



# Newsletter

UNESCO Supported  
International Centre  
for  
Engineering Education

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Monash University

## From the Director

The operations of the USICEE are an expression of the external focus of Monash University and its sense of purpose as Australia's International University. Internationalisation of engineering education is certainly an idea whose time has come, and in pursuing this idea we both benefit our own students and enhance engineering education worldwide.

The Centre also acts as a focus for engineering education in Australia, being the secretariat for the Australasian Association for Engineering Education (AAEE) and for the International Liaison Group for Engineering Education (ILGEE). The USICEE is determined to work in cooperation with other Australian and international engineering schools and academics and, as a symbol of that, is grateful for the willingness of some prominent engineering educators, to serve on its Academic Advisory Committee.

Future plans include hosting international conferences, continuing research into engineering education, and conducting further courses. Grants have been sought to establish links with several countries, and to support research and development activities.

The Centre aims to become a centre of excellence for Monash and to play a leading role in engineering education in Australia and the world. Its future depends on continuing support from the Faculty of Engineering and from Monash University while it gradually increases its income from courses, grant applications, publications and donations.

1994 was a difficult year, but an extremely rewarding one, when we were able to unite many, rather fragmented, forces to create an entity which will develop engineering education further.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all of those who identified themselves with this initiative and helped to advance the cause and activities of the Centre.

## Annual Report

The Annual Report describes an energetic year of establishment of the Centre, developing its many activities and linkages, both nationally and internationally, and integrating itself strongly into the life of the Faculty of Engineering. It is available on request.

## New Dean

It is my pleasure to welcome the new Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Monash University, Professor Michael Brisk. Professor Brisk brings to the Faculty over 30 years experience in Process Control and Process Systems Engineering, with a career spanning both academia and industry. Professor Brisk was a Senior Lecturer in Chemical Engineering at the University of Sydney for 11 years before moving to ICI, working in both the UK and Australia for a total of 17 years. In 1993 he received the IEAust/ICChem/RACI Award for Excellence in Applied Chemical Engineering for his work in Process Control, and in 1994 was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

## 1995 Congress

Over 180 abstracts have been accepted for the 1995 *International Congress of Engineering Deans and Industry Leaders* to be held 3-6 July 1995 at Monash University.

## UNESCO course

A training course for academic teachers sponsored by UNESCO on The Application of Computer-Assisted Training Programs in Engineering Education was carried out by the USICEE between 7 and 11 November, 1994. Twelve academics from countries in South-East Asia and the Pacific region received education in the fundamental principles of the teaching/learning process, the development of computer-assisted teaching programs and hands-on training in the management of a range of engineering education computer software. The course participants were from Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Thailand and Vietnam.

A comprehensive course teaching manual was developed and will be published soon. Several academics from various Monash University units prepared session notes and conducted the course activities.

On completion of the course, the participants were invited to complete an evaluation questionnaire developed by the USICEE to gauge their reactions to the

course material, lecture presentations and facilities, and to identify any need for future collaboration with the USICEE to help establish their own courses in their home countries.

The responses were so positive that the Centre intends to repeat this course, subject to availability of funds.

## International

In the international arena, the USICEE has established links with other universities and professional bodies. A four-party agreement between Monash University and three prestigious and long-established overseas universities has been initiated by the USICEE Director, A/Prof. Zenon J. Pudlowski. This agreement has been approved by all four institutions and will be signed on 26 May 1995. Participating universities are The University of Strathclyde in the UK, The University of Pavia in Italy and The Technical University of Lodz, Poland.

The Agreement will facilitate co-operation between the four parties, especially in the areas of exchange of research results, dissemination of course information, joint developmental activities and exchange of staff.

Seven co-operative agreements have been signed between the USICEE and other academic organisations worldwide to establish collaboration on academic and research related activities. The countries involved are Hungary, Poland, Russia, Vietnam, United Kingdom, Egypt and Turkey.

A number of international visitors have also been welcomed at the Centre and several of these visitors have presented seminar papers as part of the USICEE Academic Visitors Seminars Series.

## AAEE

The March 1995 AAEE Newsletter (Vol. 7, No.1) has been circulated. It includes an invitation to submit papers and to attend the 7th Annual Convention and Conference of the Australasian Association for Engineering Education to be held at the University of Melbourne, 10-13 December 1995, in collaboration with the USICEE.

## APHEN-EE

APHEN is the Asia-Pacific Higher Education Network, an initiative of the UNESCO UNITWIN program discussed in the last newsletter. With the establishment of the APHEN-EE network, it is essential to create a forum for concerned educators to discuss issues of innovation in engineering and technological education, not only by electronic means, but also in person. Therefore, the 1st Asia Pacific Forum on Innovation in Engineering and Technological Education will be organised by USICEE from 1 to 3 July

1996 at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. Particular emphasis will be placed on the participation of people from the Pacific Rim, including South-East Asia, Pacific Russia and South America. It is envisaged that the forum will generate an action oriented agenda for the APHEN-EE network to develop engineering education and to strengthen the collaboration and exchange of information between countries of the Asia Pacific region. It is anticipated that other regional international organisations concerned about engineering education will be involved in this enterprise. A call for papers will be circulated in May/June this year.

## E-Mailing Lists

The Centre runs several electronic mailing lists for the benefit of the engineering educational community: The most recent addition is the APHEN-EE list. APHEN-EE is the Engineering Education sub-network run by this Centre. The list is open to all those interested in Engineering Education.

USICEE	The Centre's Newsletter (this one)
APHEN-EE	Asia-Pacific Higher Education Network - Engineering Education
AAEE	The Australasian Association for Engineering Education
CBLG	Computer Based Learning Group
PBL-LIST	Problem Based Learning
HYDROLOGY	Australian hydrology
MATHCAD	Use of the Mathcad program

You may subscribe to any of these by simply sending a one line e-mail message of:

subscribe *listname*

to MAJORDOMO@eng.monash.edu.au

where *listname* is one of the list names from above.

Thereafter, send messages to other people on the list by sending to *listname*@eng.monash.edu.au, eg USICEE@eng.monash.edu.au.

Should you wish to unsubscribe yourself at a later date, just send a one line message of:

unsubscribe *listname*

to the MAJORDOMO address (above). Contact Roger Hadgraft, Associate Director of the Centre about these lists, and also about the following item.

## World Wide Web site

The Centre's activities can be accessed on the Internet using any of the World Wide Web browsers (such as Netscape or Mosaic) at:

<http://civil-www.eng.monash.edu.au/usicee/usicee.htm>