6. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

When the Key Centre for Photovoltaic Engineering was awarded in 1999, it was established as an autonomous Centre within the Faculty of Engineering of UNSW, becoming independent from the School of Electrical Engineering where UNSW photovoltaic activities had been previously located. At that time, the Key Centre was given the same operational independence and rights as the other Engineering schools, with the Director Stuart Wenham being given the same status and authority as other Heads of Schools. With the awarding of the Centre of Excellence in 2003, the University committed to the Key Centre for Photovoltaic Engineering becoming the School of Photovoltaic Engineering, within which the ARC Photovoltaics Centre of Excellence would be located. This transition occurred in January 2006. The corresponding organisational relationships are shown in the upper part of Fig. 6.1.

Within the Centre of Excellence, Deputy Directors have been appointed for the major strands of research as shown. The Management Committee of the Centre comprises the six Directors and Deputy Directors, along with the Head of School and the Business and Operations Manager. This committee meets fortnightly on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, with each Deputy Director giving a report on the activities in his or her area over the preceding fortnight. This committee takes responsibility for decision making within the Centre that affects the Centre as a whole, while the individual Deputy Directors receive their own annual budgets to allow them to make and implement decisions that impact only their own laboratory areas and research activities.

The Advisory Committee for the Centre comprises the Centre Directors, the Head of School for Photovoltaic Engineering, leading academics from other institutions, industry leaders such as CEOs of various companies involved in the field, and research leaders. This committee provides high level advice, feedback and recommendations in relation to the Centre’s activities and their relevance. The Advisory committee meets annually, taking into account the geographical separation of its members (Australia, USA, China, Germany, Italy, Spain), although more frequent correspondence takes place when necessary with individual committee members either by email or telephone. The membership of the Advisory Committee during 2010 has included:

- Professor Stuart Wenham, Centre Director
- Professor Martin Green, Centre Executive Research Director
- Associate Professor Gavin Conibeer, Deputy Director (3rd Generation PV Research)
- Associate Professor Thorsten Trupke, Deputy Director (Silicon Photonics)
- Dr Sergey Varlamov, Deputy Director (2nd Generation PV research)
- Professor Allen Barnett: world leading academic in the field; recipient of many prestigious international prizes such as the William Cherry Award; former President of Astropower, one of the world’s largest solar cell manufacturers, before being purchased by GE.
- Prof. Andres Cuevas, ANU;
- Dr Francesca Ferrazza, Chief Scientific Officer, Enittechnologie;
- David Hogg: COO of Suntech Power; until recently CEO of CSG Solar AC, Germany; former CEO of Pacific Solar, Australia;
- Mr. David Jordan, until recently, Manager of New Technology, BP Solar International;
- Dr Larry Kazmerski, until recently Head, Photovoltaic Division, US National Renewable Energy Laboratory;
- Prof. Antonio Luque, Head, ESTI, Polytechnical University of Madrid; Leading European academic in the photovoltaic field; founder of Isofoton, one of Europe’s most established manufacturers;
- Dr Zhongrong Shi, CEO of Suntech-Power, the world’s largest silicon cell manufacturer; recipient of various industry prizes; former Deputy Research Director of Pacific Solar; major collaborator of the Centre;
- Prof. Peter Würfel, Institut fur Angewandte Physik der Universität Karlsruhe.
Other distinguished researchers and industrialists have been co-opted to the Committee as required. Also within the Management structure and a member of the Centre's Management Committee is the Centre's Business, Technology and Operations Manager Mark Silver, given the extensive involvement of Centre staff with industry, large number of collaborative research projects, and the high level of success of the Centre in generating, marketing and commercialising technology. The Head of Administrative Support for the Centre during 2010 was Joyce Ho. Not shown in the Management Structure is the Financial Officer Julie Kwan who looks after the Centre Accounts, interfaces with the University Financial System, advises the Centre Directors and Deputy Directors on budgeting and financial matters, and generally assists with sourcing of funding, purchasing, reporting, writing grant applications, and advising on business opportunities.

A primary responsibility of the Director in the Centre is to ensure the Management structure as shown functions efficiently and effectively, with appropriate support and resources to facilitate the Centre's achievement of its milestones and performance targets. An important aspect of this is managing the Centre's finances to ensure suitable levels of funding are made available for supporting the major research strands, while simultaneously ensuring adequate funding is available for repair and maintenance of existing facilities and the purchasing of appropriate new infrastructure and equipment.

The Director works closely with the Centre's Executive Research Director to assist in setting high level research direction and priorities for the Centre's programs. In the teaching area, with the Key Centre for Photovoltaic Engineering and its activities being incorporated into the Centre of Excellence, the Director also takes significant responsibility in ensuring the successful development and implementation of the Centre's educational programs, both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In this area, the Director works closely with Dr Richard Corkish, the Head of School.