

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Hello Fellow IEEM Alumni,
I hope this newsletter finds you warm and well and enjoying the finer weather as Spring takes hold. Since our last newsletter we have held two functions – the first a general reunion dinner and the second a specific get-together for the graduates of 1985.

The first function for the year saw 30-40 IEEM alumni, staff and friends gathering at [Florina's Greek Tavern](#) in Malvern on a cold evening in June.

Good conversation between graduates of the twenty plus years of the course made the time fly. It was particularly rewarding to see many of the more recent graduates in attendance. The night was designed to be fairly casual and this is how it proceeded with the only hitch being the impact the school holidays had on many of the 1985 reunion graduates – a number unable to make it along. Thus we had a second function in September for the graduates of 1985 and a few keen staff. A lot of hard work by past President **Alan Emerson** and this year's VP **Tanya Seidel** saw the [Rosstown Hotel](#) host 20 for dinner with more than 50% of the graduates of 1985 making an appearance. This was very impressive given the work and family commitments of the people in this group.



1985 Alumni Member at the Rosstown

Congratulations to our editor **Panos Miltiadou** (no the draw wasn't fixed) for his winning of the door prize at the first function.

Thanks to **Bernard Chen** for his running around on both nights.



Damien presents 1985 graduates with their 20th reunion pens

Thanks also to **Damian Kennedy** for his brief speech without notice on how IE started at Caulfield twenty one years back and what impact moving to Clayton is going to have on the degree. For those of you who don't already know – this is the very last year of IE at Caulfield. It will be completely Clayton based next year. This is a key to our third and final function of the year. There is a back to Caulfield day on [Tuesday November 15th](#) with casual drinks to be held for IEEM (and Engineering Alumni in general) across the road at the [Racecourse Hotel](#) that night. You should find some info on this later in this newsletter.

We asked attendees on the first night to fill out a two minute questionnaire to give us a better idea about what the alumni would like to see from the Council. We don't expect we will be asking people to do surveys very often so thanks to everyone for their honesty and time. We hope that we can use this information to give the IEEM Alumni group what it wants to see.

From my perspective, both evenings were a great success with a good number of attendees, plenty of catching-up done, great food and some new acquaintances made. Thanks to those of you who came along and made each a wonderful night and I hope that some more of our IEEM Alumni colleagues can make it along for a catch-up later in the year.

Cheers,
Grant

FIRST FUNCTION 2005

June saw graduates from various years come together for a night at Florinas Greek Tavern on Glenferrie Road. It was a great catch up for old and new university buddies and a great opportunity to meet some of the graduates that have really progressed up the ladder with their chosen career, and to see how they got there.

It was interesting to note that in a room of 50 odd IEEM graduates, I think it's safe to say that most of them if not all are in different positions in varying industries. This reflects the flexibility offered by an IEEM graduate and really opens up a world of opportunities for the more recent graduates that now have the added advantage of being able to do a double degree in either IEEM and Law or Commerce.

More on the eventful evening saw Grant Mitchell give a speech on the purpose and future plans of the alumni and also drawing the winning ticket for my partner in crime, editor Panos Miltiadou to win the prize of a bottle of wine, yes there were talks of a redraw, but Panos was more than willing to accept his prize and pose for the camera! The night also saw Mr. Damian Kennedy give a speech about the move from Caulfield campus to Clayton campus and outlined the benefits to the IEEM degree and its current students and future graduates. Rest assured I kept a five minute time limit on him to make sure we all got home in time for work the next day!

The food was great with a wide selection of fish and meat platters, plus all the traditional Greek goodies as entrees. I look forward to the next meet and greet and would hope to see even more familiar and new faces at the next event. The Alumni Council would like to thank everyone for their support on the night, I'm sure you all had a good night. For those students preparing for their 2nd semester exams, good luck and study hard!

Derek Karadimos

FAREWELL TO CAULFIELD FUNCTION

A reunion of former graduates and staff of that wonderful old educational institution on Dandenong Road, Caulfield, is to be held at the Caulfield Campus from 4:00 pm to 7:30pm on Tuesday the 15th November, 2005.

Whether you attended there when it was the Caulfield Technical School, Caulfield Institute of Technology, the Chisholm Institute of Technology or in its present status as the Caulfield Campus of Monash University, it is still the same place.

Catch up with old friends and staff and enjoy the chance of finding out what all your fellow course mates have been doing in the years since graduation and see the changes that have been made to the campus in the intervening years.

To be part of the return to Caulfield event please register online at www.monash.edu.au/alumni/reunion/ or by emailing Irene Axup at ireneaxup@hotmail.com or by contacting Paul Wellington at Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, Monash University Caulfield Campus, PO Box 197, East Caulfield, Vic, 3145.

Following the back to Caulfield event the IEEM alumni will hold its last function for the year at the Racecourse Hotel, dubbed farewell to Caulfield. The Department has organised a special room with finger-food available, and cash bar. There is no cover charge so come on down and have a drink with us all in memory and thanks to Caulfield, as well as prosperity and success and Clayton. Please let us know you are coming to this later event by emailing Tanya at Tanya.Seidel@toyota.com.au.

If you are still in contact with your old Caulfield friends please pass the message on and ask them to do the same to others so they may know so that we can contact as many Caulfield engineering graduates as possible.
Paul Wellington

THE MOVE TO CLAYTON

The BE (IEEM) program is to be run exclusively from the Clayton campus from 2006 onwards.

The move to Clayton marks yet another transition of the program that originally started at Caulfield 25 years ago. Over that time some 600 plus graduates have graduated with either the BE (Industrial), BE (Industrial Engineering and Computing) or BE (Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management) degree. Since the mid 1990s, the program has also graduated a growing number of MEngSci and PhD candidates. The first Monash PhD graduate in IE was Dr. Sani Susanto in May, 1999, under the joint supervision of Drs. Damian Kennedy and John Price. Since that time, some further 20 MEngSci and 10 plus PhDs will have graduated by year's end.

