



NEW SOUTH WALES SECTION, AUSTRALIA

THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS INC

ARBN 078 576 495 ABN 34 078 576 495
Web page: <http://ewh.ieee.org/r10/nsw>

IEEE NEW SOUTH WALES SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

IEEE REGION 10 MEETING

Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok
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Bangkok 10330, Thailand
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OFFICERS OF THE IEEE NEW SOUTH WALES SECTION 2002

2002 SECTION COMMITTEE

<i>Chairman:</i>	Trevor BIRD
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i>	Graeme GWILLIAM
<i>Secretary:</i>	Andrew PARFITT
<i>Treasurer:</i>	David BURGER
<i>Past-Chairman:</i>	John ROBINSON
<i>Membership Development:</i>	Bruce POON
<i>Awards Chair:</i>	Jim VASSELEU
<i>Fellow Search</i>	Walter LACHS
<i>Newsletter Editor:</i>	Trevor BIRD
<i>Student Activities:</i>	David TIEN
<i>Professional Activities:</i>	Demetrios (Jim) LOGOTHETIS
<i>Educational Activities:</i>	Karu ESSELLE
<i>Member Communications:</i>	Kate CARRUTHERS
<i>Nominations Committee</i>	Jim VASSELEU (Chair), Ramutis (Zak) ZAKAREVICIUS, Bruce POON
<i>Committee Members:</i>	Tim HESKETH, Stefan MOZAR, Sam REISENFELD, Ramutis (Zak) ZAKAREVICIUS, All Chapter Chairmen (<i>ex-officio</i>)
<i>Section Webmaster</i>	Jon AGNEW

2002 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Computer Chapter

Chairman: Kate CARRUTHERS

Communications/Signal Processing Joint Chapter

Chairman: Philip OGUNBONA

Microwave Theory Techniques/Antennas Propagation Joint Chapter

Chairman: Karu ESSELLE
Vice-Chairman: Andrew PARFITT
Secretary: Alan McPHAIL
Treasurer: Graham TOWN
Committee Members: Trevor BIRD

Power Engineering Chapter

Chairman: Graeme GWILLIAM
Vice-Chairman: Mark EDMUNDS
Secretary: Antony ZAGLAS
Treasurer: Dan CANDOTTI
Committee Members: Walter LACHS, Jim LOGOTHETIS, Vic MORGAN, John ROBINSON, S. SATHIAKUMAR, Jim VASSELEU, Joseph ZHU

Industrial Applications/Power Electronics/Industrial Electronics Joint Chapter

Chairman: Faz RAHMAN

Circuits & Systems/Solid-State Circuits Joint Chapter

Chairman: Steven DUVALL

2002 CHAPTER SUB-SECTIONS

Hunter Region

Chairman: Rick MIDDLETON

2002 AFFINITY GROUPS

Life Member

Chairman: Jim VASSELEU



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PART A – SECTION SUMMARY

A.1 Executive Summary

Highlights of the year 2001 were:

- A successful PICA 2001 was held from 20 to 24 May 2001 that attracted 255 participants from over 26 countries.
- A Webmaster was appointed and a new Section website is being developed.
- A GOLD Affinity Group is being formed.
- Section membership numbers increased marginally.
- Seed funding was received from Region 10 for a project aimed at producing material suitable for promotion of Electrical Engineering and IEEE.

A.2 Financial Summary

The Section is in a very sound financial position as the result of surpluses from GLOBECOM'98, APMC 2000, PICA 2001 and several Workshops. Significantly reduced spending and interest on our investment income have allowed our finances to reach record levels. This will enable us to undertake more projects in the future for the benefit of our members. In 2001, the Committee agreed to allocate an annual seed fund to Chapters to run activities such as local meetings and short workshops.

PART B – ORGANISATION ACTIVITIES

B.1 Membership & Membership Development

At the end of 2001 the membership statistics for the New South Wales Section show 2542 Active Members. This number consists of 14 Fellows, 116 Senior Members, 37 Life Members, 331 Students and 257 Affiliates. While the total number of Members is about the same as last year, Senior Member numbers are up 3% and Student numbers are down 10%. A major effort to recruit more Students Members will be made by the Section in 2002.

An application to form a GOLD Affinity group will be made early in 2002. The Coordinator of this group is Ms Filita Barker.

B.2 Professional and Continuing Education Activities

The 2000 Asia-Pacific Microwave Conference (APMC 2000), which was held in Sydney from 3 to 6 December 2000, was organized and sponsored by the IEEE New South Wales and South Australia Sections, the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society and CSIRO Telecommunications and Industrial Physics. A special issue of the Microwave Theory & Techniques Transactions containing selected papers from the conference was published in November 2001 under the guest editorship of Dr Andrew Parfitt.

The 39th IEEE Control & Decision Conference was held at Darling Harbour, Sydney, from 13 to 16. December and attracted over 700 attendees. The Section was a Technical Co-sponsor of this event.

