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Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
Queensland Section (ABN 67 431 648 974)

iee-qld.org

IEEE QUEENSLAND SECTION NEWSLETTER

October 2016

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Section Chair's Report



GARRY EINICKE
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Welcome to IEEE Queensland's third newsletter for 2016.

The IEEE is changing. Our circa-400k membership is currently organised in a matrix-like structure. Our Queensland Section reports to the Australia Council and the Asia-Pacific Region through to the IEEE Corporate Headquarters in New York. Plus, our Chapter Chairs network with up to 39 technical Societies.

It is proposed that a legal entity will be established in Australia. This company would be managed by a Board on which each of the existing Australia Council and Section Committee members could be represented. This approach aims to provide two benefits. First, to better manage potential risks and liabilities at our IEEE events. Second, to simplify our management processes.

Our Australia Council and Section committee members take on the organisational improvement workload. I am grateful to the volunteers who spend countless hours

making the IEEE world a better place. In particular, I thank the outgoing Australia Council Chair, Tapan Saha, together with the outgoing Queensland Section Webmaster and Treasurer, Mike Robinson, for their valuable contributions over the past years. I also welcome the incoming Queensland Section Chair, Daniel Eghbal, and the Vice Chair, Nilesh Modi, who will be steering our ship in 2017/18.

Vaughan Clarkson is organising our next major event, the IEEE Section Congress 2017 (SC2017) in Sydney, Australia, at the International Convention Centre, from 11 to 13 August 2017. Please contact Vaughan if you would like to assist.

I look forward to seeing you at our AGM Dinner Function on Tuesday 29 November at the University of Queensland (refer to the invite details on the next page).

As usual, feel free contact a member of our team if we can support your engineering and research in some way.

2016 IEEE Queensland Section's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Dinner

IEEE Queensland Section's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Dinner will be held on the evening of Tuesday 29 November 2016. The Section Committee cordially invites you to join us for this event. The AGM and Dinner will be a great way for you to meet with colleagues and network with other guests.

Date: Tuesday, 29 November 2016

Location: The University of Queensland, Sir Llew Edwards Building - Terrace Room

Map: [Map](#)

Time: Arrive at 17:15 for a 17:30 start to the AGM.

RSVP: [RSVP](#) (registration closes on 25th Nov)

Cost for AGM: Nil

Cost for Dinner (includes drinks and a three course meal):

- IEEE and Engineers Australia members: \$ 45

- Non-members: \$ 60

If you have special dietary requirements please let us know when you register for the event. All menu items are halal compliant.

Payment options:

To facilitate better planning of the event there will be no 'pay at the door' option. Instead, payments for the dinner should be made to the Section's bank account by close of business 25 November 2016.

Bank account details:

Bank: bankmecu

Account name: I E E E Qld Section A/C (please note the space between IEEE characters)

Account number: 08300761

BSB code: 313-140

Please make sure your name appears on the payment advice from your financial institution. If you are attending the AGM and not the dinner, please make this clear when you register.

Tentative agenda:

17:30 – 19:00 IEEE Queensland Annual General Meeting (AGM)

19:00 – 19:30 Drinks and entree served

19:30 – 20:00 Guest speaker (Professor Evan Gray, Griffith University)

20:00 – 20:45 Main course served

20:45 – 21:00 IEEE Prizes presented

21:00 – 21:30 Dessert & tea/coffee served

21:30 Event concludes

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Regards,

Daniel Eghbal (IEEE Queensland Section Vice-Chair)

Educational Activities Chair's Report



PROFESSOR KALUM UDAGEPOLA
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We are very keen to organise seminars related to Spatial Enablement. If any committee or university is keen to hold such events please send your request to me (kalumu@srdita.com.au). I would like to organise these events for your students and researchers. Below is a brief discussion on a topic that could be presented.



Future Event - Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Spatial Thinking and the IEEE

What is Spatial Thinking?

According to Joseph Kerski (Esri 2013) it is: *“Identifying, analyzing, and understanding the location, scale, patterns, and trends of the geographic and temporal relationships among data, phenomena, and issues”*.

In 2010 Newcombe and Frick said *“Any mobile organism must be able to navigate in its world to survive and must represent the spatial environment in order to do so.”*

Newcombe and Frick also said *“Spatial thinking helps reasoning in domains that are not, on the surface, obviously spatial.”*

In 2016 many industries are transitioning into chain management (supply or distribution) or information analytics in order to optimise their current financial position and better prepare for future scenarios.

