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## College of Biomedical Engineering has a new Chairman

Graeme Macaulay is the incoming Chairman of the Biomedical College. Graeme hails from Queensland and replaces outgoing Chair, Mike Flood. BME News asked Graeme for his thoughts on his new responsibility ...



I am often asked what I do for work. My response of "I'm a Biomedical Engineer", almost always leads to the same response "what's that?" Our profession may not be well known, however we form a vital part of the community. So the question is how do we change the response of "what's that" to "that's great".

Over the next 2 years as chair of the College of Biomedical Engineers, I am looking forward to the challenge of improving the community's knowledge and understanding of our diverse profession. So where to start? We first need to improve our own internal knowledge and cohesiveness of our truly diverse profession. Such initiatives as the stand alone Australian Biomedical Engineering Conference 2012 to be held in Brisbane, will showcase the broad areas of biomedical engineering; publishing of policies and position papers for the profession and the wider community on issue relating to biomedical engineering; and our ongoing endeavours to introduce registration to the industry will provide a strong foundation to educate the community of the services we provide.

I encourage you to contact myself and the members of the Board and Panels of the College, to share ideas and participate in the building of our profession to ensure we remain relevant and continue to be an important component of our community.

## ***Editor's Comment***

Welcome to the fourth edition of our revamped BME newsletter. This newsletter is now being distributed to college members and also is posted on the Engineers Australia website [www.engineersaustralia.org.au](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au) specifically at the following link ...

<http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/biomedicalnewsletters/>

This newsletter is **YOUR** newsletter and we welcome your input. Let us know if you think it is filling a need or even if you think it's a load of old rubbish. Perhaps you would like to contribute some wise words on a topic we are featuring or submit an article on your particular interest or research? If so we will make every endeavour to print your piece – just send it to Bill Chaffey our College Administrator at the address listed on the back page of this newsletter.

In this issue we will have reports from each of the College's units, a preview of the SMBE NSW Conference in Albury next March and news from around the States and further afield. We will also feature articles on aid in developing countries, review EPSM-ABEC 2010 and preview EPSM-ABEC 2011.

Bruce Morrison, Editor

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## ***From the College Board Meeting – Melbourne 9 & 10 December***

The Biomedical College Board met over two days at the conclusion of the ABEC conference. Items discussed included the election of a new Deputy Chair, following the ascension of Graeme Macaulay to the Chairmanship of the College.

At this meeting, the Board said goodbye to Richard Kirsner who has represented the Victorian Division for many years, Jennifer Brett who has represented the Women in Engineering group for a couple of years, and Peter Slattery who has stepped down as Chairman of the National Committee on Rehabilitation Engineering. Richard has had a long and eminent career in biomedical engineering including a long association with the International Federation of Medical and Biological Engineering. More about Richard later in the newsletter.



*Board members meeting in the Victorian Division Offices in Melbourne*

Their replacements are Paul Junor representing the Victorian Division, Izmir Congo from the Queensland Division, Kyril Belle from Women in Engineering, and Emma Friesen representing the National Committee on Rehabilitation. Paul is the former President of the SMBE (Vic), Kyril formerly represented the Tasmanian Division of EA on the College Board and Emma comes to us from NSW.

The Board's agenda included:

- International and Australian standards - discussion centred around AS-2896, AS-3760, AS-3551, AS-3003, AS-2500 and IEC-8000, as well as standards for head protection and child restraints.
- Policies - the National Committee on Rehabilitation Engineering has recently had two policies passed by the Engineers Australia Congress.
- Competency standards – Engineers Australia has finalised Stage 1, 2 and 3 competencies for engineering practitioners and the College now has the task of developing specific BME competencies to track the generic competencies developed by Engineers Australia.
- Reports from Divisional Branches and other units of the College on their achievements during the past six months.
- Engineers Australia's theme for 2011 - the Year of Humanitarian Engineering. The theme for this year fits perfectly with the establishment of the National Panel on Biomedical Technical Aid. The College will be promoting the Humanitarian aspect of our work with the help of the

