

**“People and skills powering Australia’s future”**

**NOVEMBER 2011 - QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (following 23 November 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
<p><b>API Submission to Business Higher Education (B-HERT) Awards.</b></p>	<p><b>API was recognised at the B-HERT Awards (sponsored by The Department of Education, Employment &amp; Workplace Relations) with the 2011 Award for Outstanding Achievement in Collaboration in Higher Education &amp; Training</b></p>	
<p>1.API Bursary Program for 2011 and proposal to fund ATSE STELR Project Solar Car Extension involving API Bursary Holders</p>	<p>1. Official 2011 Bursary Award ceremonies have been held/are planned to be held in all States with good attendences.</p> <p>2. The 2011 API Bursary Graduating students were also recognised at the award ceremonies and encouraged to take positions with API Member organisations and remain in contact through the API Bursary Alumni Program.</p> <p>3. The API Board approved funding for the provision of class (years 9 &amp;10) sets of solar car kits (15 each) to 60 of the 185 schools participating in the STELR Project in 2011. The API Bursary holders will visit these schools to explain what power engineers do, what subjects they study at university and help judge the solar car competition.</p>	<p>The State API university Coordinators are working to place API Bursary holders in summer vacation employment with API Member companies by early December, 2011.</p>
<p>2. API Power Engineering Summer School (Residential) <b>19<sup>th</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2012</b></p>	<p>1. The Board noted the progress report for the API 2012 Summer School to be held in Victoria – Lancemore Hill, Macedon Ranges area within 40 minutes of Melbourne airport.</p> <p>To date there are 38 registrations with 3 complementary registrations awarded to 3 early career power engineering academics.</p>	<p><b>Registrations remain open until the END of DECEMBER, 2011.</b></p> <p>The keynote participant is Professor Jim McDonald, Vice – Chancellor and Chair in Electrical Power Engineering, Strathclyde University (Glasgow UK)</p>

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<p>3. API Research Initiative Options</p>	<p>1. The Board noted the feedback received from the CRC Committee following its unsuccessful CRC Bid.</p> <p>2. The Board decided to continue the work to increase the research and development activities within the energy industry in a more coordinated, concerted manner and agreed on an approach/criteria to work with a reduced number of universities on these research initiatives. The rationale is that universities with critical mass of power engineering resources will be more likely to produce the pipeline of future power engineering academic leaders</p> <p>3. API will continue to support all existing universities to improve power engineering teaching and learning to provide the future pipeline of engineering graduates.</p>	<p>1. The API will seek advice/commitments from its Industry members on their priorities for research projects scoped during the CRC Bid preparation to determine future research project priorities.</p> <p>2. API will hold a workshop in December, 2011 with its university partners to explain the API research options being pursued and approach/criteria to be followed.</p>
<p>4.Results and Analysis of API Members Workforce Planning Survey</p>	<p>1. A report on the API 2011 Members Workforce Planning Survey will be sent to all API Member representatives and they will be requested to provide information/advice on the leakage/percentage of power engineering graduates and experienced engineers lost to other industries.</p>	<p>Key Outcomes and Findings from the Survey will be input into API Strategic Planning session in March, 2011.</p>
<p>5. API AGM</p>	<p>The API AGM was held in accordance with the Constitution of the API.</p>	
<p>6. Strategies and Actions to Increase the Representation of Women in Power Engineering</p>	<p>1. The API Board approved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Specifically promote and market during the API National Bursary Program the API Objective to Increase the Representation of Women in Power Engineering and encourage applications from women for the API Bursary.</li> <li>-Funding of up to \$50,000 to develop power engineering career promotional materials directed at Career Advisors and female students</li> <li>-Co-ordination of the involvement of young female power engineers from member companies and bursary holders in school visit outreach programs, which will utilise promotional materials</li> </ul>	<p>The Board approved actions will be implanted during 2012.</p>

	<p>-The Annual API Request for Funding from Universities to encourage the appointment of female academics in power engineering from 2012/13.</p> <p>-Provide industry mentoring and support for existing API women bursary students (to give guidance and support on moving into industry).</p>	
7. API use of IEEE PES Careers Service Software	The API Board endorsed continuation of negotiations with IEEE PES and software supplier CSO Research to develop and implement an on line career service site for Australian power engineering students and API Member organisations.	API will work with IEEE PES to implement the Careers Service in 2012.
8. API Request for Proposals from Universities in 2012/13 Financial Year.	The API Board approved revised priorities for the Request for Proposals from Australian Universities for Funding by the Australian Power Institute for the Financial Year 2012/13 as provided in the endorsed budget 3 year forward forecast:	A meeting will be held in December, 2011 with API University partners to explain the revised priorities for funding proposals for both : 1. Teaching & Learning Improvement Projects and 2. Research Projects
9. Next meeting	<b>THURSDAY 1 MARCH, 2012</b> <b>LOCATION: MELBOURNE, Lancemore Hill (Macedon ranges 35 minutes drive from Melbourne airport)</b> <b>In conjunction with API 2012 Summer School</b>	

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