

2007 ICOM Australia Award for International Relations



photograph courtesy
Queensland Museum

presentation speech by Ian Galloway ∞ 2.50 pm on 17 May 2007 ∞ Old Parliament House – Members’ Dining Room 2, Canberra (Australia)

The ICOM Australia Award for International Relations celebrates the exceptional work undertaken by individuals and Australian institutions to strengthen international ties and contribute to the cultural richness of our region. Cooperative projects are very important in strengthening museum relations internationally by promoting information sharing across borders and distributing unique resources worldwide. We have been pleased with the outstanding response to the inaugural Award and I commend all of this year’s nominated institutions and individuals. Two nominees in particular stood out for their outstanding work in promoting international relations.

I am delighted to announce that the 2006 ICOM Australia Award for International Relations (in the category of Australian museum) is proudly awarded to Questacon – The National Science and

Technology Centre – in recognition of its collaborative initiatives with science centres in the Asia Pacific region and in particular, those in Japan. Questacon’s special relationship with Japan commenced with the joint funding of Australia’s National Science and Technology Centre by the Australian Government, Japanese Government and business community. Questacon works closely with Japan and the international network of science centres and museums with the aim of popularising science and technology and presenting science as exciting, interesting and relevant.



We are honoured to welcome here today - His Excellency Mr Hideaki Ueda, Ambassador to Australia, Embassy of Japan; and Professor Graham Durant, Director of Questacon, who will accept the award.

Professor Graham Durant, Director of Questacon and His Excellency, Mr Hideaki Ueda, Japanese Ambassador, with the 2006 ICOM Australia award applauding Questacon for its relationship with Japan

Thank you, Your Excellency and Graham.

The ICOM Australia Award for International Relations also recognises the contribution of individuals for their work in promoting international relations. I am therefore delighted to announce that the 2006 ICOM Australia Award for International Relations (in the category of individual) is awarded to Mr Will Inveen of Questacon who is acknowledged for his outstanding contribution to international relations through science education, exhibitions and awareness programs.

Will has an extended record of achievement in the promotion of Questacon internationally and has been involved with Questacon since 1987 as a Volunteer Explainer. Will has delivered programmes across Australia and the South Pacific, as well as Timor-Leste, South Korea, China and Hong Kong and is a wonderful cultural ambassador for Australia. Congratulations Will.



Will Inveen, Manager, Science Partnerships, Questacon, with the 2006 ICOM Australia award marking his individual contribution towards international relations