

APRU STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2021

Leading the Asia-Pacific Region
Contributing to the Global Common Good

APRU is the association of leading research universities from the Asia-Pacific region.

Our Vision

To be the voice of knowledge and innovation for the Asia-Pacific region.

Our Mission

APRU is dedicated to international cooperation in higher education and research and to public engagement for the well-being and sustainability of our societies and the global ecosystem by:

- Providing international platforms for collaboration on education, research, and innovation
- Promoting the generation and sharing of knowledge related to Asia-Pacific challenges
- Communicating the critical role of research universities in society
- Strengthening the collective international leadership and impact of member universities, their faculty, students and staff
- Creating partnerships with international organizations, business, governments and NGOs to contribute to international policy development, capacity-building and solutions to common challenges

Our Values

We value:

- Excellence in teaching, research and public engagement
- Trust and cooperation amongst the Asia-Pacific academic community
- Academic freedom, diversity, equity, inclusion and the global common good

Strategic Priorities

The following Strategic Priorities align with members' international aspirations and focus APRU's activities in order to deliver to its members the impact and influence of a highly functioning international organization operating as a multi-nodal network.

1. Build Global Impact

Raise the profile and impact of APRU to ensure it is a dynamic and effective international network of research universities offering global leadership in key areas of international public policy and scientific leadership including sustainable development, gender equity and other Asia-Pacific challenges

2. Increase the Value to Members

Provide increasing reputational benefits and collaborative opportunities to members, their faculty and students, to ensure that APRU is a key network for contributing to the well-being of the Asia-Pacific region

3. Create High-Value Partnerships

Establish and deepen partnerships with international organizations, governments, business and industry and communities to increase policy impact on critical global challenges

4. Generate Resources

Attract increasing resources of people and funds with the objectives of deepening engagement across sectors and sustained impact at scale

Implementation

APRU will advance these Strategic Priorities by focused program initiatives and effective network organization.

1. Focused Program Initiatives

- a) Advancing international excellence in education, research and innovation through
 - Presidential dialogues and joint statements
 - Forums for sharing policies and practices
 - Research collaboration on common themes
 - New forms of student and faculty interaction across borders
- b) **Maximizing network effects** by partnering with international organizations, governments, NGOs, business, industry and local communities on solutions to Asia-Pacific challenges in
 - Policy development in cooperation with UN agencies, APEC and other international organizations
 - Collaborative actions on specific Asia-Pacific challenges e.g. global health, multi-hazards, women in leadership, population aging, digital economy and artificial intelligence, sustainable cities and landscapes, sustaining the Pacific Ocean.
- c) **Leveraging the dynamism and diversity of the Asia-Pacific region** to cultivate global leaders through
 - Prioritizing gender equity, entrepreneurship and innovation
 - Increasing faculty and student exchange and mobility e.g. focused on the UN SDGs
 - Providing international leadership opportunities
 - Promoting cultural awareness

d) **Building interdisciplinary platforms** for collaboration on emerging frontier issues such as

- SSH-STEM models for engagement Ethical and equitable development and use of digital technologies
- Capacity-building for data science skills development
- Achieving the SDGs including the sustainability of the Pacific Ocean (SDG 14)
- Communicating scientific knowledge through innovative media
- APRU International Secretariat's location in the Greater Bay Area as it is developed as a hub for technology, innovation and entrepreneurship
- The elevation of esports through Asia-Pacific collegiate cooperation on education, research and student intercultural interaction.

2. Effective Network Organization

APRU aims to align its organizational strategy with its strategic priorities. Because it has limited resources to pursue substantial international objectives, the effectiveness of the network ultimately rests on the commitment of its members to engage and to lead. It is crucial that this engagement is supported by effective governance and management that demonstrates a positive return on investment.

APRU will maintain effective governance and advisory bodies to provide:

- a) Visionary international leadership and representation of APRU
- b) Forward-looking policy in a fast-changing environment
- c) Substantive review and evaluation of activities to ensure tangible outcomes
- d) Measures of engagement and success

APRU will support effective management by the International Secretariat through:

- a) Strategic leadership and international representation
- b) Dynamic program coordination
- c) Communications and fund-raising
 - Consolidating constituency support
 - Attracting external partners
 - High-performing virtual media presence
 - Advancing and measuring international impact
 - Active brand management
- d) Professional Administration
 - Building an organization fitted to a network strategy
 - Maintaining high professional standards as an employer
 - Ensuring efficient use of resources