The Spatial Industry can be defined as those that operate under the umbrella of observation, analysis, management and representation of location information in order to support the planning, approval, design, construction and operational decisions of organisations or people. It is currently estimated that over 80% of Australian government decisions rely on spatial context.

Taking those two concepts of transition and an industry with visibility into all parts of modern life leads to an almost perfect storm of opportunity - if only to those with the skills required and insight to collaborate.

The Spatial Industry is one of the largest users of cutting edge technology. We acquire high resolution multi-spectral satellite imagery at massive scale - one company alone indicates numbers of 60TB per day. We sense our environment using LiDAR or laser and can even detect millimetre-scale surface subsidence using radar-return phase calculations from space.

Concepts such as Smart Cities rely on spatial context, digital twinning and automated awareness of place to function as planned. Internationally SmartICT / Digital Engineering / BIM (Building Information Modelling) is being mandated by governments to enable cost effective use of public funding and efficient use of resources. In the UK savings of 15%-20% are common on projects since the introduction of BIM.

Many of these concepts are known to the audience of this communication as subject matter in data acquisition, distribution or storage. The opportunities however arise when the Spatial Data Value Chain

is supported by an education, research and design industry at all stages. As we move through the cycle of Data > Information > Evidence > Knowledge > Patterns > Metaphors we have many interfaces between Spatial and Electric/Electronic Engineering. By introducing these audiences to each other at a problem and technology level we can create a significant spatio-technical capability in our region with almost unlimited global markets and opportunity.

Reference:

Kerski, Joseph J. (2013), Understanding our changing world by asking questions with web mapping tools. Illinois Council for the Social Studies Quarterly 2(3): 3-11. Fall 2013.

Nora S. Newcombe, Andrea Frick (2010), Early Education for Spatial Intelligence: Why, What, and How, International Mind, Brain, and Education Society and Wiley Periodicals, 4(3): 103-111, September 2010.

Computational Intelligence Society



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Committee:

Chair: Amin Gharipour, Griffith University
Vice-chair: Andrew Lewis, Griffith University
Secretary: Zahra Jadidi, Griffith University
Treasurer: Alan Liew, Griffith University

Computational Intelligence Society Chapter has organized the following seminars this year:

DICTA 2016 conference

30 November - 2 December 2016

Computational Intelligence Society Chapter will be providing technical sponsorship of DICTA 2016 (Digital Image Computing: Techniques and Applications) conference that will be held on the Gold Coast.

September 2016

Title: ‘What is Spiral Optimization Algorithm?’

Speaker: Dr Kenichi Tamura from Tokyo Metropolitan University

Abstract: In recent years, nature-inspired metaheuristic algorithms have been attracting more attention in recognition of their versatility and conception. With this as background, the spiral optimization (SPO) algorithm, a metaheuristic inspired by spiral phenomena in nature, was proposed by Tamura and Yasuda to solve continuous optimization problems. In this seminar, motivation, modelling and theory on SPO algorithm are introduced.

July 2016

Title: ‘Some Progress in Robotic Vision’

Speaker: Professor Peter Corke, Professor of Robotic Vision at QUT, and Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Robotic Vision.

Abstract: This talk will define and motivate the problem of robotic vision and discuss some recent progress at the Australian Centre for Robotic Vision. This includes component technologies such as deep

learning for computer vision and motion, middleware, and end-to-end systems for applications such as agriculture, environmental remediation and asset inspection.

Jun 2016

Title: ‘On Cyber Conflict, Industrial Control System Security, and Feature Selection’

Speaker: Dr. Ernest Foo, an active researcher in the area of information and network security. He has been responsible for the design and development of the QUT SCADA security research laboratory.

Abstract: Industrial control systems have been moving from isolated communications networks to IT networks connected to corporate networks, making it probable that these devices are being exposed to the Internet. Many industrial control systems have been designed with poor or little security features, making them vulnerable to potential attack. This talk discussed recent incidents of successful cyber attacks against critical infrastructure that are changing the landscape of modern conflict. In addition, the talk discussed recent research that identifies and analyses several feature sets that have been used in studies related to industrial control system communication protocols in order to propose a well-defined initial feature set.

May 2016

Title: ‘Emerging Technologies for Smart Cities’

Speaker: Professor Simon Kaplan, CEO of [ui!] Australia, a German-based smart city company that has recently set up in Australia.

