

Region 10 Western Australia Section Report For The Calendar Year 2019

PART A - SECTION SUMMARY

A.1 Executive Summary

Section Executive Committee Member List (2019)

Chair:	Harry McDonald
Vice Chair:	Vijay Kumar
Secretary:	Farhad Shahnia
Treasurer	Amir Sherkatmasoum

Member	Adam Osseiran
Member	Anthony Jeganathan
Member	Douglas Chai
Member	Tyrone Fernando
Member	Christoph Tuettemann
Member	Kevin Wong
Member	Lance Fung
Member	Cesar Ortega
Member	Gino Putrino
Member	Jacqueline Thomas (part year)
Member	Iman Kareem (part year)
Member	Abigail Li
Member	Roshan Fernando
Member	Johnny Ng
Member	Shams Islam (part year)

Section Highlights

Farhad Shania (secretary) and Vijay Kumar (2nd delegate and vice chair) attended the 2019 Region 10 meeting in Melbourne, Australia

Student prize support was provided at 3 out the 4 WA universities that teach engineering.

The section financially Supported an ECU WIE networking event and a Curtin SB networking event

The Section and PES/PELS provided technical support of ICPES 2019 and the section technically supported DICTA 2019, including prize paper awards

The section hosted one mid year social dinner at Mai Thai Restaurant, Ardross and an IEEE Day Sundowner at Curtin University

The section hosted an AGM dinner at Aquarium Chinese Restaurant, Acot

The section conducted 8 Section meetings and an AGM to report 2019 achievements & elect the majority of 2020 committee

The section chair actively participated in the Australia Council, including one face to face during the R10 meeting – WA present at all meetings.

A new Industrial Electronics chapter was formed in 2019. This was supported by a DL visit by the 2019 IES president Prof Xinghuo Yu.

- Major Events (International, National)

The Section, PES/PELS chapter and IES chapter supported the International Conference On Energy and Power Systems, (ICPES 2019). The section supported Digital Image Computing: Techniques and Applications (DICTA 2019)–both were hosted in Perth in late 2019 and sponsored paper prizes were offered

Awards

- Have in initiated a suite of section outstanding volunteer awards – professional, student, YP and WIE. Nominations received for professional and student.
- The inaugural winner of the IEEE WA section outstanding volunteer 2019 was Dr Douglas Chai, from Edith Cowan University
- The inaugural winner of the IEEE WA section outstanding student volunteer was Mr Chris Scherini, from UWA student branch.

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

Finance Report - December 2019

Cash on Hand

AUD	Opening Balance	Accum Expenses	Accum Credits	Closing Balance
Unibank I50 (fixed term)	\$ 68,374.01	-\$ 1,520.90	\$ 1,520.90	\$ 68,374.01
Unibank S1 (daily cheque)	\$ 7,743.76	-\$ 11,191.38	\$ 16,867.47	\$ 13,419.85
TOTAL	\$ 76,117.77	-\$ 12,712.28	\$ 18,388.37	\$ 81,793.86
USD				
Concentration Banking	\$ 10,329.60	-\$ 8,312.00	\$ 8,470.76	\$ 10,488.36

CB Transactions

CB Interest (combined)		\$ 138.36
Student branch Rebates 2019		\$ 430.00
Section Rebate 2019		\$ 6,402.40
R10 Section Incentive for 2018 Activities -		\$ 1,500.00
SWIFT TFR	-\$ 8,332.00	
SWIFT TFR Fee	\$ 20.00	
TOTAL	-\$ 8,312.00	\$ 8,470.76

