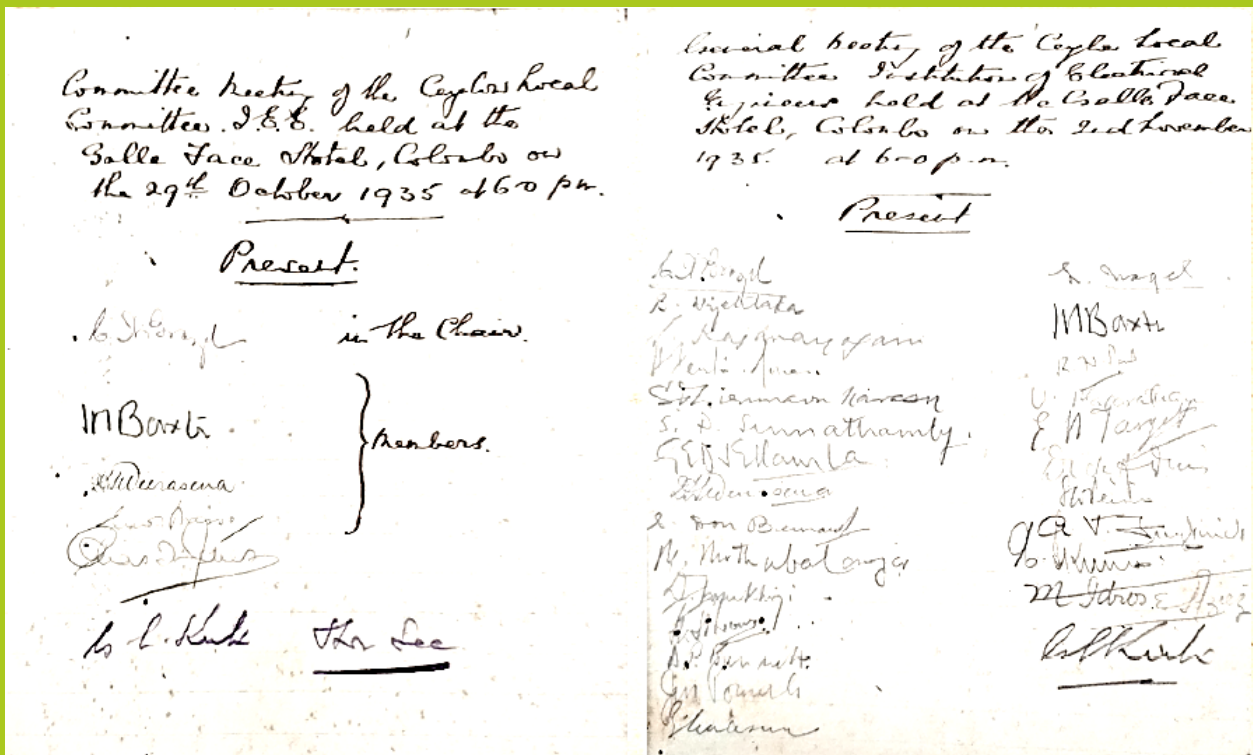




Foundation

The beginnings of the IET Sri Lanka Network can be traced back to 29th October 1935, when the first committee of the **The Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) - Ceylon Local Committee** met and elected Lt.-Col. C. H. Brazel, M.C., M.B.E., F.I.E.E. as the first chairman and Mr. G.L. Kirk, F.I.E.E. as its first honorary secretary.

Copies of the attendance sheets of a committee meeting on 29th October 1935, and a General meeting on 2nd November 1935, extracted from the records are shown.



In the following period, the committee would go through several name changes that reflected the nation eradicating its colonial past, the network's growth, and institutional mergers. From 1948, the network has been known as the **Institution of Electrical Engineers - Ceylon Overseas Branch**. A copy of the local rules framed at this time is shown.

**THE
INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
CEYLON OVERSEAS BRANCH**

LOCAL RULES

1. **TERRITORY** :—The territory covered by the Ceylon Overseas Branch is the whole of Ceylon and its dependencies.

2. **MEMBERSHIP** :—Every member whose residence or occupation is within the territory of the Ceylon Overseas Branch shall be deemed to be attached to that Branch.

3. **SUBSCRIPTIONS** :—Each member of the Branch, in addition to the ordinary subscription as an Overseas Member of the Institution, which is paid to the Institution in the ordinary way, shall at the discretion of the Branch Committee pay annually to the Branch a local subscription of such amount as the Committee may from time to time prescribe with the approval of the Council.

4. **EXPENSES** :—Unless otherwise determined by the Council to meet special circumstances, the Institution will contribute towards the Local expenses a percentage, to be determined by the Council, of the ordinary subscriptions of the members attached to the Branch and any expenses beyond this amount will be met from the local subscriptions received under Rule 3.

5. **MANAGEMENT** :—The affairs of the Branch shall be managed by a Committee constituted as follows :

Officers—	Chairman	<i>Amended</i>
	One Vice-Chairman	
	One Honorary Secretary	
	One Honorary Treasurer (at the discretion of the Committee)	

Other members of the Committee—Nine Ordinary Members of the Committee together with, ex-officio, the Overseas Representative of the Council (if any) if he resides within the area of the Branch.

At the discretion of the Committee, the Committee may also include :—

Not more than two of the most recent Past Chairmen, and Not more than two members from the classes of Graduates or Students co-opted by the Committee as additional members.

