

## Meeting of Senior Officials ETH Zurich, 20 September 2006

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### **Research projects/Other projects**

Challenges currently:

- Difficult to engage academics who already have research agendas
- Academics are reluctant to commit to broad research projects, participation may occur once the research themes are defined.
- Academics within some communities are not aware of the IARU
- At this stage few institutions have allocated funding for the initial collaboration stage

Participants suggested that direction be provided to organisers about expectations of outcomes from the workshops. These should include:

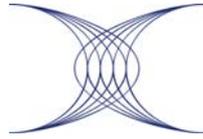
- Preparation of an intellectual case
- A session dedicated within the remaining workshop to the preparation of a costings model and the identity of suitable funding bodies.
- Opportunities to involve research students, and early career researchers should be explored.
- Shortly after the workshops lead universities should prepare written reports to the secretariat (there may be some additional liaison between the secretariat and the lead universities ensuring comparable reports).
- Secretariat will circulate to the IARU members with significant lead time to the Presidents meeting.

It was proposed that the secretariat with the assistance of representatives of IARU members (from US, UK, Japan/China) seek external seed funding from US funding bodies such as Ford and Rockefeller Foundations to support the IARU's international collaboration agenda (expressly for international collaboration in terms of travel and workshop/conference funding – say \$50,000 per workshop). The approach would seek to use the US\$100,000 of secretariat funding to leverage additional funding. This would be arranged to take advantage of the presence of appropriate IARU representatives in the US. John Lie to assist in this.

It was agreed that workshops (including the one on the role of women and the education meetings) would be able to bid for up to US\$10,000 to take their workshop outcomes to a document ready for consideration by Presidents in March. The secretariat will prepare some simple guidelines. Bids would be assessed by the secretariat with two senior officers co-opted to assist. Material for the Presidents meeting should include some scoping of costs and possible sources of funding (including local sources).

### **Finance and sponsorship**

It was agreed that members would provide their research protocols (with particular reference to acceptable sources of funding) to the secretariat (or, where preferred, simply identify sensitive areas via a set of dot points). The secretariat would then compile a IARU protocol that takes account of each member's sensitivities.



### **Website**

Participants were positive about the website and opportunities to both utilise it as an information sharing mechanism within the IARU and as a place where non-members can learn about the IARU.

### **Membership**

The extension of IARU membership will be revisited at the meeting of the senior officers in 2007.

### **Chair for 2008 and 2009**

Senior officers to send any expressions of interest to the secretariat by the end of October. It was agreed that one outcome that would be well supported would be for the current Chair to extend his term by another one or two years. Participants agreed that the Chair be approached about this, should there be no expressions of interest from other Presidents. There was some agreement that a two-year term might be too short to have an effective impact.

### **Secretariat in 2008 and 2009**

Two options were explored, one in which the secretariat moves with the presidency, and the other in which the secretariat stays with ANU for a longer period. There are benefits and problems with either option and the matter was unresolved. After discussions with the Chair the secretariat will circulate options about the location of the secretariat for 2008-2009 and the long-term alternatives of the location of the secretariat.

### **Presidents' meeting at ANU in March 2007**

It was agreed that the program should include at least one quarter of a day for informal discussions. The secretariat will send an email with a draft program (including the proposed agenda and possible related events) to the Presidents seeking feedback.

### **Presidents' meetings in 2008 and 2009**

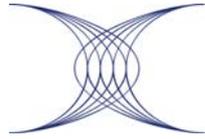
Agreed Cambridge will host 2008 meeting. Anticipated if the Chair changes the meeting in 2009 will be held on the campus of the Chair elected. If no change to chair then at a location to be advised.

### **Senior Officers meeting in 2007**

Agreed Tokyo will host 2007 meeting. Tokyo will provide the secretariat with possible dates in mid to late September, which will be circulated to determine the most suitable date(s).

### **Financial Report /Annual contributions**

Annual contributions from members will remain at US\$20,000 for 2007.



USD100,000 will be used for leveraging in the seed funding proposal. It is proposed that the remaining amount is used for assisting the lead universities developing their research proposals for the Presidents meeting.

