

# IEEE QUEENSLAND SECTION NEWSLETTER

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# Section Chair's Report



**Daniel Eghbal**  
[m.eghbal@ieee.org](mailto:m.eghbal@ieee.org)

Welcome to the first newsletter issue of IEEE Queensland Section in 2017.

This is my first year as Queensland Section Chair and I am excited to work with a wonderful team of IEEE volunteers. 2017 section committee members are a mix of senior IEEE volunteers, first time volunteers, young professionals and student members. You can find the complete list of 2017 committee member on the [website](#).

My report includes a summary of 2016 Annual General Meeting which was held on 29<sup>th</sup> of November 2016 at the University of Queensland and an update on the Region 10 annual meeting 4-5 March 2017 in Chiba, Japan.

In 2016, we decided to stay at The University of Queensland and the AGM was held at Terrace Room, Sir Llew Edwards Building. 50 delegates attended the AGM and the dinner ceremony. The dinner was a great networking opportunity for attendees and some of our new volunteers. You can find a copy of 2016 AGM report from [here](#). Copies of previous AGM reports can also be downloaded from the [Archive](#) section. This year, we decided to make a draft copy of the minutes of the AGM available on the [website](#) after the meeting. The minutes will be considered for approval at 2017 AGM meeting later this year. I would like to thank David Russel, Section Newsletter Editor, for his efforts in recording and promptly making the meeting minutes available.

Professor Evan Gray from Griffith University was the keynote speaker and gave a very interesting and informative presentation on "Hydrogen energy technology for renewable energy systems". Queensland Section student thesis awards and certificates were presented during the dinner ceremony. Also, some of our

volunteers were recognised for their outstanding service in 2015. A complete list of award winners is included in the [AGM Report](#). A few photos of the AGM and the dinner function are included in this report. More photos from the AGM will be available from the [website](#).





IEEE Region 10 executive committee and section chairs get together once a year at R10 annual meeting to share experiences, plan for the coming year activities, and discuss their challenges face-to-face. 2017 IEEE Region 10 annual meeting was held in Chiba, Japan on 4-5 March 2017. I and our Vice-Chair, Dr.Nilesh Modi, from Queensland Section attended the meeting.

Highlights from the R10 meeting are:

- 2016 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of R10 and there were couple of functions across R10 to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Region 10 is still the largest region in the IEEE and is growing (mostly in China and India).
- Membership development and retaining members are very critical. Providing more tailored benefits to IEEE members at different levels is very important to attract and retain members. This is one of the main focuses of the Region 10 executive committee.

- R10 will continue to support proposals from Young Professionals (YP) and Women in Engineering (WIE) affinity groups. Here, I would like to thank our YP and WIE teams for their contributions in 2016 and I encourage them to submit proposals to R10 when the call for proposals opens soon.
- Student members are the future leaders of our society. Recruiting new student members and retaining student members are very important.
- Similar to other regions, retaining student members after graduation remains a challenge. This is an area where tailored programs need to be initiated based on student needs.
- 2017 IEEE Section Congress will be held in Sydney on 11-13 August. This is an exciting opportunity for all Australian sections. The section congress is held once every three years and this is a unique opportunity for our young volunteers to get involved and learn more about IEEE.



*Assembled delegates at the IEEE Region 10 Meeting, Chiba, Japan, 2017*



*(L to R) Nilesh Modi (Queensland), Zia Ahmed (AC Chair), Ray Brown (AC Treasurer), Golnar Khomami (Victoria), Pina Dall'Armi-Stok (South Australia), Graham Woods (Northern Australia at the back), IEEE President Karen Bartleson, IEEE President-Elect Jim Jefferies, Ross Summerfield (ACT at the back), Daniel Eghbal (Queensland), and Karu Esselle (NSW)*

Prior to the R10 meeting, I also attended the Australia Council meeting. This was the only face-face Australia Council meeting and provides an opportunity to meet other Australian Section chairs and discuss Australia wide activities such as the student paper competition, distinguished lecture program, 2017 ANZSCON and IEEE Section Congress in Sydney.

Please feel free to contact me or any of our committee members, if the section could

provide any support to your industry or research work.

Watch the website and your mailbox for 2017 IEEE events. Two major upcoming IEEE events in Australia are ANZSCON and Section Congress in Sydney. ANZSCON will be held on 10-11 August 2017 at University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and Section Congress will be held at Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, 11-13 August 2017.

