

January 2009

*The purpose of the ICA is to promote international development and collaboration in all fields of acoustics including research, development, education, and standardisation.*

Dear Member Society,

I am writing to update you on some of the activities of the International Commission for Acoustics (ICA) during 2008.

<http://www.icacommission.org/>

The Board appointed at the 2007 General Assembly had the 2008 meeting at the time of the Acoustics 08 conference in Paris. The unconfirmed minutes from this meeting are available from the web. This was a well attended Board meeting and the day long meeting allowed for good discussion on many matters important to ICA at this time. In particular there was consideration of the governance and options for changes to the structure of the board. The Board will continue to work on this for voting by the ICA membership at the next General Assembly in Sydney in 2010.

## Board Members

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**Russia** Alexander Maizel

**Spain** Antonio Perez Lopez

**Turkey** Zerhan Yuksel Can

**USA** Charles E. Schmid

**EAA** Luigi Maffei

**FIA** Jorge Patricio

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**I-INCE** H. Tachibana

**WESPAC** Renhe Zhang

The membership of the ICA has not been increasing while it is clear that the interest in acoustics is expanding. So the Board is seeking suggestions for encouraging more members for ICA. We request the membership to forward any suggestions on societies or groups which should be invited to consider membership of ICA.

The Board has been active in pursuing the links of ICA to the international unions. ICA is an Affiliated Commission of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) and the International Union of Applied and Theoretical Mechanics (IUTAM). ICA President attended the 2007 IUPAP meeting in Rio de Janeiro and the 2008 General Assembly in Japan. ICA Secretary General attended the IUTAM General Assembly in Adelaide. ICA is a Scientific Associate of the International Council for Science ICSU and a meeting was held with ICSU senior management during the time of the acoustics conference in Paris. This provided valuable insight for the preparation the ICA Board needs to do before again seeking full Union status within ICSU. Achievement of this status would be a great international recognition of the discipline of acoustics and the impact it has on all aspects of life.

Over the year the ICA Secretary General has been busy with a range of duties and in particular the updating of the records for the member societies. I urge you to advise the ICA any time there are changes in the contact details for your society. The Treasurer has been busy managing the income and balancing with the expenditure. To reduce the administration and bank fees involved with your annual subscription we urge you to consider paying the 2009 and 2010 subscriptions at the one time. At the General Assembly in 2010 there are plans for a proposal for an option of a single 3 three year subscription for those societies with only a small number of shares.

Your society will have received the request for payment of the annual subscription to the ICA. As always, we would be extremely grateful for the timely payment of these subscriptions, and as has been the case during the last few years, we also invite you to make any additional voluntary contributions to particular activities of the ICA, especially the ICA Young Scientist Conference Attendance Grant Scheme. This scheme will of course be used to support the attendance of Young Scientists at the ICA2010 to be held in Sydney in 2010.

The next major activity for the ICA is the congress in Sydney, Australia in 2010. We hope you will support and assist with the promotion of this event. If there are any suggestions you may have for special speakers, special sessions etc please pass them onto the organizers; [www.ica2010sydney.org/](http://www.ica2010sydney.org/).

I also draw to your attention the support that is available from the ICA for Specialty Conferences in Acoustics. These ICA-sponsored conferences are normally limited to a specialized topic with an expected attendance of about 100. Support for regional or national conferences, especially in developing regions, will be considered as long as the conference has an international character. The details of the application are available from the ICA web page <http://www.icacommission.org>

We thank your society for its continued support of the activities of the ICA and wish you all the very best for a prosperous and successful 2009

With very best wishes,

Samir Gerges  
President ICA 2008-2010.