

IEEM Alumni Newsletter

MONASH UNIVERSITY IEEM ALUMNI

Edition 3
November 2003

President Update

Well it has nearly been a year since we kicked off the IEEM Alumni. We have achieved some good things in this time but there is still a lot more work to be done if we are to have an effective and valued Alumni Association.

One of the challenges we have faced during the year is enticing past graduates from the 20 odd years of the IE course to attend our functions. This being the case, the current council has adopted a strategy of involving graduates from the most recent years to sit on the Council. We are looking for a few keen and charismatic folk, with good ideas to become part of the steering group and shape the future of the Alumni. It really is for those starting out in the workforce that the Alumni can be of most benefit.

So with that in mind, we would love to see as many of you recent graduates come to our Christmas drinks and networking night to be held on the 10th of December at the Racecourse Hotel. On this night we will be asking for people to show their interest in sitting on the Council.

As of the 10th, Alan Emerson will take over the role of President and I wish him every success. I have enjoyed the year of getting things started and look forward to being a part of what I am sure will be continued success in 2004. Thanks to Alan, Grant Mitchell, the great faculty members and the rest of the hard working council for your assistance and support throughout the year.

Look forward to seeing you on the 10th for a Christmas drink!
Jackie



Above: Jackie Cook (President) and Alan Emerson (VP) with IEEM Networking and Awards Night “The secrets of my success” guest speaker Rob Ades (centre).

IEEM Networking & Awards Night

The 2003 Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management Networking and Awards Night “The secrets of my success” proved a major success with a number of students, faculty and alumni turning out to hear alumni Patrick Healy and Rob Ades speak.

In addition, a number of awards were presented - one of which was on behalf of the IEEM Alumni Council. Council President Jackie Cook and Holden representative Pat Healy presented an award for outstanding leadership to Meng Yong Foo. Meng Yong Foo was selected based on leadership criteria determined by final year students at a leadership seminar held in July – he showed that he “had and fostered a clear vision, showed high emotional intelligence (interpersonal skills), promoted group cohesion, had drive and ambition, a nurturing attitude, a high task orientation and could adopt an ethical stance”. The award was sponsored on behalf of the Council by Holden. Congratulations Meng Yong Foo !!



Above: Pat Healy congratulates Meng Yong Foo on his Outstanding Leadership award at the IEEM Networking and Awards Night

Next Function:

To welcome the new Alumni and catch up with old friends, the Alumni Christmas drinks are on their way. Keep your eyes out for the flyer – due in your mailboxes in the next week.

Where: Racecourse Hotel, Dandenong Road – Opposite Monash University Caulfield Campus

When: 6.00pm Wednesday 10th December

Cost: \$5 per head for finger food, drinks at bar prices

RSVP: Anna Maltezos at anna.maltezos@eng.monash.edu.au

Industrial Projects for 2004

A FREE SERVICE, WHICH CAN BRING SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS TO YOUR COMPANY.

We are seeking industry participants to assist with our Industrial Projects subjects. Industrial projects are an important program in our Bachelor of Engineering (Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management) degree where students carry out projects in industry or business. These projects are often very useful to the host company.

The following characteristics of the projects are ideal:

- It should be one of those important jobs which you haven't been able to do but can reap good strategic results for the company. The students tend to work all year for about one day a week.
- The project should require research and investigative activities and involve theoretical skills such as:
 - Business process improvement
 - New product design or development
 - Production planning and control and facilities planning
 - Quality improvement, statistical analysis, experimental design
 - Work design, health and safety
 - Maintenance analysis

In return, you gain a useful analysis of your activities and contact with a Monash academic supervisor.

Many companies have participated in our programs in recent years from large companies such as Holden, Australia Post, Coles-Myer, and Cadbury to small to medium companies including manufacturers and service suppliers.

If you have an idea please e-mail, telephone or fax us.

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Students assist Fasco in 2003

Andrew Hunnam, Master Production Scheduler and Bob Heidenreich at FASCO Australia, a market leader in the manufacture of electric motors in Australasia have been driving Lean Manufacturing through the use of Visual Management to facilitate implementation, feedback, communication, job enhancement and recognition.

