



ASIA PACIFIC NETWORK OF  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CENTRES

# NEWS UPDATE

October 2004

## WELCOME TO THIS EDITION

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- **ASPAC Fellowship winners**
- **Update of ASPAC directory**
- **ASPAC welcomes new Sustaining Member**
- **Opening of new Sciencentre**
- **National Science Centre for Education in Thailand celebrates 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary**
- **PICO International (M) Sdn Bhd**

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER

Don't miss out on the 5<sup>th</sup> ASPAC Conference in Hong Kong, 1-4 December 2004. The theme is "Science Centres: Nurturing Creativity" and an exciting program of sessions is being developed, featuring presenters from around the world.

For the latest program details and to download a registration form, visit the Conference website

<http://hk.science.museum/aspac2004>

The Organising Committee seeks your involvement in the following ways. Please ensure that your institution is prepared to participate in each of these sessions:

### 1. ASPAC Members Meeting

From 3.30 to 5.00 pm on 1 December, before the Welcome Reception, there will be an **ASPAC Members Meeting** at Hong Kong Science Museum.

Each ASPAC member institution is invited to send **at least one delegate** to this meeting. The draft agenda for this meeting includes:

- Executive Council reports
- Process and timeline for electing officers for the next Executive Council
- Future ASPAC Conferences
- New ASPAC Awards
- ASPAC role in APEC project

Further details of this meeting will be distributed.

### 2. ASPAC Members Corner

The Director or representative of each Full Member institution is requested to prepare a short (**maximum 4 minutes**) presentation to highlight up to three recent or planned ways of nurturing creativity in your institution. This will provide us all with a rich array of activities, programs and processes developed by science centres and museums to maintain their creative capacity.

Your presentation will be made in the ASPAC Members Corner plenary session either on the morning of 2 December or 3 December.

### 3. Marketing Time

This session, 5.00 to 6.00 pm on 2 December is an opportunity for ASPAC Member institutions, including our valued Sustaining Members and Associate Members, and other delegates to share information about new

products and services of interest to science centres and museums in the Asia Pacific region.

## ASPAC FELLOWSHIP WINNERS

Mrs Gaye Hamilton, Chair of the ASPAC Fellowship Selection Committee, is pleased to announce that the following applicants have been successful in being awarded the 2004 ASPAC Fellowship:

- Ms Ganigar Chen, Acting Head of Foreign Affairs Division, National Science Museum, Thailand
- Ms Genevieve Hernandez, Supervising Research Education Specialist, Philippine Science Centrum
- Dr Corrie Williams, Exhibition Manager, Monash Science Centre, Australia

Congratulations to each recipient. These fellowships will enable them to participate in the 5<sup>th</sup> ASPAC Conference in Hong Kong, 1-4 December 2004. Further information about ASPAC Fellowship Awards are available on the website: [www.aspacnet.org/awards.html](http://www.aspacnet.org/awards.html)

## UPDATE OF ASPAC DIRECTORY

Each member is requested to check the accuracy of their contact details as published on the ASPAC website and in an updated directory recently emailed to each member.

Thank you to those members who have already responded. Please contact the ASPAC Secretary (contact details at the end of this edition) if any listing needs to be corrected.

## ASPAC WELCOMES NEW SUSTAINING MEMBER

ASPAC welcomes **Science Exhibits Limited** in New Zealand as a Sustaining Member. Our newest member has provided the following introduction to their company.

Science Exhibits Limited may be the newest exhibits company on the block, but its team of specialist, skilled multi talented fabricators has over 100 years of collective experience in marketing, designing and building interactive exhibits. Headed by Alister Hallaway and Graham Christie, previously at Science Alive!, their exhibits are in science centres in four continents, having built in excess of one thousand exhibits.



The team has had considerable success on the global market, focusing especially on innovative designs that are effective, attractive, durable and easy to maintain. Unlike static exhibits, an interactive exhibit may have 20,000 visitors pushing, pulling and turning the moveable components, and that's only during one exhibition! There is no substitution for experience in knowing what works and keeps on working in this demanding environment. We strongly believe that quality must be engineered into the exhibits right from conception and not added as it is fabricated. State of the art technologies and materials are utilised.

We provide a total solutions management package from initial enquiry through to delivery and site installation. Listen to our clients: "Alister, I can not tell you how much of a joy it is to work with you, I give you the impossible and you do your best to make it happen."

For further information, email Alister or Graham – [alister@scienceexhibits.co.nz](mailto:alister@scienceexhibits.co.nz)

## OPENING OF NEW SCIENCENTRE

The new Sciencentre was officially opened by the Queensland Premier and the Minister for Education and the Arts on 17 September 2004 as part of a \$9.5 million redevelopment funded by the State Government. The new Sciencentre, previously located in Brisbane's George Street, is now operating on Level One of the Queensland Museum and features 96 interactive exhibits in three galleries: Body Zone, Earth Space and Action Stations.



Photo: Newton's Cradle exhibit at the new Queensland Sciencentre

The exhibits include favourite exhibits from the previous Sciencentre as well as many new exhibits.



Photo: The Wonky Walk exhibit is a new attraction at the newly opened Sciencentre

## NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE FOR EDUCATION CELEBRATES 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The National Science Centre for Education, Thailand's first science centre, celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during National Science Week 18-24 August 2004. ASPAC congratulates NSCE on the excellent contributions it has made to the people of Thailand over a quarter of a century.



Photo: The Minister for Science and Technology touches a plasma ball during the Opening Ceremony

Many exhibitions and activities were conducted under the theme "Science in

Learning and Playing". More than 100,000 visitors attended and enjoyed the Fair. The Minister for Science and Technology was a distinguished guest at the Grand Opening Day Ceremony.



Photo: A friendly welcome for visitors to the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations at NSCE



Photo: The Permanent Secretary of Education joining in the action at the Fair

## PICO INTERNATIONAL (M) SDN BHD

This article profiles the work of PICO International (M) Sdn Bhd, a Global Event Marketing Company, specialising in the area of Exhibitions, Museum Exhibits and Events Design and Fabrication. This company is a longstanding Sustaining Member of ASPAC, and has been active in the development of science centres in the ASPAC region.

PICO International (M) Sdn Bhd was commissioned to design, construct and install an interactive Oil and Gas Discovery Centre for Brunei Shell Petroleum Co. Ltd. The Discovery Centre highlights a wide scope of scientific knowledge related to hydrocarbons, from the formation of the Universe right down to alternative energy sources, which is presented in a language that the ordinary people can understand.



A reconstruction of an offshore drilling rig and a diorama featuring the daily life of drilling crew are just two of the captivating exhibits found there. Interest is also generated by means of interactive exhibits and multimedia shows and games. Besides imparting knowledge of the oil industry in an interesting way, the Centre also serves to illustrate advancements in technology applied in the oil industry.

## ASPAC INFORMATION

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