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ASU Queensland Services Branch Annual Operating Report 2007/2008

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D C Smith

BRANCH SECRETARY

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Robert Ball

BRANCH PRESIDENT

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Introduction

We are pleased to present our Annual Operating Report in compliance with Schedule 1 of the Workplace Relations Act 1996. Each year the annual report is presented to our Annual State Council and an Annual Operating Report is then lodged on our website made available to interested members.

Part 1 - General Report

Audited Financial Statement for Year Ending 30th June, 2008

In compliance with the requirements of the Workplace Relations Act, our Audited Financial Statement has been published on the branch website: www.asugld.asn.au. Members received the Financial Statements in November, 2008 as an inclusion in 'The Organiser'.

Branch Membership

The membership numbers based on industry are as follows:

Industry	30 June 2007	30 June 2008
Local Authorities	5705	5811
Rail	1639	1618
Energy	1954	2037
SACS	1917	1993
BCC	1602	1553
Ports	171	
Private Sector	226	
Ports & Private Sector		355
Total	13241	13367

This is a net growth of 126 members during the 2007/2008 year.

Number of Employees

The number of employees in the reporting unit during the year 2007/2008 was 39.

Trustees of Superannuation Entities

David Smith	ESI Superannuation: Alternate Director to 30 th November, 2007 ESI Superannuation: Director from 1 st December, 2007
Brian Sullivan	LG Super: Director
Marianne Ryan	LG Super: Director

Right of Members to Resign - Rule 32

- (a) A member may resign from membership by written notice addressed and delivered to the Branch Secretary.
- (b) A notice of resignation takes effect:
 - (i) Where the member ceases to be eligible for membership of the Union:
 - 1. on the day on which the notice is received; or

2. the day specified in the notice, which is a day not earlier than the day when the member ceases to be eligible to become a member;

whichever is the later; or

(ii) in any other case:

1. at the end of two weeks after the notice is received, or
2. on the day specified in the notice;

whichever is the later.

- (c) Notice of resignation shall be addressed to the Branch Secretary and delivered to that officer.
- (d) Any member resigning shall be liable for the payment of all subscriptions, fines and levies owing to the Union under these rules at the date of leaving, and such monies may be sued for and recovered in the name of the Union.
- (e) Any subscription paid by a member in respect of a period beyond the end of the quarter in which the member's notice of resignation expires shall be remitted to the member if so requested and a member who pays annual subscription by instalments shall not be liable to pay any instalment for any period after the end of the quarter in which the member's notice of resignation expires and a member who resigns where the member ceased to be eligible to become a member of the Union as hereinbefore mentioned shall be entitled to the same remission.
- (f) A notice delivered to the Branch Secretary shall be taken to have been received by the Union when it was delivered.
- (g) A notice of resignation that has been received by the Union is not invalid because it was not addressed and delivered to the Branch Secretary.
- (h) A resignation from membership of the Union is valid, even if not affected in accordance with sub-clauses (a) to (g) of this Rule, if the member is informed in writing by or on behalf of the Union, that the resignation has been accepted.
- (i) A member on leaving the Union after compliance with this Rule shall be entitled, on written application to the Secretary of the member's Branch, to a clearance certificate in the prescribed form.

Your Rights at Work Campaign Update

The ASU has participated in a variety of ways in the ACTUs Your Rights At Work – Worth fighting for 07 to become the Your Rights at Work – worth joining for in 08. This well organised and successful campaign changed the government in October 2007 with a new Labor Rudd government being elected. In the lead up to the election the union used considerable resources, in particular, staff and delegates door knocked, worked on booths and pre-polling and participated in the marginal seats campaign as part of the YRAW team. The union continued to carry out several rounds of phone polling, involving staff and delegates contacting our membership from marginal seats to discuss IR issues and seek their opinion on issues that were important to them in the upcoming election.