The Chairman shall be a Member (M.I.E.E.) and (unless the Council shall otherwise direct) a British Subject, and shall be chosen from those who are or have been members of the Committee, and the Vice-Chairman,

3

in the ballot paper after such erasure to the number to be elected. The ballot papers shall be returned to the Honorary Secretary not later than 7 days after their issue by the Committee and shall be opened and counted at a Committee Meeting by scrutineers appointed at that meeting. In the event of the scrutineers being unable to report the election of the prescribed number of persons to fill the vacancies in the Committee owing to an equality of votes, they shall submit the names of the candidates having the same number of votes to the Chairman, who shall determine by his casting vote or votes which such candidate or candidates shall be elected.

(f) The persons elected shall take office on the 1st day of April, next following, but members of the Committee whose terms of office would otherwise expire on the 31st of March, in any year shall continue in office until others are elected in their place.

(g) The office of a member of the Committee shall *ipso facto* be vacated (a) If he become bankrupt or lunatic, or (b) If by notice in writing to the Committee he resign his office, or (c) If he cease to be a member of any class of the Institution, or (d) If without leave of the Committee he absent himself from four consecutive meetings of the Committee, if the Committee resolve that his office be vacated. Vacancies occurring in the Committee during the year may be filled by the Committee. The Committee shall determine the period for which the person so chosen shall hold office provided that such period shall not extend beyond that year and any period of office so served shall not be taken into account in computing the period of office under the provisions of Rule 6(a).

7. **COMMITTEE MEETINGS** :—The Chairman or any two members of the Committee may instruct the Honorary Secretary to call a Committee Meeting subject to seven clear days notice being given stating the general nature of the business to be transacted. Four Committee Members eligible to vote shall form a quorum.

The Chairman shall preside at all meetings at which he is present. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall preside and in the absence of the Vice-Chairman, the members present may elect one of their number to preside at that meeting.

With the exception of Graduates and Students, who shall not have voting powers, each member of the Committee shall have one vote and the Chairman shall also have a casting vote.

No member of the Committee who is not a Corporate Member shall vote or take part in any discussion regarding any proposal for the transfer or election to any grade of membership which is higher than his own.

the Honorary Secretary, and the Ordinary Members of the Committee shall be Members, Associate Members, Companions or Associates.

6. **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE** :—The Committee shall be appointed in accordance with the following requirements :—

(a) The Chairman shall not hold office in that capacity for more than two years in succession, and the Vice-Chairman and Ordinary Members of the Committee shall not hold office in those respective capacities for more than three years in succession.

(b) The Chairman shall not be eligible to hold simultaneously any other office on the Committee.

(c) The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer (if any) shall retire annually but shall be eligible for immediate re-election to his office.

(d) At no time shall the Committee include in its membership in any capacity such number of persons employed by or otherwise engaged with any one Company, Supply Undertaking, Municipality, Firm or other organisation, so as to constitute a majority of the voting members of the Committee.

(e) Not later than the 1st of February in each year the Committee shall send to each Corporate Member and Associate entitled to vote a list of duly qualified persons whom they nominate for the vacancies about to occur in the Committee on the 31st March, next following.

Not later than 14 days after the issue of the Committee's list any three Corporate Members may nominate any other duly qualified person to fill any such vacancy by delivering such nomination to the Honorary Secretary together with the written consent of such person to accept office if elected, but each such nominator shall be debarred from nominating any other person for the same election. If no candidate has been nominated under the provisions of this paragraph, those nominated by the Committee shall be deemed to be duly elected.

In the event of one or more qualified candidates being duly nominated in accordance with the last paragraph, the Committee shall, not later than the 22nd of February, in each year or such later date as the Committee may approve, send to each Corporate Member and Associate entitled to vote a ballot paper containing the names of all persons duly nominated to fill the vacancies referred to above, stating which persons are nominated by the Committee, and each member shall erase sufficient names to reduce the number of names

4

8. **WORK OF THE COMMITTEE** :—The Committee shall arrange and manage the affairs of the Branch in conformity so far as is possible with the practice of the Institution.

9. **FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE** :—In addition to the organizing of meetings for the reading and discussion of papers and arranging reunions of members it shall be the function of the Committee to stimulate interest in the Institution among members and also prospective members, to advise the Council as to the qualifications of candidates for election and transfer, to make arrangements when so requested by the Council, or by the Overseas Representative of the Council (see next paragraph), for the Associate Membership Examination of the Institution, and to further the objects of the Institution in such other ways as may be deemed desirable within the limits laid down by the Bye-laws of the Institution and in these Rules.

In addition, if there is an Overseas Representative of the Council with whose area that of the Branch coincides or forms a part the Committee shall give him such advice and assistance as he may need to enable him to carry out his duties and to correlate procedure, where there is more than one Branch or Overseas Committee, with regard to matters of common concern affecting The Institution and its administration.

10. **ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** :—The Committee may at its discretion call an Ordinary General Meeting or arrange for other meetings for the purpose specified in Local Rule 9. Every member in any class except Students shall have the privilege of introducing one visitor at each Ordinary Meeting of the Branch. No question shall be discussed or motion be made at the Ordinary General Meeting relating to the direction and management of the Committee.

11. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** :—The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of March in each year. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to receive and consider the report of the Chairman and The Accounts of the Branch for the past year, to elect Honorary Auditors and, with the approval of the Committee, to transact any other business of which notice in writing shall have been given to the Honorary Secretary on or before the 14th of February of that year.

12. **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING** :—(a) A Special General Meeting of Corporate Members, Associates and Graduates may be called at any time by the Committee for any specific purpose relating to the direction and management of the affairs of the Branch, except revoking altering or amending any Local Rules of the Branch and the Committee shall at all times call such a meeting on requisition, in writing, of ten Corporate Members or Associates or Graduates, specifying the general nature of the business to be transacted.

