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**Nantes to host IASP 2019 World Conference**

**Members vote unanimously in favour of bid from Atlanpole, Nantes**

During the recent IASP World Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, IASP members voted unanimously in favour of the bid put forward by Atlanpole, Nantes to host the 36th IASP World Conference.

Science park and area of innovation managers from around the world vote every year on where to hold the association’s annual World Conference, and this year Atlanpole’s candidature was approved for 2019. General Manager Jean François Balducchi took to the stage after the vote at the General Assembly, and thanked members for their overwhelming support, promising them an outstanding welcome in two years’ time.

**Previous IASP World Conferences**

IASP World Conferences are truly global events, with members from around the world meeting in 10 different countries in 5 different continents over the last 10 years, with keynote speeches from some of the biggest names in technology, science and innovation.

* **Istanbul 2017: 530 delegates from 55 countries**

Keynote speaker: Frank Soqui (USA), Intel

* **Moscow 2016: 1594 delegates from 64 countries**

Keynote speaker: Saku Tuominen (Finland), Founder of Idealist Group

* **Beijing, 2015: 435 delegates from 49 countries**

Keynote speaker: Zhonglin Wang (China), Director of Beijing Institute of Nanoenergy

* **Doha 2014: 407 delegates from 50 countries**

Keynote speaker: Chad Hurley (USA), co-founder of YouTube

* **Recife 2013: 1026 delegates from 47 countries**

Keynote: Anthony Townsend (USA), Research Director at Institute for the Future

* **Tallinn 2012: 483 delegates from 52 countries**

Keynote: Toomas Hendrik Ilves (Estonia), President of Estonia,

* **Copenhagen 2011: 583 delegates from 56 countries**

Keynote: Jørgen Bardenfleth (Denmark) General Manager of Microsoft Denmark

* **Daedeok 2010: 823 delegates from 45 countries**

Keynote: Robert H. Grubbs (USA), Nobel Laureate in Chemistry

* **Raleigh NC 2009: 819 delegates from 52 countries**

Keynote: Andrew P. Witty (UK), CEO of GlaxoSmithKline

* **Johannesburg 2008: 486 from 59 countries**

Keynote: Dr Ramesh Mashelkar (India), President, Global Research Alliance

**Delegate profile**

IASP conferences attract high-level decision makers from science parks and other areas of innovation around the world, professionals from business and technology and government representatives. On average 32% of these attend from the host region, 27% from the host continent and 41% from the rest of the world.

**About the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP)**

IASP is the worldwide network of science parks and areas of innovation, founded in 1984. With 373 members in 76 countries, IASP connects professionals managing science, technology and research parks (STPs) and other areas of innovation from across the globe, and provides services that drive growth and effectiveness for members.

IASP members enhance the competitiveness of companies and entrepreneurs in their cities and regions, and contribute to global economic development through innovation, entrepreneurship, and the transfer of knowledge and technology.

IASP is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and a founding member of the World Alliance for Innovation (WAINOVA). For further information about IASP, please visit [www.iasp.ws](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CSony%20Vaio%5CDesktop%5CPress%20releases%20IASP%5Cwww.iasp.ws).

**IASP’s mission**

To be the global network for science and technology parks and other areas of innovation, driving growth, internationalisation and effectiveness for our members.

**Main facts and figures**

**Founded:** 1984 **Companies:** >142,000

**Members:** 373 **Countries:** 76

**Regional divisions:** 7

* **African Division**
* **Eurasian Division**
* **European Division**
* **North American Division**
* **Asia-Pacific Division**
* **Latin American Division**
* **WANA (West Asia North Africa) Division**

**World Headquarters:** Malaga, Spain **Branch office:** Beijing, China

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