

IEEE Victorian Section

Melbourne  
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Australia



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# 2008 Chair's Annual Report

By Dr. Horace KING PhD, MEng, BEng, SrrMIEEEE, MIEAust

## **PART A –**

### **A.1 Executive Summary –**

It is my pleasure to report that the last 12 months have been a great success due to collective efforts by volunteers in the IEEE Victorian section executive committee, Societies, Chapters, Women in Engineering (WIE), Graduates of the last Decade (GOLD) and Student branches. Many events including the 25<sup>th</sup> section anniversary have been successfully ran across the section chapter jurisdictions in addition to all other domestic and international activities such as the IEEE section congress, the Australia Council meetings and University and Industry functions. There has been success in conference bids in the section as we were able to secure the 2013 International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP) earmarked for hosting in Melbourne under the auspices of the Signal processing society. This bid was very strongly supported by the Melbourne Convention and Visitors Bureau (MCVB) with whom we should build strong Professional Co-operation in strategic bidding undertakings. We participated and supported student competitions ran in domestic as well as International Universities and we supported student member participation in international conferences. The Section committee unanimously endorsed the formation of the IEEE Tasmania sub-section and official confirmation of its inception will be delivered early in the New Year. A good number of our members are actively involved in IEEE conferences bids; journal and magazine paper reviews and many are continuing to be on conference organizing committees whereas others are volunteering to be technical session chairs. It is also to be noted that one of our members was voted R10 winner of the prestigious volunteer of the region. In addition, a member of the current executive committee has been elected the Australia Council Secretary. This indeed has been a year where there is a continuing united front from our executive committee to foster the membership recruitment drive from new graduates and practicing professionals whom we hope will continue to pursue the aims and objectives of the IEEE activities in the state, in the country, in the region and at an International level.

### **A.2 Financial Report –**

**The following is a consolidated financial statement for the Year 2008<sup>(1,2)</sup>**

|                                      | <u>(2007)</u>  | <u>2008</u>    |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                      | \$             | \$             |
| <b>Opening Bank Balances, 01 Jan</b> |                |                |
| Section accounts                     | 125,253        | 132,105        |
| Comsoc Chapter accounts              | 24,268         | 25,402         |
| All other Chapter accounts           | 3207           | 3061           |
|                                      | <b>152,728</b> | <b>160,568</b> |
| <b>Income</b>                        |                |                |

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|   |                       |                       |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| IEEE HQ rebates                               | 21,930 <sup>(3)</sup> | 10,657                |
| IEEE HQ special grants                        | 233                   | -----                 |
| IEEE Book Broker ( <i>Tencon '05</i> CD)      | 16,129                | -----                 |
| VIC25 sponsorship & receipts                  | -----                 | 15,760 <sup>(4)</sup> |
| Other operating income                        | 163                   | 400                   |
| Bank interest and miscellaneous               | 5000                  | 9300                  |
|   | <b>43,455</b>         | <b>36,117</b>         |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                            |                       |                       |
| VIC25 Program                                 | -----                 | 23,226 <sup>(4)</sup> |
| Other Section-organised events                | 0                     | 1353                  |
| Chapter/Branch events (excl. VIC25)           | 5900                  | 1972                  |
| Travel & Accommodation                        | 0                     | 12,610                |
| Prizes and grants                             | 1130                  | 2600                  |
| Final expenses - <i>Tencon '05</i>            | 8312                  | 401                   |
| R10 share of <i>Tencon '05</i> surplus (30%)  | 18,533                | -----                 |
| Australia Council dues                        | 756                   | 745                   |
| Support for outside conferences/workshops     | 1668                  | 0                     |
| Special loans and advances                    | 1804                  | 4086                  |
| Miscellaneous expenses                        | 500                   | 437                   |
|   | <b>38,603</b>         | <b>47,430</b>         |
|   |                       |                       |
| <b>Closing Aggregate Bank Balance, 31 Dec</b> | <b>157,580</b>        | <b>149,255</b>        |

