

# Western Australia Section Report 2023

## **PART A - SECTION SUMMARY**

### **A.1 Executive Summary**

- **Section Executive Committee Member List**

#### **Western Australia Section Committee Members**

Chair: Kevin Wong  
Vice Chair: Muhammad Bilal Shaikh  
Secretary: Cesar Ortega-Sanchez  
Treasurer: Harry McDonald  
Immediate Past Chair: Harry McDonald

Awards and Recognition Coordinator: Helene Fung  
Education Activities Coordinator: Joo Yeon Park  
eNotice/website Coordinator: Christoph Tuettemann  
Industry Relations Coordinator: Nee Nee Ong and Harry McNally  
Membership Development Coordinator: Ehsan Pashajavid  
Operations Working Committee Chair: Douglas Chai  
Section Events and Meetings Coordinator: Sirui Li  
Social Media and News Coordinator: Tharindu Weerasigne  
Social Dinner Coordinator: Vijay Kumar  
Student Activities Coordinator: Obie Ofoegbu

#### **Chapter or Affinity Group Chairs in Western Australia**

Circuits and Systems Society (CAS) Chapter: Farzad Farajizadeh and Hesam Mohammadi  
Computer Society Chapter: Sonny Pham  
Control Systems Society (CSS) Chapter: Honglei Xu  
Industrial Electronics Society (IES) Chapter: Moayed Moghbel  
Signal Processing Society (SPS) Chapter: Syed Mohammed Shamsul Islam  
System, Man and Cybernetics Society (SMCS) Chapter: Shri Rai  
Joint Computational Intelligence / Robotics & Automation Society (Joint CIS/RAS) Chapter: Brenda Wang  
Joint Electron Devices / Solid State Circuits / Photonics Society (Joint ED/SSC/Ph) Chapter: Wen Lei  
Joint Power Engineering / Power Electronics Society (Joint PES/PELS) Chapter: Tara Mehr  
Women in Engineering: Fatemeh Rezaeibagha  
Young Professionals: Obie Ofoegbu

#### **Western Australia Student Branches**

Curtin University Student Branch: Andre Paragas  
Murdoch University Student Branch: Rehan Asif Awan  
University of Western Australia Student Branch: Sebastian Haselby

- **Section Highlights**

- All Section Administration Meetings are run in Hybrid mode to encourage increased participation
- Participated in IEEE Region 10 Annual Meeting (Vietnam) and IEEE Section Congress (Canada)
- Participated in Australia Council Meetings (mainly online)
- Section Planning and Training Session (18 March 2023 – Saturday Morning) - Hybrid
- Joint Industry Event with Engineer Australia held on Thursday, 27 July 2023
  - o Title: Optimisation of Renewable Energy with System Engineering

- Presenters:
  - Dr Martina Calais, Murdoch University Senior Lecturer
  - David Anderton, Water Corporation Principal Engineer Electrical Design
- IEEE Day Social Lunch (7 October 2023 Saturday)
- The IEEE WA Section was audited by the IEEE HQ – achieved “Satisfactory” rating in August 2023
- The winners for the IEEE Western Australia Section Outstanding Volunteer Awards 2023 are as follows
  - Cesar Ortega-Sanchez
  - Syed Mohammed Shamsul Islam
- All volunteers of the section received an Appreciation Certificate
- The following is the summary of events organised in Western Australia as shown on vTools

### R00547 - Western Australia Section Charts ?

These data counts and charts include the selected OU and all related organizational units. See below for individual OU numbers and charts.

Name	Prof	Tech	Non-Tech	Admin	Hum	Pre-U	Total
Western Australia Section	6	45	3	21	0	0	75

Figure 1: Overview of all events in WA as shown in vTools

### R00547 - Western Australia Section Breakdown Information ?

Name	Prof	Tech	Non-Tech	Admin	Hum	Pre-U	Total
Western Australia Section	1	0	1	9	0	0	11
Curtin University	0	3	2	0	0	0	5
Edith Cowan University	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Murdoch University	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Murdoch University,SMC28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
The University of Western Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Victorian/ACT/NSW/Qld/SA/WA Jt Chap, SIT30	4	5	0	1	0	0	10
Western Australia Sec JtChap,ED15/SSC37/PHO36	0	5	0	3	0	0	8
Western Australia Sect Jt Chap, PE31/PEL35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Western Australia Section Aff Grp,YP	0	1	0	4	0	0	5
Western Australia Section Affinity Group,WIE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Western Australia Section Chapter, C16	1	4	0	2	0	0	7
Western Australia Section Chapter, COM19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Western Australia Section Chapter, SMC28	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
Western Australia Section Chapter, SP01	0	6	0	1	0	0	7
Western Australia Section Chapter,CAS04	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Western Australia Section Chapter,CIS11/RA24	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Western Australia Section Chapter,CS23	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Western Australia Section Chapter,IE13	0	7	0	1	0	0	8

