Australasian Association for Engineering Education

What's on in AAEE?

2025-Edition 4- July

President's Message

Dear AAEE Members

As we hit July, there are many things to occupy us. We have AAEE25 papers to finalise, team and idea formation for AAEE grants, and AAEE awards to apply for. The AI SIG is also hosting its second annual showcase on the **18th of July** with informative presentations and an engaging panel session. See the relevant sections of the newsletter for more details. I would also like to congratulate the editorial team of our Journal (AJEE) and the authors of accepted papers for maintaining Q1 status with the 2025 CiteScore update. I hope this encourages more of our community to submit a paper.

The third AAEE executive committee meeting for 2025 was held in June. We discussed the feedback received from the community regarding the strategic plan. A subcommittee is exploring Scopus indexing for the conference to assess benefits, risks, and alignment with the society's quality standards and strategic goals. Engineers Australia will look to provide a teaching perspective webinar on what students should know regarding registration and chartered status. Several operational improvements are underway. We discussed how we can internally improve document control through Teams, as well as financial tracking and budgeting processes.

There have also been focused discussions on improving external communication, which we have started by introducing a monthly newsletter. We also aim to communicate more non-confidential information to our members to provide greater transparency. This includes the executive meeting summary that you are reading, as well as adding documentation to our website. This includes adding more historical information, so that we have better records and recognition of AAEEs' past, not just the future. We would also like to share our members' successes. If you win a major teaching and learning award, please let me know so that we can share it with our members.

Major steps are being undertaken to enhance existing guidelines, procedures and systematic processes for the Research School. We have a very large contingent (30+) heading to Melbourne, and I wish all participants the best. The school sows the seeds for the next generation, and great thanks are needed for the facilitators who commit so much time to ensure such a positive experience. Many AAEE initiatives, such as the research school, have been used as a model for adaptation by other organisations such as ASCILITE, SEFI and CEEA. We are proud of those who have contributed for such a long time to build the reputation that we now have. Finally, we have gained in principle support from the NZCED for some new funding opportunities. Look forward to this announcement in the months ahead.

If you would like to provide feedback, please feel free to email me directly.

Have a great July

Sasha Nikolic

2025 AAEE Annual Conference

Registration has opened and the Call for Full Papers and Workshops is now Open!

Abstract acceptances have been sent out to authors. We would like to notify members of AAEE that the call for Full Papers and Workshops has now opened. We would like to remind you that you do not need to have submitted an abstract to submit a Full Paper.

This is a reminder that:

- Abstract acceptance notifications were sent out on the 30th of May
- The Call for Full Papers and Workshops opened on the 2nd of June.
- Deadline for Full Papers and Workshops is Friday 25th of July.

2025 AAEE Engineering Education Grants

The **2025 AAEE Engineering Education Grants** are open for application! There are **3 grants of up to $10,000** each available to projects which address the outcomes of the ACED Engineering Futures 2035.

The grants encourage excellence in scholarly practice and/or research specific to **Engineering Education** in higher education or equivalent by supporting teams who possess the desired mix of demonstrable expertise and skills and/or are emerging leaders in the field to:

1. Identify engineering educational issues across the higher education system and to facilitate approaches to address these issues.
2. Devise and undertake a programme of activities that will have positive impact on engineering students, staff, and/or institutions.
3. Raise the profile of engineering education in higher education and the prestige associated with the pursuit of scholarly excellence and/or research.
4. Show leadership in promoting and enhancing engineering education in higher education and exploring new possibilities.
5. Establish and build on national and international partnerships in engineering education in higher education or equivalent.
6. Foster national collaboration and collegial networking for sharing research, innovation and good practice in engineering education.
7. Contribute to the growing community of engineering education scholars in higher education or equivalent.

The AAEE Engineering Education Grants nomination instructions provide information for nominees and their home institutions. The information covers the selection criteria, and the nomination and selection processes. You can find further information about the 2025 AAEE Engineering Education Grants on our website at: https://aaee.net.au/current-grants

Applications close Monday, 1st September 2025.

The field of engineering studies is a diverse, interdisciplinary arena of scholarly research.
The prize celebrates an excellent refereed journal paper or book chapter addressing the relationships among the technical, social and philosophical dimensions of engineering practices, and how these relationships change over time and from place to place.

This year, the prize committee is calling for articles published in 2024 or 2025 in media *other than* the Engineering Studies journal. Next year, the committee will call for articles published in the Engineering Studies journal in 2025 or 2026.

Nominations can be submitted by any INES member.

Nominations will be judged by an Awards Committee made up of INES board members and distinguished scholars to reflect the international and interdisciplinary nature of the Network.