(b) A Special General Meeting of Corporate Members and Associates for the purpose of revoking altering or amending any Local Rules of the Branch may be called at any time by the Committee and the Com-

mittee shall at all times call such a meeting on a requisition, in writing, of ten Corporate Members or Associates specifying the alterations in or amendments of the Local Rules suggested by them.

13. QUORUM FOR ANNUAL AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS :—The quorum at any Annual or Special General Meeting shall be twelve of those entitled to be present and vote thereat and no business shall be transacted at any such meeting unless the quorum be present at the commencement of the business. If a quorum be not present within a quarter of an hour from the time appointed for holding the meeting the meeting shall be dissolved.

14. NOTICE OF ANNUAL AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS :—Fourteen days notice shall be given of all Annual and Special General Meetings. The notice shall specify the general nature of the business to be transacted.

15. OVERSEAS ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL :—To further the liaison between the Council and the Branch, the Branch Committee may nominate a member of the Institution to serve on the Overseas Activities Committee of the Council in London.

16. INSTITUTION MATTERS :—The Branch shall not without the sanction of the Council take any steps with regard to, or express approval or disapproval of, any law of any country, or do anything whatever, or pass any resolution which affects the interests of the Institution generally and should be dealt with by the Council.

17. PAPERS AND COMMUNICATIONS :—The Committee of the Branch shall have authority for the acceptance or rejection of papers and communications to be read at the meetings arranged by the Branch.

18. PUBLICATION OF PAPERS :—Every paper or communication read at a meeting of a Branch shall be the property of, and a copy shall be sent to the Institution, which shall have the exclusive right of publication in the United Kingdom. Permission for the local publication of any such paper or communications, or of any report of the discussion at a meeting, shall rest with the Council who may delegate this authority to the Branch Committee.

19. PREMIUMS :—Papers read at Branch meetings and published in the Journal shall be eligible for the award of Institution Premiums, particularly the "Overseas Premiums."

20. LOCAL AWARDS FOR PAPERS BY STUDENTS OR GRADUATES :—The Committee may at their discretion make an award for the best paper read within the area of the Branch by a Student or Graduate during any Session subject to the following conditions :—

- (a) Each award shall be designated "Award presented by the Ceylon Overseas Branch of The Institution of Electrical Engineers."

- (b) Not more than one award shall be made in any one Session.
- (c) The award shall not exceed Rs. 30.00 in value, the cost being borne out of the Branch Funds.
- (d) The award shall be strictly unofficial, and shall not be recorded by the Institution.

21. LOCAL RULES :—The Branch shall be at liberty to prescribe its own Local Rules subject to confirmation from the Council. The affairs of the Branch being managed in accordance with the Bye-Laws of the Institution and the Council's Regulations for Overseas Branches, the Rules of the Branch shall always be so framed as to be consonant with those over-riding codes and if at any time an alteration or amendment of the over-riding codes shall cause any Rule or part of a Rule of the Branch to become contradictory to those Codes the said Rule or its contradictory part so affected shall become void. A copy of the Local Rules and any revision or amendment thereof shall be forwarded to every member of the Branch.

22. RECORDS :—A copy of every document or paper published by the Committee of a Branch and complete copies of the minutes of the Branch Committee shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Institution for the information of the Council.

However, with Ceylon becoming a republic, the name of the local branch became the **Institution of Electrical Engineers – Sri Lanka Centre**. The name of the network would remain untouched until the merger of the IEE and the Institution of Incorporated Engineers (IIE) to become the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) Sri Lanka Network in 2006.

Chairmen

- 1935 to 1947 - Lt. Col.C. H. Brazel M.C.
- 1947 to 1949 - Prof. R. H. Paul
- 1949 to 1950 - Capt. H.E.S. De Krester
- 1950 to 1951 - Mr. C.W.W.Glanister
- 1951 to 1953 - Mr. E. C. Fernando
- 1953 to 1955 - Prof. R.H.Paul
- 1955 to 1957 - Mr. E.C.Fernando
- 1957 to 1959 - Prof. R.H.Paul
- 1959 to 1961 - Mr. E.C.Fernando
- 1961 to 1963 - Mr. M. Muthubalasuriyar
- 1963 to 1966 - Mr. C. A. R. Anketell
- 1966 to 1967 - Mr. S. W. Peiris
- 1967 to 1969 - Mr. T. W. Mendis
- 1969 to 1971 - Mr. J. A.S.S. Johnpillai
- 1971 to 1973 - Mr. G. D. Somasundaram
- 1973 to 1975 - Mr. H. D. S. A. Gunawardena
- 1975 to 1977 - Dr. S. Gnanalingam
- 1977 to 1979 - Mr. C. H. J. de Mel
- 1979 to 1981 - Mr. J. H. L. Philips
- 1981 to 1983 - Mr. L. W. de Silva
- 1983 to 1985 - Mr. H. E. G. F. de Silva
- 1985 to 1987 - Mr. J. Varnakulasinghe
- 1987 to 1989 - Mr. S. C. Weerasinghe
- 1989 to 1991 - Mr. H. S. Subasinghe
- 1991 to 1993 - Mr. T. D. M. A. de Silva
- 1993 to 1995 - Mr. M. Zubair
- 1995 to 1996 - Prof. K. K. Y. W. Perera
- 1996 to 1998 - Mr. P. K. Wickramarachi
- 1998 to 2000 - Mr. D. C. Wijeratne
- 2000 to 2002 - Prof. J. R. Lucas
- 2002 to 2004 - Mr. D. R. Pullaperuma
- 2004 to 2006 - Mr. W. A. L. W. A. Perera
- 2006 to 2007 - Prof (Mrs.) I.J. Dayawansa
- 2007 to 2008 - Mr. M. Zubair
- 2008 to 2010 - Mr. N.A.G. Senanayake
- 2010 to 2011 - Mr. K.B.M.I Perera
- 2011 to 2012 - Mr. Rohan Seneviratne
- 2012 to 2013 - Mr. D.R. Pullaperuma
- 2013 to 2014 - Prof (Mrs.) I.J. Dayawansa
- 2014 to 2015 - Mr. Tharaka Mohotty
- 2015 to 2017 - Mr. Dhammika Nanayakkara
- 2017 to 2019 - Mr. Rukmal Jayasinghe
- 2020 to 2021 - Dr. Lalith Liyanage