## Vice Chair's Report



**Nilesch Modi**

[Nilesch.modi@aemo.com.au](mailto:Nilesch.modi@aemo.com.au)

Earlier this year, IEEE R10 Annual Meeting was held in Chiba, Japan. During this meeting R10 executive committee members and section chairs meet and discuss the events for the past year and plans for the current year. I attended this meeting as the Queensland Section secondary delegate.



This meeting provided me a great opportunity to meet Chairs of the other sections and their representatives. During this meeting, I met many IEEE senior members and had an opportunity to meet candidates for IEEE President.

The meeting included many presentations. Some of the presentations were on the key conferences held last year and few on the upcoming conferences and section congress. The winner of the outstanding large chapter award presented their activities and collaboration. This presentation gave me some good ideas which I plan to implement

this year. These presentations will be available soon on the R10 website.

Key take outs from the meetings are:

- R10 is still the largest section in IEEE and its membership is growing exponentially. However, the retention rate for first year membership is very low. This could be because we fail to reach out to new members and cater for their needs.
- R10 encourages activities that increases membership and retention rate. R10 also financially supports such activities.
- R10 supports sections in carrying out activities that encourages membership growth, inter-section activities, student and young professional activities. The call for proposals will be out soon and I request committee members to consider submitting an application for financial support.
- IEEE has recently opened a food engineering society.



I look forward to working with the committee over the year and focus on carrying out activities that provides better value to our members. If you have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

# Treasurer's Report



**Dr Robert Kennedy**  
[kennedyrobotics@bigpond.com](mailto:kennedyrobotics@bigpond.com)

Since the 2016 AGM in November 2016, we have had a number of transactions through our local account.

The expenses for this period total \$12,888.62 with the AGM expenses and catering for IEEE events making up most of the expenses. The section also paid the \$331.50 Australia Council levy in this period and we had some additional spending for sending IEEE volunteers to the R10 meeting in Japan.

During this time, there have been several income streams with swift payments from IEEE for particular chapters making up most of it. The total of Income was \$5,419.44.

We also saw a temporary transfer for conferences: \$10,937.08 (in and out of account) that didn't affect our operating balances.

The final balance in the everyday access account is \$10,064.17 as of 2 April 2017.

There are four remaining term deposits at \$93,884.40 that have continued to gain interest returns.

And the RADAR18 account for the RADAR 2018 conference that our volunteers are organising (and that IEEE Queensland seed funded in 2016) is at \$20,250.80

There was a transfer from a term deposit of \$10,012.12 which closed one of the terms to perform a cash flow injection during this period. This is a concern that has been presented by our previous treasurer and is starting to come to light. Currently it is clear that the spending for the section is increasing and the income streams are not. I will continue to report this at our monthly meeting reports.

# Newsletter Editor's Report



**David Russell**  
[davidrussell62@gmail.com](mailto:davidrussell62@gmail.com)

We hope to issue three or four newsletters this year.

Thank you to all members who have contributed to this addition of the newsletter. Several our Chapters and Societies have been busy organising events and I expect many of these to be reported in the next newsletter.

The quality of the newsletter is dependent on great contributions. I encourage all Chapters and Societies to continue to send content for the newsletter as it is a wonderful avenue for our members to be

aware of future events they might be interested in and catch-up on any events they might have missed.

If you have any comments or changes you would like to see in the newsletter, please let me know. I welcome your feedback.

Newsletters from prior years are available on the Queensland Section's website.

I am looking forward to working with the IEEE Queensland committee and delivering future newsletters.

