

" Like the Phoenix, E L S O C has risen AGAIN. "

Elsoc is alive and well and living in room 501.

What is Elsoc you may ask ?

It is the Electrical Engineering Society of the University of N.S.W. of which you are a member.

The OBJECT of Elsoc is:

- a. To promote and FURTHER a University SPIRIT among its members.
- b. To INITIATE and PROVIDE Social, Educational and Cultural activities for its members.
- c. To REPRESENT its members in all matters affecting their interests and to afford a liason between members and the University authorities.
- d. To stimulate an ACTIVE INTEREST in Electrical Engineering among its members.

The Annual General Meeting of ELSOC was held in March this year - 1982 - and the following Undergraduate Students were elected to form the Executive.

- | | | | | | |
|----|--------|--------|--------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Bob | Smith | (Year III) | : | President |
| 2. | Gary | Kopff | (Year IV) | : | Vice - President |
| 3. | Ed | Castro | (Year III) | : | Honorary Secretary |
| 4. | Craig | Glover | (Year IV) | : | Honorary Treasurer |
| 5. | David | Riesel | (Year IV) | : | Education Officer |
| 6. | Pieter | Bloem | (Year III) | : | CASOC Representative |

Your Year Representatives are:

- | | | | | | |
|------|------|-----|---|--------|---------|
| 1. | Year | IV | : | Mick | Hayes |
| ii. | Year | III | : | Nevill | Inglis |
| iii. | Year | II | : | Luke | Welfare |
| iv. | Year | I | : | Tim | Menzies |

Your Friendly Year Co-ordinator

The year co-ordinators have two main aims in life (apart from enjoying the kudos which their illustrious title bestows).

Firstly to prevent clashes of during-session tests and examinations, and peaks in handing-in dates of major assignments and projects. In other words the aim is to distribute examinations in the various subjects so that instead of getting some crisis weeks in which a number of tests all come together, your misfortunes are spread uniformly over the whole session. This is done by asking the staff in charge of subjects to give the co-ordinators, at the beginning of each session, their proposed timetables for examinations and assignments. These are often looked at to detect unreasonable peaks, and the relevant staff members are then cajoled into changing the times to relieve the pressure.

The second aim is to make sympathetic noises when students come to complain about being overworked and underpaid, or to point out problems in the year's timetabling or in the way a particular subject may be organised (or disorganised). In the first instance students should directly cry on the shoulder of the staff member in charge of the subject. Sometimes however the problem won't go away or may be due to the interaction between a number of subjects, e.g. a lack of syllabus co-ordination. Or it may relate to a subject taught outside the School, which for some reason turns out to create particular problems for E.E. students (or E.E. & C.S., in order to show no bias).

In such cases the Year Co-ordinator may advise the students how to overcome the problem, or he may talk with staff members concerned to see whether anything which needs doing can be done, or he may bring the matter to discuss it, minute it, and if the system works correctly, in due course sets the right wheels in motion to do the right things. By the time this has happened you have probably finished the session and it isn't your problem any more. But think of the satisfying glow of virtue which comes from having made life easier for the next generation.

Seriously though, if there any problems which affect groups of students, bring them to the attention of the relevant Year Co-ordinator. Quite frequently something can be done to make life a bit less complicated and frustrating.

Dr. Henry Blanks

4th Year Co-ordinator

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S Y M P A T H Y

I'm sure we are all acquainted with the first Year Physics subject, 1.961. Either everyone has done it or are regrettably doing it now. The lab's aren't the best we know.

Obviously, there are (or were) long queues waiting for the demonstrator to mark your 'prep' work off. If one student happens to 'foul up' a question he has to get it corrected there on the spot by him or her. That's a good 5 minutes delay (sometimes up to 20 minutes with the harder lab's - remember EMF ?). Take an average of FIVE students and that's 15 minutes to an hour and a half. Take that away from the two hours given to you for the labs, and there's all the time you have to actually do the work. Let's be optimistic, that's fifteen minutes wasted in queueing up. Fifteen minutes at the beginning and fifteen minutes at the end - for marking.

