

FACTS

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON NANOTECHNOLOGY



MISSION

To develop and communicate information regarding potential environmental and health risks of nanotechnology, thereby fostering risk reduction while maximizing societal benefit.

FOUNDING DATA

The International Council on Nanotechnology was founded in 2004 as an extension of the US National Science Foundation Center for Biological and Environmental Nanotechnology (CBEN) at Rice University in Houston, Texas. ICON is a technically-drive organization. It does not engage in advocacy or commercial activities.

MEMBERSHIP

The International Council on Nanotechnology is composed of individuals from academia, industry, government and non-governmental organizations from France, Japan, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

WORKING GROUPS

- ◆ Governance
- ◆ Best Practices
- ◆ Environment, Health & Safety Knowledge Base
- ◆ Communication

ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Forums and events to explore health and environmental risk issues in nanotechnology
- ◆ An electronic knowledge base for accessing peer-reviewed publications in nanotechnology
- ◆ High-quality technical information relevant to decision makers in nanotechnology
- ◆ A proactive communications platform that translates complex scientific data into material easily understood by many stakeholders

MAJOR PROJECTS

- ◆ Wiki on Good Practices for Handling Nanomaterials (GoodNanoGuide)
- ◆ Environment, Health & Safety Database and Virtual Journal
- ◆ Survey of Current Practices for Handling Nanomaterials in Occupational Settings
- ◆ International Research Needs Assessment for Nanomaterial Environment, Health & Safety

GOVERNANCE

The International Council on Nanotechnology's members sit on an Advisory Board that serves as the advisory body for ICON strategic planning and participates in all Working Group activities. A smaller Executive Committee, consisting of the Director and Executive Director of ICON, makes budgetary decisions and has ultimate authority over ICON's operations and finances. This shared governance is essential to fostering the multi-stakeholder spirit that underlies all ICON activities. The ICON Executive Director is Prof. Vicki L. Colvin and the Director is Dr. Kristen M. Kulinowski.

COSTS

Industrial membership: \$50,000 per annum is encouraged to provide operating funds for ICON, but companies who have supported ICON in the past can appoint a representative to the Advisory Board. Non-industrial members are not charged a fee.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

ICON is supported by industrial membership fees, government grants and other contributions.

Current and Past

Corporate Sponsors

DuPont

Intel

Lockheed Martin

L'Oréal

Mitsubishi Corporation

Procter & Gamble

Swiss Reinsurance Company

Other Support

Rice University

US National Science Foundation

Center for Biological and Environmental Nanotechnology

US National Institutes of Health

CONTACTS

Director

Dr. Kristen M. Kulinowski

1-713-348-8211

kk@rice.edu

Operations Manager

Dr. David R. Johnson

1-713-348-8210

drj@rice.edu

Executive Director

Prof. Vicki L. Colvin

1-713-348-5741

colvin@rice.edu

Media Contacts

Mr. Jade Boyd

1-713-348-6778

jadeboyd@rice.edu

Mailing Address

Rice University

MS 63

P.O. Box 1892

Houston TX 77251-1892

USA