



Australian Academy of Science

Ian Potter House, Gordon Street, Canberra 2601

NATIONAL COMMITTEES FOR SCIENCE **National Committee for Mathematical Sciences**

2012 BUSINESS PLAN or WORK PLAN **Including TIMELINES for up to 5 years**

1. Aims of this National Committee

The aim of the National Committee for Mathematical Sciences is to shape future directions in the mathematical sciences in Australia by

- Facilitating and encouraging community-wide strategic planning initiatives
- Promoting the national value and benefits of the mathematical sciences, and
- Managing relations between Australian mathematicians and the International Mathematical Union (IMU) and the International Commission for Mathematics Instruction (ICMI).

2. Strategies to allow these aims to be achieved

- Undertake a decadal plan for the mathematical sciences in Australia
- Contribute to policy development and communicate the importance of the mathematical sciences as an enabling discipline, in collaboration with the Australian Mathematical Society, the Statistical Society of Australia Inc, the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia, the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers, the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute and other professional and regional societies
- Liaise with the IMU and ICMI through their Presidents, Executive and Commissions, and promote active Australian involvement in these at all levels
- Liaise with the Academy's Executive Committee on mathematics-related matters.

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

The items associated with the decadal plan occupy the major part of the work plan for 2012-2014.

- A committee will be appointed to initiate and oversee the development of a decadal plan in the mathematical sciences. Four meetings of this committee are planned during 2012–2014, with the first meeting anticipated in the second half of 2012. Budget: \$6000 (\$1500 in 2012; \$3000 in 2013; \$1500 in 2014).
- The Office of the Chief Scientist is preparing a report, which we believe will provide a national overview of the mathematical sciences, including up-to-date data of the kind usually collected at the start of the decadal plans of other discipline areas. This cost is therefore not included in this work plan. Instead the decadal plan for the mathematical sciences will focus on presenting major actions and goals for our discipline area over the next 10 years. This requires a project researcher to interview key groups and collect and present responses to the committee. Partial support is requested here for hiring an experienced researcher. Budget: \$9000 (\$3000 in each of 2012-2014).
- Further costs requested include travel costs for the researcher to interview and consult groups around Australia and part of the design and production costs for the decadal plan. Budget: Travel: \$3000 (\$1000 in each of 2012-2014), Design and Production: \$7,000 (in 2014).

Funds to meet actual costs will be requested from the ARC and professional societies in the mathematical sciences.



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The remainder of the work plan is associated with meetings of the National Committee and attendance at General Assemblies of IMU and ICMI:

- Funding to support NCMS meetings. Budget: \$9000
- Support Australian involvement (one voting delegate) in the ICMI General Assembly to be held in Seoul in July 2012. Budget: \$2500 (2012).
- Support Australian involvement in the IMU General Assembly (two voting delegates, possibly three if increased level of membership is approved) to be held in Gyeongju, Korea. Budget: \$5000–7500 (2014).

National Committee Initiatives fund

Committees can also apply for additional funding of up to \$10,000 for projects. Please use the attached spreadsheet, and complete the “**National Committee Initiatives Additional information for larger projects**” form for projects seeking \$5,000 or more.

Progress against these identified Work Plan activities will be reported on in the Chairs’ annual reports to the Academy. Work Plans for 2011 can be viewed at 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.