

*The purpose of the ICA is to promote international development and collaboration in all fields of acoustics including research, development, education, and standardisation.*

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### **September 2012**

**Report from International Commission for Acoustics (ICA) to IUPAP on 2011 activities**  
At the ICA General Assembly in August 2010 Michael Vorländer was elected as the President till the next General Assembly in 2013. The Vice President is Charles Schmid and Antonio Perez-Lopez takes care of all financial issues while Marion Burgess serves another period as the Secretary General.

The major activity for the ICA is the congress held every 3 years. The last was held in Sydney, Australia in 2010 and the next will be held in Montreal, Canada in mid 2013. We look forward to the assistance of IUPAP in promoting this important event and all the associated meetings held in conjunction with this congress.

The Board of the International Commission for Acoustics is continuing to work on several activities of international relevance and political impact. One task is to obtain a greater acknowledgement of the role of acoustics with a view to seeking full membership of ICSU. To this end meetings with ICU management were held in 2011 and the ICA prepared a poster for presentation at the ICSU congress in Rome.

The ICA is also undertaking the initial steps in preparation for a proposal for and International Year of Sound in 2019. We hope this will enhance knowledge of the broad role of acoustics in many varied aspects of life on our planet and beyond. We look forward to the support from IUPAP in this undertaking.

The ICA is also strengthening the role of its Conference Coordination Committee in relation to encouraging cooperation between international meetings on acoustics. The welcoming of two new international affiliate organizations, thereby increasing the number to eight, will provide further enhance opportunities for better communication between these bodies.  
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In many developing countries Acoustics is an emerging and expanding field and the ICA is taking particular interest to assist and guide those countries in the formation of a national Acoustical Society. To assist we have set up a Start Up Grant to assist in the initial stage of formation of a national Acoustical Society.

The ICA allocates the majority of its annual budget to encourage acoustics activities. The Early Career Award recognizes excellence in acoustics and the Young Scientist Awards encourage participation in the congress to enhance the experience of acoustics research environment.

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 include:

#### **2011**

- **Acoustic Challenges in Aquatic Ecosystem Assessment**, May 25-27 (Seattle, USA)
- **European symposium on environmental acoustics and on buildings acoustically sustainable**, October 26-28 (Caceres, Spain)
- **Int conf Applications of Nano technology and Ultrasound**, January 12-14 (Trichy, India)
- **Workshop: Noise Issues in Developing & Emerging Countries**, September 6 (Osaka, Japan)
- **XL Winter School on Wave and Quantum Acoustics**, February 27-March 4 (Gliwice, Poland)

And support approved for 2012 includes

- **European Symposium On Environmental Acoustics**, September 17 - 19 (Evora Portugal)
- **IAA Conference on Research in Audio and Acoustics**, May 10 (Tel-Aviv, Israel)
- **SOBRAC 2012**, May 29 - June 01 (Belem, Brazil)

The ICA board has been considering approaches to changes in the governance with a view to facilitating increased involvement from the broader membership base. The proposed changes are being finalized for presentation and voting at the ICA General Assembly in 2013

The ICA acknowledges the ongoing collaboration with and support from IUPAP and looks forward to further strengthening this link in the future.

Michael Vorländer  
**President 2011- 2013.**

Marion Burgess  
**Secretary General 2008-2013**