# Webmaster's Report



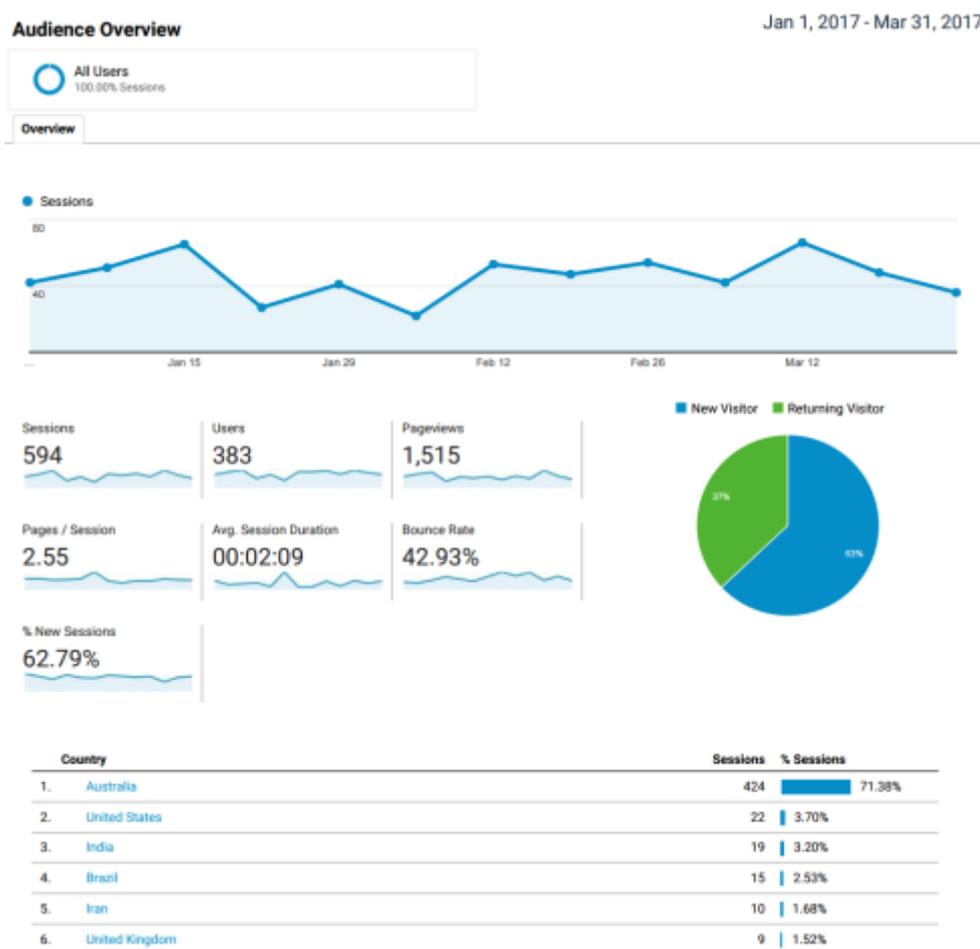
**Dr Ghassem Mokhtari**  
[Ghassem.mokhtari@csiro.au](mailto:Ghassem.mokhtari@csiro.au)

Early this year, the website was updated with the details of all 2017 office holders. I also remove all the errors and bugs which had remained from the last year.

I am also pleased to announce that IEEE Queensland section website is now supported by google analytics which provides the statistics related to the website views and users. The report for the last three

months (January-March 2017) is listed below: It is interesting to see that we have 63% new users compared to last year. We also had several visits from other countries such as US, India, etc.

The future functionality which is expected to be added to the website includes providing more details on each chapter's page such as details of their events.



# Membership Development Report



**Sudarshan Dahal**  
[sudarshan.dahal@ieee.org](mailto:sudarshan.dahal@ieee.org)

I assumed office on 14 March 2016 as Membership Development Chair and trying to contribute the best I can while learning about role and its responsibilities.

## Activities So far

- I have followed up with 300 members in arrears for paying their dues. 12 of their emails have expired and I am looking for alternative contact for them. Three of them showed no further interest as they are no longer working. Two of them informed me that they have recently renewed their membership.
- I have sent a welcome message to the new members advising them of the member benefits, local section activities and our contact details.

- Approached an industry to run an IEEE seminar on their interest areas so that we can reach out to more professionals and demonstrate the value of membership.

## My plan

- Organise a senior member elevation event to recognise their achievement.
- Reach out to more professional forums and show IEEE presence.
- Organise an IEEE career seminar as a part of member development.
- Look into opportunities to expand our membership through the Engineers Australia forum.

# Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society



**Garry Einicke**  
[garry.einicke@csiro.au](mailto:garry.einicke@csiro.au)

**Committee:**

Chair: Garry Einicke  
Vice Chair: Ken Morris

Our next AES event will be a Distinguished Lecture to be given by Dr Joe Fabrizio in Brisbane, tentatively on Friday 10 June 2017. Dr Fabrizio has indicated that he is happy to present on Over-The-Horizon Radar and on an AES Networking and Mentoring program.

