



**THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, SRI LANKA**  
**NSW AUSTRALIA CHAPTER**

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**ANNUAL REPORT – 2020/2021**

## **1. Introduction**

This report summarises the events which took place in the current IESL NSW Chapter Management Committee's term of office for 2020/21. Some of the Chapter's activities were compelled to be cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. This Annual report will be presented to the Chapter membership at the AGM to be held on 19 September 2021 via the Zoom platform. The report will be sent to IESL Head Quarters for publication in the annual IESL Transactions.

## **2. IESL NSW Chapter Management Committee 2020/2021**

The Twelfth Management Committee of the IESL NSW Chapter was elected at the AGM held on 20 September 2020 via Zoom platform. The Committee currently consists of the following members.

- Eng. (Dr.) Ashok Peiris (Chair)
- Eng. Paramsothy Gnanasothy (Vice Chair)
- Eng. (Dr.) Nilakshi Perera (Secretary)
- Eng. Mihimal Kadurugamuwa (Treasurer)
- Eng. Sithy Razeen (Editor)
- Eng. Mahendram Manoharan (Immediate Past Chair)
- Eng. Sisira Kantha Sanda Marakkalage (Committee Member)
- Eng. Rasika Gunawardana (Committee Member)
- Eng. Prabath Rathnayaka (Committee Member)
- Eng (Dr.) Manasi Wijerathna (Committee Member)
- Eng. Dayani Nayantha (Committee Member)
- Eng. Julian Mehanathan (Committee Member)
- Miss. Menuli Sanda Marakkalage (Committee Member)
- Mr. Janidu Sanda Marakkalage (Committee Member)

In addition to the above Committee members Eng. (Dr.) Buddhi Wijerathna was appointed as the Web Administrator and Mr. Prabhath Amarasinghe was appointed as the Auditor.

Total of 12 committee meetings have been conducted. Most of the meetings have been conducted via Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions. There were a few face-to-face meetings as well.

## **3. Membership**

IESL NSW Chapter has not yet received the current membership register from the Headquarters, which has been requested during tenure of previous committee as well.

## **4. Public Lecture Series**

IESL NSW Chapter's Management committee organised 7 Public Lectures for the term of 2020/2021.

The lectures were notified to our membership and published via IESL NSW Chapter website. The events were posted on IESL's Announcements web page (Basecamp). Engineering organisations in both private sector and public sector, universities etc. were informed about these public lectures.

The presentations were about one-hour of duration with a fifteen minutes Questions and Answer time with the audience at the end of the presentations. Engineers and students from

different engineering background participated in the lecture. IESL Headquarters was provided with the presentation materials of the public lectures.

The details of the Public Lectures are as follows.

- “AI for Engineering Application” was delivered by Dr. Varuna De Silva, University of Loughborough, on 17 February.
- “5G - An Inevitable Revolution: *Let’s capture the opportunity in Building the Sri Lankan 5G Economy*” was delivered by Eng. Sunimal Ediriweera, Global Account Director, Ericsson Group, IBM Corp., Stockholm, Sweden, on 20 March.
- “Managing Urban Stormwater for Disaster Risk Reduction” was delivered by Dr. Srikantha Herath, Consultant Real Time Control Centre, Metro Colombo Development Project, Professor, University of Tokyo, Japan, on 1 May.
- “Australian mining industry well positioned to reap from electric vehicles push” was delivered by Eng. Mohan Seneviratne, Global Lead for Water, Principal Industry Specialist Climate Business, IFC, World Bank Group, on 2 June.
- “Design of Protective Structures to withstand Extreme Loading (Blast and Impact) was delivered by Dr. Damith Mohotti , Senior Lecturer, University of NSW, on 26 July.
- “Digitalisation of the Water Sector – Opportunity and Challenges” was delivered by Prof. Harsha Ratnaweera, Professor, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, on 25 August.
- “Radio & Television Broadcast – Is there any future for them?” was delivered by Dr. Amal Punchihewa, on 18 September.



