

“People and skills powering Australia’s future”

MAY 2012 - QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (following 30 April, 2012 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 Strategic and Action Plans and Budget for 2012/13	<p>1. Board decided to continue with same level of membership fees (held constant for the last 4 years).</p> <p>2.The Board noted the constrained economic environment was impact many member organisations (along with structural changes) and requested API prepare a position statement and survey of member organisations regarding graduate recruitment and vacation employment in the industry.</p> <p>3. The Board approved the API Strategic and Action Plans for 2012-2016 and the 2012/13 Budget.</p>	CE to arrange position statement and survey regarding graduate placements and vacation employment and send to member organisation CEO’s/MD’s and key contacts.
2.Assessment of Submissions received from Universities for Funding of Teaching and Learning improvement projects by API in 2012/13	<p>1. The Board approved 15 teaching and learning improvement projects totalling \$795,000 to be undertaken by 11 universities across Australia.</p> <p>2. API approved part funding for 4 early Career Female Power Engineering Academics in support of its objective to increase the representation of women in power engineering.</p>	CE to complete agreements with successful universities for undertaking projects in 2012/13.
3. Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Partnership with API	<p>1.The API Board approved entering into a partnership for 3 years (with an annual review/report) with EWB which will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -4th year API Bursary holder participation in selecting EWB final year projects -API Bursary holders opportunity to be mentored by EWB corporate partner organisations - API Bursary holders encouraged to join EWB Energy Knowledge Hub to provide networking and resource sharing amongst students 	CE to final details of partnership agreement and implement partnership opportunities.
4. API Support for University of Queensland Initiative for Women in Engineering	<p>1. API approved sponsorship of \$20,000 per year for 5 years conditional on contributions from Powerlink Qld, Ergon Energy and Energex totalling \$30,000 towards UQ Women in Engineering Initiative. Rio Tinto and Thiess will be the other industry sponsors/contributors.</p>	CE to approach Powerlink, Ergon Energy and Energex as co-sponsors with API representing energy sector.

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	2. The UQ sponsorship agrees to work with other universities state – wide and nationally to share experiences, processes and resources. This will see UQ support networking events for female engineering students from universities across Queensland and Australia.	Following this agreement with UQ to be finalised and implementation commenced.
5. API Power Engineering Summer School (Residential) 19th February to 2nd March 2012 API 2013 Summer School Adelaide SA February/March 2013	1. The Board noted the positive feedback received from delegates at the API 2012 Summer School and the success of the model used over the past 4 years. Key overall results were: -80+% rated the number, coverage and treatment of lectures about right -88% rated technical site visits the right number -83+% rated networking/social events enjoyable and strongly enhanced networking between delegates -82+% rated summer school as value to their career development - overall 61% rated Excellent Value for Money, 31.7% rated Good Value for Money - 100% prepared to recommend to their colleagues/managers	CE to commence organising API 2013 Summer school and involve local members from industry in SA on Steering Group.
4.API Submission to “Inquiry into the Shortage of Engineering and Related Employment Skills”	1. The Board noted the transcript of the Senate Committee hearing attended by Chair and CE of API and the positive comments about API activities received from senate Committee members.	1. API CE and Chair to visit Federal Government Departments in mid-year to lobby regarding API recommendations in our submission.
9. Next meeting	WEDNESDAY 8 AUGUST UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA HOBART 9AM -3PM	

Prepared by: Mike Griffin
3 May, 2012