



## Press Release

### New APRU Chair Elected at 10<sup>th</sup> APRU Annual Presidents Meeting

#### APRU Presidents meet Asia Pacific Industry Leaders in Sydney APRU World Institute Endorsed

University of Sydney's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gavin Brown AO was elected as the new Chairman of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) on June 24, 2006 at the 10<sup>th</sup> APRU Annual Presidents Meeting hosted by the University of Sydney. Vice-Chancellor Brown, who was elected APRU's Vice Chair at last year's meeting, takes office as Chair for a two-year term. His successful election makes him the third Chairman of the Association, and University of Sydney the first Australian university to take leadership of APRU after University of Southern California and National University of Singapore.

APRU, a consortium of 36 leading research universities in the Pacific Rim, was formed in 1997. APRU aims to foster cooperation in education, research and enterprise thereby contributing to the economic, scientific and cultural advancement in the Pacific Rim. (Factsheets on APRU and APRU Governance and Membership are attached at Annexes A and B).



Professor Shih Choon Fong, President of National University of Singapore, handing over the leadership rein to University of Sydney's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gavin Brown.



**APRU Leadership - left to right:** University of Southern California President and APRU Founding Chairman, Professor Steven Sample; NUS President and APRU Chairman Emeritus, Professor Shih Choon Fong; Vice-Chancellor of University of Sydney and newly-elected APRU Chairman, Professor Gavin Brown; NUS Vice President (University and Global Relations) and APRU Secretary General, Dr Lawrence Loh; and APRU Secretary General Emeritus, Dr Richard Drobnick.

## *APRU Forum on the Macro Environment of Higher Education*

The Presidents Meeting, which took place from June 22 to 24, 2006, included a Forum with the theme, "The New Macro Environment of Higher Education: Redefining University-Industry Interfaces and Paradigm Shifts in Science and Technologies". Leading industry experts from the Americas, Asia and Australasia were invited to speak at the Forum.

The Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC, hosted a welcome evening reception for university presidents and APRU leadership at the Government House on June 22, 2006. A welcome dinner at the Parliament House was hosted by the Honourable John J Aquilina, Member of Parliament Speaker of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly.

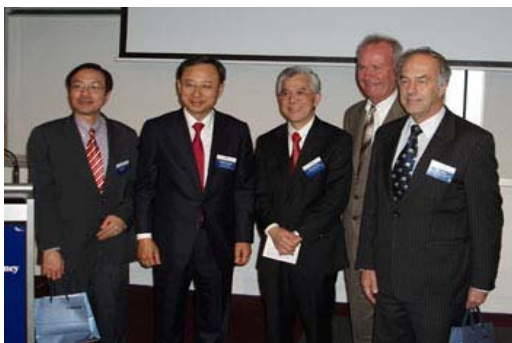


**Welcome Reception:** APRU Chairman Professor Shih Choon Fong presenting a token of appreciation to Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC.

The Forum commenced with a breakfast talk by President Yuichiro Anzai of Keio University on the dynamic roles of universities in a competitive environment. This was followed by the morning's plenary session on university-industry relations with Mr John Mork, President and CEO of Energy Corporation America speaking on "Basin of Opportunities" and Mr Xie Ke Hai, Vice President of Peking University Founder Group Co. Ltd. on university business ventures in China.

The afternoon's session comprised a talk by Dr Hwang Chang-Gyu, President and CEO of Semiconductor Business, Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. on the future possibilities of semiconductors and the interface of biomedical and IT applications for the future. Mr Will Delaat, Managing Director of Merck Sharp and Dohme (Australia) Pte. Ltd., the final speaker at the Forum gave insights into pharmaceutical industry innovation and life science advances.

Speakers engaged APRU university presidents in a lively exchange of topics from university-business ventures in China to biomedical innovation in pure and applied scientific research.



**Second from Left:** President and CEO, Semiconductor Business, Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd, Dr Chang-Gyu Hwang.

**Left of Dr Hwang:** APRU Secretary General and NUS Vice President (University and Global Relations), Dr Lawrence Loh.

**Right of Dr Hwang:** APRU Chairman and NUS President, Professor Shih Choon Fong; APRU Secretary General Emeritus, Dr Richard Drobnick; and Dr John Hearn from University of Sydney.



