Australian Cost

Engineering Society



Home to the Australian Section of AACE International

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Your ACES, Where we have come, and Where we are going

Nolan Bear National Chair of the ACES

Another year has passed, and many of our members are working hard on the gathering boom in Infrastructure, while still making time to support our profession in its mission to achieve reliable cost and time outcomes in all our endeavours.

So what can we expect in 2019?

Demonstrating your competence in Cost Engineering:

ACES has worked closely with EA so that Chartered status in Cost Engineering is now well established in the National Engineering register. Applications for registration in this practice area can be made on the EA website. This recently established Australian qualification has a high commercial value to our employers who, with every tender and registration of interest, have to demonstrate their competence in control of cost and time. So, talk to your employer about supporting your application. Chartered Status in Cost Engineering demonstrates that you can practice independently and professionally in your areas of competence.

The ACES in your state will also help with your application so, if you are an engineer or associate with five years cost and planning experience then talk to your ACES contacts above and get moving. The more Cost Engineers we have on the National Engineers Register, the greater the value this will have for all of us and the profession of Cost Engineering.

If you are an engineer with over 15 years' experience including five in Cost Engineering roles, and perhaps now in a senior management role, then contact the National ACES Chair (Nolan Bear) for an alternate pathway managed by the ACES, which is tailored to your circumstance.



Elections 2019

Two Elections:

ACES National Committee election

It is time to refresh our National Committee of management and we have four positions available on the committee.

You will notice above, that we already have newly elected state chairs (who sit on the national committee) in Queensland, WA and NSW. Expressions of interest will be solicited in February and if required, (electronic) voting will follow soon after. This is your opportunity to contribute to the development of your profession in areas such as: relationships with other professional groups in EA and globally; national conferences and events; website resources; training and education; development of EA policy; and administration of the ACES. Email the ACES National Chair (nolanbear@gmail.com) if you are interested in standing for a position.

The national committee meets three or four times a year by Skype plus an in person two-day planning seminar, with subcommittees as elected.

AACE Australia section Elections

The ACES has been asked to organise an election by AACE members for a national Australian section committee of management. This situation has a long history, but briefly, from the formation of the ACES in 1997, by the then Australian section of the AACE, the committee of management and the bank accounts of the ACES technical society and the AACE Australia section have been combined as a single committee and bank account. In 2017, the AACE International (AACEI) CEO directed AACE/ACES to separate the committee and the banking, on the basis that it was against the AACEI constitution.

To organise an election, we are now about to request nominations to the committee and then to hold an election as needed. AACEI have requested that members of the AACE/ACES committee not nominate for the new AACE Australia committee.

If you are a member of AACEI this is an opportunity to support AACEI in Australia and promote its objectives.

It is likely that the new AACE Australian section will collaborate with the ACES due to their common objectives and membership. Significant cooperation with ACES may eventuate if that is the majority decision of the AACE Australian Section members. Certainly, ACES is currently open to explore such a concept.



Sharing our Skills and Knowledge to upgrade the standard of Cost Engineering

In 2018, the state chapters have once again delivered another year of an impressive series of events featuring:

Industry leading professionals, including a successful visit in June by John Hollmann, the editor of the first edition of the Total Cost Management (TCM) framework and a global expert on systemic risk assessment. John held events and seminars in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane and brought his global standard risk and contingency guidelines to all of our attention.

Other achievements and opportunities include:

(A) The Project Controls 2018 Expo, in November, was a huge success with over 600 participants.



The ACES was a gold sponsor and managed adjacent booths with EA marketing that featured our activities and the benefits of chartered status for engineers. The UK based manager of the conference was gratified with the result and intends to hold future annual events in Melbourne.

- (B) In 2019 we again have the biannual Risk and Project Controls 2019 (Risk PC 2019) conference on 15-17 May in Sydney at the International Conference Centre. The Planning committee ACES component is led by Steve Bird with Leo Ferro as Project Manager. Sponsors are coming on board and the program has been agreed. It's time to alert your company to the opportunity and register for the early bird discounts.
- (C) As promised last year, we have refreshed the ACES website. www.costengineer.org.au
 It is now an Aladdin's cave of valued Cost Engineering resources, including our wealth of past presentations, training and advice. New members receive a temporary password which then needs to be reset. If you are unsure of your password you can reset it at the login. If your email is not recognised it could be your EA email has changed. In this case email Keith Webb (keith.webb@costengineer.org.au) with your name and EA number, and Keith will supply a temporary password (and make sure you update your EA email).



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Other achievements and opportunities include (Continued):

(D) In 2018 The Cost Engineering Units at Swinburne University, which are supported by the ACES, had similar numbers of students to 2017, totalling 330 in undergraduate, post graduate masters, and distance learning units. The teaching was led by Nolan Bear with new tutors, Geoff MacDonald, Ali Al-Dujaili and Chris Corcoran and assistance from previous lecturer Laurie Pole. Their professional contribution was much appreciated by the students and Nolan Bear.

There is room for more tutors in 2019. Contact Nolan Bear if you would like to contribute.

The units run from August to November and are a part time day commitment at Swinburne University in Hawthorn campus, Melbourne.

Congratulations and thanks to our committees who have put so much energy and professional effort into the conferences, presentations and training opportunities over the past year.

We appreciate your efforts.

So, how can you contribute?... and why?

Membership of the ACES and participation in its programs puts you in touch with experienced, like minded professionals, who will enrich your understanding and knowledge; provide the opportunity to share your insights and develop your communication skills; enhance your reputation; and give you the satisfaction of contributing back to your profession.

There are numerous opportunities in the major activities listed above and much else, so contact your state Chair or myself, to discuss the many possibilities.

Be one of our heroes... its richly rewarding.

Nolan Bear,

B Eng, MBA(tech), DipEd, FIEAust, EngExec, CPEng, NER (Cost Eng, L&M)

National Chair, Australian Cost Engineering Society; President, Australian Section AACE International;

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RISK ENGINEERING & PROJECT CONTROLS CONFERENCE 2019

ICC | SYDNEY | AUSTRALIA 15 - 17 MAY 2019