Figure 2: Breakdown Information of all events in WA as shown on vTools

- **Major Events (International, National)**

- The WA section has partnered with Engineer Australia in running a joint industry event in Perth City
- The WA section and the Computer Chapter have partnered with the Licensing Executives Society Australia & New Zealand, Government of Western Australia: Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation to run a seminar and forum at the Pawsey Supercomputing Centre

- **Major Chapter Activities**

- IEEE Circuits and Systems Society Western Australia Chapter has organised a Distinguished Lecture
- IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society Western Australia Chapter has organised a Distinguished Lecture
- IEEE Signal Processing Society Western Australia Chapter has organised a Distinguished Lecture
- IEEE Signal Processing Society Western Australia Chapter was awarded as a Certified Chapter by the society.

- Major Student and Affinity Group Activities

- Number of activities is captured in Figure 2.

- Awards

- The section received a Retention and Recruitment Performance badge.
- The section supported Student Prizes at Universities in WA.

## A.2 Financial Report

	Opening Balance (01/01/23)	Expenses	Income	Balance (YTD)
Unibank Fixed Term	\$48,374.01	\$20,476.66	\$466.66	\$28,374.01
Unibank Cash Account	\$11,066.53	\$5,576.91	\$29,872.68	\$35,362.30
NAB new cash account	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Concentration Bank Account (Converted to Aus \$) Based on 0.66	\$50,517.92	\$50,987.19	\$64,926.82	\$64,457.55
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$109,958.46</b>	<b>\$77,040.76</b>	<b>\$95,766.76</b>	<b>\$128,693.86</b>

Figure 3: Overview of all accounts

Sub-account Balances				
	Opening 2023	Expenses	Credits	Balance (YTD)
Computer Society (C16)	\$ 6,732.55	-\$ 303.67	\$ 343.75	\$ 6,772.64
Communication Society (COM19)	\$ 2,894.33	\$ -	\$ 343.75	\$ 3,238.08
Joint Power Engineering /Power electronics Society PES31/PELS35	\$ 2,400.15	-\$ 200.00	\$ 11,311.02	\$ 13,511.17
Signal Processing Society (SP01)	\$ 2,622.59	\$ -	\$ 948.52	\$ 3,571.11
Joint Computational Intelligence/Robotics & Automation Society (Joint CIS11/RA24)	\$ 2,295.74	-\$ 59.50	\$ 687.50	\$ 2,923.74
ED(ED15)/SSC(CS23)/PHO(PHO36)	\$ 3,476.38	-\$ 1,040.00	\$ 343.75	\$ 2,780.13
Systems, Mans and Cybernetics (SMC28)	\$ 1,712.66	-\$ 25.50	\$ 687.50	\$ 2,374.66
Curtin SB (CU)	\$ 1,712.66	\$ -	\$ 384.38	\$ 2,097.04
Murdoch SB (MOR)	\$ 275.23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 275.23
UWA SB (UWA)	\$ 709.79	\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$ 934.79
ECU SB (ECU)	\$ 80.97	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80.97
YP	\$ 1,927.35	\$ -	\$ 687.50	\$ 2,614.85
WIE	\$ 1,067.26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,067.26
Industrial Electronics Society (IE13)	\$ 2,946.51	-\$ 29.98	\$ 6,632.81	\$ 9,549.34
Control Systems Society (CS23)	\$ 328.00	\$ -	\$ 687.50	\$ 1,015.50
CAS	\$ 288.00	\$ -	\$ 343.75	\$ 631.75
<b>TOTAL - Subunit OUs</b>	<b>\$ 31,470.17</b>	<b>-\$ 1,658.65</b>	<b>\$ 23,626.73</b>	<b>\$ 53,438.26</b>

Figure 4: Breakdown information of accounts for all OUs in WA

- ▶ All account balances are healthy.

