



# IRPA BULLETIN

*For RP professionals, by RP professionals*

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**5TH ASIAN & OCEANIC IRPA REGIONAL CONGRESS ON RADIATION PROTECTION**  
**Key Issues in Radiation Protection | Evolving Standards, Risk Perception & Opportunities**

(Brad Cassels, Congress Convenor, ARPS President)

It is our great pleasure to announce that the 5<sup>th</sup> Asian and Oceanic IRPA Regional Congress on Radiation Protection (AOCR5) will be held in Melbourne, Australia's intellectual capital, from May 20<sup>th</sup> to May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. The first AOCR5 was in Seoul in 2002 and followed by the ones held in Beijing, Tokyo and Kuala Lumpur. The theme of this congress is 'Key Issues in Radiation Protection: Evolving Standards, Risk Perception and Opportunities'.

AOCR5 is organised by the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) and the Australasian Radiation Protection Society (ARPS). The President and Convenor of the congress is Associate Professor Brad Cassels, the current president of ARPS. The Local Organising Committee is chaired by Cameron Jeffries and the Scientific Program Committee is chaired by Associate Professor Tony Hooker.

AOCR5 is aiming to discuss the key issues in radiation protection, the evolving standards, and how such changes present both risks and opportunities. The World Health Organisation (WHO) is developing an International Framework for protection against non-ionising radiation exposure, including electromagnetic radiation (from static field to optical radiation) and acoustic radiation (ultrasound and infrasound). This activity is motivated by the interest of Member States of the United Nations for clear guidance based on scientific evidence. The international diversity of guidelines and gaps in certain areas have proved challenging for regulators and policy-makers in their efforts to develop national non-ionising radiation legislation. Dr Rick Tinker will present on this very important subject at AOCR5 in Melbourne. The full program includes 3 days of Informative Scientific Presentations, refresher courses, trade exhibition, social functions, award ceremony, and post conference technical tours.

The Congress will be the IRPA regional meeting for 2018 in the Asia-Pacific Region and offers the opportunity to meet and discuss radiation safety matters in all areas of application of ionising and non-ionising radiation. Radiation safety professionals face continuing challenges with evolving standards, increased proliferation of complex radiation technologies, such as medical sector radiation applications, in an environment of tight resources and increased regulatory scrutiny. The scientific program will include refresher courses, oral and poster presentations, young scientist award and special sessions related to WHO, IAEA, AOARP and IRPA Association Societies.

The Congress sub-themes can be found at <http://www.aocr5.org/program/>

## Your IRPA Commission on Publications

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We are proud to confirm three keynote speakers who will headline our congress. Dr Carl Magnus Larsson is Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA). Dr Miroslav Pinak is from the International Atomic Energy Agency, Austria and is Head of Radiation Safety and Monitoring Section within the Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety at the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security. Dr Keiichi Akahane is Leader of the External Dosimetry Team, Department of Radiation Measurement and Dose Assessment, the National Institutes for Quantum and Radiological Science and Technology. Other speakers will include many leading figures in radiation safety and protection.

As well as all this fantastic technical content, the program also includes plenty of opportunities for networking with industry colleagues, with a number of social functions included in the full registration package.

The Congress Welcome Reception will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Metropolis, Southbank and is included within a full conference registration. Day tickets and guest tickets will also be available for an additional charge. Canapes, substantial food items and beverages will be provided. The evening will be relaxed, enjoyable and a fantastic chance to make new connections as well as catch up with old friends.

The congress will conclude with a Gala dinner on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the historic Melbourne Town Hall. The Gala Dinner is the highlight of the congress social program and will be a fantastic way to conclude what will have been a great few days at AOCRP-5. There will be an opportunity on May 24<sup>th</sup> for a post congress Technical Tour of a number of specialised laboratories maintained by ARPANSA. Places are limited so delegates must register to secure a place on the tour.

