

IEEE Australian Capital Territory Section 2022 Report

PART A - SECTION SUMMARY

A.1 Executive Summary –

- **Section Executive Committee Member List**

Position	Name
Chair	Ambarish Natu
Vice Chair	Ashley Chonka
Secretary	Kathryn Kasmarik
Treasurer	Russell Gentle
Webmaster/Newsletter	Jeta Vedi
Educational/Student Activities	Fouad Karouta
Membership Development	Ross Summerfield
Professional Activities	Sharon Lim
Life Member Co-ordinator	Dale Siver
Student Activities Co-ordinator	Thien Truong
Societies Chapter Chairs	
Antennas-Propagation/MTT (CH10298)	David Powell
Aerospace and Electronics Society (CH11028)	Lily Qiao
Computer Society (CH10257)	Anthony Jones
Joint Photonics & EDS (CH10113)	Hieu Nguyen
Signal Processing & Communications (CH10229)	Fei Ma
Geoscience and Remote Sensing (CH10522)	Xiuping Jia
Nanotechnology Council (CH10524)	Ziyuan Li
Computational Intelligence (CH10724)	Hemant Singh
Systems, Man and Cybernetics (CH10856)	Huadong Mo
Control Systems (CH10934)	Iman Shames
Oceanic Engineering	Vacant
Young Professionals (YP00561)	Chathurika Mediwaththe
WIE Affinity Group (WIE00561)	Aimée (Jihui) Zhang
TISP Coordinator	Fouad Karouta
ANU Student Councillor	Nan Yang
ADFA Students Councillor	Lily Qiao
Student Branches Representatives	
Australian National University (STB08001)	Aswani Gopakumar

Position	Name
UNSW Canberra (ADFA) (STB09141)	Junpeng Zhang
Student Chapter GRSS (SBC09141)	Junpeng Zhang
University of Canberra	Vacant

- **Section Highlights**

In 2022, the ACT Section established the Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society Chapter and the Life Member Affinity Group. The section also held five administrative meetings (11 Feb, 1 Apr, 09 Jun, 26 Aug, 13 Oct) and AGM on 01 Dec. All meetings were held in person as the covid restrictions have now been lifted in the Canberra.

The section partially funded two students to the IEEE ANZSCON 2022 held in Adelaide, SA and three members of the IEEE to attend the 2022 IEEE WIE ILS held in Melbourne, VIC. The section sponsored two raffle draw prizes at the annual Canberra Mathematical Association Conference as part of the membership drive. The section will be hosting [TENSYP 2023](#) and section has been busy with organizing logistics for the conference. A number of activities carried out by our section have also been reported in the [Region 10 Newsletter](#).

- **Major Events (International, National)**

- Ambarish Natu was invited to participate and deliver talk at TENSYP 2022 held in Mumbai, India and SYWL 2022 held in Jeju Island, South Korea. Ambarish Natu also participated in the R10 meeting held in Hyderabad, India as section representative. Region 10 Director Deepak Mathur and Director Elect Lance Fung visited Canberra on 09-10 July 2022 for a Tree Planting ceremony funded by all sections of Australia to dedicate a tree for IEEE members and volunteers.

- **Major Chapter Activities**

Most ACT Chapters have organised a minimum of two technical activities. Most of them took place in person. Hence it saw a reduction in the number of activities compared to last year. A total of 47 activities (including joint activities with other sections) were organized throughout the year with 36 inhouse events in total in Canberra only.

- **Major Student and Affinity Group Activities**

The ACT Section established a Life Member affinity group this year with an inaugural meeting held at the National Arboretum.

A.2 Financial Report – (Please follow the format given below)

Balance as of 31 December 2022: AUD 10871.35

Term Deposit Balance as of 31 December 2022: AUD 13930.99

NextGen Bank Account Balance as of 31 December 2022: USD 2088 (approx.)

PART B - ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

B.1 Membership Development Activities

- **Total number of active members in the past 3 years.**

The total IEEE members in the ACT Section was:

December 2022: 483

December 2021: 482

December 2020: 465

We have managed to retain our membership levels and also add to the tally in 2022.

- **Summary and evidence of work done to improve the value of membership, which leads to retention and growth of members**

In all activities organised by the Section IEEE membership, benefits are exposed and especially student membership are promoted. We also promote TryEngineering and TryComputing especially among Pre-University Students.

