

# Region 10 New Zealand North Section Report Format

## PART A - SECTION SUMMARY

### A.1 Executive Summary – (Please follow the format given below)

- **NZ North Section (R00301) Executive Committee Member List**  
2023 Committee
  - Chair: Tek Tjing Lie
  - Vice Chair: Kevin Wang
  - Treasurer: Nurul Sarkar
  - Secretary: Edmund LaiThe section officers were nominated and formally elected at the Section AGM.
  
- **Section Highlights**
  - **Strategic Plan:** The Section has a new Strategic Plan (which was developed for 2019-2023) that continues from our previous Strategic Plan (which was developed for 2013-2018) for sustainable development. We developed this plan and released it.
  - **Events:** New Zealand North Section had a very successful year in 2023, with several major international events organized under the Section's support, as listed in the Major Events below.
  
- **Major Events (International, National)**

The section is involved in supporting the following international conferences and summit:

  - CASE 2023 26-29 August 2023 - The Section has 20% financial stake.
  - ICDCM 2023 15-17 November 2023
  - ISGT ASIA 21-24 November 2023
  - IEEE TALE 2023 28 Nov – 1 Dec. 2023- The Section has 20% financial stake
  - IEEE Women in Engineering International Leadership Summit, 11-12 Dec 2023
  
- **Major Chapter Activities**
  - **Meetings:** The New Zealand North Section organized 20+ meetings during 2023. These included section committee administration meetings, technical seminars, technical/professional meetings, workshops, field trips and social events.
  - **L31 Meeting Reports:** The details of the activities have been listed on the Section website and reported online via IEEE v-tools L31 Meeting Reports.
  
- **Major Student and Affinity Group Activities**
  - There are two active student branches: 1) The University of Auckland Student Branch and 2) Auckland University of Technology Student Branch.
  - WIE affinity group remains active in 2023.
  
- **Awards**
  - **AUT best Electrical and Electronic Engineering Graduate (BE):** We awarded a prize to the student who got the best grade in the BE (hon) course.
  - **University of Auckland Best Poster for BE (hon)** student in Electrical and Electronics, Computer Systems, and Software Engineering.

### A.2 Financial Report – (Please follow the format given below)

- Summary (as per submitted on NetSuite)

- The financial report was submitted separately via NetSuite. The Section finances are in a healthy condition with a total balance of NZ \$98,226.18 (including Cheque: \$68,926.99, Savings: \$5547.05, Term deposit: \$19153.53, and NextGen: [US\\$2907@0.6323](mailto:US$2907@0.6323) = NZ\$4598.61).
- Any other financial activities
  - None.

## **PART B - ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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

- The Section has planned some activities to recruit new members and retention.
- The total number of active members in the past 3 years was slightly decreased. The membership numbers are taken in January each year.

	2021	2022	2023
Total Number	543	517	509

### **B.2 Chapter Activities**

- There are 10 Chapters in the Section
- There are 9 active Chapters
- **Chapter Activities:**
- ComSoc Chapter
  - 2x technical seminars
- IAS/IES Chapter
  - IEEE IAS Distinguished Lecture on Enabling Power Grid Resiliency in DER-Rich Environment
  - 2x technical seminars
- PEL Chapter
  - 2x technical seminars
- PES Chapter
  - 1x DL
  - 2x technical seminars
- R&A Chapter
  - New Zealand Robot Soccer Championship 2023
  - International Robot Olympiad 2023
  - New Zealand Robot Olympiad 2023
  - 8x technical seminars
- SP & IT Chapter
  - 4x technical seminars
- VTS Chapter
  - 1x DL
  - 4x technical seminars
  - Australian and New Zealand VT Chapters planning meeting
- EMB Chapter
  - Symposium on Industrial-based Biomedical Engineering Research (SIBER) – September 2023
  - Chapter committee meeting
- GRSS Chapter
  - Instrumentation and Future Technology Remote Sensing Summer School
  - 1x technical seminar

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

Summary of continuing Educational activities including conferences, technical activities, training courses, and distinguished lecture programs with attachment table / information

- Total number of Student Branches in the Section: 2
- Several major events were successfully organized with encouraging amount of student members participants and volunteer supports.
- STEM Outreach activities: 4 events

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

- Total number of Student Branches in the Section: 2.
- Number of Student Branches formed in the current year: None.
- Section level student activities (student congress, paper and other contests, awards etc): The student branch organizes their own activities under the guidance the Section Student Activity Coordinator.
- Number of active Student Branches: 1. UoA Branch, and 2. AUT Branch
- Summary of Student Branch activities:
- University of Auckland student branch
  - Practice Interview with Industries
  - Job skills presentation
  - 2x technical seminar
- Auckland University of Technology student branch
  - 2x technical seminars

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

- Young Professional (YP)
  - The YP is currently inactive and the section is forming strategy to re-active YP affinity group in 2024.
- Women In Engineering (WIE)
  - Currently active and organizing their own events. Specifically, IEEE Women in Engineering International Leadership Summit is successfully organized in 2023.

