

“People and skills powering Australia’s future”



MAY, 2010 - QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (following 19 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 2010/11 and 3 Year Forecast	<p>1. The Board approved the API Strategic Plan 2010 – 14 following the Strategic Planning session with university representatives in February,2010. Go to www.api.edu.au “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">-Membership fees to remain same as last 2 years (no increase)- 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 \$451,000 to \$463,000.- 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 has increased from \$500,000 in 2008/09 to \$980,000 in 209/10 and it is proposed to stabilise at \$900,000 per annum.	<p>The key strategies for 2010 to be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">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 Capability2. Continue Bursary Program implementation (industry support for vacation employment critical)3. Continuation of Power Engineering Curriculum Development through Diversity Fund Grant (mainly 3rd and 4th year undergraduate module development) and promotion/marketing of this to membership and partner universities.4. API & www.powerengineering.org.au Website annual update/development5. Provision has been made for API funding of a potential CRC bid in 2011.

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	- 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.	
2. API Power Engineering Summer School (Residential) 2011	<p>1. The Board endorsed the approach taken over the last 2 years to move to a commercial conference venue and endorsed the recommendation to hold the 2011 Summer School in the <u>Hunter Valley/Newcastle region (NSW) from Sunday 20 Feb to Friday 4 March, 2011</u></p> <p>2. The final report and delegate feedback from the 2010 Summer School which was extremely positive was noted.</p>	<p>1. Promotion of the 2011 Summer School to API members advising of theme, aims and benefits. <u>Theme proposed is “Delivering Community Value through Optimised Power System Performance”</u></p> <p>2. API Members to arrange for delegates to be identified from within their organisations and register these by end of July, 2010 to provide seed funding and commitment to the School.</p>
3. Review and Assessment of Proposals from Universities for Funding in 2009/10 Financial Year.	<p>1. The Board approved 23 proposals from 12 universities totalling \$865,000.</p> <p>2. The distribution of funding on a State basis was: -SA : \$20,000 -WA : \$105,000 -VIC: \$60,000 -TAS : \$100,000 -NSW : \$332,000 -QLD : \$248,000</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 December, 2010 – Christchurch, NZ)</p>
4.API National Bursary Program for 2010	<p>1. The API Board approved the continuation of the National API Power Engineering Program with a commitment of \$450,000 in 2010/11.</p> <p>2.The following proposed number of bursaries are to be awarded in 2010: - NSW:10-13 (results in total 37-40) -WA:6 (results in total 25) -VIC:8 (results in total 41) -QLD:12-14 (results in total 48-50) -SA:3 (results in total 16) -TAS:3 (results in total 11)</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 2010 by AUG, 2010.</p> <p>2. API Bursary student vacation report executive summaries on www.api.edu.au under “student Section”.</p>

5.API/Australian Power Academy Amalgamation.	<p>1. The Board approved the final draft “Heads of Agreement” and delegated the CE/Secretary to make minor changes as necessary and sign the Heads of Agreement on behalf of the API Board.</p> <p>2. The agreed effective date for amalgamation is 1 January, 2011.</p>	<p>1. The CE to finalise API Constitution changes to incorporate agreed Board representational arrangements for approval at API AGM (Nov, 2010).</p> <p>2. CE to work with APA Secretary to develop and action an agreed transition plan.</p>
6. API Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) Preliminary Scoping	<p>1. The CE provided a report/presentation on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Why pursue an Energy CRC -Why should a CRC be championed and lead by API - Potential CRC Profile -Key Steps/Costs associated with CRC Bid 	<p>1.The CE is to prepare a listing of potential research technical areas which will be supported by Australian Industry, and form the basis of research proposed by a CRC (by drawing on work done by Cigre recently).</p> <p>2. Board members will review/endorse and prioritise Top 10 Technical Areas to be researched in Australia.</p>
7. Support for STELR Project	<p>1. The Board approved a contribution of \$75,000 to the ATSE Science and Technology education Leveraging Relevance (STELR) Project.</p> <p>2. This project utilises the relevant context of Global Warming to deliver content about renewable energy resources and electrical energy generation to year 9 and 10 students across Australia (it is unique in that it is delivered to all students at a year level in the school – not just a select few who participate in extra-curricula programs – and is currently provided to over 180 schools with over 22,000 students participating).</p>	<p>1. CE to work with STELR Project manager to identify mutual opportunities to promote power engineering to young students.</p>
9. Next meeting	<p>Wednesday 4 August, 2010 8.30am to 3pm University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney.</p>	

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