

COMMISSION EDUCATION, RESEARCH TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY

Newsletter 1; February 2007.

Dear Colleagues

One of the tasks that I intend to achieve in my role as Chair of this Commission is to produce a newsletter to all members. This is the first attempt to provide information and to solicit information and ideas from you. I am happy to receive short articles, opinions, notification of local, national or international events that might be of interest to members. Please do not hesitate to provide relevant and interesting copy that I can organise to distribute.

This first newsletter provides notice of two Symposia to be held in 2008 and seeks ideas for themes or topics that we could organise for the 2010 Congress in Lisbon. I look forward to receiving your emails.

IHC2006 Seoul, Korea.

The Commission was involved in two successful events at the International Congress in Seoul. The first was a wide ranging and successful Workshop, organised by Professor Geoff Dixon that attracted more than 65 people to listen to a number of excellent speakers address some of the key issues confronting horticultural education today. In addition Professor Dan Lineberger, Texas A & M University, USA, provided an erudite and fascinating insight into the potentials of e-learning as one of the invited Colloquia speakers.

In addition the Commission held a lively Business meeting that was attended by a record number of people who discussed possible future activities for the Commission to undertake over the next 4 years.

IHC2010, Lisbon, Portugal.

I have been invited to participate on the Scientific Committee for this Congress. Professor Luis Rallo, the Chair of the committee has asked for Colloquia and Symposium (maximum of 10 is being proposed) themes as well as general themes for the Congress.

I would welcome any suggestions on exciting, challenging, futuristic innovative topics or themes that this Commission would sponsor in 2010. I would be grateful if you could send these to me **before 15 March 2007** at ewmrhewett@xtra.co.nz so that I can make some recommendations on behalf of the Commission at a meeting of the Scientific Committee that is being held in April. I look forward to your enthusiastic responses.

Symposia

The Commission is co-sponsoring two Symposia in 2008 in different parts of the world and on quite different themes. They are as follows:

April 27 - May 1, 2008, International Symposium “Plants, People and Places”. Westminster, London, United Kingdom:

This is a co-sponsored Symposium between Commissions Education, Research Training and Consultancy, Urban Horticulture and Section Ornamentals. It will allow discussion and debate on the importance of plants to people and the places in which they live. Major themes include:

- Achieving sustainable environments by managed resource application
- Conservation of biodiversity
- Providing educational opportunities and engaging community involvement;
- Managing and auditing macro- and micro green spaces;
- Designing urban and rural landscapes for recreation, sport and therapy.

For further information contact: Prof. G.R. Dixon, Hill Rising, Horsecastles Lane, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 6BH, United Kingdom. Phone: (44)01935816684, Fax: (44)01935816684, email: 113541.1364@compuserve.com

December 7th -11th, 2008. ISHS Symposium “Research Training and Extension in Horticultural Science: Staff, Student, Institution and Industry Partnerships in a Changing World”. (final approval pending)

Lotus Pang Suan Kaew Hotel, Chiang Mai, Thailand

This is a co-sponsored Symposium between Commission Research Training and Extension in conjunction with Horticultural Economics and Management. While this symposium seeks to address various issues and approaches associated with research training and extension in horticultural science, we will also welcome papers and posters that discuss recent advances more generally in any of the following topics:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical perspectives and personalities associated with the teaching of horticultural science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing horticulture and horticultural science programs (public perceptions, promotional programs, employment opportunities, etc)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Models of delivering graduate education in horticulture/horticultural science • Models of delivering undergraduate education in horticulture/horticultural science • Models of delivering community college/technical and further education training in horticulture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student issues (student perceptions, recruitment, enrolments, student attitudes, student exchange, internships, study scholarships, sponsorship, career guidance and opportunities, etc) • Staff issues (professional qualifications, performance appraisal, salary and conditions, professional development, staff exchanges, etc).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currency of curriculum and courses (meeting current needs, internationalizing curriculum and courses, digitizing school curricula, etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of skills - What skills do industry and government they require in new graduates in horticulture, horticultural science, horticultural economics?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research supervision (horticulture graduate programs, supervisor quality, grant amounts and sources, partnerships, etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial training and extension (case studies of grower and community based learning programs, innovation in planning, evaluating or conducting extension programs)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility of education and training in horticulture and horticultural science (school, youth, industry, mature aged, etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborations between Industry, Universities and technical and further education training in horticulture
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of the horticultural industry in training horticulture staff and/or students • Define what the industries want in terms of a skilled graduate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry expectations in developing researchers, advisers, managers and technicians in horticultural science • How do Universities and polytechnics meet these needs and sell the opportunities to students

An abstract of no more than 500 words should be submitted by February 28th, 2008 to Associate Professor David Aldous, daldous@unimelb.edu.au

For further information contact:

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Future activities

I would welcome any suggestions for activities such as Workshops, Symposia or Conferences that members think that we could or should organise. In particular I encourage everyone to think about organising conjoint sessions with other ISHS Symposia where part of the programme could be devoted to issues that are important to education, training and consultancy.

Do not hesitate to contact me with your ideas or comments; better still volunteer to organise an event in your part of the world either as a stand alone venture or better still in conjunction with some other agency with similar interests and goals to us.

Errol W. Hewett

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