

**Report to the 25th General Assembly
FIG Congress in Washington, 19-26 April 2002**

**FIG TASK FORCE ON UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS IN
SURVEYING
FINAL REPORT**

Why to deal with Under-represented Groups in FIG?

The work of FIG depends on a relatively small number of surveyors considering the fact that FIG represents about 230,000 persons in the surveying profession. These international active surveyors are an ageing and overbalancing male population. The number of young men and women engaged in the work of FIG is of concern. And there is also a lack of participants from associations (countries) which are financially less strong.

The Task Force on Under-represented Groups in Surveying was established in 1996 to encourage women and young surveyors to participate in national associations and FIG and specifically to consider and bring forward recommendations for

- enhancing professional development opportunities for women and young surveyors
- encouraging equal opportunities for individual members within FIG, not depending on gender or native language or other cultural characteristics
- facilitating professional contacts for women and young surveyors, as well as for linguistic minorities, within the FIG community.

The time span of this Task Force is limited and will end in 2002 with the FIG Congress in Washington.

Questionnaire send out to FIG Member Associations and Universities

The Task Force mainly focussed its work on the major under-represented groups in FIG: women and young professionals. We do not know how many women work in all fields of the Surveying profession or have an education in Surveying and we do not know how many young professionals will come into the profession. To get more information the Task Force sent out two questionnaires to FIG member associations and to universities in 1998. From 73 member associations answered 15 (21 %) and from 204 universities 45 (22 %). All results can be found on the FIG homepage (<http://www.fig.net/figtree/tf/underrep/tfunrep.htm>).

Newsletter

Together with the answers to the questionnaire member associations and universities reported about several activities concerning under-represented groups. This was the starting point to establish a Newsletter. The quarterly Newsletter gave background information concerning national associations, international organisations, universities, “Women’s Access to Land”, congresses, scientific research and political decisions. Every issue presents one female personality of the surveying profession. The last issue will come out in March 2002. All newsletters are as well available on the FIG homepage. Many thanks to Markku Villikka for his excellent job publishing all editions of the newsletters and supporting the Task Forces’ activities.

Following reports were published

1. Concerning Associations

Fifteen Years of Affirmative Action in the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping by Wendy J. Woodbury Straight, USA

10th Anniversary of the DVW Working Group “Women in Surveying” by Gabriele Dasse

American Congress on Surveying and Mapping/National Society of Professional Surveyors Forum for Equal Opportunity sets goals for 2001 by Gail Oliver, USA

ICEFLOE - The Equal Opportunities Forum of the Institution of Civil Engineers by Michelle McDowell

2. International organisations

FIABCI Young Members Group by Alexander Benedetti, Italy

Gender in the Habitat Agenda: implications for the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) by Diana Lee-Smith and Sylvie Lacroux, UNCHS (Habitat)

Women’s Rights to Land, Housing and Property in Post-Conflict Situations and During Construction: Press Announcement by Habitat

Past – Present and Future of the ICA Commission on “Gender and Cartography” by Ewa Krzywicka-Blum and Eva Siekierska

Task Force Activities during the FIG Working Week 2001 in Seoul, Korea by Gabriele Dasse, Task Force Chair

3. Universities

Equal Opportunity Prize 1997, School of Spatial Sciences by Professor Graham D Lodwick, Australia

Encouraging Girls and Young Women to Choose a Technical Career by Dr. Renate Kosuch, Germany

Women in Science and Engineering Activities in Canada by Dr. Elizabeth Cannon

The Everyday Occupational Life in Natural Sciences and Engineering – A gender-related study on inner conflicts and how men and women try to solve them by Dr. Renate Kosuch

Engineering Education: for Ourselves and for the Public by Wendy J. Woodbury Straight, USA

University to boost Engineering among American Indians by Wendy J. Woodbury Straight

Reflections to increase the Participation of Women in Surveying Studies by Gabriele Dasse, Germany

Affirmative Action: Focus on College Admissions by Joanne L. Schweik

4. “Women’s Access to Land”

