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## **18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Plant Growth Substances**

The 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Plant Growth Substances was held at the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia from September 20-24, 2004. This very successful conference was attended by almost 400 participants from 32 countries. The conference opened with two lectures given by Jake Jacobsen (CSIRO, Canberra) and Russell Jones (University of California) who received Silver Medals at the 17<sup>th</sup> IPGSA Conference in Brno, Czech Republic.

The International Program Committee, chaired by Ottoline Leyser (York, UK) had assembled an exciting and impressive program. Four plenary sessions were held: Hormone Metabolism, Protein Destabilization in Hormone Signalling, Drought and Stress Tolerance, and Long Range Signalling and Hormone Transport. There were sixteen oral sessions on developmental processes, which highlighted the complex interactions between hormones in the regulation of growth and development. In addition a large number of posters were displayed throughout the meeting.

At the Business meeting on September 23, new IPGSA Officers and Council members were elected to serve the 2004-2007 term. IPGSA is very grateful to Peter Hedden (Rothamsted Research, UK) for his service as President of the Association from 2001-2004, and to Wilhelm Rademacher (BASF, Limbergerhof, Germany) for six years' service as Secretary/Treasurer.

The venue for the 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Plant Growth Substances was announced at the Business meeting. It will be held in summer 2007 in the Riviera Maya, Cancun, Mexico.

Three Silver Medals were awarded to scientists who have made outstanding contributions in the plant growth substance research. The recipients of the 2004 Silver Medals are Tony Bleecker, Madison, Wisconsin, Joe Ecker, The Salk Institute, La Jolla, California and Yuji Kamiya, RIKEN, Japan.

The Organizing Committee, chaired by Jake Jacobsen, and Conference Organizers Elizabeth Medley and Suzy Cunningham are thanked for an outstanding conference.

**19<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Plant Growth Substances will be held at the Rivera Maya, Cancun, Mexico in Summer 2007. Gladys Cassab, National University of Mexico, is the local organizer.**