



International Professional Development Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT REGION 1 SPRING FORUM MARCH 20, 2010, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

W. Kyle Ray, SR/WA, Committee Chair

[prepared by Margaret (Peggy) L. Barnes, IPDC Member, Region 1]

IPDC's Core Purpose: The purpose of the education and Professional Development Program is to provide effective services and an unparalleled education program to the right of way professionals and the public; and to achieve the objectives and purpose of the IRWA. A series of courses has been designed to provide the tools and resources for continuing professional development and to recognize right of way practitioners who attain the Senior Member, International Right of Way (SR/WA) and individual discipline Certification.

Mission Statement: The IPDC is charged with oversight of the development and facilitation of a comprehensive curriculum that trains right of way practitioners and maintains high standards of competency through a professional development program.

The **International Professional Development Committee (IPDC)** met on January 27 and 28, 2010 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Our meeting was held concurrently with the Federal Agency Update and the Industry Committee meetings¹. The IPDC spent two full days discussing business issues of all types, and on the third day, each Committee member met with his or her respective Industry Committee to impart information, assign tasks and to seek assistance.

Gap Analysis: By way of background, following the Annual Education Conference held last summer in Indianapolis, Indiana, IRWA President Sandy Grigg, SR/WA and the IEC directed that the IRWA review its current courses and educational offerings and identify those areas where there is a gap between IRWA's existing portfolio of courses and employer's and practitioner's needs. This gap analysis, along with marketing information, would be given to the IPDC to assess the needs for future courses and/or development of other educational programs, and the IPDC would then provide specific recommendations to most effectively address the gaps, including developing new courses, partnering with other organizations and reviewing non-traditional educational and training solutions.

¹ A list of IPDC members, showing their respective Industry Committees, is attached as Exhibit A.
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The IPDC sought very detailed information from the various Industry Committees. It became apparent to the IPDC as the months passed that the tasks requested of Industry Committees needed to be readdressed, due mainly to confusing and inconsistent information being imparted to them. With support of the IEC garnered at the January meeting, each IPDC member was instructed to go back to his or her Industry Committee and restate the assignment and to give better suggestions to the Industry Committees regarding breaking the larger task into smaller components, to make it easier to identify the gap suffered by the respective committees.

Course Development and Review: The IPDC had the honor of IEC member Pat Petitto, SR/WA² visited our the group and address course review issues. All committees are charged with course review. As with the Gap Analysis, the process will be reduced to assignments that are more manageable, with the first priority being a review of the textbook for C100, “Principles of Right of Way,” using the Revise/Rewrite/Retire matrix as a guide. In addition, any changes in the law must be addressed in all other courses, as it applies to the subject matter contained therein.

It was decided that both Legal and Communications courses that have legal content should be reviewed on an *ad hoc* basis for both American and Canadian courses. Peggy Barnes was asked to canvass Region 1 and, upon receiving feedback from the various Region chapters, will develop a list of attorney members who will volunteer their time on an *ad hoc* basis to review material for legal accuracy³. A similar list will then be developed for facilitators on subject matter expertise. The IPDC also discussed revisions to course criteria, descriptions and committee feedback/involvement in getting the courses developed further, finalized or retired.

The Committee discussed credentialing and improving course development focused on career development. Kyle Ray, IPDC Chair, suggested that professional course writers be retained to develop exams, since they would not be biased, and because the level of difficulty of the exams could be increased. The Committee discussed potential financial impact to chapters if class sizes continue to dip as a result of more stringent educational prerequisites. Additionally, the IPDC plans to involve the respective Industry Committees to a much greater extent in the application review process selection of IRWA Facilitators.

Randy Williams, SR/WA, also a member of the IEC, met with the group and discussed IRWA’s recent venture in partnering with/assisting Mexico in right of way acquisition, because of Mexico’s need to develop new roads. As a part of the process, they explored the possibility of having their agents credentialed, so the IPDC discuss the need to be flexible when setting criteria for countries outside the United States and Canada.

Facilitators: The IPDC discussed facilitator qualifications and recertification. The IPDC is depending on the Industry Committees for assistance in choosing individuals to assist in areas like course review and/or course writing, since they are most familiar with the subject matter and considered to be guardians of their respective right of way discipline.

Right of Way Career Path Program: The IPDC previously requested additional guidance in connection with its involvement in the development of the new Professional Development Program. A preliminary overview was provided to the Committees that represented a visual

² Ken Davis, SR/WA, is the IEC’s liaison to the IPDC. Pat Petitto, SR/WA attended the IPDC meeting in his stead, because of a scheduling conflict. He joined the meeting at a later time.