Women’s Access to Land - a Task Force Group of FIG Commission 7, by Agneta Ericsson, Sweden

Women’s Access to Land - Experiences from Land Administration Projects by Agneta Ericsson, Sweden

Women’s Access, Control and Tenure of Land, Property and Settlement – some Obstacles and practical Advice by Ewa Qvist, Sweden

Women's Access to Land – FIG Guidelines

5. Congresses

The World Conference on Science

6. Scientific Research

Research Activities in UK by Dr. Clara Greed

Women and Science: some facts, some impressions by Marysa Demoor, Belgium

Ethnic Minorities in Construction in Britain: Exclusion or Inclusion by Clara H. Greed, UK

Raising the Ratio

Land Tenure Perspectives of Ester Boserup's Works by Karin Haldrup

7. Political Decisions

Resolution on Women and Science by the European Parliament

Following Personalities were published

Gabriele Dasse, Germany

Alison Cochlovius Gouws, South Africa

Agneta Ericsson, Sweden

Kirsi Artimo, Finland

Mary C. Feindt, USA

Chryssy Alex. Potsiou, Greece

Gerda Schennach, Austria

Wendy J. Woodbury Straight, USA

Jenny Whittal, South Africa

Marie Christine Robidoux, Canada

Bodil Dahl Ekner, Denmark

Dr. Clara Greed, UK

Natalia Filippovich, Belarus

Meetings and Presentations

During the FIG Congresses and Working Weeks the Task Force organised at least one meeting or session. The highlight of the Task Forces' activities will be two joint sessions with six presentation concerning gender aspects during the Washington Congress:

FIG Congress in Brighton, UK: Women in surveying - the long way to acceptance by Gabriele Dasse, Germany

FIG Working Week in Sun City, South Africa: The Surveying Industry in South Africa by Jenny Whittal; Gender Aspects in Programmes of the European Union

FIG Working Week in Prague, Czech Republic: The Security of Tenure in post-conflict Situations by Dr. Sylvie Lacroux;. Under-represented Groups in Urban Development Issues Including in the Professional Practice by Dr. Sylvie Lacroux

FIG Working Week in Seoul, Korea: Which Changes in the Curricula do we need to attract more Women to study Surveying? by Gabriele Dasse, Germany

FIG Congress in Washington, USA:

Wednesday, 24 April 2002, 14.00-15.30

JS11 The Modern Profile of Surveyors – Gender Aspects I

Joint Session of Commissions 1 and 2 and Task Force on Under-represented Groups in Surveying and ACSM/NSPS Forum for Equal Opportunity

Chair: Gail Oliver, Chair of the ACSM/NSPS Forum for Equal Opportunity, USA

Gerda Schennah, Austria: Challenges for Women in a Changing Profession

Gabriele Dasse, Germany: Wanted: Women Engineers

Wendy J. Woodbury Straight, USA: Advantages and Reflections: Efforts to include women in United States surveying and mapping, 1981–2001

Karin Haldrup, Denmark: Mainstreaming Gender Issues in Land Administration

Wednesday, 24 April 2002, 16.00-17.30

JS16 The Modern Profile of Surveyors – Gender Aspects II

Joint Session of Commissions 1 and 2 and Task force on Under-represented Groups in Surveying and ACSM/NSPS Forum for Equal Opportunity

Chair: Gabriele Dasse, Chair of FIG Task Force, Germany

Boo Lilje, Sweden: Why Are Young Women Attracted to Survey Education in Sweden

Pat Turrell, Sara J. Wilkinson, Vanessa Astle and Samantha Yeo, UK: A Gender for Change: The Future for Women in Surveying

General discussion on the Under-represented Groups in Surveying

Networking

The Task Force has been building up a network with 56 members (71 % women) at the moment. Many contacts to colleagues and the exchange of experiences motivate to get in contact with FIG.

Using Internet and mailing opportunities the contact to other gender working groups in national and international associations (e.g. Commission on Gender and Cartography of the International Cartographic Association ICA; ICEFloe Equal Opportunities Forum of the Institution of Civil Engineers, UK; Forum for Equal Opportunity of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping) has been established.