During his visit, Dr Fabrizio also plans to work with Vaughan Clarkson and Robert Kennedy on organising the IEEE RADAR 2018 Conference. This conference will be held at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, South Bank, from 27 – 30 August 2018.

# Microwave Theory & Techniques/Antennas & Propagation Societies



**Konstanty Bialkowski**  
[konstanty@ieee.org](mailto:konstanty@ieee.org)

## **Committee:**

Chair: Konstanty Bialkowski  
Vice Chair: Morteza Shahpari  
Secretary: Antony Liu  
Treasurer: Arslan Nizami

This year we have a new committee including Konstanty Bialkowski (Chair), Morteza Shahpari (Vice-chair), Antony Liu (Secretary) and Arslan Nizami (Treasurer). We are aiming to have a balanced program of industry academic and student events. You can also expect a few distinguished lecture (DL) speakers from the APS and MTT societies, as we are discussing these plans with the other MTT/AP chapters in Australia.

This year we started with a distinguished lecturer sponsored by the MTT society, Professor. Shinohara who presented a talk entitled "Current Research and Development of Wireless Power Transfer via Radio Waves and the Application". Although wireless power transfer has been started in the 1960s it recently has been made a hot topic due to

the rapid growth of wireless devices. Professor Shinohara finished his talk with sharing his vision of the future where highly efficient solar power cells can collect power high up in the atmosphere and beam it down to earth using antennas of extremely large aperture (in the order of kilometres).

Our chapter page is now on the new IEEE-Queensland website, and is available at the following link: <http://ieee-qld.org/chapters/microwave-theory-and-techniquesantennas-and-propagation-societies/>

We look forward to planning more events from both industry and academic backgrounds in the many fields of interest for our members of our MTT and AP chapter.

# Power and Energy & Dielectric and Electrical Insulation Societies



**Chandima Ekanayake**  
[c.ekanayake@griffith.edu.au](mailto:c.ekanayake@griffith.edu.au)

## Committee:

Chair: Chandima Ekanayake  
Vice Chair: David Batterham  
Secretary: Nazanin Nadian  
Treasurer: Hossein Etesami

IEEE Distinguished Lecturer Mark O'Malley gave a presentation with a title of "Sustainable Electrical Energy Systems: Ireland and Exemplar for the World", on Friday 23 March 2017.



The lecture covered the research work over the past two decades that has underpinned the successful integration of variable renewables into the Irish grid and in particular frequency control and the research work of the Sustainable Electrical Energy Cluster.

It was shown how many lessons have been learnt and that there is a common understanding on how to address the issues of low penetrations of variable renewable energy sources (i.e. wind and solar photovoltaic).

However, some regions face very high penetrations and additional challenges due to their islanded nature. These systems are templates for the future and one of the best examples is the island Ireland. The lecture described and highlighted additional challenges that arise for very high penetrations of variable renewables energy.

## PES Queensland Chapter Conference Travel Prize

A copy of the announcement for the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) Queensland Chapter Conference Travel Prize is included on the following page.

# 2017 IEEE Power and Energy Society Queensland Chapter Travel Prize

Dear IEEE PES/DEIS Queensland member,

IEEE Queensland Section PES/DEIS joint Chapter now accepts applications for the 2017 IEEE Power & Energy Society (PES) Queensland Chapter Conference Travel Prize for attending IEEE PES GM 2017 in Chicago, USA. If you are eligible, please submit your application on or before 27 April 2017 as per the process described below. This year we are offering minimum 2 scholarships each worth up to \$ 2000 (Total scholarship money will be \$4000). If necessary, please contact me for further information.

Regards,

Chandima Ekanayake  
Chair, PES/DEIS Joint Chapter  
IEEE Queensland section  
E: Chandima@ieee.org

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## 1. Prize Description

- (a) Special certificate endorsed by the chairman of the IEEE Queensland Section PES Chapter.
- (b) Cheque up to \$2000.00.
- (c) A ticket to attend the IEEE Queensland section AGM Dinner.