The IEEE International Symposium on Circuits & Systems (ISCAS) was held at Darling Harbour from 7 to 11 May 2001 under the chairmanship of Prof. David Skellern. The number of attendees was approximately 1100. The Section was a Technical Co-sponsor of this event.

PICA 2001, sponsored by the Power Engineering Society IEAust and IEE, the first Conference under the Tripartite agreement, was held from 20 to 24 May 2001, at the Masonic Centre in Sydney. Over 26 countries were represented by the 255 participants. The core of the Conference was 5 Panel Sessions and 15 Paper Sessions, at which 75 papers were presented. In addition, there was an Exhibition with 18 stands, four tutorials were given and a technical tour was arranged to NEMMCO's Control Centre at Carlingford. Social activities included a Welcome Reception, a Students lunch and a harbour cruise on the final evening. Thanks are extended to the hard working PICA organizing committee and especially to Dr Walter Lachs, Jim Logothetis and John Robinson who were involved in the conference organization from the very beginning.

The Section continues to work closely with kindred professional societies, the IEAust. and IEE. Joint technical meetings with these institutions contribute to the promotion of professional and continuing education activities. In 2000, there was an overall increase in attendance at these joint meetings, this trend has continued into the year 2001. The Section traditionally takes an active role in the development and implementation of the lecture program and in 2001 the Section contributed seven of the eighteen lecturers. Once again this year we were represented on the Professional Engineers Promotion (PEP) committee, for which the major event is "*10 Days of Engineering*", which was held September 3 to 13 – coinciding with National Engineering Week. The Section is helping to sponsor this event in 2002.

B.3 Recognized Educational Programs

The New South Wales universities that offer electrical engineering, electronics, applied science and computer science have been asked to provide details of courses for continuing accreditation by IEEE. To date only a limited response has been received.

The Section Committee is developing an information package on Electrical Engineering as a career for distribution to school and university students in New South Wales. Some of the material in the package will be obtained locally but the majority will be obtained from the IEEE and Societies. A successful application was made to Region 10 for seed funding which will go towards obtaining source material and producing a CDROM.

B.4 Students Activities

There is a need for increased activity in this area. All universities with electrical engineering departments, with the exception of Newcastle University, have student branches. However, at the moment only New South Wales and Wollongong Universities have member numbers in excess of 20.

The Section continued its support of educational activities at universities and technical and further education colleges in the Sydney area. In particular, for some years the Section has sponsored an award for the best student studying for the Advanced Certificate in Electrical Engineering at the TAFE North Sydney Institute. Although in 2001 we did not present an award because TAFE could not identify a suitable awardee, the Section Chairman was a guest at the awards dinner. The Section Committee has resolved that the funds for an award be carried forward to 2002 and that the IEEE offer two awards in the IT/Electronics areas.

The Section offers the Max Symons award for the best student paper submitted from New South Wales to the Region 10 Best Paper competition.

Bruce Poon once again attended the Marist Brothers, Parramatta, Careers Day on 5 September for promoting the profession and representing IEEE.

B.5 E-mail and Newsletter Activities, Home Page

Three newsletters ("Circuit") were mailed to all Section members in 2001. The newsletters were also posted on the Section Web page and Committee Member Ms Kate Carruthers is congratulated for establishing an email mailing list that will enable us to reduce printing costs and expedite more frequent newsletters to our membership next year.

Jon P. Agnew was appointed the honorary NSW Section Webmaster in September. The Section web site (<http://ewh.ieee.org/r10/nsw>) has now been given a complete face-lift. We decided to use a standard IEEE template and host the site on ieee.org. A new layout was installed in December and new content was added in January. With this face lift the web site now has the look of other IEEE web sites. The latest contact details of the Section Committee and the Chapters can be obtained from the web site and upcoming lectures, meetings, workshops and other activities are listed as they are announced. The latest and past issues of CIRCUIT can be downloaded as well. The Section web page has a direct link to all Chapter web pages.

For the remainder of this year, CIRCUIT will be mailed to members and will also be available from the website. Next year, CIRCUIT will be mailed to only those members requesting a printed copy.

B.6 IEEE Awards to Members

2001 IEEE/PES Award for Excellence in Power Distribution Engineering to Dr Ron Stillman (Senior M.) The award will be presented at the Power Engineering Society Summer Power Meeting on July 17, 2001 at Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

2001 IEEE/APS H.A. Wheeler Applications Prize Paper Award to Drs Christophe Granet, Trevor Bird (Fellow) and Graeme James (Fellow). The prize was awarded at the Antennas & Propagation Society International Symposium on July 11, 2001, at Boston, MA.

B.7 Chapter Activities

Most Chapters were active during the year, holding activities such as lectures, seminars and workshops, and utilising IEEE Distinguished Lecturers on some occasions.

