

A look back on another year for engineering in South Australia

As the year comes to a close, Engineers Australia would like to thank its members for their continued support. We look back at the achievements of the South Australian members and committee groups in 2021, and their contributions to the engineering profession and the wider community.

2021 has been both a rewarding and challenging year, with new programs introduced in South Australia, alongside an Australia wide program of technical webinars that are going from strength to strength.

Engineers Australia has made significant progress in our work to improve our support and interaction with members and the profession, including introducing our External Voice Project, an initiative that will improve our representation of engineers' views on a wide range of policy.

2021 has highlighted the resilience of engineers as we enter a golden age for the profession. There are so many opportunities emerging, from our infrastructure, through defence and space, and cyber.

Engineers Australia's efforts to identify how we can support these opportunities through the Learned Society Review are an important step in building a professional association that is ready and able to support engineers at this time.

Our members have been integral to the progress we've made at Engineers Australia this year and we want to thank you for being a part of Engineers Australia. Every time you attend an activity, share a professional highlight, or meet with a colleague you are growing the impact our profession can make in our community.

This year saw the introduction of key targeted programs in South Australia that are designed to build deeper capability into the practice of engineering and our relevance with Government.

Force Forty Engineers, a targeted group of forty engineers under the age of forty, is a support activity to the State Government's Force Forty program. It is focussed on fostering the creative talent of the innovation program that Government is building through precincts such as Lot Fourteen, Tonsley and Mawson Lakes.

Our Fellows Program was focussed on linking our engineering leaders to senior Government executives through the Growth State Plan's sector-based strategies.

Fellows have been given the opportunity to meet key CEOs of Defence SA, Energy and Mining, Innovation and Skills and Primary Industries through their presentations on State Government goals. These opportunities help embed engineers in the thinking of our Government as sources of professional skills and talent, which is central to solving the needs of our communities into the future.

Another significant highlight of this year was our Engineer of the Year Awards. Unfortunately, we were only able to award one engineer in each category, amongst many outstanding candidates. We were delighted to recognise Andrew Curran of Southern Launch as our Engineer of the Year and Brittany Coff of Jacobs, as our Young Professional Engineer of the Year. Both are eligible for National Awards to be presented at our [Pinnacles Awards](#) in Sydney on 1 March 2022.

An extremely important initiative that Engineers Australia launched in 2021 was our External Voice Project. This will give our members opportunities to provide input into our policy development activities on an ongoing basis, more proactively positioning Engineers Australia to make commentary on key issues of the day.

2022 will be a key year as we complete and roll out learnings associated with the Learned Society Review.

Our aim is to make more opportunities for our profession to engage with each other and with our community, whilst growing recognition of the role engineers play in providing solutions for all Australians.

Please be sure to watch out for some of these opportunities in 2022, including new events on our program. The first of these will be an event named [Back to Business](#), scheduled for 10 February, with National President and Board Chair Nick Fleming as our special guest. At this event we will present some details of the program we plan to deliver of 2022.

Engineers Australia's holiday shutdown period will run from Monday 27 December 2021 to Friday 7 January 2022. During this time our office will be closed and there will not be any events held.

Wishing you all the best over the holiday period and into the new year.