



Institute of Industrial Arts Technology Education

**Report to the
Australian Council for Education through Technology (ACET) Executive Meeting**

**by the
NSW Institute of Industrial Arts Technology Education (IIATE)**

**9 - 10 November 2007
Adelaide**

Institute Executive

President: John Perdriau
Vice-President: Geoff Shepherd
Treasurer: Ian McKenzie
Secretary: Alan Spencer

Activities

1. Council of Management meetings

The executive (Council of Management) of the Institute meets formally at least once each school term, with other informal meetings when necessary. Most meetings are held in the Sydney metropolitan area, with at least one formal executive meeting held in the Newcastle area.

2. Membership

The Institute has five categories of membership: student (no fee), individual (currently \$65.00/year), library (\$100.00/year), faculty/corporate (\$100.00/year), and retired/life (a one off fee of \$32.00 upon retirement). The introduction of the faculty/corporate membership category, based on school Technology and Industrial Arts departments, has seen a significant growth in membership to over 1000 financial members as of November 2007.

Faculty/corporate membership includes full membership for up to 3 people with additional individual memberships costing \$20.00/year.

3. Journal/CD

The Institute's journal is now published and distributed by post on CD/DVD, with all members receiving a copy. This form of publication and distribution has been well received by members and non-members alike, and appears to have significantly increased the contribution of articles of interest and the sharing of resources resulting in the journal being a significant resource for classroom teachers.

The journal is edited by Brett Capewell who can be contacted by phone on 02 9701 4060 (W) or by email at b.capewell@mary.acu.edu.au.

4. Professional development

Supported by the organizing skills of Ruth Thompson, the Institute has continued to be heavily involved in professional development throughout 2007. The main focus continues to be the provision of ProDesktop and more recently ProEngineer CAD training sessions. These are mainly held at Bossley Park High School in Sydney but in 2007 were extended to additional venues throughout the state, including Newcastle, the North Coast, the North West, and Central West. In addition, the 'Hands On Minds On Technology' program continues to be conducted at Bossley Park High School and at other Sydney venues. This program focuses on a varied range of activities, including timber (including the design of individual pieces, and wood turning), electronics, jewelry making, multimedia, and wrought iron work. In addition, 16 participants attended a very successful 4 day jewelry making course in June held at St Ives High School in Sydney.

5. Professional Teachers Council (PTC) of NSW

IIATE is a member of the Professional Teachers Association (PTC) of NSW which is the peak body of professional teacher associations in NSW. The Institute's active involvement with the PTC now allows the IIATE to provide accredited training in line with the NSW Institute of Teachers requirements for teacher professional development.

6. Syllabus and HSC Examination Committee Representation

During 2007 the Institute has continued to be represented on various NSW Technology curriculum reviews and HSC examination development committees. Significantly, in a number of instances, all members of these committees are Institute members. (Also see item 7 below.)

7. Industrial Technology

During the latter part of 2006 and throughout 2007 members of the Institute completed a review and redrafting of the present NSW Board of Studies (BOS) stage 6 (years 11 – 12) syllabus in Industrial Technology. This was initiated for two reasons. Firstly the present syllabus is somewhat brief in numerous sections, providing limited guidance to classroom teachers. Secondly, the depth of content outlined in the present syllabus resulted in the subject being classified as category B for purposes of calculating the NSW university admission index (UAI) for those students who sit the NSW HSC examination in this subject. This has tended to discourage many students from studying this subject for the HSC. During the later part of this year, a draft of the revised syllabus was favorably received at a meeting between senior representatives of the NSW Board of Studies and senior members of the Institute. The revised syllabus has been approved by the BOS for implementation in year 11 2009. Members of the IIATE will be actively involved in the resourcing and implementation of the revised syllabus for both the BOS and various school systems, including the NSW Department of Education and Training (DET), Catholic, and private sectors.

