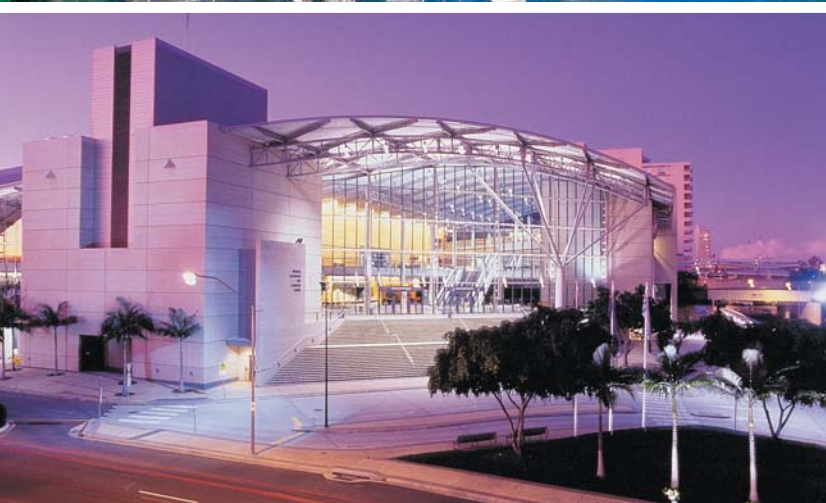




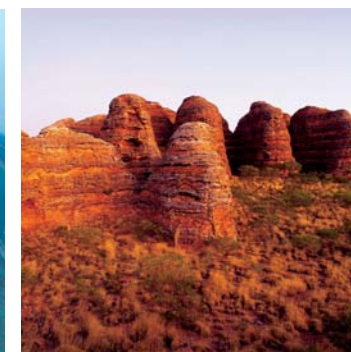
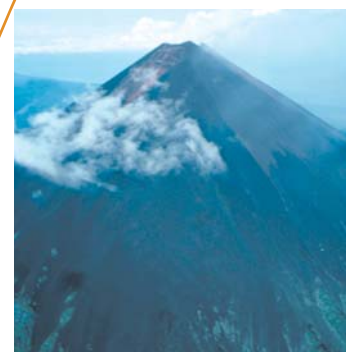
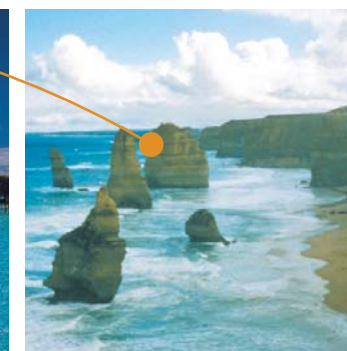
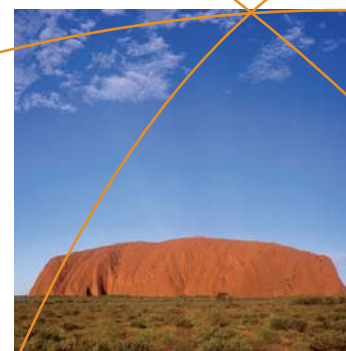
The Congress Venue

The IGC will occupy the entire Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. This excellent state-of-the-art venue is in the attractive South Bank cultural and entertainment precinct. A world-class facility with expertise in catering for high profile and international events, the Centre was recently ranked top among the world's convention centres.

The venue is well situated in relation to accommodation, shops, restaurants and transport and is monitored by 24 hour security.



Oceania invites you to attend the 34th International Geological Congress (IGC) AUSTRALIA 2012 Brisbane, 2 - 10 August 2012



UNEARTHING OUR PAST AND FUTURE

Organisation

The body responsible for the organisation of the 34th International Geological Congress will be the Australian Geoscience Council Incorporated (AGC) – the peak representative body for geoscientists in Australia.

A strong and experienced IGC Organising Committee has been convened. The President and Secretary General are Drs Neil Williams and Ian Lambert, both from Geoscience Australia – the national geoscience and geospatial agency.

