TIMSS was truly a collaborative effort among hundreds of individuals around the world. Staff from the national research centers, the international management, advisors, and funding agencies worked closely to design and implement the most ambitious study of international comparative achievement ever undertaken. TIMSS would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of all involved. Below, the individuals and organizations are acknowledged for their contributions. Given that implementing TIMSS has spanned more than seven years and involved so many people and organizations, this list may not pay heed to all who contributed throughout the life of the project. Any omission is inadvertent. TIMSS also acknowledges the students, teachers, and school principals who contributed their time and effort to the study. This report would not be possible without them.

**MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS**

Since 1993, TIMSS has been directed by the International Study Center at Boston College in the United States. Prior to this, the study was coordinated by the International Coordinating Center at the University of British Columbia in Canada. Although the study was directed centrally by the International Study Center and its staff members implemented various parts of TIMSS, important activities also were carried out in centers around the world. The data were processed centrally by the IEA Data Processing Center in Hamburg, Germany. Statistics Canada was responsible for collecting and evaluating the sampling documentation from each country and for calculating the sampling weights. The Australian Council for Educational Research conducted the scaling of the achievement data.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTER (1993–)**

Albert E. Beaton, International Study Director
Michael O. Martin, Deputy International Study Director
Ina V.S. Mullis, Co-Deputy International Study Director
Eugenio J. Gonzalez, Director of Operations and Data Analysis
Dana L. Kelly, Research Associate
Teresa A. Smith, Research Associate
Maryellen Harmon, Performance Assessment Coordinator
Robert Jin, Computer Programmer
William J. Crowley, Fiscal Administrator
Thomas M. Hoffmann, Art Director
Debora Galanti, Art Director (former)
Jonathan R. English, Systems Manager
José Rafael Nieto, Senior Production Specialist
Ann G.A. Tan, Conference Coordinator
Mary C. Howard, Office Supervisor
Cheryl L. Flaherty, Secretary
INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTER (continued)

Diane Joyce, Secretary
Leanne Teixeira, Secretary (former)
Kelvin D. Gregory, Graduate Assistant
Kathleen A. Haley, Graduate Assistant
Craig D. Hoyle, Graduate Assistant

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING CENTER (1991-93)

David F. Robitaille, International Coordinator
Robert A. Garden, Deputy International Coordinator
Barry Anderson, Director of Operations
Beverley Maxwell, Director of Data Management

STATISTICS CANADA

Pierre Foy, Senior Methodologist
Suzelle Giroux, Senior Methodologist
Jean Dumais, Senior Methodologist
Nancy Darcovich, Senior Methodologist
Marc Joncas, Senior Methodologist
Laurie Reedman, Junior Methodologist
Claudio Perez, Junior Methodologist

IEA DATA PROCESSING CENTER

Michael Bruneforth, Senior Researcher
Jedidiah Harris, Research Assistant
Dirk Hastedt, Senior Researcher
Heiko Jungclaus, Senior Researcher
Svenja Moeller, Research Assistant
Knut Schwippert, Senior Researcher
Jockel Wolff, Research Assistant

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

Raymond J. Adams, Principal Research Fellow
Margaret Wu, Research Fellow
Nikolai Volodin, Research Fellow
David Roberts, Research Officer
Greg Macaskill, Research Officer
FUNDING AGENCIES

Funding for the International Study Center was provided by the National Center for Education Statistics of the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. National Science Foundation, and the International Association for the Evaluation for Educational Achievement. Eugene Owen and Lois Peak of the National Center for Education Statistics and Larry Suter of the National Science Foundation each played a crucial role in making TIMSS possible and for ensuring the quality of the study. Funding for the International Coordinating Center was provided by the Applied Research Branch of the Strategic Policy Group of the Canadian Ministry of Human Resources Development. This initial source of funding was vital to initiate the TIMSS project. Tjeerd Plomp, Chair of the IEA and of the TIMSS Steering Committee, has been a constant source of support throughout TIMSS. It should be noted that each country provided its own funding for the implementation of the study at the national level.

