

“People and skills powering Australia’s future”



**JUNE 2013 - QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (following 5 June, 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
1.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><b>Objective 1:</b> Provide a Sustainable Supply of Quality Power Engineering Graduates to Industry <b>Objective 2:</b> University Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Provides Relevant Industry Skills <b>Objective 3:</b> Value Added Continuing Professional Development Programs <b>Objective 4:</b> 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"><li>-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</li><li>-Continue support for ATSE STELR Project which promotes the relevance of science and maths in everyday life to grade 9 &amp; 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</li><li>-Funding will be provided to universities who give a commitment/plan to implement API Power Engineering Undergraduate Curriculum Modules 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 &amp; learning improvement projects up to \$50k</li></ul> <p>The Board approved the budget for 2013/14 which provides for expenditure of \$1.85M and reviewed API Membership Classes and Fee Structures in line with industry challenges and a move to greater funding from “fee for service” activities. The agreed 3 Year forward financial forecast provides for a reduction in membership fees from 2014/15 to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Governor Members: \$50,000 p.a.(from \$80,000)</li><li>-Principal Members: \$25,000 p.a (from \$40,000)</li><li>- Industry Members : \$10,000 p.a. (from \$20,000)</li></ul>

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2.Funding Support to Universities to Implement API Undergraduate Power Engineering Modules	The API Board approved the 6 recommended proposals for Implementation of API Undergraduate Power Engineering Modules (including development of new modules) totalling \$188,800 and the Board endorsed existing commitments for early career/woman academics totalling \$250,000 in financial year 2013/14.
3.Progress with API National Bursary Program 2013 and API Bursary Holder Vacation Placements in 2013/14 Summer Vacation	<p>The Board approved the following maximum allocation of bursaries on a State by State basis for 2013 (based on a maximum total of 40):  QLD: 10 ; NSW: 10 ; VIC: 8 ; TAS: 3 ; SA: 3 ; WA: 6</p> <p>The Board approved the following approach to vacation placements for API Bursary holders in 2013:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-CE to personally contact all member organisation representatives in June &amp; July to obtain the number of API Bursary holders (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year) they can take over the 2013/14 Summer Vacation</li> <li>-If a shortfall of vacation placements exist write to member organisation MD/CEO's requesting considering taking more vacation students.</li> <li>-Work within individual member company vacation placement processes/timing to place API Bursary holders in August and September</li> </ul>
4.Progress with API Career Development – Members Participation Program: Pilot in Victoria	<p>The Board endorsed the following objectives/approach to the development of a API Career Development – Members Participation Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-One of the key objectives is to put in place a development program to address the difficulties industry is experiencing in attracting and retaining senior engineers (5-10 years experience (API 2011 Workforce Planning Survey)</li> <li>-The proposed development program amongst member organisations will provide the opportunity for experience to be gained amongst all market participant organisations within the energy sector (and hence develop and broaden individuals competencies and experience)</li> <li>-The proposed development program participants should have at least 3-5 years experience in the industry (i.e. the proposed program is not targeting recent graduates).</li> <li>-The work rotation approach needs to address “no poaching” of participants</li> <li>-How to handle participants who exit the program needs to be addressed.</li> <li>-The suite of potential activities available on the program needs to be decided (possibly a “core” set of activities + a set of “elective” activities)</li> <li>-Use the Pilot Program in Victoria as the “Design Group” for the initial development of the Program as well as the Steering Group to monitor performance and outcomes (same group of senior representatives from participating member organisations).</li> </ul>
5. API 2014 Summer School	<p>The API 2014 Summer School will be held from SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY to FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY, 2014 on SUNSHINE COAST , QLD.</p> <p>All members are requested to commence identifying the number of delegates they will be sending from their organisation.</p>
6. Next meeting of API Board.	<p><b>WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST, 2013 – SYDNEY (Venue to be advised)</b>  <b>Note: This will be held in conjunction with the API ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR 2013.</b></p>

Prepared by: Mike Griffin  
13 June, 2013.