100.00
Penobscot/Hancock	Annual Chapter Distribution	\$100.00
Somerset Chapter	Annual Chapter Distribution	\$100.00
MMG Insurance Company	Business Insurance	\$458.00
Total		\$4,223.47
Additions at meeting –		
NSPS	9 members @ \$50	\$450.00
Grand Total		\$4,673.47

It was moved to accept the consent agenda by Courbron, seconded by Quintal and passed unanimously.

Moved to adjourn at 8:02pm, by Courbron seconded by Gould and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

DRAFT

Kevin Farrar – MSLS



Thoughts on Professional Practice and Education

Article 14:

Philosophy of Educating Students Beyond Course Content
by **Knud E. Hermansen**†
P.L.S., P.E., Ph.D., Esq.



This is the fourteenth article I have prepared. In this article I will offer thoughts regarding my approach to teaching students beyond the course topic and perhaps reveal one of many character flaws I possess – at least according to some students. I might point out for the sake of the reader, that I share these flaws with many employers in these modern times.

As a faculty member, I stand in the cross roads where many individuals leave pampered or sheltered home lives and must soon work in a profession where the employer expects to make a profit from the graduate's endeavors and the client expects to receive quality service for a reasonable fee. I have been challenged many times attempting to adjust student attitudes. I am often disliked by students for my efforts. I believe my efforts are appreciated by employers. The reader may judge for themselves after reading this article.

I will begin by crediting three sources for my belief that attitude adjustment is part of any learning process. First, I will credit my father who had a strong belief that his three boys must earn their keep on his dairy farm. Second, two weeks after graduation from high school, I left the farm to become a U.S. Marine. The Marines are well known for attitude adjustment. The third source is the court system. I challenge anyone to appear before a judge with an attitude contrary to what the judge expects.

For the thirty plus years I have taught at college, I have attempted to introduce students not only to surveying knowledge but also to expose the student to the realities they will face when employed in surveying practice. Better the students understand life's foibles and harsh realities sooner rather than later. I would prefer they frustrate me rather than frustrate employers and dismay clients. My attempts at attitude adjustment have not always been well received by students nor have I always been successful in restructuring attitude.

The following are my goals for attitude adjustment among students.

Education or employment is not to be treated as an inconvenience in personal priorities. Mark Twain said, "To change your life, you need to change your priorities." Many students find it difficult to change their priorities from themselves to clients and employers. Some students want to socialize, party, do on-line gaming, and so on. Some students consider this a sacred right. A full-time employee owes the employer and client 40 plus hours of satisfactory work a week without personal distractions affecting their efforts. This means that social sites should remain unused during working hours. I expect students to put in the necessary hours of class, study, and effort without distraction with personal pursuits.

When planning board meetings and property closings are routinely rescheduled to accommodate a survey employee's personal life, I will reconsider this policy.

Examples: "I'm in intramural volleyball. We have a game during the test time. Can I take the exam next week? ... Can I take the exam early so I can start my break earlier? I already have my tickets to fly home. ... I was given a one-week cruise in the Caribbean for my birthday. Can I hand in my homework when I return?"

Standards are established by the instructor or employer, not the individual. I suppose it is to be expected when growing up in a society where everyone gets a trophy that students expect to be accommodated when they believe they have made a good faith attempt even though they failed to achieve anything notable with the attempt. I often have to remind students that in practice, there may be twenty proposals submitted to a prospective client but only one proposal is accepted. All other proposals fail. No matter how hard a surveyor tries, unless services are delivered fully to the client per the contract, the surveyor is not paid in full.

When employers are compensated for unsuccessful proposals or fully compensated for unfinished services, I will reconsider this policy.

Examples of Conflict: "I spent a lot of time on this assignment, I should get more points ... I really studied hard. How can you fail me? I was only an hour late with my homework submission, you should grade it! ... This is my last semester. You can't fail me now."

Bad events for a student (employee) will be confined to the individual and not affect the class (business). Many students think that a problem they believe they are not responsible for is sufficient justification for special accommodations for the class. I acknowledge that bad things happen to good people; yet, real life cannot stop or even allow for adjustments for the student at the expense of the class. Therefore, in my class, if a student has an emergency, class tests are not rescheduled, homework dates are not adjusted, and expectations not relaxed. Life must go on.

I will change my policy when an employee can have additional vacation days because bad things happen after they have used all their vacation time for that year already.

Examples of Conflict: "Evenings for me are not a good time for testing, can you move tests to another night. I don't think I should have to look at examples to determine what I did wrong. You should provide individual feedback."

Lack of planning on the student's (employee's) part will not become an emergency on my (the employer's) part. Some students believe that their lack of planning requires me to compensate as a result. Some individuals seem unable to plan and are very offended that I will not alleviate the situation caused by their poor planning.

My policy will change when employers allow employees to set their own work schedule and production outputs.

Examples of Conflict: *"My ex just dropped off my children for me to watch. I will have to take the test tomorrow. ... I forgot to set my alarm so I missed the exam. I will need to take a makeup."*

An instructor (the employer is) not your mother. Students often come to college ill prepared to handle stress and crisis. The student expects faculty and employers to show the same empathy, support, and consolation for any and all stress and personal crises that they once received from their mother. I am not the student's mother. Some students have taken great umbrage with me because I don't react in the same empathetic manner their mother did by immediately changing my life and course requirements to best suit their emotional needs.

