

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

National Committees for Science: ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL on 2006 activities

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR: Antarctic Research

CHAIR: PROF. R. A. VINCENT

PERIOD COVERED IN THIS REPORT: 1 January - 31 December, 2006

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MET ON: **14 July 2006**

THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS ARE PROPOSED FOR 2007 (include date and place, if possible):

The date and time of the next NCAR meeting have yet to be decided.

MEETINGS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AFFILIATED WITH ICSU

IN 2006 THERE WAS A GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF (include date and place):

XXIX Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research Meeting with Open Science Conference, 8 - 19 July 2006, Hobart, Tasmania

IN 2007 THERE WILL BE A GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF (include date and place):
N/A

The next GENERAL ASSEMBLY/CONGRESS will be held in St Petersburg in 2008

I RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THE FOLLOWING VOTING AUSTRALIAN
DELEGATION:

Delegate: Prof. Robert Vincent, Physics, University of Adelaide, Adelaide SA
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Alternate Delegate: Prof. Michael Stoddart, ANARE Chief Scientist, AAD, Channel
Highway, Kingston, TAS 7050.
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Michael.Stoddart@antdiv.gov.au

AUSTRALIAN OFFICE HOLDERS IN ICSU AND AFFILIATED BODIES

AUSTRALIANS WHO HELD OFFICE IN 2006 WERE:

(include all appointed/elected memberships of subsidiary bodies, standing committees, commissions etc. as well as appointments to Bureau/Executive positions in the governing body).

PERSON	INTERNATIONAL BODY	POSITION	TERM OF OFFICE
Dr I. Allison	ICSU-WMO Joint committee on International Polar Year	Co-Chair,	2007-08

SCAR Physical Sciences

Dr N. Adams	Expert Group on Operational Meteorology in the Antarctic,	Member	
A/P. M. Ashley	Action Group on Plateau Astronomical Site Testing in Antarctica,	Leader	
Prof B. Fraser	Standing Scientific Group on Physical Sciences	Member	
Dr I. Goodwin	Expert Group on International Trans-Antarctic Scientific Expedition	Co-chair	
Dr T. Jacka	Standing Scientific Group on Physical Sciences,	Secretary	
	Expert Group on Ice Sheet Mass Balance and Sea Level	Coordinator	
Dr S. Nicol	Expert Group on Oceanography,	Member	
Dr S Pendlebury	Expert Group on Operational Meteorology in the Antarctic,	Member	
Dr S. Rintoul	Expert Group on Oceanography,	Member	
Prof K. Rosman	Action Group on Environmental Contamination in Antarctica		
Prof J. Storey	Expert Group on Antarctic Astronomy and Astrophysics	Leader	
Dr A. Worby,	Expert Group on Antarctic Sea-Ice Processes and Climate,	Co-chair	
Dr T. van Ommen	Standing Scientific Group on Physical Sciences	Member	
	Programme Group on Antarctica and Global Climate System,	Member	

SCAR Geosciences

Dr. H. Brolsma	Standing Scientific Group on Geosciences,	Member	
	Expert group on Geospatial Information – Geographic Information	Member	
Dr. D. Gore	Programme group on Antarctic Climate Evolution,	Member	
Dr. G. Johnstone	Expert group on Geospatial Information – Geodesy,	Member	
Dr. J. Manning	Standing Scientific Group on Geosciences,	Member	
Dr P. O'Brien	Standing Scientific Group on Geosciences,	Member	
	Action group on Acoustics,	Chair	
Dr A. Reading	Expert group on Antarctic Neotectonics,	Member	
Mr J. Sayers	Standing Scientific Group on Geosciences,	Member	
Prof. C. Wilson	Standing Scientific Group on Geosciences,	Member	

SCAR Life Sciences

Dr J. Ayton,	Standing Group on Life Sciences, Member Expert Group on Human Biology and Medicine, Secretary
Dr D. Bergstrom	Programme Group on Evolution and Biodiversity in the Antarctic, Secretary
Dr M. Hindell	SCAR Expert Group on Seals, member
Dt G. Hosie	Standing Group on Life Sciences, Member Action Group in the Southern Hemisphere Continuous Plankton Recorder Survey, Co-Chair
Dr H. Marchant	Standing Group on Life Sciences, Member
Dr M. Stoddart	Action Group Census on Antarctic Marine Life, Chair
Dr M. Stoddart	Standing Group on Life Sciences, Member
Dr D. Watts	Steering Committee SCAR-Marine Biodiversity Network, Member
Dr E. Woehler	Standing Group on Life Sciences, Member Expert group on Birds, Chair

Other SCAR Bodies

Dr G. Hosie	SCAR representative to CCAMLR, Member Standing Committee on Antarctic Treaty System, Member
Dr M. Stoddart	Standing Committee on Antarctic Treaty System, Member
Dr D. Watts	Joint Committee on Antarctic Data Management, Member

World Climate Research Program (Antarctic-relevant components)

Dr A. Worby	Scientific Steering Group, Climate and Cryosphere (CliC), Vice-Chair CliC Data Management and Information Panel, Member
Prof M. England	CLIVAR Working Group on Ocean Model Development, Member
Dr S. Rintoul	CLIVAR/CliC/SCAR Southern Ocean Region Implementation Panel Member

THE FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS WILL BE MADE IN 2007:

PERSON	INTERNATIONAL BODY	POSITION	TERM OF OFFICE
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I SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE IN calendar year 2006

Australian scientists, including members of the committee, continue to play prominent roles in the international programs of the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR) with good representation on a wide range of committees. Activities covered include Antarctic climate processes, biodiversity, change and ecosystem response, and the geological evolution of Antarctica. Whenever possible new appointments to various SCAR and other relevant international committees were proposed during 2006.

Hosted by the Australian Antarctic Division and the Academy of Science, the SCAR XXIX General Assembly and the Second Open Science Conference were held in Hobart from 9 to 14 July 2006. National Committee members were involved in planning of the open science meeting and helped with the assessment and ranking of abstracts. About 840 delegates registered for the science conference, with about 75% coming from overseas. Approximately 120 graduate students attended. The conference was a great success and provided an important opportunity to compare Australian Antarctic science activities and achievements with activities by other countries.

Preparation for the commencement in 2007 of the International Polar Year, which celebrates the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year, continued to be a major activity of the committee. Professor Amanda Lynch is now the Australian IPY representative, replacing Professor Bruce Mapstone. Eight IPY projects have Australian leads and cover a wide range of scientific issues including a census of marine life, the role of Antarctica in climate, human

biology and solar-terrestrial impacts on the atmosphere. Australia is also co-leading three other projects and has active involvement in at least 45 others.

Please complete and return this form by 15 December 2006 to:

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