

From the President



I am privileged to be your president for 2012. Firstly I wish to recognise and thank all the volunteers that support Canberra Division activities

each year for our benefit. The combined volunteer effort is around 4000 hours annually; similar to that provided by Divisional staff. As I write this column, the operational plan is being finalised and we have agreed on several key themes for 2012: lead and influence public discussion on engineering issues; complete Canberra 100 preparations; and internally improve Canberra Division member services and governance arrangements. These initiatives will be in addition to the regular CPD and other services.

There is an opportunity for Canberra Division to influence public discussion on issues of concern for ACT engineers because of the ACT election that occurs on 20 October 2012. Potential issues identified include: workplace health and safety harmonisation, sustainability and quality of buildings. The committee is currently seeking input from members on key issues in the legislative and public policy area that can benefit our members and advance the practice of engineering. If members have any suggestions, I would welcome an email on canberradivision@engineersaustralia.org.au or phone call on 0400 370 786. The Committee is considering two new positions; one of which will be focused on co-ordinating Canberra Division key messages to the community.

Canberra's Centenary is fast approaching with only 12 months to go. Our contribution to the celebration and commemoration of Canberra 100 aims to showcase how engineers have contributed to the development of Canberra. Preparations include:

- publication of a 'Heritage Book'. The book will be published in the fashion of a high quality coffee table book designed to capture the attention of the browsing reader through beautiful photographs, while engaging the detailed reader through descriptive prose and human-interest stories of the engineering contributions to the growth of Canberra. Sponsors and partners will be sought to be part of this special publication and approaches will be made to members in the coming months;
- the 17th Engineering Heritage Conference;
- further development on the Engineers Australia 'Pin Oak' Forest at the Arboretum; and
- possibly a significant engineering heritage landmark.

Over the next few months the Canberra Division team will be reviewing our service to our 2400 members across the 14 colleges, groups and technical societies in order to improve the member benefit including CPD and technical presentations. Building upon the national survey information last year, the Canberra Division is seeking to better understand 'what's important' for local members and how we should deliver those services.

The second new Division committee position being considered is

appointing a member services representative to co-ordinate the delivery of services to members across the six national strategy domains.

Behind the scenes, the Committee aims to improve its governance so that we can continually improve member services. This year we have already initiated Confluence as our repository of Committee information. We will progressively populate Confluence with documentation to improve management of branches and other activities, and lever support from national office initiatives in order to improve support to our decision-making. I believe that this will greatly assist volunteer succession planning who need to 'hit the ground running' but have limited time and often serve in positions for short periods.

I believe competent engineers can solve most of society's challenges. The twin challenge for our Divisional committee is: firstly, support engineers' competency development through chartered status and CPD; and then influence the public policy and the community to a safer, better and sustainable future. All the great works around Canberra by Butters, Owen and other members of the Canberra Division Hall of Fame were achieved because they had competent engineers around them and could inspire the community.

I would encourage you to get involved in Canberra Division activities as a volunteer, through CPD events or even seeking chartered status. Event information is on the website. I hope to see you at our events.

*Doug Mitchell
President*

ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA CANBERRA DIVISION

TECHNICAL PROGRAM

CPD events for the Engineering Team

All presentations will be held at 'Engineering House', 11 National Circuit, Barton unless otherwise specified.
Full details of each meeting can be found at www.engineersaustralia.org.au/canberra under Technical Program.

Date/time	Branch/Group	Topic	Speaker/notes
FEBRUARY 2012			
Wed 1 5.30 for 6.00pm	WIE	6 Degrees	Nerida Gill Creator Admin Bandit
Tue 7 5.30 for 6.00pm	SEA-JTP	Using architecture to support enterprise-wide acquisition decisions	Dr Alan Dyer
Wed 8 5.30 for 6.00pm	ASDE	Architecture- based decision support for capability development	Peter Pong Jacobs Australia
Tue 14 5.30 for 6.00pm	CELM	Leadership and management systems	John Anderson – Director Engineering Practice, Engineers Australia
Thu 16 12.00 for 12.30pm	Transport	Eminent Speaker Series Transport & public strategy – linking policy goals to action	Greg Martin 2010 Transport Medal Winner
Tue 21 5.30 for 6.00pm	ITE&E	Assessing the risks of an advanced metering infrastructure	Gabriel Eustachio – Head of CSC's security consulting practice in Australia
Wed 22 5.30 for 6.00pm	Mechanical/ ARIAH	Indoor air quality – issues & design consideration	Paul Spry Director, Spry Associates
Tue 28 5.30 for 6.00pm	Civil/Structural	Timber – pushing the barriers	Andrew Dunn – Chief Executive, Timber Development Association (NSW)

*Disclaimer: Those without email addresses should contact Colleen Mays (02) 6270 6519 to check if a Technical Presentation has not been cancelled.
For updated information on the Technical Program and other events check out the Canberra Division Website: www.engineersaustralia.org.au/canberra*



ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

**2012 AS THE YEAR OF THE REGIONAL ENGINEERING TEAM
A YEAR WHICH WILL HIGHLIGHT REGIONAL AUSTRALIA
AS THE HEART OF ENGINEERING.**

2012 YEAR OF THE REGIONAL ENGINEERING TEAM

REGIONAL AUSTRALIA: THE HEART OF ENGINEERING



FIND OUT MORE

www.engineersaustralia.org.au/regional