" When approached about this, the powers-that-be told us we shouldn't be all trying to get our prep marked off at the SAME TIME and that we should be walking into the labs, starting the prac we half did last week and getting that prac marked off somewhere in that two hours. Then we should sit DOWN and do the NEXT prac (in the lab) getting that checked off and then starting the next lab. WONDERFUL IDEA ! Students will be going up to tutors all through the labs no great queues, EFFICIENCY and no STRESS. Great THEORY, but it doesn't work that way. I've spent hours on prep's; I've gone through all my textbooks and lecture notes; hounded friends; puzzled over other people's prep's and then STILL needed help. Let's face it - the prep's can take a long time. You usually end up BATTLING it out at home. Which means that you'll be sitting in another three-quarters of an hour line (no exaggeration, I think that'd be an average for some of the first session labs) at the start of the next lab !! "

There is a SOLUTION ... If you're unable to do the prep work go see the 'tutor on duty' in the Physics building before the scheduled lab period. Besides having a reasonably correct solution to the prep, it saves time queueing up and so leaves you with the maximum amount of lab time in your hands. However, " if everyone who couldn't do the prep's followed this advice, then those tutors are going to be VERY very busy people."

Now some information on the famous Second Year Physics known as 'Solid State Fizzicks' or commonly known as 'Kwontum Meckaniks'. All of you second year students still farcically remember the 'passing' procedure for this subject ? When you people first started the subject you thought it would be interesting. Were you in for a Surprise ! Slowly and surely - as slow as a chain reaction - you met the one and only dreaded 'Schrodinger Wave Equation' and to boot the 'incomprehensible' maths that went with it which was going to be done in the following session. Some say the three hour labs were interesting and generally okay. These labs as compared the the first year Physics were more tolerable : the demonstrator came to YOU to mark the prep and not the other way around. 'Superiority' at last.

General Studies for Electrical Engineers

by
Meo Periculo*

In the later years of your course, you may wish to specialize in a particular area under the supervision of one of the professors in the School. The proposed set of subjects is designed and recommended as prerequisites to enable the student to draw out that air of friendliness from "them". Beware - choosing the wrong course could be disastrous.

Each course lasts for a minimum of four years at zero hours per week. Formal enrolment is not required although 100% attendance is expected for all scheduled hours. The courses may also be taken as a post-requisite.

6.200 Power with Glory

A novel by Snavely which deals with a revolutionary subject on machines.

Prerequisite: Matrix inversion for counter-revolutionaries.

6.300 Lovers of the Future - will they hold hands by telephone?

A brilliant film, tactiled in braille, based on the report in "The Sun", Wednesday, 7th August 1968, page 18. (The article exists - Eds)

6.400 Swansea Town Football Club

A study of a new sport for South Wales based on the promise of "Forever the Champions, next year!"

6.500.00 Cattle - should one play tag with them?

6.500.01 V.L.S.I. - Very Little Space Inside

Based on fairy tales that have come true, this subject is presented by a visiting Friar and looks at electronics in micronic detail, posing many unanswered questions such as "Who cooks the chips at home?" and "Is great dedication required to become a Chip Monk?"

6.600 The Science of Computer Golf

A bit over 8 words per byte is par for this course.

* First Year students may not be aware that the Author has also written under the pseudonym Ita Lex Scripta.

Do you have any SPARE time ? Feel like having a game of tennis or squash ? Perhaps a swim (or even a workout in the gym) in your hour or two or three or four or ... off from lectures ? Then why not go down to PERC.

It stands for "Physical Education and Recreation Centre" and is located near the corner of Anzac Parade AND High Street on the Lower Campus. In other words near the Swimming POOL for those of you who are laterally oriented.

Hiring of equipment for "reasonable rates" is also possible. These include "lockers, towels, sandshoes, tennis racquets, basketballs, footballs, soccerballs, cricket kits, hockey kits, table tennis bats and camping gear".

There are numerous clubs you can join. For instance, Archery - useful practice if the whole electrical system fails and we have to revert to the "old" times, Canoeing & Sailing - in case of floods, also including the norm sports as Squash and Volleyball. Just get in contact with the people down at PERC for more details. Uni life needn't be somniferous.

