

A.S.M.A. (NSW) NEWS

JUNE, 1993:
Editor: Hugo Rehesaar

JUNE GENERAL MEETING

1. Election of Executive

The following positions will be declared vacant and elections held for them at the June Annual General Meeting: Secretary, Treasurer, Program Director. See April Meeting report overleaf. Nominations will be accepted on the night until 5:30pm. Voting will start at 5:30pm. Proxy voting is permissible as long as the proxy voter has a written request from the member for whom the proxy vote is being cast. There is no provision for postal voting.

These positions do not take a lot of time, so why not join the team and help ASMA become the society you want it to be. Nominations will be accepted by mail, to reach P.O. Box 11, Arncliffe no later than first mail on the day of the AGM.

2. Presentation

The presentation will be by Hugo Rehesaar, Lecturer at University of NSW and ASMA(NSW) Chairman. He will speak on the relationship between metrics and Management. What metrics are important to Management and what do these metrics show. Hugo will point to pitfalls in the collection and utilisation of metrics from the viewpoint of the Manager.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The First Australian Conference on Software Metrics (ACOSM '93) will be held in Sydney on 18-19 November, 1993. Organised by ASMA(NSW) it will bring together everyone interested and/or knowledgeable in metrics from throughout Australia and the world. as are volunteers to help in the organisation. We never have enough helpers (the more there are, the easier it becomes for everyone) - just contact anyone on the Executive.

Papers are being called for (closing date of 30/6/93). Already we have received expressions of interest from several international luminaries to present papers - you too can be amongst those presenting.

The venue at this stage appears to be the Gazebo in Kings Cross. There will be a conference dinner on the first evening; there are thoughts of having it as a harbour cruise, either join a commercial cruise or rent one of the finer harbour vessels. What do you think? Yes, you, the one reading this newsletter. You're important!! We want to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

ASMA(VIC) DATABASE

Our counterparts in Melbourne have been busy getting together an Australian Metrics Database. If you would like to get a copy of the work so far, then contact Hugo Rehesaar at PO Box 11,, Arncliffe, 2205, Tel: 02 697 4450, Fax: 662 4061 or e-mail: h.rehesaar@unsw.edu.au.

P.T.O.

APRIL MEETING

Motion for a Change in Length of Term for Executive

The following motion was carried unanimously: " That an Executive member serve a term of two years, with the exception of the Programme Director, who will continue to serve one year. There will be half elections each year at the June General Meeting. The Election in 1993 (and all odd numbered years) will be for Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Director. The Election in 1994 (and all even numbered years) will be for Chairman, Assistant Secretary, Membership Secretary, Programme Director."

Presentation by Julian Ehrich

If you missed the April meeting then you missed an enthralling and thought provoking presentation by Julian Erlich. Julian is the research manager for the YANKEE Group in Sydney. He spoke on software metrics in manufacturing.

Julian's presentation focussed on the similarities between measuring software quality and productivity and manufacturing. He drew on material from a world-wide survey of software manufacturing metrics recently conducted by the YANKEE Group. The insights into current manufacturing practices in the UK, USA and Japan and the most innovative solutions to productivity and quality issues were most interesting.

Those who attended will no doubt have a new angle to look at quality and productivity measurement in the future.

The key points I thought most pertinent were:

- * The measuring of individual components in isolation can produce misinformation. Whilst it is important to optimise each phase of the development process, the overall process must also be measured because the sum of the components does not indicate the real cost of a project.
- * All metrics programs need counter measurements. The impact of unbalanced measurements can have a profound impact on an organisation and produce counter productive business practices.

If you would like a copy of Julian's notes he can be contacted at the YANKEE Group's Sydney office.

Terry Lynch
Program Director

* * RENEWAL 1993-94 * *

AUSTRALIAN SOFTWARE METRICS ASSOCIATION
Membership Application Form

If you are involved in Software Measurement in your organisation, or have an interest in software development and maintenance productivity, then ASMA can help you. The objectives of the association are to provide:-

- A vehicle for sharing experiences in software measurement
- A productivity/quality forum
- A focus for data collection and vehicle for data analysis
- Courses and seminars on measurement
- Development of standards

Membership Information:

- The membership fee is **\$150.00** for Corporate membership and **\$25.00** for Personal Membership.
- Membership extends from *1st July* to *30th June*
- Cheques should be made payable to ASMA **Mail your payment with this application to:**

Secretary
ASMA
P.O. BOX 11
ARNCLIFFE NSW 2205.

