

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Additional Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14
27 February 2013

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: CSIRO

TOPIC: Attendance at the 17th Biennial Ocean Science Meeting

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 27 February 2014, page 15)

QUESTION No.: AI-3

Senator KIM CARR: How many went two years ago?

Mr Johnson: I do not have that answer; I could possibly take that on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: This is a conference that 4,000 scientists attend?

Mr Johnson: Again, I do not have the details on that, but, as I said in my earlier answer, it is a very significant international event.

Senator KIM CARR: This is a conference that is sponsored by the association for science of oceanography, Oceanography Society, the American Geophysical Union, and it is being held in the Hawaiian Convention Centre in Honolulu. Is that right?

Mr Johnson: I can confirm the location and the venue; I cannot confirm the full list of sponsors. For a conference like that there would be a large number of sponsors at multiple tiers of participation; but certainly the organisations you have mentioned have had a long association with this conference. But I would expect there would be others involved as well.

Senator KIM CARR: You did not mention to me how many applied to go.

Mr Johnson: I do not have the exact number, but my understanding was that in the order of 30 scientists expressed an interest in attending the conference. As I said, as a result of the discussions with their senior leadership 13 will be attending.

Senator KIM CARR: And that includes how many post-docs?

Mr Johnson: Again, I could take this on notice, but the information I have in front of me is that there will be no post-docs attending; just research scientists.

ANSWER

The 2012 Ocean Sciences meeting was held in Salt Lake City, Utah between 20 – 24 February 2012 and was attended by 12 CSIRO staff, including 1 postdoctoral fellow.

The website of the American Geophysical Union, one of the co-sponsors for the meeting, indicates that 3,897 people attended the 2012 meeting. Attendance figures for the 2014 meeting were not available on the website at the time of preparing this answer.

28 staff expressed interest to CSIRO in attending the 2014 meeting and approval was granted to 13 staff to attend (including 3 postdoctoral fellows).