

# **IEEE Western Australia Section**

## **2008 Annual Report**

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2008 IEEE WA Section Chair**

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## INTRODUCTION

The Western Australia Section of the IEEE has 790 active members as at 21 Nov 2008. The Section together with its six Chapters, two Affinity Groups and three Student Branches have continued to serve the local members and promote our relationship with industries, universities and the other learned societies. Both technical and professional seminars and workshops were organized for the members and non-members throughout the year.

This report summarizes the activities of the IEEE Western Australia Section in 2008.

## 2008 OFFICE BEARERS

Below is the list of 2008 office bearers:

<i>Chair</i>	Douglas Chai
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Kevin Wong
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>position was vacant</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	Hong Xie
<i>Past Chair</i>	Lance Fung
<i>Membership Development</i>	Halit Eren
<i>Joint Technical Program,</i>	Lance Fung
<i>Industry Liaison</i>	Valerie Maxville
<i>Awards &amp; Recognition</i>	Laurie Faraone
<i>SAMIEEE Manager</i>	Farid Boussaid
<i>Web Manager</i>	Alex Chong
<i>Mailing List</i>	Shri Rai
<i>Chapter Chair,</i> <i>Computational Intelligence Society</i>	Philip Hingston
<i>Chapter Chair,</i> <i>Computer Society</i>	Lance Fung
<i>Chapter Chair,</i> <i>Communications Society</i>	Daryoush Habibi
<i>Chapter Chair,</i> <i>Joint Power and Energy Society</i> <i>and Power Electronic Society</i>	Dean Sharafi
<i>Chapter Chair,</i> <i>Signal Processing Society</i>	Douglas Chai

<i>Chapter Chair, Joint ED/SSC/LEO Societies</i>	Adam Osseiran
<i>Affinity Group Chair, Graduate of Last Decade (GOLD)</i>	Timothy Wong
<i>Affinity Group Chair, Women in Engineering</i>	Valerie Maxville
<i>Student Branch Chair, Curtin University of Technology</i>	Ritwik Roy
<i>Student Branch Chair, University of Western Australia</i>	Kenny Wong
<i>Student Branch Chair, Murdoch University</i>	<i>position was vacant</i>

## FINANCE

The WA Section remains in a very good financial health.

The following financial figures were reported at the 2008 Section AGM, which was held on 19 December 2008. The annual income was AUD 26,785 while the expenses were kept at AUD 21,179. This has resulted in a modest surplus of AUD 5,606. The net asset as at 19 Dec 2008 was AUD 74,332.

## MEMBERSHIP

The active IEEE membership in Western Australia as at 21 November 2008 was 790. The composition in term of membership grade and the comparison against the same time last year are presented in the following table:

**Table 1:** IEEE membership in Western Australia.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>21 Nov 2008</b>	<b>1 Nov 2007</b>	<b>Change</b>
Fellow	4	4	0
Life Senior	1	1	0
Senior Member	60	50	10
Life Member	3	2	1
Member	507	426	81
Associate	25	23	2
Graduate Student	58	61	-3
Student	132	108	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>115</b>

The Section has experienced a 17% increase in membership. In particular, the 20% increase in senior membership was pleasing.

## SECTION ACTIVITIES

The Section held 8 administrative, 3 technical, 2 professional and 1 social meetings in 2008. See Tables 2, 3, 4 and 5 for more details.

**Table 2:** Section administrative meetings in 2008.

12 Feb 2008	Section Executive Committee Meeting #1
27 Feb 2008	Section Committee Meeting #1
4 Apr 2008	Section Executive Committee Meeting #2
19 Apr 2008	Section Committee Meeting #2
26 Jun 2008	Section Committee Meeting #3
10 Nov 2008	Section Executive Committee Meeting #3
19 Nov 2008	Section Committee Meeting #4
19 Dec 2008	AGM

**Table 3:** Section technical meetings (jointly organized by IEEE, Engineers Australia and IET) in 2008.

12 Mar 2008	Two seminars: (1) "I&C tertiary options update," by Mel Oliveri, and (2) "Fire and gas detection systems," by Bill Ramsay
9 Jul 2008	"Partial discharge testing: an insiders view," by Karl Hubner
12 Nov 2008	"Technical and safety regulation of WA's electrical industry," by Albert Koenig

**Table 4:** Section professional meetings in 2008.

20 Apr 2008	The 9 <sup>th</sup> IEEE WA Section workshop
21 Aug 2008	Senior membership information night

**Table 5:** Section social meeting in 2008.

19 Jul 2008	IEEE WA social lunch
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## CHAPTERS ACTIVITIES

The Section oversees six chapters, namely: computational intelligence, computer, communications, ED/SSC/LEO, Signal Processing, and PE/PEL. Table 6 summarizes their activities in 2008.

**Table 6:** Chapters activities in 2008.

CIS	3 administrative meetings 3 technical meetings 1 educational meeting
CS	1 technical meeting 1 educational meeting
ComSoc	7 technical meetings
ED/SSC/LEO	4 technical meetings
Signal Processing Chapter	1 administrative meeting 2 technical meetings
Power and Energy /Power Electronics	4 administrative meetings 1 technical meeting 2 professional meetings

## AFFINITY GROUPS AND STUDENTS ACTIVITIES

The GOLD affinity group had organized 1 administrative, 1 technical and 1 professional meetings in 2008.

The Women in Group affinity group has struggled to attract volunteers. No activities were organized in 2008. The Section will be reviewing the viability of the WA WIE affinity group in 2009.

The University of Western Australia student branch and the Curtin University student branch have continued to be very active in serving the student members throughout 2008. Their activities were reported to the IEEE HQ directly. It is worth noting that the University of Western Australia was very successful in winning numerous awards throughout the year, including the 2008 Australia Council Outstanding Student Branch award. The Murdoch University student branch has struggled to attract new volunteers and no activities were organized in 2008. The Section aims to re-vitalize the Murdoch University student branch in 2009.

## SECTION WEBSITE

The Western Australia Section website is located at [http://ewh.ieee.org/r10/w\\_australia](http://ewh.ieee.org/r10/w_australia) .

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The Section and the joint PES/PELS chapter have continued to sponsor four separate undergraduate student prize awards in the four local universities, namely:

- Curtin University of Technology
- Edith Cowan University
- Murdoch University
- University of Western Australia

The Section has also continued to sponsor the best poster prize award for the Postgraduate Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Symposium (PEECS).

## GOALS FOR 2009

The goals for 2009 are:

- To improve communications with members
- To produce new while improve existing services to members
- To recognize members, volunteers and friends of WA Section
- To promote IEEE brand

In addition to the IEEE's 125 years anniversary, the WA Section will also be celebrating its own 25 years anniversary in 2009.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I thank all committee members of the Section, Chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches in Western Australia for their valuable services to the IEEE. I congratulate them for their commitment and hard work. I also thank the friends of IEEE for their support, commitment and contributions.

Dr Douglas Chai  
2008 IEEE Western Australia Section Chair