



# Australian Academy of Science

Ian Potter House, Gordon Street, Canberra 2601

## **NATIONAL COMMITTEES FOR SCIENCE National Committee for Biomedical Sciences**

### **2008 BUSINESS PLAN or WORK PLAN, including TIMELINES AND PROPOSED BUDGETS**

1. The aims of the NCBMS are

- to liaise with appropriate national and international bodies and societies in Biomedical Sciences;
- to propose and encourage activities in support of the Biomedical Sciences in Australia, either jointly with other bodies or separately;
- to encourage participation by Australian scientists in relevant activities of the international bodies; and
- to keep the international Biomedical Science bodies informed at appropriate times of Australian opinions and plans.

2. Strategies to allow these aims to be achieved

Biomedical Science represents a diverse group of experimental scientific disciplines including the following, each of which has an International Union: Physiological Sciences, Pure and Applied Biophysics, Microbiological Sciences, Pharmacology, Toxicology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Immunological Science. Other represented disciplines also have corresponding international organisations, such as the International Society for Endocrinology.

This extreme diversity presents a major impediment to achieving the National Society's aims in a way that represents all of its corresponding member societies, even though the aims are admirably achieved for a few of the corresponding societies such as Physiology and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

In 2008 the committee will therefore continue strengthening the links with each of the corresponding societies in Biomedical Science, and to encourage further relevant national societies to become corresponding members. Further, since a fruitful joint meeting was held between NCBMS and the National Committee for Medicine in 2007, it is proposed to hold a joint meeting again in 2008, if agreed by both committees, to discuss matters of common interest.

3. Plan of work/activities (and proposed budget details) in 2008 which will achieve the aims:



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- a. March 2008: Proposed meeting of members of the NCBMS. Possible joint meeting of NCBMS and NCM members to be discussed. Dates still to be finalised  
Agenda items include:
  - Report on National Forum on Education in Biomedical Sciences (Nagley)
  - Support for Endocrine Society of Australia 50th Jubilee (Baxter)
  - Discussion of Carrick Institute Discipline based education initiatives to consider whether there are gaps or overlaps and whether NCBMS could have a coordinating role for further applications (Majewski)
- b. Liaison with corresponding societies to be maintained and new links to be established as appropriate.
- c. International Scientific Union meetings in 2008:
  - 16th International Biophysics Conference (IUPAB), Long Beach, CA USA. February 2-6
  - 11th IUBMB Conference, Athens, Greece, June 28-July 3
  - IXth World Conference on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (IUPHAR), Quebec City, Canada, July 27-Aug 1
  - IUMS, Istanbul, Turkey, August 5-9Support to be sought to send delegate(s) to the above ISU meetings (IUPAB delegates already nominated)  
Subscriptions to be continued to all relevant ISU organisations.
- d. Other initiatives to be considered at the next NCBMS meeting.