Some of the criteria that the award committee will consider include:
- Inspiring and relevant research problem
- Significant contribution to the field
- Outstanding use—and possibly development—of relevant theory
- Exemplary use of appropriate research methods
- Potential for transforming the field

Articles (refereed journal articles or book chapters) must be nominated by completing the following Google form, no later than September 15, 2025:
https://forms.gle/TSSY2mhFsw9F9DN28

Call for interviews: sustainable industry-university partnerships
As part of our AAEE/ACED Grant, we are conducting research into sustainable industry-university partnerships and would welcome your assistance. The first stage of our research focused on current industry-university partnerships. We are now moving onto the second stage of our research, which will explore the enablers and challenges in establishing and maintaining industry-university partnerships.
We are looking for participants to share their experiences in a **semi-structured interview** which should take no longer than 1 hr of your time. We are interested in a **range of perspectives** from **academic** staff and **industry** members, whether you are currently in an educational or research partnership, interested in forming partnerships, or not interested in forming partnerships. Please share this opportunity with your networks.

This research has been funded by an AAEE/ACED grant, as well as contributions from UTS, The University of Sydney, UNSW and UniSA.

If you are interested in participating, please review and complete the participant information and consent form and email it to Sai Rupa Devarapu at Sai.Devarapu@uts.edu.au.

You are under no obligation to participate in this research.
Yours sincerely,
Guien, Scott, Tania, Rosalie, Taran, Sai, Suba, Rod, Paul, Rita, Firoozeh

AAEE Awards information

A video has been produced that provides information about the Technical Society Awards managed by Engineers Australia and Early Career Citations managed by the Australasian Association for Engineering Education. You can access this video at https://youtu.be/cCb5s2FDzLA

The information is accurate for 2025. Please refer to the AAEE Awards website for up-to-date information.

The AAIEEC 2ND Annual Showcase

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When: 18th of July – Presentations 10:30 - 11:30 and Panel Session 11:30 – 12:30 AEDT

Presentations:
Project-work: A Starting Point for GenAI Integration of Future-facing Skills (Sasha Nikolic, UOW)
Using AI to Inform Assessment Redesign: Ethical Hacking and Co-Design in Engineering Education (Swapneel Thite, & Giordana Orsini Florez – UNSW)
AI Ethics (Zachery Quince, SCU)
Online Modules to Embed AI-Assisted Coding (Dr Aneesha Bakharia & Mr Lachlan Miller, UQ)

Panel Session - Human Skills vs. Artificial Intelligence: Engineering Competencies and Assessment in the GenAI Era
As Generative AI reshapes engineering practice, this panel explores the evolving balance between human skills and AI capabilities. Experts will discuss essential human competencies, implications for assessment and accreditation, and strategies to ensure valid, future-ready engineering education. The panel features:
Sally Male (UMelb)
Zachery Quince (SCU)
Montse Ros (UOW)
Peter Neal (UNSW) and
Helen Fairweather (Engineers Australia)

Register Now: https://www.aaieec.org/event-details/aaieec-2nd-annual-showcase

July CREITE meeting

July CREITE session Wed 16th 12:30-2pm - Workshopping workshops

The Centre for Research into Engineering and Information Technology Education (**CREITE**) holds monthly meetings exploring topical issues and the latest research in engineering education. Activities include: guest speakers discussing EER methodologies or research projects; peer feedback sessions on draft abstracts or conference presentations, and interactive sessions on different skills and approaches in EER (e.g. reviewing journal manuscripts). CREITE is hosted by the University of Technology Sydney, with members from the Sydney region and beyond, including the University of New South Wales, University of Newcastle, and Charles Sturt University. We normally meet on the third Wednesday of the month, from 12:30-2pm Sydney time, Feb-Nov. This session we'll be focusing on what makes for a good workshop, just in advance of the workshop submission deadline for AAEE2025.

Why are we doing this and what do we hope you'll get out of it?
We want to support each other in developing engaging and interactive conference workshops. We hope you'll leave the session with some new insights about workshops and some useful ideas to develop your workshop proposal.

What is it?
In this session we will be discussing what makes a good conference workshop and 'workshopping' your workshop ideas.

Join on **Zoom** (https://zoom.uts.edu.au/j/88012429428).

