

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

National Committees for Science: ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL on 2008 activities

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR: SPACE SCIENCE

CHAIR: Professor Iver Cairns

PERIOD COVERED IN THIS REPORT: 1 January - 31 December, 2008

Please complete and return this form by 12 December 2008.

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: 22 May 2008 at the Academy. Business was also carried out via email and telephone calls. Committee members are active participants in other groups that develop and promote specific space science programs.

THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS ARE PROPOSED FOR 2009 (include date and place, if possible):

March 2009, Canberra, ACT – annual meeting for NCSS

March – July 2008: NCSS meetings before the proposed Townhall meeting and release of the Decadal Plan.

September-October 2009: meeting during the Australian Space Science Conference

MEETINGS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AFFILIATED WITH ICSU

IN 2008 THERE WAS A GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF (include date and place):

37th COSPAR Scientific Assembly, 13 - 20 July 2008, Montreal, Canada.

IN 2009 THERE WILL BE A GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF (include date and place):

11th IAGA Scientific Assembly, 23-30 August 2009, Sopron, Hungary.

The next GENERAL ASSEMBLY/CONGRESS will be held in 2010

38th COSPAR Scientific Assembly, 13 - 20 July 2010, Bremen, Germany,

SCOSTEP STP-12 Symposium, 12-16 July 2010, Berlin, Germany.

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

11th IAGA Scientific Assembly, 23-30 August 2009, Sopron, Hungary

Professor Iver Cairns,
 School of Physics, Email: cairns@physics.usyd.edu.au
 University of Sydney,
 NSW 2006, Work phone: +61-2 9351-3961
 Australia Work fax: +61-2 9351-7726.

Dr Cairns is the Chair of the NCSS, as well as being the immediate past Chair of Division IV (Solar Wind and Interplanetary Magnetic field) of IAGA, the Secretary General and Vice-President (Solar Terrestrial Section) of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS), and the immediate past Chair (2004-2006) of the Solar Terrestrial and Space Physics (STSP) Group of the Australian Institute of Physics.

AUSTRALIAN OFFICE HOLDERS IN ICSU AND AFFILIATED BODIES

AUSTRALIANS WHO HELD OFFICE IN 2008 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
Dr C. Barton	IAGA, IUGG	Chair, Working Group V-8 "Analysis of the Global and Regional Geomagnetic Field and its Secular Variation".	
Prof. I.H. Cairns	IAGA COSPAR	National Council Representative National Council Representative	
Prof. P.L. Dyson	COSPAR SCOSTEP SCOSTEP COSPAR/URSI	Scientific Discipline Representative Member, PSMOS Steering Committee Scientific Discipline Representative Member, WG on the International Reference Ionosphere	
Prof. B.J. Fraser	SCOSTEP SCAR IHY	National Representative Member, WG on Solar-Terrestrial and Astrophysical Research Australian member of the International Steering Committee for the International Heliophysical Year (IHY).	
Dr D. Ivers	IAGA	Co-Chair Working on Theory of Planetary Magnetic Fields and Geomagnetic Secular Variation	
Prof. F. Menk	SCOSTEP	Scientific Discipline Representative	

Prof. I. Reid	SCOSTEP	Scientific Discipline Representative
Prof. R.A. Vincent	IAMAS SCOSTEP	Vice-President, Executive Committee President, and Science Steering Committee, CAWSES Working Group 3
Prof. M. R. Walter	International Mars Exploration Working Group.	Australian Representative 2008

THE FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS WILL BE MADE IN 2009:

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 2008 Business Plan. 2008 Business plans can be viewed at www.science.org.au/natcoms

Go to <http://www.science.org.au/reports/2008anrep.htm>, to view the Chairs' Reports on 2007 activities.

I SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE IN calendar year 2008 (200-250 words):

2008 was a very busy year for the National Committee for Space Science (NCSS). Seven major items are reported here, all in addition to managing Australia's participation in international societies for space science (COSPAR, IAGA, IUGG, and SCOSTEP). First, the draft of the first Decadal Plan for Australian Space Science was released on 29 February for comment. Second, the Committee made submissions relevant to the Plan and Australian space science to the Senate Inquiry, Cutler Review of the National Innovation System, Review of the NCRIS Roadmap, and Defence White Paper process. Third, presentations to COSPAR, the Australian Government Space Forum, Australian Space Development Conference, Australian Space Science Conference (ASSC), and elsewhere promoted the Plan and Australian space science, as did various media interviews and articles. Fourth, discussions on space-based remote sensing (or Earth Observation) have led to agreement on how to include Earth Observation in the Decadal Plan and an explicit Academy of Science-ATSE process to do so. The Decadal Plan is expected to be finalised and released in 2009 in several parts. Fifth, NCSS jointly sponsored and organised, with the National Space Society of Australia, the 2008 ASSC in Canberra. Sixth, with extensive NCSS input, Australia's new research classification system (ANZSRC 2008) was released, resulting in multiple new codes and a clear home for space science. Finally, but not least, NCSS thanks its outgoing Committee members Dr Charlie Barton, Dr David Cole, Professor Peter Dyson, Professor Brian Fraser, and Professor Andrew Parfitt for their excellent work and welcomes new members Professor Russell Boyce, Dr Graziella Caprarelli, Dr Alex Held, Professor Fred Menk and Dr David Neudegg.

[Your Report, as presented here, will be published in April 2009, in the National Committees for Science section of the Academy's Annual Report for 2008-2009].