Agreed expectations:

- The research projects would bid for USD10,000 where it was required.
- A small group (three people including the secretariat) would vet the expenditure
- The secretariat will draft guidelines about the appropriate use of the USD10,000 funding

### **Registration of name /logo**

Agreed the secretariat will register the trademark in the eight countries where IARU member universities are located.

### **Publications**

No action required

### **Staff Exchanges**

It was agreed that this represented a good opportunity to learn from each other's experiences. Yale has already developed a useful list for assisting visiting staff to Yale which could be circulated to members interested. This type of activity will take place under the umbrella of IARU staff mobility. Members will support/encourage staff to become involved.

### **Student Exchanges**

NUS tabled the NGS-IARU Scholarship proposal seeking feedback from the IARU. Members will respond directly to Professor Halliwell.

It was proposed the IARU umbrella existing exchange activity (particularly at PhD level) which would allow recognition of existing mobility and deepen the alliance (may be useful when seeking external funding for international collaboration). Opinion was divided on the merits of this approach.

It was agreed that each member would produce a map of their activity interaction with other IARU members. When these are combined each will learn about things of which they were unaware. At the end of the process, we should have a good snapshot of where we are now. Members to get a first effort to the secretariat by end-December.

### **Joint/dual degrees**

Opportunities for Post Doc or graduate students could be tied into the proposed IARU research activities.

### **Benchmarking**

Agreed the current benchmarking activities should be linked to the agreed legal data collection agreed at the senior research deputies meeting. No need to initiate more at this stage.



### **Responding to crises**

Yale is willing to share their extensive crisis management materials with IARU members. Any additional activity in this area could be developed bilaterally between interested partners. It was suggested that this might be best taken up among those with responsibility for these issues – perhaps registrars or their equivalents.

### **Public policy statements**

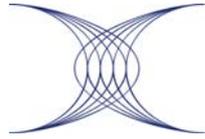
Presidents to discuss in March, 2007.

### **Summer Schools and Internship Programs**

John Lie will follow up and approach Intel and Cisco in the first instance.

### **Presentation by Professor Kuebler on proposal for annual sustainability prizes**

Professor Kuebler presented his proposal for the IARU to establish prizes for sustainability similar to Nobel Prizes. There was doubt expressed about the advisability of the IARU adopting such a politically sensitive agenda at this time. The point was also made that this was a bit premature given that IARU had not yet developed a research agenda around sustainability. Participants agreed to wait on reactions from expert academic representatives at the meeting on energy, resources and environment scheduled to take place over the next two days.



Action required:

- i. Leads of the remaining workshops to be advised to ensure that a costings model and the identity of suitable funding bodies and other agreed requirements are included in material prepared for Presidents in March.
- ii. Secretariat will circulate all research proposals to the IARU members with significant lead time to the Presidents meeting.
- iii. Secretariat with the assistance of a select group seek external seed funding using the USD100,000 (from annual contributions) as leverage.
- iv. Members asked to send their research protocols to the secretariat (or identify sensitive areas).
- v. Chair IARU - members to send expressions of interest to the secretariat by the end of October.
- vi. Secretariat to approach current Chair on his views about extending his term.
- vii. Secretariat will circulate options about the location of the secretariat for 2008-2009 and the long-term alternatives of the location of the secretariat.
- viii. Secretariat will send an email to the Presidents seeking feedback for the 2007 Presidents meeting agenda and associated activities.
- ix. Tokyo to provide to the secretariat for circulation possible dates for the 2007 Senior Officers meeting to be hosted in mid - late September.
- x. Annual contributions to remain at \$20,000.
- xi. Secretariat manage the process of vetting requests for seed money to assist in the research proposals being developed for the Presidents meeting in March and co-opt assistance as required.
- xii. Secretariat to draft guidelines about the appropriate use of the USD10,000 funding
- xiii. The secretariat will register the IARU trademark in the eight countries.
- xiv. All IARU members will map their existing relationships, with the aim of increasing awareness of existing activities among partners and send these to the secretariat by the end of the year.
- xv. Members to provide comment to NUS about the proposed NGS – IARU Scholarship
- xvi. Agreed the current benchmarking activities should be linked to the agreed legal data collection
- xvii. John Lie (Berkeley) to follow through with the Internship Programs proposal.