Abstract: Increasing urbanisation is resulting in cities

struggling to meet the needs of their rapidly-growing populations. At the same time there is increasing pressure to reduce the carbon footprint and energy use of cities, for both economic and climate-change reasons, and a need to do ‘more with less’ in economically difficult times. Unsurprisingly, many cities are turning to technology to solve this hydra-headed problem. Smart City technologies broadly have 3 parts: 1) Sensors, to gather more data at finer granularity more frequently; 2) Analytics, to use the data from the sensors, fused with existing data stores within the city, to manage resources better, reduce resource load, and improve services; and 3) Access, to allow residents of the city to track and participate.

Title: ‘AI: The Future of Travel’

Speaker: Dr Kelvin Ross, the a founder of K. J. Ross & Associates, currently employing over 100 specialist software testing consultants, and a NATA accredited testing laboratory.

Abstract: Recently, Barry Diller (chairman and senior executive of Expedia) forecasted that AI will be travel’s next big thing. Technology disruption from data science and machine learning will likely have an impact on many different industries and roles. As foretold by Diller, an area that is likely to change dramatically is the role of the travel agent. As more and more consumers book their travel online, how may online travel agencies evolve to utilize data science and machine learning to provide greater support to the traveler? Dr Kelvin Ross is founder of SkiDreamz.com, a tech startup that is investigating AI and machine learning to provide travel planning support normally provided by a travel agent. In this presentation, Kelvin explained the activities of a traveller, and at what stages data can be used to optimize the experience. He discussed a number of considerations:

- Why would AI be a benefit to the traveller and the travel agent?
- How machine learning algorithms can be applied to these activities?
- What access to data would further optimize the experience?
- What human interaction is involved to enhance the customer experience?

Title: ‘Big Data Fusion for Mining e-Health Data’

Speaker: A/Prof Xue Li, DKE Division, School of Information Technology & Electrical Engineering, UQ

Abstract: In medical research and healthcare, there are many large data sets which are related to each other in terms of the clinical trials, medical research publications, Electronic Health Records (EHR), annual health check-up records, and patient bed-side monitoring data. In this talk, he discussed case studies and experiments on how they could connect the relevant medical and health data sets together to rank the most influential treatments for diseases, to predict the health states for ageing individuals, or to predict the mortality of hospital patients. A graph-based data fusion approach was introduced to represent the different types of relationships among data items and learn from data for predictions.

March 2016

Title: ‘Social Media & Social Network Data Analytics’

Speaker: A/Prof Xue Li, DKE Division, School of Information Technology & Electrical Engineering, UQ

Abstract: Social media and networks are a popular place for people to express their opinions about consumer products, to organize or initiate social events, or to spread news. Some questions would be asked in order to understand the social media and social networks: how can we detect and predict the emerging sensitive events? How can we predict the propagation patterns of online micro-blogs? How can we understand peoples opinions about a current issue, a new product, or an important event? This talk was to report recent research work on the social media and social networks data mining. A few application systems were reported to answer the above questions.

February 2016

Title: ‘Big Data Analytics’

Speaker: A/Prof Xue Li, DKE Division, School of Information Technology & Electrical Engineering, UQ

Abstract: A stunning story on a successful prediction of 2012 USA Presidential Election with 100% accuracy by Mr Nate Silver has shown that the challenges are not just to invent new algorithms to deal with large, noisy, and uncertain data, but to link the multiple relevant data sources, structured or unstructured, together to make effective recommendations. Information is now

available everywhere from the Web, sensor networks, social networks, or the proprietary databases. Consequently, making effective and efficient recommendations based on Big Data is becoming a significant and urgent challenge because of complex, fast changing relationships between data objects. Therefore, the question is: how can we make effective recommen-

dations based on the relevant information collected from high-speed, time-variant, high-dimensional, and distributed data sources in the current changing and interconnected world? This talk introduced current research activities in the big data analytics and research group led by Dr Xue Li and provided insight into the issues in the current research.

Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society



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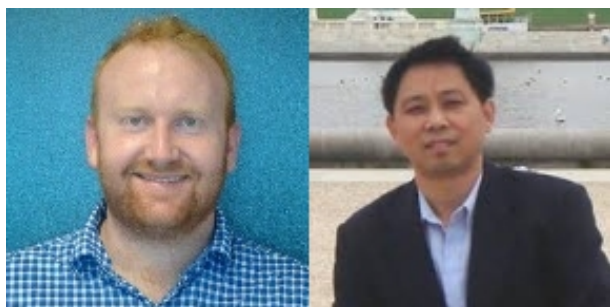
Chair: Mohan Karunanithi, CSIRO

Vice-chair: Qing Zhang, CSIRO

Secretary: Yan Li, University of Southern Queensland

We had four invited talks in the EMB chapter from June to August this year:

10 June 2016



Mr. Martien Keetels from Konica Minolta and Professor Xue Li from University of Queensland presented two talks on Artificial Intelligence applications and Big Data analytics in the aged care environment.

There were 23 attendees including 7 IEEE members and 16 guests.

27 June 2016



A/Professor Neal Patwari from the University of Utah presented a talk on Sensorless Sensing: Wireless Networks as human context sensors.

There were 13 attendees including 5 IEEE members and 8 guests.

15 July 2016



Professor Günter Schreier from Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH presented a talk on d4Health - data driven decisions for digital health & care.

There were 25 attendees including 5 IEEE members and 20 guests.

20 August 2016



Professor Jeffrey Kaye of Oregon Health and Science University presented a talk on Digital biomarkers as outcome measures.

There were 12 attendees including 4 IEEE members and 8 guests.

Microwave Theory and Techniques/Antennas and Propagation Societies



KONSTANTY BIALKOWSKI
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Committee:

Chair: Konstanty Bialkowski, University of Queensland

Vice-chair: Antony Lui, The University of Queensland

Vice-chair: Morteza Shahpari, Griffith University

Secretary: Mostafa Shabani

The MTT/AP Queensland Chapter had some interesting seminars in the past few months. The first of these was in July from Dr Andrew Horsley from University Basel in Switzerland and was on “Widefield Microwave Imaging using Atoms and Diamond NV Centers”. This work shows that it is able to detect EM fields using their effect on atoms rather than typical antenna structures. Typically by using antennas as receivers, there is a limitation on how close the antennas can be, as well as the minimum physical size of the antenna. On the other hand by using this technique, by shining a laser through the atoms it is possible to get a field resolution of up to 60 micrometres.

The second seminar we had was from one of our local industry - EM Solutions - which develops microwave communication systems with applications in satellite and terrestrial communication links, as well as in the area of defence. Dr Rowan Gilmore, CEO of the company, talk was entitled “Innovation in very high speed radio communications - it’s not all about the NBN”. Incorrectly, many people do not consider wireless radio to be an obvious choice for a backhaul system, however the product which was developed here in Brisbane is capable of 10 Gbits/sec over several kilometres.

The third seminar was from Dr Thomas Fickenscher talking about Forward scattering of radio signals by wind turbines on illuminated ground plane. Wind turbines are one of the many renewable energy sources, however proper modelling and mitigation techniques are required to ensure communication signals are not adversely affected by the rotating rotors.

In the next few months the MTT/AP Chapter will be hosting a number of IEEE distinguished lecturers and local industry speakers. A brief overview of them are listed below:

- October Prof Ari Sihvola - Metamaterials in Electromagnetics - A Birds Eye View
- October - Alex Crawford - Telstra - ADSL / Propagation / Telstra
- November - Dr Ed Miller - Verification and Validation of Computational Electromagnetics Software

We are still confirming a few more speakers for this year, so please check the [MTTAP](#) part of the IEEE Queensland website for up to date information including dates, abstracts and speaker biographies.

Women in Engineering



MARIE-LUISE WILLE
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Committee:

Chair: Marie-Luise Wille

Vice-chair: Negareh Ghasemi

Secretary: Alexandra Posoldova

The WIE committee had two exciting events in the last two months.

On August 5th WIE held a lunch-bag seminar at QUT Gardens Point P-Block Terrace where we met Jane Copperthwaite, who shared her exciting journey from the UK to Australia in railway signalling.



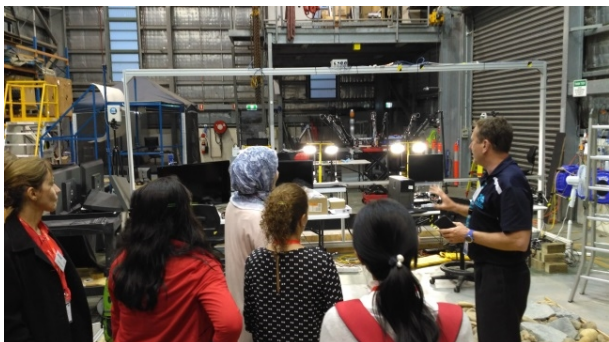
Within a casual environment, she gave a very inspiring and joyful presentation about her passion in railways and what it takes to make our train rides safe, how to avoid collisions and control thousands of trains throughout the country and city networks.



