

“People and skills powering Australia’s future”



FEBRUARY 2013 - QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (following 28 February, 2013 meeting of Board)

To enhance communication with API members and Partner Universities this Quarterly Newsletter is prepared immediately following API Board meetings to advise of the key decisions and actions taken at Board meetings and to advise of planned actions to address the skills shortage in power engineering.

TOPIC/ISSUE	NOTES/OUTCOMES/DECISION	FUTURE ACTION
1. API Board Chairman	Gerard Reiter (Transgrid) was confirmed unanimously by the API Board as API Board Chairman following the resignation of Simon Bartlett in November 2012.	
2.API Board Strategic Planning Review for 2013-2017	<p>The Board reaffirmed the Vision and Value Proposition statements of the current API Strategic Plan and amended the Objectives to be:</p> <p>Objective 1: Provide a Sustainable Supply of Quality Power Engineering Graduates to Industry</p> <p>Objective 2: University Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Provides Relevant Industry Skills</p> <p>Objective 3: Value Added Continuing Professional Development Programs</p> <p>Objective 4: A Respected Organisation Leading the National Development of Power Engineering Skills</p> <p>Key Initiatives/Approaches adopted to achieve these objectives were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bursary Program is considered cornerstone of API objectives and hence no changes apart from consideration to varying the number of bursaries awarded each year based on business environment/members ability to take bursary students for vacation employment • Continue support for ATSE STELR Project which promotes the relevance of science and maths in everyday life to grade 9 & 10 high school students (30,000+); Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Partnership; API Power Engineering website development and maintenance; Support for UQ Women in Engineering Initiative • Funding will be provided to universities who give a commitment/plan to implement API Power Engineering Undergraduate Curriculum Modules 	Draft API Strategic Plan and supporting actions/initiative to be communicated to members representatives at API State Coordination meetings in April/May to obtain input/feedback and then finalised at API Board meeting in June, 2014.

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	<p>over 2 years; funding up to \$50k per university(based on \$3k per module) to do this and available to all 19 universities – where universities can demonstrate current 70-80% implementation of API undergraduate modules alternative funding proposals will be considered for teaching & learning improvement projects up to \$50k</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities with UQ and UNSW for a “Measures Funding Grant” available from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) which seeks as the objective capacity building and skills development in the renewable energy industry. • Develop a Scoping Document for a Project to “Investigate and develop viable systematic approaches to improve the effort, benefits and customer/community value from innovation in the Australian energy sector”. • Review API Membership Classes and Fee Structures in line with industry challenges and a move to greater funding from “fee for service” activities 	
<p>3. API 2013 Summer School and API 2014 Summer School</p>	<p>The API 2013 Summer School at Mt Lofty House, Adelaide Hills had 37 delegates attend over 2 weeks. A brief summary of the feedback from the attending delegates was:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lecture/presentation program: 83+% rated the number of lectures about right, 94.4% rated the coverage about right and 85.7% rated the treatment about right 2. Value of Summer School to delegates career development: 94+% rating of good or excellent for a refresh and update of knowledge and to broaden understanding of best practice in power engineering 3. Overall evaluation; 96% rated the Summer School “Excellent or Good Value” (71% Excellent/25% Good), and 100% of delegates responded they are prepared to recommend the Program/Summer School to their colleagues/managers. 	<p>API 2014 Summer School will be held on Sunshine Coast, Queensland from 16 February to 28 February, 2014</p>
<p>4. Next meeting of API Board.</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE, 2013 – by teleconference.</p>	

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