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TO: ACSM CARE Committee

FROM: Earl F. Burkholder, PS, PE eburkhol@nmsu.edu
Surveying Engineering Program
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003

RE: Surveying Criteria for ABET Commissions

I have participated in the ACSM CAR (now CARE) Committee as regularly as I could since joining the faculty of Oregon Institute of Technology in 1980. It has been a wonderful exciting journey for me and one could say the fun is just beginning. Surveying and surveying education are standing at the threshold of expanding professional opportunities as more and more people come to realize the importance of spatial data, maps, records, integrity, evidence, and spatial data management. Our future appears bright indeed.

ACSM is the professional organization that provides program criteria to ABET for three commissions (EAC, ASAC, TAC) and ASCE is listed as a cooperating professional society. ACSM also shares responsibility (with ABET) for developing and training the pool of evaluators.

I have been involved in ABET surveying accreditation activities since helping prepare a self-study at OIT for our first RAC visit in 1984. My first visit as an evaluator was in 1990 and I was appointed ACSM Representative to the RAC in 1994. In 1999 I was appointed to the Executive Committee of RAC and served until 2002. I was there during the transition to outcomes assessment and participated in many of the discussions.

During that time I tried to observe (and even asked about) the cooperating input from ASCE. Yes, it existed, but only in a very informal way. Members of the ACSM delegation often noted, "Yes, I am also a member of ASCE." To my knowledge there was no formal input requested or received from the Geomatics Division of ASCE.

My participation today is intended to put "cooperation" issue on the table and to ask how we (ACSM and ASCE) can work together more closely to solidify the long-standing status of cooperation while recognizing the enormous progress the surveying profession has made in the recent past. For example, ACSM is making great contributions to many areas of surveying including development of GISs and the use of spatial data. And, ASCE is legitimately interested in the engineering applications of spatial data including, but not limited to, overall management of spatial data, various construction activities, spatial data accuracy, and development of modern spatial data measurement systems.

See guest editorial by EFB in ASCE Journal of Surveying Engineering, February 2008.