Thanks to the support fund grant from WIE R10, the WIE QLD committee organised a CSIRO facility tour. This event aimed to encourage female engineering graduate students to visit and interact with Australia's largest research and development institution CSIRO. On September 9th thirteen participants (including seven IEEE members) departed from QUT Gardens Point and travelled to the CSIRO Queensland Centre for Advanced Technologies (QCAT) in Pullenvale. At CSIRO we were welcomed by Garry Einicke and Anna Littleboy, Senior Research Project Officer at QCAT. We enjoyed afternoon tea while listening to Anna tell her CSIRO story. We were also able to visit the Remote Mining Centre with Craig James, where we experienced 360 virtual reality glasses, followed by the navigation lab with John Malos. Sevda Dehkhoda gave us an insight about her career as a rock scientist and her research about rock/cutter interaction and rock failure. To conclude the event, Garry Einicke guided us around the CSIRO site, where drones and robots and auto pilot vehicles were built and tested.

The event was well received by all participants and it was a great experience to get such a close up look into CSIRO QCAT.





The next event will be about CSIRO's Data61, presented by Dr Lucy Cameron, Senior Research Consultant at Data61.

When: Wed, 26 October 2016, 3:00PM to 4:00PM

Where: IHBI - Seminar Room

QUT Kelvin Grove Campus, 60 Musk Avenue

RSVP via <https://meetings.vtools.ieee.org/m/41268>



Data is the new currency of our world. Data-driven insights change the way we live, work, invent and innovate. Data is the raw material that fuels new industries and disrupts existing ones.



Dr Alicia (Lucy) Cameron

Senior Research Consultant at Data61

At **Data61**, we turn big, complex data sets into knowledge. These numbers add insight. They help you see further, understand deeper and see it sooner. Our experts know data in a way few others do. We will help you think through, research and identify the latest, most advanced technologies and most effective processes to help find, adapt, improve or create solutions for you.

CSIRO's DATA61 - Australia's Digital and Data Innovation Group

Further details will be distributed via email and our [Facebook page](#); so stay tuned!

To stay up to date, don't forget to like the IEEE Women in Engineering Queensland [Facebook page](#)!

Young Professionals Program



ALEXANDRA POSOLDOVA
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Committee:

Chair: Alexandra Posoldova
Vice-chair: Reuben Peterkin
Secretary: Rob Makaremi
Treasurer: Hamid Moghadam

Young Professionals Queensland strives to deliver events on hot topics. At the beginning of September, we organized a seminar in partnership with Engineers Australia called *Challenges and Opportunities in Distributed Network Planning*. Our guest speaker was Dr. Daniel Eghbal, Future Network Strategy Engineer at Energex and an adjunct research fellow at the University of Queensland. His talk was mainly focused on the how disruptive technologies such as advancements in battery and storage technology impact the way electricity networks operate. He then discussed the research questions and career opportunities this disruption would lead to.



Dr Daniel Eghbal presenting at Engineers Australia

The second half of this year was in support of startups for Young Professionals Queensland. We partnered up with Liveh2h to live stream the series of *12 Week Startup Accelerator Program* hosted by Kayvan Baroumand (CEO and serial entrepreneur). We held the first broadcast live in a co-working space in Brisbane.

The rest are broadcast online with recordings available for your convenience: [here](#). In conjunction with this series we also hold live events on related topics. All live startup events were financially supported by R10 Young Professionals.

The next event *Grow Your Startup Globally* will be presented by successful entrepreneur and experienced startupist Ed Horwood, who is currently scaling another of his businesses (MyShipper) globally. Ed will share his journey and explain what it takes to kick start and scale up your startup idea. The event will be held in River City Labs co-working space, who kindly sponsored the venue hire.

Our sixth event of this year is called *The Startup Theory* to be held on 13 October in River City Labs Brisbane. Two great speakers will walk through everything you need to know about small to medium businesses. Our first speaker, Cole Wilkinson from Pitcher Partners will talk about business structure, taxation, raising funds and applying for government grants. The second speaker, Wayne Rabnott from Business Development, Executive Economic Development & Strategy, Logan City Council, will hold a session on business setup strategy called *Critical Non Essentials*. This event also offers a great networking opportunity with like-minded people, which is essential for starting a business.

