

## **ENZCon 2008 Convenor's Report**

### **David Krofcheck**

The Fifteenth Electronics New Zealand Conference (ENZCon 2008) was hosted by the Department of Physics and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the University of Auckland on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2008.

A fine tradition was continued by holding an icebreaker event on the evening before the Conference at the Old Government House Pub on the Auckland Campus. A bar tab and finger food helped to revive ENZCon camaraderie.

The Conference received 30 full paper submissions. Fortunately there was sufficient time to get all submissions properly formatted and proofread. This was less than on half the number of submissions received for ENZCon07. The Convenor strongly endorses the full paper submission requirement for future Conferences.

Despite global financial crisis that coincided with the 2008 Conference, Student Registration fees were held to \$90, while Full Registration fees were set at \$225.

The traditional ENZCon Inc. awards are for the best student paper, the best overall presentation, and either best novice student or best poster. Following considerable discussion among the judges and stalwarts of ENZCon, Inc. 2008, a clear decision for Best Novice Paper could not be reached. Consequently, two Best Novice Paper Awards were presented: one went to Johnny McClymont (Victoria) and the other went to Matthew Finnie (Massey). The Best Student Paper was awarded to Wei Li Jiang (Canterbury), and the Best Overall Paper was awarded to Sebastien Arnoux (AUT).

Thanks to the incredible generosity of one of our Full Trade Sponsors (\$600), RF Test Solutions Ltd., The Best Student Paper awardee received an Agilent Technologies U1242A Digital Multimeter valued at NZ\$416 and the Best Overall Paper awardee received an Agilent Technologies U1252A Multimeter valued at NZ\$829! RF Test Solutions Ltd also received a few minutes of speaking time at the end of the Conference during the awards presentation. Our other Full Trade Sponsors (\$600) included Nichecome Limited and Electrotest Limited. Hoare Research Software Ltd kindly sponsored (\$150) inserts for the Conference bags and HRG Travel sponsored the Conference pens. It was very difficult to obtain Sponsorship for ENZCon08 as the Conference coincided with a period of global financial meltdown. The Convenor gives kudos to those Sponsors who were not deterred by harsh economics.

The conference dinner was held at the Tasca Restaurant in the NewMarket section of Auckland. Good Spanish wine and superb food and a pleasant atmosphere led to a relaxed feeling that encouraged informal conversation.

The final registration figures comprised

Full attendees	25
Student attendees	22
Trade delegates	5
Total	52 registrations

Extra Dinner tickets 5, including 3 attendee partners

Special thanks to Assoc. Prof. Gary Bold, and Francie Norman, Winnie D'Sa, and June Kuan from the Auckland Physics department office for creative, administrative and organizational assistance, and general encouragement when last second details looked insurmountable. Edwin Rogers provided the web page and IT support.

### **Financial Details**

#### **Income**

Sponsorship	\$ 1,950.00
Registrations	\$ 8,131.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$10,081.00</i>

#### **Expenditure**

Dinner	\$ 3,423.32
Transportation	\$ 200.00
Day Catering	\$ 3,601.68
Conference Bags	\$ 543.00
Pads and Conference holders	\$ 325.00
Conference Proceedings	\$ 720.00
Icebreaker	\$ 900.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 9713.00</i>

**Profit** **\$ 368.00**