## 2. Eligibility Criteria

Candidates must hold a current IEEE PES membership (undergraduate student, graduate student or full member)

Full time candidature in a research higher degree (Masters by research or PhD) or full-time undergraduate student at one of the universities in Queensland Section or a full time employee of an industry located in Queensland who has completed his/her latest full time graduate degree in the last 5

years and under the age of 35 years on 15 March 2017.

Candidates must have an accepted full-paper for the IEEE PES General Meeting of the current year of prize, where the candidate must be the first named author of the paper.

The paper must be adjudged to be in the field of Power Engineering.

## 3. Process of submissions:

Full time students submit the accepted full-paper to the PES Chapter Chair with peer review reports and also with a recommendation from their academic adviser by 20 April 2017. Recommendation should address following issues: -

- (i) Full time candidature in a research higher degree
- (ii) Quality of the work (novelty)
- (iii) Assurance that the student adviser/student will pay the balance of the cost to attend the conference.

Industry employee submit the accepted full-paper to the PES Chapter Chair with peer review reports along with a cover letter by 20 April 2017. Cover letter should address the following issues:-

- (i) Proof that the industry employee is a graduate in the last 5 years and a full-time employee of an industry located in Queensland Section and maximum 35 years of age by 15 March 2017.
- (ii) Quality of the work (novelty)
- (iii) Assurance that the industry employee will pay the balance of the cost to attend the conference.

#### 4. Candidate Nominations:

Nominations for the above prize will be accepted from:

A. Research higher degree students from the following universities:

- (a) Central Queensland University
- (b) Griffith University
- (c) Queensland University of Technology,
- (d) The University of Queensland
- (e) University of Southern Queensland

B. A graduate in the last 5 years and a full time employee of an industry located in Queensland Section (maximum 35 years of age)

#### 5. Selection Process

A committee of IEEE PES officers and a representative from IEEE Queensland Section will be formed. Chair of the committee will be the Chair of the IEEE PES Queensland Chapter. The prize winner will be selected by the prize committee comprising:

- (a) Chair of the IEEE Queensland Section PES Chapter
- (b) Secretary of the IEEE Queensland Section PES Chapter
- (c) Vice Chair of the IEEE Queensland Section PES Chapter

(d) IEEE Queensland Section representative decided by the section committee.

In case of any vacancy in these positions, IEEE Queensland Section Chair will nominate a suitable replacement.

6. Prize Information Prize winner will be notified by 15 May 2017. Certificate will be awarded during the AGM and cheque will be provided immediately after the announcement. Winner should submit a one page report to the PES Chapter Chair before the AGM about his/her experience by attending the conference. Information about the prize will be distributed by means of any or all of the following:

- (i) IEEE newsletter
- (ii) IEEE University Student Branch Counsellors
- (iii) IEEE Queensland Section PES Chapter web page.

7. Selection criteria IEEE Power & Energy Society (PES) Queensland Chapter Student Conference Travel Prize:

There are 5 criteria for marking papers:

- Novelty of the paper (technical)
- Peer review report
- Advisers report
- Theoretical Value
- Paper Presentation

# Mu Kappa Chapter of IEEE-HKN



**Kianoosh Soltani Naveh**  
[kianoosh.soltaninaveh@uqconnect.edu.au](mailto:kianoosh.soltaninaveh@uqconnect.edu.au)

## **Committee:**

Chair: Kianoosh Soltani Naveh  
Vice Chair: Wriecce Ponmattam Madassery  
Treasurer: Ashley Gillman  
Secretary: Joshua Riddell



The first IEEE Eta Kappa Nu chapter in Australia and 247<sup>th</sup> Chapter in the world has been installed at the University of Queensland (UQ), in Brisbane, Australia on 1 March 2017. The chapter will be known as IEEE Mu Kappa Chapter. University of Queensland is internationally renowned for excellence in teaching and research, which is a ‘university in the world's top 50’. UQ Engineering is also globally ranked within the top 50. Electrical and computer engineering has over 60 years of rich history producing many excellent engineering practitioners, entrepreneurs and outstanding researchers who are working around the globe. Prof Tapan Saha from UQ electrical engineering has worked hard with 14 engineering students to install the first IEEE HKN Chapter in Australia.