NOTES

1. This is an unaudited preliminary statement containing several estimated amounts
2. All income and expense items are ex-GST.
3. Two years rebate - 2006 & 2007
4. See separate VIC25 accounts

IEEE VICTORIAN SECTION

VIC25 Activities September/October 2008

Financial Summary

|                              | \$            | \$     |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------|
| <b>1. INCOME</b>             |               |        |
| Sponsorships (incl. NICTA)   | 14,451        |        |
| VIC25 Dinner - cash receipts | 1309          |        |
| Technical Sessions           | 0             | 15,760 |
| <b>2. EXPENDITURE</b>        |               |        |
| Airfares                     | 11,185        |        |
| Accommodation                | 3317          |        |
| VIC25 Dinner Event           | 5367          |        |
| Technical Sessions           | 2542          |        |
| Miscellaneous Expenses       | 815           | 23,226 |
| <b>Total Surplus (Loss):</b> | <b>(7466)</b> |        |

NOTES:

- 1 All income and expense amounts are ex-GST
- 2 Further details under each heading

## VIC25 - Financial Analysis

|   | <u>incl. GST</u>   | <u>ex GST</u> |             |               |
|---|--------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>Sponsorships &amp; Contributions</b> |                    |               |             |               |
| Aquamill                                | 660                |               | 600         |               |
| CMG Group                               | 2200               |               | 2000        |               |
| Covey Consulting                        | 550                |               | 500         |               |
| IEEE NSW Section                        | 800                |               | 800         |               |
| NICTA <sup>(1)</sup>                    | 5790               |               | 5551        |               |
| SEW Eurodrive                           | 3850               |               | 3500        |               |
| RMIT/ISSNIP                             | 1500               | <b>15,350</b> | 1500        | <b>14,451</b> |
| <b>Airfares</b>                         |                    |               |             |               |
| fred harris (international)             | 3166               |               | 3166        |               |
| Richard Harris                          | 1038               |               | 1038        |               |
| Harry McDonald                          | 571                |               | 519         |               |
| Dalma Novak                             | 3767               |               | 3767        |               |
| Roma Rinkeviciene                       | 2695               | <b>11,237</b> | 2695        | <b>11,185</b> |
| <b>Accommodation</b>                    |                    |               |             |               |
| fred harris                             | 2624               |               | 2385        |               |
| Richard Harris                          | 0                  |               | 0           |               |
| Harry McDonald                          | 0                  |               | 0           |               |
| Dalma Novak                             | 0                  |               | 0           |               |
| Roma Rinkeviciene                       | 1025               | <b>3649</b>   | 932         | <b>3317</b>   |
| <b>VIC25 Dinner Event</b>               |                    |               |             |               |
| Food & Beverages (95 persons)           | 4148               |               | 3771        |               |
| Meals - band (5 persons)                | 213                |               | 194         |               |
| BYO Liquor                              | 462                |               | 420         |               |
| Fees - band                             | 800                |               | 800         |               |
| Audio hire                              | 200                | <b>5823</b>   | 182         | <b>5367</b>   |
| <b>Technical Presentations</b>          |                    |               |             |               |
| Room Hire                               | 300 <sup>(2)</sup> |               | 273         |               |
| Catering - Dalma Novak                  | 203                |               | 185         |               |
| - fred harris                           | 0                  |               | 0           |               |
| - Richard Harris                        | 203                |               | 185         |               |
| - Roma Rinkeviciene                     | 250                |               | 227         |               |
| <b>Refuel Catering**</b>                | <b>1840</b>        | <b>2796</b>   | <b>1672</b> | <b>2542</b>   |
| <b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>           |                    |               |             |               |
| Hosting - fred harris                   | 199                |               | 181         |               |
| Hosting - Richard Harris                | 340                |               | 309         |               |
| Gifts for speakers                      | 158                |               | 144         |               |
| Other                                   | 200 <sup>(2)</sup> | <b>897</b>    | 181         | <b>815</b>    |