8. Head Teachers Conference

A successful Head Teachers conference, organised by Geoff Shepherd, was again presented by the Institute and held at Rooty Hill RSL club during the middle of the year. The participants were drawn mainly from metropolitan schools but also included many from throughout country NSW. As was the case in 2006, this was again a very comprehensive day focusing on a range of issues including, recent curriculum developments, facilities management, the role of the engineer, and OHS management issues. Resource materials collected over the day will again form the basis for future Journal/CDs/DVDs. The organizing committee is currently considering opening future conferences to all interested technology teachers, with the aim of giving younger teachers the opportunity to network with a broad range of classroom teachers and senior administrators.

9. Trade nights

A very well attended trade night for metropolitan-based members and non-members was held towards the latter part of 2006 at Busby High School in Sydney. Planning is underway for the 2007 trade night, including consideration of a varied format with seminars as well as a trade show.

10. Engineers Australia

The Institute continues to work closely with Engineers Australia. The Institution of Engineers Australia (Sydney Division) has a sub-committee that monitors education and assessment issues. This sub-committee meets monthly and is mandated to operate within the university, TAFE and secondary education sectors. The committee's membership includes engineers from universities and TAFE as well as several secondary Engineering Studies teachers nominated by IIATE. The committee acts as a forum for the Sydney Division and actively presents or participates in numerous activities including:

- An annual forum with the Deans of University Faculties of Engineering and Heads of TAFE Engineering schools.
- An engineering report competition for secondary school Engineering Studies students.
- An excellence award for University/TAFE students of engineering theses/reports of final year projects.
- The neighborhood engineer program that includes talks by local engineers to teachers about engineering based topics.

11. InTech display

During 2007 the Institute organised two InTech displays throughout NSW. A third had to be cancelled in the Newcastle area because the venue, the Newcastle art gallery, was undergoing refurbishment. Both displays consisted of exemplars of major projects submitted by students for the 2006 NSW HSC Industrial Technology examination. The Sydney display, consisting of twenty-five projects, was held as part of the Sydney Working with Wood show, with the other display held in Goulburn (twenty projects). This activity is totally funded by the IIATE with no support from either the BOS or DET.

12. NSW HSC resources

During 2007 members of the Institute prepared a resource for the Industrial Technology HSC examination. The resource consisted of a trial examination paper that included an industry common core of 3 questions, plus 6 industry focus areas – each of 2 questions, was supported by suggested answers and a comprehensive set of marking guidelines to assist teachers in assessing their students' responses. This resource was well received by classroom teachers throughout the state. The preparation of similar resources for other Technology subjects is currently under consideration.

13. ASISTM project sponsor

During 2006 the Institute submitted a successful proposal for an ASISTM project. The project titled "Collaborative Interactive Design 3D Prototyping, Remote Realisation, and Manufacture", conducted throughout late 2006 and 2007, explored the development of teaching 3D rapid prototyping techniques using remotely located teams of students working on a collaborative design project. This has necessitated the exploration of a range of teaching and learning initiatives, including the use of electronic communication systems, and cutting edge prototyping processes. A project web site has been established and can be viewed at <http://www.asistm2012.org.au/>.

John Barlow
IIATE ACET delegate

ACET – future initiatives

1. National school based design competition

While the Institute recognizes there are a number of existing school based design competitions, we suggest ACET consider a competition focusing on rapid prototyping as a design problem solving tool. Such a competition may attract sponsorship through PTC and would present an opportunity for:

- Lifting the profile of ACET using a web based display of student submissions and winning entries
- Sustaining the Institute's present ASISTM project

2. Accessing federal funds

A number of opportunities exist for individual schools as well as school systems to access Federal government funding. The real problem exists in two forms:

- Knowing what funding opportunities exist, and
- Knowing how to prepare and present a funding application.

There is an opportunity for ACET to provide guidance in both areas.

3. National clearing house of Technology Education information

This should be web based.

However, all of these activities need to be supported by an investment in a competent person's time. How can this be resourced?

Association contact details

State	Association name	Contact person	Email address	Postal address
ACT				
NSW				
Qld				
SA				
Tas				
Vic				
WA				

