

ICIAM 2003 - the last word

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Congress Director

The accounts for the 5th International Congress on Industrial Mathematics have now been all but finalised. The Congress income was \$1.312 million, which included cash sponsorship of \$0.338 million and perhaps half as much again in in-kind sponsorship. With a few hundreds of dollars still to be tidied up, expenditure is expected to be \$1.282 million. All those figures are exclusive of GST.

ICIAM 2003 returned a surplus, and the balance of more than \$30K will be shared by AustMS and ANZIAM in the ratio of 4:1 reflecting the risk capital that was made available to run the Congress. The surplus carries with it a delicate issue. Our international community wants registration fees for ICIAM congresses to be as low as possible, and, before ICIAM 2003, the International Council for Industrial and Applied Mathematics pressured us on this matter. So, how to handle the surplus?

As Congress Director, I took the following decisions:

- We paid a voluntary licence fee of USD25,000 to Council; such a fee has been imposed as an obligation on the organisers for ICIAM 2007, but had not been imposed on ICIAM 2003.
- We donated an aboriginal painting to the US-based Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. SIAM had been extremely helpful to us with publicity, coordination of NSF funding for invited speakers, and use of the SIAM web site to receive abstracts. A photograph of the painting is shown below. It is a big painting (183 cm by 120

cm, acrylic on canvas) by Gabrielle Possum Nungurrayi, and is a symbolic depiction of tribal women engaged in gathering food and participating in ceremonies in the Tanami Desert. On my way to the recent Council meeting in Zurich, I took the opportunity to travel via SIAM's offices in Philadelphia to hand over the painting formally. They are delighted with it.

I'm also happy to report that all comments on ICIAM 2003 in Zurich, including the handling of the surplus, were strongly positive. A full report on ICIAM 2003 is available at www.iciam.org. This web site also has information about ICIAM 2007 and the Council. All of the people who contributed so strongly to ICIAM 2003 are mentioned in the web report, and I pay full tribute to them all.



Jim Crowley (SIAM Executive Director) and Noel Barton (ICIAM 2003 Congress Director) with the aboriginal painting donated to SIAM in gratitude for their assistance with ICIAM 2003.