

Report for 2002 IEEE Region 10 Committee Meeting

IEEE Australia Council (R005)

Australia

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Part A Section Summary

A.1 Executive Summary

This report summarises the coordinating activities undertaken by the Australia Council. The Australia Council's main function is to network the IEEE Sections in Australia to achieve a result that is greater than the sum of the parts. This results in the following activities: coordination of Distinguished Lecture tours; fostering the national society agreement with IEAust and IEE, national student competition coordination; working on common problems; and networking ideas and resources.

A.2 Financial Report

The Council is reasonably healthy with a balance in the order of \$12,300 as at Feb 2001 with outstanding liabilities of \$1,000. To sustain the student competition, participate in the national societies electrical college board and provide float for distinguished lecturer program a desirable balance of \$10,000 to \$12,000 is needed. Levy funding of varying amounts per Australian member per annum has been the most effective way of topping the Australia Council accounts. In the coming year a levy of 50c is proposed.

A.3 Council Membership

Chair	Mr Harry McDonald
Vice Chair	Mr John Robinson
Treasurer	Dr Michael Evans
Student Competition Co-ordinator	Dr WWL Keerthipala
Past Council Chair	Dr Dalma Novak
ACT Section Chair	Erik Lensson (new)
North Qld Section Chair	Dr Mal Heron
NSW Section Chair	Dr Trevor Bird
Qld Section Chair	Dr Ed Palmer
SA Section Chair	Dr Michael Evans (new)
Vic Section Chair	Mr Peter Wills (new)
WA Section Chair	Dr Lance C C Fung

Part B Organisational Activities

B.1 Membership Development Programs

Most membership development is pitched towards students. Active IEEE membership in Australia was 6316 at the end of December 2001.

There are 34 fellows and the remaining membership percentages are 4%, 53%, 14%, 13% & 16% for senior member, member, student, associate and affiliate respectively.

The geographic distribution is approximately as follows;

Section		Section	
New South Wales	38%	Queensland	11%
Hunter – subsection	1%	Nth Queensland	2%
Victoria	24%	Western Australia	10%
South Australia	8%	Australian Capital Territory	6%

B.2 Professional and Continuing Education Activities

These are carried out by individual Sections under the coordination of the Council.

B.3 Recognized Educational Programs

These are carried out by individual Sections under the coordination of the Council.

B.4 Student Activities

The Council coordinates an Australian Student Paper Competition (SPC) which is integrated with SPCs at Section and Region levels. The prizes now consist of \$500 in cash for the first prize winners in the undergraduate and postgraduate paper competitions and a \$1000 travel grant for the postgraduate student winner. (A total commitment of \$2,000 per annum). The 2000 post graduate competition was won by Lan Fu for a paper titled 'Application of Quantum Well Intermixing in Wavelength Tuning of Opto-Electronic Devices'. A large number of under-graduate and post graduate papers have been received for the 2001 competition which closed on the 28th Feb.

B.5 Awards

B.6 Conference Activities

These are carried out at the Section level.

B.7 Chapter Activities

These are carried out by individual Sections who undertake various Chapter activities. A number of Sections have formed new Chapters in 2001, more are proposed for 2002 and are at varying stages of approval.

B.8 Email and Newsletter Activities

All Sections coordinate regular newsletters, both paper and email versions, and most have implemented Section web sites. There is no plan or need for this to happen at Australia Council level.

Part C Goals and Plans

C.1 Goals

The four main goals of the Australia Council for 2002 are to;

- maintain the ongoing coordination of the seven Australian IEEE Sections and maintain vitality of the technical programs delivered to all IEEE members in Australia,
- ensure that the national society agreement with IEAust and IEE is re-authorized and strengthened,
- liaise with the IEEE New Zealand Council to promote regional efforts especially with the Distinguished Lecturer Program,
- Populate the Australia Council Website
- Modernize the By-Laws and Operating Procedures

C.2 Detailed Implementation Plans

None have been formalised.

C.3 Proposed Budget

	\$
Opening Bank Balance at 1/1/02	12,235.33
PROJECTED INCOME	
Suggested 2002 Levy @ 50c per member	3,158.00
Deposit of NSW 2001 Levy	2,572.00
PROJECTED EXPENDITURE	
2000 SPC Travel Grant	1,000.00
2001 SPC Awards and Travel Grant	2,000.00
Various expenses - DL program 2002	5,000.00
Travel Expenses AC Contribution- Sections Congress	800.00
Expenses – IEAust Networking Forum	500.00
Minor Expenses – Postage etc	300.00
PROJECTED BANK BALANCE at 31/12/2002	8,365.33

Part D Others

D.1 Relationship with National Societies

In 1998 an IEEE/IEAust/IEE agreement was signed that proved beneficial for multi-society members and maintained positive relationships between the IEEE, IEAust and IEE. This agreement was due for renewal at the end of 2001 and has majority support and the re-signing has become bogged down. The joint technical programs already carried out in most Sections are proving to be beneficial for all parties, in particular local members. The Australia Council delegate has continued with participation of invited membership of the IEAust Electrical College Board. This is the main forum for furthering the tripartite agreement and provide implementation plans that support the strategies.

D.2 Special Events

The distinguished lecturer program is the main source of special events. A number of speakers have toured in the late part of 2001 and already in 2002. More are being targeted for the remainder of 2002 from societies that are well represented in Australia. The Asia Pacific Office has also been co-ordinating Comsoc speakers for Australian tours.

D.3 Problems to be anticipated

No major problems are foreseen at this stage.

Harry McDonald,
Australia Council Chair