

# **NATIONAL COMMITTEES FOR SCIENCE**

## **National Committee for Biomedical Sciences**

### **2011 BUSINESS PLAN or WORK PLAN** **Including TIMELINES for up to 5 years**

#### **1. Aims of this National Committee**

The primary aim of the National Committee is to promote the many disciplines that together make up the Biomedical Sciences. There are a large number of national societies that each represents a segment of this broad field, including the: Australian and New Zealand Association of Clinical Anatomists; Australian and New Zealand Society for Cell and Developmental Biology, Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists; Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists; Australian Neuroscience Society; Australian Physiological Society; Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Australian Society for Biophysics; Australian Society for Medical Research; Australian Society for Microbiology; Australian Society for Parasitology; Australian Society of Reproductive Biology; Endocrine Society of Australia; Australasian Society for Immunology. The aims of the NCBMS therefore not only include promoting Biomedical Science as a whole, but also to provide a forum to initiate dialogue wherever possible to help coordinate the general activities of the representative societies that promote Australian biomedical sciences as a whole.

#### **2. Strategies to allow these aims to be achieved.**

The first strategy recognises that the breadth of the committee's remit requires it to work with the many societies involved to assist them with areas of common interest in promoting biomedical science. This will include identifying those activities that can be best shared or expanded across disciplines, including education and training, promoting the value of biomedical science to the national community, fostering careers of ECRs and outreach to international researchers, especially in the Asia-Pacific region. This will require a meeting of representatives of the societies concerned (and also a joint meeting with the National Committee for Medicine) to identify their current activities that can be expanded or promoted through more concerted action. While the members of the current NCBMS represent a number of these organisations and have identified some areas for action, subsequent activities will clearly be dependent on the outcome of a more broadly based meeting. With sensible choice of venue this initial meeting will not require additional funding beyond the \$3000 allocated for committee meetings

A second strategy is to engage to a greater extent with the education sectors. The NCBMS proposes to run in 2011 a Forum on Education in Biomedical Sciences with the aim of promoting the exchange of ideas and new techniques to meet the current challenges in the tertiary sector. Organisation of this is currently in train. The committee is also considering how it can increase the exposure of the value of a biomedical science career to secondary school students through continuing and expanding activities that are carried out by some of the State groups of the Academy.

A third strategy is to continue and expand the NCBMS engagement with research funding agencies and policy makers to put the case for greater funding for biomedical research and better administration of the funds that are currently provided.

### 3. Plan of work/activities for up to 5 years including timelines

#### 2011

- a. Joint meeting of the NCBMS and NCM to identify areas of overlap and potential areas for development. No budget request beyond normal committee allocation.
- b. Expanded NCBMS meeting to include representatives of all societies in the biomedical sciences. If possible arrange meeting with Professor Margaret Shiel, CEO ARC to discuss issue relating to ARC funding of biomedical research. No budget request.
- c. Organise National Forum on Biomedical Education. Currently Philip Poronnik from RMIT has accepted to chair the organising committee and has begun to arrange input from each of the representative societies and seek additional sources of funding. This will include an approach to the Australia Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) and the societies. A request for funding from the Academy and the use of the Shine Dome for two days is included in the attached budget. The present suggested timing is for two days in the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> December

#### 2012 and beyond

Planning beyond 2011 depends on the outcome of the meetings in 2011.

### 4. Proposed budget details

See attached spreadsheet

Note each National Committee is allocated:

- \$3,000 per annum to support committee meetings.
- Up to \$2,500 each for up to three approved voting delegates, upon presentation of a report and receipts/invoices, for attendance at the triennial/quadrennial General Assembly meetings of the corresponding International Union.

*Progress against these identified Work Plan activities will be reported on in the Chairs' annual reports to the Academy. Work Plans for 2010 can be viewed at [www.science.org.au/natcoms](http://www.science.org.au/natcoms)*

**Note:** This plan will be published on the National Committee page of the Academy of Science website [www.science.org.au/natcoms](http://www.science.org.au/natcoms).

#### **Please complete and return this form by 14 January 2011 to:**

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National Committee for Biomedical Science \_\_\_\_\_  
Proposed Budget

Year	Item (Please include brief description of item/activity in Business Plan document)	Amount requested from Academy \$	Other resources requested from Academy (non\$)	Other contributions (non Academy including in kind)
<b>Example</b>	<i>Symposium on (insert topic)</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>Two weeks staff time</i>	<i>Committee's time 200hrs</i>
			<i>Shine Dome for 2 days</i>	
<b>2011</b>				
	National Forum on Education	\$5,000	Two weeks staff time	Organising Committee time
	in Biomedical Sciences		Shine Dome for 2 days	Approaches to ALTC and
				affiliated societies for contributions
<b>Total</b>		5000		\$10,000 estimate
<b>2012</b>				
<b>Total</b>		0		0
<b>2013</b>				
<b>Total</b>		0		0
<b>2014</b>				
<b>Total</b>		0		0
<b>2015</b>				
<b>Total</b>		0		0