



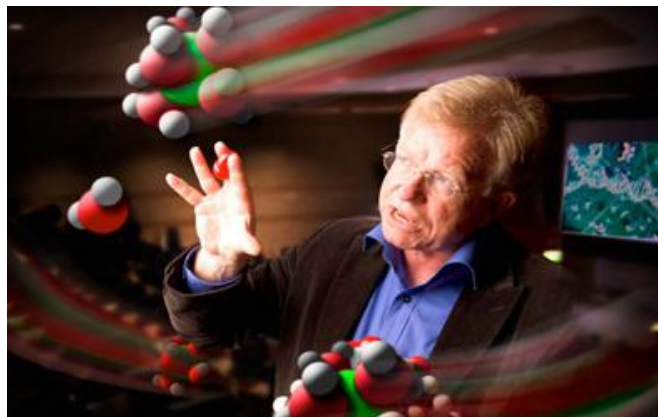
## Volume 38 Number 21

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### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Director will present an invited talk at a Workshop in honour of retiring Caltech Chemistry Professor Vincent McKoy from 8-12 June in Los Angeles. Professor Ken Baldwin will be acting Director for this period.

### DIRECTOR'S COLLOQUIUM



### **Research into Practice: Potential and Pitfalls in Visualising the Invisible**

Professor Roy Tasker

Prime Minister's Award for Australian University Teacher of the Year 2011, University of Western Sydney

Thursday 7 June, 12.30

Leonard Huxley Lecture Theatre

Snacks will be provided at 12:00 prior to the Colloquium in the RSPE tearoom

### CONGRATULATIONS

#### **Plasma Research Laboratory**

Congratulations to Lei Chang, a PhD student within Plasma Theory and Modelling, who has won a prestigious post graduate top-up scholarship from AINSE in support of modelling using data from the new cylindrical helicon discharge, MAGPIE, part of the Australian Plasma Fusion Research Facility.

### STAFF MOVEMENTS

#### **Electronic Materials Engineering**

Jagadish Chennupati will be attending the International Conference on NanoPhotonics, Beijing and the Virtual Conference on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Chengdu 26 May to 9 June.

#### **Plasma Research Laboratory**

Dr Cormac Corr will be attending the 20th International Conference on Plasma Surface Interactions in Aachen, Germany and research visits to organisations in the UK, Ireland and France 19 May - 7 June.

### **Space Plasma, Power and Propulsion**

Professor Christine Charles will be giving invited talks at the EPS/ICCP conference in Stockholm and at the ICOPS conference in Edinburgh and visiting organisations in the UK (Surrey Space Center, Astrium, University of York) and France (University of Orleans) 11 June - 20 July.

### **Theoretical Physics**

Dr XiWen Guan will continue collaborative research at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China 25 May to 26 July.

### **Nuclear Physics**

Professor David Hinde, Professor Nanda Dasgupta and Dr Maurits Evers are attending the 11th International Conference on Nucleus-Nucleus Collisions, San Antonio, Texas, US. Professor Hinde will also be chairing a session. Professor Keith Fifield will be Acting Head of Department 27 May - 4 June.

Professor George Dracoulis will be overseas in the period 4 - 29 June 2012. Prof Dracoulis has been invited to speak at the Nobel Symposium on Physics with Radioactive Beams being held in Goteborg, Sweden. Whilst in Sweden Prof Dracoulis will also be visiting the University of Lund before travelling to Italy to attend as an invited speaker the "ECO 2012: Advances and challenges in nuclear physics with high-intensity stable beams" workshop, Villa Villagio, and then to the INFN, Legnaro, for a Colloquium and a laboratory visit.

### VISITORS

#### **Theoretical Physics**

The Department of Theoretical Physics welcomes Prof Subir Ghosh (Physics and Applied Mathematics Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata), as a visitor from 3 June to 8 July. Prof Ghosh will conduct collaborative research with Prof Bouwknegt and other members of the Mathematical Physics group.

### EDUCATION MATTERS

As we come to the end of first semester, PEC would like to thank all RSPE staff, PhD and Honours students who contributed to the successful running of the undergraduate program. It is gratifying to see a continued increase in contribution from those who haven't been involved in coursework in the past.

We also remind you of the:

#### **Science Teaching and Learning Colloquium**

**Tuesday 5 June 9:00-1.15pm**

*new Science Teaching Building (Building 136)*

RSPE is strongly represented among the speakers, with Nick Robins, John Deb and Avi Shalov presenting their work on Foundations of Physics; Anna Wilson presenting on research-led learning; and Craig Savage presenting on Massively Open Online Courses. This over-representation reflects our position as educational innovators and leaders in the two Colleges.



## COMPETITION: WIN A FINE RED WINE

The School is launching an alumni newsletter for its community. This newsletter will be issued 2-3 times a year and will contain highlights, achievements and updates of School and School Development activities and initiatives.

We are after a 'catchy' name for this newsletter and welcome suggestions from staff, students or friends of the School. Please forward all entries to Kavitha Robinson, RSPE Development Manager, E:[development@physics.anu.edu.au](mailto:development@physics.anu.edu.au) by COB Tuesday 12 June 2012. The best entry will win a bottle of fine red wine from the Director.

## TRANSIT OF VENUS

A telescope (with appropriate solar filters) will be set-up for all staff and students interested to see the Transit of Venus on Wednesday 6th June.



The telescope will be set-up out the front of the homopolar generator sculpture in a nice sunny spot around morning-tea and lunchtime - weather permitting!

The transit should be visible from about 8:15am until 2:45pm.

<http://transitofvenus.nl/wp/where-when/local-transit-times/>

## AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA



Thank you to everyone who contributed, it was a big success!

We raised \$600 for the Cancer Council, in no small part to the cake auction. The winner, Michael Blacksell, Plasma Research Laboratories won the cake for the winning bid of \$200 for the 6kg fruit cake that was lovingly made and decorated by Andrea Benson. See right for the victory photo.



Plasma Research Laboratories enjoyed the cake at afternoon tea Friday afternoon.



## PHYSICS AT ANU IS LAUNCHING ITSELF GENTLY INTO THE WORLD OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Physics at ANU is launching itself gently into the world of social media. 'PhysicsANU' is now live on Twitter and Facebook and we would like to encourage everyone to follow these links. The accounts will be used to promote content that we already generate via such terrific sources as Sciencewise and the Research Highlights put together by Tim Wetherell. We will also be posting things of general interest to physicists here in Canberra such as announcements for Seminars and Colloquium. In addition we hope to be doing two 'regular' posts. The first will be 'Describe your research in 140 characters' and the second will be posting cool-looking pics of scientific equipment with a short description of what they do.



Follow us (Twitter) @PhysicsANU

Like us (Facebook)

<https://www.facebook.com/PhysicsANU>

Send 'tweetable' items to Jodie Bradby or Tim Wetherell.

For those new to social media, the ABC has put together a nice FAQ page on Twitter:

<http://www.abc.net.au/services/twitter/faq.ht>