The future of the NSW Chapter for Circuits & Systems / Solid State Circuits was in doubt until recently as no meeting has been held since its formation in early 2000. A new Committee is being formed in 2002 under the new Chairman, Steven Duvall.

Preparation is well advanced for submitting an application for the formation of a Chapter of the Engineering Management Society.

B.8 Organization

In 2001, the NSW Section Committee met on the first Monday of each month from February through to November, with the exception of September and October when we met on the second Monday.

During last year the Section Committee made a number of decisions to help promote activities. Chapters now have at their disposal a small annual fund to run activities such as local meetings and small workshops. More generally we are developing a plan to work more closely with universities and promotion of the profession. In 2002, the Education Committee has been tasked to complete and implement this plan.

A Communications Committee (Chair Kate Carruthers) was established for the purpose of improving the information flow to Section members. The website has been a cause for concern in the past and as has been reported above the appointment of a Webmaster has removed this concern.

In looking to the future, the Section Committee decided to establish a GOLD Affinity group and expressions of interest were obtained through the newsletter. With the selection of the Coordinator, Ms Barker, we expect activities to begin in 2002.

The Section Committee has continued to receive support from many non-IEEE members. In particular, we are grateful to the staff at the Australian Professional Centre, under the leadership of Mrs Ruth Inall, for their general assistance and especially in preparing and mailing-out of Circuit. We thank Mrs Dallas Rolph also for her work in preparing Circuit for publication.

PART C – GOALS & PLANS FOR 2002

C.1 Goals

- **Major Conferences** – Plan to hold at least one major International Conference in Sydney every year.
- **Seminars & Workshops** - Attract more IEEE Distinguished Lecturers to Sydney.
- **Affinity Groups** – Establish a GOLD affinity group and have at least two successful meetings.
- **Education and Professional Activities** – Prepare a CDROM promoting the profession and IEEE for distribution to schools and universities.
- **Students' Activities** – Revitalise the activities of our existing Student branches and recruit 100 new Student Members.
- **Senior Grade Membership** - Upgrade ten Members to Senior grade in 2002.
- **Engineering Management Society** - Submit a petition to establish this new chapter.
- **Chapter Activities** - Encourage greater Chapter activity through a range of new initiatives.
- **E-mail and Newsletter Activities, Home Page** – Work towards placing all member communications on the Section website.
- **Long Range Planning and Finances** - Develop a long-term strategy for the Section for providing better member activities and services.

C.2 Detailed Implementation Plans

The Section Committee worked on three main goals in 2001. The first was to revitalise the Chapter activities of the Section. The Chapter is where most IEEE technical activities occur and it is important that they receive the priority that is needed for healthy stimulus and growth of the profession. The second goal was to improve communications to Section members. As mentioned earlier, a committee headed by Kate Carruthers was established to oversee member communications, such as the newsletter and the web site, and to recommend new approaches. The third goal was to develop a long-term strategy for the Section. While some progress towards this goal has been made, there is still much to be done. However, parts of a strategy are in place as evidenced by the goals listed above.

The ultimate objective is to provide value to NSW Section members and this is fundamental to the long range plan. To give value, we need a continuous supply of enthusiastic volunteers willing to serve on the Section Committee. Many dedicated individuals work behind the scenes and sometimes things do not get done because people's time is limited. Also, after prolonged effort on a major project, such as a conference, some people suffer 'burn out' and are not able to contribute effectively as they had in the past. To ensure the IEEE continues to grow and prosper in New South Wales the Section is encouraging new people to take a leadership role. In this regard, the GOLD and Student activities are important and these encourage the next generation of engineers to participate in IEEE. The long range plan for the Section will address these and other issues. It must also allow for change and greater interaction of members through non-traditional methods, such as video conferencing or video master classes.

C.3 Budget

A summary budget for 2002 is given below.

Coding	Australian \$
Income:	
1.00 Contributions	250
2.00 Program Revenue	33,000
3.00 Other Receipts	47,000
Total	80,250
Expenditure:	
4.00 Program Expenses	22,000
5.00 Management & General Expenses	15,000
6.00 Fundraising Expenses	500
Total	37,500

PART D – OTHERS

D.1 Relationship with National Societies

The Joint Membership Agreement, which was signed in August 1998 between The Institution of Engineers, Australia (IEAust), the Institute of Electrical Engineers UK (IEE) and IEEE is ensuring good relations and fostering activities. This Agreement was extended for another year in 2001 and negotiation of a new agreement is currently underway. A Joint Committee, called the Australian Electrical Engineers Co-ordination Board (AEECB), ensures that the goals set out in the tripartite agreement will be realised.

The IEAust and IEE were involved in the financing of the PICA 2001 Conference and they endorsed the APMC 2000 under the joint agreement.

D.2 Special Events

None

D.3 Problems to be Anticipated

None