In 2008 the union has continued to participate in the ACTU campaign to ensure the newly elected government remembers their promise to workers and our members. Our union continues to participate at the workplace level, community campaigning and supports the ACTUs national advertising campaign to ensure local MPs, the Government and the Senate are committed to fair workplace laws that will put an end to Workchoices for good.

Membership Training and Seminars Program for 2007/2008

Training courses were conducted for the membership of the union during 2007/2008 as follows:

Date	Location	Course	No. of days	No. of participants
31 July 2007 & 1 August 2007	South Brisbane	Delegate Training	2	24
28 November 2007	South Brisbane	ASU Reform Representative Training	1	76
12 & 13 February 2008	South Brisbane	SACS Delegate Training	2	11
19 & 20 February 2008	South Brisbane	Making Reform Fair	2	50
4 March 2008	South Brisbane	SACS Forum	1	38
12 & 13 March 2008	South Brisbane	Delegate Training	2	20
2 April 2008	South Brisbane	BCC EBA & Campaign Training	1	16

ASU Branch Council Workshop 2007

Branch Council met on the 13th of September, 2007 to review the priorities for the Branch over the next year to September, 2008.

The Branch goals and objectives were reviewed and endorsed.

Outcomes of Workshop – September 2007

Ports Vision / Goals / Objectives	Strategies
<p>1. Federal Government proposal to take over ports nationally.</p> <p>2. Potential to rationalise all current post awards (downwards).</p> <p>3. Potential to switch current employment relationships i.e. (a) Centralise administration (b) farm out other functions to contractors and service providers.</p> <p>4. Flow on effect to other industries ie: Rail and Transport.</p> <p>Should we attempt to influence any industry side issues – YES!</p> <p>1. Lobby State Governments, Port Boards of Management and directors that most state owned Port facilities work efficiently and it is the infrastructure of Rail and transport to the ports which generally fail to handle or cope with the increase in demand and volume.</p> <p>2. Commence a dialogue with QSU members in Rail and Transport to look at problems between Ports and Rail and identify where opportunities lay to construct solutions and find ways of operating practices that could be advanced to government/management to achieve mutual advantageous outcomes in EBA negotiations</p>	<p>Resources required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the big picture issues in the related industries that will enable the parties to achieve symbiotic relationship. • Establishment of trust and mutual respect that the unions can offer contributions to the industry that will result in the business / employees benefiting equally. • Research facilities from national office to support submissions that can be used in proposals / negotiations with the companies / other industry divisions. • A dedicated Industrial Officer supplied by National Office / Branch, to assist in the higher level negotiations between various companies / ASI, WSU, Industry Divisions / Branches.

Outcomes of Workshop – September 2007 – cont.

Queensland Rail Vision / Goals / Objectives	Strategies
<p>What's working</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Camaraderie 2. Award entitlements 3. Subsidiary agreements 4. Union density (95% all unions regionally) 5. Service delivery <p>What's not working</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restructure 2. EAS 3. Job security 4. Staffing levels 5. Unfilled positions 6. Job dissatisfaction 7. Health policy (failure) 8. Fatigue management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence in the workplace • Members delegates • Notice boards • Official presence • Communications • More staff • Delegate training ongoing • Commitment from delegates that they will engage • Signing "new starts" (delegate involvement) • Building membership density • Delegate secondment • Focus on CBD • Regular visits to regional centres • State office support for external organisers and continued organiser visits.

Outcomes of Workshop – September 2007 – cont.

