



2009-10 Annual Report Year ending 31 March 2010

1. The year in review

During the 2009-10 year, the science and innovation sector has undergone significant review and the outcomes provide opportunities and risks for IRANZ members. IRANZ made formative steps by becoming an incorporated society. Other activities included establishing a website, undergoing a benchmarking exercise, and strengthening IRANZ relationships and profile within the sector. These activities will continue into the next year, with a particular interest on the implementation of the Crown Research Institute taskforce recommendations, new Government budget initiatives and the changes to Government administration of science and innovation.

1.1 Changes in New Zealand Science

The 2009-10 year was a significant one for science in New Zealand. The change of Government in late 2008 paved the way for major changes in New Zealand's Research and Science sector. With its vision to create a positive operating environment for Independent Research Organisations in New Zealand, much of IRANZ's work during the past year ensured that IRANZ organisations were represented in the reviews and changes.

In May 2009 Professor Sir Peter Gluckman was appointed by John Key as the first Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor. The establishment of this new office demonstrated government recognition of the importance of science in New Zealand's future. IRANZ members met with Professor Sir Gluckman in September 2009.

In October 2009 a taskforce was established to review Crown Research Institutes. The recommendations of the CRI taskforce report released in March 2010 now provide a pathway for significant change in the sector. In March 2010, Gillian Wratt as Chair of IRANZ was appointed to the Ministerial Reference Group to provide assurance to the Government that the

changes implemented are consistent with the intent of the Taskforce recommendations.

1.2 Incorporated Society

A major internal focus of IRANZ during the 2009-10 year was working towards the formalisation of IRANZ as an incorporated society. A constitution was developed, and adopted, with IRANZ being registered as an incorporated society on 30 November 2009. Subsequently IRANZ has been classified as a non-profit organisation by Inland Revenue. IRANZ membership criteria and procedures were developed and adopted by the Association. Financial affairs were successfully transferred from Opus Central Laboratories to IRANZ' own accounts. These formal moves clarified IRANZ's purpose, rules and formalises IRANZ as a professional representative organisation.

1.3 Benchmarking

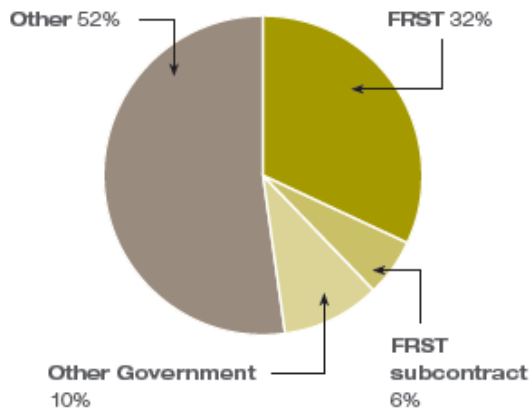
Another internal focus has been greater understanding of IRANZ member organisations within the context of New Zealand Research sector so that engagement with government occurs on an informed basis. IRANZ undertook a benchmarking exercise to understand IRANZ organisations. This resulted in an IRANZ brochure which outlines the distinctive



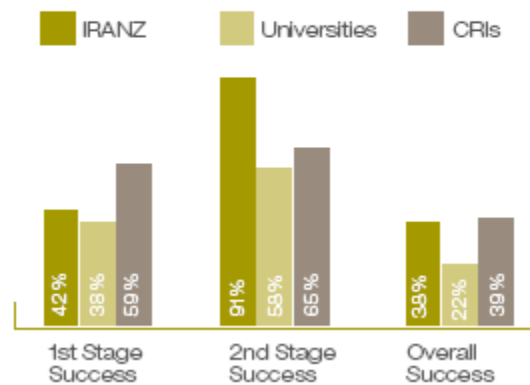
characteristics of member organisations. The

brochure can be viewed at <http://www.iranzt.org.nz/downloads/IRANZ%20Flyer.pdf>

Source of Revenue



FRST Contestable Proposal Success Rates



1.4 Raising the IRANZ profile

A key aim is to raise the profile of IRANZ and its member organisations within Government and the research community. The following initiatives were undertaken during the 2009-10 year.