W O M A N

SYMBOL:

Considered a member of the family of Homo-Sapiens.

AT. WT:

Accepted at 120 though isotopes vary from 100 to 130.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES:

Seldom found in the pure state. All colours, surface usually coated with a coat of paint or oxide. Boils at nothing, freezes without apparent reason. Unpolished specimens tend to turn green in the presence of polished specimens. All varieties melt with appropriate treatment. Very bitter if handled incorrectly. Pure specimens often assume a rosie tint when found in their natural state. Exhibits magnetic properties, especially in the presence of noble metals.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES:

Highly explosive and dangerous, except in experienced hands. Extremely active in the presence of man. Possesses a great affinity of gold, platinum and precious stones. Has the ability to absorb the most expensive of same. May explode spontaneously when left alone with men. Undissolved in liquids but activity is greatly increased when saturated with spirits. Sometimes yields with pressure. Fresh varitey has great magnetic properties. Ages rapidly, polymerising with age.

USES:

Chiefly ornamental, but sometimes used as a trace element in criminal investigations. Probably the most powerful bank account reducing agent known to man. It is illegal to own more than one specimen in most countries but a certain amount of exchange is permissible.

Do you ever wonder if you can buy cheap textbooks from older year students ?

Have you ever wondered whether you can turn some of the text books you no longer use into CASH.

Let's face it, are you ever going to use that Chemistry I textbook again in your life being an Electrical Engineer ?

The Second-Hand bookshop down at the Roundhouse is the place. It's open from 10 am through to 3 pm until the end of this Session. The range of books extend from Engineering Drawing to Maths' classics like Grossman's Calculus. You can often pick up those obscure recommended General Studies paperbacks such as 'The History of the Spoon'.

Also be on the lookout for Notices on the School Notice-boards around the place from students wanting to sell their once used texts.

As for me, I never use my texts, I only buy them to impress my friends.

The need for Year Co-ordinators in Electrical Engineering

While the School of Electrical Engineering* remained small there was no apparent need for any special co-ordination between the various subjects taught to the students of any one year. The Head of the School dealt with problems as they arose.

Today the School is the largest in Australia, but it was not size alone that revealed a pressing need. A fashion of continuous assessment had grown up that threatened to replace good teaching with more and more assessment. Students' absence from classes was becoming alarming ! A halt had to be called. A co-ordinator was appropriate, per each year, one of whose duties was to be a watchdog on assessment, on both its total, and/of its fair decision between subjects.

As many subjects were taught by members of other schools and faculties, the co-ordinator had many contacts, some always amenable to suggestions. However, problems are not frequent these days and year co-ordinators have been able to turn their attention to matters other than assessment. Comprising about one third of the School Academic Executive Committee (AEC), the co-ordinators are able to raise subjects that have been brought to their attention by students. The Head of the School and his Executive is thus better informed, and action should be more appreciated.