As the UQ IEEE-HKN Faculty Advisor, Prof Saha is extremely proud of his student’s professionalism and enthusiasm to form the Chapter. Prof Liz Burd on behalf of IEEE-Eta Kappa Nu formally installed the IEEE-HKN Mu Kappa Chapter. Professor Liz Burd is the Pro Vice-Chancellor of Learning and Teaching at the University of Newcastle. She is a member of key international bodies including Chair of the IEEE Engineering and Technology Education Portals Committee, where she is responsible for

promoting STEM education to its 400,000 members

The Installation ceremony was attended and endorsed by Prof Michael Bruenig, Head of the School of Information Technology & Electrical Engineering and Associate Professor Peter Sutton, Associate Dean (Academic), who was the representative of Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology. A number of IEEE Queensland Section dignitaries also attended the installation ceremony and installation ritual. Mr. Kianoosh Soltani Naveh, a PhD student at the University of Queensland, who is the Chair of this newly formed IEEE HKN Chapter, has conducted the installation ritual where 14 members are inducted.



*UQ IEEE-HKN Faculty Adviser Prof Tapan Saha welcoming the guests and students at the installation ceremony.*



*Inducted Members.*



*Professor Michael Bruenig, Head of the School of Information Technology & Electrical Engineering.*



*Associate Professor Peter Sutton, Associate Dean (Academic) is the representative of Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology.*



*Professor Elizabeth (Liz) Burd represented the IEEE-HKN President at the official ceremony to induct the Chapter and Install the Charter members.*



*Mr. Kianoosh Soltani Naveh, a PhD student at the University of Queensland, who is the Chair of this newly formed IEEE HKN Chapter.*



*Shohana Deeba signing the signature book (Vice president Mr. Wriece Madassery-standing)*



*Group photo of inducted members and guests*



*President Mr. Kianoosh Soltani Naveh & Secretary Mr. Joshua Riddell signing the certificate for Zoe Little*



*President Mr. Kianoosh Soltani Naveh giving the certificate to Treasurer Mr. Ashley Gillman*

# Women in Engineering



Marie-Luise Wille  
[m.wille@qut.edu.au](mailto:m.wille@qut.edu.au)

## Committee:

Chair: Marie-Luise Wille  
Vice Chair: Alexandra Posoldova  
Secretary: Negareh Ghasemi  
Treasurer: Hanxiao Zhang

The 2017 IEEE Women in Engineering committee welcomes Hanxiao to their committee team.

Together with the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology committee we organised our first event on the 25 January. Young, female researchers presented their research findings of their work at the Australian eHealth Research Centre, CSIRO. The best presentation was awarded to Miss Vanessa Smallbon on her presentation: "Energy Efficient LoRa GPS Tracker for Dementia Patients", who received a certificate and a \$50 gift card.



*Speakers and Chairs of WIE and EMB.*

The new committee had their first team meeting at the beginning of February 2017 to discuss this years' events. Due to World of Science Festival and Easter Holidays we decided to focus our activities from May onwards. Further, Marie-Luise was awarded a travel grant to attend the IEEE Women in Engineering Leadership Conference in San Jose, USA in May 2017. Members are encouraged to contact us via email or Facebook for suggestions or feedback.



To stay up to date, don't forget to like and check out the IEEE Women in Engineering Queensland Facebook page!  
[www.facebook.com/ieeewieqld](http://www.facebook.com/ieeewieqld)

# Young Professionals



**Rob Makaremi**

[rob.makaremi@suncorp.com.au](mailto:rob.makaremi@suncorp.com.au)

## Committee:

Chair: Rob Makaremi  
Vice Chair: Alexandra Posoldova  
Secretary: Rueben Peterkin  
Treasurer: Hamid Moghadam

Greetings and welcome to 2017 from Young Professionals in Queensland. In this year, we plan to maintain last year's momentum and organise multiple seminars and events to empower the new generation of engineers. *Multi-Award Winning Hacker and Entrepreneur Randall Fernando will speak at our first event.*

For our first event this year on 20 April, we have invited Randall Fernando to speak about machine learning and start-ups. Randall is a hacker at Suncorp Innovation Labs and has won multiple tech awards from the Australian Government, CSIRO, Hitachi, ODIQ, River City Labs, and the Brisbane City Council. He has background in Behavioural Psychology and Information Technology.