Location of Committee Meetings

In the 1970s, the monthly committee meetings of the IEE Sri Lanka Centre was generally held at the General Manager's room of the Ceylon Electricity Board Headquarters at Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 2. At that time, the GM CEB was invariably a member of the Centre Committee. During that period, and probably much before that, Mr Joachim, an employee of the CEB was the secretarial assistant of the IEE Sri Lanka Centre. As the IEE Sri Lanka Centre had no physical office at that time, all documents were safely kept in the office where Mr. Joachim worked at the CEB. With time, security restrictions in getting into the CEB, made the committee decide to shift the venue of the committee meetings to outside the CEB. The last committee meeting at the CEB headquarters was on 22 October 1985 and the shift occurred in 1986 when the Committee Meeting was held at Walauwa Restaurant, 278 Union Place, Colombo 2 and continued there till 1987. In 1988, the Committee meetings shifted to Curry Boat Restaurant, 24 Deal Place, Colombo and carried on till 1989. Then from 1990 till 1994 or 1995 again committee meetings have been held at Walauwa Restaurant. In 1996 committee meetings were held at Hotel Taj Sumadra, Colombo and since 1997, after the establishment of a permanent office, the committee meetings have been held at the IEE Sri Lanka Centre Office at the IESL Premises at Wijerama Mawatha.

IEE Sri Lanka Centre Office

On 2nd September 1996, the IEE Sri Lanka Centre Library cum Office was inaugurated, at the IESL Headquarters, Wijerama Mawatha, Colombo 07 with Chief Guest being Mr Denzil Senanayake, the IESL President. The intension of the shift was not only to have an office to keep documents, but for conducting the committee meetings, membership interviews and discussion sessions for small groups (on topics such as Testing, Tariffs and Earthing in 2001)

In around the year 2000, on the request of the committee, Prof J R Lucas compiled a list of all past Chairman, Vice Chairman and Hony Secretary and Hony Treasurer from available past minutes from inception and name boards were installed in the first set of nameboards at the IEE Sri Lanka Office.

Location of Ordinary General Meetings

From at least the late 1970s, the Ordinary General Meetings (now known as evening forums) of the IEE Sri Lanka Centre at which technical papers were presented was the Taprobane Hotel in York Street, Colombo. Taprobane was the regular location for the Ordinary General Meetings till at least 1989.

The IEE Committee got down Videos of the IEE Faraday Lecture and presentations were held, first at British Council Auditorium and later at the IESL.

From early 1990s, the Ordinary General Meetings shifted to Hotel Galadari, and this has been the regular locations for Ordinary General Meetings since then, other than for two years (around 2012) when meetings were held at the Light House Galley at Galle Face, Colombo.

In June 2000 (June 12-14) - IEE Silvanus P Thompson Lecture for Younger Members was delivered physically in the University of Moratuwa, a Colombo Hotel and the University of Peradeniya, by the distinguished lecturer from UK who delivered the lecturer throughout the UK.

Achievements

- 1) The IET Sri Lanka Network has received numerous awards. In 2008, the IET Sri Lanka Network was awarded the Local Network Event Award for the 'Electricity and Technology' radio series hosted by the Network with the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation.

**PRESIDENT MAHINDA RAJAPAKSE CONGRATULATES
IET SRI LANKA NETWORK FOR
WINNING THE IET (UK) ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2008**



(L- R) Mr. M. Perera, Mr. W.A.D. Perera, Mr. K.N. Gunawardena, Prof. K.K.Y.W. Perera,
Mr. N.A.G. Senanayake, Prof. J.R. Lucas, Mr. W.D. De Alwis

- 2) At the IET South Asia Community Volunteers Conference in 2013, Mr. D. R. Pullaperuma was awarded the "IET Ambassador" Award.



- 3) Further at the CVC 2013, Mr. D. R. Pullaperuma delivered the IET Chairman's speech of Sri Lanka Network, "The winning presentation" and received the award from Mr. Nigel Ward and Mr. Prakash Nayak



- 4) Mr. Rohan Seneviratne and the IET Sri Lanka local Network organizing committee was received special appreciation from the IET South Asia Communities Committee (CCSA) for their immense contribution for the organizing CVC 2013 in Sri Lanka.



- 5) At the IET South Asia Community Volunteers Conference in 2015, Dammika Nanayakkara was awarded the 'Best Chairperson's Speech'.

- 6) In 2018, the Network was awarded the 'IET Pride – Local Network' award for carrying forward the IET's strategy and maintaining high ethical standards for the period October 2016 to September 2017.



