



Acoustic Feedback

November 2009

Introduction

A reinvigorated WA division has had a great year in 08/09 with a number of successful events culminating in the State Seminar and AGM at the Perth Zoo. We have a reorganised committee with fresh faces at hand and renewed passions within. Together with an ever increasing list of technical events and planned gatherings, 2009/10 is sure to be a great year for our division.

Acoustic Feedback serves to provide occasional updates of past and upcoming State Division activities.

Upcoming Events

AAS Christmas Party 12pm, December 11, 2009

Members and partners are invited to join us for our annual Christmas lunch - this year it will be a 'under verandah style' lunchtime event on December 11, 12pm onwards, at the [Balmoral Hotel](#), 901 Albany Highway, East Victoria Park.

The Society is covering food expenses and it will be a great opportunity to catch up after a busy year.

Online location map is located [here](#).

To assist in our planning, please advise Luke via l.zoontjens@ndy.com if you wish to attend.

AAS WA Tertiary Prize in Acoustics and Vibration - 2010

(Formerly the AAS WA Undergraduate Prize)

The WA Division of the Australian Acoustical Society is pleased to call for entries for the AAS WA Tertiary Prize in Acoustics and Vibration (formerly the AAS WA Undergraduate Prize). The change of name reflects a decision to broaden the eligibility requirements to include undergraduate, honours, masters by course work and graduate diploma students. This is a cash prize of \$1000 for the best student project in any field of acoustics and/or vibration completed at a Western Australian tertiary institution. The prize has been set up to encourage tertiary students to undertake projects in this interesting and challenging field, and we expect to award it annually. Acoustics is such a broad field that projects in many different disciplines are eligible.

The prize:

A prize of \$1000 will be awarded for the best student project in acoustics and/or vibration completed at a Western Australian tertiary institution during 2010.

This prize has been set up to encourage tertiary students to undertake projects in this interesting and challenging field.

The winning student(s) will be asked to present a talk on their project at a meeting of the WA Division of the Australian Acoustical Society, at which the prize will be presented.



Eligibility:

Students are eligible to enter if they will complete or have completed an undergraduate, honours, masters by coursework, or postgraduate diploma project relevant to any aspect of acoustics and/or vibration at a Western Australian tertiary institution in 2010. Masters by research and PhD students are not eligible.

Acoustics is a broad field, so there is plenty of scope for interesting projects in areas such as:

- architectural and building acoustics
- environmental noise
- underwater acoustics,
- industrial noise
- musical acoustics
- occupational health
- biological acoustics
- hearing and speech physiology
- noise and vibration control
- ultrasonics
- vibration and structural dynamics

Entry:

The following items should be sent by mail to:

AAS WA Prize, Unit 3/2 Hardy Street, South Perth, WA 6151.

or by email to:

wa-secretary@acoustics.asn.au (Email subject should commence with "AAS WA Prize".)

- A copy of the final project report(s). Where two or more students complete a project as a team, but write separate reports, then all reports should be submitted.
- A short statement specifically addressing the judging criteria below.
- A statement from the student's project supervisor supporting the entry.

Judging criteria:

- Scientific merit
- Potential impact of results
- Novelty of approach
- Relevance to acoustic field of study

The judges will also take into account the quality of the project report(s), particularly the clarity of the writing and the presentation and discussion of results.

The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Questions?

The official call for entries, which includes the entry instructions and guidelines, is available via the "Grants, Prizes and Awards" link on the Australian Acoustical Society's web site:

www.acoustics.asn.au/joomla/

Any questions regarding the prize should be directed to the Division Chair:

Rebecca Donovan
wa-chair@acoustics.asn.au
9313 3655

Recent Events

28th October 2009 - System upgrade of the Perth Concert Hall



There was a relatively large turnout to witness the recent upgrade of audio systems within the landmark Perth Concert Hall (PCH).