The venue of the congress is the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, which has won some of Australia's most prestigious architecture and design awards. Located on the banks of Melbourne's Yarra River, close to the heart of the CBD and just 30 minutes from Melbourne's International Airport, the venue is an easy walking distance from a range of accommodation options. Melbourne's charm is characterised by its enchanting laneways, stunning waterfront precincts and trendy neighbourhoods, and provides an endless choice of shopping hot spots and culturally-diverse, award-winning restaurants, cafés and bars in weird and wonderful locations.

Melbourne is blessed with a mild climate, lots of sunshine, world class food and arguably the best coffee in Australia!

AOCRP5 will provide a welcoming scientific platform for dedicated professionals to exchange information, knowledge and experiences in the field of radiation protection and nuclear safety. The congress is designed for people working in all areas of Radiation Protection, including; Education and Training, Medical Physics, Radiation Safety, Nuclear Services, Instrumentation, Scientific Officers, Scientific Research, Health Science and Students studying any of these fields.

Please visit [www.aocrp-5.org](http://www.aocrp-5.org) to discover all that we have to offer.

We look forward to meeting you at AOCRP-5.



AOCRP-5 is proudly hosted by:



# Australasian Radiation Protection Society (ARPS)

(Cameron Jeffries, Immediate Past President, ARPS)

Originally founded in 1975 as the Australian Radiation Protection Society, the Society was renamed the Australasian Radiation Protection Society in 1997 to reflect the increasing involvement of members from outside Australia, particularly from New Zealand. We hold an annual national conference where members share experiences and catch up with our colleagues.

The primary objective of the society is to promote the principles, and practice of radiation protection, and to this end it seeks to:

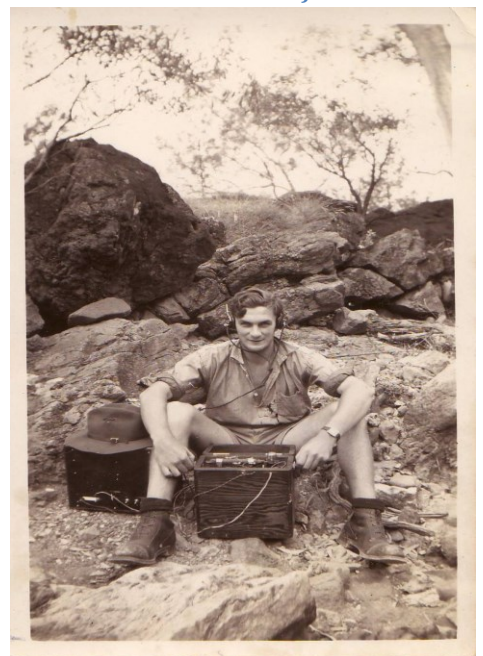
- Establish, and maintain professional standards of radiation protection practice
- Encourage co-operation among persons engaged in radiation protection activities
- Provide for and give support to scientific meetings on topics related to radiation protection
- Encourage publications in the field of radiation protection

ARPS has collaborated with the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine and the Australian Institute of Occupational Hygiene to establish the Australasian Radiation Protection Accreditation Board, which provides certification in Radiation Protection.

ARPS members work with both ionizing and non-ionizing radiation in medicine, pure and applied science, industry and mining and with regulatory agencies. ARPS members take pride in being practical problem solvers who often have to carry work in challenging environmental conditions, including tropical, arid, alpine, marine and Antarctic climates. Our members undertake outreach to schools and during national science week to promote radiation protection.

For more information, please contact: [secretariat@arps.org.au](mailto:secretariat@arps.org.au); or visit our website: [www.arps.org.au](http://www.arps.org.au)

(Bob Fry operating his home made Geiger counter in the Mt Painter area of South Australia)





## **IRPA Consultation: Is the System of Protection 'Fit for Purpose' and can it be readily communicated? Views of the Radiation Protection Professionals**

(Roger Coates, OBE, IRPA President)

Over the past two years IRPA has been running a consultation, seeking views from the Associate Societies on current issues relating to the System of Protection. It is a pleasure to announce that the report has now been published as a Memorandum in the Journal of Radiological Protection [Coates et al 2017 *J. Radiol. Prot.* <https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/aa9e5c>].