- Panel at the EPSM-ABEC Conference in Darwin in August and at every opportunity possible.
- Conferences – this years conference is at the Darwin Convention Centre from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> August and it will be the EPSM-ABEC last joint conference with our Physicist colleagues from ACPSEM. From 2012 the conference will be the Australian Biomedical Engineering Conference – ABEC, with first stand-alone conference scheduled for Brisbane in the second half of next year.
  - Awards
    - David Dewhurst Award for eminence in Biomedical Engineering. The winner for 2010, Jack MacLean from Adelaide, was announced at the meeting. Jack is currently Professor at Adelaide University's Centre for Automotive Safety Research and has had a long and distinguished career in the automotive safety research area, having founded the Road Accident Research Unit (later the Centre for Automotive Safety Research) in 1973.
    - Women in Biomedical Engineering Scholarship, awarded to Riley Green of Greater Southern BME Service in NSW. Riley will use the funding to attend an international conference in Buenos Aires.
  - The College Board was updated on several major projects in which it has been involved over the past couple years and these were discussed with actions to follow. They include:
    - "Clinical Engineering at the Crossroads" - a document defining where the clinical engineering is currently at.
    - "Healthcare Infrastructure: Medical Technology" – a document defining the risks associated with the rundown of capital equipment in hospitals and healthcare facilities of Australia.
    - A submission to the National Registration Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions on the benefits of including professional engineers, engineering technologists and engineering associates practicing biomedical engineering in any registration scheme.
  - Deputy Chair – Professor Karen Reynolds was elected unopposed as Deputy Chair of the College and will automatically become College Chairperson in 2013. Karen is Professor of Biomedical Engineering within the School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics at Flinders University in Adelaide, and was recently given the award of Engineer of the Year for 2010.
  - The Board discussed possible links with other organisations including the South-East Asia / Pacific Division of the IFMBE and resolved to try to involve the IFMBE Division in the 2011 Conference in Darwin and in subsequent conferences.

### **Mike Flood retires as Chairman**

The December College Board meeting marked the retirement of Mike Flood from the Chairmanship after two years at the helm of the College. This was Mike's second term as College Chair, having served in the early 2000's.

The contribution of Mike to the College Board has been enormous and the College is indebted to his excellent stewardship over two terms. Mike remains a member of the College Board representing the Canberra Division and is also a member of the National Panel on Clinical Engineering and the National Panel on Biomedical Technical Aid. We expect he will continue to contribute into the future as he embarks on his new career as a consultant in regulatory affairs and standards development.

## ***NPCE News***

The National Panel on Clinical Engineering is one of five panels or committees of the Biomedical College Board. Its focus is on clinical engineering with a brief to support the role of clinical engineers and clinical engineering in the health industry and to identify a cooperative role for clinical engineers in technology research and manufacturing. The Panel is involved in standards development, setting standards of practice and mentoring of young clinical engineers and technicians.

The Panel was formed in 1994 during the Perth, EPSM conference and comprises clinical engineering professionals and others who have been invited to join because of their expertise and a sometimes different perspective they can bring. Over the years the Panel has had members from the medical, nursing and hospital administration areas of health.

Current panel members include Stuart Clifton (Chairman), Bruce Morrison, Peter Taunton, Adrian Richards, Ken Wilson, Mike Flood, Owen Byrnes, Mike Lovett, Kelly Stallman and Dr Ted Murphy. Bill Chaffey from Engineers Australia is our College and Committees Administrator. Meetings are conducted largely by teleconference with one face to face meeting usually scheduled during the ABEC conference each year.

In 2010, the Panel met twice with the latest meeting held on 6 December at Engineering House in Melbourne. The December meeting discussed amongst other things the future directions that the Panel will take and means of implementing on-going projects.



*Members meeting at Engineering House in Melbourne*

In 2011 the Panel will be ...

- Publishing a range of explanatory and good guidance documents to aid the profession,
- Staging workshops around the country to coincide with the arrival of the new versions of AS-3551 and AS-3003, and
- Conducting a series of Peer Networking visits to Clinical Engineering Departments which have requested this service.

## ***NPCE holds successful Development Workshop for young clinical engineers and technicians***

The annual Development Workshop is intended for emerging or developing engineering practitioners at all levels of academic qualification who are currently practising within the field of Clinical Engineering. It aims to provide a forum and opportunity for engineers and technicians to extend themselves and their clinical engineering knowledge. The Workshop is always mentored by experienced clinical engineers and a senior clinician and as a by-product it allows the participants to establish or enhance networks with their peers.

Participants are required to be committed to Clinical Engineering as a career, but at a relatively early stage in their professional development within it. As it is not an instructional forum, they are expected to provide significant input in terms of preparation and presentation, and hence must be sufficiently motivated to participate successfully.

