



## Research School of Physics and Engineering

Weekly newsletter | Volume 39 Number 31 | 9 - 15 August 2013

### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

#### **Physics Market Day**

Thanks to all staff and students that put in a lot of effort with posters and their presence to make Market Day a resounding success. The feedback we have had from students has been extremely positive and it was obvious that we managed to reach out to a large number of them, across all years, with project information.

I would particularly like to thank **Jodie, James, Cormac and Patrick** who conceived this idea and then did such a great job in organising it from start to finish – many thanks to the four of you from all in the School

### PHYSICS EDUCATION CENTRE REPORT

**On Monday the 2nd of September**, the new honours students (2nd semester starts) will hold their mid-project seminars in the Honours Lecture room in Huxley starting at 3:00pm. Staff, please put this date in your calendar and please support the honours students by attending these seminars.

**On Thursday 12th of September**, we will be holding the Spring Physics Education Planning Day at Mt Stromlo. This will be an all day event where we will discuss the future of physics education at ANU. Please put this date in your calendar. The aim of the planning day is to discuss big issues facing physics education at all levels and to set direction for the coming years. The discussions will build on the discussions we held in the Autumn planning day in April this year. A detailed itinerary for the day has been sent to Education Coordinators in each department.

**Market Day** this week was a tremendous success. The idea and drive for this event was provided (in no particular order) by **Cormac Corr, James Sullivan, Jodie Bradby and Patrick Kluth**. This event was a great success for these four very active members of PEC. Martin Conway and James Irwin developed the project web site and assisted in preparing the booklet and posters. Tim Wetherell designed the event poster and the booklet cover. Laura Walmsley organised the catering. Thank you to everyone involved for making this event so successful.

In **outreach**, PEC and the CSIRO Education Centre shared resources to provide an innovative and engaging hands-on experience for visitors to the Experimentathon last Saturday and Sunday. The activities ranged from building a telescope to the spectroscopy of lighting. Events of this kind provide an opportunity to inspire young scientists and to generate a lot of good will for the ANU. PEC's participation in this event was led by Andrew Papworth and his team, Sara, Georgia, Jesse,

Nicolas and Ethan. Andrew Papworth is very active in this area and does a tremendous job for the School and for the University. Thank you to Andrew and his team.

### DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS

#### **Theoretical Physics**

##### **Wilson ratio of Fermi gases in one dimension** **Dr Xiwen Guan**

Theoretical Physics Department ANU

**11:00am Wednesday 21 August**

Theoretical Physics Seminar Room, Le Couteur Room 3.17

#### **Nuclear Physics**

##### **Neutron scattering as a tool for investigating the dynamics and excitations in magnetic materials**

##### **Dr Richard Mole and Dr Kirrily Rule**

Instrument Scientists, Bragg Institute, Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation

**11:00am Monday 26 August**

Nuclear Physics Seminar Room

### OHS BULLETIN

OHS training courses at 5 Liversidge St, Building 69.

**Corrosives-Monday 2 September**

**Manual Handling - Wednesday 4 September**

**Laser Safety - Tuesday 17 September**

### FRAME YOUR PHYSICS

Following on from last year "Frame your Physics" competition, the ACT branch of the AIP will again run the competition in 2013 to promote the communication of physics to a general audience.

The idea is to make a video of up to 3 minutes presenting a topic in physics in an entertaining and informative way. There will be various prizes up for grabs including for high school students, schools and also for university students. We have been advertising the competition in our undergraduate courses and we encourage supervisors to promote the competition with their Honours and PhD students as well.

Entries must be submitted by Monday 19 August. Further information can be obtained from the "Frame Your Physics" website at [www.act.aip.org.au/Frame\\_Your\\_Physics](http://www.act.aip.org.au/Frame_Your_Physics) or contact us: Andre Carvalho ([andre.carvalho@anu.edu.au](mailto:andre.carvalho@anu.edu.au)) or Cormac Corr ([cormac.corr@anu.edu.au](mailto:cormac.corr@anu.edu.au))

**Entries due Monday 19 August**

## STAFF MOVEMENTS

### **Plasma Research Laboratory**

**Dr Matthew Hole** will be visiting Korea from 16- 22 August to conduct experiments on the KSTAR superconducting tokamak in Daejeon.

### **Electronic Materials Engineering**

**Professor Chennupati Jagadish** will be attending Flinders University for the Nanotechnology Centre Advisory Board Meeting 20-21 August.

