



Research School of Physics and Engineering
Weekly Newsletter | Volume 40 Number 37 | 13 – 17 October

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Director will be in away from 7-13 October delivering lectures at the International Summer School on Low-Temperature Plasma Science and Technology, Bad Honnef, Germany. **Professor John Close** will be acting Director during this period.

FOUNDER'S DAY



Founder's Day is a RSPE celebration honouring Sir Mark Oliphant. Sir Mark was an eminent Australian physicist and the founding Director of the School. In 1981, Professor John Carver (then Director of RSPE) introduced Founder's Day as an initiative to unite the School in a celebration of the year's achievements.

This year Founder's Day will be held on **Friday 17 October 2014** and will involve research and education highlight presentations, informative talks on the School's achievements during the year, a presentation of the RSPE Endowment awards and School awards. [Programme here](#)



DIRECTOR'S COLLOQUIUM



*The search for gravitational waves
- Ripples from the dark side of the
Universe*

Professor Sheila Rowan

2014 presenter

AIP Women in Physics Lecture Series

Thursday 23 October 2014

12:00pm Leonard Huxley Lecture Theatre

<https://physics.anu.edu.au/intranet/dbadmin/events.php>

DAY OF PHOTONICS

11:30am Tuesday 21 October 2014

RSPE Link Seminar Room

Day of Photonics marks the anniversary when the value 299,792.458 km/s was officially adopted for the speed of light. This day is celebrated across more than 20 countries, with hundreds of activities organised to promote photonics towards the general public. This year, the Research School of Physics and Engineering (RSPE) will host celebrations for the Day of Photonics for the first time.

The celebrations will be marked by a keynote address by Emeritus Professor John Love, entitled "Pushing photons around Australia." The talk will be followed by a 'light' lunch and cake in the RSPE Tea Room. During lunch, there will be an exhibit on light based technologies, such as a laser cutters and blue LEDs. There will be various light based games, including laser chess and balloon popping with laser pointers. There will be laser-cut prizes for the winners.

All students and staff are invited. For catering purposes please RSVP before 17 October to dhruv.saxena@anu.edu.au.

2015 ANU ALUMNI AWARDS

The ANU Alumni Awards recognise the extraordinary achievements and significant contributions made by our graduates and students in Australia, and internationally, in a range of areas.

Categories include:

- Alumnus of the Year – Philanthropy
- Alumna of the Year – Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Alumnus of the Year – Research or Academia
- International Alumna of the Year
- Young Alumnus of the Year
- Student of the Year

If you know a graduate, or student, who inspires and whose achievements are extraordinary, please contact kavitha.robinson@anu.edu.au

Nominations close on **31 October 2014**.

For more info: <https://alumniandfriends.anu.edu.au/alumni-awards>

RSPE QUIET WRITING SPACE

The RSPE Conference Room has been booked each Thursday morning until the end of the year from 9-12 to create a space for those wishing to commit one uninterrupted morning per week for writing. 'Writing in progress' signs will be posted asking for the writers not to be interrupted. A similar writing-club/group has been organized in Earth Sciences and by all accounts is very successful.

The Director has been kind enough to fund 20 copies of the book 'How to write a lot' for those who wish to participate.

The definition of 'writing' is very flexible. Simply whatever you need to do to progress your writing project. i.e. writing a manuscript draft, reading and making notes on articles for an introduction of a paper, tidying up a manuscript from a colleague, analyzing data for a paper or writing a draft for a grant. These all count as 'writing'.

The 'rules' are straightforward:

- No chatting (smiling is ok!).
- No need to turn up every week.
- No need to turn up right at 9 am.

- No need to stay for all three hours.
- No need to commit to each week.
- Stay for an hour or stay for all three.

There is no need to RSVP.

“Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on.”—[Louis L'Amour](#)

“I hate writing, I love having written.” —[Dorothy Parker](#)

OHS BULLETIN

Healthy Body, Health Mind

1:30pm Wednesday 29 October Building 69, 5 Liversidge Street.

An interactive and informative 45 minute presentation for staff interested in improving their health and wellbeing at work. Presenter: **Kate Black** Occupational Therapist, Work Environment Group.

Bookings via ohstraining@anu.edu.au or enrol via HORUS using the code OHSG50, session 1

DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS

Nuclear Physics Seminar

Multi-nucleon transfer reactions and their coupling effect on sub-barrier fusion reactions

Dr Sunil Devi

Postdoctoral Fellow

Department of Nuclear Physics

11:00am, Monday 13 October

Nuclear Physics Seminar Room

Nonlinear Physics Centre

Engineering Light-matter Interactions at the Nanoscale

Professor Kenneth Crozier

The University of Melbourne

11:00am Wednesday 15 October

Oliphant Building Seminar Room

Department of Quantum Science

Strong-coupling ansatz for the one-dimensional Fermi gas in a harmonic potential

Dr Jesper Levinsen

Aarhus University, Denmark

2:00pm Thursday 16 October

CQC2T Seminar Room (Bldg 38a)