



Australasian Association for  
Engineering Education



# *What's on in AAEE?*

2026-Edition 2- April

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## *President's Message*

Dear Members

Last week, the University of Melbourne hosted an AAEE networking and GenAI event. I thank them for hosting, and I was very pleased to interact with the many members. I hope we can further build upon such opportunities.

AAEE26 abstract and workshop EOI stage closes soon. Don't forget to get something in. I've received feedback on the new Practice and Research pathways (the latter expected to be Scopus-indexed). Both are critical for advancing engineering education. Authors can choose either: some prioritise indexing, others do not. The Research stream will require stronger rigor in design and analysis, but lack of indexing does not equate to lower impact.

Registrations are now open for the annual Research School. Participation is important for anyone who is looking to grow in the engineering education space. This is a starting point if you are looking to apply for grants, awards and undertake research at a journal level. Knowledge is power! Understand what is required for successful outcomes. This sells out quick, so if you would like to participate, this is something you need to start taking action on.

The first ACED meeting of the year was held, hosted by Victoria University. Across the two days, discussions focused on major national issues, including the Strategic Examination of Research and Development (SERD) review, AI in education, the proposed Australian Tertiary Education Commission (ATEC), national engineering research priorities, industry collaboration, and the Engineering 2035 initiative. Your Dean can provide insights as required.

Last month we added an events calendar to our newsletter. If you are looking for event and due dates, that is the place to go.

Have a great April

Sasha

## 2026 AAEE Annual Conference



Join us at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia for the  
**37th Australasian Association for Engineering Education Annual Conference (AAEE2026).**

### CALL FOR ABSTRACT AND WORKSHOP EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The 37th Australasian Association for Engineering Education Annual Conference (AAEE 2026) is now accepting abstract and workshop expression of interest submissions via the conference website.

#### Submission Tracks and Guideline

AAEE2026 has three submission tracks: Research Paper, Practice Paper or Workshop that will be delivered in person at the conference. Authors will be asked to nominate a track at submission.

**Research papers** present research that follows best-practice practices in engineering education research. Submissions should include a literature review, theoretical background, a clearly articulated theoretical and methodological framing, clearly described methods, results, analysis, and interpretation. Research papers must articulate an original contribution to engineering education research.

**Practice papers** present scholarly accounts of implemented or ongoing practice and initiatives in engineering education (e.g. case studies). Submissions may describe how authors have implemented or informed engineering education practice, applied concepts within engineering education contexts, reflected on relevant literature and its application to practice within engineering education, and/or articulated its broader implications beyond the immediate educational context. Practice papers should provide insights, specific steps, recommendations, or techniques for addressing problems or improving educational outcomes.

**Workshops** are 1.5 or 3-hour long interactive sessions, facilitated by one or more workshop facilitators, that are grounded in sound theory and practical application for engineering education. It typically involves active participation through activities such as demonstrations, guided tasks, small-group discussion, problem-solving, and hands-on practice.

All full paper submissions will be subjected to a double-blind peer review, and only papers that meet the review requirements will be accepted for inclusion in the conference program. All accepted Research Papers and Practice Papers will be published on the conference website and indexed on Informit. Accepted Research Papers will also be published in the AAEE Conference Proceedings and submitted to Scopus for consideration of indexing. Acceptance to the research track is not guaranteed, nor is acceptance by Scopus. For more information, visit the [AAEE Conference Proceedings page](#).

#### KEY DATES

Call for abstract and workshop expression of interest opens Monday 27 February 2026

Call for abstract and workshop expression of interest closes Monday 6 April 2026

Abstract and workshop expression of interest acceptance Monday 4 May 2026

Call for full paper and workshop opens Monday 4 May 2026

Call for full paper and workshop closes Monday 22 June 2026

Full paper and workshop acceptance Monday 3 August 2026

Camera ready submission close Monday 19 October 2026

## Website Updates

Our website [aaee.net.au](http://aaee.net.au) is large, and it can be difficult to take notice of what's changed. This is what has happened this month:

- Papers from [AAEE2024](#) have finally been uploaded. We are sorry for the delay. We hope to get the 25 papers up by the end of this month.
- [Research School](#) page has been updated, including a link to the registration page to this years event.
- Winners of our [2025 Awards](#) have now been added.
- The [grants](#) successful in 2025 have now been added

## 2025 AAEE Engineering Education Grant Outcome

We are pleased to announce the awarding of the third grant for the 2025 AAEE Engineering Education Grant round. Congratulations to the successful team who have secured the \$10000 ACED aligned grant – we are looking forward to great outcomes and impact from their work in the near future!