To join the Teams site or get added to our mailing list, please reach out to the coordinators:
·   Guien Miao Guien.Miao@uts.edu.au
·   Rosalie Goldsmith Rosalie.Goldsmith@uts.edu.au
·   Peter Neal peter.neal@unsw.edu.au
·   Scott Daniel Scott.Daniel@uts.edu.au

AI SIG Update

The AAEE AI SIG, known as the Australasian Artificial Intelligence in Engineering Education Centre, is very active. Some recent updates from the SIG:

Academic Integrity Cluster: A new paper has been published that critically examines alternative strategies that go beyond traditional assessment security, aiming to uphold academic integrity. Four approaches are discussed: risk-level analysis, adaptive grade scaling, gatekeeper units, and maintaining the status quo. An accreditation perspective is given for each approach. https://aimspress.com/article/doi/10.3934/steme.2025027

GenAI Assessment & Learning Toolkit - We have two new posts this month:
1. **Breaking Point - The End of Unsupervised Programming Assessments:** This new post by Dr. Ghulam Mubashar Hassan from the University of Western Australia discusses the changes that occurred to short-term assessment security options in programming assessments in the past year. https://www.aaieec.org/post/breaking-point-the-end-of-unsupervised-programming-assessments
2. **Teach Me, Test Me - Using ChatGPT as Both Tutor and Student**: This new post by Sasha Nikolic from the University of Wollongong discusses how GenAI can be used to aid student learning. The post discourages passive learning and introduces tested prompts for using GenAI as both a tutor and a student to enable learning by doing. https://www.aaieec.org/post/teach-me-test-me-using-chatgpt-as-both-tutor-and-student

2025 AAIEEC Showcase: Scheduled for 18 July 2025. Back for a second year, this webinar will explore current research projects underway by AAIEEC members. This will be followed by a panel session focused on - Human Skills vs. Artificial Intelligence: Engineering Competencies and Assessment in the GenAI Era. A range of speakers and panel members from UMelb, SCU, UQ, UNSW, UOW and more. For full details and to register: https://www.aaieec.org/event-list

For more information about the SIG, please visit: https://www.aaieec.org/

Call for reviewers for the Studies in Engineering Education Journal

SEE is always actively seeking more reviewers! If you're passionate about advancing engineering education, consider joining our reviewer community. You may be a great candidate if you:

Have experience in publishing and reviewing conference proceedings in the field of engineering education

- Are familiar with interpretive and qualitative research
- Have completed your candidacy exam (if a graduate student)

Benefits of being a peer reviewer include:

- Strengthening your academic writing and research skills
- Contributing to the quality and integrity published research
- Gaining experience that can support your path to becoming an associate or assistant editor for a journal
- Earning recognition you can highlight on your CV and ORCID profile.

See https://seejournal.org/reviewers for further details.

Calls for Expressions of Interest in Hosting AAEE in 2028

The AAEE conducts an annual conference throughout Australia and New Zealand to promote engineering education scholarship and facilitate the dissemination of research and best practices throughout the engineering education community. An EOI to host AAEE2028 is due on **17 November 2025**.

Hosting this conference brings substantial visibility to your university and city. It provides a great networking platform and professional development opportunities within engineering education.

The 'Procedures to Host the 2028 conference' is now available on the AAEE website. Please contact enda.crossin@canterbury.ac.nz with any questions or queries.

Introducing your AAEE executive committee: Grants and Awards portfolio

Each month, we will be featuring some of the AAEE executive committee members and their role(s) / portfolios. There are lots of moving parts behind an association like AAEE and we would like members to not only know what roles are being fulfilled and their responsibilities, but also who the people behind them are.

In this feature, we would like to introduce you to **Tania Machet** and **Tony Vo**, who coordinate the **AAEE Grants and Awards**, respectively. The Grants foster excellence in Engineering Education by supporting skilled or emerging teams in higher education research or practice. The AAEE Annual Awards recognise and celebrate outstanding contributions to engineering education in Australasia

Tania is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Professional Practice and Leadership at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). Her work focuses on engineering education, particularly how students learn to navigate complexity and how diversity and inclusion can be strengthened across the engineering profession. Before moving into academia, Tania spent over 15 years working in the telecommunications industry as a professional engineer. Drawing on this experience, she teaches subjects that help students build their capacity to work across disciplines, communicate effectively, and manage the complex systems and challenges they'll face as engineers. Tania is currently serving her first term on the AAEE (Australasian Association for Engineering Education) executive committee, where she manages the grants portfolio. She's always up for a good conversation about engineering education, inclusion, and how we prepare the next generation of engineers for whatever complexity the world throws at them.

Tony is an education-focused Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Monash University. He has served as the Director of Education for the Department and the Director of First-Year Studies for the Faculty. In these roles, he has led initiatives that support students and staff. His teaching has primarily focused on supporting first-year students during their critical transition into university. These experiences are well aligned with his current AAEE portfolio and reflect his long-standing commitment to educational excellence.

Together, Tania and Tony are working to build initiatives that support and celebrate excellence in engineering education across Australasia.