Dr. Varuna De Silva



Eng. Sunimal Ediriweera



Dr. Srikantha Herath



Eng. Mohan Seneviratne



Dr. Damith Mohotti



Prof. Harsha Ratnaweera



Dr. Amal Punchihewa

## 5. Young Engineers Day

The Young Engineers Day was held on 23 June 2021 via zoom. 5 Engineers presented on a wide range of topics at this annual event.

The event was notified to our membership and published via IESL NSW Chapter website. The details of the Young Engineers Day were posted on IESL's Announcements web page (Basecamp). Engineering organisations in both private sector and public sector, universities etc. were informed about the Young Engineers Day.

The 5 presenters were allocated 10 minutes each for their presentations with a 5 minute Questions and Answer session at the end of each presentation. Engineers and students from different engineering background participated in this event. IESL Headquarters was provided with the presentation materials of all 5 participants.

The details of the presentations at the Young Engineers Day are as follows.

- Eng. Natasha Peiris – Lessons learnt as a Mechanical Engineering Graduates.
- Eng. Charith Fonseka - Functionalized Metal Organic Framework for selective recovery of Rare Earth Elements from mining wastewaters.
- Miss. Rashini Gunathilaka – Structural behaviour of TrueDek decking under composite conditions.
- Eng. Hemal Wickramasinghe – Life as a High Voltage primary design Engineer in an Engineering Consultancy Firm.
- Miss. H. M. Vihanga Ilankoon – Effect of Fire on Perform Columns.



Eng. Natasha Peiris



Eng. Charith Fonseka



Miss. Rashini Gunathilaka



Eng. Hemal Wickramasinghe



Miss. H. M. Vihanga Ilankoon

## 6. IESL NSW Chapter Newsletters

The IESL NSW Chapter issued 2 Newsletters in March 2021 and June 2021. The third Newsletter for the current term will be published in late-September 2021. The objective of these Newsletters is to communicate with the General membership in NSW and ACT creating awareness in, the Chapter activities, achievements of member engineers and Sri Lankan news and events related to engineering. The Newsletter also includes general engineering articles written by members. The Chapter Newsletters are sent to IESL Headquarters to be circulated among engineers in Sri Lanka.

## 7. COVID-19 impact on Chapter activities for 2019/2020

The committee took into consideration the current status of the COVID-19 pandemic in NSW and interstate and the public perception of the pandemic and made the decisions below.

The following events for the term 20/21 were cancelled.

- Women in Engineering Day event.
- Industrial visits.
- Family events.
- Engineering Conference; and
- Gala Dinner.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Chapter will be held on 19 September 2021 via the Zoom platform.

## **8. Collaboration with IESL HQ and other Organisations**

IESL NSW Chapter took part in the IESL Provincial/Overseas Chapters quarterly meeting on 12 December 2020, 13 March 2021, 11 June 2021 and 11 September 2021.

## **9. Our Sponsors**

The IESL NSW Chapter received only limited sponsorship since the Engineering Convention was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. GEO-AM Consulting and ECON HOMES are the sponsors of the Chapter activities in 2020/2021. Chapter received a considerable amount as voluntary contribution from its members which is appreciated by the current Management Committee.

## **10. Financial Report**

The audited Financial Report prepared by the Chapter Treasurer, Eng. Eng. Mihimal Kadurugamuwa is attached with this Annual Report.

## **11. Challenges faced by the Chapter and the way forward**

IESL NSW Chapter which is the 1<sup>st</sup> overseas Chapter was formed in 2009. The Chapter has grown over the last 12 years with a current membership of more than 500 engineers living and practicing in NSW and ACT. Some of the issues and challenges faced by the Chapter are as follows.

- Difficulties in finding engineers to volunteer and become Management Committee members of IESL and taking part in chapter activities
- Financial viability of the Chapter – An uphill task to cover the operating deficit with sponsorships and voluntary contributions

Mutual Recognition Agreement between (MRA) IESL and Engineers Australia (EA) have been a platform to motivate chapter membership for effective engagement. However, current council of IESL has decided to terminate the MRA citing it as a “redundant”. All three Australian chapters (NSW, QLD and WA) requested and await clarification on the termination of MRA as redundant.

Some areas, on which the newly elected committee and the future committees could work on maybe as follows.

