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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Canberra to host International Conference on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology in 2016**

Canberra Convention Bureau (the Bureau) is thrilled to announce that Canberra has been selected as the host city for the International Conference on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICONN) in 2016. The five day conference will be held in February 2016 and will bring together Australian and International communities working in the field of nanoscale science and technology.

An expected 1,100 national and 100 international attendees will make their way to Canberra, delivering an estimated \$2.5 million in economic impact to the ACT region.

Canberra Convention Bureau CEO, Robyn Hendry is delighted to welcome this prestigious international event to Canberra.

“Winning this conference reinforces the positive economic impact that business events bring to the region. Canberra is a city where knowledge and innovation connects and is ideally placed to host a meeting of the world’s leading nanotechnology and nanoscience experts”. The bid was led by the Research School of Physics and Engineering at Australian National University (ANU) with the support of Canberra Convention Bureau. Ms Hendry highlights the importance of the Bureau’s Research and Learning Institutes Group (RALIG) in helping to secure the conference.

“RALIG is the key driver of the Bureau’s THINK Canberra strategy, which fosters connections between business events and the intellectual, cultural and academic capacity that Canberra is uniquely placed to provide” Ms Hendry said. “Our success comes down to a powerful collaboration between our RALIG member in ANU, the National Convention Centre and the ACT Government, which provided financial support as part of the bid” she said.

ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr said that attracting international business events like the Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Conference were not only important to supporting the ACT’s tourism sector, but also to connect the ACT and our institutions to thought leaders across the world in these important new development pathways.

“While the direct impact of business events is substantial to our economy, the connections we make to talent and knowledge can be even more important in the longer term,” the Chief Minister said.

“The ACT Government is pleased to provide the ANU with \$10,000 in sponsorship to help host the event here in Canberra for these reasons.”

ICONN will be held at the National Convention Centre from 7-11 February 2016. It will bring together Australian and international communities (students, scientists, engineers and stake holders from academia, government laboratories, industry and other organisations) working in the field of nanoscale science and technology to discuss new and exciting advances in the field.

### **For Immediate Release**

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*Canberra Convention Bureau is the peak body responsible for attracting business events to the Canberra region. With the support of a highly collaborative community, the Bureau works to bring conferences, meetings, incentive programs and amateur sporting events to the region by ensuring Canberra is recognised globally as an exceptional destination. The Bureau is a not for profit organisation funded by the ACT Government and industry partners.*

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