



VOLUME 37 NUMBER 47

2 – 8 December 2011

CONGRATULATIONS

We heartily congratulate the following academic staff on their successful promotions. Another excellent year for the school. Level E - Vince Craig & Mark Ridgway; Level D - Andrey Sukhorukov & Greg Lane; Level C - Michael Gao; and Level B - Yana Izdebskaya & John Miller.

CHRISTMAS & PROMOTIONS MORNING TEA

Friday 16 December, 10.30am

Oliphant Building 60, Tea Room

You are invited to join with us to congratulate our recently promoted staff (above), share some traditional Christmas mince pies and wish your colleagues well over the Christmas and end of year break. We look forward to seeing you there.

NEW STAFF

Nuclear Physics

Please join us in welcoming Dr Peter Lindakis, NP's new Accelerator Research and Development Engineer. Peter will be located in office 1.21, ext. 52862

STAFF MOVEMENTS

Department of Theoretical Physics

Dr XiWen Guan, will be visiting Sun Yat-Sen University in China from 2 – 31 December and Prof Mukunda Das will be in India to present a Bose Colloquium and give an invited talk at the International Workshop on Functional Materials.

WELCOME TO SUMMER SCHOLARS

Please welcome our new summer and vacation scholars who have joined (or will join) us between November and January. Joining AM: Gavin Chung; AMPL: Catherine Vreugdenhil & Gerry Tonkin-Hill; EME: Thomas Brazier & Zhe Li, LPC: Dongwon Kim & Kaitlin Cook; NLPC: Allen Wu; NP: Eleanor Cannon, Samuel Bladwell, Boon Quan Lee & Cyrus Ho; PRL: Fraser Allan, James Frith, Ziping Rao, & Ben Chen; QS: Sharmila Sane, Jack Muir, Cameron Cairns, Jarrod Dong, Yonggian Yin & Simon Mekhail; and TP: Lily Shi.

VISITORS

Nuclear Physics

Dr Jadambaa Khuyagbaatar, Germany will be visiting from 28 Nov-24 Dec; Prof Deborah Oughton & Dr Cato Wendel, Norway will be visiting 5-16 December.

DIRECTOR'S COLLOQUIUM

Thursday 8 December, 12.30pm

Leonard Huxley Lecture Theatre

Emerging platforms for light matter interactions

Professor Tanya Monro, University of Adelaide

Snacks @ 12pm prior to Colloquium and

Ice cream @1.40pm after the presentation to mark the end of the Colloquium year.

DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS

Nonlinear Physics

Friday 2 December, 2.00pm

Repulsive Casimir forces and quantum levitation

Link Building Seminar Room, Oliphant Building

Dr Stanislav Maslovski, University of Coimbra

MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS SEMINAR

Monday 9 December, 2.00pm

Le Couteur seminar room 317.

Two dimensional self-avoiding walks in the bulk and interacting with a surface

Prof Tony Guttman, University of Melbourne

EDUCATION BULLETIN

PEC wishes to thank all RSPE staff and students involved in teaching and assessing students in our programs, both for their work during semester and for the mammoth effort in providing final marks on a tight timeline following exams. Thanks also to those who attended and contributed to the PEC Steering Meeting held recently which identified the following priorities for resourcing and support: Studio Physics in PHYS1001 (Nick Robins & Avi Shalov), improving lab report feedback and marking consistency (Anna Wilson) and transfer of some 3rd year labs to RSPE South (Matt Sellars & Patrick Kluth). We will also be trialling involvement in the College-supported Peer Assisted Learning program for first year students.

RSPE/RSES EXHIBITION

3 December- 26 February

Canberra Museum and Art Gallery

Old Bones – New Insights

Physics has joined palaeontology at the ANU using 3D X-ray scanning to reveal new evidence of early vertebrae evolution. Over the past 40 years the Wee Jasper area has yielded fossil treasures which now showcase a once diverse coral reef – 400 million years ago. You are invited to visit rare fossils from the ANU collection showcasing the application of cutting edge micro-tomographic scanning to Palaeobiology. Many of these unique specimens are on show for the first time and are central to developing an understanding of the evolution of vertebrate life.