SACS Vision / Goals / Objectives	Strategies
<p>What's working</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raised awareness (Youth group campaign – Rock the Vote) 2. Threat of the SACS Award being removed 3. QCOSS road-show – “Pathway to Parity” 4. Awareness is being build re the importance of the union 5. State industry has been successful in coordinating at the federal union level. 6. Unsure about what mission statement is for the union. Where can it be found? 7. What can you say to non-members? 8. Profile is slowly improving but needs further improvement 9. Membership isn't strong and organising isn't strong 10. Standards and conditions need improving. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate members and raise the profile of the work they do in the community. • Improve connection with social justice principles. Make link to collective bargaining. • Mapping – update membership list and give to delegates. • Bargaining tool – comparison between community services and public service sectors conditions of employment. • Bad employers –naming and shaming. • Connections with Ombudsman to assist • Visions etc. • To develop specific delegate training about the SACS Industry drawn from current objectives in place by ASU. • Industry profile/involvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening relationships with peak bodies - Targeting non members • Active relevant issues to campaign around • More structured well thought out campaigns and recruitment strategies • Union Organisation to develop a recruitment kit. • How to achieve membership strength? • During negotiations for agreements recruitment very important. • Union organising • Improving standards and conditions. • Training for delegates to respond to objections • Specific SACS Industry training committee members. • Standards and Conditions: • Work the hours according to what we are paid

Outcomes of Workshop – September 2007 – cont.

Energy Vision / Goals / Objectives	Strategies
<p>What's working?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Good delegate structure 2. Democratic process 3. Communication of industry information 4. Professional representation by union officials 5. YRAW encouraging membership eg: people signed up in the last 12 months that have been employed for 20 years and not joined. Young people joining also. <p>What's not working</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication regarding victories and wins. 2. Delegates in Generation GOC's 3. Better consultation / communication between GOC's and Private Contractors 4. Recruitment methods 5. Communication between delegates within Corporations – all locations. 6. Reintroduce payroll deductions 	<p>To be the industry union promoting fairness and equity for all</p> <p>100% Membership</p> <p>More resources both human and technological</p> <p>Maintain current standards and conditions</p> <p>Improve member benefits (eg: death benefit)</p> <p>Strategies</p> <p>High profile industrial campaign.</p> <p>Merchandising, marketing and self promotion</p> <p>Community promotion eg: sponsorship, school fetes, fundraising, shopping centres</p> <p>Increase membership and benefits</p>

Outcomes of Workshop – September 2007 – cont.

BCC / Goals / Objectives	Strategies
<p>What's Working?</p> <p>Industry profile / involvement</p> <p>Union Reps</p> <p>Respect – management / Council / Unions / Partnering</p> <p>Distribution – communication processes – newsletters – updates etc from ASU.</p> <p>Organisers and IO's present in workplace – improve membership</p> <p>Maintained BCC standards and conditions</p> <p>Newsletters – good relevant content</p> <p>Union density 65%??</p> <p>ASU Reps have a good rapport with members in BCC</p> <p>Where ASU has been involved with BCC restructure good results achieved for members.</p> <p>ASU Services leading the "Unions" in Council</p> <p>Representation for members undergoing performance management ensuring natural justice and procedural fairness.</p>	<p>What can be improved?</p> <p>Buddy system for the delegate (membership strength)</p> <p>Union info and EBA info in corporate induction processes (industry profile)</p> <p>Communication – ASU membership – Union on line – let delegates know – newsletter (membership & industry)</p> <p>Different approaches (Divisions / Business Units) interpret and act differently – EBA.</p> <p>Review relevance and why there are consultative meetings – educate BCC Staff.</p> <p>More involvement from delegates – WHS, Zero Harm across council – area specific.</p> <p>Further recruitment for more delegates.</p> <p>Communicate - IDC and delegates updates (newsletters)</p> <p>Delegates keep current details up to date with ASU and Henrietta regularly.</p> <p>Update delegates / contacts list.</p> <p>Photo of union delegates and contacts with article in City Link for promotion within BCC</p> <p>Union promotion – the benefits – industrial support – members equity, union shopper, TUH etc. to be communicated to potential and current members.</p> <p>Acknowledge and celebrate successes with members.</p>

Outcomes of Workshop – September 2007 – cont.