### 2025 ACED Aligned Grant \$10,000

**Project Title: Generative AI and the Future Engineer: Mapping Workforce Skills and Guiding Curriculum Reform**

**Investigating Team:** Dr Mohammad Polash, University of Sydney; Dr Winn Chow, The University of Melbourne; Dr Muhammad Sajjad Akbar, University of Sydney; Dr Armin Chitizadeh, University of Sydney; Mr Jose Meza, University of Sydney; Dr Basem Suleiman, University of New South Wales; Dr Yining Hu, University of Technology Sydney; Dr Spyros Schismenos, RMIT University; Dr Stella Peng, The University of Melbourne; Dr Xi Wu, The University of Sydney; Dr Aneesha Bakharia, The University of Queensland; Dr Vi Truong, The University of Melbourne; Dr Andrew Chester, The University of Melbourne

**Abstract:** Generative AI is fundamentally reshaping engineering by automating routine tasks and altering the core skills required for entry-level roles. This project addresses the critical disconnect between current university curricula and these evolving workforce demands. Adopting a robust mixed-methods design, the study will triangulate data from a quantitative analysis of industry job postings with qualitative consultations involving students, academics, and hiring managers. This investigation will identify specific “AI-assisted competencies”, such as prompt engineering, ethical oversight, and collaborative problem-solving, that are becoming essential for professional practice. Findings will be synthesised into an evidence-based skills roadmap and a practical framework for curriculum reform. By providing actionable recommendations for updating course designs and learning outcomes, this project aims to produce future-ready graduates who can effectively and responsibly collaborate with AI, ensuring their competitiveness in a rapidly changing professional landscape.

## Whakatere | Navigation Funding Success!

Congratulations to the team from Otago Polytechnic, Southern Institute of Technology, and Ara Institute of Canterbury—Matt Slattery-Holmes, Adam Liberatore, Dr Hilary Lawrence, Joelle Peters, Dr Lindsey Alton, Brian Freeman, Carlo Gabriel, and Ian Chesterman—on securing funding from the newly established *Whakatere | Navigation Fund*.

Their collaborative, multi-institutional project, “**Engineering graduate attributes: from pre-programme to practice,**” will investigate how engineering graduate attributes are perceived and developed within the New Zealand Diploma of Engineering and the Bachelor of Engineering Studies programmes.

The project's Principal Investigator, Matt Slattery-Holmes said “Our team is very grateful to have been awarded a 2026 AAEE Whakatere | Navigation grant in support of our research into engineering students’ perceptions of the IEA graduate attributes. As early career researchers, this funding is both an encouragement and an important opportunity to strengthen the scope and rigour of our work.

Our project explores how engineering students understand and value the IEA graduate attributes throughout their studies, and how those perceptions align with signals from industry. Although graduate attributes sit at the heart of accreditation frameworks, there is still limited longitudinal evidence about how students themselves prioritise and value them. This award enables us to extend our multi-institutional study, refine our methodology, and integrate employer perspectives into the research.

In the longer term, our goal is to use robust findings from this work to help inform teaching practices and curriculum design, particularly in areas where student perceptions and industry expectations may not yet align. We look forward to sharing our progress with the AAEE community as the project develops.”

Congratulations again to the team; we look forward to learning from this important research!

The *Whakatere | Navigation Fund* was established following the success of AAEE2024 (hosted by University of Canterbury and Ara Institute of Technology). The fund received financial support from the New Zealand Council of Engineering Deans and is supported through Engineering New Zealand | Te Ao Rangahau and AAEE.

### *2026 AAEE Engineering Education Research School*

Registration is now open for the 2026 AAEE Engineering Education Research School. This year it is being hosted by QUT in Brisbane, from the 6th-10th of July. See the link below for more details, and to register. Get in quick as places are limited. Early bird registration closes May 14th.

<https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/event/2022/05/engineering-education-research-school-2026-92d696d0>

### *Call for Society Level Sponsors*

An item of the strategic plan is to obtain society-level sponsors that cover all elements of the things that we do, including our annual conference. Through added sponsorship, we can provide more funding for hard to obtain grants and other initiatives that support AAEE. If you are interested in providing such support, please be in contact with [sasha@uow.edu.au](mailto:sasha@uow.edu.au)

### *AI SIG Update*

Most of the various clusters have been working on developing the foundations of new projects to be carried out throughout the year. More information will be provided in due course.

New publication: [Student perceptions of GenAI integration into engineering practice: How students interpret liability, safety, professional conduct and ethics across disciplines](#) explores how 48 students across five engineering disciplines interpret liability, safety, and professional ethics issues in discipline-specific GenAI failure case studies created with ChatGPT-4o.

