

## New ICES training suite launched

The institution has launched a brand new training suite that is available for meetings, training, conferences, workshops, product



launches and the like. Situated on the ground floor of the institution's headquarters in south Manchester, the suite can accommodate up to 20 delegates boardroom style or 80 delegates theatre style, offering a modern and spacious training facility in a friendly and professional environment. Complimentary Wi-Fi, tea, coffee and water cooler are also included.

Anyone hiring the training suite has the added benefit of having the event publicised in CES to over 4,000 members of the institution and many thousand more construction and engineering practitioners who view the website and read the eBook. Excellent transport links to Manchester's motorway, Metrolink and airport networks make for easy access and ICES HQ is also only five minutes' walking distance to Sale town centre and hotels.

If you are interested in using the training suite facilities please contact Alan Lees at ICES HQ who will happily discuss your requirements with you [a lees@cices.org](mailto:a lees@cices.org) +44(0)161 972 3122

## Innovating the future at Illinois University

Innovation is an important thing to those in the engineering profession. It is in some ways what engineers are all about, that is to say finding ingenious ways to solve problems. One of the constraints of the engineering profession is that it is scattered within an industry, in other words, if an engineering idea does not pay its way, in the first place it gets nowhere. This has never been more true than with civil engineering surveying today.

Gone are the days when academics, or scientists developed methods, in theory and then sought manufacturers to put them into practice. Development of modern survey techniques is very much interwoven with the commercial need to survive, of those companies who manufacture what is actually used in the field. This concept also applies to many other engineering applications.

An interesting series of essays on this subject is being produced, without charge, by the University of Illinois digital archive. Its purpose is to challenge readers to reflect broadly and deeply on the practice of innovation – in particular how innovators come to know what to do today in order to succeed commercially in the future. The discussion group at is a place to provide feedback and dialog with the author of the essays and others. This project is led by Bruce A Vojak, associate dean for administration and adjunct professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

*Illinois digital archive can be found at:*

[www.ideals.illinois.edu/handle/2142/27667](http://www.ideals.illinois.edu/handle/2142/27667)

*Discussion group: [www.epistemology-of-innovation.com](http://www.epistemology-of-innovation.com)*

## Council of Management nominations

Those wishing to stand for ICES Council of Management are reminded that they have until noon on 25 June 2012 to return the nomination form. Forms received after this date will not be accepted. This is a great opportunity to help shape the future of the institution and influence the civil engineering industry. Go on make a difference. Additional forms can be found at [www.cices.org/downloads.html](http://www.cices.org/downloads.html)

## FIG working week



6-10 May 2012, Rome

Alan Wright FCIInstCES

**T**HE 35th annual working week took place in on 6-10 May 2012 in Rome. This was another successful and enjoyable conference attended by 1,400 participants from 95 different countries. The conference was preceded by the innuagural FIG Young Surveyors Conference (4-5 May) attended by 120 delegates from 41 countries and the International Institute for the History of Surveying and Mapping (IIHSM) workshop (4 May) attended by around 50 people. Many of the IIHSM delegates also attended a guided tour of the Vatican Museum (5 May).



*A few of the historic instruments on show.*

Two days of the main working week – the first and the last – were occupied by the General Assembly meetings covering administrative procedures. The middle three days were used for technical sessions and for technical (and social) visits. A total of 484 papers were deleivered over 108 technical sessions. The vast majority of these papers were well presented and thought provoking. This did, of course, provide the problem for delegates finding several papers of interest being presented at the same time but at different sessions.

During the FIG working week, ICES president, Jason Smith, presented a paper 'BIM from a contractor's perspective' and both Gethin Roberts and Craig Hancock presented papers during commission 5 (engineering survey) sessions. The RICS president, See Lian Ong, also gave one of the 10 plenary addresses.

All of the papers can be seen on the FIG website

