**CONGRATULATIONS**

Dr Matthew Hole has been appointed by the Director General of the IAEA, Dr Mohamed Elbaradei, to the International Fusion Research Council (IFRC). The function of the IFRC, a continuing Council within the framework of the IAEA, is to advise the IAEA on its controlled nuclear fusion research program, and promote international cooperation in this field. The IFRC also proposes the Scientific Programme Committee of the biannual IAEA Fusion Energy Conference, the leading international fusion conference on the programmatic development of fusion power. The Council, consisting of 10 to 15 expert members, comprises one member from each IAEA member state or international organisation having a substantial research effort in controlled nuclear fusion. Appointment of an Australian to the IFRC, which occurred after consultation with the Australian government, is a recognition of Australia's research effort in this field, while selection of Dr Hole consolidates ANU's national research leadership in this field. The last Australian appointed to the IFRC was Professor Max Brennan AO FAA, who served as Chairman of the IFRC from 1987 to 1995. New developments in fusion research, support for international physics activities, and close collaboration with ITER and the OECD’s Fusion Power Coordinating Committee, which supports ITER activities in OECD countries, will be among the future challenges for the IFRC”.

**STAFF MOVEMENTS**

Professor George Dracoulis, Department of Nuclear Physics, will be away from the department from 9 - 16 February. Professor David Hinde will be acting HOD during this period.

**WELCOME**

Mr Rajesh Ganesan has commenced his PhD studies in CAMS/AMPL. Rajesh will be working on a joint project between the ANU and ANSTO Nodes of CAMS under the supervision of Professor Steve Buckman (ANU) and Dr Suzanne Smith (ANSTO). Welcome Rajesh.

**VISITORS**

Professor Hyuck Cho, Chungnam National University, Daejon, Korea will be visiting CAMS from Tuesday 10 February - Friday 13 February 2009.

**TONY CULLEN'S RETIREMENT DINNER**

Tony Cullen’s retirement dinner will be held on Wednesday 25 February at 7.00pm at the Ginseng Restaurant, Hellenic Club. This venue may change should numbers be greater than anticipated. We anticipate a cost of about $40 (drinks extra). RSVP acceptances only please, to me by Monday 9 February (Ext: 52143 or david.kelly@anu.edu.au). Dave Kelly

**GRANTS & AWARDS**

**American Nuclear Society**
Program Number: 71491
Title: Standards Service Award
E-mail: pschroeder@ans.org
Program URL: [http://www.ans.org/honors/va-standserv](http://www.ans.org/honors/va-standserv)
The sponsor makes an award to recognize outstanding achievement by individuals in the generation and use of ANS standards in the field of nuclear science and engineering. The purpose of the award is to identify and honor those individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of ANS nuclear standards.

**Deadline(s): 15/04/2009**


**American Physical Society**
Program Number: 27679
Title: Marshall N. Rosenbluth Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award
E-mail: hassam@umd.edu
An annual award of $2,000 provides recognition to exceptional young scientists who have performed original doctoral thesis work of outstanding scientific quality and achievement in the area of plasma physics. Nominations will be accepted for any doctoral student of a college or university in the United States or for a United States student abroad who has successfully passed his/her final thesis defense within the preceding twenty-four months of the current nomination deadline. A travel allowance of $500 is provided.

**Deadline(s): 01/04/2009**

Link to full program description: