

# IEEE Northern Australia (NA) Section Report (2013 activity)

## PART A - SECTION SUMMARY

### A.1 Executive Summary

- **Section Executive Committee Member List 2014**

Chair: Mohan Jacob  
 Vice-Chair: Mathew Whelan  
 Secretary: Kenny Leong  
 Treasurer: Iain Morrison

Executive Committee Members:

Janina Mazierska  
 Sina Vafi (Darwin)  
 Phil Musumeci (Cairns)  
 Web Development Officer: Matthew Page  
 Membership development Officer: Bill Mchugh  
 Industry Liaison Officer: John Nielsen  
 Student Branch Representative: Chris Roberts  
 Engineers Australia Representative: Greg Elkins

#### **Chapter Executive Committee Member List 2014:**

MTT-S / Com Sec  
 Chair: Andrew Kerans  
 Vice Chair: Graham Woods  
 Secretary: Kenny Leong  
 Treasurer: Iain Morrison

#### **PES Chapter Executive Committee Member List 2014**

Chair: John Nielsen  
 Vice-chair: Ahmad Zahedi  
 Secretary: Kenny Leong  
 Treasurer: Iain Morrison

#### **OES Executive Committee Member List: Provisional**

Chair Mal Heron  
 Secretary: Kenny Leong  
 Treasurer: Iain Morrison

#### **Administrative meetings in 2013:**

All the administrative meetings were organized face to face in Townsville and through skype for members from Cairns, Darwin and Mackay.

- 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013
- 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013
- 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013
- 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013

- 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013
- 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013 (AGM)

- **Section Highlights**

- Initiation of an Annual Lecture Series in Electrical Engineering with industry (GHD) sponsorship.
- Establishment of PES Chapter
- Lead the Establishment of OES Chapter (Australia wide by Mal Heron)
- Promoting the JCU Student Branch activities through the formation of an Electronics/ Robotics Club
- Won the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest % of voting during the 2013 IEEE Election

- **Technical Seminars:**

As part of professional development the NA section organizes technical seminars in various technical areas. Experts in different research/ technical areas delivered talks. We had a very successful year in terms of technical seminars and other activities. Especially the section initiated new annual lecture series. New PES chapter is formed and the section leads the joint OES chapter formation with other Australian sections. The details of the various seminars are listed later.

**Teacher In Service Program (TISP)**

Even though some initiations were done, we couldn't host a TISP workshop in Townsville. NA section is planning to organize a workshop in Townsville in 2014 with the help of QEMA.

- **Major Chapter Activities**

Chapter hosted technical seminars jointly with the section. Details of the seminars are listed later.

- **Major Student and Affinity Group Activities**

Northern Australia section initiated the formation of JCU Electronics/ Robotics club. The activities of the clubs will be unique and will assist students to undertake electronics (hobby) projects. Since the formation of club in August 2013, 49 members joined the club. The club is planning to host competitions within the club and also with other sections or student branches.

- **Awards**

IEEE Northern Australia section awards 3 UG students during the University awards ceremony. Details are given in a later section.

## A.2 Financial Report Summary

	Income	Expenses	
Opening Balance Cheque Book	5701.64		
Opening Balance: Term Deposit	19234		
Section Meeting Expenses		2621.63	
MTTS-Com Sec Meeting Expenses		814.93	
PES Meeting Expenses		51	
OES Meeting Expenses		51	
Student Activities		1327.65	
Other Expenses (promotional materials)		808.77	
Interest	370.69		
		5674.98	
OES Chapter Startup Allowance	2151.61		
	27457.94	5674.98	
Closing Balance: Cheque Book			<b>2178.11</b>
Closing Balance: Term Deposit			<b>19604.85</b>

## PART B - ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### B.1 Membership Development Activities

In January 2013 the total membership of section was 120. Non-renewed members are contacted by emails. In addition information sections were organized for students to promote IEEE activities and membership drive. All the technical seminars are publicized widely so that not only active members but also non-renewed members find value in membership. In December there were 187 members.

