Goals as UESI Board Governor
Michael L. Dennis, Ph.D., P.E., R.L.S., M.ASCE

Throughout my engineering and surveying career, I have been actively engaged in professional surveying organizations, including membership in the ASCE Geomatics Division since 2003. I participated in transition of the Geomatics Division to the Surveying and Geomatics Division (SGD) as part of creating UESI. Those initial efforts included writing two chapters of a new manual of practice on surveying engineering, and actively participating in creation of the first SGD tracks at the 2016 and 2017 Pipelines Conferences.

Creation of UESI was a major milestone in elevating the surveying profession, by making it part of an ASCE institute. The importance of this cannot be overstated. Until UESI, there was no organization in the United States that represented the full gamut of surveying engineering after the dissolution of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) in 2011. The demise of ACSM created a void in the surveying profession at the national level, including the loss of major annual conferences. UESI has filled that void, and it is now in position to go even further than ACSM in promoting surveying and more fully integrating it with civil engineering.

As a Governor on the Board of UESI, my overall goal would be set strategic priorities and the direction of the entire institute. Serving in that capacity provides an opportunity to contribute materially to the growth and status of the surveying engineering profession. Objectives specific to SGD are listed below:

- Complete and promote the Surveying Engineering Manual of Practice
- Strengthen ties with the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS), the American Association for Geodetic Surveying (AAGS), and American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)
- Pursue membership of UESI in the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)
- Investigate creation of a geodetic certification program through collaboration with the AAGS, NSPS, and other geospatial organizations
- Continue support of the Surveying and Geomatics Conference with a goal of making it an annual conference, rather than biennial
- Work with the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) to improve and modernize licensing examination content
- Actively support robust licensing requirements for surveying in all U.S. states and territories
- Promote increasing surveying content in university civil engineering curriculums
- Engage with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) on modernizing the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS)
- Raise the profile and status of the surveying profession within and alongside civil engineering through outreach, publications, and educational offerings
- Identify timely and important tasks for SGD committees
- Increase and diversify SGD membership within UESI