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Editorial:

This is the sixth newsletter I’ve edited.

This one is being edited with a newly downloaded copy of almost the very latest version of Libre Office – 5.1.5.2 – updated for this edition of Circuit.

The news for this edition of Circuit is that the Annual General Meeting is on Thursday 17th November 2016.

We won’t be having any elections this year – last year’s committee is mostly willing to keep on doing the same jobs next year, and nobody else has expressed an interest in taking over any of those jobs. This year’s secretary, Dushmantha Thalakotuna, fears that he may not be able to do the job as well as he’d like next year, and may end up handing it off to somebody else, probably somebody already active on the committee. There’s been some discussion but I don’t want to delay this newsletter until a decision has been negotiated.

The IEEE administration does offer small encouragements to induce branches to at least act as if they are running an election, but it’s usually hard to find a single volunteer willing to take on any of the electable jobs, and while one can usually find dummy candidates who will stand down if they get more votes than the person who is actually willing to do the work, the encouragements aren’t generous enough to have got us to go through the motions this year.

We could definitely use a few more volunteers – this branch and the IEEE as a whole are shrinking (not all that rapidly) rather than growing – and we’d all like to find a few more activities that would tell more people - and particularly potential members - what we do, and why it’s worth doing.

We’ve even got money we could spend on these activities – our accumulated funds are going up despite the fact that our membership is shrinking.

Karu’s chairman’s message highlights some of the stuff that has happened and is happening, and does emphasise that we’d like to get more suggestions about more things that we might do.
Message from the Chair

So far 2016 has been full of success stories. First of all I wish to congratulate Mr. Eddie Fong, Past Chair of IEEE NSW Section, for receiving the prestigious 2016 Outstanding Volunteer Award from IEEE R10 in recognition of his extensive services to IEEE New South Wales Section, IEEE Region 10 and IEEE, a very well deserved award for a great IEEE champion.

Then there were a few more. Amongst them were the Macquarie University IEEE Student Branch receiving the 2nd Prize in the Australia Council 2015 Best Student Branch Award, and the Wollongong University IEEE Student Branch receiving a Special Mention. The Women In Engineering (WIE) Affinity Group (AG) proposed and petitioned under Macquarie University IEEE Student Branch has been approved and is now official. My understanding is that the UTS Student Branch is revitalising its activities under a new leadership and student volunteers there are intending to form a WIE AG as well. I hope this will encourage other universities to increase their IEEE student activities, and form WIE and SIGHT affinity groups.

For the first time in New South Wales (and possibly in Australia), a special IEEE Fellow function was held in Sydney in August. It was organised and sponsored by Business Events (BE) Sydney, and held in their premises. You may be aware that the NSW Government is very much interested in bringing technical and other conferences to Sydney. The BE Sydney officials informed the invited IEEE delegates how they can be helped in bidding for and organising such events. With an exciting presentation by NSW Chief Data Scientist Dr Ian Oppermann, the event was a great success. To organise this type of activity in the future, and to help local IEEE Fellows to contribute more to their local community and economy in addition to the contributions they already make to the society at large, IEEE NSW Section Committee has recently created a new Fellows Activity position on the committee.

I also attended, and represented IEEE NSW Section, at the 2016 IEEE TENDSYM – the 2nd technical conference of IEEE Region 10, where I had the pleasure of meeting several executives of IEEE Region 10, including the current Director Mr. Ramakrishna Kappagantu, Director Elect Prof. Kukjin Chun and Past Director Prof. Janina Mazierska. All of them appreciated the contributions the IEEE NSW volunteers make to the IEEE and to our participation in R10 events. I hope many IEEE members in NSW will have the opportunity to showcase our achievements to IEEE Executives when they visit Sydney next year for 2017 IEEE Section Congress and R10 Jubilee Celebrations.

I hope you all have voted in 2016 IEEE Elections. I’m looking forward to hear the results, in particular about the proposed constitutional amendments. Speaking about ballots, the NSW Section invites and encourages you to vote in the forthcoming IEEE NSW Section Election as your voice is crucial to the future of IEEE.

Let me repeat that I, and the NSW committee, are always open to your suggestions on how to improve our service to IEEE NSW members. I look forward to meeting you all in the 2016 IEEE Annual General Meeting, if not earlier.