### B.2 Chapter Activities

- **Total number of Chapters in the Section**  
3 Chapters:  
MTT-S/Com Sec Chapter  
PES Chapter  
OES Chapter
- **Number of Chapters formed in the current year**  
2 New Chapters are formed:  
PES Chapter  
OES Chapter

- **Number of Active Chapters** (Chapters who have reported required number of meetings during the year)  
3 Chapters: All the chapters met the required criteria.
- **Summary of Chapter activities:** chapter wise with attachment table / information

Chapters organized events jointly with the section:

#### **MTT-S/Com Sec Technical Seminars**

- 1) Prof. Keith. J. Kikkert Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2013, 12:00PM SmartGrid: Reasons, Challenges and Opportunities
- 2) Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2013 12:00PM – 12:40PM  
Mr. Ramakrishna Kappagantu, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd, India  
Smart Grid Pilot Project for addressing Power Distribution Issues in India
- 3) Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2013 12:40PM – 1:20PM  
Prof Lawrence W.C. Wong, National University of Singapore (NUS)  
Indoor localization Methods
- 4) Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2013 1:20PM – 2:00PM  
Prof. Yong-Jin Park, Waseda University, Tokyo  
Research Activities and Challenges of Information-Centric Networking
- 5) Friday 2nd August 2013, 1:00PM  
Dr. George Vamvounis  
Centre for Organic Photonics & Electronics (COPE), School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences, The University of Queensland  
Solution-Processable Macromolecules for Organic Electronics

#### **PES Chapter:**

- 1) Tuesday, 22nd October 2013, 4pm at  
Dr. Donald McPhail,  
ERGON  
Smarter Integration of Distributed Energy Resources and Electric Vehicle Infrastructure on the Electricity Distribution Network
- 2) Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 5:00pm  
John G O'Brien, Prof. Peter Arlett Memorial Inaugural Lecture  
Power, Energy and Society

#### **: OES Chapter**

The chapter is formed only in December.

### **B.3 Professional and Continuing Education Activities**

Summary of Technical seminars organized by the section are:

- 1) Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2013, 12:00PM  
Prof. Keith. J. Kikkert  
SmartGrid: Reasons, Challenges and Opportunities
- 2) Wednesday 1st May 2013: 04PM-05PM  
Professor Peter Wolfs,  
Central Queensland University, Australia Distribution Level Solutions for High Penetration Solar PV

- 3) Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013  
A/Professor Ahmad Zahedi,  
James Cook University, Townsville, Australia  
Wind Power Growth in China and India; Opportunities and Challenges for Australia
- 4) Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2013 12:00PM – 12:40PM  
Mr. Ramakrishna Kappagantu,  
Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd, India  
Smart Grid Pilot Project for addressing Power Distribution Issues in India
- 5) Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2013 12:40PM – 1:20PM  
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#### **B.4 Students Activities**

- We have 2 student branches:
  - James Cook University (JCU) IEEE Student Branch
  - Charles Darwin University IEEE Student Branch

#### **B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities**

- **Award constituted by the section**  
IEEE Northern Australia section awards 3 UG students during the University awards ceremony. In Townsville we have awarded 3 IEEE prizes, 2 in Townsville and 1 in Darwin:
  - i) Townsville: 1<sup>st</sup> year Engineering Student with highest GPA, who is joining Electrical/ Computer Engineering UG program.
  - ii) Townsville: 4<sup>th</sup> year Electrical/ Computer Engineering Student for the best project work.
  - iii) Darwin: IEEE prize is awarded to a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Electrical Engineering Student with the highest GPA.

- **Award(s) received from R10**

Northern Australia Section recorded the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest voting in the IEEE annual election.

### **B.7 Communication Activities (Newsletter, Home Page, E-mail etc.)**

<http://www.ieeenorthernaustralia.org>

The NA section host and manages a local website. Also the student branch communicate regularly through facebook. The section uses email as the main forum of communication.

### **B.8 Industry Relations**

- Membership growth and retention
- Activities for/with industrial members

The section has an industry liaison officer. NA Section organizes many events in close collaboration with the industry. One of the local industries, GHD sponsored our very 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Lecture Series started in 2013.

## **PART C - OTHERS**

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

Engineers Australia is Australia's main Engineering professional organization. The local chapter of Engineers Australia and NA section agreed to co-host events and mutually advertise the events. An Engineers Australia representative is appointed in NA section executive committee.

### **C.4 Best Practices of your section (which you would like share with other sections for the benefits of members)**

Develop good communication practices with members and try to get to know the members and their needs for professional development.

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

- Improve membership retention
- Recruit new members
- Promote the annual lecture series widely
- Support and promote student branch activities.