- Further enquiries contact: Hugo Rehesaar ☎ (02) 697 4450 Fax. (02) 662 4061

Name:
Mr /Mrs /Ms /Miss /Dr

Position:

Company Name:

Address:

State:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Facsimilie:

Membership Type:
(please circle)

Corporate
(see over)

Personal

Annual Mailing List Restriction (Optional): ASMA occasionally makes its mailing list available to computer-related organisations, educational institutions and sister societies.

Check one of the following restriction codes only if you wish to restrict the use of your name to:

___ 1. ASMA announcements only ___ 2. ASMA and other sister society announcements.

Corporate members - please complete details of all staff to be registered, and details of your Corporate Library - for the mailing of newsletters.

Name:
Mr /Mrs /Ms /Miss /Dr

Position:

Address:

State:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Facsimilie:

Name:
Mr /Mrs /Ms /Miss /Dr

Position:

Address:

State:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Facsimilie:

Name:
Mr /Mrs /Ms /Miss /Dr

Position:

Address:

State:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Facsimilie:

Name:
Mr /Mrs /Ms /Miss /Dr

Position:

Address:

State:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Facsimilie:

Please photocopy this page and attach extra copies if required.

Australian Software Metrics Association

P.O. Box 11, Arncliffe, N.S.W., Australia, 2205. Tel: 02 697 4450 Fax: 02 662 4061

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, 15th April, 1993

at 5:00pm for 5:30pm

Commonwealth Bank Training Centre
552 George St, Sydney
(opposite the Town Hall)

Metrics and Management

Hugo Rehesaar is the ASMA Chairman and a Lecturer in Information Systems at the Uni of New South Wales. He will be presenting the viewpoint of the Manager. Included will be a list of benefits and pitfalls to be experienced by managers.

This is also the Annual General Meeting for election of new members into the Executive Committee, starting at 5:30pm.

All A.S.M.A. members and guests are welcome.

Refreshments will be served from 5:00pm

PLEASE PUT THIS ON A NOTICE BOARD



**AUSTRALIAN COMPUTER SOCIETY INC. ACT
NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH**

6TH FLOOR, 149 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY NSW 2000, AUSTRALIA. TELEPHONE: 283 5544 - FAX: 283 5543

May 1993

The ACS conducts a wide range of Seminars available to members and to non-members. Please consider the courses described below and overpage.

Derrick Davey
Professional Development Manager.



**PROJECT ESTIMATION USING
FUNCTION POINT ANALYSIS**

A two-day seminar with Professor Ross Jeffery
ACS Training Rooms, 149 Castlereagh Street, Sydney
July 20-21



"If you can't measure it, you can't manage it."

"Before Function Points there were no valid measures for software."

Software Cost Estimation

Do your estimates suffer from a lack of credibility? Why is it that

so many projects overrun their budgets? Professor Ross Jeffery provides insights into the estimating process.

Function Point Analysis is treated in-depth along with methods of developing techniques for use with CASE Tools.

This is a seminar that presents "state of the art" estimating techniques in a way that makes them easy to understand and use.

Studies show that good estimates motivate software teams and increase both productivity and quality.

This seminar will repay its registration fee many times simply by providing you with methods that generate accurate estimates for your projects.

Who Should Attend?

This major seminar is a unique opportunity for those professionals interested in increasing productivity and quality levels within their organisations. It would benefit everyone involved in software sizing, software planning, and software cost estimation.

Seminar Content

Professor Ross Jeffery will look at the productivity and quality improvements that can be made by effective project estimating techniques.