Professor Karu Esselle

NSW Section Chair, IEEE Fellow and IEEE Distinguished Lecturer of AP Society 2017-2020.
IEEE NSW Section 2016 AGM and Dinner – RSVP Form

Date: Thursday, 17 November 2016
Time: 6pm to 7pm Chapter and Affinity Group AGMs
7pm to 8pm NSW Section AGM
8:35pm until late NSW Section Dinner

Venue: AGM Venue will be
Hilton Sydney,
488 George Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000, Australia
phone: (02) 9266 2000

Dinner: The Annual Dinner will be at the Braza Brazilian Restaurant Darling Harbour,
1-25 Harbour St Darling Harbour
phone: (02) 9286 3733

Parking: For Car Parking please see:

RSVP: Friday 11 November 2016
Please E-mail the completed RSVP form to
Bruce Poon: Bruce.Poon@IEEE.org
or phone: 0414 662 766

IEEE NSW Section will cover the cost of yours and your partners’ dinner (drinks excluded) for all registrations received before the RSVP date above. However, for those no show at the event, then $80 per person will be charged to your credit card.

Reservation Form for IEEE NSW Section AGM & Dinner 2016

Name: ............................................................................................................  Attending: AGM ……..

Dinner……. (Yes/No as applicable)  Vegetarian: ……… (Yes/No as applicable) Tel: ……………………..
e-mail: .......................................................... Membership No.: .................................

Partner Attending: …………. (Yes/No as applicable)
Partner’s Name: .......................................................... Attending: AGM ……..

Dinner…….. (Yes/No as applicable)  Vegetarian: ……… (Yes/No as applicable)

Name on the Credit Card: …………………………………………..  *

Credit Card No.: ………………………………………….. Credit Card Expire Date: …………………

(*This will be used if no show at the event)
Map: Braza, 1-25 Harbour St, Darling Harbour

Map: Car Parking
IEEE Young Professionals NSW Affinity Group

Our focus this year has been to engage more of our members and to promote our group through a variety of activities such as BBQs, interactive talks, and seminars. We agree that all young professionals have had a fair share of attending lectures during their university years, so let’s find more exciting things to do… (Uh’oh! No… we are not undermining the importance of continuing professional development… definitely not!). Well, on a more serious note, YP NSW group aims to provide early career engineers and researchers opportunities to engage with their peers. The idea is to gain visibility, to network, to achieve recognition, and to strengthen professional connections through focused activities.

Our group has had a fantastic year so far with various technical and social activities planned around various audiences and technical fora. This was done in particular to attract the interest of young professionals from Sydney as well as from far beyond. The year kicked off with an engaging riverside BBQ on a sunny afternoon, which was attended by several YP members and non-members. Later on, various seminars and interactive lectures were arranged which contributed to acquaint the attendees socially, as well as to enlighten them professionally. In 2016, we have teamed up with the IEEE Student Branch at Macquarie University and the Women in Engineering group to extend the reach of our activities to future young professional members. We are also looking forward to joining hands with more local groups.

Watch out for our event invitations and come visit us. We will greet you with a big smile and be glad to have you on board. Reach out to one of our committee members with new ideas, activity suggestions, or just to chat:

**Chair:** Raheel Hashmi, Lecturer in Wireless Engineering, Macquarie University, NSW

**Vice Chair:** Balakrishna Sarma, IT Specialist, Marriott International, NSW

**Secretary:** Syed Abbas, RF Engineer, CommScope Australia, NSW

**Treasurer:** Dushmantha Thalakotuna, BAE Systems, NSW Australia

*With the spring showing up, keep an eye out for details of our upcoming social gathering. We would be glad to see you there.*

Contributed by **Raheel Hashmi**
Chair, IEEE YP NSW, Australia
NSW Chapter AGM

The annual general meeting of the IEEE PES NSW Chapter will be held at 6:00pm on Thursday 17 November 2016 at the Sydney Hilton Hotel. This will be followed by the NSW Section AGM and the annual dinner. All PES members are very welcome to attend.