Local Government Vision / Goals / Objectives	Strategies
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop membership density and awareness to achieve a successful new council. 2. EBA Campaign (very important) 3. Need to know that the campaign will deliver – the best of from all EB’s <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 year salary maintenance - 3 years no forced relocations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise industry profile and involvement ▪ Communication with members ▪ Improve and personalise contact – email trees etc. ▪ Communication with non members –more delegates ▪ Map workplace effectively ▪ Identify audience and speak to them ▪ More discussions with non members ▪ Use appropriate language not union speak ▪ Each delegate to find one more delegate. These delegates to talk to five people. ▪ Membership strength / density = power ▪ Activate current members (through communication) ▪ Email members about the LTC ▪ If LTC does not agree with three major goals we have opportunity to lobby for members to come on board. ▪ Create interest and streamline communication. ▪ All newsletters need to be in dot points. ▪ Simple tools ▪ Slogan ▪ Shame councils that don’t take on 3 principles. ▪ Where you have an amalgamated council, community must be created to achieve equality. ▪ Everyone to have ownership of new EB. ▪ Identify common ground ▪ Identify what’s important ▪ Put together model agreement ▪ Logo and pictures ▪ Simple communication ▪ Less is more!

Women's Officers Report 2007/2008

Queensland Working Women's Service

The QWWS have been through a stressful 12 months. They now have another 12 months funding from the federal government. I attended their planning day recently and it was a very interesting and productive day.

The QWWS AGM for 2008 will be held on the 9th of October at 3.30pm DVRC Browning St West End.

Focus On Women

We will look at having an article on the Emma Miller dinner for the next Focus on Women. The committee would also like to have some of the ACTU women's committee reports posted on the ASU website.

QCU Women's Committee

The QCU Women's Committee held a great Emma Miller Awards night in the 2007/2008 financial year and our ASU recipient for 2007 was Michelle Robertson.

The NWCC agreed this year to continue "The Don't Be Too Polite!" Campaign. Materials have been circulated to branches. We are also hoping to set up a chat blog for campaigns or electronic notice boards this year.

Anna Stewart Dinner

The Anna Stewart Dinner was held in July this year at Parliament House. There was a lot of lively discussion at the dinner and it would seem that Marianne Ryan may have been our first Anna Stewart participant.

Youth Officers Report 2007/2008

In March 2008, the Union held its first Youth Committee meeting with delegates and contacts being invited to attend. The purpose of the Youth Committee was to discuss workplace issues that are affecting the youth and how to promote union membership to youth.

The meeting was held on Thursday, the 14th of March, 2008 at the Union Office.

The outcome of the first Youth Committee was to develop a way of conducting the Youth Committee electronically so it negates the need to come into a meeting every month and members can participate at their own convenience.

We are still waiting for the new website to be created to determine how the electronic Youth Committee will function and costs associated.

Youth Network

Whilst the website is being created that maybe able to facilitate the Youth Committee electronically, the Union implemented the Youth Network to ensure that issues affecting youth in the workplace are still being discussed.

The Youth Network is a place to discuss workplace issues that are affecting our youth members. All members who are 28 years old and younger were asked to forward their email address so I can

put them on the Unions Youth Network contact list. The purpose of the Youth Network is to send out regular bulletins which highlights issues that our affecting youth within the workplace and also ask our Youth Network members to provide any feedback or bring any issues that are affecting youth within the workplace to the Union's attention.

To date the Union has received positive feedback from the Youth Network and have had a considerable amount of members asking to be put on the Youth Network contact list.

Part 2 - Servicing/Industrial Activities

Overview

One of the primary objectives for the union has been to continue to increase union membership. The issue of member density in each of our workplaces had become even more important under WorkChoices legislation, where right of entry restrictions to service and recruit new members continues to have currency today. The legislative changes sought by the Rudd government to correct these impositions will have to be supported by the independents in the Senate and there is speculation that much of the Howard legislation will continue as a driver for productivity increases. If that is to be the case then the question of union density will continue to influence the types of outcomes that can be achieved when negotiating Certified Agreements.

In order to remain relative to members during the WorkChoices era our previous strategy was to provide professional service, advice and support to members and to continue to develop the information gathering process to more efficiently respond to and record member enquiries and to improve the manner in which advice is provided to members. As this has proved successful, a continuing program of improvements to and implementing operating procedures has been a feature over the past 12 months.

As part of the information gathering process the contact centre was actively involved in outbound calling along with other ACTU agencies during the *Your Rights at Work* campaign and gathered information on workers concerns for their future job security and career aspirations. As will be indicted below, some of this information was then utilised, as appropriate, to identify areas and issues around which a recruitment campaign could be developed to increase the union's density in those areas where there was vulnerability. The strategy appears to be successful with a net increase in members of 153 during the past financial year.

There has also been a small restructure of the servicing model with each of the Government Owned Corporation's (GOC) being combined into a joint team with greater interaction between the various entities of QR, Energy and Ports being a feature of the servicing/organising functions. While each industrial officer has a specific area of responsibility within the group, there is greater flexibility to support each other during campaigns and periods of high workload.

Contact Centre

The Contact Centre has continued to update its systems and personnel over the past 12 months to improve the provision of advice to members on a consistent basis. This has resulted in specific training programs being provided to Industrial Officers to improve their knowledge to fill the roles within the Contact Centre. The focus of the union continues to be membership growth by establishing improved member networks, which is the primary role of the union's organisers with the Contact Centre being the conduit to identify issues. The Contact Centre provided another avenue, in addition to direct contact with the organiser, for members to access union services, particularly the provision of industrial and WorkCover advice and referral to other legal and cooperative services.

Industry Specific Achievements

Rail

Significant work completed in this industry included the following:

- Continuing implementation of several certified agreements and impacts on them relating to WorkChoices
- Continuing review of policies
- Classification reviews
- Management of restructuring programs
- Preliminary discussions on forthcoming EBA negotiations
- Submissions to state government on plans to privatise and divide QR into separate companies.

Energy

Significant work completed in this industry included the following:

- Changes to industrial practices as a result of WorkChoices and implementation issues
- Negotiation of workplace agreements
- Campaigns to support Protected Industrial Action in support of EBA claims
- Continuing review of policies
- Classification reviews
- Management of restructuring programs

Local Government

The federal court case in AWU and others v. Etheridge Shire Council has been heard and a determination is expected in the near future. However, legislation introduced in the state parliament as part of the amalgamation of various local governments has decorporatised all of the local governments in Queensland with the exception of Brisbane City Council.

In addition the Local Government Reform process has resulted in boundary changes and amalgamations that have reduced the total number of councils from 157 to 72.

A major exercise was conducted with government departments, council representatives and unions to determine the continuing industrial instruments to be applied in those amalgamated councils following local government elections in March of this year. So far the Code of Practice developed as part of the above process has exceeded expectations and its application has greatly assisted in resolving a highly complex problem of creating new organisational structures while protecting employee's rights.

A similar, but less codified, situation is developing in the proposed restructure of water boards and reticulation by Local Authorities. While bulk water has been dealt with there are still issues that need to be resolved for retail water and how they will be structured and operated.

Other significant work completed included the following:

- Reclassification disputes
- Termination negotiations and settlements
- Unfair Dismissal applications
- Dispute representation
- Wages recovery
- Workplace agreement negotiations and advice
- Local Government Appeals
- Management of restructuring programs
- Shared Service proposals and industrial disputation that has resulted in Ipswich City Council

BCC

The new Union Certified Agreement has been negotiated and a successful ballot of member's conducted which returned a significant "yes" vote. Other significant work completed included the following:

- Brisbane Water restructure in to the new Bulk Water
- Brisbane Best Value submissions
- Organisational reviews
- Reclassification disputes
- Termination negotiations and settlements
- Unfair Dismissal applications
- Dispute representation
- Wages recovery
- Workplace Agreement advice
- Local Government Appeals
- Management of restructuring programs

SACS

SACS industry workplaces are in the main small sized and regulated by an honorary committee of management that conducts its operation around a budget resourced from state and federal government funding. There are few organizations that raise any revenue from trading or financial services. The issue of their constitutional status is therefore a major factor. As such a major project to advise and aid SACS organisations has been jointly funded and resourced between QCOSS and the ASU/QSU.

Resulting from this joint project an application to make a new state award for non constitutional corporations in Queensland has been made with dates now in place to conduct site visits for inspections and hear the merit of the application through sworn evidence at hearings in November 2008. The application will be dealt with in two parts: Stage one will proceed by way of a consent application to have the terms and conditions of the current SACS and CASH awards adopted as a common rule award in Queensland. Stage two is that part of the application which will seek to set wages and allowances based on relativities using wage parity and equity principles in determining their levels. It is already conceded by all parties that the award needs to be made to ensure the sector does not fall further in to decline as a result of not being able to attract and retain employees with the relevant qualifications, skills and experience to support its operations within the community.

Port Authorities

The state government announced the sale of Cairns and Mackay airports to private operators in order that they could fund new hospitals and improved health services in those regional areas. This has involved the hiving off of the airports from the Port Authorities control and will lead to an invitation to tender for their continued operation as private enterprise operations from December 2008. The resultant deconstruction of the Port Authorities has led to a review of the seaport operations that will remain after the sales goes through. Once again the protection of workers rights and entitlements has been the major concern for the union and negotiations to affect a transmission of existing wages and conditions has been undertaken to ensure a reasonable outcome is achieved.

Part 3 - Organising Activities

Assistant Branch Secretary – Organising

The organising team has been re-organised in 2008 to support the changes to our membership largely due to the reform of local government and changes to South East Queensland Water. This team co-ordinated by Jenny Earl can be broken down into 3 divisions – Local Government, SACS and Government Own Corporations. Each team has a lead organiser and the support of a lead negotiator. The regional organisers continue to work across industries within local government and SACS.

Jenny Earl co-ordinated the Organising Unit for 2007/08 and has been involved in:

- Development and co-ordination of in house training;
- Development of training sessions and conferences delivered throughout Queensland;
- Enterprise Bargaining Agreements development of draft models, logs and clauses for all industries;
- Co-ordination and management of all organising staff – lead organisers, lead negotiator, organising administration officer and organisers;
- Negotiation of agreements;
- Negotiation of the code of practice – for Reform Local Governments;
- Negotiations with Queensland Government Departments – ongoing with Ministers, Director Generals and government staff.

Organising Campaigns

Enterprise Bargaining

Enterprise Bargaining has continued in all industries of the union. The union membership has continued to grow through EBA campaigns.

Local Government

Following reform in 2007/2008 Local Governments are now negotiating new EBAs in the state jurisdiction. Each organiser and delegates are now at the table and have commenced negotiations for:

- A new EBA;
- Equalisation of wages; and the
- Population of the new structure and dealing with local reform matters via the LGEG.

Non Amalgamated Councils

Organisers have carried out visits and normal business has recommenced at non-amalgamating Councils – normal negotiations is also resuming at non amalgamated Councils now we are under the state jurisdiction.

Membership is ever increasing for Local Government, with our reform campaign in local government – Make Reform Fair.

Water

Organising is occurring in Bulk and Sun Water. Further information is needed regarding distribution and retail, the Government have not made up their mind about this yet. Bulk water employees have now been set and established with the EBA to commence at the end of 2008.

Brisbane City Council

EBA negotiations for a roll over are now complete and achieve 4.5% increase for 12 months with some minor changes to sick leave provisions. This is going to ballot in August 08 – the BCC IDC has endorsed the agreement to the membership.

Shared Services within Local Government

- The branch has established a campaign in local government - Council jobs for Council workers in response to the initiative of shared services being implemented in Local Government. In particular the Ipswich City Councils establishment of a company to provide services for customer service, rates and accounts to other Queensland Councils and possibly Australia wide.
- The branch has addressed this matter in all log of claims throughout Queensland in that if shared services are to be set up in Local Government – the employees of shared services, are local government workers and wages and conditions are not to be the competing factor for efficiencies. The branch has also addressed this matter with the state government in consideration of the Local Government Act review which will be completed in 2008/09.

SACS Organising campaigns

Organising Around the Branch's State Award Application

All Organising has been focused on our award application. Organising for 07/08 has been focused on the industrial work the union is doing and our work with QCOSS. It is essential that the branch deliver good membership growth and support from the award application. The branch has held several training programs during the year to assist with delegate development to support our campaigns in this industry. The union held a SACS State Award launch on the 31st July 08 – to which we had over 60 key members and stakeholders attend.

EBA and Organising

- The branch is negotiating 4 main EBAs within SACs in 2008. These EBAs cover the state SACS membership. They are: Mission, Life Line, Endeavour and Centacare. The branch will be organising across these large state-wide EBAs.

Multi Employer Agreements

- Youth MEA – the decision of the negotiating committee for the Youth MEA was that this MEA was to be finalised when the award is completed so that they can receive the benefits of the new award.
- The branch will also focus on lobbying the state government with QCOSS this year in preparation for next year's budget following on from our work with the award this year to address the importance of bargaining in the SACs industry and the benefit of MEAs.

GOCs Campaigns

Energy

Negotiations commenced in Energex, Ergon and Powerlink in 2007 and are yet to be finalised in 2008. With the expiry of the agreements in 2008, industrial action commenced across all 3 GOCs. Industrial action has continued since the last IDC across Power link, Energex and Ergon. The branches organising focus did not change during this time – it has been focused on getting members and new members participating in the industrial action. The branch has held a number of rallies to support members stopping work for 24 hours across the state. Organisers continue to work across the state to run this action and all organising is all focused on the EBA and industrial action.

Queensland Rail

EBA, restructuring and the potential carve up of QR is the branch has focused on when out in the workplace.

Organisers have largely been trying to work in the SEQ area, however have been continuing their scheduled travel throughout the state.

The branch carried out training on the 1 and 2 July 08 – the union ran a 2 day IR training conference attended by approximately 40 delegates.

During July an emergency IDC was called to determine the log and develop a list of possible negotiators for the next round of EBA.

Now in August 20 and 21 we are holding a further 2 days training for key negotiators.

Organising plans are now being set for the remainder of 2008. The branch will focus on working across industries and in teams to provide better resourcing to both industries.

The branch resources are heavily focusing on the GOC section of the branch at present.

Organising Works Trainees

The branch committed to 2 organising works trainees during 2007/08 – Tneka Springett and Chris Jones. Tneka and Chris both successfully completed their traineeship in 2008 and have both been appointed to permanent positions within the union. Tneka has been appointed to an industrial officer's position within the contact centre which also does outbound organising and Chris has been appointed to the position of organiser with the SEQ local government team.

The branch has engaged a further 2 trainees in 2008 with the intent to put them through the organising works trainee program in 2009. Catherine Laherty and Tim Frost were appointed fixed term in 2008. Catherine is working with the SEQ SACS team and Tim is working with the GOC team.

Part 4 - Membership of Branch Executive Committee

The members of the Branch Executive Committee for the financial year 2007/2008 were:

President	Mr Robert Ball
Vice President (Local Government & Deputy President)	Mr Malcolm Case
Vice President (Local Government)	Ms Lynette Henson
Vice President (Social and Community Services)	Ms Wendy Turner
Vice President (Brisbane City Council)	Ms Henrietta Moran
Vice President (Energy)	Mr Philip Whittaker
Vice President (Ports and Private Sector)	Ms Debbie McDonald
Vice President (Rail)	Mr William (Bill) Batten
Vice President (Women)	Ms Marianne Ryan
Vice President (Youth)	Mr Ben Thompson
Treasurer	Mr Damian Power
Secretary	Mr David Smith


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Robert Ball

BRANCH PRESIDENT


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D C Smith

BRANCH SECRETARY

12th September, 2008