The resident AV manager of the facility gave an insightful talk on the design strategies and procurement methods used to ensure the PCH benefitted the most from its investment.

After an enjoyable dinner across the road, attendees were given full access to the stage and seating areas and also toured the rear amplifier and original sampling room whilst the system played a broad variety of music for comparison.

About the PCH:

The 1,729 seat Perth Concert Hall is one of the most highly regarded orchestra performance spaces in the southern hemisphere, featuring a 3,000 pipe organ.

The original acoustic design of Professor A. Harold Marshall in association with Warwick Mehaffey of the ABC, approximately 40 years ago, incorporates ornate ceiling coffers and wall features found in many of the great halls worldwide.

To enable greater flexibility and capacity for modern live performances, the 2009 system upgrades of the PCH was designed to account for the complex effects these features contributed.

WA State Seminar and AGM 2009 (Chairman's Report 2008/09)

Following another very enjoyable and successful State Seminar last August, the undoubted highlight of the past year was the election of Pam Gunn as a Fellow of the Australian Acoustical Society *In recognition of her contribution to Occupational Noise, particularly in Western Australia, her dedication in promoting the field of acoustics and her involvement with the Australian Acoustical Society.* Pam also has the distinction of being presented with her Fellowship certificate twice: once at the Division's Christmas function and again (after framing) at the first technical meeting of the year.

The Christmas function was a lunch at the Como hotel, which was both well attended and very enjoyable - although the pizzas were a bit unusual!

We've had two technical meetings in 2009 so far, both very well attended: the first was a presentation on the latest B&K gear put on by Stewart Wood from NVMS and then in May, John Savery from SavTech introduced us to the delights of the SoundBook.

Looking forward, we'll be calling for entries for the inaugural AAS WA Undergraduate Prize in the near future. We hope that this \$1000 prize will encourage more students to undertake project work in noise and vibration as part of their studies.

Membership of the Division has risen slightly with a total of 49 members, up from 48 in October 2008 and 47 in October 2007.

I'd like to thank the members of the Divisional committee for their efforts over the last 12 months: Norbert Gabriels, Murray Limb, Terrance McMinn, Sandro Ghiotto, Rebecca Donovan, Neil Butt, and Sasha Gavrilov, and Terry George. I'd also like to thank Steve Barlow who resigned from the committee during the year due to work commitments.

- Alec Duncan



Pam Gunn – Awarded Fellowship of the Australian Acoustical Society

At the November 2008 meeting of the AAS Federal Council, Pam Gunn was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Acoustical Society. The citation reads:

In recognition of her contribution to Occupational Noise, particularly in Western Australia, her dedication in promoting the field of acoustics and her involvement with the Australian Acoustical Society, Pam Gunn has been elevated to the grade of Fellow.

The fellowship certificate arrived in Western Australia just in time for it to be presented to Pam at the WA Division's Christmas function, only to be whisked away again for framing. Pam eventually received the framed version at the Division's technical meeting held at the NVMS training centre in February this year.



Pam Gunn receives her fellowship certificate

Pam has had an effective career in the field of acoustics for over 30 years. She has made a significant contribution to Hearing Conservation in the Workplace particularly in Western Australia. She is one of WA's longest serving members and a strong supporter of the Society. Her election to the grade of Fellow provides significant force to the importance of Occupational Noise Control within our society, and enhances the reputation of the Australian Acoustical Society.

Committee Members

Your serving members in 2009 - 2010

Alec Duncan; Rebecca Donovan; Terrance McMinn; Murray Limb; Kingsley Hearne; Alexander Gavrilov; Neil Butt; Norbert Gabriels; Luke Zoontjens.

Chairman:	R Donovan
Vice Chairman:	A Duncan
Treasurer:	N. Butt
Secretary:	N Gabriels
Registrar	T McMinn
AAS Reporter	M. Limb
Membership Grading	Whole Committee
Federal Councillors	T. McMinn
	R. Donovan