

Agenda for the Sixth International Engineering Science Consortium Meeting at the University of Auckland, 9-10 September 2025

*Participants

Prof. Chris Xu, Cornell University
Prof. Erik Birgersson, National University of Singapore (online)
Prof. Akira Sekiyama, University of Osaka
Prof. Genta Kawahara, University of Osaka
Prof. Shigenobu Ogata, University of Osaka
Prof. Gunnar Tibert, KTH Royal Institute of Technology (online)
Prof. Aleks Rakic, University of Queensland
Prof. Nick Tyler, University College London (online)
Prof. Ken Kamrin, University of California, Berkeley (online)
A/Prof. Alan Chong, University of Toronto
Prof. Piaras Kelly, University of Auckland
A/Prof. Andreas Kempa-Liehr, University of Auckland

1. Call to order
2. Introduction of meeting attendees
3. Welcome address
4. New members for IESC
5. Consortium MOU to be renewed in 2027
6. Nomination for the next consortium secretariat
7. Nomination for the next chairperson for IESC 2025-2027
8. Review of student exchanges and internships
9. International Engineering Science Program (including short-term program)
10. Collaborative educational programs between partner institutions
11. Research collaborations
12. Other collaborative projects
13. Proposal to create a comprehensive agreement for student exchange between the Consortium universities
14. The IESC website <<http://www.engineering-science.org/>>
15. Next IESC meeting and symposium host and venue (for 2027)
16. Other matters to be discussed

Agenda items for IESC meeting in Auckland, 9-10 September 2025

1. **Call to order**
2. **Introduction of meeting attendees**
3. **Welcome address**
4. **New members for IESC**

Currently, the partner institutions are spread out in 3 main continents, namely Asia, Americas and Europe.

We will discuss the invitation of new leading Engineering Science institutions as possible members to the consortium.

5. **The consortium MOU to be renewed in 2027**

Note that the MOU shall be in force for five years, thus as it became effective on the date of its signing by the representatives of all institutions as of 2022, it shall be renewed in 2027.

6. **Nomination for the next consortium secretariat**

The consortium secretariat is responsible for coordinating meetings, archiving records and maintenance of the IESC website. The Engineering Science leaders agree to review the consortium secretariat every two years. The appointment of the next Consortium Secretariat is necessary.

7. **Nomination for the next chairperson of IESC and the terms of appointment**

The chairperson is a visible leader of the consortium so that official meetings or documents that need the IESC endorsement may be handled readily. For example, the International Engineering Science Program certificate (which has been decided to be issued) may be signed by the chairperson. The chairperson for 2025-2027 will be appointed here at the Sixth IESC Meeting.

8. **Review of Student Exchanges and Internships**

We need to collect the data of student exchanges and internships of engineering science students for the past two years. We shall discuss how some student exchanges and internships are successful, and what we can do for further improvement.

9. **International Engineering Science Program (including short-term program)**

Discussions regarding courses as well as available short-term programs (such as a summer programs) to be added to the consortium program.

The Graduate School of Engineering Science at the University of Osaka had the pleasure of hosting 18 students and one faculty member from the University of Queensland for the UQ Short Term Engineering Program from January 10 to February 3, 2025.

The four-week program provided a rich academic experience, including lectures and laboratory tours at the Graduate School of Engineering Science, visits to Osaka University facilities, and social events with Osaka University students. Participants also had the opportunity to experience cutting-edge Japanese technology through company visits and a tour of SPring-8, a large synchrotron radiation facility.

This program offered a valuable learning opportunity for students through international exchange and we hope to continue to actively promote international collaboration with our

IESC member universities in the future as well.

10. Collaborative educational programs between partner institutions

Discussions on the possibility of agreement to collaborative educational programs such as double degree programs and cotutelle agreement, etc.

Members can share the various kinds of joint and double degree programs that they have currently in place. Members will be asked to provide the contact persons and email addresses who are in charge of these programs. Interested partners can make the necessary arrangements to meet and to work on these programs.

11. Research Collaborations

Research collaborations can be enhanced through attending the IESC Symposium where research findings are reported and publishing the research works and providing brief CV and research interests in the IESC website are possible. Members can also send out calls of research proposals to one another for multilateral institution collaboration in securing research grants.

12. Other collaborative projects

*Virtual Online Lecture Series (MOOC)

During the online meeting held on September 27-28, 2021, it was agreed that the consortium would try to combine videos to create a lecture series for their joint MOOC. This should be discussed at the meeting to gather more ideas and opinions.

*Joint research

*Joint application for external funding

13. Proposal to create a comprehensive agreement for student exchange between the Consortium universities

As this year marks the 12th anniversary of the IESC Consortium, it may be the right time to consider establishing a comprehensive agreement amongst the consortium member universities so that mutual exchange can be carried out for summer programs, short-term programs, internships etc.

We are happy to announce that UQ and OU have been successful in signing an interfaculty agreement (effective as of May 2024 for 5 years) and we hope to have an interfaculty agreement with all other IESC universities as soon as possible.

It would be ideal if the Consortium were able to work something out so that students from all member universities could experience engineering science at various institutions.

14. The IESC website <<http://www.engineering-science.org/>>

As the IESC website is the gateway to the activities of the consortium, it must be updated regularly, making it interesting and attractive for consortium faculty and students to visit for the latest news and opportunities for exchanges, research collaborations, jobs and joint grant applications. There is a need to provide timely information in order to facilitate the contributions of the consortium members. As the website is based on the CMS-MODX format, any member of the consortium may add information freely. For more information on how to access the admin manager, please contact Maggie Suzuki (UOsaka).

15. Next IESC meeting and symposium for 2027

The IESC Meeting is held every two years. The host and venue for the Seventh IESC Meeting in 2027 shall be decided on here.

16. Other matters to be discussed