Connect with us on [Facebook](#) as well as IEEE's integrated on-line community [Collabratec](#).

We look forward to seeing you at our events.

Griffith University Gold Coast Student Report



REZA AKBARZADEH
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Committee:

Chair: Reza Akbarzadeh

Vice-chair: Gul ZK

Secretary: Josh Cataldi

Treasurer: Elise Jenkins

The Griffith University Gold Coast student branch has held two events during Q3 2016.

Parkwood Substation Site Visit

Date: Thursday 8 September 2016

As Engineering students having spent years in lecture theatres learning the principles of the electrical industry, it is highly advantageous having the opportunity to gain field experience and see these concepts and systems in the real world.



In Q3 2016 the IEEE team arranged a site visit to the Parkwood Substation on the Gold Coast. Our third year students studying 'Power Transmission and Distribution' benefited greatly as Energex technicians Matt and Tony spent time providing a tour of the plant while explaining the transmission process, control systems and maintenance involved.

Seminar: "Industry (IAP) Project From a Students Perspective"

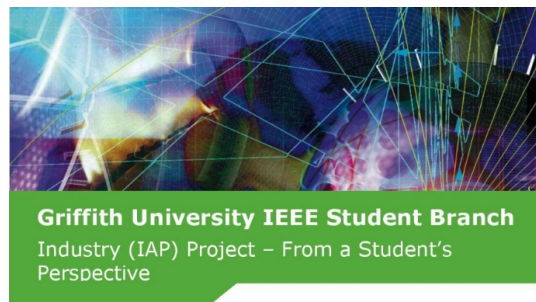
Date: Wednesday 21 September 2016

Presenter: Reza Akbarzadeh, Final year Undergraduate, Chair of IEEE GUGC Student Branch.

The Griffith University IEEE Student Branch hosted a seminar directed at students moving toward their final year of study and taking on their Industry Projects. Reza, a final year student who has successfully gained employment in Industry through proactive networking, hosted the seminar giving helpful advice to all of the students who attended.

The duration of the seminar was two hours. During this time, attendees reported that they were able to gain valuable insight regarding what they can expect from the experience and how best to prepare for the transition from academia to industry.

Reza has been a driving force behind the IEEE student branch and his presence at such future events will be sorely missed.



Contact us on [Facebook](#) or Email at (gugcieee@gmail.com) or visit our [website](#).

Griffith University Nathan Student Report



MOJTABA MOGHIMI

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Vice-chair: Nazanin Nadian

Secretary: Arslan Akram Nizami

Treasurer: Domagoj Leskarac

Griffith University IEEE Student Branch Nathan Campus continued its activities in second semester of 2016 with an event related to Smart Buildings presenting the Sir Samuel Griffith Centre (N78) located at Griffith University. Our further plans for rest of 2016 is to hold a workshop in October for engineering students to get familiar with Australian industry and how to find a job after graduation.

Smart Buildings: The Path Towards Future Cities: September 2016



Sir Samuel Griffith Centre (N78), Griffith University Nathan Campus

Smart buildings are necessary for creating cities of the future. Such buildings are completely carbon and energy neutral and form self-sufficient nodes on distribution networks. Griffith University's Sir Samuel Griffith Centre forms the basis of smart buildings, with a large incorporated solar array powering the facility alongside Lithium and Hydrogen-Metal Hydride batteries serving as the primary energy storage systems with energy management systems for power distribution and control. The Sir Samuel Griffith Centre has been awarded a 6 star green rating by the Green Building Council of Australia.



Sir Samuel Griffith Centre Presentation

Griffith University Nathan IEEE Student Branch asked Prof. Evan Gray and Dr. Alison Rice to present the Sir Samuel Griffith Centre to the audience. Prof. Gray presented technical aspects of Sir Samuel Griffith Centre and Dr. Rice explained more general aspects of the smart building. The event was held on 16 September 2016 at 5pm at Griffith University Nathan Campus. The seminar was followed by a building tour and catering.

Thirty-three guests from industry, members of public,

university staff and IEEE student members attended the meeting.

In order to get information about our future events

and activities, you can contact us through Email at (IEEENathan@griffith.edu.au) or via our [Facebook](#) page.



Prof. Evan Gray presenting Sir Samuel Griffith Centre

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Dielectrics and Electrical Insulation Society		
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Society on Social Implications of Technology		
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