

## Chairs report, AGM 2017.

Welcome to our AGM. We are trying a different format this year, and having a dinner rather than have a guest speaker give a technical talk.

First off, I would like to express my thanks to the executive committee. Your hard work has helped make 2017 another successful year for IEEE in the NZ Central region. Mostly the executive has met monthly via Skype on a Tuesday afternoon.

Here is a highlight of our key activities during 2017.

### R 10 meeting

I attended the R10 meeting in March in Chiba, Japan, representing the NZ Central Section. I found this a valuable opportunity to meet with the other chairs from throughout R10, and also to meet with a number of other representatives attending the meeting. We had a brief NZ Chapter meeting where we primarily discussed the IEEE NZ Day.

### IEEE Sections Congress and ANZSCON

This year, with Sections Congress so close, we sent a larger than usual team, to make the most use of this training opportunity. I attended as primary delegate, with Steven Le Moan and Yi Mei as secondary delegates. We also sent Kanwal Zaidi as Women in Engineering representative, and Shan Jaffry as Student representative. Shan and Kanwal also attended the Student Congress (ANZSCON) and served as student helpers at Sections Congress.

### Distinguished Lecturers and other technical meetings

Throughout the year we were able to host a number of distinguished lecturers and other technical visitors:

Prof Carlos Coello Coello – Computational Intelligence Society Chapter, 15 August 2017

“Evolutionary Multi-Objective Optimization using Hybrid Approaches”

Prof Song Guo – Communications Society Chapter, 27 July 2017

“Device-to-Device Communication in Cellular Networks”

Dr Yusuke Hioka – Signal Processing / Information Theory Chapter, 10 April 2017

“Estimating power spectral density for acoustic signal enhancement - an effective approach for practical applications”

Michael Emmanuel – Power and Energy Society Chapter, 14 March 2017

“Power Distribution System Planning in Smart Grids with Photovoltaics”

### Chapter Workshops:

IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society Workshop – 20-21 April, Victoria University of Wellington “Two-Day Workshop on Smart Sensors, Measurements and Instrumentation for Health, Industry and Environment”

IEEE Communications Society Workshop – 10 February, 2017

“2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Recent Trends in Telecommunications Research (RTTR)”.

## **IEEE NZ Day**

As part of the celebration of 50 years of Region 10, the sections within NZ held a combined event. Talks from each of the Sections reflected on the changes within technology over the past 50 years, and the contributions IEEE have made to NZ society as a whole. The event was telecast between the venues, and was streamed via the web. Numbers were a little lower than hoped, with about 15-20 at each venue. From the Central Section, Murray Milner spoke of the contributions of ICT within NZ.

## **Joint Event**

29 June 2017, Dr Graham Ault “Smart Approaches to Distributed Generation Connection and Operation”. This was a joint IET and IEEE special event.

## **Student Branches:**

Massey University Student Branch held a field trip to Ohakea Airforce Base on 30 August, 2017. We visited a range of engineering workshops and activities. One of the highlights was flying the helicopter simulator!

The annual Postgraduate Presentation Day was held on 4 September 2017, hosted by Massey University Student Branch. It was another successful event, organised by Shan Jaffry, Student Branch Chair. We were treated to 26 ten minute presentations on a diverse range of topics.

## **Awards**

R10 Women in Engineering Support Fund: US\$300 for conducting a WIE survey at Massey University.

R10 Membership Development Incentive Grants: \$US250 for recruitment, and US\$200 for retention.

2017 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment Performance, for meeting our recruitment targets for 2017.

The Signal Processing / Information Theory chapter also received a Membership Growth Award.

All-in-all, we have had a very successful year so far.