



Shipshape



From the Bridge

It's hard to believe that the first quarter of 2018 has now passed and we are well and truly in to the year and are faced with an array of new challenges to meet head on and overcome.

As the President it is my role to work with the Executive team and analyse the findings from the ISO audit, RTO achievements and membership statistics to review what we have achieved over the past 5 years and identify where we need to focus our efforts for the coming 5 years. Our work is certainly cut out for us.

The coming year and indeed the next few years will see more changes at the AIMS in terms of our focus and direction as well as creating an implementation plan for a change of Executive. There will also be changes for the current Council and the overall governance of the AIMS. These changes are inevitable if we want to grow and prosper and we will look to the members for guidance on what they see as critical objectives for their Institute.

In addition to preparing the AIMS for their annual ISO audit and travelling to Singapore and New Zealand to increase the AIMS presence and promote membership of our Institute the CEO has been kept busy with ongoing meetings and visits to AMSA and other Government representatives to discuss proposed regulatory changes and hopefully influence outcomes for AIMS members.

CEO Susan Hull at the AIMS stand at APM Singapore.



Our attendance at the Asia Pacific Maritime expo was a very successful initiative and identified that there certainly is a role for the AIMS to play in establishing consistent standards for marine surveying in our region.

The Asia Pacific region is an established maritime hub with emerging new markets in Vietnam and Indonesia and I am sure we have the skills to establish a professional presence there in the coming years.

It has also been heartening to see the number of members who have applied for Certified status as surveyors in their chosen categories.

These individuals and organisations aspire to and are committed to achieving the highest standards of professionalism and it is they who will establish a professional base of surveyors who will be integral in forming the standards of the future.

On behalf of the Executive team I would like to wish our new Membership Manager **Sabina Jackman** a warm welcome aboard.

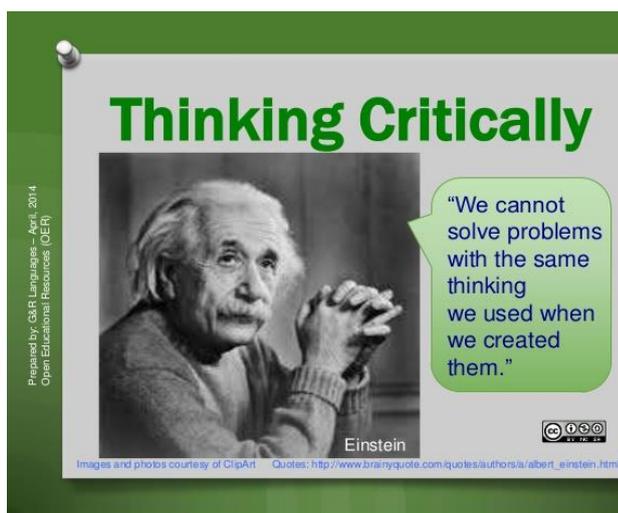
Sabina is an administration wizard and has high level skills in detailed monitoring and management of Membership Systems so hopefully those nagging system errors in our data base and website will soon be resolved.

I am sure that she will ensure that all members receive the ultimate in customer service and that she will be a huge asset to the AIMS administration team and the Executive.

In closing I would like to mention the new 'relaxed' photos in the newsletter.

Apparently, a real-life photo is all the rage.

Peter Murday - President



*Membership Manager **Sabina Jackman.***

Sabina brings to the AIMS a wide range of skills and in addition to her role as Membership Manager.

Sabina assists the CEO with secretariat duties to the Executive and Council and will coordinate state meetings and distribute the minutes.

Sabina will also have her own section in the next newsletter but for now she urges you to check your website profile and ensure your contact and qualifications details are correct and up to date.

Sabina would also like to remind members that CCMS applications close on 31st May.



Quarterly CEO Report

Over the years I have learned not to panic about some things and our annual ISO 9001 Audit is one of them. Surprisingly, rather than dread the evidence gathering and the endless reflection on how we have gone and the all too familiar feeling of being somewhat inadequate, it is a process that I now look forward to.

Our auditor is not just an auditor but an advisor and counsellor and mentor and at each audit he somehow manages a forensic investigation that eventuates with a clear idea of how we can improve, what direction we need to be headed in and how to start the new journey. It's an insight that I very much depend on for sanity and the nerve to forge ahead.