### *April CREITE session*

**April CREITE session Wed 15th 1230-2pm - Liz Angstmann on competency grading & Finding collaborators**

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 1230-2pm, Feb-Nov.

Our next CREITE session is planned for Wednesday April 15, 12:30-2 pm (as always lunchtime on the third Wednesday of each month, February to November). We'll have the pleasure of [Professor Liz Angstmann](#) sharing her collaborative work on moving away from traditional grading structures towards competency grading. We'll then open the floor for you to mingle and find your own collaborators!

**Why are we doing this and what do we hope you'll get out of it?**

To hear about an interesting collaboration being undertaken at UNSW and, given the importance of collaborations to engineering education research, provide you an opportunity to find some collaborators of your own

**What is it?**

In this session, Liz Angstmann will present her work on taking a non-traditional approach to grading. You'll then have a chance to chat with some potential collaborators and plan a collaboration

**Join us on Zoom:**

<https://zoom.uts.edu.au/j/88012429428>

## *Elevating Research Quality: AAEE's Move Toward Scopus-Indexed Proceedings*

For nearly 40 years, the Australasian Association for Engineering Education conference has grown not only in size, but also in the quality and capability of our community.

At the same time, expectations on us, as engineering education academics, to publish in high-quality outlets continue to increase. In response, last year the AAEE Executive committed to applying to Scopus to index select papers from our conference. We are not alone in this direction - our European colleagues at SEFI have successfully pursued Scopus indexing in recent years.

Starting in 2026, the AAEE Conference will include streams for paper submissions: a Research stream and a Practice stream.

Papers accepted into the Research stream will be published in formal proceedings, which we will submit to Scopus in 2028 for consideration for indexing. The Practice stream will continue to provide a valuable venue for work-in-progress, case studies, and innovations in engineering education practice. Both the Research and Practice Papers will continue to be indexed on Informit.

For authors, this change introduces greater choice and clarity. When submitting papers to the Australasian Association for Engineering Education conference, you will nominate either the Research or Practice stream, depending on the intent and academic rigour of your work. The Research stream is designed for studies that meet established standards of research rigour. These papers will undergo a higher level of peer-review scrutiny than in the practice papers, reflecting the more stringent requirements required for Scopus indexing. The Practice stream remains an important and valued pathway for work-in-progress, innovation reports, and case studies in engineering education practice.

We cannot guarantee acceptance of papers submitted to the Research stream; the credibility of both the proceedings and consideration of indexing by Scopus depends on maintaining and enforcing strict quality standards. In a similar way, we cannot yet guarantee that our submission to Scopus in 2028 will be accepted, but we're doing our utmost on our end to ensure that we meet Scopus requirements.

This change aims to strengthen research quality across the region while preserving the supportive, practice-oriented focus of our community, whilst also recognising the importance of improving the academic standing of our members.

For further details of the new processes, please visit the updated information on the AAEE website <https://aaee.net.au/conference-proceedings/>

## *STEM2026 & SFEE-5 Conference*

We are delighted to share exciting news with you and warmly invite you to join us for the **9th International STEM in Education Conference & the 5th Shanghai Forum for Education Excellence (STEM2026 & SFEE-5)**, to be held on November 5–8, 2026, in Shanghai, China, hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

STEM Education and Educational Excellence for Sustainable Futures As the world continues to face urgent and interconnected challenges—climate change, environmental degradation, energy transition, inequality, digital transformation, and global health issues—the role of STEM education has become more critical than ever. STEM2026 aims to explore how STEM education can contribute meaningfully to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by fostering innovation, resilience, and global citizenship among learners.

This year's conference seeks to highlight and examine STEM education research and practices that promote sustainability, inclusivity, innovation, and equitable access to education. It invites perspectives that go beyond traditional approaches, reimagining how STEM education can empower individuals and communities to engage with real-world problems and create transformative solutions for a sustainable future. We welcome educators, researchers, and innovators to share their stories, insights, and discoveries at STEM2026 & SFEE-5: STEM Education and Educational Excellence for Sustainable Futures.

## Call for Papers

We cordially invite educators, researchers, K12 teachers and innovators from around the world to submit papers and share their research findings, teaching experiences, and practical explorations related to STEM education and educational excellence.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could share this conference announcement and call for papers with colleagues, students, and networks who may be interested.

### Conference Information

Dates: November 5–8, 2026

Location: Shanghai, China

Venue: Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Conference Website & Submission Details: [ <https://sfec.sjtu.edu.cn/> | Home-STEM&SFEE ]

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to welcoming you in Shanghai!

