

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

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

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR: Mathematical Sciences

CHAIR: J. Hyam Rubinstein

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

Please complete and return this form by 15 December 2006.

NOTE: This report will be published on the Academy of Science website at
www.science.org.au/natcoms

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MET ON:

None held due to review activities

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

I will be asking members if they would like to meet in Canberra immediately before or after the forum at the Academy of Science on February 7.

MEETINGS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AFFILIATED WITH ICSU

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

International Mathematical Union, Santiago de Compostela, Spain, Aug 19-20

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

The next GENERAL ASSEMBLY/CONGRESS will be held in 2010

I RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THE FOLLOWING VOTING AUSTRALIAN
DELEGATION: (include title, name, address, telephone, email and fax number)

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
Cheryl Praeger	International Mathematical Union,	Executive Committee	2006-2010
Alf van der Poorten	Committee for electronic communication and information,		2002-2006
Ian Sloan	International Council for Industrial and Applied Mathematics,	President	2003-2007

THE FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS WILL BE MADE IN 2007:

PERSON	INTERNATIONAL BODY	POSITION	TERM OF OFFICE
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ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE – Please include comments on progress achieved on projected activities identified in your 2006 Business Plan. 2006 Business plans can be viewed at www.science.org.au/natcoms

Go to <http://www.science.org.au/reports/2006anrep.pdf> pp17-27, to view the Chairs' Reports on 2005 activities.

I SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE IN calendar year 2006 (200-250 words):

The main activity during 2006 has been the National Review of Mathematical Sciences, which was supported by funding from the Australian Research Council and also the Australian Mathematical Society, the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute, the Statistical Society of Australia Inc, Australian & New Zealand Industrial and Applied Mathematics, and the Australian Society for Operations research. The working party included three eminent international reviewers, Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon, Director of the Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques, Dr Brenda L Dietrich, Director of Mathematical Sciences, IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center and Professor Iain Johnstone, Deputy Dean of Science, Stanford University. Professor Hyam Rubinstein was chair of the working party, Associate Professor Barry Hughes was Executive Director and other members were Dr Edwin van Leeuwin from BHP Billiton, Professor Peter Hall (incoming President of the Australian Mathematical Society) and Ms Jan Thomas, executive officer of the Australian Mathematical Society. Professor Michael Cowling was the chair of the advisory council for the review, and was the outgoing President of the Australian Mathematical Society. The review received many submissions and conducted interviews around Australia with members of university departments, industry and professional organisations which are closely involved with mathematical sciences and government research organisations.

The review was launched at the Academy of Science on December 14 and a public forum was held on 7 February 2007 to discuss the review findings. The website for the review report is at www.review.ms.unimelb.edu.au