Throughout 2017, we will be organising more events on various topics that can enable engineering students and graduates to upskill and evolve into professional engineers. For technical seminars, we will be focusing on topics such as power engineering and renewable energies, fintech, big data and machine learning, and cloud technologies. In the non-technical events, we plan to cover topics including soft skills, professional networking, and personal branding.

To get the latest updates on our upcoming events follow us on [Facebook](#) as well as IEEE's integrated on-line community [Collabratec](#).

# QUT Student Report



**Nima Khoshsirat**  
[khoshsirat@ieee.org](mailto:khoshsirat@ieee.org)

## Committee:

Chair: Nima Khoshsirat  
 Vice Chair: Afsaneh Narimani  
 Secretary: Venkata Satyavani  
 Treasurer: Aaron Liu

## IEEE QUT student Branch updates in first 3 month of 2017:

1. Attended side-exhibition in OFSIS2017 conference 8-10 January 2017 at University of Queensland to promote IEEE Queensland section and its activities. During this event, we ran a membership campaign and tried to encourage academics, students and professionals to join IEEE or renew their membership. Below are some photos from this event.



2. Distributing IEEE-QUT student branch flyer between new students in Orientation week to introduce our branch and its activities to them.
3. Mr. Aaron Lei Liu who is an IEEE member and IEEE-QUT student branch committee member gave a talk on “Optimising Investment Decisions for Demand Management, Storage and Energy Efficiency for Multi-dwelling Communities” on Friday 7 April 2017, 12pm at S-405, QUT, Gardens point campus. Event details are available at Queensland section website and V-tools. <http://ieee-qld.org/event/optimising-investment-decisions-for-demand-management-storage-and-energy-efficiency/>

The event was organized with the support of QUT power and energy group.

Below are some photos from this event:



4- Dr. Ghassem Mokhtari will give a technical talk on " Smart homes for

Smart cities: Big data management of future smart homes". The aim of this seminar is to present a new smart home architecture which can deal with big data generation and processing of future smart homes. This presentation also includes some real world IOT and data driven studies in smart home environment. This event is organized by IEEE-QUT student branch and will be held on 3 MAY 2017 at Queensland University of Technology. More information and the link for registration will be announced through v-Tools.

5- Dr Paolo Corrada, will give a technical talk on "Efficient Solar Powered Air Conditioning Systems, Potentials and Recent Progresses". This event is organized by IEEE-QUT student branch in collaboration with QUT Solar Energy Scientific Society and is planned to be held on 25 May at Queensland University of Technology. More information and link for registration will be announced through v-Tools

# UQ Student Report



**Glen Javier**  
[g.javier@uq.edu.au](mailto:g.javier@uq.edu.au)

## Committee:

Chair: Glen Javier  
 Vice Chair: Dzung Nguyen  
 Secretary: Andrew Le

The University of Queensland's (UQ) IEEE student branch committee for 2017 was officially established on the 27 February 2017. For this year, the committee's strategy is to focus on introducing and promoting IEEE to students while encouraging existing student members to continue with their membership.



*Miss Hanxiao Zhang presenting her research experience at CSIRO to the student attendees.*

With this strategy, the UQ student branch held their first event on the 27 March. The event, "Winter Research Experience & Info Session", provided UQ students within the School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering (ITEE) an opportunity to hear the first-hand experiences of former student participants within the school's Winter and Summer Research Program, and how it excelled their knowledge and academic studies onto graduation and after. The event was a success and student audience were very keen to ask questions of the student speakers. Furthermore, all student attendees provided their email details and expressed their interest in joining IEEE.

The student branch was also able to contact Miss Lisa Deacon, UQ's manager for first-year engineering, who expressed her interest in advertising IEEE related activities to first year engineering students. As the first-year cohort comprises approximately 1100 students, this provides a great promotion opportunity for the student branch. The ITEE Administrative Officer for Coursework Studies, Mr Jay Prentice, also invited the student branch to participate in the annual UQ Clubs and Societies Meeting. This meeting provides a possible opportunity to acquire funding and support from the school of ITEE.

The branch is also planning joint events with other university student clubs such as the Electrically Based Engineering Student Society (EBESS), Computer Society (UQCS) and Robotics Club. Upcoming events are being planned and more details are to come.

Feel free to contact us on [Facebook](#) or via e-mail ([g.javier@uq.edu.au](mailto:g.javier@uq.edu.au)).