

**CCE  
CONFERENCE COORDINATOR REPORT  
JULY 2006**

**Issues for Consideration**

1. Regional Distribution of Conferences

In the past ten years five conferences have been held in Cairo, Budapest, Beijing, Istanbul and Seoul. The 2008 Conference is scheduled for Mauritius.

This distribution is significant in that it appears those countries which possess Centres/Groups who have a focus on research in Chemical Education are not represented. This raises the question: Is the main purpose of the ICCE to promote Chemical Education research in countries which do not have such groups?

The attendance pattern at the ICCE is changing. The numbers of international visitors to the ICCE seems to be decreasing. It may be that the demographics of chemical educators is changing with fewer younger chemists being interested in chemical education research; or are the needs of chemists in chemical educational being met by National Conferences to the detriment of the ICCE.

2. Program Structure

Another observation over ten years is this. The venues for the ICCE's are not conducive for laboratory and high tech activities which form the basis of workshops. The conferences have become talk fests with little variety in program structure. The idea of field/school/industry visits seems also to have disappeared.

2. Conference Themes and Plenary Speakers

There appears to be a disconnect between the official conference theme and the content of the addresses by plenary speakers. It is imperative that the plenary speakers make an attempt to link their professional input to the conference theme. It is also important that plenary speakers present new visions of issues related to themes and that the pool of prospective speakers be widened.

**Recommendations**

1. The CCE pursue a vigorous advertising initiative to attract more NAO's to bid to host future ICCE's.
2. That the CCE insist that the conference address contemporary issues in chemical education.
3. That the CCE insist that conferences promote research in chemical education
4. That the CCE pursues the idea of linking National Conferences with the ICCE
5. That the CCE be more involved in the design of the ICCE.