**PhD Student Bimo Bayu Aji** will be attending the 25th International Conference on Amorphous and Nano-crystalline Semiconductors (ICANS25) on 18-23 August in Toronto Canada

### **Applied Mathematics**

**Martina Landsmann** will be on annual leave from 19 August, returning on 16 September. During this time Julia Wee will be working in the Department of Applied Maths on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. On those days Julia can be contacted on x52847 or [am.rspe@anu.edu.au](mailto:am.rspe@anu.edu.au) for anything concerning the administration of Applied Maths.

## SCIENCE FICTION EXHIBITION

**Ms Erica Seccombe**, ANU PhD student at the School of Art, combines her work with the Department of Applied Mathematics to showcase an exhibition at Manuka.

**Canberra Contemporary Art Space,**  
**16 August-28 September 2013**

W: <http://www.ccas.com.au>



## 2014 ALUMNI AWARDS

Nominations are now open for The ANU Alumni Awards. These awards celebrate and showcase the outstanding and diverse range of ANU graduates.

This is RSPE's chance to celebrate and promote alumni who are making the difference and to say thank you to alumni for contributing to the University's reputation by being extraordinary.

Categories Available:

1. Alumnus of the Year (the highest honour),
2. International Alumnus of the Year,
3. Young Alumnus of the Year,
4. Student of the Year and
5. Alumni Volunteer Leader of the Year

Nominations are now open

**Nominations close 30 November 2013** Midnight (AEST)

W: <https://alumniandfriends.anu.edu.au/alumni-awards-2014>

Please consider nominating outstanding alumni from the School.

Contact: Kavitha Robinson, Development Manager, E: [kavitha.robinson@anu.edu.au](mailto:kavitha.robinson@anu.edu.au)

## GOLDEN GRADUATES' REUNION

A reunion for graduates 60 years of age and over organised by ANU Alumni Office to reunite, reminisce and engage.

**Morning Tea & Lunch: Saturday 12 October 2013,**  
**University House**

W: <https://alumniandfriends.anu.edu.au/events-listing>

Please circulate info to relevant alumni.

## JOHN CARVER SEMINAR SERIES 2013

Nominations are now being sought for the John Carver Seminar Series 2013.

The Seminar Series will be held on Thursday, 26th September 2013 from 9.30am in Leonard Huxley Lecture Theatre.

Participating students will be expected to present a 15 minute talk on their research. The talks are not followed by questions.

Prizes and Certificates will be on offer for the best and most popular student presentations (judges vote and audience vote).

The winners may be invited to present their talk at the equivalent competition run by the NSW branch of the Australian Institute of Physics or at a regular meeting of the ACT branch of the Australian Institute of Physics.

**Closing date for nominations is 31 August 2013.**

Students who wish to participate in the John Carver Seminar Series 2013 are asked to forward the titles of their talks to [research.students@physics.anu.edu.au](mailto:research.students@physics.anu.edu.au) by **19th September 2013** to enable us to finalise the program of the event.

To register, contact Liudmila Mangos (6125 1315) or Karen Nulty (6125 5195) [research.students@physics.anu.edu.au](mailto:research.students@physics.anu.edu.au)



Australian  
National  
University

Research School of Physics and Engineering

# John Carver Seminar Series

Thursday 26 September 2013

Leonard Huxley Lecture Theatre, ANU Campus

Postgraduate Physics research students currently enrolled at the Australian National University and the Australian Defence Force Academy (UNSW) are invited to take part in the John Carver Seminar Series, a prestigious competition held annually at the Australian National University. It is an excellent opportunity for students to showcase their research to their colleagues and academic staff and to add another valuable prize to their list of awards! Prize winners may be invited to present their talk at the equivalent competition run by the NSW branch of the Australian Institute of Physics or at a regular meeting of the ACT branch of the Australian Institute of Physics.

We are looking forward to your submissions! You will be expected to present a short talk (about 15 minutes) in front of fellow students and the judges. The talks are usually not followed by questions.

Following the presentations, all students are invited to a complimentary lunch.

To register, please contact

RSPE Student Office

Liudmila Mangos or Karen Nulty

E: [research.students@physics.anu.edu.au](mailto:research.students@physics.anu.edu.au)

P: 6125 1315 or 6125 5195

Registrations close on 31 August 2013

Date: 26 September 2013

Venue: Leonard Huxley Lecture Theatre

*Professor John Carver was Director of the Research School of Physical Sciences and Engineering from 1978 to 1992. Professor Carver was Chair of the UN Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space and received the UN's 2000 COSPAR Medal and was appointed a member of the Order of Australia in 1986.*