- **Engagement with government**

IRANZ hosted a table at the Gala dinner of MacDiarmid Young Scientists Award in Auckland in August 2009 and invited guests from the Royal Society, the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, and the Ministry of Research Science and Technology to join members at the table.

The regular meetings of IRANZ in Wellington have included invitations to key Government and Science sector figures important to members. During 2009-10, membership has met with Hon Dr Wayne Mapp, Minister of Research Science and Technology, the Chief Scientific Adviser to Prime Minister, senior

staff from the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology, Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, the Royal Society of New Zealand and the Australasian Research Management Society.

In March 2009, Gillian Wratt, as Chairperson of IRANZ, was appointed to the Ministerial Reference group for the CRI taskforce implementation.

IRANZ was represented at a number of functions for the following organisations: New Zealand Vice Chancellors Committee, IPENZ, Science New Zealand, Business New Zealand and Ministry of Research, Science and Technology chatshops and workshops.

- **Submissions**

In consultation with member organisations, IRANZ participated in reviews or made submissions on the following public discussion documents and strategies in the year ending March 2010:



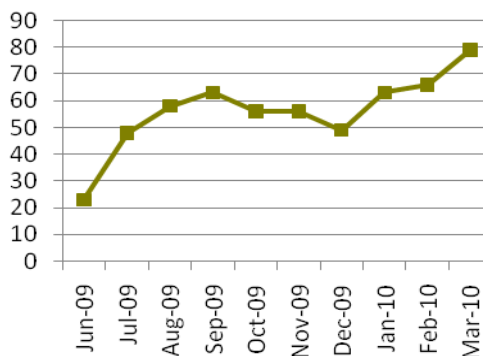
- 2025 taskforce
- Crown Research Institute Taskforce
- Research, Science and Technology priorities

Submissions can be viewed at <http://www.iranzt.org.nz/submissions/>

- **Website**

The IRANZ website was launched in June 2009. This basic website is a source of information about the IRANZ organisation and its aim, member organisations, submissions, and membership application. Usage statistics indicate that traffic has increased from 20 unique visitors per month at its launch to an average of 80 unique visitors per month.

Unique visitors to www.iranzt.org.nz



- **Communications**

IRANZ engaged public relations professional Sharon Van Gulik to help IRANZ with its communication programme which has led to the initiation of a regular IRANZ newsletter. Ground work for the first issue of IRANZ’s newsletter was carried out during the year and led to its publication in May 2010. Plans to improve IRANZ’s profile and communication are already starting to show results.

1.5 Meetings

IRANZ held four meetings in the year ending 30 March 2010. Meeting minutes are distributed to all Member organisations to ensure they are updated on matters considered at the meeting, and notified of decisions taken. Attendance at the meetings for the year is shown below.

Meeting s2009-10	BRANZ	Cawthron	CRL Energy	HERA	LASRA	Lincoln	Opus	TERNZ
May	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
September	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
November	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
March	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

1.6 Executive of IRANZ

Gillian Wratt (Chairperson) has been the chairperson of IRANZ since May 2009. Prior to taking the Chair position, Gillian was an Executive member since October 2007. Gillian is the Chief Executive of Cawthron Institute in Nelson.

Chris Kane has been an Executive member from November 2007. He is the Strategy, Innovation and Quality Manager at BRANZ.

Dr Rob Whitney has been an Executive member of IRANZ from May 2009. He is the Chief Executive of CRL Energy Ltd.

William (Bill) Pitt was the Chairperson of IRANZ until his retirement from Opus Central Laboratories in May 2009.

1.7 IRANZ staff

Kate Kilkenny, Executive Adviser



2. Membership

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