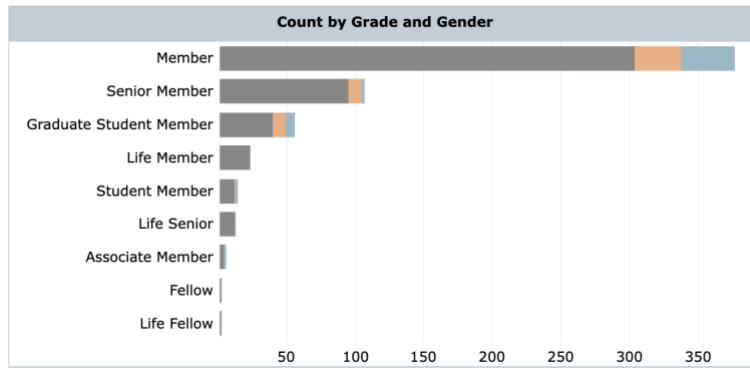
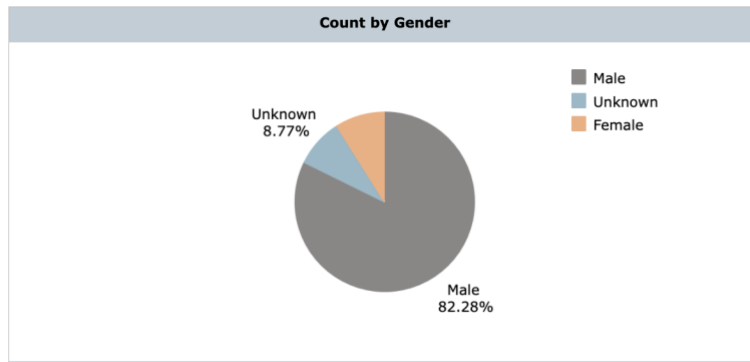
- ▶ There is no obligation to audit the accounts as WA financial operations are well under the auditable thresholds.
- ▶ There are expected to be further transactions before 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2023.
- ▶ Large income into the local account has come from Awards to PES/IES and SPS, reflecting what was in the CB account but drawn from the investment account.
- ▶ There was also a share of IEEE ISPEC 2022 surplus to the PES balance.
- ▶ There have been challenges throughout 2023 executing wire transfers from the IEEE concentration banking account to the Unibank local account. Each failed transaction incurred small fees.
- ▶ To overcome this, a new NAB bank account has been set up and an action plan has been agreed by the WA section to transition all of the local funds into the NAB account.
- ▶ IEEE MGA finance conducted an audit of the sections 2022 financial operations.
- ▶ A significant amount of work was put in for the audit of the 2022 financial operations and a satisfactory result was obtained.
- ▶ The 2023 financial records are in a better state and it would make auditing easier if there is an audit on the 2023 financial operations.
- ▶ The IEEE MGA financial reporting is quite onerous and normally needs to be completed before mid Feb 2024 for the section to qualify for IEEE rebates and early submission financial bonus. The outgoing treasurer should complete this.
- ▶ All other IEEE financial reporting during 2023 was submitted to the required standard and on time.

## **PART B - ORGANISATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **B.1 Membership Development Activities**

- Total number of active members in 2023.
  - As of 1 December, the member statistics as follows.

<b>Membership Grades</b>	<b>Membership Counts</b>
Associate Member	6
Fellow	3
Graduate Student Member	56
Life Fellow	3
Life Member	24
Life Senior	13
Member	377
Senior Member	107
Student Member	15
Affiliate	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>614</b>



- IEEE Member and Geographic Activities (MGA) Department has announced that the IEEE WA Section has met both its recruitment and retention goals for the 2023 membership year.



## B.2 Chapter Activities

- Total number of Chapters in the Section: 10
- Number of Chapters formed in the current year
  - None
- Number of active Chapters (Chapters who have reported the required number of meetings during the year)
  - As shown in Figure 2, 8 of them are considered active with their reports submitted on vTools.
- Summary of Chapter activities (Chapter wise with attachment table/information)
  - The detailed list of all the events from the chapters in WA can be found on the website at [https://ewh.ieee.org/r10/w\\_australia/events.html](https://ewh.ieee.org/r10/w_australia/events.html) and the reported events on vTools are shown in Figure 2.

