The Distinguished Lecture Tour to three locations in Australia took place between August 14, 2004 and August 24, 2004. It was initiated by an e-mail to me from Jenny Long, Admin/Service Executive, IEEE Asia Pacific Operations Centre, Singapore, on February 4, 2004. The e-mail expressed interests of several Australian ComSoc Chapters to host me. Finally, after exchange of e-mails between me and Jenny Long, Fanny Su and Serena Dhing, it was agreed that the tour will be hosted by three local Chapters from Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia. During the preparatory phase, I was also in contact with Prof. Arek Dadej representing the South Australia Chapter and Prof. Daryoush Habibi, representing the Western Australia Chapter. Files containing the slides were sent to respective hosts ahead of time.

It was a great trip and I enjoyed it very much. The three parts of the tour can be characterized as follows.

1. I arrived in Brisbane on August 16. I stayed in Chifley on George hotel. After my arrival I was contacted by Prof. Sridha Sridharan. My talk was held in a Queensland University of Technology auditorium on August 18. I was picked up from hotel by Prof. Sridha Sridharan. The lecture entitled “Next-Generation Networking: Solutions and Challenges” started at 10:30 am. The audience of 32 participants (17 IEEE members and 15 non-members) included students and faculty members, but also some engineers representing telecommunications operators. The talk took exactly 1 hr and 15 minutes, followed by about 15 minutes of questions and answers. Everything was very well organized. Hard copies of the slides were distributed among the participants. The discussion continued during lunch with people from Prof. Sridha Sridharan’s group.

2. In Adelaide, on August 19, 2004, I was picked up from the airport by Prof. Arek Dadej and checked in the Stamford Hotel. The first night I was invited to dine with Prof. Arek Dadej and two other people from the same ComSoc Chapter (Dr Steven Gordon and Dr Aruna Jayasuriya). We discussed Chapter activities and other issues. Next day I went with Prof. Dadej to the Mawson Lakes Campus of the University of South Australia. I visited several communications laboratories of the University and had lunch with Prof. Dadej. My talk began at 1:00 pm and took 1 hr and 15 minutes, followed by questions and answers. The talk was attended by about 75 people, including faculty members from University of South Australia and University of Adelaide (15), postgraduate students (30), Defence Science and Technology Organisation researchers (15) and employees of other research institutions and network operators (15). Hard copies of the slides were distributed among the participants. After the “official part” of the lecture I met with faculty members and student to discuss various research issues. I also presented ComSoc activities in the area of publications. This informal meeting took about one hour. In the evening I had a lovely supper at Prof. Dadej’s home.

3. I arrived in Perth on August 22. I stayed in Ibis hotel in the center of the city. Next day I was picked up by Prof. Daryoush Habibi. We had a lunch together, followed by a visit to the Joondalup Campus of Edith Cowan University. The lecture was held in the Auditorium of Western Power Corporation Headquarters in Perth. It commenced at 6:00
pm. The lecture, that took one hour, was attended by 46 people, 16 people from industry, 6 university academics, 17 postgraduate (Masters and PhD) students, and 7 undergraduate students. The talk was followed by an interesting discussion, that was continued at a supper attended by Prof. Habibi and four other Chapter members.