Sub-account Balances

	Opening	Expenses	Credits	Balance
Computer	\$ 6,444.55	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,444.55
Communication	\$ 2,306.93	\$ -	\$ 314.60	\$ 2,621.53
PES/PELS	\$ 1,732.94	-\$ 299.00	\$ 878.21	\$ 2,312.15
Signal Processing	\$ 2,367.49	-\$ 103.00	\$ 314.60	\$ 2,579.09
Computational Intel	\$ 1,743.34	\$ -	\$ 314.60	\$ 2,057.94
ED/SSC/PHO	\$ 2,413.78	\$ -	\$ 314.60	\$ 2,728.38
Syst. Man and Cyber	\$ 1,260.31	-\$ 193.50	\$ 314.60	\$ 1,381.41
Curtin SB	\$ 3,223.18	-\$ 689.56	\$ 202.89	\$ 2,736.52
Murdoch SB	\$ 213.20	-\$ 43.70	\$ 105.73	\$ 275.23
UWA SB	\$ 526.90	\$ -	\$ 182.89	\$ 709.79
ECU SB	\$ -	-\$ 41.91	\$ 122.88	\$ 80.97
YP	\$ 1,690.96	-\$ 1,228.90	\$ 2,122.45	\$ 2,584.51
WIE	\$ 558.41	\$ -	\$ 421.85	\$ 980.26
IES	\$ -	-\$ 82.00	\$ 1,386.21	\$ 1,304.21
TOTAL	\$ 24,481.99	-\$ 2,681.57	\$ 6,996.11	\$ 28,796.54
Account Balances	\$ 76,117.77	-\$ 12,712.28	\$ 18,388.37	\$ 81,793.86
Section Overall	\$ 51,635.78			\$ 52,997.33

PART B - ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

B.1 Membership Development Activities

- Total number of active members in the past 3 years.
2017 = 685
2018 = 670
2019 = 626
- All Technical Activities, networking functions, seminars and conferences raise awareness of IEEE and the introductions included background on the societies and encouragement to join IEEE

B.2 Chapter Activities

- Total number of Chapters in the Section is 9
- One new chapter was formed in 2019. The WA Industrial Electronics chapter was formed in the current year
- Number of active Chapters (Chapters who have reported required number of meetings during the year)
- Summary of Chapter activities
COM19 = 2
C16 = 2
ED15/SSC37/PHO36 = 7
PE31/PEL35 = 4
SMC28 = 2
SP01 = 5
CIS11/RA24 = 2
CAS = 2
IE13 = 3

Total = 31

All chapters were able to meet the minimum number of technical activities. Exceptional performance achieved by both SP and ED/15/SSC37/PHO36 this year

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

B.4 Students Activities

- Total number of Student Branches in the Section is 4. University of Western Australia (UWA), Curtin University, Murdoch University and Edith Cowan University (ECU)
- No new Student Branches were formed in the current year, or likely to be formed in future years. All of the major engineering and science teaching universities have student branches.
- Section level student activities (student congress, paper and other contests, awards etc)
- Number of active Student Branches (Student Branches who have reported required number of meetings during the year)

- Summary of Student Branch activities (Student Branch wise with attachment table/information)

	Technical	Administrative
Murdoch Student Branch	3	7
University Of Western Australia	10	unknown
Curtin University	unknown	unknown
Edith Cowan University	unknown	unknown

Note that the Student branches (SBs) are now being rewarded for submitting annual planning reporting in advance. The submission of the completed activities into vtools needs to be addressed separately by the section with the SBs, and before the end of the teaching terms in late November. The SBs go into recess until around March the following year.. This needs more follow up with the regional and IEEE SACs.

B.5 Affinity Group Activities

- Young Professional (YP) = 5
- Women In Engineering (WIE) = 8
- No Life Member affinity group yet. One the senior volunteer has expressed some interest in petitioning for 2020.