The co-operation with the FIG Commissions 1 and 2 were excellent. John Parker and Kirsi Virrantaus, the Chairs of both Commissions, participated at all Task Force meetings and brought the Task Force activities forward.

Four articles of the Task Force Group of FIG Commission 7 „Women’s Access to Land“ were published in the Task Force Newsletter giving the opportunity of a broader discussion and facilitating the implementation of the proposals.

The contacts between the Task force on under-represented groups in surveying and UNCHS Habitat were intensified at the FIG Working Week in Prague. Dr. Sylvie Lacroux from Habitat gave two very interesting and informative presentations during the week. Her first presentation “The Security of Tenure in post-conflict Situations” was given at the technical session “Co-operation with International Bodies and Organisations”. The second paper “Under-represented Groups in Urban Development Issues Including in the Professional

Practice” prepared by Dr. Sylvie Lacroux, Diana Lee-Smith and Catalina Trujillo was presented at the first meeting of the Task force. The discussion that followed her presentation gave a deep insight into the activities of Habitat.

Proposals

The Task Force made the following proposals:

1. to encourage the **Hosts of Congresses and Working Weeks**
 - to fix a lower fee for students,
 - to enable the attendance of 20 students, like in Brighton or Melbourne, to assist the organisers,
 - to evaluate the participants concerning gender, age and Commissions,
 - to mark the name tags of participants attending the first time a Congress or Working Week, to facilitate an integration,
 - to provide meeting points with tea and coffee or lunch.
 - The proposals concerning Commissions work were as follows:
 - To enable several Commission meetings or workshops during a Congress (or Congress of a Working Week) if asked-for, also after the presentation of papers. This would enable discussions in Commission meetings afterwards,
 - to integrate all Commission meetings into the Congress or to make the General Assembly a part of the Congress,
 - to have only one registration fee for the Congress and the General Assembly to facilitate the attendance of Commission delegates to the General Assembly,
 - to announce all Commission meetings in the program and
 - to announce them as open meetings for all Congress participants.
2. to encourage the **Member Associations**
 - to report about the activities of FIG in their publications,
 - to support the attendance of young professionals and students at FIG Congresses or Working Weeks and at national congresses,
 - to enable practical work for foreign students and young professionals,
 - to increase the amount of student members.
3. to encourage the **Commissions**
 - to support corresponding members, to inform them (topical homepages) and to facilitate the attendance of commission meetings.
4. to encourage the **General Assembly**
 - to think about regional FIG meetings to facilitate the attendance of students and young professionals.
 - that there should be at least one woman in all FIG Nominations Review Committees.

FIG Congress in Washington, DC

On behalf of the FIG Task Force on Under-represented Groups in Surveying an e-mail was distributed by Markku Villikka, Director of the FIG Office, to Member Associations, Affiliates, Academic Members, Corporate Members, Correspondents, Council Members, Officers of Commissions and Permanent Institutions, Honorary Presidents and Honorary Members to ask for assistance to support and encourage the Under-represented Groups in Surveying to attend the FIG Congress 2002 in Washington, DC and to give presentations.

Many thanks to the Congress organisers, especially the Congress Director Mary Clawson for fixing a special low registration fee for students and also a lower registration fee for speakers. And the Washington Congress will be the first FIG event to get information about the participants concerning commissions, gender, age and first attendance.

Future Aspects

The Task Force on Under-represented Groups gave a lot of recommendations and made a lot of proposals.

Excellent is that a

- Working Group of Commission 1 will be established which could continue with publishing Best Practices and
- FIG forum for under-represented groups will be established to continue with networking.

Following recommendations should be carried out by the FIG bodies:

- the involvement of under-represented groups in all activities,
- the implementation of gender mainstreaming in FIG's work,
- the survey of the Washington Congress registration and the registration of the following FIG Working Weeks.

Gabriele Dasse

Chair of the FIG Task Force on Under-represented Groups in Surveying
February 2002