B.2 Chapter Activities

- Total number of Chapters in the Section
10
- Number of Chapters formed in the current year
1
- Number of active Chapters (Chapters who have reported required number of meetings during the year)
10
- Summary of Chapter activities (Chapter wise with attachment table/information)

1. Antennas and Propagation Microwave Theories Chapter AP03/MTT17

Chair: David Powell. Seven technical activity was organised on the following dates 02 Mar, 30 Mar, 28 Apr, 26 May, 30 Jun, 01 Jul and 13 Sep .

2. Computer Society Chapter C16

Anthony Jones. Three technical activities were organised, 08 Jun, 13 Sep and 21 Sep.

3. Photonics and EDS Chapter ED15/PHO36

Chair: Ziyuan Li. Three activities along with a joint activity with NANO42 were organized on 05 May, 28 Sep and 29 Sep

4. Nanotechnology Council Chapter NANO42

Chair: Hieu Nguyen. One technical activity and one joint activity with EDS/PHO36 were organized jointly with professional development on 05 May and 28 Sep.

5. Signal Processing & Communications Chapter SP01/COM19:

Chair: Fei Ma. Two Technical activities organized on 30 Jun and 23 Nov

6. Geoscience and Remote Sensing joint ACT and NSW Chapter (Student Branch included)

Chair: Xiuping Jia. Three technical activities were organized on 30 Sep, 04 Oct and 18 Oct

7. Computational Intelligence Society CIS11

Chair: Hemant Singh, Three technical activities organised on 24 Aug, 07 Sep and 12 Oct

8. Systems, Man and Cybernetics Society C16

Chair: Huadong Mo. Four Technical activities organized on 14 Sep, 21 Sep, 02 Nov and 10 Nov.

9. Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society AES10

Chair: Lily Qiao. Four technical activities organized on 22 Aug, 31 Aug, 05 Sep and 04 Oct.

10. Control Systems Society CS23

Chair: Iman Shames. Six activities were organized on 15 Jun, 13 Jul, 20 Jul, 29 Jul, 05 Aug, and 12 Aug.

B.3 Professional and Continuing Education Activities

Summary of continuing Educational activities including conferences, technical activities, training courses, and distinguished lecture programs with attachment table / information

Event Title	Event Date	Event Category
Arboretum Visit : Australian Capital Terr Section Affinity Group,LM	20/04/2022 12:00	Nontechnical
Visit to the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex : Australian Capital Territory Section, YP	26/05/2022 10:00	Professional
IEEE SMC ACT Final Year Gathergetting: Australian Capital Terr Section, SMC28	2/11/2022 12:00	Nontechnical
Career Transition: Pros, cons and opportunities: Australian Capital Territory Section, YP	8/11/2022 11:00	Professional
An overview of regional risk and resilience analysis - Professor Paolo Gardoni from UIUC : Australian Capital Terr Section ,SMC28	10/11/2022 9:30	Professional

B.4 Students Activities

- There is one student branch of GRS society which conducted three joint activities with GRS Chapter as reported earlier.

B.5 Affinity Group Activities

- Young Professional (YP)
Chair: Chathrika Mediwatthe. Three activities were organized along with a joint event on career development and professional development with WIE on 26 May, 08 Nov and 29 Nov.
- Women In Engineering (WIE)
Chair: Aimée (Jihui) Zhang: Five activities completed 26 May, 21 Oct, 27 Oct, 08 Nov and 29 Nov
- Life Member (LM)
Chair: Dale Siver: Two activities completed 20 Apr and 26 May.

B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities

The Section Received the Silver Award for Membership Recruitment for 2022.

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

- Newsletter (name and number of issues in the year)

A number of activities carried out by our section have also been reported in the [Region 10 Newsletter](#)

- Home Page of the Section (give the URL and how often it is updated)
<https://r10.ieee.org/act/>
- Other means of contacts with Section members including social media
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14011252/>

B.8 Industry Relations

- **Membership growth and retention**
The Section Received the Silver Award for Membership Recruitment for 2022. With 78 new recruits but the overall membership remained at 483 as of 30 November 2022.
- **Activities for/with industrial members**
Organized two industrial visits for IEEE members in the ACT in 2022.

B.9 Humanitarian Technology Activities

- Humanitarian Technology related activities supported by the Section including collaboration with other OUs.
- SIGHT Activities
N/A

B.10 Community Activities

- **IEEE Social activities (Family day, IEEE day, Engineers Week)”**
The ACT Section AGM was held on 01 December at Black Mountain Peninsula an open space area with access to kids play grounds and activities. More than 50 members participated in the AGM including non-members which were mostly family members of IEEE members. The Chinese and Indian Food was delicious accompanied by drinks made the day an enjoyable with the weather not disappointing the day too.

