



Nomination Template for President

Nominee	
Name:	Matthew Bryan Higgins
Member association:	Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute
Country:	Australia
Contact address:	97 Cavendish St Nundah, Qld, 4012 Australia
Email address:	higginsm@bigpond.net.au
Age:	49
Degrees and educational background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Applied Science, Surveying (With Distinction), Queensland University of Technology, 1983; • Registered Cadastral Surveyor, Surveyors Board of Queensland, 1985; • Master of Surveying and Mapping Science, University of Queensland, 1988.
Employment history - current position - previous	<p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Survey Advisor, Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management; • Project Leader in Australia's Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information. <p>Previously:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 30 years experience in several roles as manager, advisor and professional specialist in the Queensland Government; • Several periods of work external to government while seconded to private surveying firms, universities and research organizations.
Positions of trust - current - previous	<p>In addition to FIG Positions outlined in the next section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of several industry sub-committees for policy development under the Australia and New Zealand Land Information Council; • Current Co-Chair of a Working Group of the United Nations mandated International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems; • Current President of the International Global Navigation Satellite Systems Society (IGNSS Society); • Current Chair of the Expert Panel for the Australian Region of the European Satellite Navigation Competition and associated business incubation activities; • Past member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the US based magazine GPS World.
Positions in FIG - current	<p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice President of FIG (2007 to 2010);



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<p>- previous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair of the Advisory Committee of Commission Officers (2007 to 2010); <p>Previously:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair, Commission 5 (2003 to 2006); • Chair-Elect, Commission 5 (1999 to 2002); • Chair Working Group 5.5 (1995 to 1998).
<p>Other activities in FIG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed liaison processes to revitalize and give substance to the Memorandum of Understanding between FIG and the International Association of Geodesy (IAG); • Initiated FIG's Membership of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems, which is mandated through the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space; • Initiated the development of Memorandum of Understanding between FIG and the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs. It covers Space Technology for Disaster Management, GNSS and Education in Space Technology, especially in developing countries. <p>Member on several FIG Task Forces including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force on the Cultures and Languages; • United Nations Cooperation Network. • Task Force on Governance Structures.
<p>Field of surveying discipline</p>	<p>Land Surveying and Spatial Science as a Registered Cadastral Surveyor and expert in Positioning Systems and Geodesy and the associated legislation, policies, field operations and data management.</p>
<p>Nominees statement</p>	
<p>Why I want to be the President of FIG</p>	<p>I have three main motivations in nominating for President:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To help FIG to continue to make a difference to society and in doing so, to enhance the reputation and competence of our profession; • To fulfill my responsibility to repay at least some of what I have gained, personally and professionally, from FIG over the past 16 years; • To respond to many colleagues around the world who believe I am well qualified for the Presidency and that a nomination from someone with my background is important for the democratic process.
<p>What I can offer to FIG in support of its aims and objectives</p>	<p>During my 16 years so far with FIG, I have progressed from a Working Group Chair to Commission Chair to ACCO Representative on Council to my current roles as Vice President in charge of Commissions and as assistant to the President in the organization of the Sydney Congress. I have also been involved in several, key whole-of-FIG Task Forces.</p>



