



NEWS UPDATE

ASIA PACIFIC NETWORK
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
CENTRES

Information for ASPAC Members

March 2003

WELCOME TO THIS EDITION

This ASPAC News Update contains information on:

- **Election of new ASPAC Executive Council**
- **4th ASPAC Conference hosted by PETROSAINS – The Discovery Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2-5 March 2003**
- **ASPAC welcomes new members**
- **ASPAC Fellowship Awards for 2003**
- **Impact of science centres and museums on their surrounding communities**

ELECTION OF NEW ASPAC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Many candidates were nominated for the seven positions, which indicates that ASPAC is a very healthy organisation with many members who are willing to play a key role in the development of the network. Thank you to all those who stood for positions. The outgoing President of ASPAC, Dr CHEW Tuan Chiong, Director of Singapore Science Centre, announced the result of the election process at the 4th ASPAC Conference. The new 2003-2005 Executive Council is:

President: Mr Chee-kuen YIP
Director, Hong Kong Science Museum

Vice President: Dr Keiji HIGUCHI
Director, Nagoya City Science Museum,
Japan

Secretary: Mr Brenton HONEYMAN

Executive Operations Manager, Questacon –
The National Science & Technology Centre,
Australia

Treasurer: Ms Tengku Nasariah IBRAHIM

GM/CEO, PETROSAINS – The Discovery
Centre, Malaysia

Assistant Secretary: Mrs Gaye HAMILTON

Director, Scienceworks Museum, Australia

General Councillor: Mr Manop ISSAREE

National Science Museum, Thailand

General Councillor: Dr Yusheng WANG

Director General, China Science &
Technology Museum



Photo: The outgoing ASPAC President, Dr CHEW Tuan Chiong, announces the new members of the ASPAC Executive Council at the 4th ASPAC Conference in Kuala Lumpur.

Members of the new Executive Council present at the 4th ASPAC Conference met to consider a number of co-opted positions. It is planned to announce these additional positions during April.

The incoming President, Mr YIP Chee-kuen, thanked the outgoing Executive Council for their excellent work in furthering the work of ASPAC. In particular, he paid tribute to the contributions of Dr CHEW Tuan Chiong (as President) and Mr Geoff SNOWDON (as Secretary).

Thank you to Gaye Hamilton, ASPAC Assistant Secretary, who took on the role as Returning Officer for the election process.

ASPAC CONFERENCE IN KUALA LUMPUR – A TOWERING EVENT !

Congratulations to Tengku Nasariah T. Syed IBRAHIM and her team at PETROSAINS – The Discovery Centre for their outstanding work in organising and hosting the 4th ASPAC Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2-5 March 2003.



Photo: Ms Tengku Nasariah T. Syed IBRAHIM, GM/CEO of PETROSAINS, welcomes delegates to the Opening Ceremony of the 4th ASPAC Conference in Kuala Lumpur.

The conference theme **Science Centres: Learning Centres** attracted over 100 delegates from our member institutions across the ASPAC region, and from further afield, including Finland, Qatar, UK and USA.

It was fitting that, with such a visionary theme, two days of the conference were held

on the 41st level of the PETRONAS Twin Towers, providing spectacular views of the city of Kuala Lumpur. Delegates had ample opportunity to experience the excitement of PETROSAINS – The Discovery Centre, located in the PETRONAS Twin Towers.



Photo: One of the spectacular views of Kuala Lumpur from Level 41 of the PETRONAS Twin Towers, the venue for the first two days of the 4th ASPAC Conference.

On the final day of the conference, delegates travelled to the National Science Centre of Malaysia. Thank you to Mr A. JAYANATH, Director, and his team for hosting the final sessions of the conference.



Photo: Mr A. JAYANATH, Director, welcomes delegates to the National Science Centre of Malaysia, on the third day of the 4th ASPAC Conference in Kuala Lumpur.

Delegates enjoyed the opportunity to visit the galleries of the National Science Centre of Malaysia before joining an excursion to explore further highlights of Malaysia.

A report of the Conference will be published on the ASPAC website.

ASPAC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ASPAC is growing! At the 4th ASPAC Conference, the ASPAC President welcomed the following new members.



Photo: The new ASPAC President, Mr YIP Chee-kuen, welcomes new members of ASPAC.

New Full Members

- **Monash Science Centre, Australia**
- **Oil and Gas Discovery Centre, Brunei**
- **Wenzhou Science and Technology Museum, China**
- **National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (MeSci), Japan**
- **National Science Museum, Korea**
- **Palm Information Centre, Malaysia**
- **Children's Discovery Museum, Thailand**

New Sustaining Member

- **Stagno Tech Sdn Bhd, Malaysia**

New Associate Member

- **Exploratorium, USA**

Full contact details will be published on the new ASPAC website (due to be launched late April 2003).

ASPAC FELLOWSHIP AWARDS



Photo (from L to R) in front of a picture of the National Science Centre of Malaysia: Dr Dennis BARTELS, President of TERC, USA and conference keynote speaker; Ms May PAGSINOHIN, ASPAC Fellowship Winner; Mr Hendra SURYANTO, ASPAC Fellowship Winner; Mr Narin KIJWISALA, ASPAC Fellowship Winner; Mr YIP Chee-kuen, ASPAC President; Dr CHEW Tuan Chiong, outgoing ASPAC President. The outgoing ASPAC President, Dr CHEW Tuan Chiong.

Congratulations to the following science centre professionals who were awarded an ASPAC Fellowship in 2003:

Mr Hendra Suryanto
Head of Exhibition Division
Science & Technology Centre of Indonesia

Mr Narin Kijwisala
Educator
National Science Centre for Education,
Thailand

Ms May Pagsinohin
Deputy Director
Philippine Foundation for Science &
Technology

These Fellowship Awards provided financial support for each recipient to travel to Kuala Lumpur and participate in the 4th ASPAC Conference.

IMPACT OF SCIENCE CENTRES AND MUSEUMS ON THEIR SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

The science centre impact study was initiated by a group of science centre CEOs in 2001. These CEOs, from science centers around the world, identified a need to make information about the impact of science centres readily accessible so that they could use it to substantiate applications for funding and to justify the value of science centres in the community. The project aims to:

- collect and collate reports and studies on the roles played by science centres in their communities;
- summarise and present these studies in a useful, accessible way; and
- identify gaps in current knowledge on the impact of science centers.

The study focuses on four main types of impact: personal impact, societal impact, political impact and economic impact.

A summary report of this study can be accessed on the ECSITE website www.ecsite.net

An International Steering Committee for this project is currently considering the next phase of this study. For further information about this project, contact Dr Per-Edvin Persson (pelle@heureka.fi), Director of Heureka – The Finnish Science Centre (an ASPAC Associate Member) or Brenton Honeyman, ASPAC Secretary, (bhoneyman@questacon.edu.au)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about items published in this edition of the ASPAC News, or for publication of items in future editions, please contact:

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The Executive Council plans to distribute ASPAC News as an email attachment every two months. It will include news about ASPAC events and activities, issues impacting on the science centre industry in this region, and news about the people and activities of ASPAC member institutions.

Please ensure that the ASPAC Secretary is kept informed of any changes to your email contact details.

ASPAC Website

Thank you to the Singapore Science Centre for their generous hosting of the ASPAC website during recent years.

A new ASPAC website is currently being developed. We plan to launch the new site **by late April 2003**.

Check out the site at:

www.aspacnet.org