The move to Clayton campus will open a new era for IE education in Australia, and particularly at Monash. The benefits will be for students in IE and staff alike. With ever shrinking support resources coming from the University, better economies and opportunities are realizable within a single location Faculty. IE Students will no longer be as isolated and an expansion of the IE double degree undergraduate program to include commerce to complement that with law becomes possible in 2006. This BCom/BE double degree promises to be a most popular degree combination, initially possibly far exceeding its planned available quota.

Relocation to Clayton will also move the BE (IEEM) program more towards the demographic and industrial centres of Melbourne. This, it is envisioned, will facilitate even closer collaboration with industry in both teaching and research and form the basis of new discovery and linkage ARC (Australian Research Council) research applications and grants.

Caulfield campus will no doubt be missed. Staff and students have always enjoyed a friendship and camaraderie possibly missing from a larger campus. However, I believe

our culture and goodwill will prevail in our new surrounds. Maybe, it is in our joint destiny (IE Alumni, staff and students) to show the bigger campus how things can and should be done? We shall see.

Damian Kennedy.

THE IEEM DATABASE

Just a quick reminder to all readers that if you have changed jobs in recent times or your contact details please email one of the council members so that our records remain up to date and our network of IEEM alumni members remains strong. You can find our details one the last page.

Panos Miltiadou

A BRIEF CHAT WITH MICHAEL BURNS

Michael Burns graduated from the IEEM course in 2004 and now works full time as a line manager at Stegbar.

"I enjoyed the industrial engineering classes more than others because of their business based focus, rather than just functions and numbers. I could see the relevance to business; it's like a business degree from an engineering perspective."

"One of the best things about the course is the practical project work. Some of the practical projects I did were developing a grey water system for Nylex, and lean manufacturing and waste reduction at Dana automotive group. When I was looking for work potential employers were far more interested in the projects and work I had done than what I had studied, because the projects gave you something real to show. You can say this is the problem I was given and this is the recommendation I made."

"For the year I spent at Holden doing work experience I was in a quality engineering role. The work involved a lot of problem solving. I had to try to determine the root

cause of problems, this involved documenting what was going on, looking at things from outside the box, from different angle, trying to get all the relevant information and then make a judgement. When I went back to university after that year I really could relate what I was learning to the manufacturing environment.”

“The practical element of our course is good, and the relevance of what you learn – you can come out and be applying what you have learnt straight away. You can study IEEM and come out designing production lines or production planning and scheduling for example. Also the fact you can work in many sectors. I am starting out in an engineering management role but from there I can go in many directions depending on where I want to go.”

“The rewards from studying IEEM are very good. There are many roles you can get into. You will notice when you are looking for a job you won’t necessarily find ‘industrial engineer required’ but what you will see is the different roles they want you to perform in and you’ll know from studying IEEM that a lot of those roles you can do. There’s so much work out there.”

By Adrian Allen and Hans Mulyadi.



IEEM CASE STUDIES-

I would encourage all readers to forward their own unique work place experiences to either Derek or Panos. It would be a great learning experience for all of us to exchange workplace stories that other readers could benefit from. The following case study was contributed by Panos.

SIMS ALUMINIUM PRODUCTION INCREASE

In my role as Process Improvement Engineer for Sims Manufacturing, a division of Sims Group I was issued a project from the too hard basket.

Objective: Increase cycles in the Tilting Type Rotary Furnace from 5.5 to 7 resulting in 12 m.t. increase in production per day = 3200 increase per annum.

The process has two fundamentals: operator reliance and melting ability of the burner. Through redevelopment of the operator procedures including eliminating waste, assigning priorities in loading the furnace and metal loading techniques operator reliance was reduced from 1hr 40 minutes to 45 minutes total. The reconstructed work format resulted in less physical work, better production planning and formatted tasks.

The second improvement was introducing changes to the melting practices. Simply utilising more energy in shorter melt cycles resulted in more efficient and effective melting, reduced variable costs per tonne produced. Metallurgical analysis resulted in better understanding for the operators in heat transfer in the furnace as well as introducing process controls that allowed operators to confine melting to 2 hrs rather than the typical 2 hrs 50 minutes. All up a saving of 110 minutes per cycle (1hr 50 minutes) this has resulted in just over 7 cycles per day. The next issue is finding the raw material to feed the furnace.

Techniques utilised:

1. Benchmarking with other Tilting rotary furnace operations around the world.
2. Time and motion studies
3. Melting trials and testing.
4. Burner investigations
5. Time and production management for this operating cell
6. Lean principles – waste elimination
7. Downtime analysis and actions on downtime issues

8. Mission directed work team directive to drive change from operator levels.

Result: 7 charges per day!

The project was successful and monitoring systems will continue to ensure this level of productivity continuous as well as self management of the operation by operators.

Regards,
Panos Miltiadou

EDITOR'S NOTES:

Come on Alumni we want feedback and news from the greater world of IEEM members. This newsletter is not only about the alumni council representing alumni but about current students, lecturers, Monash University and industry. The opportunity to convey information and share it with IEEM is a goal of the alumni and your help in doing this is required.

Thanks,
Panos and Derek (Newsletter editors)

“LOVE, LECTURES AND TECHNICAL BOOKS”

Congratulations to Stacey Karandanis and Nelson De Costa on their engagement. These two past IEEM graduates have shocked us all by proving that University life is not just academic. Apparently libraries are a great place to hide and when you sit in the back you get more than just a bird's eye view.

Best wishes to them both.

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