B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities

- Award constituted by the Section- 4 awards announced and intended for alignment with R10 - Outstanding Volunteer, Outstanding YP, Outstanding WIE, Outstanding student.
- Please list all Awards and Recognitions received by the Section, and members in the Section, from R 10 and IEEE HQ during the year 2019

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

- No newsletter is produced nor has there been any requirement.
- The home Page of the Section http://ewh.ieee.org/r10/w_australia/ It is updated regularly and at least monthly. Ad-hoc content requests are acted upon promptly. For publications of e-notices there is a minimum of two exec approved the e-notice for uploading. The uploading is done within one day. To maximize the distribution of the notice all section, chapter, affinity group the preferred publication of events is through the section webmaster rather than the chapter resource. (eg this reaches out to 650 versus maybe 60 at the chapter level).

B.8 Industry Relations

- One site visit to the Perth based Australian Electric Market Operator (AEMO) Control centre. This was well attended.
- Membership growth and retention
- Activities for/with industrial members

B.9 Humanitarian Technology Activities

- Nil

B.10 Community Activities

- IEEE WA section supported CSIRO STEM Professionals in Schools Initiative. A number of IEEE WA IEEE professionals have volunteered to become STEM professionals (STEM – science, technology, engineering, mathematics)
- The section continued to support the ‘Entertainment Book’ which offers its members discounts on meals and other events within WA.

PART C - OTHERS

C.1 Special Events

- IEEE Day sundowner conducted in October and this will become a regular fixture in the WA section calendar from year to year

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

- The WA section is a part of the Australia Council. One face to face meeting occurs during R10 meeting of Sections Congress (in the appropriate years). Telephone meeting are hosted bi-monthly. IEEE has a joint agreement with Engineers Australia (EA) and this is managed at the Australia Council level. There are also informal working relationships with IET (UK) Australian based chapters.
- The Australia Council oversees some Australia wide student contests and also some Australia wide technical chapters where there is insufficient support at the individual section level.
- The main benefit to IEEE members is greater collaboration. Often each professional society’s volunteer numbers in many areas of Australia is scarce and it is pragmatic to pool the volunteer effort.
- There is a strong working relationship between IEEE YP and the respective equivalents in EA and IET. The IEEE YP group tend to lead the innovation.

C.3 Collaboration with other IEEE Sections

- This works through the Australia Council. If there are major conference or symposium events then non-host sections are encouraged to participate and send delegates. Past practice has been bimonthly telephone conference meeting plus face to face at R10 meeting plus face to face at Sections Congress. (Typically 6 meetings in non SC years). The AC is the coordinator for many of the student awards.

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

- Financial support is provided by the section to chapters, affinity groups and also student branches. This is especially the case for the newly formed groups who initially start with zero funds behind them.
- No sub-sections exist and unlikely to be formed in the future.

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

- Nil

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

- There is ongoing difficulty recruiting active and motivated committee members for each of the entities. (at section, chapter, affinity group and student branch levels)
- The IEEE value proposition is not strong enough to attract and retain student members. The university guilds offer similar student activities as part of the normal guild fees. Often the leaders in the SB are also the same leaders as in the guilds. This makes the differentiation between IEEE and normal University events difficult.
- Some chapters are borderline active, with long serving volunteers as leaders, and not much relief, and there is lack of volunteer depth.
- There is much dependence on existing volunteers head hunting other new volunteers.

PART D - GOALS AND PLANS

- A 2020 and beyond planning meeting will be organized early in the year.
- Attend the R10 meeting 2020 and Sections Congress 2020. Secondary delegates will be considered.
- Continue with sponsorship of student prizes at the universities
- Have one mid year social event in mid 2020.
- Have one social event with families in late part of 2020.
- Have an IEEE day celebration in Oct 2020.
- Have at least 6 section meetings in 2020.
- The section will have a more assertive and focused approach for membership development and retention during 2020.
- Support international conference PES ISGT (Asia) 2020
- Continue with Outstanding volunteer awards (x 4) during 2020.

The IEEE WA section executive committee in 2020 will be;

Chair: Assoc Prof Farhad Shahnia
 Vice Chair: Mr Anthony Jeganathan
 Treasurer: Mr Amir Sherkatmasoum
 Secretary: Mr MD Shoeb