Down to Earth Conference 2016

The Down to Earth Conference 2016 was held in the Hunter Valley from 13 to 15 September 2016. The conference is aimed at all those involved in earthing and lightning protection and provides an opportunity to catch up with industry developments in the field. It was organised by Engineers Australia and was technically co-sponsored by the IEEE Power & Energy Society.

This year's event is estimated to have attracted 120 participants, including from New Zealand, Japan, USA, Canada, Sweden and the United Arab Emirates. Two tutorials were presented, one on lightning protection of HV assets and the second on earthing related risk calculations. Risk management was one of the central themes of the conference.

ISGT Asia 2016 - Melbourne

The IEEE Innovative Smart Grid Technologies Asia Conference (ISGT Asia 2016) will be held in Melbourne from 28 November to 1 December 2016. The conference has managed to attract an impressive line-up of plenary speakers. The last time it was held in Australia was in Perth in 2011.

Further information is available at sites.ieee.org/isgt-asia-2016

SmartGridComm 2016 - Sydney

The Seventh IEEE International Conference on Smart Grid Communications (SmartGridComm) 2016 will be held in Sydney from 6 - 9 November 2016. The IEEE Communications Society is the technical and financial sponsor of the conference. The conference is expected to attract 300 engineers and academics over three days.

More information is available at sgc2016.ieee-smartgridcomm.org

Submitted by Ray Brown, the Vice Chair of the IEEE executive committee and the Chair of the Power & Energy Society NSW Chapter.

His e-mail address is ray_brown@ieee.org
Macquarie University Student Branch/MTT-S Student Chapter Activities

This year so far has seen a number of technical and non-technical events organized by IEEE Student Branch at Macquarie University (IEEE SB@MQ) and its entities. We mention various activities below. We hope to maintain a sustainable mix of structured activities for some time to come.

Activities include:

a. On July 1st, we received an official welcome letter on the formation of Macquarie University Women In Engineering Affinity Group (MQ WIE AG).

b. On July 1st, the Macquarie WomenInEngineering Affinity Group also won a support from the 2016 R10 WIE coordinator to organise a congress/forum titled: “Female versus male engineers: who is better prepared to find a job?”. The forum is tentatively scheduled to held at Macquarie University on 13th October, 2016.


c. We have a new interactive website: http://sites.ieee.org/sb-mq

d. IEEE SB@MQ came second in the "Best Student Branch Award" for Australia in the "IEEE Australia Council Outstanding Student Branch Competition 2015". The prize includes $300 and certificates.

On 15th March, IEEE SB@MQ co-organised “Engineering Welcome” for the freshmen enrolled in department of Engineering at Macquarie University. This event provides a good platform for student networking and getting new members. The event also involved a variety of games, pizza and prizes (IEEE freebies and stuff from the membership development kit were given to various activity winners).

Various “Distinguished lectures” are arranged by the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society | MTT-S MQ. So far we have heard the following distinguished lecturers present:

1. 11th Aug, 2016, “Ultra-high Efficiency Phased Arrays for Astronomy, Remote Sensing, and Satellite Communications” by Prof. Karl Warnick, Professor, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA.

2. 12th Sep, 2016, “Multiphysics Modelling in Computational Electromagnetics: Challenges and Opportunities” by Prof. Jian-Ming Jin, Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA

Third lecture is scheduled for 26th Oct, 2016, titled: “Metamaterials in Electromagnetics: A Bird’s-Eye View” to be given by by Prof. Ari Sihvola, Professor, Aalto University, Finland

IEEE SB@MQ has also set up a seminar series for the Masters and PhD students to present their research work. This series will allow the researchers to practice their skills in presenting their technical findings to a relatively unsophisticated audience, who can’t be expected to know why the research is worth doing.

On 16th May, IEEE SB@MQ hosted a talk titled: “IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) Why Standards Matter?” by Mr. Srikanth Chandrasekaran, Director Standards & Technology, IEEE India. The talk highlighted various emerging standards such as IoT, Smart Grids, 5G etc and how students can get involved in the evolution of such standards.

On 6th June, a talk on “Intellectual Property” (IP) was organised. It covered what is meant by “intellectual property” and the processes followed in Australia and worldwide to secure it. This talk was presented by Martin Friedgut, Senior Associate / Patent Attorney, Spruson & Ferguson

To encourage social networking, IEEE SB@MQ arranged a badminton tournament on 21st April which involved more than 15 student members of the branch. A BBQ plan is also planned in the end of the year to celebrate the successful year for the branch.