**APRU 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Presidents Meeting:** University presidents and APRU's key officers at University of Sydney.

The Forum convened a total of 26 university presidents and 56 delegates from the Americas, Asia and Australasia including the Australian Group of Eight (Go8) university presidents who were also invited to the Forum.

#### *APRU World Institute*

In line with APRU's mission to foster cooperation in education, research and enterprise, the newly established APRU World Institute (AWI) was a major initiative endorsed at the Presidents Meeting. AWI's Governing Board's Chairman is President of National University of Singapore and APRU Chairman Emeritus, Professor Shih Choon Fong while the Institute's Managing Director is Dr Richard Drobnick from University of Southern California, who is also Secretary General Emeritus of APRU.

AWI aims to become a leading center for research excellence in interdisciplinary studies and policy-making, not aligned with any specific culture, religion or political system, in order to help decision-makers better understand global transformations in an increasingly integrated world. It draws strengths from APRU's 36-member talent base and beyond to engage in research issues of global significance relating to public health, environmental sustainability as well as economic integration. It is the first such established institute in the Asia Pacific region to transcend disciplinary, geographical and cultural boundaries.

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## FACT SHEET ON THE ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC RIM UNIVERSITIES

### OBJECTIVES

The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) is a consortium of leading universities in the Pacific Rim. Formed in 1997, it aims to foster cooperation in education, research and enterprise thereby contributing to the economic, scientific and cultural advancement in the Pacific Rim.

### APRU STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

Member institutions are represented in APRU by their presidents who meet annually. The chairman of APRU is elected by the members and serves a two-year renewable term. The current chairman of APRU is Professor Gavin Brown, Vice-Chancellor of University of Sydney.

#### *Steering Committee*

The steering committee provides leadership for the association. Members of the steering committee are elected. The APRU chairman also serves as chair to the steering committee.

#### *Secretariat*

The APRU secretariat, headed by the secretary general, coordinates the agenda and programs of APRU. The secretariat also plays an important role in driving APRU's communications and outreach. The APRU secretariat is presently located at the National University of Singapore.

### APRU MEMBERSHIP

APRU's membership reflects a geographic balance around the Pacific Rim, representing the region's rich diversity while deepening intellectual and cross-cultural exchanges among members. Members are recognized as leading universities in their respective regions with a track record of high quality academic research and education programs.

To be a member of APRU, candidate universities from around the Pacific Rim must satisfy four criteria, namely academic excellence, research intensity, global outlook and innovative dimension.

More information on this can be found in the fact sheet on membership criteria or at the APRU website [www.apru.org](http://www.apru.org)

### APRU ACTIVITIES

#### *Annual Presidents' Meeting*

The centerpiece of APRU's calendar of events is the Annual Presidents' Meeting. This brings together presidents of member universities. At this meeting, presidents discuss issues of strategic importance to research universities. They also address issues relating to APRU's governance and strategy as well as review APRU's initiatives and programs.

#### *Senior Staff Meeting*

At this meeting, the senior staff of APRU universities review the development and implementation of APRU activities. The senior staff make their recommendations to the presidents at the Annual Presidents' Meeting. They also address topics of importance, particularly to the globalization of research universities.

### ***APRU World Institute***

The APRU World Institute (AWI) is established to harness scientific research to address issues of global importance, drawing on the talent base of APRU universities. AWI's vision is to be a leader in research and intellectual inquiry that strives to address issues of global significance. Its mission is to bring together talent from around the world to engage in research of scientific, social, and economic issues of global impact. Issues include those relating to the public health, environmental sustainability and economic integration. This institute, affiliated to APRU and hosted by National University of Singapore, transcends disciplinary, geographical and cultural boundaries. It is the first of its kind to emerge from the Asia Pacific.

### ***APRU Enterprise***

APRU Enterprise is a strategic initiative leveraging on the diverse and distinctive strengths of member universities in education, research, technology management and application. Aiming to advance knowledge and technology transfer among members, APRU Enterprise provides a platform to promote best entrepreneurial programs and practices as well as to launch innovations.

