

## IPMEN'08 Conference Draft Program

### Thursday, October 16, 2008

Delegates arrive in Townsville and register

### Friday 17 October 2008

8.00 am Registration  
8.30 am Opening ceremony and welcome  
9.00 am Keynotes – strand 1  
10.30 am Concurrent sessions – strand 1  
12.30 pm Lunch at conference venue  
1.30 pm Keynotes – strand 2  
3.00 pm Concurrent sessions – strand 2  
Evening Formal IPMEN opening function

### Saturday 18 October 2008

8.00 am Registration  
9.00 am Keynotes – strand 3  
10.30 am Concurrent sessions – strand 3  
12.30 pm Lunch at conference venue  
1.30 pm Keynotes – strand 4  
2.30 pm Afternoon break  
3.00 pm Concurrent sessions – strand 4  
Evening Function 'a night at the museum'

### Sunday 19 October 2008

8.00 am Registration  
8.30 am IPMEN forum – opening session  
10.00 am Morning break  
10.30 am IPMEN working group meetings  
12.00 pm Lunch at conference venue  
1.00 pm IPMEN working group meetings  
2.30 pm Afternoon break  
3.00 pm IPMEN forum – working group reports  
4.00 pm Conference close  
Evening Joint IYCC & IPMEN function

### Monday 20 October 2008

Half day field trips to Reef HQ Aquarium or Billabong Sanctuary (am) plus IYCC presentations (pm) or full day field trips to James Cook University and the Australian Institute of Marine Science or a sustainable cities tour of Townsville will be available.

### Tuesday 21 October 2008

More field trips – Magnetic Island or one day dive trip (scuba or snorkel) to the Great Barrier Reef plus 3 day live-aboard dive trip (scuba or snorkel) to the Great Barrier Reef and the Yongala wreck.

## IPMEN'08 Sponsors

Sponsorship is currently being sought for IPMEN'08 in Townsville. The following organisations have already signed up as conference sponsors. Full details of IPMEN'08 conference sponsorship packages can be found on the IPMEN'08 web site [www.ipmen.net](http://www.ipmen.net). Potential IPMEN'08 sponsors should contact Billy Breidahl at [billybreidahl@mac.com](mailto:billybreidahl@mac.com).



**Nautilus Educational**



**Australian Government**

**Great Barrier Reef  
Marine Park Authority**

## IPMEN'08 Supporters

The growing list of IPMEN'08 supporters (in-kind) includes – BriTer Solutions (Australia), Centro AquaSendas-COPAS (Chile), the Conservation Society of Pohnpei, the College of Exploration (USA), COSEE California, Firestarter (Australia), the Lawrence Hall of Science (University of Berkeley, California), the Marine Education Society of Australasia, National Marine Educators Association (USA) and the Institute of Applied Sciences at the University of the South Pacific (Fiji).

## For Further Information

IPMEN'08 web site [www.ipmen.net](http://www.ipmen.net)

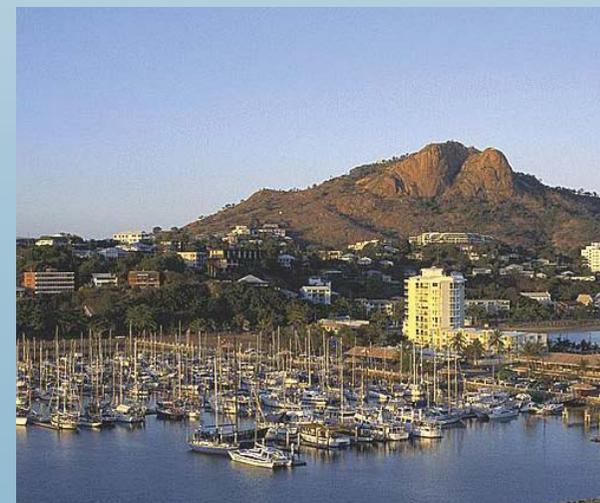
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## IPMEN'08 Conference October 16 to 21, 2008 Townsville, Australia

### IPMEN'08 Why, When and Where

Marine educators worldwide will gather in the tropical Australian city of Townsville to share resources and to continue ongoing efforts to build a network aimed at ensuring the health of the Pacific Ocean and the communities who depend upon it. The conference dates are October 16 to 21, 2008 and web conferencing will allow virtual participation for educators who are unable to travel to Australia.



