## RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & THE CONTINUING EDUCATION OF ENGINEERS

## Jon Kerr<sup>1</sup>, Ron Watts<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>DeakinCo., Australia, jon.kerr@deakinco.com <sup>2</sup>Ron Watts, Engineers Australia, Australia, rwatts@engineeringaustralia.org.au

## 1 THEME OF PROPOSAL, RATIONALE AND FORMAT OF CONTRIBUTION

- a) Track 1 Innovation
- b) IACEE drives and supports the continued education of engineers. DeakinCo. is committed to developing disruptive and innovative measures of an individual's capabilities and is collaborating with Engineers Australia on a new Chartered Engineer model that reflects not only technical capability but also capabilities identified as critical to the workplace of the future
- c) This is a presentation on the research behind the model, the issues it aims to address, how the model is being developed and the objectives related to supporting the professional development of engineers.

## 2 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

DeakinCo. is the professional education arm of Deakin University based in Australia. DeakinCo. has developed the world's first Professional Practice Credential model. Benchmarked against industry driven standards and using an assessment methodology approved by Deakin's Academic Board, Credentials are a measure of capability i.e. that a person has a skill and is able to apply it in a professional environment. These Credentials are benchmarked against the Australian Qualifications Framework and as such are recognised by the university as satisfying a significant component of formal qualifications.

Engineers Australia is the premier engineering professional body in the country and oversees and issues the Australian Chartered Engineer status. They recognised the demands of the changing work environment and the need to develop an innovative model that met those needs and therefore those of the market and engineers.

Based on this need and on the nature of the DeakinCo. Credential model, the two parties collaborated to develop a solution, and engaged Deakin University's School of Engineering and the Built Environment to support this. The resulting model is unique and will create an opportunity for participants to be recognised for their professional experience and secure a combined Chartered Engineer status and a Deakin University Master's degree. In addition, this model is scalable, time efficient and cost effective whilst maintaining academic and professional standards.

The objective of this session is to share the learning that has taken place whilst developing this model, to share industry and professional association views and issues, and to open dialogue on feedback, collaboration and development opportunities. By doing so we aim to support the IACEE commitment to the development of global initiatives to address the challenges presented by the Digital Revolution and their impacts on the future of work and the future of education.

To enable this we will provide an overview of the model via an electronic presentation including the initial research, testing processes, underpinning standards, and proposed and confirmed developments in the Australian market. We would then invite questions, discussion and connection to maintain communication. DeakinCo. and Engineers Australia would welcome collaboration in relation to the model.