



## Outcomes of Second IARU Presidents' Meeting in Canberra on 28-29 March 2007

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### Agenda item 2.1 Discussion of IARU Global Change projects

### Agenda item 2.2 General discussion of IARU research directions in context of Global Change

It was agreed to proceed with the following three topics:

- **Longevity and Health** – Copenhagen and Peking (with support from ANU, Yale and Oxford)
- **Security** – Cambridge and ANU (with support from NUS, Tokyo and Copenhagen (and maybe Oxford and Yale))
- **Energy, Resources and Environment** – ETH, NUS and Tokyo

By end July, with a view to consideration by senior officers at their meeting in September, the institutions leading the three topics will be responsible for producing a more elaborate and more focussed document (perhaps 5-10 pages in length) that includes:

- a coherent and focused research proposal – which should contain three elements:
  - a longer term framework that identifies the big issues and how they should be addressed
  - a short term project where progress can be quickly (within the context of the longer term framework) – perhaps focused on the comparative elements of each project;
  - a timetable with specific milestones
- identification of researchers or research groups at other IARU universities prepared to commit to involvement in the research
- a realistic budget with defensible costings, covering approximately 3-5 years
- a funding plan that details sources of funding (but does not go as far as contacting external funding bodies)

Senior officers will discuss the papers at their meeting in September having discussed with their respective presidents prior to the meeting. They will make recommendations to the IARU Chair, who, based on these recommendations will write to the leaders of each project seeking any necessary revisions. The papers will be returned to the IARU Chair by end October.

These documents would then be tailored for submission to national and international funding agencies early in 2008. This would be done in the context of a coherent IARU approach to each funding body, to ensure that bodies are not approached multiple times. The IARU Chair will be responsible for this process and may consult with his colleagues out of session.

For **Movement of People**, Stephen Castles (Oxford) will be asked to be responsible for producing a similar paper, but for consideration at the next meeting of Presidents in 2008.

Up to US\$20,000 per topic would be made available from IARU funds to support the writing of the papers (and further small workshops if necessary).

The ISSS element of the Energy, Resources and Environment topic would be treated separately. ETH, NUS and Tokyo will be responsible for raising the initial external funds. Other IARU members commit to supporting involvement by their staff in the workshop/symposium element of the proposal.

### Agenda item 3.1 Discussion of IARU projects

#### **Understanding women in universities around the globe**

The meeting agreed to support the project on benchmarking and best practices for advancing women in the academy. Yale and Cambridge will be responsible for taking this project forward. ANU, Tokyo and Oxford expressed strong interest in being involved. Yale will host a conference in Spring 2008.

It was agreed that the time is not yet ripe for an IARU project on citizenship, equality and opportunity. Yale will host a conference on the topic and other IARU members will advise Yale of their interest in participating.

#### **Graduate Education**

This project is principally about finding ways to bring research students together. It was agreed that one mechanism to do this was through annual conferences hosted in turn by IARU members (maybe loosely modeled on the recent water workshop at ANU).

ANU will prepare and circulate (within three months) a brief paper proposing an IARU “chat room” to allow students (and staff) to communicate with each other. These will initially be linked to the research programs and the people directly connected with them. They could be extended to include students in advanced years of undergraduate degrees in related disciplines. We should try to make sure that when these are set up (as happened at the recent water workshop) they are done under IARU auspices.

IARU needs to make sure that staff and students are aware of and understand existing joint programs to allow more rapid development of new initiatives. This will be done individually within each university.

#### **Undergraduate Education**

This project involves two streams of activity:

- looking to involve students in IARU research projects and build networks among students at IARU universities; and
- looking at how individual institutions can do better, learn from each other.

The meeting discussed developing a subject/course for mid-program undergraduates on leadership in the global environment. The content would need to be inspiring for students (perhaps with a learn by doing element?). It was agreed that this would be discussed when undergraduate deans and equivalents meet in Tokyo in September.

## Agenda item 3.2 New initiatives and directions

### **Campus sustainability**

ANU undertook to prepare a revised version on the principles (removing principle 3 and the reference to gaps in objective 7, perhaps re-ordering the document).

ETH and Yale will convene a workshop (not an academic conference) to bring together the people with operational responsibility for sustainability, facilities, utilities etc to share:

- information on how IARU members measure and implement in this area and agree on how we as a group will measure/report – ie develop a common set of metrics
- best practices

It was agreed that IARU should use campus sustainability to present IARU as providing ‘moral leadership’ and so pressure others to follow our example. It is an opportunity to show we are determined to do something about these issues in our local contexts. However, we must get the measuring/quantification issues resolved first.

### **Global Summer College**

It was agreed that Yale and ANU will lead on this (with NUS). A teleconference will be held within the next six weeks with a view to convening a one-day workshop in Tokyo in September (attended by UG Deans or equivalents and senior officers). The objective is to offer programs in the summer of 2008.

### **Global Poverty Alleviation and International Health Scorecard**

Berkeley invited those interested in its Global Poverty Alleviation Project to contact John Lie. Berkeley also mentioned that its International Health System Scorecard, which provides a methodology for evaluating health systems, was also available through John Lie. It was noted that the International Health System Scorecard may have relevance to the Longevity and Health research topic. No IARU funding was sought for either of these projects.

### **Open Access**

ANU undertook to prepare an elaborated paper on possibilities in this field and circulate for expressions of interest in taking it further.

### **Interdisciplinary Integration**

Participants did not fully understand what was being proposed. Most were not aware that their academics were involved. It was agreed that this project not be supported in its present form.

## **Corporate Governance**

This was considered in the context of the bigger issue about how IARU should encourage “bottom-up” proposals, add research themes etc and what criteria should apply. It was agreed that proposals would need to be developed via a process similar to that for the existing four Global Change projects, and a scoped project with focused outcomes brought forward for consideration. Any new project would need at least two “champions”. Projects must demonstrate success in obtaining internal funding before qualifying for IARU “badging”

### **Agenda item 4.1    General discussion on the focus of IARU**

Participants discussed the need for IARU to gain a better understanding of how funding agencies, foundations, companies across the world make decisions on funding. Information to guide IARU on how to approach agencies and who within each agency would improve the prospects of obtaining funding. It was agreed that it was not feasible to develop a consolidated database of this information – rather the Chair will seek advice from colleagues through circulating research proposals. The secretariat will be responsible for maintaining a log of contacts with agencies to ensure we avoid reinventing things.

Participants also discussed the funding arrangements for future IARU workshops/symposiums. It was agreed that the following guidelines would apply:

- Participants continue to pay their own costs of travel and accommodation;
- Host universities and IARU to share costs of hospitality, venue etc 50:50;
- IARU will make available a small amount to contribute to post conference costs – report writing etc.

### **Agenda item 4.2    Election of IARU Chair and location of meetings in 2008 & 2009**

It was agreed that Professor Chubb would continue as Chair until end 2009. The 2008 meeting of presidents will be at Yale in late April (dates to be confirmed asap). Cambridge will host the 2009 meeting as part of their 800th anniversary celebrations.

The 2007 senior officers meeting will be held at Tokyo in late September – the Chair will attend the meeting. We will take the opportunity to get undergraduate deans and their equivalents together at the same time to discuss the Global Summer College and collaborative undergraduate education projects.