A GLOBAL COMMUNITY

The International Antarctic Institute (IAI) is a global consortium of universities and agencies that provide university-level education and conduct research in Antarctica.

Building on the spirit of international cooperation in Antarctic research, the institute brings together diverse institutions throughout the world to share their knowledge and expertise.
OUR VISION

The Antarctic Treaty System has designated Antarctica as a special place for peace, international scientific collaboration, and the sharing of knowledge and discoveries.

Over the past half-century, we have seen that international cooperation is the key to the success of large-scale research programs in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

At the IAI, we are promoting present and future international collaboration by providing our students access to rich and diverse cultural experiences while ensuring they receive the highest quality education in Antarctic and Southern Ocean studies.
OUR MISSION

The IAI facilitates student and faculty exchange programs and allows students to earn credits toward their university degree by taking courses or participating in field studies through any of the member universities.

This provides member institutions access to an unparalleled range of Antarctic education and research programs. Students enrolled in an IAI-affiliated university can take a proportion of their course units at other IAI member institutions, earning a jointly-badged degree.

Teaching and research staff at the IAI member organisations are also sharing their expertise and working together to develop a broad range of innovative classroom and field-based education programs.
OUR GOALS

The IAI is producing expertly trained scientists and social scientists with international experience and skills in research and its applications.

Our goals are:

• To deliver knowledge and information needed by the next generation of researchers and policy makers to address sustainable resource management, climate impacts and other global environmental and social issues associated with Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

• To expand the engagement of the international scientific community in Antarctic and Southern Ocean education.

• To foster interdisciplinary studies among the natural and social sciences in the context of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

• To increase the involvement of students from developing nations by providing encouragement, support and opportunities for further study.
UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair

In recognition of the IAI’s important role in promoting international and interdisciplinary education and research, the University of Tasmania was awarded the UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Chair in Antarctic and Southern Ocean Environmental Sciences in 2007.

The UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnie Programme is a joint initiative of UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Programme and The Cousteau Society. As defined by Jacques Cousteau, the Ecotechnie network of universities is dedicated educating a new generation of decision-makers who will have the capacity to consider the long-term consequences of their decisions.

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