



# Groundbreaking Education

Principles of Land Acquisition Transformed

BY DEIDRE ALVES, M.ED.

IRWA is proud to present a brand new course, C100 Principles of Land Acquisition. Serving as our industry seminal course, it provides the foundation of infrastructure and right of way education. It's here, it's ready, it's new and it's yours.

C100 has enjoyed a rich history within the organization, providing vital background information in land acquisition. It originally began as a two-week course, but as time marched on, it eventually morphed into a four-day course. While this condensed version served the organization well, feedback revealed that four days plus travel was becoming impractical and impossible in the ever-burgeoning, fast-paced global marketplace. At the same time, the content information needed to get to the industry. It needed to be relevant and leading edge, and it needed to be spearheaded by the IRWA. So it was time for C100's next evolution—a new course with new objectives and a new approach.

## A New Course With a Revitalized Concept

The Partnership for Infrastructure Professional Education (PIPE) worked to revitalize the conceptual framework of the course. Providing the learning architecture and course edits, I collaborated with PIPE Co-Vice Chair Carol Brooks, SR/WA, who provided her outstanding subject matter expertise and Amir Vafamanesh, IRWA Headquarters' Education and Instructional Development Manager, who provided his stellar graphic design and formatting expertise. Together, we decided not to simply water down the original version. Instead, we wanted

to create a brand new course with new innovation, new outcomes and a new approach to meet the needs of the infrastructure professional today *and tomorrow*.

Our new course has gone through a very successful pilot phase and is now ready to be released. It is a two-day, 16 credit unit, classroom-based learning experience, and it is the bedrock course of all our industry certification pathways. The course has two critical objectives: to provide students with an awareness of the disciplines involved in infrastructure/right of way land acquisition and to provide a working knowledge of the importance of a *team approach* to the work. In addition, students are exposed to IRWA ethics and the IRWA higher purpose of improving the quality of people's lives through infrastructure development.

In the course, students have the opportunity to meet Knowlan, the noble knight of knowledge, who is our official IRWA learning mascot. Along with our CLIMB Certified Instructors, Knowlan helps infrastructure students learn key concepts in the course and presents them with "golden keys" to make the learning highly memorable and immediately applicable to the work of the industry. Sound intriguing? It is!

## A Prepared Faculty Leads the IRWA Learning Experience

In October 2017, CLIMB Certified faculty eligible to teach this course were invited to attend a dynamic and engaging two-day C100 Instructor Training in Los Angeles. Through this training, our faculty is prepared and ready to lead an amazing learning experience for our future C100 students worldwide. IRWA will be adding these faculty names as CLIMB Certified to teach IRWA C100 on



to the "Find an Instructor" link on our website.

Aggressive plans are in place to bring this groundbreaking course to the world. And it starts with *you*—in your Chapter. Chapters are highly encouraged to bring this powerhouse classroom-based course forward with our powerhouse CLIMB Certified instructors. Whether as a solid primer to clearly understand the principles of the industry or as a refresher for infrastructure professionals, this course is for you and ready—now!

Come experience our brand new course positively impact the infrastructure industry like never before—furthering our collective IRWA purpose to improve the quality of people's lives through infrastructure development. ✪



Deidre Alves is IRWA's Chief Learning Officer.