7) National Strategic Roadmap on IoT

IET Sri Lanka Network nominated Dr Narendra De Silva, Dr Chandana Gamage, Dr Chathura De Silva, Dr. Lalith Liyanage, Dammika Nanayakkara, Rohan Seneviratne, and Rukmal Jayasinghe to lead the preparation of National Strategic IoT Roadmap for Sri Lanka while collaborating with national policy makers and industry experts in accordance with the IET guidelines.

The Roadmap focused on exploring opportunities of IoT as an application (i.e., IoT based application development for specific markets) and as an industry (i.e., Education Sector) in the Sri Lankan context.

In the process of developing the Roadmap, all the potential stakeholders were consulted in consultative meetings and finally the approval from the Cabinet of Ministers was obtained.

The National Strategic IoT Roadmap developed by the IET Sri Lanka Network was officially launched on 8th August 2018 with the patronage of Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Mr Ranil Wickramasinghe and Minister of Digital Infrastructure Ajith P Perera.



8) IET Volunteer Core Value Award is an awards program that recognizes IET volunteers who demonstrate the core values of integrity, excellence and teamwork.

“IET Volunteer Core Value Award 2021 – Teamwork” was awarded to IET Young Professionals Sri Lanka Network.

Notable members

Devapura Jayasena Wimalasurendra



Devapura Jayasena Wimalasurendra, who built the first hydro power station in Sri Lanka, was an Associate Member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE). He played a prominent role in the establishment of hydropower in Sri Lanka and is known as the "Father of Hydropower" and was a member of the State Council of Ceylon. Having had his initial proposals on hydro power ignored by the Engineering Association of Ceylon he constructed the first Ceylon's small hydro power station in at Blackpool, between Nanu Oya and Nuwara Eliya, to supply electricity to the Nuwara Eliya town. In 1918 he submitted a paper to the Engineering Association of Ceylon titled "Economics of Hydro Power Utilization in Ceylon", in it he proposed the possibility of hydro power from Maskelioya and Kehelgamuoya capable of lighting 100,000 lamps (114.5 MW) and the concept of developing a national grid.

Sir Arthur C. Clarke, former IEE employee, Inventor



Sir Arthur Charles Clarke CBE FRAS was an English science-fiction writer, science writer, futurist, inventor, undersea explorer, and television series host. Clarke emigrated to Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) in 1956, to pursue his interest in scuba diving. That year, he discovered the underwater ruins of the ancient Koneswaram Temple in Trincomalee. He founded the Ceylon Astronomical Association in 1959. He co-wrote the screenplay for the 1968 film 2001: A Space Odyssey, one of the most influential films of all time. In 1979, the government appointed him as Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa, the country's leading technological university. He held this position for 23 years until 2002 when he resigned due to health reasons.

Over the years Clarke maintained his connections with the IEE. In 1995 - whilst employed by the IEE on a British Council-funded visit - John Coupland, the IET's Librarian, visited Clarke at his home in Sri Lanka. Across the years, several IEE Presidents also visited Clarke, maintaining the link between Clarke and the Institution.



Prof. R. H. Paul (Former Chairman)

Professor Robert Hoisington Paul, is considered as the Father of Electrical Engineering Education in Sri Lanka. R. H. Paul having excelled in studies at the University College (the predecessor of the University of Ceylon) won the Government Scholarship in 1924 to study in the United Kingdom. He obtained a First Class Mechanical Sciences Tripos degree from the University of Cambridge. He returned to Ceylon in 1930 and in 1933 joined the Ceylon Technical College, Colombo, as a Lecturer. In the nineteen forties, courses for the external degrees in Engineering of the University of London was commenced in Colombo, and R.H. Paul was promoted as the first Professor of Electrical Engineering. Professor

Paul was mainly responsible for getting the recognition of the University of London in 1942 for the Technical College to prepare students for its Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree. He held the post of Director of the College from 1944-49.

When the University of Ceylon was established in 1950, he became its first Professor of Electrical Engineering, a post he held with great distinction for 18 years. He became the second Chairman of the IEE Local Committee in 1947. He was President of the Institute of Engineers, Ceylon in 1968. Even after his retirement he took a great interest in the professional activities of the engineering profession

He was also a founder member of Sri Lanka Association for Advancement of Science and served as its General President in 1945. The government sought his service on various matters and he was a member of the Commission on Broadcasting and Information (1969) and the Advisory Board of Technical Education (1966). He is a Fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers London and one of its past Chairmen on many occasions. His commitment to his profession was total. He was also the overseas representative of the IEE in Sri Lanka from 1964 until his death on July 3, 1978.

H.S. Subasinghe (Former Chairman)



A professional of the highest calibre and an institution builder par excellence, Engineer H.S. Subasinghe was chosen in 1983 by the then President J.R. Jayewardene, to solve a burning issue at the time: the poor status of electricity distribution networks managed by municipal councils, urban and town councils. In most cities, it was impossible to get an electricity connection to a new house. Reason: distribution lines were overloaded. Years of neglect, under-investment and poor financial management had left these power distribution networks worthless. Technically, city dwellers had electricity, but practically almost no electricity. Breakdowns

were so frequent, old-timers will remember.

Starting a state-owned company from scratch, taking over dilapidated lines, designing new lines, securing investments, pulling down old lines, building new lines, and leapfrogging into modern technology at the same time, were no easy tasks. Eng. Subasinghe provided active

leadership to a hand-picked team that created Lanka Electricity Company Ltd (LECO). Resisting moves to let LECO slide down to become yet another government-owned entity, he had a fresh-approach to everything: how a line is built, the quality of the pole, efficient customer service and on-the-spot billing. “State sector stability, private sector efficiency” was his aim for LECO, and he achieved it!

