The following is a summary of the IPLSA activities and highlights for 2019.

- **2019 Executive Committee**
  - Executive Director: Kim Robinson kimrobinson@iplsa.org
  - President: Derek Twente dtwente@twm-inc.com
  - President Elect: Norman Ellerbrock norm@fourpointssurvey.com
  - Secretary/Treasurer: Christopher Papesh cpapesh@geotechconsultantsinc.com
  - 2nd Year Director: Michael Olsen mko@bcengineering.com
  - 2nd Year Director: Christopher Bartosz cdbartosz@v3co.com
  - 1st Year Director: William Fleming bleming@envdesigni.com
  - 1st Year Director: Caleb Johnson cejohnson@mohrandkerr.com

- **2020 Annual Conference**
  - IPLSA’s Annual Conference will be held in Springfield Illinois on February 5, 6 and 7, 2020

- **Strategic Planning and Goals**
  - The Strategic Planning and Goals committee met in November of 2018 to establish new initiatives and goals for our association. The next step is to begin prioritizing this list and meeting with the respective committee chairs to begin addressing these initiatives in 2019.
  - One of the major initiatives is to address revisions and edits needed to our current by-laws. The Bylaws Committee has been busy preparing a final draft of our bylaws and plan to submit for approval at the September 2019 BOD meeting.
  - The next item on the committee’s agenda is to update the policy manual.
  - Another initiative was to transition to electronic submittals for all honors, awards and scholarships applications. The Scholarship, Honors and Awards committee is working to have this in place for the 2019 applicants.

- **Education (College) Programs**
  - Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville is working on establishing a Land Surveying and Geomatics degree program. The goal is to submit to the curriculum committee this semester, with a tentative offering in Fall 2020. The departments of Construction, Civil Engineering and Geography have all submitted letters supporting the program. Letters of support from Surveyors around the state are welcomed, and needed, to advance approval.
  - Parkland College, Champaign has developed a very successful 24-hour survey program that operates on a weekend schedule over a 2-year period. The program includes traditional students as well as working adults that may be currently working in surveying and pursuing a surveying degree.
  - The Northern Illinois University Survey program has been closed due to lack of enrollment.

- **Workforce Development Task Force**
  - A Workforce Development Task Force, chaired by Tim Murphy (NSPS Director), was created to address the on-going concern associated with the lack of training for new technicians.
  - The Workforce Development Task Force has made significant progress and we now have an approved training program with the US DOL. We are working with Todd Horton, Parkland College, to finalize some of the specific details pertaining to curriculum. Based on the responses
IPLSA will be looking for several firms who are interested in helping jump-start this program.

• North American-Pacific Geopotential Datum of 2022 (NAPGD2022)
  o Illinois has created an “Illinois State Plane Coordinate (SPCS) Committee” to address state plane coordinates and the 2022 datum change. The following link is for their May 2019 report: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cEzge0tDg2z8W3mlNuyEe-oTaUWON-DfNfecFtCJ0/edit
  o Norm Ellerbrock (IPLSA President Elect and NSPS CST Representative) has agreed to join the Illinois SPCS Committee to help with the new 2022 datum. We are excited to be part of this group and help assist in determining/analyzing various projections for our State. Tim Burch (NSPS Vice President) is also on this committee.
  o Norm Ellerbrock has been attending the Illinois SPCS committee meetings to discuss implications regarding the new 2022 datum. The group has been analyzing the use of different zones / projections and implications of US Survey feet vs. International feet.

• Government Affairs
  o The Illinois General Assembly had an extremely busy spring legislative session. The members introduced approximately 6000 bills, many of which affected IPLSA members and the other members of the design professions. Ultimately, IPLSA took action on about a dozen proposals that would negatively impact our members and are pleased to report that none of those bills passed this session.
  o The Illinois Professional Land Surveyor Act was scheduled to sunset on January 1, 2020. The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, under new leadership, proposed extensive changes to the act that were not viewed as universally positive for the profession. Hundreds of hours were invested in negotiating with the department coordinating responses with our design industry partners and working with legislators and their staff. Ultimately, we were able to reach a compromise and we now have a modern, updated Practice Act that passed unanimously and will be signed into law by the Governor.
  o Most of the other legislation considered would have imposed significant professional or business-related burdens on our members, and our team was quite successful at helping defeat these measures. These issues included: prohibitions on information obtained from certain geolocation devices; a proposal by JULIE which would have imposed crippling requirements on our members regarding the usage of probing tools; and other miscellaneous procurement issues.
  o Additionally, the IPLSA team joined with the other members of the design and construction industry to monitor and defeat several other measures that would create roadblocks to fair business opportunities for our membership. Given the political makeup of the General Assembly, we expect that these labor-promoted bills will continue into the foreseeable future, and IPLSA will need to be vigilant to protect the hard-won gains we have made in fair business practices.