

AINSE Mission Statement

AINSE's Mission

AINSE will advance research, education and training in the field of nuclear science and engineering and related fields within Australasia by being, in particular, the key link between universities, ANSTO, other member organisations and major nuclear science and associated facilities

Strategic Plan 2003-2008

Vision:

AINSE will be the facilitator of choice of excellent science at major nuclear science and engineering facilities by maintaining its philosophy of inclusiveness and financing.

To achieve this vision AINSE will implement strategies in the following key areas:

access to major facilities
scientific outcomes
membership
networking

We will know that we have achieved this vision when the following goals are attained:

- Goal 1** by the end of 2008 members will have access to the Australian major nuclear and related research facilities and some overseas, through AINSE.
- Goal 2** by the end of 2008 the research performance of our scientific outcomes will have increased substantially.
- Goal 3** by end 2008 all universities in Australasia, the some sections of CSIRO, many major museums, many non teaching hospitals and a significant proportion of the scientific institutes in Australasia will be members of AINSE.
- Goal 4** by the end of 2008, we will have expanded AINSE's existing set of excellent scientific networks.

Access to Major Facilities

Goal 1 by the end of 2008 members will have access to the Australian major nuclear and related research facilities and some overseas, through AINSE.

It is clear from our analysis of the research landscape that major research facilities are increasingly important in science. Many of these facilities are based on nuclear or related science and engineering areas. AINSE's vision is to serve its membership through increasing their opportunities to use new these new facilities competitively. Some of these will be a part of ANSTO while others may fall under the control of other organisations, either nationally or internationally.

Strategies

1. AINSE will actively pursue the opportunity to promote and facilitate access to and to foster expanding utilisation of the replacement research reactor and complementary facilities overseas.
2. AINSE will lobby for the opportunity to facilitate access to Synchrotron Radiation research, in particular the Australian Synchrotron. AINSE sees great benefits to users and the managing organisation of the Australian Synchrotron if its established networks and facilities are used in this way.
3. AINSE will open negotiations with other managing organisations in Australasia that are responsible for major research facilities that are related to nuclear science. This will be of benefit both to these managing organisations as well as to the members of AINSE.
4. AINSE will expand its role to leverage funds from granting agencies for new equipment and instruments at major facilities.
5. AINSE will study ways in which instruments based in Universities, which perform at an internationally competitive level of quality can be made accessible to AINSE members.
6. AINSE will lobby government to make certain that appropriate pricing policies are implemented that will ensure the sustainability and facilitate the growth of access to national facilities.

Scientific Outcomes

Goal 2 by the end of 2008 the research performance of our scientific outcomes will have increased substantially.

AINSE's mission is to "*advance research, education and training*" and so a goal of any strategic plan must be to improve how we perform in this core area.

Strategies

1. AINSE will undertake a benchmarking exercise in 2004 to evaluate our current performance and will continue thereafter to monitor our progress towards this goal and will establish a set of performance targets.
2. AINSE will continue to develop its peer review processes with an emphasis on the quality of proposals and their outcomes.
3. AINSE will increase its level of funding available for student support.
4. AINSE will use its networks to increase the numbers of effective collaborations between universities and government science agencies to promote scientific outcomes.
5. set targets for publications, and students.

Membership

Goal 3 by end 2008 all universities in Australasia, the some sections of CSIRO, many major museums, many non teaching hospitals and a significant proportion of the scientific institutes in Australasia will be members of AINSE.

AINSE understands that much has changed in research and that there are now many more players that could benefit from the style of access to major facilities enjoyed by its current members. It will therefore pursue strategies that will increase the diversity of its membership group.

Strategies

1. AINSE will develop policy on subscriptions and governance in accommodating potential new members.
2. AINSE will approach a range of potential new users with an invitation to join
3. AINSE will conduct a two year rolling survey to gauge its level of success in filling its member's needs.

Networking

Goal 4 by the end of 2008, we will have expanded AINSE's existing set of excellent scientific networks.

AINSE recognises that the scientific enterprise is enhanced through the networks that develop between its member institutions. It understands that such networks are important to give Australian researchers access to national and international scientific discourse. It undertakes to promote the growth of these interactions for the benefit of its members.

Strategies

1. To increase the range and number of conferences it supports.
2. To improve the ease of access to facilities under its control.
3. To establish working parties charged with informing the Council of new scientific and engineering fields needing access to the AINSE supported facilities.
4. To strengthen the networks and collaborative research amongst its members.