



NEWS RELEASE

Association of Pacific Rim Universities Launches Website

January 21, 1999 – The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), an international alliance of 34 leading research universities in nations bordering the Pacific Ocean has established a website at <http://www.usc.edu/apru>.

“The Internet is a natural medium for an APRU presence, “ said APRU chairman Steven B. Sample, president of the University of Southern California. Dr. Sample pointed out that an important APRU initiative – undertaken at the group’s 1998 meeting at Seoul National University – specifically calls for the on-line sharing of libraries and other intellectual resources and for the promotion of faster and higher bandwidth connections among APRU member institutions.

The APRU site contains the principal papers and documents produced by the organization since its founding in 1997. More documents will be added as they become available, according to APRU secretary Richard L. Drobnick, vice provost at USC.

The next scheduled APRU presidents’ meeting will take place September 7-9 at the University of Auckland, in Auckland, New Zealand, coinciding with a meeting there of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation national leaders. APRU presidents have agreed to try to formalize a role as science and technology advisors to APEC.

Complete schedules for the Auckland meeting – documents that come out of the Auckland meeting – will be posted on the APRU website. Currently, 34 university presidents from 16 Pacific Rim economies are APRU members.

“We look for the APRU site to grow as the organization itself grows,” Dr Drobnick said.