This year it was pointed out that we have had an incredible journey over the past 5 years (which should be documented for historical purposes) and that I should now be developing a new 5-year strategic plan that can be broken down into the annual business plans.

It was also noted that although our succession planning had been developed in terms of 'emergency' situations, strategic succession planning such as alternating the elections of office bearers within the executive and a transition to retirement plan for the CEO is now required to be developed and formalised.

Whilst I am more than happy to do this I do think that there should be some member input into the timing of elections of office bearers and what our long-term goals and focus areas should be.

To that end we will utilise our survey monkey system to put a range of ideas to members and have a mechanism where members can add their thoughts.

So, we will get started on this straight away and will seek member feedback over the next few weeks. It would be ideal if we could finalise this prior to the AGM this year and use the AGM as the launch pad for this new plan.

ZOOM meetings

Thanks to all members who responded so positively to the use of ZOOM for state meetings, student tutorials and general communication. We are now all set up to go and have had our first Executive meeting using this medium.

It all went well and the Executive can attest to the fact that it is pretty simple to use and is an effective tool.

Sabina has sent out surveys to WA members this week to get their input into dates and times that would best suit for their state meeting

Once we have trialled the first state meeting we will move to securing further meeting dates for other members.

Certified Commercial Marine Surveyor List Applications Open

This initiative is progressing very well with applications for inclusion on the list being received by Sabina. There has been some confusion by 'organisations' as to what the requirements are but overall take up has been good and members appear to be pleased with the move to Certified surveyors. If any member would like further information please contact us during business hours Mon – Thurs.

Grain Surveyors are reminded that inclusion on the list is not automatic. You must let us know that you want to be listed, send in your PI certificate and ensure that we have your ships for 2017.

AMSA accredited surveyors seeking inclusion on the list must also let us know that they want to be listed and only need to provide their PI Certificate and AMSA certificate of accreditation.

DCV Regulatory Impact Statement

As per my report forwarded earlier this month to the AMSA accredited surveyors the AIMS is currently working on a submission to AMSA in regard to the RIS for MO503.

It is expected that DCV work will be heavily reduced with the proposed reduction of vessels in survey and with the self-declaration proposal for owners of vessels under 12 metres.

This will impact greatly on surveyors in the smaller states and, in particular, to those in Tasmania where it is noted that there is a high percentage of commercial vessels fall that in the <12 metre category.

The AIMS will focus on this aspect as well as the significant safety aspects and will ensure that it is made clear that AMSA called for surveyors to become qualified and set up businesses to undertake statutory surveys and many will be forced to leave the industry if AMSA continue to pursue all of Option 3 and the sub-clauses.

At the very least we must make sure that AMSA continue to support accredited qualifications and that non-accredited course certificates issued by organisations that are not educational institutions are not accepted. We also need to ensure that the Adv Diploma is used to qualify surveyors to undertake those surveys required for vessels 35 – 60 metres and 60 -80 metres.

Currently there are very few statutory surveyors from the DCV sector that have the knowledge and or experience to survey these vessels and as per the RIS it is interesting to note that 50% (92.5) of the existing vessels 35m - <45m are currently in Class survey, and 50% (46.25) of these would move into National System survey.

Our submission should be very strong and we should be prepared to go to the media if AMSA do not consult effectively.

Deadline for submissions is **May 2nd**

Susan Hull - CEO

BRIC Insurance

I wanted to take the time to reiterate how we value the member insurance scheme and although there have been some recent minor hiccups BRIC are working hard to ensure that service levels are kept at the highest level where possible.

Stephen Gray is the Senior Broker appointed to look after AIMS queries and he and Jessica Jenkins are working to streamline and make the quoting process with BRIC Insurance as simple as possible.

It is important to note that BRIC do require a completed proposal form by law and they do include your public liability insurance cover as well.

They also require you to provide them with the standard terms and conditions that you use for your business. If you don't have any – please see the **Standard Terms and Conditions** pdf file in the member only section of the AIMS website. If you have any trouble please email us at info@aimsurveyors.com.au and ask Sabina if she can forward you a copy.

