



Date:	Thursday 12/04/2007	
Time :	2pm-3pm (AEST)	
Venue:	Teleconference	
Attendees	Paul Barron Dr Nina Mistilis Lachlan McKerrow	Matthew Tati Liz Ward Carolyn Nodder
Apologies	Dr Simon Milne	

Agenda and Meeting Objectives:

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. President's report
3. Financial report
4. Event opportunities & conferences
5. Academic network
6. Other business

Presidents Report

- Paul has written a paper for the IFITT Japan Chapter Journal.
 - There was a lot of interest from board members. Paul will cc copy to all.
- Not a lot of other communication from IFITT International at the moment.
- Intention is to spend more time in the next 12 months promoting membership of IFITT generally and building up member numbers in Australasia. The events planned for this year will certainly add to the appeal and perceived value.

Financial Report

- Approx ~\$4012 in the IFITT accounts.
- Paul will get together with Lachlan before the next meeting to hand over the accounts.

Event opportunities & conferences: Networking events in SYD, MEL, BNE

- IFITT will co-hosting several networking events being run by the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane this year.
- Sydney event planned for May 10.
- Melbourne event will also be co-hosted by Deloitte's. Date for this and Brisbane event tbc.

Event opportunities & conferences: Tourism Futures

- Tourism Futures conference on again this year.
- Paul has been in contact with the organiser and IFITT Australasia will again be involved in the Technology Futures day.
- The event will be in Queensland in October with final dates and location to be confirmed.

Event opportunities & conferences: Possible NZ event

- Possibility of a NZ event was discussed. Carolyn is coordinating this and targeting a date early next year.

- The event would likely piggy-back on some other event and involvement of industry partners is critical.
- Plan is to put together something with broadest appeal to the greatest number of people.

Academic Network

- Nina has sent all board members a short document outlining ideas for academic community web site targeted at academics working in IT and Travel and Tourism.
- The site would not be limited to IFITT members but target a wide audience and aim to:
 - Provide a point of reference to academics with relevant expertise in IT and Travel and Tourism
 - Raise awareness of IFITT
 - Create a community where academics and industry can interact
 - Help academic's identify opportunities for grants and funding sources
- The site would be registration based and self enforcing; academics would be asked to upload details of work they have done (i.e. consultancies, conference presentations and peer reviewed journal articles) and this would provide a reference to a users credentials.
- The site would be linked from the IFITT Australasia web site.
- Major considerations for any such site:
 - ease of use
 - bringing together industry and academia
 - how it would work to raise the quality and depth of academic work done in IT and Travel and Tourism, especially, academic's understanding of, and relationship with industry
- Paul noted that there has been some discussion of tools for these types of projects within the IFITT International board.
- The concept sounds quite ambitious. We should aim low and ensure we are able to deliver something of value.

NEXT STEPS:

- 1. All board members to review Nina's concept document and send feedback.**

Other Business

- IFITT International web site to be updated with new board member details.
- Comms to all chapter members is important so we can raise IFITT's profile and show members that IFITT (and the board) are active. We should start by:
 1. Sending a copy of board meeting minutes to all chapter members.
 2. Compiling a list of 'HOT' topics in IT and Travel and Tourism and arrange for members of the board to prepare commentary on these areas to be published in industry-specific media.

NEXT STEPS:

- 2. All board members to send to Matthew T their TOP 3 list of 'hot topics'. Matthew will compile votes and send to all for discussion.**
- 3. Distribute a copy of the minutes of this meeting to all chapter members.**

NEXT MEETING:

- Thursday 10 May 2007. 11am AEST.