



Dear IERASG members and auditory evoked response colleagues,

Welcome

I am looking forward to meeting with you in Sydney, Australia for IERASG 2019. This will be the 26th meeting of IERASG, which has grown out of the informal meetings of lab groups interested in auditory electrophysiology, hosted by Professor Hallowell Davis. "Hal's Club" became the "ERA Club" and is now the International Evoked Response Audiometry Study Group. Our biennial symposium is held in odd-numbered years. We are very excited that this year IERASG will "down under" in Australia for the first time.

Website

The website is now live for abstract submissions, with a closing date of 18th March 2019. The abstract submission page can be accessed via <http://www.ierasg.ifps.org.pl/index.php?s=home>

Dates

The conference will officially open Sunday evening 30th June with a Welcome event. The Registration desk will be open on Sunday at 8.30 a.m. Lectures will begin 8 a.m. on Monday 1st of July and conclude mid-afternoon on Thursday 4th July. Small group tours of the Hearing Hub will be offered from Monday to Thursday at break times during the conference.

Workshops

An exciting line-up of workshops has been arranged for Sunday 30th June, including Dr Andrew Dimitrijevic's highly-regarded EEG processing workshop, workshops lead by Professor Katherine Demuth on sentence processing and eye tracking, and a workshop lead by Professor David McAlpine on fNIRS (functional near-infrared spectroscopy). There will be no charge for students attending the workshops, but priority will be given to students who have a paper or poster accepted for the conference. Workshops are open to people registered for the full IERASG2019 conference.

Highlights

Apart from an excellent line-up of papers on diverse auditory evoked topics including otoacoustic emissions, auditory brainstem responses, vestibular evoked myogenic potentials, cortical evoked responses, and event related potentials, highlights of the conference will be the opportunity to visit

the Hearing Hub research facilities, and to see Sydney from the water. We are very pleased to welcome Professor Lee-Suk Kim as 2019 Hallowell Davis lecturer.

Travel

International conference delegates should check the Australian Government's Department of Home Affairs website – "Entering Australia" – <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/entering-australia/overview> to check whether they require a visa for conference travel to Australia from their home country (see additional Visa Information below).

Student scholarships

IERASG values their tradition of mentorship, discussions and conference experience as a way of developing collegial relationships that will support research and clinical developments in the field. We believe that these are essential tools for becoming an excellent researcher. One of IERASG's main goals has been to mentor young researchers in the field. To ensure access to world leaders and reduce financial barriers that may prevent students from attending the IERASG 2019 Conference at Macquarie University, Sydney, 2019, IERASG is providing 15 student scholarships that include all registration costs, with access to all educational and social functions. To apply for a scholarship students need to:

1. Submit a letter from their Supervisor/University confirming current enrolment
2. Submit an abstract for an oral or poster presentation to IERASG 2019
3. Write in 250 words what they think they would achieve by coming to the conference

Organizing committee

Thank you to Professor Bob Cowan, Associate Professor Mridula Sharma, and Dr Bram Van Dun for their hard work preparing for our visit to Sydney. Please email Dr Sharma if you have questions about the conference mridula.sharma@mq.edu.au

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards,
Professor Suzanne Purdy
IERASG Chair
sc.purdy@auckland.ac.nz



IERASG 2019 VISA INFORMATION

Under Australia's universal visa system, all visitors to Australia must have a valid visa to travel to and enter Australia (other than New Zealand passport holders who will normally be granted a Special Category visa on arrival, provided they meet health and character requirements; and permanent residents of Norfolk Island who may be granted a Permanent Resident of Norfolk Island visa on arrival). For more information, see the fact sheet: <http://www.border.gov.au/about/corporate/information/fact-sheets/47temporary-residence>

There are many visa options available to people wishing to visit Australia. The appropriate visa option will depend, amongst other things, on the person's purpose for visiting Australia.

If your sole reason for coming to Australia is to attend this conference, please apply for the following VISA:

As you are planning to visit Australia to attend a business event such as a conference, seminar, trade fair or expo as a participant or an attendee (that is, you will not be working, entertaining, or being paid to contribute), you may be eligible for one of the following Visitor visas:

- Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) (subclass 601)
- eVisitor (subclass 651)
- Visitor visa (subclass 600) in the Business Visitor stream.
 - For information on who can apply for the eVisitor (subclass 651) visa online, please go to: <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/651->

You must not be intending to:

- work for or provide services to a business or organisation in Australia or
- sell goods or services to the Australian public.
 - Further information about the specific requirements of Visitor visas is available on the Department's website: www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa/App/Visitor

For any other circumstances, please view the below VISA options:

For information on who can apply for the ETA (Subclass 601) visa online, please go to: <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/601->

For information on who can apply for the Visitor (Subclass 600) visa online, please go to: <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/600->

For information on who can apply for the Temporary Work (Short Stay Activity) visa (subclass 400) online, please go to: <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/400->

IMPORTANT:

We recommend that applicants applying for a paper-based visa lodge their application at least 6-8 weeks before their intended travel date to Australia. All travellers to Australia must have a valid visa before boarding their plane. Travellers to Australia cannot apply for a visa on arrival.

Handy Australian Websites

Tourism Australia - www.australia.com

Australian government - www.australia.gov.au

Australian news / media - www.abc.net.au

Australian exchange rates - www.rba.gov.au/statistics/frequency/exchange-rates.html

Smarttraveller - The Australian Government's travel advisory and consular information service. www.smarttraveller.gov.au

The following site is designed to help you get through the security checkpoints at the airport quickly and easily. It will help you understand the aviation security measures in place at Australian airports and why they are necessary. It provides information on preparing for your trip, what you are prohibited from taking on board, and travelling with children, medicines or sporting equipment. It also provides a number of videos that explain the screening process and liquids, aerosols and gels restrictions. This site will be updated with new information to reflect changes in airport security arrangements as they occur.

Australian Customs - www.customs.gov.au/knowbeforeyougo/default.asp