Best regards,

STEM2026 & SFEE-5 Conference Committee

[sfee@sjtu.edu.cn](mailto:sfee@sjtu.edu.cn)

<https://sfec.sjtu.edu.cn/>

## *WEEF & GEDC 2026: Engineering Education That Transforms*

**Cartagena de Indias, Colombia | 22–25 September 2026 | WEEF2026.org**

The global engineering education community will converge in the vibrant Caribbean city of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, for the World Engineering Education Forum (WEEF) and Global Engineering Deans Council (GEDC) Annual Conference 2026. Hosted by the Colombian Association of Engineering Schools (ACOFI), this year's event marks a particularly special milestone—the 20th Anniversary of the International Federation of Engineering Education Societies (IFEES).

Under the theme “**Engineering Education That Transforms**”, WEEF & GEDC 2026 brings together engineering educators, industry leaders, researchers, policy makers, and students from across the world. The focus is on shaping engineers who not only adapt to global challenges but actively contribute to societal improvement. Participants can expect opportunities to:

- Share innovations in engineering pedagogy
- Strengthen social responsibility and ethical frameworks within curricula
- Explore cross-sector partnerships
- Connect with global leaders committed to elevating engineering education

ACOFI brings more than **50 years of leadership** in advancing engineering education in Colombia and across Latin America. Through contributions to accreditation, national policy, computational thinking initiatives, seismic risk modelling, and international collaborations (including ASIBEI, CONFEDI, ABET, LACCEI, and others), ACOFI has positioned itself as a global exemplar of engineering academic excellence. This makes Cartagena not just a picturesque host city—but a strategic one.

### Call for Papers and Key Dates

The conference invites contributions from academics, practitioners, and students, with the **final abstract submission deadline set for 10 April 2026**.

Tracks will showcase leading-edge topics including:

- Pedagogical innovation
- Ethical engineering and social impact
- Digital transformation and AI in engineering education
- Global partnerships and future-ready skill development

As WEEF celebrates 20 years of advancing engineering education worldwide, Cartagena 2026 will serve not only as a global gathering, but as a forward-looking forum dedicated to shaping the next generation of engineers prepared to lead with integrity, innovation, and global awareness.

## *CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Premier's Prizes for Science & Engineering*

Over \$100,000 Prize Pool, including \$60,000 for the 2026 NSW Scientist of the Year

The Premier's Prizes for Science & Engineering recognise research excellence and reward our best and brightest for cutting-edge work that has generated economic, environmental, health, social and technological benefits for New South Wales.

Scientists, engineers and teachers working in NSW universities, research organisations, government agencies and primary and secondary schools are encouraged to submit a nomination for their relevant prize category.

A nomination form and guidelines are available at: <https://www.chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au/premiersprizes>

Nominations close: 17:00 AEST Monday 18 May 2026

For more information, contact:

Office of the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer

T: 02 6586 7879

E: [premiers.prizes@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au](mailto:premiers.prizes@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au)

## 2026 Events Calendar

It can be difficult to keep track of events and deadline from AAEE and our partners. This calendar has been designed to help you stay on track. As deadlines are considered, even draft dates, they will be added to the calendar.

March 2026:

- ✓ 24<sup>th</sup>: GenAI Workshop + Member networking @ UMelb, Melbourne

April 2026:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Submission deadline SEFI26
- 6<sup>th</sup>: AAEE26 Call for abstract and workshop expression of interest closes

May 2026:

- 14<sup>th</sup>: Research School early-bird rate finishes

June 2026:

- 14 – 17<sup>th</sup>: CEEA26 @ Moncton, Canada
- 22<sup>nd</sup>: AAEE26 Call for full paper and workshop closes

July 2026:

- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Early bird registration deadline SEFI26
- 6 – 10<sup>th</sup>: AAEE Research School @ QUT, Brisbane

September:

- 7 – 10<sup>th</sup>: SEFI26 @ Prague, Czech Republic
- 22-23: WEEF & GEDC 2026 @ Cartagena de Indias, Colombia
- 15<sup>th</sup>: *DRAFT* – Deadline for AAEE Engineering Education Awards & Grants

October:

- 5<sup>th</sup>: AAEE26 Author registration deadline
- 19<sup>th</sup>: AAEE26 Camera-ready submission closes

November

- 5-8<sup>th</sup>: STEM2026 & SFEE-5 Conference @ Shanghai, China

December:

- 13<sup>th</sup>: Executive Committee Meeting; HDR Symposium; Early Career Academy meeting @AAEE26
- 13 – 16<sup>th</sup>: AAEE26 @ UNSW, Sydney, Australia