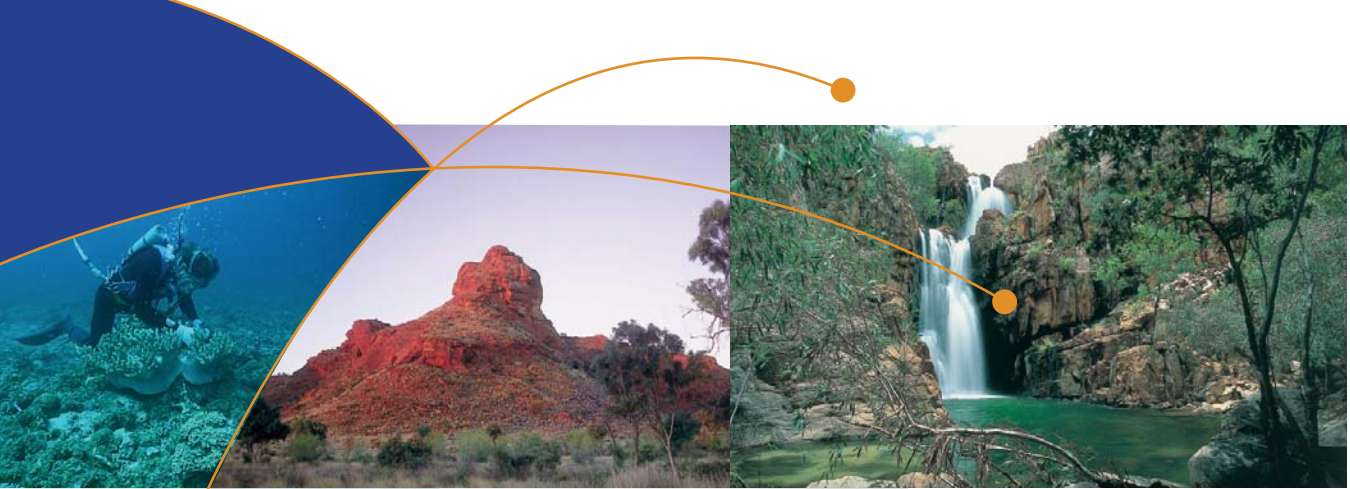


Dr Neil Williams



Dr Ian Lambert

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Email: Ian.Lambert@ga.gov.au
www.ga.gov.au/igc2012



Compelling reasons to attend AUSTRALIA 2012

1. A warm welcome awaits The host city, Brisbane, is a welcoming and attractive city that offers a relaxed lifestyle. Its weather in August is superb – sunny days with temperatures around 20 - 25°C.

2. Accessible, safe and affordable Brisbane has excellent international access and is the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and the Aussie outback. It also offers convenient access to the wider Oceania region. Many international airlines offer discount fares to Brisbane, where the costs for accommodation, food and transport are very reasonable.

3. Scientifically rewarding AUSTRALIA 2012 will have a very wide range of general, special and topical symposia under the theme Unearthing our Past and Future. The scientific program is being developed in consultation with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). It will showcase the strengths and innovation of the geosciences in the region, particularly in relation to mineral and energy resources and natural resource management.

4. Fascinating and unique geology The Oceania region encompasses an almost continuous geological record – from the oldest dated minerals and earliest signs of life on Earth to active volcanoes and coral reefs.

5. Diverse range of field trips 30 pre and post Congress field trips are being planned, which cover a wide variety of features of geological interest, as well as areas of natural beauty and historical and cultural significance. These take in each of the Australian states and the Northern Territory, the North and South islands of New Zealand, New Caledonia, Vanuatu and Malaysia's Langkawi Geopark.

6. GeoExpo There will be a major exhibition, including rolling displays with minerals, energy and environmental management themes.