- Recognising engineers who have made outstanding contributions in NSW/ACT
- Reaching out to engineers in ACT
- Increasing interaction amongst the past Management Committee members

- Other means of motivating chapter membership of effective engagement with chapter activities.

## **12. Conclusion**

IESL NSW Chapter sincerely appreciates the lecturers who delivered the Public Lectures and the presenters at the Young Engineers Day for their contributions towards the Chapter activities in 2020/2021. Our special thanks go to the sponsors and the engineers who made voluntary contributions enabling the Chapter to sustain its activities. Chapter acknowledges the support provided to the current Management Committee by past committee members and well-wishers.

I sincerely appreciate the current IESL NSW Chapter Management Committee for the contribution and support, for the activities organised during the term of 2020/2021. My sincere gratitude goes out to the Web Administrator and Auditor for their continuous assistance provided to the Chapter. I warmly congratulate the newly elected Management committee and extend my fullest support during the upcoming term of the committee.

Ashok Peiris

Chair - IESL NSW Chapter 2020/2021

Attachment – IESL NSW Chapter's audited Financial Report



**Annual Accounts for the Financial Year 2020-2021  
Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka NSW Chapter**

This is the Audited Financial Report of Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka NSW Chapter for the period from 1st of July 2020 to 30th of June 2021.

**Attachments:**

1. Annual accounts - Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 30 June 2021
2. Supplementary Statement - Financial Performance for the period from 1 July 2021 to 1 September 2021

Mihimal Kadurugamuwa  
Treasurer  
IESL NSW Chapter  
13 September 2021



**IESL NSW Chapter  
2021 Annual Account**

	Notes	2021	2020
<b>Statement of Financial Performance</b>			
<b>For the year ended 30 June 2021</b>			
<b>Income</b>		<b>A\$</b>	<b>A\$</b>
Net Contribution from IESL Members Dinner	1	-	2,431.29
Voluntary Contributions		615.00	320.00
Interest Income		43.09	49.21
Voluntary Contributions - Prof S Abeyakoon for participating in WEC		-	1,270.00
		<b>658.09</b>	<b>4,070.50</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Lecture Series - Refreshments		-	1,959.19
Lecture Series - Venue hire Refreshments		-	654.00
Part Ticket Exp - Prof S Abeyakoon for participating in WEC		-	1,112.00
Administration and other (Insurance, PO Box, Web hosting, AGM, Fair Trading, etc.)		1,300.24	1,422.03
		<b>1,300.24</b>	<b>5,147.22</b>
<b>Surplus</b>		<b>(642.15)</b>	<b>(1,076.72)</b>

	2021	2020
<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>		
<b>As at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>A\$</b>	<b>A\$</b>
Cash at Bank	9,371.96	10,014.11
	<b>9,371.96</b>	<b>10,014.11</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Accumulated Fund	<b>9,371.96</b>	<b>10,014.11</b>

	2021	2020
<b>Notes to Accounts</b>		
<b>I</b>		
IESL Dinner		
<b>Income</b>	<b>A\$</b>	<b>A\$</b>
Ticket Sales, Sponsorship and Advertisements 2019	-	1,160.00
Sponsorship money	1,000.00	1,500.00
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>2,660.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Hall Deposit	1,000.00	-
Ticket Refund	-	95.00
Souvenir and Ticket printing	-	133.71
<b>Expenditure Total</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>228.71</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,431.29</b>

Prepared by:

**Mihimal Kadurugamuwa**  
Treasurer  
13 September 2021

Checked By:

**Prabhath Amarasinghe**  
Auditor  
13 September 2021





IESL NSW Chapter  
Supplementary Account for the period from 1 July 2021 to 1 September 2021

	2020/2021
<b>Statement of Financial Performance</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Interest	10.41
	<b>10.41</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Gala Nite-Ticket printing	114.54
	<b>114.54</b>
<b>Surplus/deficit</b>	<b>-104.13</b>
<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	
Cash at bank as at 1 July 2020	9,371.96
Surplus/deficit	-104.13
Cash at bank as at 1 September 2021	<b>9,267.83</b>