

“People and skills powering Australia’s future”



**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (following 6 May meeting of Board)**

To enhance communication with API members and Partner Universities it has been decided to prepare this Quarterly Newsletter 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.

It is proposed to keep this to 2-3 pages, generally in tabular presentation.

TOPIC/ISSUE	NOTES/OUTCOMES/DECISION	FUTURE ACTION
1.API Strategic Plan/Actions, Budget 2009/10 and 3 Year Forecast	<p>1. The Board approved the API Strategic Plan 2009 – 13 following the Strategic Planning session with university representatives in February, 09. Go to <a href="http://www.api.edu.au">www.api.edu.au</a> “Planning Section” to view a copy of this plan.</p> <p>2. Key features of the 2009/10 budget and 3 Year forecast approved by the Board are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Continued implementation of the API National Bursary Program of 45-50 bursaries per year resulting in approximately 200 total student power engineering bursary holders in 2011/12 at a total cost of \$540,000.</li><li>- Continued funding of activities at universities to enhance power engineering teaching and laboratory equipment to produce improved quantities and quality of graduates and postgraduates. This funding ranges from \$500,000 in 2008/09 increasing to \$900,000 in 2010/11.</li><li>- Implementation of the Centres of Excellence Project to a National agenda based on collaboration between universities to use their expertise/specialities to develop power engineering curriculum.</li></ul>	<p>The key strategies for 2009 to be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Retention of existing members and the promotion of the value and sustainability objectives of API to members i.e Future Proofing of the Energy Industry Power Engineering Capability</li><li>2. Continue Bursary Program implementation ( industry support for vacation employment critical)</li><li>3. Continuation of Power Engineering Curriculum development through CASR and Diversity Fund Grants (mainly 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year undergraduate module development) and promotion/marketing of this to membership and partner universities.</li><li>4. API &amp; <a href="http://www.powerengineering.org.au">www.powerengineering.org.au</a> Website annual update/development</li><li>5. Development of closer industry/university links and relationships</li></ol>

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<p>2. API Power Engineering Summer School (Residential) 2010</p>	<p>1. The Board approved the approach and move to a commercial conference venue in Perth 2009 and endorsed the recommendation to hold the 2010 Summer School on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland from <b>8-19 February, 2010</b></p> <p>2. The final report and delegate feedback from the 2009 Summer School which was extremely positive was noted.</p>	<p>1. Promotion of the 2010 Summer School to API members advising of theme, aims and benefits.</p> <p>2. API Members to arrange for delegates to be identified from within their organisations and register these by <b>end of July, 09</b> to provide seed funding and commitment to the School.</p>
<p>3. Review and Assessment of Proposals from Universities for Funding in 2009/10 Financial Year.</p>	<p>1. The Board approved 24 proposals from 15 universities totalling \$980,000.</p> <p>2. The distribution of funding on a State basis was:          -WA : \$154,000          -VIC: \$158,000          -TAS : \$100,000          -NSW : \$305,000          -QLD : \$241,000</p>	<p>1. The API will seek to maximise collaboration and access/provision of resources on a national basis between universities for all projects approved.</p> <p>2. All university projects approved will be required to report on progress on a quarterly basis and to present their project and progress to the annual Australasian Universities Power Engineering Conference (AUPEC in September 2009 – Adelaide)</p>
<p>4.API National Bursary Program for 2009</p>	<p>1. The API Board approved the continuation of the National API Power Engineering Program with a commitment of \$346,000 in 2009/10.</p> <p>2.The following proposed number of bursaries are to be awarded in 2009:          - NSW:8-10 (results in total 30-32)          -WA:5-6 (results in total 22-23)          -VIC:8-10 (results in total 31-33)          -QLD:15 (results in total 56)          -SA:3-5 (results in total 13-15)          -TAS:3-5 (results in total 8-10)</p>	<p>1. Member companies will be contacted to advise commitment to number of API Bursary holders they will provide vacation work experience at end of 2009 <b>by June, 09.</b></p> <p>2. API Bursary student vacation report executive summaries on <a href="http://www.api.edu.au">www.api.edu.au</a> under “student Section” also winning essays by 5 students to competition “Challenges and Innovation in Power Engineering – from the perspective of my vacation work experience”</p>
<p>5.API/Australian Power Academy Closer Cooperation</p>	<p>1. The Board noted the exchange of information between the two organisations, including the similarities and differences which would need to be addressed in working closer together.</p>	<p>1. The Chairs and Secretaries of each organisation will meet to ascertain commitment to a potential amalgamation and if so agree on future actions and transition issues to be addressed.</p>

6. Academic Industry Sabbaticals	1. The Board approved a proposal to offer assignments in industry during summer vacations for power engineering academics (generally 8-12 weeks in period early December to late February)	1. Board members to advise of possible assignments/projects which academics could undertake by 31 July, 09 2. CE to seek registration of interest from academics interested in undertaking a sabbatical in 2009/10 by 31 July, 09
6. Board Chairman and Deputy Chairman	1. The Board appointed Simon Bartlett, Chief Operating Officer – Powerlink Queensland as Chair of API following the resignation of Alan Flett. 2. The Board appointed Peter McIntyre, General Manager Network Development and Regulatory Affairs – Transgrid as Deputy Chair of API.	
7. Next meeting	<b>Wednesday 5 August, 09 8.30am to 3pm University of Queensland - Brisbane</b>	

Prepared by: Mike Griffin  
13 May, 09