PART C - OTHERS

C.1 Special Events

- **Please briefly describe the importance of special events and the outcomes achieved**
 1. Similarly to 2021 Dr. Ziyuan Li (former NTC Chair and now Phot/EDS Chair) co-organized and ran a workshop on “Women in STEM Early Career Grant & Paper Writing Retreat (ECWR2022)”. the workshop was attended by mainly young women in engineering fields from Canberra and Sydney with speakers from Canberra and Sydney.
 2. [A Tree Planting Ceremony](#) was held on 09 July 2022 at the National Arboretum in Canberra to dedicate a tree to IEEE members and volunteers during the Region 10 Director and Director Elect Visit to our section.



Current Region 10 Director Lance Fung and Current IEEE ACT Section Chair Ambarish Natu

- **Funding secured from the IEEE and external sources including sponsorships**
 1. The workshop received a subsidy from NTC HQ of USD2500, EDC/PHO USD 2500 and NTC USD 1000 with a total funding of USD 6000 along with the technical support of the Section.
 2. Funding for the tree planting ceremony was a joint effort between the Region 10 and all IEEE Australia Council Sections contributing towards the expenses for this event. The entire co-ordination for this event including fund raising was done by section chair Ambarish Natu.

C.2 Relationship with National and International Societies and Non-Government Organizations (NGO)

- **Nature of relationship and details of any formal agreement signed**

The IEEE ACT Section signed an agreement with the [ACT Children's Week](#) to promote STEM within the region. As part of the agreement, IEEE ACT Section proposed the Best STEM volunteer award to be awarded to candidates that promote STEM within the region by providing a grant of \$1000 towards STEM activities for awardees. The inaugural award went to Lauren Moloney as the Outstanding STEM Volunteer Award for 2022. Deputy Chief Minister Yvette Berry of the Australian Capital Territory presented the award to Lauren and Section Chair Ambarish Natu witnessed the event during the ceremony.



- **Details of joint activities**
- **Benefit to IEEE members (for example discounts, access to technical information etc.)**
- **Benefit to Section (for example help in membership development, venue facilities, cost saving etc.)**

ExCom meetings, seminars and most Section activities are organized using free venues at the Australian National University, UNSW-Canberra, locals in Black Mountain, etc and does not cost anything to the section or members. Section covers for any incidental expenses from its budget.

C3. Collaboration with other IEEE Sections

- **Support extended to neighboring Sections**
Technical activities like visits of Distinguished Lecturers are coordinated through the Australia Council to expand the benefits of these high-profile lecturers to the benefits of larger number of our members and a number of joint activities between other sections in Australia were conducted by IEEE ACT Section Chapter Chairs as reported earlier.
- **Joint activities with any other Section**
A number of chapters in the ACT hold section activities with NSW and other Sections in Australia.

C.4 Support extended to Sub-sections & Society Chapters within the Section

- **Support extended for organising technical, educational and professional activities**
The Section usually contributes to local costs of speakers at seminars and other events of various Chapters and Affinity Groups
- **Joint activities for membership development**

The section works with the student branches to assist with membership drives.

- **Support extended for the formation of a Sub-section or transition of a Sub-section into a full Section**

C.5 Best Practices of your Section (which you would like to share with other Sections for the benefits of members)

N/A

C.6 Problems anticipated and suggestions for solutions, if any

N/A

PART D - GOALS AND PLANS

D.1 Continuation of project/activity in progress and their implementation plans

The Section will continue to pay attention to the recruitment and retention of IEEE members especially student members close to graduation. We have reached out to our past members and will continue to reach out to them with activities for the 2023 year.

D.2 Goals and Future Plans

The ACT Section is a small Section situated in a territory counting less than half million population and therefore the Section is quite happy with the total number of members. We look forward to hosting the TENSYP 2023 that may spark engagement with local industry, students and young professionals. In the future we also plan to host TENCON 2026 in Canberra following the successfully hosting of TENSYP 2023.

D.3 Any innovative ideas to make IEEE more creative and value added for sustaining the membership retention and recruitment goals.

The ACT Section follows the outline and instructions the Membership Development Team from their meetings and considers what might work and what will engage our membership. We still maintain the loyalty program and preparing the existing members who qualify to apply for membership elevation (member to senior member) as well elevation within the IEEE societies (Fellows).

D.4 Business Plan for Sustainable Growth and Financial Stability.

The ACT Section has maintained financial stability over at least the past 5 or more years, with a maintained reserve, set aside to aid a major conference. We plan to use our section resources to host the TENSYP 2023 and maybe benefit from hosting the conference.