All the events mentioned are a joint ventures of the IEEE StudentBranch@Macquarie, the IEEE Young Professionals NSW and the Macquarie IEEE WomenInEngineering AffinityGroup.
Follow us on Facebook to get information about upcoming activities: https://www.facebook.com/IEEEMQ/.

Saad Ul Hasan
Chair, IEEE Student Branch
Macquarie University
sb.mq@ieee.org
saad.hasan@students@mq.edu.au
The Society on Social Implications of Technology (SSIT) of IEEE

SSIT held an event on 15 September, with the main speaker being Anni Rowland-Campbell of intersticia. Anni encouraged the audience to think about the future of the Web, and how the relationship between man and machine has changed and continues to change. She took us on a journey through social media, algorithmic decision making and trans-humanism, encouraging us to think about possible futures and our ability to steer through them. The talk was well received and the subsequent debate was lively.

SSIT encourages all IEEE members to engage with questions around the social implications of the technologies they design. If you have an idea for a talk, or would like more information about SSIT, please contact Lyria Bennett Moses (lyria@unsw.edu.au). In addition, we encourage all IEEE members to join SSIT when they renew their membership and be a part of the debate about the future of technology.

Contributed by Lyria Bennett Moses, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia
Life Members Affinity Group

The next activity for the Group is a luncheon at the King Tide Restaurant, Brooklyn on Sunday 16 October. The Group’s AGM will be held before the Section AGM on Thursday 17 November. You are all invited to attend and join us for the dinner after.

We are always looking for people to serve on the committee.

The committee would welcome suggestions and help in organizing activities.

Remember the group is here to serve its members. Unless you let us know your desires, we are unable to try to fulfill them.

The Group has the email nswieee.lmag@outlook.com. Could please ensure that your spam filter does not block any emails that we may send you?

Submitted by Colin Elston, the secretary of the Life Members Affinity Group
Joint Institutions Lecture Program 2016

13 October 2016 Joint Lecture

Topic: Rail Operational Modelling A Systems Engineering Approach to Rail Projects
Presenter: Thomas McPeake – Signalling Design Manager Concept and Innovation
Venue: Engineers Australia Harricks Auditorium 8 Thomas Street Chatswood
Date: Thursday the 13th of October, 2016
Time: 5:30 pm for 6:00 pm start
Cost Members: Free  Cost Students: Free  Cost Non-Members: $30
Hosted By: Joint Electrical Institutions Sydney - Engineers Australia, IEEE, IET
Further Information: Paul Furniss pbfurniss@theiet.org

27 October 2016 Joint Lecture

Topic: Microfluidics and Systems-on-a-chip for cheaper, better and faster health care
Presenter: David Ingliss – Department of Engineering, Macquarie University
Venue: Engineers Australia Harricks Auditorium 8 Thomas Street Chatswood
Date: Thursday the 27th of October, 2016
Time: 5:30 pm for 6:00 pm start
Cost Members: Free  Students: Free  Cost Non-Members: $30
Hosted By: Joint Electrical Institutions Sydney - Engineers Australia, IEEE, IET
Further Information: Aaron Sanders aaron.sanders.linux@gmail.com

10 November 2016 Joint Lecture

Topic: HF Ocean Radar: From Down Under to Europe
Presenter: Professor Mal Heron, IEEE/OES Distinguished Lecturer, FIEE, FIEAust.
Venue: Engineers Australia Harricks Auditorium 8 Thomas Street Chatswood
Date: Thursday the 10th of November, 2016
Time: 5:30 pm for 6:00 pm start
Cost Members: Free  Cost Students: Free  Cost Non-Members: $30
Hosted By: Joint Electrical Institutions Sydney - Engineers Australia, IEEE, IET
Contact: Trevor Blackburn t.blackburn@unsw.edu.au
Registration: https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/portal/event/hf-ocean-radar-down-under-europe

For more information (and a few more events) see
New and upgraded Members of the NSW branch of the IEEE.

Fellows
We have no new Fellows.

Life Fellow
We have no new Life Fellows.

Senior Members
We have 12 members who have moved into the Senior Member category.