When survey firms hire emotional support counselors, I'll rethink this policy.

Examples of Conflict: *"I just broke up with a girl I've been dating for four years, since I was in 9th grade. I can't study or handle an exam right now. ... I can't believe that Trump won the election. I need some time off from class to deal with my distress."*

Murphy's Law can strike more than once or bad luck often accompanies habitual faulters. I am not surprised that some students encounter more than their fair share of unfortunate happenstances. These students are often the marginally motivated or the habitually ill-prepared students.

Employers don't usually keep these individuals as long-term employees. The employees I am referring to tend to get sick only on Fridays or Mondays and have alarm clocks that never seem to work or ring loud enough.

When employers promote underachieving employees, I will change my policy.

Example of Conflict: *"My internet went down with the storm. I couldn't take the test. I know you said in the syllabus that you will drop the lowest test score. However, I had to miss a test already because my car had a flat tire on my way home from work. My spare was flat as well."*

A student should not fertilize and water problems they have at the instructor's (the employer's) expense. Individuals often exasperate their problems by demanding more accommodations than practical or required by law. We can all admire someone that achieves great success with disabilities. Increasingly, there are people experiencing difficulties that they believe should be treated as protected disabilities. They demand accommodations without demonstrating an effort to overcome their 'disability'.

I will relax this policy when employers allow employees to stay in the survey vehicle rather than leave the vehicle and go into the field because the bugs are particularly bad or they saw a snake while unloading the survey equipment.

Example of Conflict: *"I can't handle cold temperatures. I won't be able to do lab this week unless we move inside where the temperature is warmer."*

When your bucket is full, you can't fill the instructor's (employer's). Individuals often exasperate their problems by taking on more than they should handle. Rather than step back, regroup, and try again, they demand accommodations and blame me for pointing out a solution that doesn't require I bend over backwards and provide accommodations.

I will change my policy when employers routinely loan their employees money because the employee runs short of funds between paychecks.



Example of Conflict: *“I’m taking care of my mother and trying to complete my coursework from last semester. I need to delay taking the first exam. ... What do you mean I can’t? You are not being considerate in helping me deal with this problem. ... No, I won’t drop the course until my personal crisis is resolved. I don’t want to wait until next year to take this class.”*

I should point out these remonstrations I have presented should not be a surprise to students. I make these rules known to students before the course begins using a document available to them. The document is titled: ‘Rules for the Course.’ It is available for viewing on my publication web site. This document is given to every student at the start of the course and cause some students to immediately complain about rigid rules and heavy-handed ways. Apparently, similar rules were not applied in high school or other college courses.

I am encouraged in my attitude adjustment attempts by feedback from employers. I had one employer explain to me about interviews he has with seniors that apply for employment with his firm. The employer will ask the senior what the senior thought of me as their instructor. If the senior complained I was unfair or had similar negative sentiments toward me, the firm did not hire that person. The firm believed if the senior found it difficult to work within my rules, they would not work well within the constraints of the employment rules set by the surveying firm.

I suppose fairness allows that disgruntled students have a say about me. I am far from perfect. Perhaps the reader of this article may wish to give me some nasty criticism that arose from reading this article. Maybe the reader is a former student and has kept their angst bottled up since the time they were a student in my class. Fortunately, some enterprising fellows set up a web site called RateMyProfessors.com where strangers, students, and a great many short-time-students can voice their opinions about faculty anywhere, at any time, including criticizing me (or complimenting me).

This is an unofficial web site. Official university evaluations can only be completed by real students that have actually taken a college course and finished the course. The unofficial web site I just mentioned will allow anyone to comment about an instructor regardless if the individual was in the course, dropped the course, or even took the instructor’s course. (I have never taught some of the courses cited on this website that students claim I taught.) Consider adding your own opinion. Having taught over 5000 students and close to that many licensed surveyors in seminars during my career, this web site is a chance to vent or make your thoughts known.

† Other books and articles by Knud can be found at <https://umaine.edu/svt/faculty/hermansen-articles/>



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Calendar Notes...

MSLS April ExCom

April 17 at 6:00 PM

Governors Restaurant in the Capitol Room, Waterville
Zoom access to the meeting will also be available.

MSLS Spring Meeting/Golf Tournament

May 16

Spring Meadow, **save the date** - details coming in April FieldNotes and at msls.org.

CST Level 1 Exam

June 25 & 26

The Central Maine Community College Testing Center in Auburn will administer the on the above dates. Please email Shannon Vincent to reserve a spot: svincent@maineccc.edu.

Please send your Calendar Notes for FieldNotes
and our online calendrer to: editor@msls.org

The Parting Shot...



The NSPS UMaine student chapter placed 3rd in the baccalaureate division of the 2025 NSPS Student Competition, held March 17 - 20 in Washington, D.C.

Eighteen teams completed a surveying monument hunt across the District of Columbia on the first day, followed by historical surveying field exercises and calculations around the Washington Monument on day 2.

UMaine's team included L to R: Will Clifton, Peter Kelton, Max Heck, Allyson Kitchens and were accompanied by team advisor Rich Vannozi, also pictured.

Email your interesting surveying or Maine "Parting Shot" to editor@msls.org!