We all depend on member support for this initiative so please get a quote from BRIC before you renew your insurance.

You can email Stephen Gray directly on stepheng@bric.com.au



Ship to Shore

This year is already shaping up to be a big one in terms of the marine survey industry and the proposed regulatory changes that will affect us all.

Firstly, reduced survey schemes will impact greatly on all DCV surveyors and there will no doubt be some surveyors out there who feel that they have no option other than to close up shop and move on to other things.

I hope that this doesn't happen because a great deal of these surveyors are good surveyors with great maritime experience under their belts and they hold accredited qualifications. They are vital to the future of the industry.

We should all consider our business plans on an annual basis and review our original strategies to see where we can improve. The business plan should have a risk management plan as well, or at the very least, have some sort of mechanism in place to identify potential "if this happens/then what?" scenarios.

It is worth doing this if you haven't already as then you can determine if diversification is a good option for you and what skills you may need in the future to be able to diversify your business operations.

Secondly, it is highly likely that AMSA have other areas that may require the services of qualified marine surveyors such as training for vessel owners and masters or auditing and follow up actions required by surveyors on vessels that have been identified as having defects and requiring rectifications.

Don't put all your eggs in one basket.

Diversity is the key to a successful marine survey business and I am sure that there are members who are prepared to provide advice and even work experience to good surveyors looking to expand their skills.

There is also a possibility that surveyors with additional skills and who can survey vessels in the 35 – 60 metre range will be required. This may entail traditional DCV vessel surveyors undertaking some extra training but it could be well worth the effort.

Finally, all of us, as members of the peak industry body need to collectively take a look at emerging industry trends and other markets where our services can be utilised. My thoughts are that we should start being proactive about these issues and start thinking about what we can put into the AIMS to assist each other to remain successful and at the top of our game.

We can start by discussing this together at state or new ZOOM meetings, set up a sub-committee and forward our findings on to the CEO to assist her to develop appropriate strategies for the future marine surveyors.

John Holden – Vice President

The Learning Curve



You may be aware that I am now with the AIMS for only 2 days per week and on reduced hours while I continue with my own professional development.

While I still have some contact with students it is limited but rest assured that I do try to be timely in responses to students and to make sure that assignments are marked as quickly as possible. Susan does monitor my emails on a daily basis and Sabina is also available to help where she can.

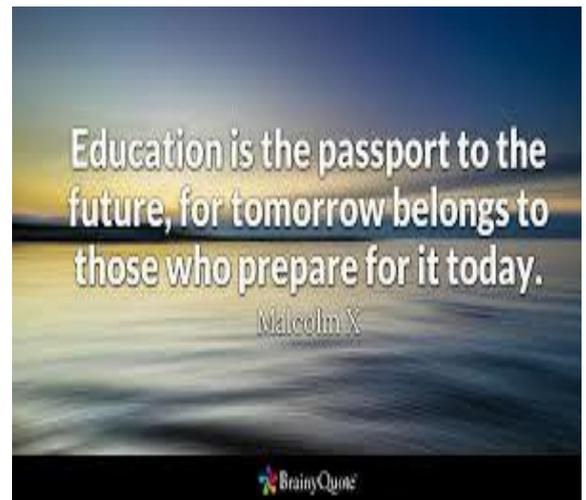
I am pleased to announce that the Advanced Diploma in Maritime Operations (Marine Surveying) is now (finally) with the skills council and has been lodged with the federal government Dept. of Education and Training and accreditation should be not too far away.

New regulatory requirements regarding student fees have been introduced and over the next month we will be amending the initial deposit requirements as well as introducing formal payment plans for student fees.

As we trial the ZOOM meetings further and the webinar options I am sure that ongoing student tutorials will be a big feature of the RTO.

If students have ideas on how we can help with their studies using this facility please let us know. I am happy to develop a spreadsheet outlining what you need and provide this to our CEO. You can email me on training@aimsurveyors.com.au

Caedy Hammond – AIMS



*New CPD Courses
expected to be ready by
June include*

(STCW) courses

*Ship Security Officer,
Security Awareness
Training and Designated
Security Duties*

*Single units from the
Diploma can also be used
for CPD*

*There are some units from
the Advanced Diploma
that are available too!*