H.S. Subasinghe was a Fellow of the IEE and became the Chairman of the Sri Lanka Centre in 1989. He is the simple engineer from the village who set the benchmark for quality of electricity distribution in developing Asia, departed on February 24, aged 98.

Professor K.K.Y.W. Perera (Former Chairman)



Fellow of the IET, Professor K.K.Y.W Perera has been a lifelong member having joined the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) in 1955 as a student. It was during his time as a student member that his article on a ‘Vector Calculator’, a tool that enabled engineers to multiple complex numbers, was published in the Students' Quarterly Journal in 1956.

Prof Perera was the Secretary Ministry of Power and also the Secretary of the Ministry of Telecommunication. He was also the first Professor of Electronic & Telecommunications at the University of Moratuwa in 1968.

During his term as Chairperson, Professor K.K.Y.W. Perera established a permanent office for the Sri Lanka Network. Before this, the Sri Lanka Network did not have an established space in Sri Lanka. Professor K.K.Y.W. Perera has also served term as the Council Representative of the IEE and was once part of the Accreditation Team of the IEE.

Professor J R Lucas (Former Chairman)



Former Chairman and Fellow of the IET, Professor J.R. Lucas joined the IEE in 1970 as an Associate Member. Since 1975, Professor J.R. Lucas has been a regular member of the Sri Lanka Network.

Prof Rohan Lucas joined the newly formed Ceylon College of Technology, later to become the University of Moratuwa in 1970 and rose to be it first Professor of Electrical Engineering on merit. He served the University with distinction for 50 years. Prof Lucas was also an internal membership adviser of the IEE Sri Lanka network and a local representative in Sri Lanka for the IEE Benevolent Fund from which he assisted many IEE members in distress during the Tsunami in 2000. He was on the Asia Region Board of the IEE and attended several meetings in India and Malaysia. He also attended several council meetings in the UK during his tenure as Chairman. Together with Dr Indra Dayawansa, he was responsible for organising regular hands on experience for Advanced Level students through the IEE Sri Lanka Centre at the laboratories of the University of Moratuwa.

Through the Sri Lanka Network, Professor J.R. Lucas has been involved in the development of the First Annual Younger Member sessions of the IEE, the organisation of the Annual Technical Conference in 1996, and provided regular resources for the short course on Electrical Installations, on Lightning Protection, and on Electrical Safety.

Notable Speakers

The IET Sri Lanka Network has enabled many notable people from abroad to speak at the local events they have organised such as:

- Former IET President Dr Peter Bonfield who gave a keynote speech at the International Conference on Best Practices in Solid Waste Management in 2019



- Dr. Jaquelin Cochran - Senior Energy Analyst , National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Denver, USA who gave a speech at International Conference on “Integration of Renewable Energy into the National Grid” – 2017



- Bibhu Biswal Vice President and Head Regulatory and Policy at IL&FS Energy Development Co. India who gave a speech at International Conference on “Integration of Renewable Energy into the National Grid” – 2017



- Ranjith Perera Specialist Engineer Entura Hydro Tasmania, Australia; who gave a speech at International Conference on “Integration of Renewable Energy into the National Grid” – 2017



- Jitendra Nalwaya Additional Vice President BSES Yamuna Power Limited, New Delhi who gave a speech at **International Conference on “Integration of Renewable Energy into the National Grid” – 2017**



- Dr Rishi Bhatnagar President, Aeris Communications India, MEA & APAC and Head, IOT Development Task Force, IET India who gave a keynote speech at the Launch of the National Strategic Roadmap on IoT in 2018



- Sirilal Mallawa Arachchi, Development Manager Radio Technology & Solutions, New Zealand Police who gave a speech at the International Conference on Digitisation of Public Service Delivery in 2018



- Dr Eddy S. Soedjono, Institute of Technology, Sepuluh Nopember (ITS) Surabaya City, Indonesia who gave a speech at the International Conference on Best Practices in Solid Waste Management in 2019



- Mr. Shige Sakaki - Senior Urban Transport Specialist from the Transport and ICT Global Practice of the World Bank who gave a speech at **International conference on Electro Mobility and Urban Mass Transportation 2015**



- Mr. Shivananda R Koteshwar - Director, Design Technology, MediaTek Bangaluru, India who gave a speech at International Conference on “IOT for Smart Living” 2016



- Mr. Ajit Ashok Shenvi Director - Big Data & Analytics, Philips Innovation Campus, Bangalore who gave a speech at International Conference on “IOT for Smart Living” 2016



- Mr. Anoop Kumar Gupta - Director (Electrical), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation who gave a speech at International conference on Electro Mobility and Urban Mass Transportation 2015



- Mr. A.K Das, Project Director, Monorail, Mumbai, India who gave a speech at International conference on Electro Mobility and Urban Mass Transportation 2015



- Eng. Deepak Konnur - Chief Digital Officer Tata Power Company Ltd, India who gave a speech at International Conference on “IOT for Smart Living” 2016



- Mr. Nick Guang Lu - CTO – Industry Solutions, Huawei Southern-East Asia Enterprise Business Group who gave a speech at International Conference on “IOT for Smart Living” 2016
-

Events and Activities

Sir Robin Saxby FREng HonFRS- Visit

In 2006, past President and Honorary Fellow of the IET, Sir Robin Saxby attended the centenary celebrations of the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka (IESL) that was jointly organised by the IESL and the IET Sri Lanka Network.