The consultation was focussed on seeking views from the professional radiation protection community on the effectiveness of the system of protection and its ability to be widely communicated and understood by interested parties.

Many international organisations have a key role in the evolution of the system of protection and in formulating standards and guidance supporting its implementation. However, the practical implementation of radiation protection is undertaken by thousands of practitioners around the world, including operators, medical personnel, regulators, researchers and specialist advisors, who have this crucial day to day role, including communicating requirements and approaches to a wide range of lay persons. It is IRPA's task to ensure that this practical experience is able to be fed back into the ongoing development of the system.

We now look forward to working with the Associate Societies, representing the practitioner community, and with the international organisations over the coming period in order to explore the issues raised in this report.

This report is by no means the end of this discussion. The evolution of the System of Protection is a long term process, and we would welcome further views over the coming period. To this end we would encourage all Associate Societies to ensure that the report is given the widest circulation amongst the radiation protection community, and to develop further views and experiences which would add to the debate in due course.



# INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION IN MEDICINE, 20-24 August 2017

(Eduardo Medina Gironzini, Peruvian Society of Radiation Protection)

The Symposium was held in Arequipa, Peru, at the National University of San Agustín (UNSA). The event counted on 221 participants from 15 different countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Spain, USA, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The Symposium was organized by the Peruvian Society of Radioprotection (SPR) as part of the celebration of its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This event was supported by UNSA, PAHO, IAEA, LANENT, ALFIM among others.

The opening ceremony began with speeches by Eduardo Medina Gironzini (President of the Symposium), Pablo Jimenez (PAHO), Simone Kodlulovich (Chairman, Scientific Committee) and Horacio Barreda, Vice-Rector UNSA.

The aim of this Symposium was to bring together representative stakeholders to present, discuss and identify the main problems in the field, as well as to propose solutions for Latin America according to the Bonn Call for Action (2012) and the Ibero-American Conference on Radiological Protection in Medicine – CIPRAM (Madrid 2016).

The Symposium focused on technical discussions held in different sessions, each one counting on a moderator, an exhibitor and a table purposely organized with international experts. Each session brought CIPRAM's conclusions and the speaker's contributions, followed by the experts' discussions. The success of each session was reflected by the maximum interaction among presenters and also with attendees, in analyzing existing problems and discussing innovative solutions.

The symposium counted on 70 papers accepted for oral presentation. Five (5) refresher courses were offered, with great audience support (120 attendees/course).

In addition to the activities above, the Binational Meeting on Radiological Protection was held, which counted on the participation of colleagues from Chile and Peru. The aim of this meeting was to provide an international forum for information and experience exchange in the medical field, as well as to consolidate joint actions to improve the conditions of radiation protection in the two countries.

For the final day of the Symposium, a Roundtable was organized, which was entitled: "How to improve radiological protection in medicine in Latin America?" This session counted on representatives of the several sessions presented during the Symposium: Simone Kodlulovich (Brazil), Pablo Jimenez and Ileana Fleitas (OPS), José Luis Rodríguez and Carlos Ubeda (Chile), Juan Cardenas Herrera (Cuba), Gustavo Sarria and Eduardo Medina Gironzini (Peru).

The experts concluded that it is essential to disseminate international agreements and promote their application with the support and collaboration of the Professional Societies and all those involved in the processes. To achieve this objective, it is necessary to create a Regional Commission on Radiological Protection in Medicine, initially integrated by the members of this round table who, in a near future, will also be responsible for monitoring the agreements and activities in Latin America, regarding the implementation of the Bonn Call for Action and the CIPRAM agreements. Furthermore, this group will coordinate and support the realization of the next regional meetings on the subject, among other functions.