**NOTES**

1. NICTA "sponsorship" has been taken equal to the principal costs incurred
2. Estimated amount
3. Above analysis does not include fred harris in Tasmania

**fred harris in Tasmania, October 2008**

**Summary of Expenses**

|                                    | Incl. GST  | <u>ex GST</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Airfare ML-HB-ML                   | 242        |               |
| Accommodation - HB                 | 193        |               |
| Meals & Entertainment - HB         | 327        |               |
| Extra night accommodation - ML 178 |            |               |
| <b>Total:</b>                      | <b>940</b> | <b>854</b>    |

NOTE: Above items are **not** included in the VIC25 accounts

## **PART B - ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **B.1 Membership Development Programs**

- A member on the executive committee was elected to drive “The Membership Development Program (MDP)”. New ideas and approaches will be used to encourage and improve on member participation in executive committee activities, Institute forums, exhibitions and conferences so as to enhance their professional development. Member development program will be available to every level of membership. Instructions on the MDP will be available early in the New Year. Members are encouraged to apply for positions on the Australia Council committee and where possible run for positions at the R10 Executive committee. We have supported and will continue to support student chapter chairs to participate in R10 organised activities.
- **Affinity Group activities**

**The Women in engineering (WIE)** group is one of the most successful of the Affinity groups in our section. In March of 2007, this group was awarded an Honorary Mention of being one of the best WIE groups’ world wide. 2008 was a very busy year for the group with many events and activities successfully hosted.

**The Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD)** Affinity group is undergoing reformation and regrouping.

- GOLD held one social event for the year, attended by graduate alumni and new members.
- Three career talks were presented in 2008 to the students of RMIT and VU encouraging post graduate IEEE membership.
- Next year will focus on more career focused seminars and technical events for graduates.

### **B.2 Professional and Continuing Education Activities**

Every seminar, lecture and professional presentation is deemed as an education activity. Specific areas of professional development are highlighted in Chapter-society and Affinity group activities in B.6.

### **B.3 Recognized Educational Programs**

- The current officer responsible for the educational activities did the following:
  - Coordinating and judging the Australia Council Award for the most outstanding student branch
  - Results submitted on time
  - Recommendations were given to assist in improving the competition in the future.
  - Two student Travel grants are available to support conference attendance.

## B.4 Students Activities

- Active Student Branch activities including student paper contest, recruitment of student members

**RMIT University** student branch is among the most active branches in the section. The following are the activities to-date:

- Combined WIE & RISC raffle for members (recruitment drive)
- Semi conference; “Travel sponsorship seminar”, By Dr. Arnan Mitchell
- Postgraduate paper competition (recruitment drive)
- Hosting 6 IEEE Victorian section meetings
- Chapter chair attendance at student congress in Chennai

**The University of Melbourne** student branch had the following activities;

- Hosting the IEEE Victorian section meetings

**Victoria University** student branch had the following activities;

- Initiated Chapter formation in March 2008
- Petition completed in July 2008 and submitted to Section in August 2008
- Approval of formation received in September 2008
- Inaugural meeting held on 22 October 2008
- Event presentation by Section Vice Chair and Secretary Paul Kubik – “Industry and Career for young Engineers”

## B.5 Awards

- The Section pledges three awards to the following University activities: RMIT Post graduate paper competition, The University of Melbourne Endeavour final Year Engineering student projects, La Trobe University Hooper Memorial student projects and Monash University final year engineering projects. These awards will be maintained and may be extended to another two Universities in Melbourne where we hope to start up student branches this Year. In addition, there is a proposal to include all Universities in Tasmania in an attempt to attract more student members to join the subsection under formation in the state.
- In accordance with IEEE rules and regulations, a number of awards were given out at the Vic25 Anniversary celebrations. These awards were: Most Active serving member – Tony Gascoigne, Most Active section Chair – Rob Slaviero, Most Inspiring Student Chapter Chair – Fleur Stephens, New student Branch encouragement award – Victoria University (Received by Leila Koushacian)

## B.6 Chapter Activities

- **Signal Processing Society (SPS)**

- 2008 was the seventh year of operation for the Signal Processing Society Chapter which was formed in December 2001.

- The Chapter was chaired by Robert Slaviero. The Chapter was responsible for organising seven activities, consisting of six technical lectures by international and local experts, as well as meeting with Ms Mercy Kowalczyk - Executive Director of IEEE Signal Processing Society as part of contributing towards the successful bid to host the International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP 2013) in Melbourne in 2013.

- 11 June 2008, “Security in Black & White and Image Forensics”  
by Dr Alex Kot, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

- 18 July 2008, IEEE ICIP 2013 Australia Bid discussions and meeting with Ms Mercy Kowalczyk - Executive Director of IEEE SPS, IEEE ICIP 2013 Australia Bid Committee

- 12 Aug 2008, “Bayesian Object Tracking in Clutter” by Dr Darko Musicki, Consultant

- 29 September 2008, “Multirate Digital Signal Processing for Communication Systems”  
by Prof fred harris, San Diego State University, USA

- 30 September 2008, “Digital Signal Processing in Next Generation Communication Systems” by Prof fred harris, San Diego State University, USA

- 01 October 2008 (Tasmania), “Digital Signal Processing in Next Generation Communication Systems”, by Prof fred harris, San Diego State University, USA

- 16 December 2008, “Digital Video Imaging Quality & Perceptual Coding”  
by Dr. K.R. Rao, University of Texas at Arlington, USA

The Signal Processing Society chapter website is maintained under the IEEE Victorian Section website ([www.ieee.org/vic](http://www.ieee.org/vic)) and is regularly updated with the latest information. Together with Section email outs and features on the main website of upcoming talks, local members were kept well informed. A feature of the chapter website is that information, including presentation slides for past events are, presenter willing, made available on the website.

- **The Lasers and Electro optics/Electron Devices Society (LEOS/EDS)**

- 11/04/08 Distinguished lecture on “Photonic Crystals”, by Prof. John O’Brien

- 14/03/08 Distinguished lecture on “Dark energy”, Axial fields and Stress tensors: Polarisation vortices in Optics and Photonics”, by Prof Thomas Brown

- 25/02/08 Distinguished lecture on “Controlling light by photonic Crystals”, by Dr. Masaya Natomi

- 02/10/08 Distinguished lecture on “Encapsulating knowledge: Taking Australian expertise in Telecommunications to the World”, by Prof. Arthur Lowery

- **The Engineering Management society (TMC)**
  - 16/04/08, “Reading Patents, an Insider’s guide”
  - 28/05/08, “Managing Young Engineers – Inspiration and Motivation for performance”
  - 23/07/08, “World wide trends in market operation of the electric power Industry”
  
- **The Communications society (CommSoc)**
  - 16/04/08, “Reading Patents: An insider’s guide”, by Thor North
  - 02/10/08, “Next Generation Network Planning and Modeling”, by Prof Richard Harris
  
- **The Society on Social Implications of Technology (SSIT)**
  - Maintaining the website and publishing a national electronic newsletter
  - Establishing a membership and contacts system to keep track of 150 members
  - Regular committee meetings involving members in Melbourne, Canberra, Wollongong & Sydney, plus an informal end-of-year dinner
  - Technical Meeting: “The politics of Next Generation Broadband”, by Dr Ross Kelso
  - Technical Meeting: “Technology Based solutions to Climate Change”, by Dr Hugh Bradlow
  - Selected to host the SSIT Global conference ISTAS 2010, Sydney
  
- **The Circuits and Systems society (CSS)**
  - Organising committee member for Vic25
  - Contribution of sponsors to the hosting of Vic25
  - “Nanoscale hardware computing architecture”, by Dr. Paul Beckett
  - “Clean motors”, by Hasib Felic
  - “Power generation in Lithuania and the EU”, by Prof. Roma Rankiviciene
  - Organisation of AV, Multimedia and folk entertainment at Vic25
  