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Two are notable. Lyria Bennett Moses is a regular and reliable contributor to Circuit. Shahrzad (Sherry) Moghadassi is active in Engineers Australia, and got a mention for it when she appeared here as a new Member, a few issues ago.

IEEE Senior Membership is open to members who have been in professional practice for at least 10 years, with at least 5 years of significant performance. There is no requirement to have been involved in academic research or to have published papers or the like. There is no cost nor any additional on-going fees.

Application for Senior Membership is via an on-line process and there is a requirement for three references from IEEE Senior Members. This can be a problem for some potential applicants, but the NSW executive committee will be happy to help hunt up potential referees.

Life Senior Members
We have no new Life Senior members.

Life Members
We have nobody who has moved into the Life Member category in the last quarter
**Affiliates**

We have two new affiliate members

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**Members**

We have 224 people who are new members or have been upgraded to member status, which does seem to include our web-master Mahmoud Elkhodr.

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Martin McGrane David Antony Matthew McKenzie
Chathurika Prasadini Mediwaiththe Anuj Mehta
Alton Menggasa Josh Merritt
Santanu Metia Sleiman Nassif Mhanna
Jeonghwan Min Nurul Ain Mohd Said
Rebecca Erin Morgan Kevin James Morgan
Blair Morrison Sayidul Morsalin
Mahesh reddy Mudiganti Mohsen Naderpour
Nenad Nestorovic Farzad Noorian
Tuale Andrew Omagba David A Partington
Timothy Michael Patten Hung Dung Pham
Vu Pham Marc James Piggott
James Pinnock Richard Thomas Pozza
Joao Paulo Prata Yuqiao Qian
Maoying Qiao Jing Qiu
Phillip Quin Khandaker Md Sydur Rahman
Md Tanvir Rahman Dothinka Saranath Ranamuka Rallage
Sabih ur Rehman Fernando Renteria Correa
Girish Shivalingappa Revadigar Andrew Reynolds
Shannon Andrew Rios Hamid Rokni
Serge Rozentsvet Richard Rudd
Alejandro Ruiz Rivera Michael G. Ruppert
Robert Shuhdi Salama Steve Sam
Spyridon Peter Samios Apurva Shah
Md. Shahzamal Elia Shafiah Shamsul Liza
Jingyu Shao Yanyan Shen
Zhan Shi Catherine Simpson
Shoneet P Singh Satwinder Singh
Robert Sison Anastasia Hertanti Soeriyadi
Roger Sommers Gavin Stapleton
Marcus David William Steel Nick Stevens
Heidi B Stratti Roman Stupak
Xing Su Yingjie Tan
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Graduate Student Members

We have 73 new graduate student members.

Alina Rahakhi Ajayan Md. Parvez Akter
Kazi Saiful Alam Yousef Salem Alharbi
Mohammad Alshehri Mohammad Raja Ismail Al-Soeidat
Donald Azuatalam Shubhekshya Basnet
Meriam Gay Valendez Baustista Sanat Kumar Biswas
Helen E Bogaty David Bolst
Niras Cheeckottu vayalil Rohnil Chand
Qingqing Cheng Michael de Ridder
Tran Hiep Dinh Mohsen Fadaee Nejad
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Associates
We have nine new associate members

Hasen          Ali       David       Boardman
Peter H       Cosman    Tobin       Charles Harding
Sarah         Lawrie    Bin         Liang
Aibek S       Niyetkaliyev Sonja       Stuedli
Dan           Xiao

Student Members
We have 14 new student members.

Hadi          Alkadan   Anthony      Julius      Borla
Nishat Islam  Brishty   Nicholas     Julius      Bulmer
Nicholas      Chetty    Luciano     Vito Peter Colagiuri
Peibo         Duan      Jason       Hodges
Raguparan     Karthigesan Chenshuo    Ma
Keenan         Pey       Adam        Christopher Smallhorn
Rama Krishna  Vaddepalli Mang        Yu

Bruce Poon – e-mail bruce.poon@ieee.org – extracted this data from the IEEE's SAMIEEE data-base, which isn't easy. Converting what comes out into alphabetically ordered lists of names grouped by grades is now a lot easier than it was, thanks to Bruce.
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