

Development of Sustainability Professionals from a Geomatics Context : Experiences at the University of Calgary

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Key words: Capacity building; Curricula; Education; Geoinformation/GI; Land management; Professional practice; Risk management; Spatial planning; Urban renewal; Valuation; Infrastructure Asset Management; Sustainability; Climate Resiliency; Infrastructure

SUMMARY

It is becoming increasingly recognized that the sustainable development of infrastructure is critical for the long-term well functioning of societies. With this increased recognition has come the expansion of professional opportunities in sustainability-related fields such as infrastructure asset management, risk assessment, sustainable design evaluation and climate resiliency. In this paper, the potential for geomatics professionals be leaders in these fields is presented, as sustainability consulting requires expertise drawn from the fields of cadastral/land management, stakeholder engagement, monitoring, remote sensing, and public policy development.

Additionally, this paper outlines developments within the Department of Geomatics Engineering at the University of Calgary in creating educational content that allows geomatics students and working professionals to develop skills in the rapidly expanding field of sustainability consulting. This includes the provision of certification opportunities with several internationally recognized asset management and sustainability bodies such as the World Partners in Asset Management and The Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure. An overview of course content and its intersections with geomatics fundamentals is provided.

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(12056)

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FIG Working Week 2023

Protecting Our World, Conquering New Frontiers

Orlando, Florida, USA, 28 May–1 June 2023