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

- Award constituted by the Section
  - AUT best Electrical and Electronic Engineering Graduate (BE): We awarded a prize to the student who got the best grade in the BE (hon) course.
  - University of Auckland Best Poster for BE (hon) student in Electrical, Computer, and Software Engineering.
- Please list all Awards and Recognitions received by the Section, and members in the Section, from R 10 and IEEE HQ during the year
  - None

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

- Newsletter (name and number of issues in the year): None
- Home Page of the Section (give the URL and how often it is updated): <https://ieeenorth.org.nz/>. The website is updated regularly with Chapter event reports and Excom reports.

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

- Membership growth and retention

We have most members from universities, but we do have active members from industry coming to attend IEEE events.

- Activities for/with industrial members

Our IEEE seminars are often deliberately scheduled in late afternoons to make it easier for industrial members to attend, and we plan to have more speakers from industry.

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

- Humanitarian Technology related activities supported by the Section including collaboration with other OUs.
  - None
- SIGHT Activities
  - 1x technical seminar

## **B.10 Community Activities**

- IEEE Social activities (Family day, IEEE day, Engineers Week)”
  - None

## **PART C - OTHERS**

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

- Please briefly describe the importance of special events and the outcomes achieved
- Funding secured from the IEEE and external sources including sponsorships
- ISGT ASIA 21-24 November 2023
  - IEEE PES sponsorship
- IEEE Women in Engineering International Leadership Summit, 11-12 Dec 2023
  - IEEE WIE grant
  - IEEE Foundation sponsorship

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

- None

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

- Support extended to neighboring Sections  
We have joint chapters with NZ South and Central Sections, and have been helping each other in seminar organizations, particularly DLs, conferences sponsorships, etc.
- Joint activities with any other Section  
We had joint activities, particular in organizing local and DL seminars.

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

- None.

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

- Strong support to the revival of WIE and student branches.

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

- None.

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

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

We will continue to make the best use of our new Section website for running the Section. We designed and modified the Consultant Database in 2020, using the PAC fund. We will revive the inactive group by providing more support to YP.

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

We developed our new Section Strategic plan (2019-2023) and we continued our work to execute it. A summary of the main goals is shown below:

The strategic planning session for the IEEE NZ North section for the year 2019-2023 was organised on 21st July 2018 from 9 am to 5 pm at Newmarket campus, The University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand. The event was attended by around 15 people, which included 12 participants from New Zealand and 3 participants from Fiji subsection. The event was organised by Prof. Nirmal Nair and Dr. Ho Seok Ahn and facilitated by Prof. Nirmal Nair and Dr. Latha Murugesan. An effective feedback and knowledge on strategic planning was inculcated to the participants by Prof. Peter from AUT during the event. The discussion during the workshop was around the six focus areas, which included (1) Leadership, Visibility and Recognition, (2) Conferences & Workshops, (3) Bidding for R10 & IEEE global events, (4) Student, Women in Engineering and Teachers-in-Service Program, (5) Chapter rejuvenation and regular committee refresh, (6) Engagement with other NZ and international learned societies and affinity groups (IET, ENZ etc.). The outcome of this workshop is a strategic planning document, which includes the list of strategies, events, and conferences, which will be considered during the year 2019-2023.

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

Provide more tangible benefits to members comparable to those experienced by American members. Discounts on conferences fees for members help, but not all conference organizers are happy to give decent discounts; it would be great if the IEEE could offer some subsidy. We believe that IEEE should reach out to 'middle school' i.e. students in the 7 to 12 year age group. A large portion of this section of the student body decides to keep away from the 'geeky' or 'boyish' professions. Naturally, they need to make a well-informed decision. Our underlying assumption is that some students make this decision of following a path – other than STEM – simply because of an incomplete or erroneous understanding of 'Engineering'. IEEE needs to champion Engineering (Electrical Engineering) to ensure we motivate the very young minds to look at Engineering positively.

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

The Section does have a strategic plan as stated previously which could be the Section business plan.

- 1.To revive the YP affinity group.
- 2.To have a very active membership drive especially for Undergraduate students.

- 3.To offer more activities for members such as social as well as technical activities.
- 4.To encourage Chapters to be more active in reaching out to their respective members and more activities.
- 5.To regularly host international conferences