Professor Ian Dufour-Visit

In 2009, Chairman of Fellowship Policy Committee at the IET, Professor Ian Dufour visited the IET Sri Lanka Network to speak about the professional registration interviewing process at the IET.

Short Courses Conducted



In June/July 1985, the “Design of Electrical Installations Course” was jointly organised by The Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka and The Institution of Electrical Engineers Sri Lanka Centre with Panelists Eng DDGC Wijeratna, Eng GDB Yatawara, Eng B B Perera, Eng Prof J R Lucas, Eng RI Senaratne, Eng Rienzie Fernando and Eng GS Gunasena and held at the IESL Premises at Wijerama Mawatha. This has been a great success and the course has been regularly repeated since, with the course now being conducted by the IESL.

Another popular course organised is the Short Course on Lightning Protection & Electrical Safety (20080705 – 20080809) organised by the IET Sri Lanka Network - Panelists: Eng B Bernard Perera, Dr Chandima Gomes, Prof J R Lucas.

Programmes were also conducted through the IEE Sri Lanka Centre at the University of Moratuwa by Dr Indra Dayawansa, Prof J R Lucas and others for school children at Advanced Level .

Annual Technical Conference



Transactions
of the
IEE Sri Lanka Centre
Volume 1 Number 1 December 1996

Annual Sessions 1994

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Savsiripaya (ICTAD) Auditorium
Wijerama Mawatha
Colombo 07.
24th September, 1994.

Journal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Sri Lanka Centre

The Annual Technical Sessions of the IEE Sri Lanka Centre was commenced on 24th September 1994 and provided with conference proceedings in 1994 and 1995. With Prof J R Lucas taking over the organizing of the conference, in 1995, with the Annual Technical Conference in 1996 the first Transactions of the IEE Sri Lanka Centre, Vol 1, No 1 coming out in December 1996 as a fully refereed journal and continued on a regular basis for many years (at least till Sept 2004).

The annual conferences and the format of the proceedings has changed since then.

Picture below is the photograph after the Annual Technical Conference 2020 at Hotel Galadari, Colombo which was the first physical event held among all IET Local Networks in the world with special permission obtained from the Gold Team of IET UK.



IET Evening Forums

Every month the IET Sri Lanka Network holds evening engineering technical talks for members from those with industry experience. The aim of these talks is to provide members with up-to-date information on industry developments and trending technologies.

Some of the past talks have been given by Dr Chathura De Silva, Dr Chandana Gamage, and Engineer Nalin Karunasinghe on 'IoT Unlimited and Hosts of Benefits'; Dr Amal Punchihewa on 'Hybrid Television Broadcast Technologies, Standards & Services: Challenges and Opportunities for Sri Lanka'; Engineer Tharaka Mohotti on 'New Trends & Technologies in Broadcasting'; and Dr Chathura De Silva and Dr. Lalith Liyanage on 'e-Elections & e-Parliament: Use of Biometrics for Identity Management'.

TV Program - Technology to Home



The IET Sri Lanka Network has collaborated with one of Sri Lanka's leading television programmes to give the public access to information on technological advancements. Programme have included: Prof. Rohan Lucas, Emeritus Professor of Electrical Engineering Department, University of Moratuwa and Eng. Kamal Illeperuma Chief engineer - Regional Centre for Lighting, Ceylon

Electricity Board discussed about "Causes and effects of lightning in a TV program broadcast in Sri Lanka", 'Next generation home, in the light of energy & environment challenge, societal transformation & Technological innovation' by Dr (Eng) Thushitha Sugathapala; 'IOT Applications' by Dr Chandana Gamage; and 'e-Elections & e-Parliament' by Dr Lalith Liyanage.

Workshop: Hands on with IoT



Jointly organised by the IET Sri Lanka Network and the Department of Computer Science & Engineering at the University of Moratuwa, the aim of the workshop was to educate, encourage, and assist young engineers and entrepreneurs towards the new era of IoT. To achievement this aim the workshop provided a preliminary introduction and first-hand experience of making a connected device. The workshop was a success with forty-seven engineering professionals and students having attended.

Field Visits

The IET Sri Lanka Network has organised numerous field visits for its members including a visit to the Yugadhanavi Power Plant at Kerawalapitiya and the Brandix Green Plant in 2009, and to VEGA to view the high performance electric super car in Group of students with Prof Lucas of IET YP field visit to Yugadanavi on 18-11-2017.





International Conferences organized by IET Sri Lanka Network

a. International Conference on Transition to Efficient Lighting 2013



b. International conference on Electro Mobility and Urban Mass Transportation 2015



The International Conference on Electro Mobility and Urban Mass Transportation which was organized during the 2014/15 session was recognized as the “IET Pride Innovative Activity” for promoting brand value and visibility of the IET during October 2014 to September 2015 at the South Asia Community Volunteers Conference 2015 held in India as well as at the Community Volunteers Conference which was held in UK.

International Conference on “IOT for Smart Living” 2016



International Conference on “Integration of Renewable Energy into the National Grid” – 2017



International Conference on “Digital Transformation of Public Service Delivery” – 2018





International Conference on Best Practices in Solid Waste Management – 2019



IET The Institution of
Engineering and Technology

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BEST PRACTICES IN SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

09TH OCTOBER 2019, HOTEL GALADARI - COLOMBO, SRI LANKA



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Mr. Peter Chandana Ratnayake
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Dr. Peter Bonfield
President of IET UK

Mr. Rohan Senewiratne
Moderator of the Conference

IET Young Professional Sri Lanka



THE INSTITUTION
OF ELECTRICAL
ENGINEERS

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Secretary
J C Williams
PhD FEng FIEE

Professor J R Lucas BSc(Eng) MSc PhD FIEE
University Of Moratuwa
Katubedda
Moratuwa
Sri Lanka

26 June 1996

Our ref: 485/23

Dear Professor Lucas

Thank you for your e-mail message of 26 June regarding the establishment of an IEE Younger Members Section (YMS) in Sri Lanka. I write with further information.

