

AC3 International Commission for Acoustics (ICA) report to IUPAP C&CC Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland October 2013

1. ICA Governance The ICA comprises the acoustical societies from 47 member countries and our most recent members have been acoustical societies in Israel and Nigeria. Both of these societies confirmed their membership of ICA at the time of national conferences. There are 8 international affiliate organizations which themselves have individual members distributed across the world and also organize international conferences every one or two years.

The ICA has been reviewing the governance for some years with a view to a structure that better allows for representation throughout the membership. The revisions to the by laws, which involve a balance of dedicated seats from the three main geographical regions plus open seats on the 15 member board was accepted at the 2013 General Assembly with voting effective immediately. The benefit of the new governance was immediately obvious from the number of nominees for the positions which was greater than in previous years.

The new board effective 1 October 2013 comprises representatives from the following countries: Australia, China, Germany, Canada and Spain in the executive, and Brazil, Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, Korea, Poland, Slovakia, UK and USA. It is also relevant to note that there are 3 females on the board with one being the President.

2. ICA Congress The major activity for the ICA is the congress held every 3 years. The last was held in Sydney, Australia in 2010 which was followed by the ICA held in Montreal, Canada in mid 2013. This 5 day congress was a joint undertaking between the Canadian and US acoustical societies and with 2300 registrants, over 1600 technical papers, and 49 Exposition booths, ICA 2013 was one of the biggest meetings in acoustics ever. The statistics show that 25% of the participants, 25% of the general organising committee and 9% of the technical organising committees were female. The next ICA will be held in Argentina in 2016.

3. Early Career Awards and Young Scientist Grants The ICA allocates the majority of its annual budget to encourage acoustics activities. The prestigious "ICA Early Career Award" was presented at the ICA Congress to Tapio Lokki from Finland, who presented a plenary lecture on "Sensory evaluation of concert hall acoustics". With additional support from the American Acoustical Society, 30 "Young Scientist Conference Attendance Grants" were awarded to assist the participation by young researchers in the congress. There was an overwhelming number of applications for this support in 2013 and the selection process is being reviewed for the future ICA. Report to IUPAP ICA activities 2013 page 2

4. Symposium Support Annually, the ICA provides support for specialist symposia which provide opportunities for those working in particular areas of acoustics to meet. The guidelines for selection require some international involvement and there is priority for developing countries. The meetings supported for 2013 include:

- Acoustics 2013 New Delhi (Indo-French Conference), November 10 - 15 (New Delhi, India)
- International Symposium on Room Acoustics (ISRA), June 9-11 (Toronto, Canada)
- European Symp Environmental Acoustics and Noise Mapping, October 1 (Valladolid, Spain)
- Winter School on Therapeutic Ultrasound, March 17-22 (Les Houches, France)

5. International Year of Sound The ICA is undertaking the initial steps towards an International Year of Sound in 2019 and looks forward to the support from IUPAP.

6. IUPAP Conferences At the current time from the IUPAP site the *only* meetings that are listed under each organization are those which have been approved by IUPAP. So the implication is that there is no activity for the ICA which is clearly not the case. We again request that IUPAP implements that on the "Meetings" webpage for each commission/affiliate commission additional text saying that those meetings listed below are only those that have been directly supported/endorsed by IUPAP and give the commission/affiliate commission web page for details of other activities.

Marion Burgess
ICA Secretary General 2008-2013
ICA President 2013-2016