NATIONAL RESEARCH COORDINATORS

The TIMSS National Research Coordinators and their staff had the enormous task of implementing the TIMSS design in their countries. This required obtaining funding for the project; participating in the development of the instruments and procedures; conducting field tests; participating in and conducting training sessions; translating the instruments and procedural manuals into the local language; selecting the sample of schools and students; working with the schools to arrange for the testing; arranging for data collection, coding, and data entry; preparing the data files for submission to the IEA Data Processing Center; contributing to the development of the international reports; and preparing national reports. The way in which the national centers operated and the resources that were available varied considerably across the TIMSS countries. In some countries, the tasks were conducted centrally, while in others, various components were subcontracted to other organizations. In some countries, resources were more than adequate, while in others, the national centers were operating with limited resources. Of course, across the life of the project, some NRCs have changed. This list attempts to include all past NRCs who served for a significant period of time as well as all the present NRCs. All of the TIMSS National Research Coordinators and their staff members are to be commended for their professionalism and their dedication in conducting all aspects of TIMSS.

Argentina
Carlos Mansilla
Universidad del Chaco
Av. Italia 350
3500 Resistencia
Chaco, Argentina

Australia
Jan Lokan
Raymond Adams*
Australian Council for Educational Research
19 Prospect Hill
Private Bag 55
Camberwell, Victoria 3124
Australia

* Past National Research Coordinator.
Austria
Guenter Haider
Austrian IEA Research Centre
Universität Salzburg
Akademiestraße 26/2
A-5020 Salzburg, Austria

Belgium (Flemish)
Christiane Brusselmans-Dehairs
Rijksuniversiteit Gent
Vakgroep Onderwijskunde &
The Ministry of Education
Henri Dunantlaan 2
B-9000 Ghent, Belgium

Belgium (French)
Georges Henry
Christian Monseur
Université de Liège
B32 Sart-Tilman
4000 Liège 1, Belgium

Bulgaria
Kiril Bankov
Foundation for Research, Communication,
Education and Informatics
Tzarigradsko Shausse 125, Bl. 5
1113 Sofia, Bulgaria

Canada
Alan Taylor
Applied Research & Evaluation Services
University of British Columbia
2125 Main Mall
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z4
Canada

Colombia
Carlos Jairo Diaz
Universidad del Valle
Facultad de Ciencias
Multitaller de Materiales Didacticos
Ciudad Universitaria Meléndez
Apartado Aereo 25360
Cali, Colombia

Cyprus
Constantinos Papanastasiou
Department of Education
University of Cyprus
Kallipoleos 75
P.O. Box 537
Nicosia 133, Cyprus

Czech Republic
Jana Strakova
Vladislav Tomasek
Institute for Information on Education
Senovazne Nam., 26
111 21 Praha 1, Czech Republic

Denmark
Peter Weng
Peter Allerup
Borge Prien*
The Danish National Institute for
Educational Research
28 Hermodsgade
DK-2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark

England
Wendy Keys
Derek Foxman*
National Foundation for
Educational Research
The Mere, Upton Park
Slough, Berkshire SL1 2DQ
England

France
Anne Servant
Ministère de l’Education
Nationale 142, rue du Bac
75007 Paris, France

Josette Le Coq*
Centre International d’Etudes
Pédagogiques (CIEP)
1 Avenue Léon Journault
93211 Sèvres, France

Germany
Rainer Lehmann
Humboldt-Universitaet zu Berlin
Institut Fuer Allgemeine
Erziehungswissenschaft
Geschwister-Scholl-Str. 6
10099 Berlin, Germany

Juergen Baumert
Max-Planck Institute for Human
Development and Education
Lentzeallee 94
14191 Berlin, Germany