The Institution would only encourage the production of a Constitution if it is a legal requirement within Sri Lanka. The Regulations for Younger Members which you have already received should be used as the basis for a Constitution should this prove necessary.

I enclose a copy of a letter which proposed the establishment of a YMS in the UK as an indication of the possible structure of a formal proposal. Council will be looking for evidence that the YMs within the Centre have been consulted with an indication of their wishes. Further details of what is required in the proposal are contained in the Regulations (see Section 4.1).

I hope that this information is of use to you. Please let me know if you require further clarification or if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely

Ian Smalley
Senior Centres Officer

encl

The Institution of Electrical Engineers in amalgamation with the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers
and The Institution of Manufacturing Engineers
The IEE is registered as a charity

The IET Younger Members section was established in Sri Lanka in 1995 and was the second such younger members section outside the UK.

The first annual younger members sessions of IEE was organised in 1995/96 by a sub-committee consisting of Mr DGDC Wijeratna, Mr PK Wickramarachchi, Prof JR Lucas and Dr Mrs IJ Dayawansa with D R Pullaperuma as secretary to organise the Annual Sessions and the Younger Member Sessions – 1995. Thereafter the running of the Younger Members Sessions was transferred to the Younger Members Section itself.

On 15 May 1996 - Second Younger Members Sessions organised by a sub-committee of the IEE Sri Lanka Centre Committee.



The IET Sri Lanka Network's achievements reflect its commitment to the IET's vision to inspire the next generation of engineers. In 1987, the network formed the Younger Members Sections (YMS) of the IEE, with the aim for younger members to be involved in the work of the network. The YMS was one of the IEE's first international youth groups. In recent times, the network has continued to support and inspire future engineers. In 2020, the network was able to award four student scholarships and a year of free student membership.

In addition to scholarships, the network has given young professionals a platform to represent the interests and concerns of future engineers in the form of the IET Young Professional Sri Lanka. Current members of the IET YP Sri Lanka have successfully represented the IET Sri Lanka Network. The current Chair, Priyanga Ambanwala is currently representing Sri Lanka in the Young Professionals Committee of South Asia (YPCSA); Secretary Thilini Wasundara was selected as the South Asian representative for the Young Professionals Committee (YPC) in the UK for the 2020/21 term; and Vindya Wickramarachchi has been elected as a Young Professional Ambassador (YPA) and as a member of the YPA's On Campus Recognition Project Team.

Proposal submitted by IET YP SL for celebration of IET's 150th Anniversary was selected by the organizing committee in UK to be implemented in 2021. The green innovation competition concept was highly appreciated by the selection committee and was granted funding of £2,000 for the event.

Young Professional Activities & Awards

Young Woman Engineer Award 2017



In 2017, The IET Young Professional (YP) Sri Lanka group organised an award ceremony to recognise the achievements of young women engineers in Sri Lanka. The awards aimed to follow the IET's vision to promote engineering and female engineers but also to address the shortage of women engineers and inspire future female engineers. The next award will occur in 2021.

IET YP had the first woman engineer of Sri Lanka Eng. Dr. **Premala Sivaprakasapillai Sivasegaram** as the Chief Guest for their 2019 version of YWE Awards.



Young Woman Engineer Award 2019



IET Young Professionals Interactive Session with IET President Dr Peter Bonfield

In October 2019, the IET YP Sri Lanka Network organised an interactive session with the then IET President, Dr Peter Bonfield.



IET Volunteer Core Value Award is an awards program that recognizes IET volunteers who demonstrate the core values of integrity, excellence and teamwork.

IET Volunteer Core Value Award 2021 -teer Core Value Award is an awards program that recognizes IET volunteers who demonstrate the core values of integrity, excellence and teamwork. Teamwork

Awarded to IET Young Professionals Sri Lanka Network.

IET Young Professionals Sri Lanka Network organised the IET Young Woman Engineer Award for the first time outside the UK in 2017, then 2019, and are working on the 2021 session.

They initiated this award in Sri Lanka to select a dynamic young engineer who represents the very best of the engineering profession, who is a high achiever, a problem solver, and a team

player, an inspiration to their colleagues and, just as importantly, have the charisma and personality to inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

IET Young Professionals Sri Lanka Network had a brainstorming session to identify the key areas of the 2021 event flow and to assign an expert in each of the areas to lead and do the job. Through that, as a team, they could achieve the same success of the past two events. The team is working with their core strength to successfully deliver the 2021 event.

They are collaborating with some leading engineering firms in Sri Lanka to achieve more glamour in the event. To reach the companies the network of each individual team member helps a lot. And also the network of the committee always helps to get experts into the judging panel, keynote speakers, and guest speakers for the event.

Talented individuals of the 2017 YP team brought their motivation to the 2021 organising team to help create another grand event and achieve the expected outcome. They always inspire, inform and influence the organising team of young professional engineers, supporting and promoting innovative ideas to meet the needs of IET's vision and mission and the IET YWE event outcome.

<https://www.theiet.org/involved/volunteering-for-the-iet/volunteer-hub/recognising-volunteer-talent/core-values-awards-winners/>