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## Strategic Direction Working Party Report for 2008/09

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NZAS Council agreed upon a set of core values, and a vision statement that summarises its long-term aspirations for itself and the science system. Council has also agreed a set of goals that form the basis of a strategic plan, currently under development (see below for specifics).

A central purpose of the exercise is to inform public discussion of research policy, and to provide a sound basis for interacting with other science sector organisations in order to jointly effect significant improvements to the research system. On the basis of the above, NZAS will approach key players in the sector to identify the common areas of concern. An opportunity will arise in 2009/2010 during discussions arising from the results of the 2008 survey of scientists, and around the efforts of the Prime Minister's Chief Scientific Advisor to realise the government's goal of maximising benefits from New Zealand's investment in research, science, and technology.

### **NZAS Core Values**

#### ***Respect***

- For scientific truth, reasoning and honesty

#### ***Integrity***

- Provide socially responsible and ethical analyses and advice
- Promote socially responsible and ethical behaviour in the science sector

#### ***Independence***

- From government and sector interests

#### ***Excellence***

- Strive for and acknowledge excellence in research and advice

#### ***Freedom of expression***

- Defend freedom of scientific expression and the scientific method

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**Evidence-based**

- Provide scientific and evidence-based analyses and advice

**NZAS Mission Statement**

The NZAS will champion science as an integral part of the human endeavour, and will promote science policies and structures that both support scientists and maximise the benefit of science to society.

**Long-term Vision**

1. NZAS acts as an advocate for the New Zealand science community and effectively communicates scientific understanding to Government and society, such that:
  - a) The views of NZAS are sought by and effectively influence Government science policy decision-making
  - b) The views of NZAS are sought by and effectively influence the science community and its organisations
  - c) An evidence-based strategic vision for NZ science is developed
2. The relevance of science and scientists is understood and respected in the community

3. Scientists and technologists are ethical and socially responsible
4. Students aspire to an education and career in RS&T

**Strategic Goals**

1. Initiate and promote debate and research on science, science funding, and science policy in New Zealand
2. Identify and overcome key stumbling blocks to achievement of the long-term vision
3. Interpret and disseminate the evidence and conclusions from Strategic Goals 1 and 2 to Government, the science community, other science stakeholders, and the wider community
4. Increase NZAS membership and feedback from the scientific community
5. Represent the views of New Zealand scientists to Government, other science stakeholders, and the wider community
6. Increase awareness of science and of its benefits to society
7. Promote science as a career of choice
8. Encourage and reward excellence and service to science