



Public Hearings in Melbourne and Adelaide

Commercialising our innovations – how can we do it better?

Representatives from Melbourne and La Trobe Universities, the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, the Australian Innovation Association and a number of businesses in Victoria will appear before a parliamentary inquiry into Australia's pathways for technological innovation in Melbourne this week.

The House of Representatives Science and Innovation Committee is holding two days of public hearings at Victoria's state parliamentary offices in **Melbourne** on Thursday (4 August) and the South Australian Parliament in **Adelaide** on Friday (5 August) investigating what makes technological innovations commercially successful.

Issues for discussion in **Melbourne** include the role of universities in technology transfer activities and the challenges faced by growing technology-based businesses in developing and marketing their innovations, both domestically and internationally. Focus will also be on the range and adequacy of government support programs and incentives for the commercialisation of technological innovation.

Two of the topics to be discussed at the public hearing in **Adelaide** are strategies to establish a market niche and to access the international market. Those giving evidence in Adelaide include BAE Systems and GRP Technology, which both have extensive international experience. Both companies assert that a key factor in their success is establishing a market niche and forging closer ties with the international community.

Also appearing before the Committee in **Adelaide** will be consultants with experience in technology transfer and international commercialisation negotiations and a commercial professional investor specialising in small and early stage company investment.

These hearings will help the Committee identify the factors that are critical to commercialisation success, both in the domestic and international markets, and learn of some of the challenges encountered by companies in the private sector attempting to commercialise innovative technologies.

Committee Chair, Petro Georgiou, said the "future success of Australia is dependant on our capacity for technological innovation, from developing knowledge, to applying this knowledge commercially".

The hearings are open to all members of the public.

For further details, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/scin/pathways/ or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4150 or emailing scin.reps@aph.gov.au

For further information: Contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4150 or the Committee Secretary on 0421 611 175

Standing Committee for Science and Innovation

Commercialising our innovations – how can we do it better?

Public Hearing Program – Melbourne, Thursday, 4 August 2005

Venue

State Parliamentary Offices, Level 8 - Conference Room 2 & 3, 35 Spring Street, Melbourne

Program

- 9:00 am University of Melbourne/Melbourne Ventures/La Trobe University
- 9:45 am CRC Committee
- 10:30 am Dr John Yencken
- 11:00 am Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering
- 11:30 am Australian Innovation Association
- 12:00 pm Momentum Investment Group
- 1:30 pm GBC Scientific Equipment Pty Ltd
- 2:00 pm Wave Global Pty Ltd
- 2:30 pm KCS Pty Ltd
- 3:15 pm Dynamic Hearing Pty Ltd

Public Hearing Program – Adelaide, Friday, 5 August 2005

Venue

Parliament House, Level 1 – Kingston Room, North Terrace, Adelaide

Program

- 9:30 am Mr Michael Cochran, Consultant
- 10:00 am GRP Technology Pty Ltd
- 11:00 am BAE Systems Australia
- 11:30 am Robert Taylor and Associates
- 12:00 pm Playford Capital