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	<p>In my day-to-day career, I have dealt with people from across all sectors of our industry, across a broad spectrum of activities and across local, state, national, regional and international extents. As an Australian, I work in a large and sparsely populated continent where dealing with the land often means stretching resources and using technology appropriately.</p> <p>The following are some specific challenges that I believe I am well qualified to help FIG address during the term of the next Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To grow FIG Membership globally;• To maintain the continuing strong growth of the “FIG brand” and the associated expectations, by ensuring that FIG has the financial and other resources required;• To foster such growth while recognizing the limitations of an organization based largely on the work of volunteers;• To ensure the work of FIG continues to address the problems of society. One pressing example where FIG needs to become more engaged is Climate Change;• To strengthen FIG’s work in support of Member Associations in developing countries, while ensuring that Member Associations in developed economies also continue to find value in FIG involvement;• To develop FIG’s ability to recognize and capitalize on cultural and linguistic diversity, while maintaining FIG’s unity and its strong global voice for the profession;• To develop ways for private sector surveyors to be more actively involved in FIG;• To more fully recognize that the FIG Corporate Members are significant drivers of the technological changes influencing our profession. This will require a more mature and inclusive partnership with these corporations, while also ensuring FIG’s need to maintain commercial and professional impartiality;• To develop practical ways to better leverage, develop and maintain our network of Academic Members;• To sustain the recent engagement with Young Surveyors, and encourage their progression to involvement in Commissions and other FIG activities;• To ensure that the Council work plan meets the expectations of all members groups, has a detailed annual implementation plan and has strong links to the Commission work plans;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To ensure that the significant work in recent years to develop FIG's many Policy Statements and Declarations is fully leveraged through implementation plans acted upon by the Commissions and Task Forces;• To maintain existing links with the United Nations and develop new links by identifying specific agencies relevant to specific Commissions and then investigating the best ways to engage those agencies;• To ensure all Memoranda of Understanding with sister associations have concrete implementation plans with liaison led by the appropriate Commission;• To ensure that all Commissions have sufficient resources and National Delegate support to deliver their Work Plans;• To continue to ensure that the FIG Office has sufficient resources, procedures and continuity plans to meet the expectations of the Member Associations and in its support of the operations of FIG;• To modernize FIG's Internet presence and other communication mechanisms to ensure we are taking advantage of the latest innovations to best serve our Members globally.
My key skills	My key skills are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to inspire and enthuse people;• Good communicator;• Strategy and policy development;• International outlook;• Innovative but pragmatic approach;• Ability to turn plans into concrete action.
Any other general comments	My employer will support my role as FIG President with the necessary time to undertake FIG business and associated travel. My employer will also offer logistical support through the use of office accommodation and access to computers, internet and telephone connections, etc.



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Nominator	
Name of member association	Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI)
Name and title of contact person	Michael, Giudici, President of SSSI
Contact address	27-29 Napier Close Deakin, ACT 2600 Australia
Email address	mgiudici@lesterfranks.com.au
Nominator's statement	
Why the association wants to nominate Nominee	<p>The Australian Surveying profession has a long and mutually beneficial history of involvement in FIG, including hosting the FIG Bureau in the 1990s, supporting several Commission Chairs and Working Group officers (past and present) and now with the hosting of the FIG Congress in Sydney in 2010.</p> <p>Matt Higgins is a well known member of our profession in Australia and is very highly respected across the private, government and education sectors of our industry. The strength of his reputation and leadership is evidenced by the Award for Professional Eminence and Excellence in the Spatial Sciences, which was bestowed on him in 2005. That is the Australian profession's highest award to an individual in any given year.</p> <p>For the past 16 years, Matt Higgins has been a key person behind the relationship between FIG and the profession in Australia. As well as his extensive global experience in the work of FIG Council and its Commissions, Matt has been very active in promoting the activities of FIG across the Asia Pacific Region, a goal that SSSI strongly supports.</p> <p>The SSSI believes that Matt Higgins has the right experience, skills and global outlook to lead the Federation. The SSSI is therefore honored to nominate him for the position of President of FIG.</p>
Support the association can offer the Nominee (financial and other)	SSSI intends to allocate part of its share of any surplus from the Sydney 2010 Congress to improve and sustain the level of support to our various activities in FIG. SSSI would also be willing to make some of those funds available to support Matt's activities as FIG President, especially where such activities further our mutual goal to develop the profession in the Asia Pacific region.



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	SSSI will also support Matt through the staff and facilities of our national office (as required and in coordination with the FIG Office) and through the advice and support of key members of the various discipline areas represented across the structure of the SSSI.
Any other comments	The Australian Membership of FIG is in the process of being handed from the Institution of Surveyors Australia (ISA) to the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI). Jonathan Saxon, the President of ISA fully supports the nomination of Matt Higgins and has agreed that because ISA is in the process of being disbanded and is handing all responsibilities to SSSI, the appropriate organization to officially make this nomination is SSSI.

Signed I hereby certify the above is true and correct	
Date	7 December 2009
Nominee	 Matthew Higgins, Nominee for FIG President
Nominator	 Michael Giudici, President of the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute