



About Doug N. Foster

Professor Douglas Neil Foster (1930 – 2001), referred to by his peers as 'the father of coastal engineering in Australia', died on 16 May 2001 in Sheffield, Tasmania at the age of 70.

A Professor at University of NSW (UNSW) and an expert in his chosen engineering specialisation of Water, Coastal and Ocean Engineering, Doug was a founding member of the Engineers Australia National Committee on Coastal and Ocean Engineering (NCCOE), which was established in 1971. Doug served on NCCOE until 1985, during which time he was Deputy Chairman from 1979 to 1981 and subsequently Chairman from 1981 to 1983. He was a member of IEAust from 1960 until 1998.

Doug graduated from Sydney University in 1953 and went to work with the NSW Public Works Department with whom he had been an undergraduate cadet. He found his way to the Manly Hydraulics Laboratory in 1955 and so began his lifelong career in Water, Coastal and Ocean Engineering. Doug was a foundation staff member when the UNSW Water Research Laboratory (WRL) began operations at Manly Vale in 1958. Doug became the second Director of WRL in 1973 and retained that position for fourteen years until he retired in 1987.

During his time at WRL and UNSW, Doug taught a range of Water and Coastal Engineering courses. It was, however, his enthusiasm for developing the Coastal Engineering discipline within Australia for which Doug is most fondly remembered. In his unassuming manner he managed to teach, supervise, touch and inspire the coastal engineering community of professionals in NSW and wider Australia.

His efforts and achievements were recognised at the International Conference on Coastal Engineering, held in Sydney in July 2000. This prestigious international conference was originally held in Sydney twenty years ago and Doug played a key role in the organisation and success of that conference.

Those fortunate to have worked with Doug or to have been taught by him will always remember him. His lectures and conference papers highlighted his willingness to share many anecdotes about 'the things that can go wrong' and 'how we can learn from our mistakes'.

The establishment of the Fellowship Fund to assist final year undergraduate engineering students to attend the Australasian Coastal and Ocean Engineering Conference reflects Doug's lifelong commitment to engineering education and training for the profession. The Coasts & Ports Conference is an amalgamation of the Australasian Coastal and Ocean Engineering Conference and the Australasian Port and Harbour Conference.

Each student winning an Award will receive a certificate which is conferred by the Engineers Australia, free registration and up to \$1000 worth of travel and accommodation at the winners' discretion, to attend the Australasian Coastal & Ocean Engineering Conference.

D.N. FOSTER AWARD

An award for final year undergraduate engineering students.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 29 APRIL 2011

This year the award will provide winners with attendance, travel and accommodation at the 2011 Coasts & Ports Conference in Perth from 28 to 30 September 2011. Conference details are available at www.coastsandports2011.com.au

ABOUT THE AWARD

In recognition of Doug Foster's contribution to Australian coastal engineering, the National Committee on Coastal & Ocean Engineering of Engineers Australia created the Doug N. Foster Memorial Fellowship Fund in September 2001.

The Fellowship Fund is to encourage engineering students to pursue career opportunities in coastal and/or ocean engineering. Up to four Awards will be offered to final year undergraduate engineering students on a bi-annual basis linked to the Australasian Coastal and Ocean Engineering Conference. The Coasts & Ports Conference is an amalgamation of the Australasian Coastal and Ocean Engineering Conference and the Australasian Port and Harbour Conference.

GUIDELINES

- Targeted at final year, undergraduate, engineering students enrolled at an Australian University, who are Australian Citizens or permanent residents;
- The Award to be presented at each Coasts & Ports Conference, held approximately at two year intervals;
- Applications for the Award will be called for in conjunction with the call for papers for the conference;
- Responsibility for selecting the recipient(s) rests with the National Committee on Coastal & Ocean Engineering (NCCOE);
- The successful candidate(s) will be announced prior to the conference at which they attend and formal acknowledgment will be given at that conference;
- The number of students receiving the Award from year to year may vary based on available funds (maximum of 4);
- Students applying for the award are invited to submit a single A4 page outlining why they should receive the fellowship to develop their interests in Coastal &/or Ocean Engineering. The applications are to be accompanied by a copy of their academic record and a reference in support of the application from an appropriate academic staff member of the enrolling institution.

NOMINATIONS

Nominate online at www.engineersaustralia.org.au/nccoe/dougfoster
Nominations close Friday 29 April 2011.

PRIZE

Each student winning an Award will receive a certificate which is conferred by the Engineers Australia, free registration and up to \$1000 worth of travel and accommodation at the winners' discretion, to attend Coasts & Ports in Perth from 28 to 30 September 2011.

www.engineersaustralia.org.au/nccoe/dougfoster



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