



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF
RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

MEDIA RELEASE

SATURDAY 14 JANUARY 2006

GLOBAL UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE MARKS FIRST MILESTONE

The International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU) will be officially launched at the Inaugural IARU Presidents' Meeting in Singapore today.

The IARU consists of 10 research-intensive universities – the Australian National University, ETH Zurich, National University of Singapore, Peking University, University of California, Berkeley, University of Cambridge, University of Copenhagen, University of Oxford, The University of Tokyo and Yale University.

The Presidents have elected Australian National University Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Chubb as chairman for 2006-07.

“The IARU is an exciting development with the potential for global benefit. It offers a chance to enhance the education of future leaders around the globe and produce research outcomes that benefit people beyond each of our national borders,” Professor Chubb said.

“This partnership between universities that share similar values opens the door to greater opportunities than any one university could provide on its own, particularly for global collaborative research.

“It gives the universities an opportunity to exchange ideas and experience in everything from teaching and education through to intellectual property and commercialization of research.

“To benefit our students, the IARU will explore the possibilities for joint teaching and joint supervision of graduate programs. Exchange opportunities for students and staff will be enhanced. We'll also look at ways to expand the career options for young researchers through collaborative research projects.

“The alliance also provides an opportunity for research-intensive universities to exchange best practice and protocols and benchmark against like universities around the world,” Professor Chubb said.

Hosted at National University of Singapore (NUS), the Inaugural IARU Presidents' Meeting considered papers on potential IARU research collaboration, covering topics such as movement of people, ageing and health, food and water, energy and environment, and security.

NUS President Professor Shih Choon Fong said, “NUS is especially proud to host this milestone meeting of esteemed global partners in research and education. NUS is committed to contributing to this alliance, which will be an important boost for research and educational collaboration with some of the best universities in the world.”

The Presidents' meeting was preceded by an IARU seminar on excellence in graduate education attended by senior officers from IARU members.

The IARU Presidents will meet annually, with the next meeting slated to take place at the Australian National University in Canberra in 2007.

For further information visit www.IARUni.org

Media Contacts:



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