

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE

The International Council for Science (ICSU) is a non-government organisation with a global membership that provides a forum for discussing policy and international science issues. Its membership includes 111 national scientific bodies and 29 international scientific unions.

The core activities of this extensive network are:

- Planning and coordinating interdisciplinary research to address major issues of relevance in science and society
- Actively advocating for freedom in the conduct of science, promoting equitable access to scientific data and information and facilitating science education and capacity building
- Acting as a focus for the exchange of ideas, the communication of scientific information and the development of scientific standards
- Supporting more than 600 scientific conferences, congresses and symposia worldwide each year as well as the production of a wide range of newsletters, handbooks, learned journals and proceedings

The Council also helps create international and regional networks of scientists with similar interests and maintains close working relationships with a number of inter- and non-government organisations, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World. Because of its broad and diverse membership, the Council increasingly is called upon to speak on behalf of the global scientific community and to act as an adviser on matters ranging from ethics to the environment.

It recently established four regional offices — in Africa, the Arab region, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. The offices encourage scientists and scientific organisations from these regions to participate in its research and policy activities — as well as enabling the Council to play a more effective role in strengthening science within regional priorities and building capacity through collaboration within and between the hemispheres.

Academy Foreign Secretary Professor Jenny Graves is a member of the Committee of the Asia and the Pacific Regional Office.

International scientific meetings held in Australia at the invitation of the Academy

The Academy, as the adhering body on behalf of Australia to the Council, often is asked to endorse bids to host international scientific meetings in Australia. The Academy has issued a set of guidelines on bids for international conferences. These are available at:

www.science.org.au/internat/guidelines.htm

At the initiative of the Academy and on behalf of the Australian research community, the following international meetings will be held in Australia:

International Union of Quaternary Research Congress

Cairns, 28 July–3 August 2007

International Union for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics General Assembly

Adelaide, 24–30 August 2008

International Union of Psychological Science General Assembly

Melbourne, 11–16 July 2010

International Botanical Congress

Melbourne, 24–30 July 2011

International Geological Congress

Brisbane, 5–15 August 2012

Further information
about ICSU is available
at:
www.icsu.org

Delegates

The Academy appoints delegates to the General Assemblies the Council's constituent bodies following advice from the National Committees. Delegates for 2006–07 are:

International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology 24 June, Kyoto, Japan	Dr Rohan Baker Professor Phillip Nagley
International Union of Pharmacology 2–7 July, Beijing, China	Professor Andrew Somogyi Dr Sab Ventura
Committee on Space Research 16–23 July, Beijing, China	Professor Iver Cairns
Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research 17–19 July, Hobart	Professor Robert Vincent FAA
International Union of Psychological Sciences 20–21 July, Athens, Greece	Ms Amanda Gordon
International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics 11–14 August, Rhode Island, US	Dr Jim Denier Professor Ernie Tuck FAA
International Astronomical Union 14–25 August, Prague, Czechoslovakia	Dr Brian Boyle FAA Dr Matthew Colless FAA Professor Mike Dopita FAA
International Mathematical Union 19–20 August, Santiago de Compostela, Spain	Professor Michael Cowling FAA Professor Ian Sloan FAA Professor Alf van der Poorten
Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research 23–26 October, Concepción, Chile	Dr Trevor McDougall FAA
ICSU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, inauguration 18–19 September, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Professor Jenny Graves FAA
ICSU Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the conduct of Science, first meeting 6–7 November, Paris, France	Professor David Vaux FAA

Other international meetings

InterAcademy Medical Panel 2–6 April, Beijing, China	Professor Bob Williamson FAA
Science and Technology in Society Forum 10–12 September, Kyoto, Japan	Dr Jim Peacock FAA
Federation of Asian Scientific Academies and Societies Council Meeting 11–12 September, Singapore	Professor Kurt Lambeck FAA
InterAcademy Panel General Assembly 4–6 December, Alexandria, Egypt	Professor Kurt Lambeck FAA