The details of this successful Symposium can be seen at website or social networks:

[www.sprperu.org/simposio2017](http://www.sprperu.org/simposio2017); [www.facebook.com/Proteccion.Radiologica.Oficial](https://www.facebook.com/Proteccion.Radiologica.Oficial).





## **Task Group on Public Understanding**

(Hiroko Yoshida, TG Chair and Member of IRPA Executive Council)

Experiences from past emergencies, including the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in 2011 and the following post-disaster recovery, highlight public understanding as one of the most important challenges, and this challenge is common across almost all public interfaces regarding radiation and risk. There is a growing need and interest for the Associate Societies (AS) to enhance their programmes in this important area. This is a key but challenging activity which needs further support. IRPA therefore continues a Task Group (TG) activity for Public Understanding based on the results in the previous TG on Public Understanding. The objective of a current TG is broadening from sharing materials to assisting the AS and individual professionals to better understand the challenges of communication, and to be better equipped to meet them in all relevant situations including normal activities, emergencies, and post- accident recovery.

The current TG, in which I'm leading, has 15 members and one student, including some members volunteered for the contributions from the previous term, from 14 ASs and from the International Organization for Medical Physics (IOMP). We have started TG activities from collecting information for updating the 'Public Understanding' page on the IRPA website, which contains resource material for assisting ASs to meet the challenge of public understanding. It is my great pleasure to have received a lot of information on it from all of TG members. We should soon update a Public Understanding page on the IRPA website.

Our programme is now getting into high gear, but of course further offers of interest to participate in this work are always welcome.

## **IRPA14 Congress Proceedings Published**

It is our pleasure to announce that the IRPA14 Proceedings has been published! A big "Thank You" for the Editorial Team: Christopher Clement, Jack Valentin, Haruyuki Ogino, Devon Foote, Julie Reyjal, Laila Omar-Nazir.

These proceedings comprise 244 papers and 660 abstracts, including contributions relating to the Prize lectures, the twelve topical areas highlighted at the congress, the 50th Anniversary of IRPA celebration session, the 20 Refresher Courses, and the presentations of the Associate Societies. Being more than 2000 pages in total, they are divided into five volumes, each available below for free download. <http://www.irpa.net/page.asp?id=2>



(Bert Gerristen, Congress Secretary)

We invite you to participate in the **5<sup>th</sup> European IRPA Congress**, which will take place in **The Hague, The Netherlands, 4-8 June 2018**.

The overall theme of this congress is 'Encouraging Sustainability in Radiation Protection' and will feature, beside a comprehensive scientific programme,

- Dedicated sessions for Young Professionals
- Dedicated refreshers series, (partially digital) poster sessions and elevator pitches
- Plenty of opportunities to share experiences and opinions with colleagues
- An all-round technical exhibition and technical visits programme

The Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) has already received a significant number of abstracts, but do not hesitate to submit your contribution before **January 7<sup>th</sup> 2018**. The distribution of the already received abstracts is as follows:

- Fundamental and/or General issues: 26%
- Industry: 11%
- Medical: 21%
- Non-Ionising Radiation: 1%
- Research and Applications: 41%

## Deadlines

- **Abstract submission**  
The deadline for IRPA2018 abstracts is extended to **January 7<sup>th</sup> 2018**. Note that this new deadline will not be extended furthermore.  
<http://irpa2018europe.com/registration/call-for-abstracts/>
- **'Early Bird' registration**  
The deadline for 'early bird' registration is **February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018**. After that date the registration fee will be increased by €150,-  
<http://www.irpa2018europe.com/registration>

## More information

You will find further detailed information on our website: [www.irpa2018europe.com](http://www.irpa2018europe.com)

Please join the IRPA2018 LinkedIn group to stay informed on all the congress information  
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8633053>

Follow us on our Twitter-account: [#IRPA2018](https://twitter.com/IRPA2018)

*We hope to welcome you on June 4, 2018 in The Hague.*