Manfred Lehrke
Universität Kiel
IPN Olshausen Str. 62
24098 Kiel, Germany
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
<th>Institution/Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Georgia Kontongiannopoulou-Polydorides</td>
<td>University of Athens, Department of Education, Ippokratous Str. 35, 106 80 Athens, Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph Solomon</td>
<td>University of Athens, Department of Education, Ippokratous Str. 35, 106 80 Athens, Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hong Kong</strong></td>
<td>Frederick Leung</td>
<td>The University of Hong Kong, Department of Curriculum Studies, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nancy Law</td>
<td>The University of Hong Kong, Department of Curriculum Studies, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hungary</strong></td>
<td>Péter Vári</td>
<td>National Institute of Public Education, Centre for Evaluation Studies, Dobrotta U. 8, P.O. Box 120, 1051 Budapest, Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Iceland</strong></td>
<td>Einar Gudmundsson</td>
<td>Institute for Educational Research, Department of Educational Testing and Measurement, Surdgata 39, 101 Reykjavik, Iceland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Educational Testing and Measurement, Surdgata 39, 101 Reykjavik, Iceland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indonesia</strong></td>
<td>Jahja Umar</td>
<td>Ministry of Education and Culture, Examination Development Center, Jalan Gunung Sahari - 4, Jakarta 10000, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Israel</strong></td>
<td>Pinchas Tamir</td>
<td>The Hebrew University, Israel Science Teaching Center, Jerusalem 91904, Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Israel Science Teaching Center, Jerusalem 91904, Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Italy</strong></td>
<td>Anna Maria Caputo</td>
<td>Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione, Centro Europeo dell’Educazione, Villa Falconieri, 00044 Frascati, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione, Centro Europeo dell’Educazione, Villa Falconieri, 00044 Frascati, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Japan</strong></td>
<td>Masao Miyake</td>
<td>National Institute for Educational Research, 6-5-22 Shimomeguro, Meguro-Ku, Tokyo 153, Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eizo Nagasaki</td>
<td>National Institute for Educational Research, 6-5-22 Shimomeguro, Meguro-Ku, Tokyo 153, Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Korea</strong></td>
<td>Jingyu Kim</td>
<td>National Institute for Educational Evaluation, Chungdam-2 Dong 15-1, Kangnam-Ku, Seoul 135-102, Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hyung Im*</td>
<td>National Institute for Educational Evaluation, Chungdam-2 Dong 15-1, Kangnam-Ku, Seoul 135-102, Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kuwait</strong></td>
<td>Mansour Hussein</td>
<td>Ministry of Education, P.O. Box 7, Safat 13001, Kuwait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Latvia</strong></td>
<td>Andrejs Geske</td>
<td>University of Latvia, Faculty of Education &amp; Psychology, Jurmalas Gatve 74/76, Rm. 204a, Riga, Lv-1083, Latvia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lithuania</strong></td>
<td>Algirdas Zabulionis</td>
<td>University of Vilnius, Faculty of Mathematics, Naugarduko 24, 2006 Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mexico</strong></td>
<td>Fernando Córdova Calderón</td>
<td>Director de Evaluación de Politicas y Sistemas Educativos, Netzahualcoyotl #127 2ndo Piso, Colonia Centro, Mexico 1, D.F., Mexico</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Netherlands**
Wilmad Kuiper
Anja Knuver
Klaas Bos
University of Twente
Faculty of Educational Science and Technology
Department of Curriculum
P.O. Box 217
7500 AE Enschede, Netherlands

**New Zealand**
Hans Wagemaker
Steve May
Ministry of Education
Research Section
45-47 Pipitea Street
Wellington, New Zealand

**Norway**
Svein Lie
University of Oslo
SLS Postboks 1099
Blindern 0316
Oslo 3, Norway

Gard Brekke
Alf Andersensv 13
3670 Notodden, Norway

**Philippines**
Milagros Ibe
University of the Philippines
Institute for Science and Mathematics
Education Development
Diliman, Quezon City
Philippines

Ester Ogena
Science Education Institute
Department of Science and Technology
Bicutan, Taquig
Metro Manila 1604, Philippines

