

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** CSIRO  
**Output Group:** CSIRO

#### DEST Question No. E504\_05

Senator Carr asked on 16 February 2005, EWRE Hansard page 42.

#### Question:

*Senator Carr* - Can you give me an indication of the benefits that were drawn from it?

*Dr Garrett* - I can give you some indication of that now. We have, as you know, CSIRO staff on 57 sites across our nation. Many of those sites have communicators. It is important to bring those individuals together on a regular basis to compare notes, to help each other, to learn from each other and to undertake an evaluation of the implementation of CSIRO's strategic plan. As I have indicated, communication is a key aspect. You are conveying information, you are improving communication and you are building teams. Those are the sort of benefits we are talking about. There will be specific benefits, which we will respond to on notice.

*Dr Sandland* - I will just add to that. Another benefit from that is to get people acting and thinking as though we are working for one organisation. Some years ago people had all of the loyalty attached to particular divisions and just did not understand that we were running as a single organisation. So it is part of that process as well.

#### Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

#### *Communications – Couran Cove Workshop – specific benefits*

The benefits derived from the Communication Conference are as follows:

- Bringing together CSIRO's communications staff from across the organisation's research divisions and corporate units delivers significant benefit for both the organisation as a whole and for the individual staff.
- The individuals had the opportunity to meet their fellow communicators and establish and enhance their networks
- Sharing their ideas, strategies and initiatives enhances the individual effectiveness and job satisfaction of our communication staff and increases the overall efficiency of the communication function through the sharing of expertise and learning and the reduction of duplication.
- The particular work program of this conference emphasised the various ways that communications staff are working to implement CSIRO's Strategic Plan and its Communication Strategy.
- The outcome was a more comprehensive and focussed communication function.