### About Townsville

Townsville is a regional city in Queensland. It is located on the coast adjacent to the central section of the Great Barrier Reef and is 2400 km (1500 miles) north of Sydney, 1380 km (855 miles) north of Brisbane and 350 km (220 miles) south of Cairns. International IPMEN'08 delegates will fly to Townsville via Sydney, Brisbane or Cairns and should look carefully at connecting flights to make sure they arrive on 16 October. All delegates, other than Australian and New Zealand citizens, will need a valid visa or authority to enter Australia.

## Background

The International Pacific Marine Educators Network (IPMEN) is a developing collective of marine educators throughout the Pacific. The creation of this group began with a two day meeting on the Hawaiian island of Maui in July 2005 and gained considerable momentum at a second international meeting, also in Hawaii, in January 2007. This second meeting, called the International Pacific Marine Educators Conference (IPMEC), brought together 100 educators from 18 Pacific nations and territories and resulted in the formation of IPMEN.

By piloting a cooperative network of Pacific marine educators, IPMEN is seen as a first step towards the goal of establishing a worldwide network of marine educators. Such a worldwide network would aim to share knowledge, expertise and resources to solve ocean related environmental issues.

## Join Us

You are invited to be part of this growing international effort to change the public attitudes towards the ocean and to actively protect this ecosystem that keeps our world healthy. Marine educators – using the widest sense of the word – are encouraged to participate, either in person or virtually via the web, in this conference focused on the Pacific.



## Scholarships

It is anticipated that 10 scholarships for IPMEN'08 registration, accommodation and travel to Townsville will be available. A scholarship application form can be found on the web site [www.ipmen.net](http://www.ipmen.net). Priority for these scholarships will be given to delegates from low income nations in the Pacific (World Bank ranking) and to other small island developing nations or territories in the Pacific. Based upon availability, partial scholarships may also be offered.

Funds for additional, specifically targeted, scholarships for worthy educators in any situation (developed as well as developing nations) could also be negotiated between the IPMEN'08 conference committee and potential delegate sponsors.



## Call for Papers and Registration

A first round call for papers form and an IPMEN'08 registration form can be found on the web site [www.ipmen.net](http://www.ipmen.net). This call for papers will seek participation from the full spectrum of formal and informal educators practicing throughout the Pacific (and beyond). Through sharing of ideas and experiences we hope to define essential marine education content and to identify successful practices that contribute to a healthy (sustainable) ocean and to healthy communities who depend upon it.

## Web Conferencing

Web conferencing will allow persons unable to fly to Townsville a chance to participate in this important conference. All 2007 IPMEC presentations are also available as web-based streaming video at the College of Exploration web site at [www.coexploration.org/](http://www.coexploration.org/).



## IPMEN'08 Themes and Strands

The conference theme of 'Sustaining the Pacific: Learning from Elders, Listening to Youth' not only reflects the overall goal of working towards a sustainable ocean but also reflects an emphasis on two important but often underrepresented voices. As well as the usual scientists and educators, we aim to hear from elders with traditional knowledge of ocean systems and the young people to whom we entrust the future of ocean systems. The IPMEN'08 conference will be presented in parallel with the 2008 International Youth Coastal Conference (IYCC).

The following four strands are planned for IPMEN'08 keynote presentations and concurrent sessions:

- Education for ocean literacy – creating a generation of ocean scientists, educators, citizens and decision makers who will support sustainability of the ocean and its resources.
- Current action on sustainability education in the Pacific – hearing from actively engaged traditional elders, scientists, educators and youth.
- Linking the Pacific – from the coconut wireless (local networks) to broadband (global) webs.
- Capacity building – building/realising the network (making it real).

