

TCC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Paul Eng-Wong, John Kennedy, Hibbett Neel, Aliyah Horton, Steve Hofener, Don Samdahl, Jeff Arey, Earl Newman, Marcus Brewer, Grant Schultz, Chris Chigboh, Jason Haynes, Joseph Tate III, Danielle Reagor, Jeff Hammond and Amir Rizavi

Minutes Recorded By: Amir Rizavi

Location: Howqua 1, Level 2, Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 PM

Paul commenced the meeting at 2:30 PM by welcoming everyone to the 75th Annual ITE Meeting in Melbourne. The seven recipients of the Young Professional Scholarship Award sponsored by the TCC also attended this meeting. Paul thanked everyone for attending. Paul congratulated the scholarship winners and indicated that these young engineers would be tracked by ITE as rising stars with the hope that they would continue to work with ITE, and make this an opportunity to commit and contribute to ITE. Paul invited the senior members of the TCC executive committee to say a few words about how ITE has made a difference in their career and lives.

Hibbett Neel indicated that over the years ITE has become important not only from the point of gaining technical knowledge but also in making lifelong friendships.

Steve Hofener mentioned that in addition to what Hibbett said, ITE also provides networking opportunities and an exposure to what is happening in other parts of the country. ITE is also a means for professionals to give something back to the community and the profession.

John Kennedy and Don Samdahl resonated Hibbett and Steve's thoughts and mentioned how they gained from contacts, others' experiences and ideas.

Paul then requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the previous TCC Meeting. John Kennedy seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Among new issues being discussed, Steve Hofener indicated that ITE's International Board meets three times a year. The last meeting was held on August 5, 2005. At that meeting, it was decided that members would no longer

pay separate dues to be part of a council. Instead, there would be an average increase of approximately \$7.00 in membership fees with the option of joining any one council. Steve added that ITE's budget is still strong and he would find out later from Tom Brahms where ITE stood financially with the Melbourne meeting. Also, ITE plans to add more staff positions, a lot more educational programs, public hearing seminars and web seminars that are already happening.

Aliyah Horton indicated that Congress passed the Transportation Bill towards the end of July 2005. The five-year bill was for approximately \$286 billion. The next issue of the ITE Journal would feature an article on this topic.

Paul then proceeded to provide an update of the 2005 Annual Meeting. He indicated that the TCC sponsored the keynote speaker and contributed to the membership gift. He added that the idea of providing scholarships was a very good one and he would recommend similar scholarships to be provided every year, as this was an excellent way to involve young engineers. Paul also mentioned that Jackie Toledo did a great job with TCC's winter newsletter. Any comments that people may have should be forwarded to her attention.

Chris Chigboh indicated that he and his colleagues in Nigeria would like to join ITE, however the membership fees are very high for them to afford. To this, Steve replied that he would bring this up at the International Board Meeting in October.

Paul provided an update of ITE's *Recommended Practices*. He mentioned that he was provided with a draft to edit. Don Samdahl added that the new edition would be released later this year. Paul mentioned that a good example for individuals to help ITE would be volunteering to review standards and be part of committees.

Paul then invited all the Young Professional Scholarship Award winners to introduce themselves and talk for five minutes about themselves and their involvement with ITE.

Following this round of introductions, Paul discussed some items as part of old business. He mentioned that Jeff Arey was working on obtaining a handle of the total TCC membership numbers. Jeff indicated that ITE staff was working on this and he hopes to have the results by the January meeting.

Paul also added that Bob Jurasin would report the findings of the TCC survey in January.

Jeff had some concerns about keynote speakers and their topics. He thought that TCC should move away from motivational speakers and felt the need to diversify. Don Samdahl wondered how the keynote speaker was selected. Paul replied that there is an extensive review process in place wherein the speaker would provide pieces of his or her speech to the selection committee. The committee would then select the speaker and ITE staff would then take over the remaining formalities.

Paul again re-emphasized the need to provide scholarships to young professionals to attend future annual meetings and wondered what others thought. Hibbett, Steve and Jeff agreed to this idea. It was decided that the amounts would be finalized later.

John Kennedy wondered when the TCC membership dues were last increased to which Jeff replied that it was around 4-5 years earlier. It was felt that the committee should look into this.

There were photo sessions with the TCC executive committee members and the award winners.

Paul thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.