

Life Member

Victor MASON, PhD BSc(Eng)



Vic Mason's career in the Australian sugar industry spanned 26 years.

He earned a first class honours degree in Aeronautical Engineering at Southampton University, England followed by a doctorate from the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research at the same university. Subsequently he worked in Los Angeles with Wyle Laboratories, an aerospace consultancy; in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, University of New South Wales as a lecturer; and in the Mechanical Engineering Department, Queensland University as the Australian Mineral Industry Research Association's Research Fellow investigating noise in underground mining equipment.

Experience with the control of industrial noise brought him to the Sugar Research Institute in April 1976 as a Research Engineer to undertake investigations into various aspects of harvesting, cane preparation, juice extraction and factory noise control. Later he became Manager of the Engineering Research Unit and then Research Manager for the Institute as a whole. In this later role he was a member of the Institute's Executive Management Group, responsible for the oversight of all technical aspects of research and consulting activities undertaken for or on behalf of the Australian sugar milling industry. He left the Institute as the Institute underwent restructuring prior to its move to Brisbane.

His membership of the Queensland Society and of its successor the Australian Society of Sugar Cane Technologists culminated in the position of President in 2001. He became a member of the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists in the early 1980s and held positions as Chair of the Factory Engineering Technical Committee, Factory Commissioner, Chair of the Technical Program Committee and finally Chair, Executive Committee in 2005-08 for the international conference in Durban, South Africa. At that conference he was honoured with life membership of the International Society.

During this period, Vic also served as Chair of the Advisory Committee of the Mackay Campus of Central Queensland University followed by a six year period as a member of the CQ University's Council.