Tony Pilovski and Panos Miltiadou, final year Bachelor of Engineering (IEEM) students at

Caulfield Campus, Monash University have joined the Lean Manufacturing process team at FASCO and as part of their final year projects, they are reviewing existing and establishing new Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that relate to manufacturing processes and shop floor staff.

A Visual Management System is being designed and created to promote greater appreciation and understanding of critical factors that drive productivity and efficiency of various processes. Tony and Panos have made a number of recommendations and are part way through implementing the Visual Management System and preparing a training manual. Working at FASCO has been a great experience for them and a beneficial step before entering the work force. Andrew has commended Tony and Panos for their enthusiasm, initiative and regular involvement with the work force and for making a positive contribution to the Lean Manufacturing initiative at FASCO.

A Brief Chat with.....Rob Ades

In each edition of the IEEM Newsletter, we will feature a member of the Alumni. The questions are:

What year did you graduate?

I graduated in 1984, which means I finished the course in 1983. Our class were the first 12 to graduate, and the first wave to arrive into industry

What was your first job?

My first job was as an Industrial Engineer with Courtalds Hilton Ltd in Brunswick. Originally Hilton Hosiery, CHL was the largest manufacturer of stockings and hosiery in Australia. As a fresh young graduate, my job was to develop and recommend process improvements and cost reductions. This was a challenge in an environment that was blessed with some excellent technology yet had one foot stuck in the 60's.

Where did that lead?

After one year as a graduate engineer, I was offered the position of Production Manager for a related division that had lost all of its management. This was a legacy of a recent merger with CHL's largest competitor, the product of which was the titanic Australian Consolidated Hosiery Pty Ltd. Whilst my title was Production Manager, a lack of any other management on site made me (at age 23) the defacto business manager for a \$5M, 30 staff operation. The learning curve was steep. After 3 years of reasonable success, I was invited back to "head office" as Plant Manager. One year further on, I'd spent five years with the group and in textile relates industries; it was time to move on.

In the turbulent years of the late 80's and early 90's, I spent a year as Manager Program Planning & Control with Aerospace Technologies of Australia, three years as Operations Manager with Sidchrome Tools and two years as Operations Manager for Castrol Australia Ltd. Then in late 1994 I received a phone call from a past colleague that lead to a radical shift in my career. I left the relative safety of middle management in a large company to become Managing Director of a much smaller company. The following five years leading Universal Forme Pty Ltd, a small automotive component manufacturer, were rewarding and successful. By 2000 the company had more than doubled in size and was returning a healthy 15% ROI. After 5 years, I was also ready for another change.

What are you doing now?

In early 2000, in the wake of our parent group's CEO retiring, I was surprised to be offered the role of Chief Executive Officer for the peak company, Carnbrea & Co Ltd. Nearly four years later I'm still there, enjoying my role leading a very unique "private banking" and wealth management operation. Carnbrea provides advisory and management services for over \$350M of private capital, servicing a discrete, differentiated clientele. My role includes involvement with over 20 company boards, providing business management skills and advice covering equities, finance, foreign exchange, property, corporate restructuring, process re-engineering, marketing, product development and IT. I love it!

Why do you think IE is a great career choice?

Given the breadth of my role today, I find it hard to imagine a better start in my career than IE. I have since added post graduate business qualifications to my skill set, but my overriding skill is a better than average ability to take the disparate components of a business, a portfolio, a product range, or even a team, and make the best of them. Successful business management is about taking whatever basic building blocks are available and constructing a better company. I didn't understand that 20 years ago, but today I can see why Industrial Engineers make good managers, and good business builders.

Do you keep in touch with your fellow Alumni?

Not as much as I should. We IE's are scattered far and wide.

What benefits do you see in being part of the IEEM Alumni?

Networking and information exchange with ones peers is always valuable. Experienced graduates benefit from sharing experiences and anecdotes, and additionally new graduates sometimes need a mentor to discuss issues confronting them.

Want to know more about Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management?

Visit the IEEM web page....

<http://www.eng.monash.edu.au/ieem>