On the weekend immediately before the EPSEM and ABEC 2010 Conference in Melbourne, ten participants and five mentors met for two days (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> December) at the Quest Apartments in Richmond, Victoria. This was the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Workshop and followed highly successful workshops dating back to the first workshop in Hobart in 1998.



*Participants and mentors enjoy the traditional Workshop dinner*

This time the participants were drawn from three Australian States (Queensland, NSW and Victoria), the Northern Territory and Fiji. The group included nine engineers and one technical officer. As well as presenting on a topic of their choice participants answered questions and participated in general discussions on their work and that of the other participants. Topics included:

To test or not to test - how much or how little?  
Electrosurgery - what are our choices?  
Blood pressure measurement.  
Renal Dialysis - do we know or care about it?  
Are you asleep ?

Allergic reactions to medical materials.  
Remote servicing - Territory style.  
Delivering Anaesthesia.  
Clinical Alarms and patient safety.  
Pulse Oximetry.

The standard of presentations was high with all participants showing the benefits of the hard work they had devoted to perfecting their work.



*Keith O'Brien presents his paper on clinical alarms and patient safety*

Four prizes were awarded at the conclusion of the Workshop. Two prizes were voted on by the mentors and two judged by the participants. The prizes this year were sponsored by SC Medical, Chemtronics, Verathon and Trumpf.

The winner as judged by his peers was Vaishnav Sundara Rajan for a paper titled "Blood Pressure Measurement" and the runner-up was Keith O'Brien for a paper titled "Clinical Alarms and Patient Safety".

The mentors awarded first prize to Julie Woerner for a paper titled "Remote Servicing – Territory Style" and second prize to Nehal Kapadia for a paper titled "Renal Dialysis – Do we care about it, Do we know about it"



*Participants and mentors at the 2010 Clinical Engineering Development Workshop (2 missing)*

The mentors, Mike Flood, Kelly Stallman, Bruce Morrison, Peter Taunton and Dr Ted Murphy look forward to another successful Workshop in Darwin in August 2011.

## **NCRE News**

It has been a busy few months for the National Committee on Rehabilitation Engineering (NCRE).

August saw two policy statements, entitled “*Assistive Technology for Australians*” and *Assistive technology for an ageing population*”, approved by EA congress. NCRE Committee Chair Peter Slattery launched the policies at the Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology (ARATA) conference in Hobart, presenting a paper highlighting the leading role engineers are taking in the field of Assistive Technology. The paper described the sometimes difficult process of developing official policy statements, and aimed to encourage other professional bodies to take on this challenge. Six additional papers covering a range of topics were presented by NCRE members at the conference.

Additionally, NCRE presented the EA Better Technology Award for a prototype category at ARATA. The award went to Dr. Martin King from Im-Able Ltd of New Zealand for a prototype device to assist in rehabilitation of people who have suffered a partial hemiplegia as a result of stroke.

In September, NCRE welcomed Dr. Martin Fergusson-Pell as part of EA’s Eminent Speaker program. Dr Fergusson-Pell, Dean of the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Alberta, gave a series of lectures on Rehabilitation Engineering to audiences across Australia. After discussing the history of Rehabilitation Engineering, Dr Fergusson-Pell challenged rehabilitation engineers to explore the many opportunities available to expand the profession.



*NCRE Symposium*

NCRE members continued to make significant contributions to Standards development work in the past months. Four NCRE members are regularly involved in Standards Australia meetings, and Dr Lloyd Walker is now taking a leading role in Standards work at an international level.

In the area of education and qualifications, work continues on the development of qualifications for technicians working in rehabilitation engineering & assistive technology. Queensland Health recently commissioned a Capability Framework Project to identify key skills and knowledge necessary for workers in this field, and it is hoped this will eventually lead to certificate and diploma level qualifications being rolled out across Australia.

## ***NPBII News***

During the year the National Panel on the Biomechanics of Impact Injury ran a seminar in support of the new Australian Design Rule on pole impact and will have a paper on helmet standards published in the next issue of the Engineers Australia Magazine.

Meetings were held in Adelaide on the Road Safety Strategy which was released at the beginning of December 2010. The Panel reports having problems contacting the Road Safety Council.

## ***NPBEER News***

The National Panel on Biomedical Engineering Education and Research has been working on various projects during the past year. Some of their activities included:

- working to establish a student prize with possible industry sponsorship,
- involvement with Australian Research Council to ensure recognition for biomedical research,
- Working to establish an eminent speaker programme to improve the perception of biomedical engineering, particularly at the high school level.