### **B.3 Professional and Continuing Education Activities**

- The section co-organised with Computer Society (WA Chapter) the IEEE WA HDR Elevator Pitch. This is a forum that allows HDR students in Western Australia to share and learn together in their research topics.

### **B.4 Students Activities**

- Total number of Student Branches in the Section: 4
- Number of Student Branches formed in the current year: None
- Section level student activities (student congress, paper and other contests, awards etc)
- Number of active Student Branches (Student Branches who have reported the required number of meetings during the year): 2
- Summary of Student Branch activities (Student Branch wise with attachment table/information): as reported in Figure 2

### **B.5 Affinity Group Activities**

- Young Professional (YP)
- Women In Engineering (WIE)

The reported activities of these groups are also provided in Figure 2. WIE is trying to kick start their activity with only one unreported activity run in 2023.

### **B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities**

- Student Prizes were presented in their respective universities.
- The PELS prize was presented in their chapter activities.
- The winners of the IEEE Western Australia Section Outstanding Volunteer Awards 2023 were announced during the section AGM. Electronic copies of the certificate have been emailed to the recipients
- All volunteers of the section received an Appreciation Certificate; electronic copies of the certificate have been emailed to them. For those volunteers who required printed copies, they were presented during the AGM.

### **B.7 Communication Activities (Newsletter, Home Page, E-mail etc.)**

- The section webpage is located at [https://ewh.ieee.org/r10/w\\_australia/](https://ewh.ieee.org/r10/w_australia/)
- The section also has LinkedIn and Facebook pages, with the link from the section webpage.
- All these are updated whenever there are any events or news.
- The section has webpage coordinator and social media coordinator looking after all these pages.

### **B.8 Industry Relations**

- We have two volunteers looking after industry relations, however, we only managed to organise an industry event with Engineer Australia in 2023, which attracted good attendance.

### **B.9 Humanitarian Technology Activities**

- NIL

## **B.10 Community Activities**

- Organised the IEEE Day Social Lunch

## **PART C - OTHERS**

### **C.1 Special Events**

- Nil

### **C.2 Relationship with National and International Societies and Non-Government Organizations (NGO)**

- No formal agreement has been established, however, the section has co-organised events with the following organisations
  - Engineer Australia
  - Government of Western Australia: Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation
  - Licensing Executives Society Australia & New Zealand
  - Curtin University
  - Edith Cowan University
  - Murdoch University
  - University of Western Australia
  - Asia Pacific Neural Network Society
  - Universiti Malaya
  - King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang
  - Innovative Cognitive Computing (IC2)

### **C3. Collaboration with other IEEE Sections**

- The Section, the Joint Chapter of CIS/RAS (WA Chapter), SMC (WA Chapter) have collaborated with SMC Thailand chapter in organising the Deep Learning and Artificial Intelligence Summer/Winter School 2023 (DLAI7)

### **C.4 Support extended to Sub-sections & Society Chapters within the Section**

- Section has supported and jointly organised events with Computer Society chapter, SMC Society chapter, Joint CIS/RAS chapter.
- Section has also supported the initiatives to re-start the Murdoch University student branch, resulting with a committee in 2024 to re-activate the events of the student branches.

### **C.5 Best Practices of your Section (which you would like to share with other Sections for the benefits of members)**

- Given that the section is still recovering from the unsatisfactory status for the past two years, we are still working hard to bring the section back on track before growing activities.

### **C.6 Problems anticipated and suggestions for solutions, if any**

- NIL.

## **PART D - GOALS AND PLANS**

### **D.1 Continuation of project/activity in progress and their implementation plans**

- The section has achieved satisfactory status from the hard work of the committee members of 2022 and 2023, the section will continue to grow the pool of activities and to recruit more volunteers.

### **D.2 Goals and Future Plans**

- The section has run a planning section 2023 which listed the top 10 priorities of focus. The section will work through the plan towards the top 10 priorities one at a time in the next few years.

### **D.3 Any innovative ideas to make IEEE more creative and value added for sustaining the membership retention and recruitment goals.**

- One of the top 10 priorities is in this area, it is anticipated that an ad-hoc committee could be set up in future to work on this.

### **D.4 Business Plan for Sustainable Growth and Financial Stability.**

- The section has not worked on this in 2023 yet.