

Department of Information Engineering Operational Plan 2008

This annual operational plan has been developed in consultation with departmental staff. It supports the CECS Strategic Plan 2006-2010

The Department of Information Engineering provides graduate education and research in systems control, robotics, computer vision and telecommunications

Head of Department: Professor Rodney Kennedy
Academic & Adjunct Staff: 12 + 8
General Staff: 4

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Aim

This is the annual work plan developed in sympathy with strategic goals to enhance research, education and outreach activities and outcomes. In the current form it focuses a targeted subset of activities to enhance outcomes (implicitly retaining those activities, not indicated, where outcomes are strong).

Staff

Recruit into areas consistent with strengths and aligned with strategic goals:

- Explore replacement or additional continuing Level C/D/E positions in early June
- Review capacity and strategic merits of postdoctoral positions
- Explore joint appointments and/or secondments of outstanding researchers within CECS
- Gender balance issues in all the above

Research

- Review the structure of research groups in context of 2007 Department Reviews and possible restructuring within College.
- Review research performance to inform the choice of broad research activities for reporting (annual report, research reports, web material and PR material). Broad research activities need to be defined around strong sustained research record, significant PhD numbers, student interest, industry interactions, etc, rather than head count of research staff.
- Improve processes to support ARC grant applications (mentoring, feedback)
- Optimize the number, \$ value and type of grant applications
- Strengthen and stabilize synergy with NICTA through strategic joint efforts
- Enhance impact of research (as captured by industry interest, citations, public relations, etc)
- Review Book/Journal/Conference publication ratio
- Strengthen research links within CECS
- Support current Biocomputational Engineering proposal and explore further links to Life Sciences
- Sustain strong DEST Publication output (estimate 150/year; n.b., 190 in 2007 was anomalously high)
- Review mechanisms to reward research successes

Outreach

- Improve/redesign department web presence
- Develop a two year Departmental Research Report (emulating those from FEIT)
- Improve marketing of industry and commercialization activities
- Develop/enhance laboratory based research activities

Research Students

- Target 66 total enrolment (number to be determined)
- Review quality of supervision and mentoring of PhD students

Teaching

- Review and quantify commitments into undergraduate teaching
- Contribute to undergraduate course development