## ***NPBTA News***

The National Panel on Biomedical Technical Aid was established by the College in 2010 to provide technical assistance to developing and recovering countries or countries in crisis throughout the world. While able to provide assistance anywhere in the world, it has particular reference to the South-East Asia and Pacific Regions.

The Panel is comprised of engineers and technicians experienced in the delivery of technical aid in many countries in need. It held its first meeting on 19th December at the Victorian Division offices of Engineers Australia. The meeting refined the draft terms of reference and set a work programme which includes:

- Developing a set of competencies for engineers and technicians working overseas in the delivery of technical aid,
- Developing a list of BME departments which are able to host engineers and technicians from developing and recovering countries and countries in crisis,
- Instituting a travelling scholarship for biomedical engineers and technicians to enable them to work with a mentor in an overseas posting and to gain experience in what is required to deliver biomedical technical aid, and
- Involvement designing and delivering much of the content at the EPSM-ABEC conference in Darwin in August in the Year of Humanitarian Engineering.

The Panel will be aiming to forge links with organisations like Engineers Without Borders (EWB) and the RedR Society as well as interacting with the ACPSEM, Asia-Pacific Special Interest Group (APSIG). It will seek dialogue with Government aid bodies such as AusAID and NZAID, and volunteer organisations such as AVI, ABV, VIDA and VSO.

In 2011, a major focus for the NPBTA will be the EPSM – ABEC Conference in Darwin in August. The year 2011 has been designated by Engineers Australia as the Year of Humanitarian Engineering and the Panel will be providing a stimulating programme of papers and workshop on this theme.

## **CONFERENCE NEWS**

### **EPSM-ABEC 2010 CONFERENCE REPORT**

EPSM-ABEC 2010 was held last December at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. An unlikely venue, but a very interesting place to have a conference. The lunchtime experience was something else - sitting in the grandstand looking out on this famous ground where the 1956 Olympics was staged and countless games of VFL, AFL, Rugby League and Union and Cricket have been played – a joy indeed to the sports nuts amongst the delegates.



*The Venue – MCG being prepared for a match between the touring English cricket team and Victoria*

The conference kicked off with the traditional welcome reception. This year the function was held in the National Sports Museum within the “Gee”. What a place – every sport represented as well as our Olympic heritage. The highlight for many of us was the theatrette where a hologram of Warnie discussing his career, was so real that it wasn’t hard to believe it was the man himself.



*Delegates prepare for the Conference at the Sports Museum*

The conference itself was a resounding success with around 400 physicists, engineers, technicians and sponsors attending - the bulk of the delegates were as always physicists. The conference featured a diverse scientific programme and a trade exhibition which comprised 32 booths although disappointingly only seven trade exhibitors were related to biomedical engineering/clinical engineering.



*Networking in the Trade Exhibition area*

Our keynote speakers set the scene with a fascinating discussion on neural bionics and paradigms for adopting new technology – the debate during question time had the room buzzing. Bionics and Neuroengineering was the theme for Monday, with plenty of proffered papers from our university research groups on bionic vision, EEG, EOG and other cortical functions.

Instrumentation and bioengineering was Tuesday's theme with a variety of papers ranging from smart technology to molecular modelling and computational biology. A series of virtual presentations on repair process variation and risk management, rounded out the day.



*Presentation at the conference*

Wednesday featured an all day Clinical Engineering Symposium with papers on managing a clinical engineering department, equipment tracking, a standards retrospective, contractor management and industry experience for students. The day also included presentations on biomedical engineering in developing countries and the early days of biophysics and biomedical engineering at Melbourne University. A panel discussion on the way forward for clinical engineering rounded out the day's proceedings.

Biomechanics and medical devices were the themes of the half day on Thursday. Professor Karen Reynolds from Flinders University started the day speaking on the partnering with industry project which her university has embarked on and the rest of the morning was given over to a series of interesting papers on biomechanics.

The conference wound up with presentation of prizes, a thank-you to all involved and an exhortation to attend the next conference in Darwin in August 2012. A good time was had by all!

As well as all the serious stuff there is always time to catch up with old friends, have a few ales or wines, check out the trade exhibition to see the latest and greatest in medical devices and accessories, and of course go to the conference dinner . This time the conference dinner was held at the National Gallery of Victoria – a spectacular venue for a great dinner and dancing the night away.



