

# **AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**

## **National Committees for Science: ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL on 2010 activities**

### **NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR: Brain and Mind**

**CHAIR: Professor Stephen Crain**

PERIOD COVERED IN THIS REPORT: 1 January - 31 December, 2010

**Please complete and return this form by 14 January 2011.**

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

### **MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MET ON:

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010

THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS ARE PROPOSED FOR 2011 (include date and place, if possible):

May-June, 2011

### **MEETINGS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AFFILIATED WITH ICSU**

IN 2010 THERE WAS A GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF (include date and place):

International Congress of Cognitive Science  
August 2010, Beijing

IN 2011 THERE WILL BE A GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF (include date and place):

The next GENERAL ASSEMBLY/CONGRESS will be held in 200\_

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 2010 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
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THE FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS WILL BE MADE IN 2011:

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 2010 Business Plan. 2010 Business plans can be viewed at [www.science.org.au/natcoms](http://www.science.org.au/natcoms)**

Go to <http://www.science.org.au/reports/2010anrep.html>, to view the Chairs' Reports on 2009 activities.

I SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE IN calendar year 2010 (200-250 words):

[Your Report, as presented here, will be published in the National Committees for Science section of the Academy's Annual Report for 2010-2011].

The National Committee for Brain and Mind is undergoing a three-year project, with three objectives. First, the committee is collating a list of research facilities in Australia that use brain imaging technology to study cognition and cognitive disorders. Second, the committee is collecting introductory descriptions (both in print and in video format) of how brain imaging systems operate. These materials will be posted on the AAS website, along with a discussion piece entitled Fact, Fiction and Forecast, which is designed to de-mystify the use of brain imaging techniques, and to describe what brain imaging technology can and cannot contribute to diagnosis and treatment of cognitive disorders. In 2010, the National Committee for Brain and Mind began putting together materials that relate to the use of brain imaging systems with normally developing children and with children with cognitive disorders (e.g. autism spectrum disorder, dyslexia, specific language impairment). The committee is trying to collect materials that will be accessible for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade high school students who want to learn more about how brain imaging works, in order to meet our goal of engaging with the secondary and/or tertiary education sectors. In addition, the goal of bringing the benefits of the discipline to the community will be enhanced by the

posting of materials that are useful to teachers and to the general public such that, for example, these materials may serve as a resource for the parents of children with cognitive disorders. The materials gathered so far will be reviewed at our forthcoming meetings. In addition, the committee will consider becoming a member of the International Congress of Cognitive Science, in order to raise the international profile of research on brain and mind in Australia, and to facilitate international engagement by Australian scientists.

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

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