

Long standing industry professional receives 2010 Unity Award



JOINT MEETING INDUSTRY COUNCIL



In the last issue of Association Management International we took a look at the Joint Meetings Industry Council (JMIC) and the difference it can make to communication through the provision of a collective voice. We also carried a lead piece on the positive congress results reported by Vienna and how recognizing the importance of this sector has seen Vienna deliver growth in difficult times. In a timely convergence of these two subjects President Leigh

Harry has recently announced the

winner of the 2010 JMIC Unity Award as Mr. Christian Mutschlechner, Director of the Vienna Convention Bureau and past President of both ICCA and the European Federation of Conference Towns.

Mr. Mutschlechner formally received the award at the IMEX Awards Banquet in Frankfurt, Germany.

A driver of critical areas

In making the Award, Harry said "This year's Unity Award winner is best known as a long standing industry professional and association leader - but his role goes well beyond that. He has been involved with many key industry-building projects over many years ranging from roles in professional development and education to driving the critical area of industry valuation on a global scale. He has been a great leader and at the same time generous in sharing his expertise".

The Unity Award is made annually to an individual who represents the spirit of JMIC, which is an organization devoted to creating stronger relationships and greater awareness of the Meetings Industry. The Award is made each year based on criteria which evaluate industry leadership and initiative.

JMIC - the Joint Meetings Industry Council - was established in 1978 as a vehicle for creating a forum for the exchange of information and perspectives amongst international associations engaged in various aspects of the Meetings Industry. It has met annually each year and served as a link between its member organizations as well as a means of reviewing industry conditions and strategies.

Venue Cymru over the moon to be first choice purpose built conference venue

It has been confirmed that the prestigious Royal Astronomical Society's National Meeting will be held at Venue Cymru, Llandudno next spring. The event, which will take over most of Venue Cymru, will attract over 500 academics and industry experts from the UK and beyond. Lasting for four nights it is estimated to be worth more than £200,000 to the local economy.

The Royal Astronomical Society is the UK's leading body in Astronomy, Geophysics, and Planetary Science. The Society's historical charter defines its aims as "the encouragement and promotion of astronomy". Those aims have been extended to embrace geophysics, solar and solar-terrestrial physics, and planetary science. The Society dates back to 1820 and has over 3500 members, around a third of whom live outside the United Kingdom.

This is the first time that the Society has held their National Meeting in a purpose built conference centre rather than an academic venue. The Executive Secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society, David Elliott, is a frequent leisure visitor to North Wales and was so impressed by Llandudno that he recommended Venue Cymru as a suitable venue.

Venue Cymru's Conference and Events Manager Adrian LaTrobe commented: "We are very honoured to host this very prestigious event at Venue Cymru. Our business delegates are very important to Llandudno and play a keen part in maintaining the viability and popularity of the resort. We look forward to welcoming the Royal Astronomical Society's members from across the UK and beyond and hope that we will be asked to bid for this event again in the future."