*Pre-dinner drinks at the National Gallery*



*Down to the serious business of dinner*



*Dancing the night away all the way to Tina Turner's classic "Nutbush City Limits"*

Allied to the conference were several meetings including the National Panel on Clinical Engineering, the National Panel on Biomedical Engineering Education and Research, and the National Panel on Biomedical Technical Aid? The College Board met over two days following the conference.

### **EPSM-ABEC 2011 – A PREVIEW**

Darwin is the place to be this northern dry season for EPSM-ABEC 2011. The dazzling Darwin Convention Centre will host the combined physics-engineering conference from 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> August.

The theme of the conference is *Innovative Solutions in Medicine and Health Physics* and as this is the first time the conference has been held in the Top-End, it will be an exciting time. It will also be the last regular conference held jointly by the College of Biomedical Engineering and the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (more later) and so it is a must-attend occasion.

2011 has been designated by Engineers Australia as the Year of Humanitarian Engineering and so the conference organisers will be aiming to give the scientific programme a flavour in line with this theme. On the engineering side of the conference, contributions from the EA's National Panel on Biomedical Technical Aid, Engineers Without Borders and similar organisations will be pivotal to the excellence of the programme.

The conference website is [www.epsmabec2011.org](http://www.epsmabec2011.org) and full details can be found there.

The conference's engineering keynote speaker is Dr Joseph Smith from the West Wireless Health Institute in California. Dr Smith is Chief Medical and Science Officer and is involved in developing wireless solutions in medical technology in order to lower the cost of health care. He has held senior positions at Johnson & Johnson, Guidant / Boston Scientific and Cardiac Rhythm Management. Joe is both a medical doctor and an electronics engineer,

The deadline for abstracts is 29th April 2012.

## **ABEC 2012 – A NEW BEGINNING**

After several years of sharing an annual conference with the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM) the Biomedical College Board has resolved to break with ACPSEM and hold a separate conference each year. There may be occasions in the future when the two bodies may come together to co-sponsor a conference but for now it's ABEC – the Australian Biomedical Engineering Conference.

The Board is confident that the stand-alone ABEC will be a success and attract back those engineers and technicians who look upon EPSM-ABEC as a “physicists” conference. The first ABEC will be held in Brisbane in the second half of 2012 and will be a conference for all the profession and all levels of practitioner. There will be streams for clinical engineering and rehabilitation engineering, biomechanics and biomaterials, education and research, and technical aid to developing or recovering countries. The new ABEC will be conference for engineers, technicians, academics, researchers and the trade to come together for a stimulating, affordable conference.

The College Board looks forward to seeing you in Brisbane in 2012.

## **NSW SMBE CONFERENCE**

This year, the SMBE Country Technicians' Training Seminar will be held in Albury from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March. The venue is the Albury Commercial Club which will also host the welcome BBQ and conference dinner.

It is a not to be missed event for biomedical engineering personnel to meet and discuss common issues affecting their services, attend specialist training sessions on current and emerging technologies and to develop networking contacts.

The programme will include the usual mix of technical presentations from biomedics, clinicians and equipment vendors. In addition to the excellent scientific programme there will be a trade exhibition with companies, large and small showing their latest test tools, medical equipment, software and repair services.

The scientific programme will feature sessions in the broad areas of:

- New and emerging technologies
- Service and support
- Clinical measurement
- Clinical topics
- Professional development
- Technology management & integration
- “How to...” workshops and demonstrations
- Departmental management

For more information and a registration form go to the SMBE (NSW) website: [www.smbensw.org.au](http://www.smbensw.org.au)

## SMBE ROUNDUP

### South Australia

The SA SMBE has settled on its programme of scientific meetings for the first half of the year. It includes:

- A visit to the newly formed SA retrieval service...."Medstar"
- A talk by Dr Arnold who is a visiting paediatrician from the USA for the International Paediatric Critical Care Conference in Sydney during March
- A seminar on the new version of AS/NZS 3003 following its release
- A visit by the ABEC key note speaker Dr Joe Smith of the West Wireless Healthcare Institute in San Diego.

### New South Wales

The SMBE NSW has a new look website ([www.smbensw.org.au](http://www.smbensw.org.au)) which is being developed to have a "members only" section which will feature past conference presentations and other vital information for members to access.

As mentioned above the NSW SMBE will be hosting the annual Country Technicians' Training Seminar in Albury at the end of March. During the seminar, the SMBE will hold its Annual General Meeting. At the AGM, an election will be held for all positions on the SMBE Council. Any members of SMBE (NSW) wishing to nominate for President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and four Councillors can do so at the AGM.