### ***APRUNet***

APRUNet aims to assist in the development of advanced Internet capabilities among APRU universities and APEC economies in collaboration with strategic and commercial partners. The main goal is to develop teaching and research applications that utilize advanced Internet technologies, e.g., distance learning, virtual conferences and tele-medicine. One of its major events is the Distance Learning and the Internet Conference (DLI), an annual series that brings together APRU DLI conferences bring together leading distance learning experts from academia, business and government from around the world. The primary objective of DLI is to foster new international distance learning projects and partnerships around the Pacific Rim.

### ***Fellows Program***

Bringing together faculty members from various disciplinary backgrounds, the Fellows Program is an annual seminar series which examines issues relating to sociopolitical, cultural, and economic realities in the Pacific Rim region, under an overarching theme, "The Pacific Rim in the 21st Century". Each year's seminar focuses on a sub-theme and complements scholarly discussions with synchronized field experiences in APRU member economies.

### ***Doctoral Students Conference***

An annual seminar, the Doctoral Students Conference aims to improve the international experience of doctoral students, by providing network opportunities and a supportive venue for the presentation of their research results to their peers for critical comment before final submission to their examiners. The papers presented at the conference address a wide range of topics grouped under an annual theme. Workshop sessions preparing doctoral students for an academic career are also held at the conference.

### ***APRU Research Symposiums***

From time to time, APRU sponsors or organizes research symposiums to provide networking platforms to facilitate the professional development of APRU researchers and exchange of knowledge. Some of the past research symposiums covered topics on Pacific Rim studies, digital libraries, microgravity and infectious diseases. Current and upcoming symposium series include earthquake hazards around the Pacific Rim and brain and mind research in the Asia Pacific.

### ***Undergraduate Summer Program***

Arising from a project initiative in 2004 where the issue of student mobility was raised, member universities sought to increase the exchange of students across the Pacific Rim. Explorations in network exchange models have resulted in summer school programs between APRU member universities being opened up to students from fellow member universities. Exchange students are eligible for the program that will include lectures, field trips and introductory lessons in local culture, language, politics and economy.

## ***APRU Research Projects***

### ***Technology Transfer and Wealth Creation (T2WC)***

The T2WC research project addresses a timely and critical topic of concern for APRU members. The study looks at how universities transfer and apply new knowledge and technologies generated by research. It involves a multi-university study on the scope, pattern, trends and impact of technology transfer activities by universities in the Pacific Rim.

### ***Internationalization of APRU Universities***

This research project studies the internationalization activities of APRU universities in teaching, research and outreach. It involves a multi-university survey of best practices in this area, with survey results being shared at a research workshop.

For more details of our activities and research projects, please visit the APRU website at [www.apru.org](http://www.apru.org) or contact:

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## APRU Governance and Membership

### Steering Committee

<b>Chairman:</b>	Gavin Brown, Vice-Chancellor, University of Sydney
<b>Chairman Emeritus:</b>	Shih, Choon Fong, President, National University of Singapore
<b>Members:</b>	Hiroshi Komiyama, President, University of Tokyo Vladimir I. Kurilov, President, Far Eastern National University Steven B. Sample, President, University of Southern California Wang, Shenghong, President, Fudan University Henry Yang, Chancellor, University of California, Santa Barbara
<b>Secretary General:</b>	Lawrence Loh, Vice President, National University of Singapore
<b>Secretary General Emeritus:</b>	Richard Drobnick, Director, Center for Global Business Excellence, University of Southern California
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Danielle Lim, Associate Director, APRU Secretariat

### Member Universities

APRU current membership comprises 36 leading universities from 16 economies in the Pacific Rim.

#### Australia

Australian National University  
University of Sydney

#### Canada

University of British Columbia

#### Chile

University of Chile

#### China

Fudan University  
Hong Kong University of Science & Technology  
Peking University  
Tsinghua University  
University of Science & Technology of China  
Zhejiang University

#### Chinese Taipei

National Taiwan University

#### Indonesia

University of Indonesia

#### Japan

Keio University  
Kyoto University  
Osaka University  
University of Tokyo  
Waseda University

#### Korea

Seoul National University

#### Malaysia

University of Malaya

#### Mexico

National Autonomous University of Mexico

#### New Zealand

University of Auckland

#### Philippines

University of the Philippines

#### Russia

Far Eastern National University

#### Singapore

National University of Singapore

#### Thailand

Chulalongkorn University

#### United States of America

California Institute of Technology  
Stanford University  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Davis  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Oregon  
University of Southern California  
University of Washington