- **The Education Society (EDU)**
  - 13/03/2008 “Formal learning as a facilitated evolutionary process” by Dr W.A.Mervyn Alwis
  - 30/09/2008 “Education at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University” by Prof. Roma Rankiviciene
  
- **The Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBS)**
  - 03/04/08, “Depth of Anesthesia monitoring in the elderly using spontaneous and evoked EEG”, by Stacey Prichett
  - “Electrophysiology for Health and disease”, by Prof. Toshio Moritani

- **The Computer Society (CS)**
  - 11/06/08 “Security in Black and White and Image Forensics”, by Prof. Alex Kot
  
- **The Power Engineering Society (PES)**
  - Victorian PES chapter activities for 2008 were focused on electricity markets and power history/industry.
  - Two further activities involving renewable energy development, originally planned for November/December were deferred to 2009.
  - Presentation, “World Wide Trends in Electric Power Industry Market operation”, by Prof Peter Wallace (Independent Power Industry consultant)
  - Presentation, “Power generation in Lithuania – Soviet to the EU”, by Prof. Roma Rankiviciene
  - Planned for early 2009 are two presentations both involving renewable energy topics.
    1. Experience with tidal power pilot plants in Australia & Overseas
    2. Large scale solar power generation in Victoria.
  - Further topics for 2009 are also currently being investigated.
  
- **The Electromagnetic Compatibility Society (EMC)**

No Report
- **The Computational Intelligence Society (CIS)**

No Report
  
- **The Microwave Theory and Techniques/ Antenna and Propagation Society (MTTS/AP)**

No Report

## **B.7 E-mail and Newsletter Activities, Home Page**

Home page: [www.ieeevic.org](http://www.ieeevic.org)

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### Executive Committee list with email contacts:

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- At the present time, we are attempting to have a Newsletter specifically tailored for our section aims and objectives; we have in the past and still provide articles for the Region 10 Newsletter and other IEEE publication entities. In the New Year, a bimonthly publication of News, Events and Activities to all our active members will commence. Suggestions for its title are very much welcome from all our members.

## **PART C - OTHERS**

### ● **C.1 Relationship with National Societies**

IEEE Victorian section has a professional relationship with the Institution of Engineers Australia. In addition a good number of our active members are also active members of the Institution of Engineers, Australia. From time-to-time invitations are sent out to our Members to attend seminars, talks and training courses at the Institution.

### ● **C.2 Special Events**

This Year marked a 25 Year Milestone of continual participation in IEEE activities, events and forums in this state. A week of technical programs, distinguished speakers and a dinner were organized. More information is readily accessible on [www.ieeevic.org](http://www.ieeevic.org). The Chair and

Vice Chair attended The Quebec Sections Congress. Reports are available at [www.ieeevic.org](http://www.ieeevic.org).

- **C.3 Problems to be Anticipated**

Time is our worst enemy! There is never sufficient time to engage and recruit new members and as a result, our membership numbers are not increasing as much as we would like. In addition, due to the Global Financial Crisis, there is a likelihood that some of our members may decide not to renew their membership. The timing of recruitment drives in Universities is never easy! Most of our executive committee members are full time employees and are limited in activities they can participate in a calendar month. Student branch chairs are highly limited in extracurricular activities by their academic obligations.

## **PART D - GOALS AND PLANS**

- **D.1** The section will continue to support all active societies, affinity groups and student chapters in order to retain, sustain and maintain the current members and ultimately increase these numbers. We will give assistance, by organizing social events, recruitment drives and professional seminars, to currently struggling affinity groups and student chapters in an attempt to retain members and attract many more.
- **D.2** The section's main objective is to increase the number of active members. We will strive to encourage non-members to join our section by publicising our achievements, the benefits and the advantages of IEEE membership. We will strive to keep our members informed of all the activities planned for the future. We will encourage member participation in improving and modernizing our section by sharing information and new ideas. We will try and retain our members and sustain them with developmental activities; we hope to maintain our current numbers and are optimistic that we can keep increasing our membership numbers Year after Year.