The Biomedical College's Sydney and Newcastle Divisions and SMBE (NSW) will be holding its first technical meeting for the year in March. It will on Ventilation and be held in the Auditorium at Sydney Division office of Engineers Australia - 8 Thomas St, Chatswood.

For more information contact Patrick O'Meley - [patrick.omeley@email.cs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:patrick.omeley@email.cs.nsw.gov.au) or Ian Craig - [ian.craig@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ian.craig@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au)

### Victoria

SMBE (Vic) has a new committee for 2011. The committee members are:

President - Shoo Chin Siah	Vice-President - Bradley Hayes
Treasurer - Robert Barnett	Secretary - Vaishnav Rajan
Medical Graduate - Gavin Robinson	Non-Medical Hospital Staff - Andrew Moorhouse
Scientific Establishment - Darren Freeman	Student Member - Michael Miles
Commercial Establishment - David Smith	
Educational Establishment - Emmanuel Koumoundouros	
General Committee Leon Alexander, Jono Neville, Lisa Karpinski, Kevyn Nyland	

The SMBE meets on the 3rd Tuesday every month at Engineering House in North Melbourne (21 Bedford Street, North Melbourne) on varied and interesting topics.

Meetings commence at 6pm, with refreshments at 5:30pm

The next meeting is 15th March 2010, topic TBC.

## **Queensland**

The Queensland SMBE is currently inactive. Attempts will be made to reactivate the society in the first half of 2011.

## **Western Australia**

The SMBE in Western Australia is not currently functioning. It is reported that steps will be take to reform the society in May 2011.

## **RICHARD KIRSNER RETIRES FROM THE BIOMEDICAL COLLEGE BOARD**

Dr Richard Kirsner, BE, MSc(Hons), PhD, CEng, CPEng, FIEAust, FIET, FACPSEM retired from the BME College Board at the December meeting. Richard has served on the Board since 2000 and has for many years been involved in the International Federation of Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE). At the IFMBE he was an Administrative Council member for two terms and Treasurer from 1991 to 1997. He is currently a member of the IFMBE Working Group on Asia-Pacific Activities. Other positions he has held include Chairmanship of the organising committee of the 2<sup>nd</sup> IFMBE Pan-Pacific Symposium in Melbourne in 1989 and membership of the organising committee for the 2003 World Congress in Sydney for which he was also Congress Treasurer. At the national level, he has been Secretary of the Australian Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering since 1983.

Dr Kirsner's career as a biomedical engineer has included both academic and hospital appointments and he is currently Adjunct Professor of Biomedical Engineering; in the Department of Electronic Engineering at La Trobe University. He was Director of Medical Engineering and Physics (formerly Physical Sciences) at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, from 1977 to 1997.

His contribution to the College Board will be missed and we wish him well for the future.

## ***From the developing world***

### **Mercy Ship visits Timor-Leste**

In August 2010, the USNS Mercy sailed into Dili Harbour for a mission which would provide medical and surgical care for the citizens of this brand new nation. The Mercy has a crew of civilians and naval personnel including 12 biomedical equipment technicians or BMETs. During the visit to Dili, the BMETs divided their time between servicing the ship's medical equipment and helping out in the National Biomedical Engineering Workshop.



*USNS Mercy at anchor in Dili Harbour*

*For the full story click on this link*

### **Biomedical Engineers provide assistance to countries in need of technical assistance**

Over the past 20 years or so Australian biomedical engineers and technicians have been providing technical assistance to developing countries from the Pacific Islands to countries in Asia and the Middle East. Aid projects in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, Pacific Island countries, Gaza & the West Bank, Lebanon and Afghanistan have seen literally dozens of engineers and technicians heading off overseas to help restore, repair, maintain, set-up or provide logistics for hospitals in need of help.



*Unloading cargo for disaster relief in Honiara, Solomon Islands*

*For the full story click on this link*

## COLLEGE BOARD CONTACTS

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Biomedical College Board  
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Sydney Division  
Canberra Division  
Victorian Division  
Tasmanian Division  
South Australian Division  
Western Australian Division  
Northern Division  
National Committee on Rehabilitation Engineering  
National Panel on Clinical Engineering  
National Panel on the Biomechanics of Impact Injury  
National Panel on Biomedical Engineering Education & Research  
National Panel on Biomedical Technical Aid  
Representative of Women in Engineering  
Representative of Young Engineers Australia  
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