

Committee:	National Committee for Geographical Sciences
Period covered:	1 July 2013 – 31 December 2016
Chair:	Professor Alaric Maude
Version and date:	Final – 11 August 2016

Purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To connect the Academy to science and scientists in Australia; 2. To link the Academy to Australian scientific societies in order to work together to promote the development of the discipline; 3. To link Australian science in the disciplines to world science, in particular through the membership of appropriate international organisations; 4. To ensure that Australia has a voice and a role in the global development of the disciplines; 5. To provide strategic science policy advice, to the Academy, as input to Academy science policy statements, and (with the approval of the Executive Committee of Council) to the Australian Government and Australian organisations. 6. To produce a decadal plan for geography in Australia.
Description and objectives	<p>The NC Geographical Sciences is a committee of the Council of the Australian Academy of Science. The broad aims of the committee are to foster geography in Australia, to link the Academy to Australian geographers and relevant scientific societies, and to serve as a link between Australian and overseas geographers, primarily through the International Geographical Union (IGU).</p> <p>The NC Geographical Sciences will serve as a link between the Australian Academy of Science and the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia through periodically run roundtable meetings and / or lecture series from 2014.</p> <p>A major project for the committee from 2014 will be to shape future directions for geography in Australia through the production of a decadal plan for the discipline.</p>
Coverage	<p>Geography studies a wide range of environmental and human phenomena from three interrelated perspectives. One is about the influence of place on the outcomes of environmental and human processes, and on human responses to these outcomes. Another is about how a spatial analysis across places can add to the understanding of the causes and consequences of phenomena. The third is about how human and environmental phenomena are interrelated within places and between places. These perspectives inform the various branches of geography, which include geomorphology, climatology, hydrology, biogeography and economic, social, urban and population geography. These branches undertake studies at areal scales ranging from the personal to the global, and over timescales ranging from hours to tens of thousands of years. The coverage of the NCG also includes</p>

	geospatial technologies and geographical education.
Linked international organisation	International Geographical Union (IGU)
Key connected organisations	<p>Links to other National Committees: Earth Science, Earth System Science, Ecology, Evolution and Conservation, Antarctic Research, Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.</p> <p>Australian Societies and Organisations: Australian Geography Teachers Association, Geographical Society of New South Wales, Heads of University Geography Departments, Institute of Australian Geographers, Royal Geographical Society of South Australia, Royal Geographical Society of Queensland, Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute.</p> <p>International Organisations: International Geographical Union (IGU).</p>
Key outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approved committees structure and membership (annual); 2. Approved annual report (annual); 3. Undertake a decadal plan for geography in 2014/16; 4. Co-ordinate joint activities with the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, possibly including workshops, roundtable meetings and the release of joint statements on mutual interest; 5. Engagement with Australian geographers by contributing a news items to society publications and seeking opportunities to discuss NC activities at general meetings of the societies; 6. Engagement with relevant Australian societies and organisations; 7. Engagement with relevant national committees on issues of common interest; 8. Engagement with IGU and other international organisations, including nomination of Australians to IGU commissions or committees, and of delegates at IGU General Assemblies; 9. Obtaining financial and other resources to assist in the delivery of its activities, including contributions to the Australian subscriptions to International Organisations.
Indicative budget	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$3000 per annum for meetings provided by AAS 2. Up to \$2500 provided by AAS to support attendance at international meetings of IGU (2016)

**Approved by /
date**

Sec A & B, 11 August 2016