- Productivity Improvement
- Estimating Techniques
- Function Point Analysis
- Estimating for CASE Tools

1. Introduction

- productivity improvement
- quality improvement
- the important paradigm

2. Software sizing

- internal measures of size
- external measures of size
- limitations
- function points

- function point case study
- function points in practice
- how to be successful with function points

3. Using Function Points

- productivity assessment
- CASE technology assessment
- algorithmic effort estimation
- estimating methodology

4. Introducing Metrics

- problems in measurement
- approach to success
- data collection methodology

About the Speaker

Professor Ross Jeffery, a recognised authority in the field of software cost estimation, is Professor of Information Systems at the University of NSW. He has published three books and over forty research papers in the areas of systems design, software development productivity, and software cost estimation.

Recently he has developed a PC-based algorithmic cost estimation decision support system based on studies of over two hundred Australian software projects. This system can be used to develop project plans and estimates early in the system development life cycle.

He has worked with many organisations in Australia and overseas developing a cost estimation methodology and toolsets. These include Westpac, NAB, NASA-funded projects at the University of Maryland, and European Commission-funded projects in the United Kingdom. His seminars on function point sizing, efforts estimation and project planning have been held in Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, London, Taiwan, Korea, Jakarta and the USA.

Seminar Fees (Includes lunch and course notes)

- ACS Members \$440
- Non Members \$500



BASIC SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND DESIGN

Aug 11-13, 18-20, 25-27.

Wednesdays to Fridays 9:00am to 5:00pm

Venue: ACS Training Centre, 149 Castlereagh Street, Sydney



A nine-day workshop by members of the School of Information Systems at the University of NSW.

The Course

Delegates will learn the application of analysis and design tools and techniques in the user environment. Through familiarisation with these tools and techniques, an understanding of the skills necessary to progress to analyst is achieved.

The course leaders have extensive commercial as well as academic experience so are able to provide practical instruction with a full awareness of commercial needs.

Course Format

The course is made up of lectures and syndicate group sessions in which case studies designed to illustrate the principles contained in the lecture are examined. The sessions on systems analysis and design consider the one case study which is progressed to the stage of completed physical design. The case studies are presented in both written and audio-visual formats.

Course Contents

1. Information systems and the organisation and the information systems project.
2. Requirements elicitation and representation tools.
3. Logical system representation tools.
4. Systems analysis.
5. Logical design.
6. Data analysis and data modelling.
7. Database, communications and systems design.
8. Systems security.

Delegates receive two text books and supplementary notes for their permanent reference.

Who Should Attend

The course has been designed for data processing practitioners who have around two years experience in computer programming. The course is also useful for non-computing staff in user departments who are required to assist in systems analysis and design.

Benefits to Your Organisation

This course will assist you to develop:

- More efficient systems through the application of the latest methodologies to systems analysis and design.
- Improved systems analysis skills.
- Improved systems through communication with end users.
- Increased awareness of information technology trends and their use.
- Increased productivity through more disciplined systems development.

The Presenters

Ross Jeffery is Professor of Information Systems at the University of NSW. He has had extensive experience in government and private enterprise spanning accounting, auditing and information systems.

Michael Lawrence is Professor of Information Systems at the University of NSW. He has considerable commercial experience including 5 years spent with Ciba-Geigy.

Robert Edmundson is an Associate Professor of Information Systems at the University of NSW. He has had experience in personnel, marketing and general management in many industries from heavy engineering to high technology.

Marcus O'Connor is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Information Systems at the University of NSW. He has worked as an Analyst Programmer for CSR and Systems Accountant for Langco Industries.

Rodger Jamieson is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Information Systems. He has spent eight years with Touche Ross and Coopers and Lybrand as a Chartered Accountant. He has also worked with the AMP Society and Honeywell.

Seminar Fees (Includes lunch and 250 page manual)

ACS Members \$1,900 Non Member \$2,250

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Venue: 36 George Street, Burwood

Cost: See below

Effective Business Writing

- Write effectively by focussing on accuracy, clarity and brevity
- With practice increase writing speed
- Promote a positive image of the writer and the company

One Day

\$240 ACS members

\$280 Non members

Assertiveness Skills

- Demonstrate difference between assertion, submission and aggression
- Handle situations assertively
- Identify and use appropriate levels of assertion
- Work towards countering personal barriers to acting assertively

One Day

\$240 ACS members \$280 Non members

Effective Delegation

To create clear understanding of the principles and benefits of effective delegation

One Day

\$240 ACS members

\$280 Non members