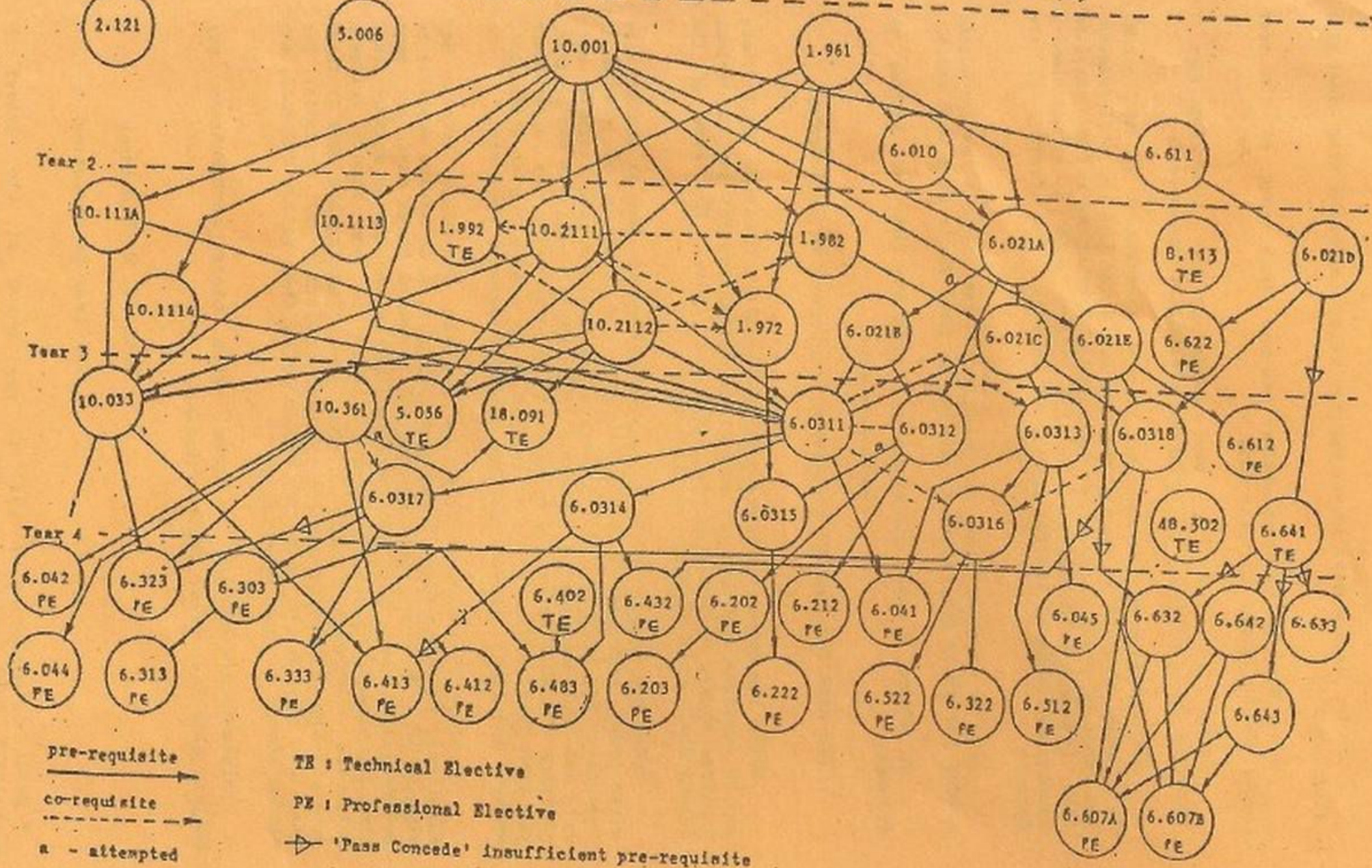
Students are invited to raise, with their co-ordinator, any subject they feel needs their attention.

Prof. G. W. Donaldson

1st Year Co-ordinator

* Until the beginning of 1982 it was known as the 'School of Electrical Engineering' but NOW it is the 'School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science'. (Eds)

Year 1 ----- Map of Prerequisites and Co-requisites ----- for 1983



NEW DEPARTMENT

The Electronics Department has seen a few changes this year. We changed the name from Solid State Electronics, because there are several electronics activities going on in the department which are outside the solid-state field. We still have, however, the strongest group of solid-state experts in Australia. My arrival in March coincided with the establishment of the Joint Micro-electronics Research Centre. Apart from the fact that this will bring in about \$one Million in extra research funds to the School, it will have a big impact on our teaching program.

As we are often reminded, micro-electronics is a key technology for the future of Electrical Engineering. Therefore, as our faculties and research activities grow, new ideas and methods will be injected into the course work. In the next year or so more students will have an opportunity to apply computer-aided design to electronics problems and, we hope, many will be able to have 'hands on' experience with the technologies used to make micro-electronic devices.

Professor Graham A. Rigby

ELSOC Annual General Meeting

Election of executive for 1983.

Positions available:

- i. President
- ii. Vice-President
- iii. Honorary Secretary
- iv. Honorary Treasurer
- v. Publicity Officer
- vi. Education Officer
- vii. Year Representatives, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

All Electrical Engineering students and staff are eligible for these positions, and all eligible to vote. Simply roll up on the day.

When: Thursday 1pm, Week 13

- 21st October 1982.

Where: LG1