**Portugal**
Gertrudes Amaro
Ministerio da Educacao
Instituto de Inovação Educacional
Rua Artilharia Um 105
1070 Lisboa, Portugal

**Romania**
Gabriela Noveanu
Institute for Educational Sciences
Evaluation and Forecasting Division
Str. Stirbei Voda 37
70732-Bucharest, Romania

**Russian Federation**
Galina Kovalyova
The Russian Academy of Education
Institute of General Secondary School
Ul. Pogodinskaya 8
Moscow 119905, Russian Federation

**Scotland**
Brian Semple
Scottish Office, Education & Industry Department
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh, E86 6QQ
Scotland

**Singapore**
Chan Siew Eng
Research and Evaluation Branch
Block A Belvedere Building
Ministry of Education
Kay Siang Road
Singapore 248922

**Slovak Republic**
Maria Berova
Vladimir Burjan*
SPU-National Institute for Education
Pluhova 8
P.O. Box 26
830 00 Bratislava
Slovak Republic

**Slovenia**
Marjan Setinc
Pedagogski Institut Pri Univerzi v Ljubljana
Gerbiceva 62, P.O. Box 76
61111 Ljubljana, Slovenia

**South Africa**
Derek Gray
Human Sciences Research Council
134 Pretorius Street
Private Bag X41
Pretoria 0001, South Africa

**Spain**
José Antonio Lopez Varona
Instituto Nacional de Calidad y Evaluación
C/San Fernando del Jarama No. 14
28071 Madrid, Spain
TIMSS ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The International Study Center was supported in its work by several advisory committees. The International Steering Committee provided guidance to the International Study Director on policy issues and general direction of the study. The TIMSS Technical Advisory Committee provided guidance on issues related to design, sampling, instrument construction, analysis, and reporting, ensuring that the TIMSS methodologies and procedures were technically sound. The Subject Matter Advisory Committee ensured that current thinking in mathematics and science education were addressed by TIMSS, and was instrumental in the development of the TIMSS tests. The Free-Response Item Coding Committee developed the coding rubrics for the free-response items. The Performance Assessment Committee worked with the Performance Assessment Coordinator to develop the TIMSS performance assessment. The Quality Assurance Committee helped to develop the quality assurance program.

INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

Tjeerd Plomp (Chair), The Netherlands
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Daniel Levine, United States
Senta Raizen, United States
David Robitaille, Canada
Toshio Sawada, Japan
Benny Suprapto Brotosiswojo, Indonesia
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Andreas Schleicher, Germany  
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Trevor Williams, United States

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Graham Orpwood, Canada (Science)

**Special Mathematics Consultant**

Chancey Jones

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Senta Raizen, United States  
David Robitaille, Canada  
Pinchas Tamir, Israel  
Alan Taylor, Canada  
Ken Travers, United States  
Theo Wubbels, The Netherlands
**Free-Response Item Coding Committee**

Svein Lie (Chair), Norway  
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Kjell Gisselberg, Sweden  
Galina Kovalyova, Russian Federation  
Nancy Law, Hong Kong  
Josette Le Coq, France  
Jan Lokan, Australia  
Curtis McKnight, United States  
Graham Orpwood, Canada  
Senta Raizen, United States  
Alan Taylor, Canada  
Peter Weng, Denmark  
Algirdas Zabulionis, Lithuania

**Performance Assessment Committee**

Derek Foxman, England  
Robert Garden, New Zealand  
Per Morten Kind, Norway  
Svein Lie, Norway  
Jan Lokan, Australia  
Graham Orpwood, Canada

**Quality Control Committee**

Jules Goodison, United States  
Hans Pelgrum, The Netherlands  
Ken Ross, Australia

**Editorial Committee**

David F. Robitaille (Chair), Canada  
Albert Beaton, International Study Director  
Paul Black, England  
Svein Lie, Norway  
Rev. Ben Nebres, Philippines  
Judith Torney-Purta, United States  
Ken Travers, United States  
Theo Wubbels, The Netherlands