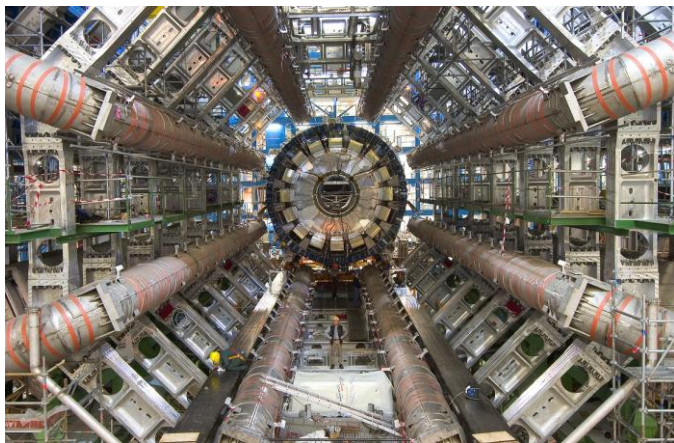




Research School of Physics and Engineering

Weekly newsletter | Volume 39 Number 34 | 30 August-5
September 2013

DIRECTOR'S COLLOQUIUM



The Higgs Boson at the Large Hadron Collider

Professor Elisabetta Barberio

University of Melbourne

12:00 Thursday 5 September

Leonard Huxley Lecture Theatre

Snacks will be provided at 11:30am prior to the Colloquium RSPE tearoom

PHYSICS EDUCATION CENTRE REPORT

The first year undergraduate text "Physics" published by Cengage Learning Australia has received an Australian Publishers Association Award. In making the award, the judges cited pedagogical structure, design and international and regional case studies that were included in the text. Two of the four authors were **Kate Wilson and Anna Wilson**. Both are well known to the RSPE community and have been strong contributors and leaders of physics education at ANU in recent years. Kate Wilson continues to contribute nationally and internationally to physics education in her position at ADFA. Similarly, **Anna Wilson** continues to make a strong contribution to physics education in her new role at the University of Oxford. **John Love**, who was instrumental in establishing the photonics program at ANU and who continues to be active in that program, contributed case studies on the application of optical fibres to medicine. I would like to congratulate Kate, Anna, and John on this well-deserved recognition of their work.

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 3:00 pm. 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. Please RSVP to Laura Walmsley no later than **Thursday 5th of September** and please indicate any dietary requirements for catering purposes.

VISITORS

Atomic & Molecular Physics

University of Warsaw Collaboration **Prof Marek Trippenbach and Dr Jan Chwedenczuk** are spending one week visiting AMPL and Laser Physics, hosted by Prof Ken Baldwin and Prof Wieslaw Krolikowski. The visit is exploring application of the theoretical techniques developed in Warsaw to experiments in optics and cold atom physics at the ANU.

DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS

Nonlinear Physics Centre

Classical physics analogues of two- and three-state quantum systems

Dr Andon Rangelov

Department of Physics, Sofia University, Bulgaria

11:00am Monday, 2 September

Oliphant Building Seminar Room

Opto-mechanics of chiral metamaterials

PHD MID-TERM SEMINAR

Mr Mingkai Liu

PhD student, Nonlinear Physics Center

11:00am Wednesday, 4 September

Oliphant Building Seminar Room

Theoretical Physics

Generalizations of Geometry and String Duality

Professor Peter Bouwknegt

Theoretical Physics

11:30am Wednesday 4 September

Theoretical Physics Seminar Room

Le Couteur (Building I.3.17)

STAFF MOVEMENTS

Electronic Materials Engineering

Professor Chennupati Jagadish will be attending the SPIE Annual Meeting in San Diego 25-29 August where he is an Invited Speaker. He will then present a Seminar and visit at the University of California Santa Cruz and also presenting a Colloquium and research collaboration at the University of Cincinnati. Professor Jagadish will then go onto the IEEE Photonics Conference in San Francisco where he is a Invited Speaker 7-11 September.

Professor Hoe Tan is an Invited Speaker at the 6 International Conference on Advanced Optoelectronics and Lasers in Sudak, Ukraine 4-15 September.

Nuclear Physics Department

Professor Andrew Stuchbery, will be away in the period 31 August – 24 September. He will give an invited talk at the XXXVI Brazilian Meeting on Nuclear Physics and also visit the University of Sao Paulo to give a seminar. He will then visit IPN Orsay (France) for collaborative work to then travel to Bulgaria to give an invited lecture at the XX International School on Nuclear Physics, Neutron Physics and Applications being held at Varna.

Theoretical Physics

Professor Vladimir Bazhanov will be on travel to Europe from 28 August to 18 September to give lectures at the Summer School on Discrete Differential Geometry at TU Berlin, give an invited talk at the international workshop on Hamiltonian systems at SISSA, Trieste, Italy and give seminars at the Institute for High Energy Physics, Protvino, Russia and the Pierre-and-Marie-Curie University in Paris. Dr Vladimir Mangazeev will take up duties of the HOD for this period.

OHS BULLETIN

OHS training courses now at 5 Liversidge St, Building 69.

Corrosives-Monday 2 September

Manual Handling - Wednesday 4 September

Laser Safety (OHSA11) - Tuesday 17 September

Electrical Appliance testing (OHSA11) 18 September

Flammable Liquids (OHSA11) 24 September

Ionizing Radiation Safety (OHSA18) 22 October.

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 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

2014 ALUMNI AWARDS

The ANU Alumni 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 Open: Friday 16 August 2013 &

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

SCIENCE FICTION EXHIBITION

Ms Erica Seccombe, ANU PhD student at the School of Arts, 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>



CANCER COUNCIL TURKISH LUNCH AND CHEESECAKE BAKE-OFF

RSPE Professional Staff got together on Thursday 29/8 to share a Turkish lunch and to raise funds to donate to the Cancer Council's Daffodil Day.

They raised \$427 by selling \$10 tickets for a Turkish pide lunch, holding a raffle and a running a cheesecake bake-off.

The cheesecakes entered were of a very high standard and the judges (Rana Ganguly, Goran Radovanovic and Craig Young) had a tough time choosing.

However, they worked through a large plate of ten different cheesecakes and came up with the following results:

- First prize*** – Andrea Benson with her Raspberry Goo cake
- Second prize*** – Susie Radovanovic with her Chocolate-Strawberry cheesecake
- Third prize*** – Andrea Benson with her Vanilla bean, choc and salted caramel mini cheesecakes
- The People's Choice prize*** was awarded to Sonia Padrun for her Caramel-Banana cheesecake.

All attendees then had the chance to buy a slice or two of all the cheesecakes

The raffle was very successful too with the major prize of teapot with daffodil tea cosy being won by Luda Mangos (thanks to Martina Landsmann for her donation).

Many thanks to everyone who helped, especially Jo, Susie, Julie, Julia, our judges and all the cheesecake makers.

Thanks also to the people and departments who provided prizes for the raffle.

It is great to work with such a fun and talented group of people!