³ The roster of attorneys who have responded to the call is attached as Exhibit B.

interpretation of each level of the new program; specifying: education (formal), experience (per level), course hours (IRWA and/or equivalent), exams (development of Capstone exams for each level) and recertification requirements (courses, CE credits, etc). The IPDC devoted the lion's share of meeting time to discussion of specifics associated with achievement levels for the new program.

Along those lines, the IPDC was addressed by Pat Petitto (IEC) and John Campbell, of TXDOT. John Campbell is an IRWA member, IRWA Facilitator and Chair of the AASHTO Right of Way & Utilities Sub Committee. John addressed the need for standardization of all 50 DOTs and reciprocity between agency needs and the IRWA program. TXDOT is also considering approaching the IRWA to purchase courses that could then be customized to DOTs, so they could then give in-house training for their employees, without being as seen in competition with local chapters. TXDOT is overhauling its structure, and the urgency lies with losing current agents to retirement. John embraces the career path concept, but as a public agency TXDOT cannot mandate or endorse one professional organization's educational programs or designations over another.

The IPDC will continue its refinement of the Right of Way Career Path Program and hopes to be in a position to present it to the IRWA members at the Annual Education Conference in Calgary, Alberta in June.

Course Catalog: The Course Catalog is now available online and can be viewed through the IRWA's website. The Course Catalog will continue to be reviewed by the Industry Committees, to keep the content fresh and accurate.

Course Development: In the instance where there are no courses specific to a particular Industry Committee, as is the case with Utilities, the IPDC is turning to the Industry Committee for expertise in identifying their needs, their wants and whether they are aware of anyone within their respective industries who that might be able to help with course development.

Annual Education Conference, Calgary, Alberta, June 2010: The IPDC will facilitate the Facilitator Clinic in Calgary, pre-conference. The IPDC will also offer a session at the Calgary Conference, entitled "IPDC a la Carte" Please plan to attend the session, where the IPDC will address specific issues and will provide updated information on many of the ongoing projects discussed herein.

Thank you for allowing me to submit a report on behalf of the IPDC. If you wish to receive a copy of this report and the attachments, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret (Peggy) L. Barnes | INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION | International Professional Development Committee Member | Past President, Chapter 57, Inland Empire Chapter (San Bernardino-Riverside, California) | Direct: 951.826.8357 | e-mail: Peggy.Barnes@bbklaw.com

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION
IPDC MEMBER ROSTER
WITH INDUSTRY COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Last Name	First Name/MI	E-Mail Address	Phone	Position or Industry Committee Assigned
Badin, SR/WA	Sheryl A.	Sheryl.badin@mississauga.ca	9056153200 (5431) (Canada)	IPDC Member and Liaison to Asset Management
Barnes	Margaret (Peggy) L.	peggy.barnes@bbklaw.com	(951) 826.8357	IPDC Member and Liaison to Utilities
Cirillo, SR/WA	Frank P.	frankcirillo@roadrunner.com	(716) 847-3165	IPDC Member and Liaison to Local Public Agency
Davis, SR/WA	Kenneth L.	kdavis@mdenergy.com	(412) 788-4800	IEC Member and Liaison to IPDC
Griffith, SR/WA, R/W- RAC, R/W-NAC	David F.	dgriffith@aep.com	(304) 746-2745	IPDC Member and Liaison to Transportation
Layne, SR/WA	David	lcs360@roadrunner.com	(315) 527-0238	IPDC Member and Liaison to Valuation
Miller, SR/WA, R/W-EC	Joanie M.	jmiller@grenergy.com	(763) 445-5982	IPDC Member and Liaison to Environmental
Morganfield, SR/WA	Alan C.	amorganfield@lonetreeenergy.com	(303) 233-8700	IPDC Member and Liaison to Survey
Ray	William Kyle	kyle.ray@energyfutureholdings.com	(214) 875-8814	IPDC Chair
Reed, SR/WA, R/W- RAC	John F.	jreed1@dot.state.tx.us	(512) 416-2937	IPDC Member and Liaison to Relocation
Walker, SR/WA, R/W- NAC, R/W-EC	Janet I.	janet.walker@neg-one.gc.ca	(403) 281-2550	IPDC Vice Chair and Liaison to Pipeline

EXHIBIT A

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION
 ATTORNEY ROSTER FOR COURSE REVIEW
 REGION I

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EXHIBIT B