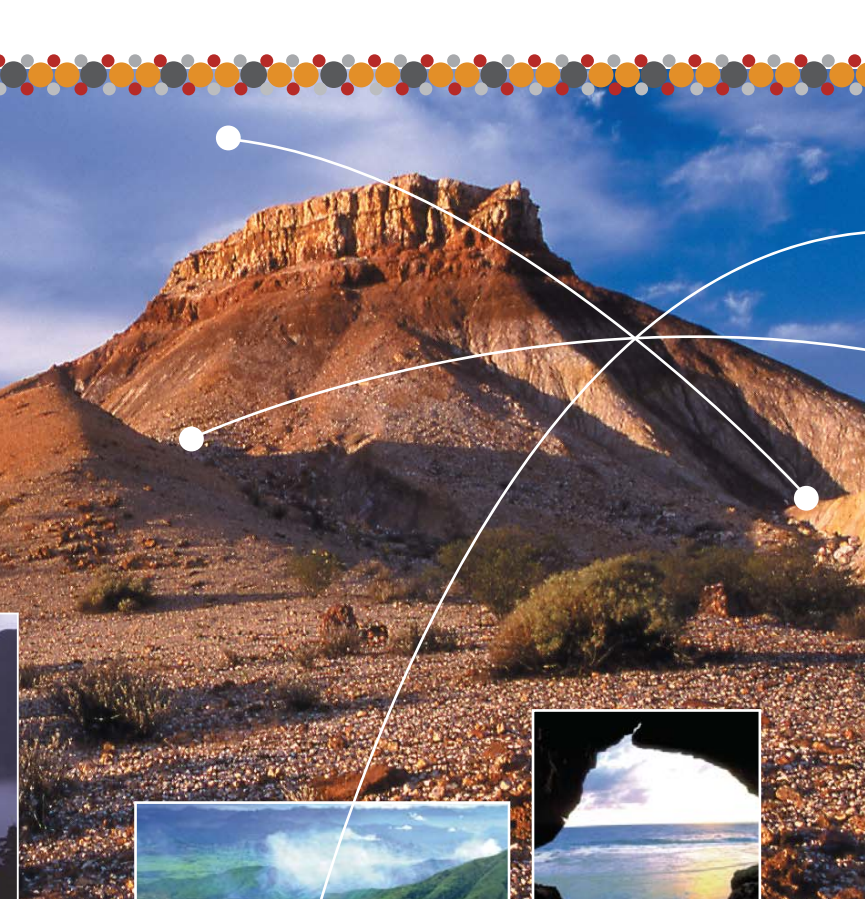
7. Other features There will be a travel-grant program to support attendance by upcoming young scientists; and community education and involvement programs. Initial discussions have been held concerning UNESCO involvement in these.

8. World class venue The Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre is in the attractive South Bank cultural and entertainment precinct, a pleasant stroll across the river from the CBD and many hotels. It is Australia's most awarded convention centre.

9. Strong geoscience community Oceania has a strong and proactive geoscience community that is working innovatively to help meet societal challenges and to understand the world we live in. This community is very motivated to host a highly successful and memorable 34th IGC.

10. Interesting and diverse social and cultural features AUSTRALIA 2012 offers a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience a truly exciting region that is scenically rich, with fascinating indigenous cultures and wildlife.

11. Strong regional participation Meetings of the major national and regional geoscientific societies will be integrated into AUSTRALIA 2012.



Geological Setting

Australia lies within the fastest moving crustal plate. Long term geological stability has given the smallest continent its deeply weathered and topographically subdued landscapes. The extensive blanket of weathered rocks and sediments – the regolith – has led to the development of innovative approaches and technologies for mineral exploration and land and water management. The Archaean cratons in the west, the extensive Proterozoic terrains and the Phanerozoic rocks in the east are all characterised by major mineral and energy resources.

New Zealand is a scenic wonderland. It separated from Australia in the Mesozoic and its geology reflects its location astride the boundary between the Australian and Pacific plates.

The geological features of the rest of the region reflect tectonic and volcanic activity during the long collision of the Australian, Eurasian and Pacific plates.

